

Sarawak Gazette

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Contents

	Page
Births	211
New Year Honours	214
The Shadow of Apartheid	214
Notes and Comments	215
Arrivals and Departures	216
His Excellency the Governor's Speech to Council Negeri, December 8, 1958	224
Children's Column	226
The Peoples of Sarawak—Melanians and Negritos	227
Local Authority Taxation	244
Excerpts from Reports of Administrative Officers for the First Half-year of 1958	245
Kuching Letter	251
Water Sport	252
Problems of English in Chinese Schools	252
Diary of a Secretary Office	253
Correspondence	254
From Kuching to the United Kingdom	255
Five Hundred Centuries of Borneo Man	257
Book Reviews	257
Sarawak Turf Club	258
Recent Books	261
Kuching Market Price List	262

The Sarawak Gazette

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1958

Births

Faresan—On 26th November 1958, at Silo Hospital, to Patricia and David a son.

Scouten—On December 24th at Wesley-in-Thames to Betty, wife of Peter Scouten, a daughter.

Kass—On 19th December, 1958, in Kuching General Hospital, to Janet, wife of Henry Kass, a son, Peter Gerard.

New Year Honours

Her Majesty the Queen has graciously approved the following awards of Officers of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire to

Mr. Khoo Ping Looing who has been a member of Council Negeri since 1941 and a member of the Supreme Council since 1956.

Mr. Tom Harman Harrison, D.S.O., the Curator of the Sarawak Museum and Government Ethnologist since 1947.

Mr. Colin Hunter, Director of Audit since 1954 and Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire to

Mr. Ignatius Yeng Yaw Tong, the Assistant Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor. He joined the Sarawak Government Service in 1931.

Mr. Frank James, Superintendent Engineer of the Sarawak Steamship Company Limited since 1937, a member of many committees on social problems and a councillor of the Kuching Municipal Council since 1958.

Colonial Police Medals have been awarded to Mr. Eric Arthur Edmondson, M.C. and Mr. Dublin andak Sijar.

His Excellency has been pleased to award a Certificate of Honour to Mr. Lai Ted Pak of the Resident's and District Office, Kuching, and to

Mohamed bin Septudin, Engine Driver of the Marine Department.

The title of Datu with the emblems that pertain thereto has been bestowed on Abang Indra bin Dato Abang Abdul Gapor.

The Shadow of Apartheid

The relationship between the Chinese and the other peoples of Sarawak is becoming an issue of increasing importance. During the past year, in the press and in the Council Negeri, there has been voiced considerable concern on this subject. Such public discussion has not been confined to Sarawak but has occurred in Brunei as well and even the hitherto unshakable complacency of North Borneo has received a slight jolt.

There are three main issues which have been engaging the attention of the public: the existence of communism amongst members of the Chinese community, particularly the Chinese-educated student body; the economic power of the Chinese community; and the position of the Chinese school system. The question of communism has mainly been raised with regard to North Borneo where there has for so long been a usually-held if perhaps over-optimistic belief that such a thing cannot happen there. In Sarawak more attention has been paid to the economic question and the schools problem. Members of the Malay community have been most outspoken in their views but it is probably fair to say that their views are largely shared by members of the other indigenous communities.

Some of the views expressed have been fair and reasonable ones; some very much less so. It is not fair to criticize the Chinese community for the energy and industry of their members and the material rewards which these qualities have brought them. Envy is a harmful sentiment and it must be remembered that in Sarawak the indigenous peoples have been well protected from the immigrant communities, particularly in regard to land. The weaker economic position of the native derives largely from an inability to resist the temptation of easy credit and a reluctance to accept the disciplines and troubles of practical co-operation.

Nor is the mere existence of a Chinese school system a valid object for criticism. The Chinese established their schools and evolved a particular pattern of schooling because they appreciated the value of education and in pre-war days the Government did little or nothing to promote education in the country apart from the establishment of Malay primary schools. The Chinese school system is not ideal, it contains many defects from both the management and academic points of view but it is not fair or reasonable to question its right to exist.

What does excite the thoughtful, non-Chinese inhabitants of Sarawak, and many Chinese too, is that the perpetuation of the present Chinese school system is likely to keep the peoples of Sarawak apart when they should be drawing closer together. No reasonable person objects to the Chinese language being taught in Sarawak and devotion to Chinese culture is so far as it is a devotion to the intellectual fruits of a great civilisation has never been, and never should be, an issue between the peoples of Sarawak. Unfortunately culture in all too often a misused term. For those possessing little culture themselves it is sometimes held to be not a matter of literature and the arts but a barren state of Chinese separatism. Devotion to Chinese culture in its best is devotion to a great and highly-developed language and its literature and poetry and to other related arts. At its worst, a word that is not so rare in Sarawak as it should be, it bears an awkward resemblance to South African apartheid. The danger of separatism is that it can and does nurture an unhealthy spirit of race feeling.

The thoughtful Sarawakian wants to see the peoples of the country brought together. He has only to look abroad to some of the newly independent countries of Asia to see how movement towards political independence is all too often characterised by denigrating and not improving race relations. And in the particular context of Sarawak it is to be feared that many of the younger generation of Chinese are less in touch with the other peoples of the country than with their fathers.

The dilemma of the Chinese is a difficult one. On the one hand is their traditional loyalty to the tongue of their forefathers and a desire to be educated in that medium even though it does keep them apart and even though such an education greatly restricts the employment, economic and cultural outlets for their children. On the other hand is an appreciation as the past of many of the value of close relations with the other peoples of Sarawak and of the special value of a good English education. It is a dilemma which is still not resolved and until it is the present vexing gulf between the Chinese-educated and the Rasi must continue.

There is no easy solution for this state of affairs. Sarawak is really paying for past neglect but there is still a great deal that can be done. There is no reason why the primary schools of Sarawak should not have a common curriculum with differing emphasis on different languages. There is equally no reason why Chinese secondary schools should not adopt the curriculum of the slowly expanding Government secondary schools with their English teaching-medium and special attention to a vernacular language, including Chinese, as a subject. There is no reason why all schools should not have a common medium of instruction in English. There is no reason why doubtful methods of school finance which ultimately impose taxes on other communities, unscrupulous perhaps in the past but unnecessary and uncalled for today, should not be abandoned. There is no reason why the many admirable and public-spirited leaders of all communities in Sarawak should not guide and encourage their people to adopt a positive and conciliatory attitude in the manner of race relations before attitudes have time to settle into a pattern of antipathy, jealousy and distrust. Let there be no mistake, the danger is a real one and to think otherwise is to indulge in a game of wits make-believe. Postwar experience in Asia has

unquestionably shown that with the withdrawal of European political control the danger can grow far too easily for the comfort of any thinking person.

There is a need for sympathy and restraint. The nation of Sarawak must make up his mind to advance himself through his own resources and energy and hard work and to look upon the problem of race relations consistently from a position of strength based on his own achievements and self-respect. The Chinese must appreciate with sympathy and understanding the fears and anxieties to which their own industry and efficiency and friendliness are liable to give rise and above all adhere to the very thought and notion of apartheid.

Wanted: Postwar volumes of the Sarawak Gazette £2 per volume offered plus cost of postage. Some postwar volumes also required. Write to Box 13, Sarawak Gazette, Kuching.

Notes and Comments

The Council Negri met on December 9th. The main business of the meeting was to consider the Budget for 1958. The Budget was a modest one, in keeping with our financial position but a fair amount of money was made available for schemes to better our economy. The Financial Secretary's speech is too long to print and too detailed to allow of quotation but Mr. Ong Kew Hai, a member of the Finance Committee of Sarawak Council summed the matter up in saying that "the Budget reflected the period of recession through which we are passing and is based on a consideration that during times such as this public opinion would demand that Government should act as exemplar by curtailing expenditure as much as possible rather than impose additional burdens of taxation on the people."

The separation of the Chinese school system is increasingly becoming a matter of comment amongst the other communities and Hajj Sa'ud who talked about the nationalising of schools at the last meeting of the Council asked a number of questions about the financing of the Chinese schools at this meeting.

His Excellency the Governor stated in his speech to the Council Negri that there is evidence that Communist activities are continuing in Sarawak and mentioned the capture of Nuch Bahli. Young Chinese, conscious of the resurgence of their ancient homeland and its emergence as a world power are particularly susceptible to these influences. Many of them have a high stratum which, because of their limited experience and modest and, possibly, narrow education, is easily persuaded to serve unworthy causes. The stimulation in them of a greater interest in Sarawak and their neighbours in it, the encouragement of good fellowship of an unreserved kind and the provision of better objects to serve their idealism are necessary. Positive counter-measures are being undertaken but they must seem well born to a narrow and narrow viewpoint compared to the fascinating and dangerous game of Communist activity.

As a contrast to this, there are the activities of Local Authorities. These people of all our races sit down together to discuss the common problems of their district. It would be ideal to pretend that communalism and self-interest are absent from these discussions; what is important is that so many Councillors rise above these feelings. One of the most valuable lessons that Councillors are learning—is it one of the most valuable that anyone can learn—is that of give-and-take. No community or problem can, at this stage, be considered in isolation. They are all part of a much

bigger whole. What affects the padi-farmer in his field must in one way or another affect the merchant in the bazaar. We sink or swim together and development, which is the main theme of all Local Authorities at present, will only come as a result of common effort and common sacrifice.

The individualist will always be with us, of course. One of these is the Sibu timber merchant who was recently found guilty by the District Court there of exporting considerably more resin than he was entitled to and deceiving the Customs Department in the process. The timber was already loaded into a ship at Tanjung Munt when this was discovered and in order to avoid detaining and unloading the ship, a statutory declaration was made before a Magistrate by the gentleman concerned to the effect that all the timber aboard was resin. The ship was then allowed to leave. At his trial, his defence was that the timber aboard was not all resin, the declaration was made because in the circumstances he had no notice if he wanted to get the ship away, the declaration was, of course, quite untrue and was only made to deceive the Customs Department into releasing the ship. This defence did not amuse the Magistrate who imposed a year's imprisonment and fines totalling \$65,000. On appeal the fine was slightly reduced but the prison sentence stood. An appeal is now generally being made to Her Majesty the Queen in Council.

The Secretary of State has approved the appointment of Mr. Derek Francis Jakeway, C.M.G., B.A., to Chief Secretary. Mr. Jakeway is at present Chief Secretary, British Guiana and has served in Nigeria, the Seychelles and the Colonial Office.

In the course of the year, the B.E.M. was awarded to W.O. H. Gos and Kenneth of the Rangers and five other Rangers were mentioned in despatches for gallant conduct. For so small a force this is indeed creditable.

A party was given on the evening of the 20th by Lucy Madison, Chairman of the Kuching Art Club at her house across river. It was intended as a farewell party for Mrs. Field, long a pillar of the Club, and Miss Ashton-Sloan, and a large number of members were present. Mrs. Field had, unfortunately, had to leave Kuching beforehand and on her behalf Mr. Field accepted the good wishes of the members and the promise of a picture as a memento. A presentation was made to Miss Ashton-Sloan. What exact influence the Club possesses is not known but there was a break in the torrential rain we have been having for this event and a glorious night was created, literally, with a superb and perfect lunar luncheon.

On the afternoon of the 20th, the Boys' Home had its annual Christmas Party and generously three it open to a large number of guests led by His Excellency the Governor. There was an exhibition and sale of handicrafts and a concert. One or two attractive young ladies helped at the concert but it was mainly the boys who performed. They put on lively sketches and sang rousing songs with obvious gusto, a pleasing contrast with the fisher-in-the-boats style favoured by many of our leading tenors.

Another social event of the month was the first British Borneo Territories Photographic Exhibition organized by the Sarawak Photographic Society and presented in the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. The public of Kuching owe much to the Chamber which generously allows its premises to be used for so many exhibitions, but the space available is not large and, in the case of this exhibition as with so many in the past, the display was crowded and inadequate. The trade reception makes it an inauspicious moment to

cry for a proper community centre with adequate facilities for exhibitions such as these but there is no doubt that Kuching needs one.

The competition had forty-seven Sarawak entrants, thirty-nine North Borneo entrants and three Brunei entrants. The average number of prints submitted by each entrant was slightly over three. A hundred and one prints belonging to fifty-two entrants were exhibited. Most exhibitors appeared to favour carefully-pose photographs, and these were quite a number of exhibitors who had preferred to do the major work of production in the dark-room rather than with the camera. Many of these photographs displayed considerable ingenuity and most of them were revealed in prints of high quality, some of them displaying an advanced technique. Inevitably they were rather lacking in naturalness although it is only fair to say that a considerable school among modern photographers does not consider naturalness to be a virtue and their work frequently carries off the highest awards. But it is photography for photographers (and also appeal to advertisers) and to the ordinary layman perhaps the photographs of Mr. Brian Braka, a collection of which the Club had on display, are of average interest and appeal. These consisted of vivid and revealing glimpses of life in London and Moscow and of the royal celebrations in Ghana and Nigeria.

With their customary generosity, the members of the Saint Andrew's Society provided an excellent dinner and a most entertaining evening for their guests, including Samsoachs and others, on the night of their annual dinner and dance at the end of November. Highland Chiefains are normally strangers against a background of beer and glass but the Chiefain of this Gathering was a well-known scattering man and the occasion was conducted with nautical nonchalantness. The Royal Air Force Pipe Band from Singapore provided the traditional barbaric music and displays of native dancing which seems nearly as good as a night.

There is ever a refreshing naturalness about Sarawak. While travelling by the excellent Remping to Sibu and having gone out into the heaving blackness of the night to inhale a little ozone before dinner, a sailor cheerfully informed us that the deck was swash with vomit. We appreciated the availability of the remark but it did not make our soap any the more interesting.

The Kuching Boat Club, of which more elsewhere in this issue, had its fourth annual general meeting on 1st December. This was said to be one of the most successful annual general meetings (of any club in Kuching) with about one third of the ninety members present. Great progress was reported during the year 1958 and an excellent programme approved for 1959.

During the meeting the President of the Club, Sir Ernest Williams, was presented with a suitably inscribed pair of Jordan hook ends bearing the club badge. Sir Ernest has, almost from its inception, shown great interest in the affairs of the club and has given every encouragement possible.

The Sarawak Government, and many others, will surely miss Mr. G. A. C. Field, the Commissioner of Trade and Customs, when he leaves Sarawak on retirement on January 1st, 1959. Mr. Field who, this month, has been making a series of farewell tours of the various Customs Stations in Sarawak, has received the highest praise from all his subordinates, praise he richly deserves after serving this country for twenty-nine years.

The first showing of a wholly Sarawak film entitled "Five hundred quarters of Borneo Man" was given in the William Tan Auditorium on 15th December.

1958. The hall was full and the audience very appreciative of this excellent film taken by K. F. Wong under the direction of Tom Harrison and edited by Barbara Harrison.

A review appears elsewhere in this issue.

Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, British High Commissioner in India and former Commissioner-General for the United Kingdom in South East Asia, passed rapidly through Sarawak twice during the month—once on his way to Brunei and a second time, when he stayed for one night at the guest of His Excellency the Governor in Kuching, on his return.

Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals

Miss J. B. Colburned (Newly appointed Women Social Welfare Officer)	By Rajah Pudu arriving Kuching 1.12.58. On first appointment.
Mr. M. Glegg	By air Singapore/Kuching on 8.12.58. Returning from leave.
Mr. G. A. James	By Darvel arriving Kuching on 8.12.58. Returning from leave.
Miss M. E. Malloy (Newly appointed Nursing Sister)	By air Singapore/Kuching on 12.12.58. On first appointment.
Miss D. M. Simpson (Newly appointed Matron, Grade ID)	By air Singapore/Bite on 23.12.58. On first appointment.

Departures

Mr. L. W. Ransom	By air Kuching/Singapore on 8.12.58. Proceeding on short leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. E. G. Robinson	By air Kuching/Singapore on 10.12.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. P. S. Jones	By air Kuching/Singapore on 11.12.58. Proceeding on local leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. G. H. Radkham	By air Kuching/Singapore on 11.12.58. Proceeding on short leave to the United Kingdom.
Dr. R. Dikin	By Jaly sailing Kuching/ Singapore on 13.12.58. Proceeding on short leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. Justice L. D. Smith	By air Jesselton/Kuching/ Singapore 13.12.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. S. C. Larkin	By air Kuching/Singapore on 14.12.58. Proceeding on short leave to the United Kingdom.
Mr. F. E. H. Pile	By air Kuching/Singapore on 14.12.58. Proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom and Jamaica.
Mr. W. C. B. Wilson	By air Kuching/Singapore on 14.12.58. Proceeding on leave to New Zealand.

His Excellency the Governor's Speech to Council Negri December 9, 1958

Mr. President,

I have asked that a printed address which sets out the main activities of the departments of Government during the course of this year should be placed before you. Honourable Members of Council can study this address at leisure and I hope you will find that progress in many directions has been made in spite of a period of financial stringency.

Before considering our own problems I would like to say a word or two on matters outside these shores which affect us. Although events in Europe, the

Middle East and in the Far East alarmed and disturbed the peace of mind of many people in Sarawak, they did little to interrupt the peaceful course of our lives. We of course share with other small countries the anxieties and fears of the day even though there is little we can do to influence them. But in our membership of the Commonwealth we have the comfort and good cheer of companionship and the strength and purpose of a united family. It is our duty to do the best we can not to add to the heavy burden of those who bear the greater responsibility for our foreign relations and provide for the safety of our shores. We make our best contribution to Commonwealth defence by the stability of our Government and the healthy progress we are making towards political and economic maturity. It is fashionable in some quarters to deny the value of family ties and the loyalty, discipline and obligations which they entail. But no community has been anything but the poorer for the weakening of those ties. We in Sarawak are family-minded people and we are proud and happy in our membership of the Commonwealth family. Our peace and happiness cannot well be when we are here assembled in this chamber to greet in person His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, the husband of the head of our great Commonwealth family. It will be to members of a happy united family that we will welcome His Royal Highness to these shores and we will, I know, make him feel at home sharing this great occasion with everyone of every race and creed and create who rejoice in the feeling of kinship and the gaiety of a great family occasion.

Mr. President, at the last meeting of this Council, Honourable Members agreed to a motion that the President should appoint a Committee of Unofficial Members of the Council to examine the implications of closer association and to report to Council on the more detailed information which should be presented to the people of these territories. The position is that our friends in North Borneo are thinking on much the same lines as ourselves in regard to the next step which should be taken and it has been agreed with them that the Committee of Unofficial Members of both territories should undertake a concerted tour of North Borneo and Sarawak in order to study the circumstances of each and so be better qualified to report back to their respective legislatures. We hope to arrange for these excursions to take place as soon in 1959 as the weather and other requirements allow. The Government of Brunei has asked to be crossed participation in this investigation at this stage.

The annual conference of the Malaya-Borneo Regional Group of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association met at Jesselton in August, 1958. Malaya, Singapore and Sarawak sent representatives and Australia, New Zealand and Brunei sent observers. This was the first conference at which observers from Australia and New Zealand were present and both publicly and privately they expressed their satisfaction in being given the opportunity of being present. All representatives and observers considered that the conference had served a most useful purpose.

The inter-territorial conference was held in March in Brunei by the kind invitation of His Highness the Sultan. Matters of common interest to the three territories were discussed and a report on departmental co-operation and co-ordination of policy considered by the conference.

The friendly relations we have always enjoyed with Malaya and Singapore are of value to us in many directions. Apart from the facilities for higher education available in the university, the Medical Department and the authorities in the Singapore General Hospital have been most helpful to us in the training of Health Inspectors and in many other ways. Malaya offers to our Consular training courses in Special Branch, Courses for Inspectors and its leadership of which we have made fullest use. The Colombo Plan countries particularly Australia and New Zealand

continue to give in every help and encouragement. There are at present 133 Sarawak men and women studying abroad. The total number of awards to date has been 473 and 281 persons have completed their training. During the last three months alone 24 additional awards have been made under the Colombo Plan, 14 of them by Australia.

The Sarawak Rangers have continued to play an important and successful part against the Communist terrorists in Malaya. The strength of the force in Malaya is now 248 and in Sarawak there is a very careful reserve of 430 ex-Rangers who undertake an annual camp of training and are always available to us in an emergency. There seems every prospect that this long drawn-out struggle in Malaya against the terrorists will come to an end in the near future. We hope for the sake of Malaya that this will be so. The Sarawak Rangers have proved in this campaign that their skill in tracking, their knowledge of the jungle and their ability to live and fight in it are very great assets which are a valuable contribution to the defence of the region. We are now considering, in consultation with the army authorities, how best to maintain this useful force in training for use in the event of an emergency.

We were very glad to welcome to Sarawak officers and men of the 1st Battalion, the Chindia Regiment, who undertook a combined exercise in the First Division with units of the Sarawak Constabulary. I am sure that the experience gained and the lessons learnt in these exercises are of great value to the country and I hope that similar exercises can be arranged elsewhere from time to time. The men of the Chindias by their bearing, kindness and good discipline endeared themselves to people of all races in Sarawak. During the course of the year we have also received most welcome visits by units of the Royal Navy, the Royal Australian Navy, the Royal New Zealand Navy, and the Royal Malaysian Navy.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Far East Station, Admiral Sir Gerald Gladstone, visited Sarawak in September, 1958. These visits by Commonwealth forces are a welcome reminder of the strong ties which guard our shores.

Mr. President, the main business before you at this session is the Budget for 1959. Copies of the draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and an explanatory Memorandum on the Estimates have been sent to you and I do not wish to comment in detail on the financial proposals which will be put before you for consideration.

During 1958 export prices have been lower than they have been for several years. The price of rubber for example has been below an average of 60 cents a pound. The tonnage of pepper exported has also been lower but the total value of pepper exported is much the same as in 1957, since producers have wisely increased their output of the more valuable white pepper at the expense of black. Many countries have received lower prices for their primary products so the present situation has not been confined to Sarawak alone. We have for several years enjoyed a relatively high price for our exports and a period of lower prices must be expected. The value of our external trade has decreased by about \$30 million, and this has in turn affected Government revenue.

The policy adopted by the Government in connection with the 1958 Budget is one of consolidation rather than expansion. This, in my view, is a wise policy in the light of the present financial situation. Every effort has been made to save on Government expenditure and the Financial Secretary with the assistance of members of the Finance Committee of Nopusa-Council have approached the Estimates of Expenditure with this object in mind. There are many things which we would like to do and we must decide whether to defer expansion of the services or to pay increased taxation. I believe that in a time of recession it is

wise to keep a tight control on recurrent expenditure and that the general public will welcome economy by the Government, at this time.

The Estimates follow the form of the 1958 Estimates which you will remember was designed to ensure that our annual recurrent expenditure does not rise beyond what we can afford when the prices of our export products are low. The wisdom of this policy has been demonstrated by the fact that although revenue has fallen in 1958, there will still be a small surplus. This has been largely due to savings in expenditure.

In the Recurrent Budget by far the greatest part of the increased expenditure for next year is due to the continued expansion of the educational system. The total number of pupils in all schools in 1958 is about 94,000. It is expected that in 1959 enrolments will increase by 11,000 bringing the total number of children in schools to over 105,000. It is the Government's aim to provide as soon as possible primary education for every child in Sarawak. The cost of this will involve large increases of public expenditure every year. To make it possible for these increases to be met, the Government is compelled to place some limit on expenditure in other sections of the school system. With substance therefore the Government has decided to propose an increase in secondary school fees.

The Development Plan calls for a large amount of capital expenditure during the period 1955-1960. A revision of this plan is now taking place which will cover the period 1959-1963. This revision has become necessary not only to take stock of what has been accomplished and what remains to be done, but to relate our plans to the funds likely to be available for Development. I warned members last year that, if revenue was not available, we would have to prune our Development Plan and this in fact is what we will have to do now. If we continue with our present plan and capital and recurrent expenditure continue at that level there is a very real danger that the surplus balances of the territory will become exhausted by the early 1960s. Expenditure on our Development programmes will now be kept under constant and rigid review in order that we may avoid entering into commitments beyond the resources available to us.

For the first time in its recent history, so far as I am aware, Sarawak has incurred a public debt. This year Government Debentures were placed on sale and, although response was at first discouraging, the final figure of just over \$1½ million was not unimpressive. It is proposed to raise further loans for development during the year and you will see that the 1959 Estimates of Expenditure provide for the charges on these loans. These charges will be met from annual revenue.

The proposed expenditure on development schemes in 1959 exceeds the money available in the Fund by about \$5 million, and one of the questions which will cause concern is where this \$4 million can be found. We may get additional assistance from Her Majesty's Government by way of Colonial Development and Welfare Grants, but this is not yet certain. There is talk of a large illuc cut crop in the early part of next year; if this materialises and the price of our exports is higher than expected, then we shall be able to find the additional funds we require. You will see that in the Development Estimates a number of items have been put under reservation and it will not be possible to proceed with these works until we know if additional funds will be forthcoming during 1959.

I would like to draw your attention to one other item of importance to the economy of Sarawak. I refer to the proposal to levy a cost of 2 cents a pound on rubber exported. The Rubber Planting Scheme continues with great vigour and success and the demand for participation in the scheme far exceeds what we originally contemplated. There are insufficient funds in the Development Fund to finance an expansion of the scheme or to pay increased subsidy which I am advised is required to enable farmers

to maintain newly-planted high-yielding rubber in a satisfactory condition. Furthermore you will no doubt have seen in the newspapers that the Federation Government have imposed an export tax on planting material. If that tax had been possible in 1958 it would have cost us no less than an additional \$300,000. If we plant 10,000 acres each year in 1959 and 1960 as we have planned, this new tax will cost us \$150,000 per annum. If the proposed cess or another means of augmenting the funds is not approved then our rubber replanting scheme will come to a halt stop. It is estimated that the use of 2 cents a pound will yield additional revenue of about \$1.6 million per annum. This money will be paid into the Rubber Fund and used only for increased expenditure on rubber planting. The expenditure on the Rubber Planting Scheme is heavy but it should put us in a better position to compete with others in the rubber trade in the future, and it is a trade which is vital to the economy of this country.

To sum up. Our finances are sound but we cannot expect to spend at a rate of expenditure possible in boom years since the war. We must watch particularly our recurrent commitments. Government departments must exercise caution and economy particularly in the increase in their staff. The present estimates do not increase any income in taxation unless of course Honorable Members wish to increase the expenditure provisions.

My printed address covers fairly fully the main activities of the departments of Government and I do not want to go over the same ground again. There are, however, one or two points which I would like to underline. In the field of Education I have already referred to the very rapid expansion which has been made and the great sums of money which this is costing the country. As the guardian of the taxpayer's money, it is the Government's duty to see that these funds are spent to the best advantage of the country. The voracious demand for more and more academic secondary education in urban areas cannot be met. Government policy is to provide in time primary education for all and secondary education for those who can make the best use of it and give up to serve their country. A reckless increase in academic secondary schools to meet the demand would pose not only financial problems which we cannot solve but a grave social problem as well. If we do not take heed we will find that we have on our hands boys and girls with a secondary education which has divorced them from their rural family background, without jobs, disgruntled, looking for excitement and an outlet for their youthful energy in many undesirable forms of mischief. The cry is for secondary schools at all costs but what we want is quality in our secondary schools to raise standards of teaching and output so that the best material in the country is given an education worthy of it. Various steps have not been popular but have been generally accepted as fair and prudent.

In the field of agriculture I would like briefly to refer to the proposals for an improved and enlarged agricultural extension service for which you will see provision in the Estimates. It should be explained that "extension" means all those services which a Government can provide in order to bring about an improvement in farming efficiency and a rise in the standard of living of the farmers and his family. The Department's proposals will direct its extension service not at the farmer alone as has been done hitherto but at the farmer and his family as a whole. Not only will the farmer be encouraged to practise diversification of cropping, more extensive production and to give greater attention to quality but, through the agency of trained women Home Demonstrators, his wife will be instructed in such activities as home hygiene, cooking, vegetable cultivation, poultry keeping, home crafts and so on. In short these extension services should pave the way for a better and more healthy life for the farmer, his wife and family.

As I have reported in my written address, the progress made by Local Authorities, the increase in expenditure and in the technique of managing local affairs, their growing sense of responsibility gives solid ground for encouragement. Honorable Members will be aware that in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution Order in Council of 1954 I shall be dissolving this Council at the end of 1958. Most of the District Councils are also due to be dissolved at the same time. I have therefore deemed it advisable to arrange for all the Councils to be similarly dissolved at the end of the year 1958. This will enable elections to be held in all Council areas throughout the country at roughly the same time. Fresh structural colleges will therefore be set up simultaneously in order to elect members to a new Council Negri. I have accordingly extended by one year the terms of office of the members of the Lower Siding, Bintany and Bintulu District Councils whose period of office would otherwise have come to an end on the 31st December of this year. For the same reason I have decided to extend by one year the terms of office of the members of six other Councils whose period of office would otherwise extend beyond the end of 1959. These decisions have been taken after consultation with and with the agreement of the Councils concerned.

Tribute was paid by you Mr. President and Honorable Members at your last meeting to the memory of the late President of this Council and I mention again this most grievous blow to our fortunes and our great personal loss because I wish to draw attention to the burden of work which has fallen on the Acting Chief Secretary and the staff of the Secretariat. In a small country such as this the loss of two Chief Secretaries in the year most seriously affects the smooth running of a Secretariat and throws additional work and greater responsibility all down the line on unopposed shoulders. The whole Secretariat rose manfully to the occasion and there has been no lowering of standards. I am most grateful to them for the very hard work and long hours of overtime which this has often entailed.

Finally I know how anxiously and patiently the country has waited for the decision of the Secretary of State regarding the post of Chief Secretary. I hope to be in a position to make an announcement very shortly both in regard to this appointment and the question of an extension of my term of office. On one thing I can assure you the Secretary of State will be influenced only by consideration for the best interests of Sarawak. Most of you Honorable Members here met the present Secretary of State and having met him will know that his one concern is for our welfare and progress. We can have confidence that whatever action he takes will be after the fullest consideration of all the circumstances for our good and in the interests of our future development.

Unlicense Unlimited

from a Treasury advertisement—

"All persons who are engaged in any occupation carried on for profit other than an industrial business . . . are reminded that Trade Licences for the year 1959 expire on 31st December, 1958."

Three hearty cheers for the Treasury,
They've shown us all the way!
Confoundin' all the miseries
Who tell us "License don't pay".

No need to have a License
(Though I know it does sound awful)
If you carry on a business
Which is not exactly lawful.

So cheer, cheer on regardless
Don't wait that application
A little bit of Sated Trade
Will still bring home the Bacon.

The Peoples of Sarawak*

X and XI

MELANAU

89

R. G. ARMAS

The people in Sarawak known to us as Melanau do not refer to themselves by that name. They call themselves a *Liko Melau* meaning Melanau in general or, for example, a *Liko Melau* meaning, specifically, a Melanau of the Melau river. Nevertheless the name Melanau has been used for a very long time and it is so well known that no apology is needed for using it here.

The Melanau may be said to occupy a coastal belt of land extending from the mouth of the Rejang river to the mouth of the river Baras and extending inland some twenty miles from the sea. This environment has played an all important part in their lives, as will be seen when one comes to consider their history and occupations.

What sort of people are they, these Melanau? What do they look like and what part do they play in the general life of the communities of Sarawak? Superficially they look just like Malays and, with the uniformity that accompanies modern education, are likely to look even more like them in the future. But to anyone who has lived amongst Melanau for any length of time there can be no doubt that they have physical characteristics of their own which render them distinct from the true Malay. Both men and women are stockier and broader shouldered than the average Sarawak Malay and are generally of a lighter hue. They are a handsome people and the womenfolk have long enjoyed a reputation for beauty. Amongst female Melanau a concave forehead was considered a sign of beauty and steps were taken to ensure that the girls should conform to this ideal of Melanau beauty. While still in infancy the parietal bones of the skull are subjected to pressure by means of an ingenious instrument known in the speech of the Melau Melanau as a *job* and in the dialect of the Oya area as *apl*. This instrument consists of a piece of hardwood about two feet long having holes bored through each end. First a cloth covered weight is placed on the baby's forehead and on top of this weight is the hardwood *job*. This is fixed to the infant's head by cords extending through the holes at each end of the piece of wood and passing behind the head. The cords are tightened by means of two "screws" fixed at either end of the *job*. As often as not these "screws" are formed by two absolute Sarawak coconuts—one cut or half cut pieces—having holes in the centre through which the cord is threaded. The use of the *job* is dying out; indeed its use is now extremely rare and it would be interesting to know in how many cases it has been used in the last ten years.

The speech of the Melanau is substantially different from that of the Malay and amongst Melanau themselves there is considerable difference in dialect, though it is easy to exaggerate these differences. Most Melanau can understand one another without any great difficulty except where *Batinis* is concerned. *Batinis* Melanau is unlike the other dialects and must be one of the few, if not the only, speech in the whole island of Borneo which does not use the word *malin* for night. Two notable points about the Melanau speech are worth mentioning; first that anyone with a good knowledge of, say, Oya

Melanau can sit in a *Sekapan* long-house near Belaga and have little or no difficulty in understanding what is being said around him. Second that if a Melanau word list is compared with a similar list of words used by some Land Devils living in the First Division, a good long way from the Melanau, it will be found that as many as forty per cent of the words are the same.

Over five hundred years ago, before the coming of Islam, the Melanau were all pagans and were ruled by their own chiefs, the most famous of whom was the legendary Tupau who dwelt in the Katus, a tributary of the Igan river. The chiefs of Oya and Melau were his relatives and he had friends and allies at the top the coast at Belau and Tunong. Tupau, who was by way of being a giant, thought himself strong enough to challenge for rights of Brunei and demand tribute and submission from Sultan Muhammad. In short days Brunei was a great power and it was rash of Tupau to challenge such a ruler; after two decisive victories by the Sultan's forces the Melanau were beaten and their territory, from the Tunong to the Igan, became part of the Brunei empire. Later on Bruner Prince *panji* replaced the Melanau chiefs and there was a good deal of inter-marriage between Bruner nobles and the womenfolk of the Melanau chiefs; their descendants are to be found in many of the coastal areas to this day. The Bruner *panji* were authorized by the Sultan to collect taxes from his Melanau subjects, and there was much oppression and discontent—as everyone engaged in the collection of these taxes expected to obtain a commission and the unfortunate Melanau were reduced to a state of poverty.

About twenty years after the establishment of the new State of Sarawak under Rajah Brooke, a number of unprincipled scoundrels were being given shelter at Melau, the most notorious of whom was Shrip Muzahar, a life long enemy of Rajah Brooke and a thorn in the side of the Sarawak State. This man endeavoured to stir up the *Dayaks* so that they would raid the Melanau villages, and the Panglima of Melau doubtless at the instigation of the Shrip, had forbidden Sarawak traders to enter the Melau river to obtain raw saps and had prevented the Melau people from trading with Kuching, the capital of Sarawak. This was too much for Rajah Brooke and vigorous action was taken against those in Melau who were hostile to Sarawak and, despite mere attempts by the Governor of Labuan to impede the Rajah's efforts, the upshot was that in 1861 the Sultan of Brunei ceded to the Rajah the area from the Rejang river to Kodurong Point. Thus the vast majority of the Melanau people came under the rule of Rajah Brooke of Sarawak.

It was after the transfer of their territory to the Rajah that the Melanau gradually gave up their habit of living in *horrens*-like long-houses and reverted to the use of individual houses in Malay-style villages. There were, until very recent years, some specimens of Melanau long-houses still in existence, notably at Sungai Sok, Mulu, at Jemurong, Mulu and at Medong in the Oya River. A *Sekapan* Melanau long-house on the outskirts of Mulu was burnt down in the period between the two World Wars. Consequent upon the long period of subjection to Bruner many of the Melanau became Muslims and the process of conversion has continued until the present day. The remarkable thing is that there are still an appreciable number of non-Muslims. About thirty years ago the numbers of Muslim and Pagan Melanau in the Oya river were about the same—something like 4,000 of each and about 1,000 Christians. There is reason to suppose that the proportions are much the same today.

In the course of a short talk of this nature it is not possible to go into the question of Melanau customs in any great detail and a brief mention of one or two of these must suffice. The customs which have been chosen for mention are to do with marriage and with

*This series of talks, originally broadcast over Radio Sarawak, is now reproduced by courtesy of the Director of Broadcasting, for a general introduction to, and explanation of, the talk by Basil Miller, Mr. Tom Harrison, Government Ethnologist, and Charles of the Sarawak Museum, see *Sarawak Gazette* No. 1294.

sickness; the first because it is interesting and unusual, and the second because it illustrates the theme running through this talk—which is to the effect that the Melanians are close relatives of certain upriver tribes, who may be regarded as intermediate between the coastal dwelling Melanians and the upriver Kayans and Kenyahs; and also that there is a relationship between the Melanians and the far distant Land Dayaks. Amongst the Melanians there is a system of rank, and every person belongs to a certain rank or *bangsa*. Amongst the Melanians of the Oya river, for example, there are five named ranks which may be regarded as being divided into an upper class, a middle class and a lower class. It is not desirable for marriage to take place between members of different *bangsa*. The dowry in respect of these ranks is as follows:—

PURIS RASA.—a damascene sword and thirty *picul* of brassware; **SERONG RASA**.—a damascene sword and nine *picul* of brassware; **TIANG RASA**.—a damascene spear head and seven *picul* of brassware; **POKORIS RASA**.—a plain spear head and five *picul* of brassware; **PURIS RASA**.—a plain spear or cloth and varying weights of brassware ranging from four to one *picul*. The *picul* is a measure of weight equivalent to one hundred and thirty three and one third pounds. An arbitrary value of £10 has been placed on the *picul* and in these modern times the *picul* may take the form of brassware, land, gold or cash. The dowry is divided into (a) the *perwahak*, consisting of a weapon and other items; (b) the *berian*, which should really consist of articles made of brass graded in weight according to *bangsa*; and (c) the *pakian*, which should consist of two *picul* of brassware. When the *perwahak* and the *berian* have been accepted the marriage is considered to be legally binding. Nowadays the *pakian* is always paid in cash and, in practice, is a gift to the bride's parents, who are paying for the wedding, to compensate them for the loss of household manpower in the person of their daughter. The *perwahak* becomes unconditionally the sole property of the wife and so does the *berian*, provided the marriage lasts and is not broken up by reason of her misconduct.

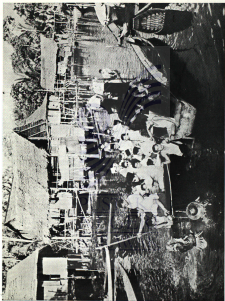
Anyone who has had any dealings with Melanians will have come across the sickness ceremony of *berayahak* and *berayahak*. In the first the various spirits of sickness are called up through a spirit medium, a *jakak*; the ceremony is performed by a *jakak* or expert in Malay medicines. The *berayahak* consists of the beating of gongs and drums and singing in the Melanese tongue, whilst the *jakak* calls up the spirit of sickness and also his own friendly spirit. The friendly spirit is there to help and to advise. The *jakak* brushes the patient from head to foot with a bunch of leaves from the *areca* nut (young) palm. The spirit of sickness will very likely demand that a model image of the spirit or of an animal be made, and this is produced from sago pith under the instruction of the *jakak*. The *jakak* orders the model image to be an adult in the street or placed on the bank at some selected spot. If the sickness persists or is really serious the last resort is the *berayahak* ceremony. This is a much more elaborate ceremony than *berayahak* and its unique feature is the appearance of a large swing made of rotan *ayau* stretched across the sick room. The patient sits on the swing and is propelled backwards and forwards so that he (or she) becomes possessed by a supernatural spirit. A rotan noose is also put round to snare the evil spirit if and when it emerges. A special model sickness boat, known as *subung*, is provided for the underwater spirits and for the seduction of the evil spirit. This boat contains money, food, brassware and other valuables to keep the evil spirit contented as the boat drifts downriver and eventually out to sea if it has not already been arranged that it shall be placed at some agreed point on the river bank. A model house is also provided for the land spirits and placed in it are model images. The *berayahak* ceremony continues for five days.

Now it is on record that a similar ceremony has been held in a Land Dayak house and the word *berayahak* in both the Melanese and Land Dayak languages means hanging or suspended, as is the patient on the swing in the ceremony. From what has been said earlier it would seem that there is a good deal to be found in common between the Melanians on the one hand and upriver people such as Kenyahs, Kajangans, Sebops and so forth as well as Land Dayaks on the other.

The next question which comes to mind is how do these people occupy themselves? There are nearly 40,000 of them in Sarawak. First and foremost there must be mention of the production of raw sago. In nearly all the river basins occupied by Melanians there is cultivation of the sago palm (*Myrciophora sago*) and at one time the amount of sago flour exported from Sarawak was very considerable and amounted to, possibly, as much as three-quarters of the world's supply of that commodity. Of the total quantity of sago flour reported from Sarawak by far the greatest amount of the raw product is produced by Melanians. The area estimated to be under cultivation for the growth of the sago palm is about 150,000 acres. The whole subject of the production of sago flour from the palm is the finished article is a fascinating one and has been exhaustively examined by a scientist giving his whole time to the task. I cannot, therefore, do more than give passing mention in this short talk to the production of sago. But, although the Melanians have, with the passing of the years diversified their occupations, they are still very dependent on the production of raw sago and the fortunes of the Melanese districts are still apt to wax and wane according to the price obtainable for sago flour on world markets. This seems to be the place to give the lie to the oft heard pronouncement that the Melanians are a wholly sago eating people. There has been a tendency in the past when any form of rationing of rice has had to be introduced to say, "Oh, no need! worry about the Melanians, they have got their sago!" I believe that the Melanians dislike sago just as much as the Dayaks who have to eat it when there is a failure of their rice crop. Amongst the Melanians a number of people own *bakulans* (called *Manjar*) and in these *Manjar* are made sago biscuits, which are not pure sago but mixed with rice flour, and these biscuits are used to supplement the remainder of their diet and also for the purpose of trading with Dayaks and others. I believe that if Melanians could afford to eat rice at all meals they would not expend so much effort on the making of sago biscuits, a task which is far from popular and which is decidedly strenuous.

The Melanians have a well earned reputation as good swimmers and skilled fishermen. I remember visiting a Melanese household on a particularly sunny day; it was raining and distinctly chilly. My host remarked that at that particular moment he was reminded of Liverpool! Further discussion revealed that he had been a *kipap* in masters of the Blue Line and had travelled all over the world. And so it is with the Melanians; many of those referred to as Malajas and working in seafaring jobs overseas prove upon closer examination to be pure Melanians or of mixed Melanese/Malay origin. Quite the most unusual job I have heard of as being held by a Melanese concerns a young lad whom, at one time, I knew quite well. When last I heard of him he was said to be working as a bell-boy in a hotel in Chicago, U.S.A.!

Melanians are competent fishermen and those from the Oya, Meka and Bilitidu rivers practice, an unusual type of fishing known as *ponno*. The boats used are *berong* and are squat, heavy craft with a distinctive blunt bow. They usually have two masts and are generally decked in, the crew sitting cross legged on the deck. Around the waist they have a pronounced bulwark and on one side there is a very large net mounted on a wooden framework. The boat is propelled by oars



Melanus Gosom on the way to his Wedding

Photo Ministry



Photo: Ministry

Melanian Ladies at the Wedding

having characteristic square blades; and by means of sails when at sea and the wind is favourable. There are two massive rudders aft and a steering rudder. The boats are of shallow draught to permit entry and exit over the bar at the mouth of the river and much depends on the skill of the steersman when negotiating these bars in anything but calm weather. Amongst my good memories and can safely cross a bar when a launch would come to grief. One of the loveliest sights in all Sarawak is to see the *pinang* boats entering the Muka river on a fine evening with all sails set and the western sun shining upon them. At sea the method of fishing is based on close observation of the habits of the fish. When there is evidence of fish in the vicinity the harving is stopped and a large palm frond hoisted overhead. After some time and when it is noticed that the fish are congregating under the shade of the frond, a member of the crew slips aboard. Meanwhile the remainder of the fishermen prepare the net and cast the harving so that the net is below the surface of the sea. The crew member who is in the water then more or less "steers" the fish into the net.

Melanasians are also well known as boat-builders and paddlers. Many are the arguments which have taken place as to the respective skills as regards the Melanau, Sea Dayak and Brunai Malay. Since the conclusion of World War II many Melanau have found work with the companies engaged in the production of timber, especially with those engaged in the extraction of timber from post-warung forests in or near the delta of the Rajang river and not too far away from their homes.

The Melanau have been described as a people of taste and artistry, and one has only to consider some of the beautiful objects made by them to realize that this is a true statement. I invite attention to the Siduan baskets, to the large overhead sun hats from Igan, to the *awing* or *Maka* umbrellas, to the models of harving boats, and last, but by no means least, the beautiful women's paddles made by craftsmen in the Oya river. It is hoped that continued encouragement will be given to these Melanau men and women who produce such attractive articles and that an effort will be made to see that quality is not sacrificed for the sake of quantity.

In the past some harsh things have been said about Melanau, but the fact remains that since 1851 when they came under the administration of Rajah Sir James Brooke—nearly a hundred years ago—they have proved themselves to be good citizens, peaceful and law abiding. They are not, perhaps, easy to get to know, but once their confidence has been gained they prove to be a kindly and friendly people. They have proved themselves to have no little political sense and it is interesting to note how successful has been the Muka local authority, composed originally of Melanau, but now including all the peoples of the district. There is a sense of unity amongst Muslim Melanau, Christian Melanau and Liko Melanau and there seems little doubt that a new social consciousness is slowly but surely permeating the Melanau people; and there can nowadays be no excuse for lumping them together with Malays and forgetting the name and traditions of the Melanau. They are certainly a cultural group of considerable importance to Sarawak and with a language, customs, arts and crafts of their own concerning which they may well take pride. Such, then are the Melanau, a race second to none amongst the peoples of Sarawak.

THE BUNAYA GROUP

BY

R. A. BRUNSON

Bunaya are a small, fragmented tribe inhabiting parts around Brunai Bay. They number about 1,000 in North Borneo, 2,000 in Sarawak, and an unknown number in Brunai. There are connected groups in the

Tutuh River (a tributary of the Barum) and in Labuan. An ancient relationship with the Visaya of the Southern Philippines, is suspected.

In North Borneo the Bunaya live in the Padas and Kadas river basins and are chiefly, if rather unorthodox, Muslim. Spencer St. John a hundred years ago reported the North Borneo Bunaya to be cultivating pepper, using the methods of the Chinese, by whom they were said earlier to have been taught. If this was true they are the only Bunaya ever known to have grown pepper.

In Brunai the people calling themselves *many baidil* and *many bawang*, literally "people of the hills" and "people of the river", are of the same race as those who elsewhere call themselves Bunaya. They are predominantly pagan. In Sarawak, apart from a few in the Lawas and Truxon rivers, the Bunaya inhabit only the upper tidal reaches of the Limbang River in the Fifth Division.

I lived for nine years among the Limbang Bunaya before the war and it is of them that I shall now speak.

As regards their history little is known. The most prevalent legend tells of seven brothers, born in Brunai, to an immigrant man and wife from the Kinabatangan River in North Borneo. These seven, in good Brunai tradition, competed in a boat race to decide who should be Rajah. Lok Bainta (called by the Brunai Akh Bainta) won, and thus became the first Rajah of Brunai (he also became the first convert to Islam and was then renamed Sultan Muhammad). His brother, Garambat, came second; he moved into the Limbang. The third moved to Tutuh, the fourth to Padas and so on.

That is legend. Not until the middle of the last century did any kind of continuous or reliable history begin to be recorded. Spencer St. John made a number of journeys of exploration up the Limbang employing a Bunaya guide. His 1856 and 1858 journals show that the Bunaya were then fewer than now, and that the more numerous Murut occupied much territory now settled by Bunaya. Both tribes were hunted by Brunais from the coast and Kayans from the Baram. Some people evacuated from the Tutuh to the Limbang during this phase.

It was a Bunaya who in November 1858 killed James Brooke's greatest enemy, Panglima Makliah, during one of his concubine-collecting tours. And the Bunaya it was who hoisted the Sarawak flag and secured for Rajah Sir Charles Brooke the annexation of Limbang in 1860. Increased immigration to Limbang from Brunai followed this blessing, but the Bunaya of Sarawak mainly remain nevertheless a small and isolated group having little to do with others. Some inter-marriage with Malays, Murut and Iban has occurred, but the Limbang Bunaya continue, by and large, shy, conservative and pagan. Since his revolt against Brunai and accession to Sarawak he has involved the affairs of state apparently not at all.

The Bunaya has been thought by some to be ethnically related variously to Kadayan, Murut and others. Limbang Bunaya deny this, but acknowledge similarities of speech and culture with some North Borneo Dayaks and with the Melanau, though their contacts with both are negligible.

The Bunaya is of fair complexion. The features of the men have been called effeminate but I think this was more the result of the hair-style affected by Bunaya men (but now rarely seen) of coiling the uncut long hair loosely around the crown of the head. This did indeed give to the smoother featured postman a rather pretty school-marm look. But the Brooke haircut (as it was called in my day) made a man look more what he was, I think. Certainly the masculinity of the features of which Bunaya men seemed too often to be convicted, belied any theory of effeminacy. The men also have very sandy-like feet. Naram has adapted the Bunaya body to his swampy environment.

Short-legged and squatly-built like a buffalo, his feet are made to reduce his pounds-per-square-inch ground pressure. He can, better than any I know, walk on the water—as is literally necessary when crossing their crocheted lakes.

Bisaya women on the contrary are often delicately made. Fair and sometimes seemingly fragile. That they are fair, and often comely, is no doubt why they were at a premium in Brunei harems. But their beauty is, like the man's efficiency, often deceptive.

Neither men nor women are tattooed with any traditional designs, but horn-scar patterns were sometimes applied to the forearms of young men. The men never pluck the hair. Older women wear ear plugs of distinctive shape. These are truncated cones with the forward projection flared out and rounded; on this dome end, if not over the whole, there is gold and enamel ornamentation. But the young generation prefers modern ear rings and pendants, and favourite girl children are fitted with them at an early age as also with silver or other beaded and adorned of Brunei or Chinese make. Young men, who once filed their upper incisor teeth like the Iban, and more recently filed brass false teeth over the stumps, have now quite abandoned the practice.

The Bisaya language contains some Ibisya words, but it is not a Malay dialect. Apart from its relationship to certain North Borneo and Brunei Dusun tongues, associations in Sarawak, if any, are not known. The Limbang speech has peculiarities almost from Jampang to Jampang but is principally distinguished by its very guttural character: being produced deep in the throat. It has no native literature or reliable published vocabulary.

In habit Bisayas are static; they do not move house, travel far, or migrate. This is because they are property owners. Their immovable assets are sago and rubber gardens and fruit groves. Their movable wealth is in buffaloes (and maybe some other livestock), ancient heirloom and jew, gold and silver ornaments. They do not value beads.

They grow padi by very crude methods, but most Bisayas eat sago as a staple for part of the year. Their sago is prepared in the simplest possible fashion by stirring boiling water onto the crude wet sago flour, so producing a very stiff leavened starch. It is deep brown in colour and eaten by stirring one's chopsticks quickly in a small circle, passing the adhering goblet of goo in the mouth and withdrawing the chopsticks between tightly closed lips. The gag of goo is swallowed without salivation, and when in an hour or so all water is distilled from a heavy belly-full of sago the result is very little except early hunger and indigestion. But like Murut and Kelabit, Bisayas like their starch starch. They can and do cook rice as rice should be cooked, but to make it go further—and always for breakfast or a carried lunch—the Bisaya cooks the rice with too much water, boils it into a stiff paste and wraps measured portions in leaf. This, cold, with something sweet or sour, bland or bitter, salt or insipid—or even alone—is your breakfast or wrapped lunch, again eaten with chopsticks and swallowed without mastication.

Bisaya chopsticks require no skill to use. They have two kinds of chopstick. In one a sliver of bamboo is permanently bent to a long narrow U-shape like sugar tong; in the other a chopstick length of bamboo is split to end at a node, the two bifurcations are spread permanently open at the business end like a pair of dressing forceps. Bisayas also use spoons; they never eat with the fingers.

Now does a Bisaya eat off the mat. He will sit on a mat but his food, in plates and bowls, is usually raised on one or more four- or six-legged stands, called *patas*, to a convenient height. The meal is normally taken by the whole family together in the *bilik*, the private family apartment of the house.

Private is not the right word. They do not have such a word. Their only privacy is inside the opaque, reddened, medium-to-heavy quality, unbleached calico mosquito net, which is also of course in the *bilik*.

Bisaya houses differ from most others slightly. A *Jampang* may be of one or several houses. A house may be of two or several families—nearly of one, equally rarely of many. Houses are not long in the Iban or Kayan sense; *Jampangs* are not of individual family dwellings as with Malays. The occupants of a house are all near relatives. The old couple, their children and their children's families make the normal composition—with perhaps one or more near or poor relations who have no one to make up a household with them. The house may be a permanent, timber, supported-butth residence of Malay or Chinese design; but that is not typical. The typical house is of hollow upright (possibly very old), similar or silted beams and floor joists, and roof timbers of good sound stuff. The walls frame is thus reasonably permanent. The plan is a simple rectangle with a longitudinal dividing wall under a gable, ridge roof. Once this framework may go any variety of flooring, walling and roofing materials from board floor and wall to hollow roof—but classically the most readily available, easily applicable and coolest materials are used, i.e. split bamboo floor, flat-beam bamboo walls and sago-leaf thatched roof.

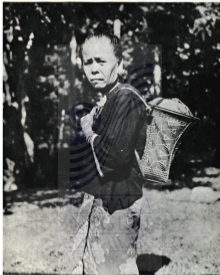
In the use of bamboo and sago leaf the Bisaya is very skilful. Both are taken mature and can be of very large size and surprising durability. The bamboo must be cut on the waning moon when the sap is down. Both are cured by submersion in mud for a time before preparation in their various forms for building. The newly finished building is neat, clean and functional. It has the immaculate inner surface of the opened bamboo boards for its exterior wall surface; the hard, smooth outer skin of the bamboo affording a clean cool inner surface. The front wall has a window six running full length through which, sitting on the mat, face back to the cool wall, one may rest in heat, and by turning the head, view the changing river scene, and spit brief juice at the flies on the mud below.

The floor of open-spaced split bamboo is the most hygienic and convenient ever evolved—and you know why.

The longitudinal dividing wall is of beaten bamboo. Eyes eye outward through it at the stator in the light front hall, but the stator cannot see what goes on in the gloomy *bilik*. This wall has one or two doors, not more. Entering at one we are back in the *bilik* where we divided the house should be described.

Where we sit at our Bisaya meal may be on the same level as the hall, but, again classically, it should be a step or two lower so that one may sit on the higher level with the feet on the lower. The lower is the cooking and eating space. At this level, under the rear eaves, is a sort of fireplace common to all tribes.

The *bilik* is one, without dividing walls. Here Bisayas conceive, give birth, live, love and quarrel, in sickness and health, and here they die. This is the women's realm, the family health and home. Though everything occurring here is known, not everything is talked about—especially. Disloyalty, unkindness,



Bisaya Woman

R. A. Bruter

jealousy and strife cannot long be tolerated here; the result is generally an island of quiet mutual trust, companionship, intimacy and sometimes affection that, understandably, makes the Baysa a great home-lore little inclined to go abroad.

There is equality of the sexes. Women and girls are not segregated or repressed as some have supposed. Their quick disappearance at sight of strangers is but a relic of training in self-protection from former heuser slave-raiding days. Work is fairly divided. Women cook and dress and carry water. Men build and hunt and fetch the firewood. Both work the padi fields as do other Borneo people. Men work the sago with the help of buffaloes. Both share many lighter occupations and either will substitute for the other in any work if necessary.

The buffalo is an important working member in the Baysa family economy and is cared for as such. Baysas do not use buffalo-drawn cultivating implements but have other appropriate devices for tilling. The buffalo is also ridden as a pack.

Marriage is generally contracted early. It normally follows a period of engagement, which may begin before birth, and is in any case entered into by parents on behalf of their children. It may be sealed with gifts including a ring. There is little premarriage cohabitation, but trial marriage is permitted with consent of the bride's parents and in their home. If successful, the contract is legalised by appropriate gifts in the presence of witnesses; if unsuccessful it is dissolved by payment of a fine or forfeit, which is not a common practice.

In religion Baysas are animists with a multitude of heavenly hosts and other spirit beings, both malign and benign, to whom offerings is given. There are also harmless spirit people like fairies, who sleepily contribute a little unsuspected interest to a sometimes dull life.

Baysas of substance provide themselves with a tomb or vault of *Avian* wood in which the bones of their families may share their last repose. Great ceremony is paid to the dead.

Religious ceremonies, associated with the major events of birth, marriage, sickness, death and burial,—and the seasons—consist in the feasting, dancing, fine clothes, music and dancing loved by Baysas. These revels keep guests in good humour and gain honour for the host, while providing atmosphere for the sociological functions of priest or priestess, witch doctor or witch.

Women feature chiefly in Baysa occult practice. Music is an essential concomitant of all major social occasions. Under the influence of gong music, feasting is may be continuously for up to three days and nights, the priestess and her acolytes may go into a trance and prophesy. Baysas are the best gong musicians in Sarawak. Full Baysa gong orchestras of numerous pieces used to be shipped to Kuching for major state occasions in pre-war days. They also have a limited repertoire of tunes on a wider range of string, wind, and percussion instruments than other Sarawak tribes though virtuosity is now rare.

Limbang Baysas have not taken full advantage of modern opportunities, though in this they are no more truly than others in the Fifth Division. The highest educated Baysa ever, is a boy now in Form Three at Bura Limbang School. The most notable being Baysa is Duta Zin Galan, who, born in the Tutoh in 1887, and serving Government all his working life, retired in 1931 with a knowledge and influence among Baysa peoples unmatched by anyone.

Local Authority Taxation

[As the bulk of local authority income is or should be obtained from levies on real estate it is with this aspect of taxation that this article is solely concerned.]

With the considerable development of local authorities over the past few years and with these authorities assuming wider responsibilities local authority taxation has increased, and will continue to increase.

Taxes are levied by local authorities to pay for the services and amenities provided by the taxing authority.

At present local authorities find themselves largely free from organised public criticism. This state of affairs cannot be expected to continue and before long rate-payers will be organising themselves into associations to ensure that the levies collected by local bodies are put to the best possible use.

Rate-Payer Associations perform an extremely useful function in the community and any local authority knowing that its actions are answerable to an organized body representative of those who provide the finance will be more likely to carry out its duties in the best interests of the community concerned.

As local authority taxation is likely to increase it is essential that rate-payers and local authority members should be conversant with the several systems available for the levying of rates. It may well be that the method at present used in Sarawak (namely Annual Value Rating) is not the most suitable and that one or other of the alternative systems may prove more equitable under local conditions.

There are three generally accepted systems of rating all with certain advantages and disadvantages. A further and most promising method namely Site-Value Rating has come into prominence over the past few years.

The four possible methods then are:—

1. Rating on Annual Value.
2. Rating on Capital Value.
3. Rating on Unimproved Value (U.V.)
4. Rating on Site Value.

1. Rating On Annual Value

Rateable value under this system is the rent at which such property would let from year to year if the owner undertook to meet the usual charges met with in running the property.

This is an oversimplification; however a fuller definition is available in the Local Authority (Rating) Regulations, 1951.

Annual Value rating taxes both land and improvements and the more intensive the development the greater the tax that will be paid.

In assessing annual value any sum paid as premium (called ten money in Sarawak) for the granting of a lease shall be taken into account by way of enhancement. Large lump sums are often paid to landlords for the occupancy of premises.

This is a most useful provision for if present legislation to have the Rent Control Ordinance amended is successful then the payment of premium will become legal and local authorities should derive considerable benefit.

For the purpose of assessing annual value premium is usually considered as rent in advance or more correctly the present equivalent of future annual payments.

One of the main advantages accorded to Annual Value rating is that it taxes according to the ability to pay.

I have always held the view that ability to pay is largely the concern of the Central Government. When two adjoining properties, equal in area, contour and soil enjoy equally the amenities and services provided by the community then they should both pay the same

rain. The fact that one land owner has spent \$100,000/- on developing his area and his neighbour only \$10,000/- is in my opinion irrelevant. The man who has the highly developed property must obviously pay out more for such services as water and electricity and thus benefit the supplying authority. In addition he has risked considerable capital and his development cannot help but be of benefit to the community as a whole.

2. Rating on Capital Value

The rateable value of property under this system is the sum at which the capital value is assessed and capital value is the sum of the values of the land plus the improvements thereon. Capital Value is generally the full market value of the property.

As in annual rating both land and improvements are taxed. Both these systems can be considered to have similar advantages and disadvantages.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Annual Value and Capital Value Rating.

Advantages

(1) They tax according to the ability to pay. This is more especially the case with annual value rating where the actual revenue being received from the property is the basis for assessment.

(As I pointed out earlier this is a somewhat doubtful advantage. In Sarawak accurate details of rentals are almost impossible to obtain.)

(2) They do not discourage large land holdings or large residential lots with ample gardens.

(3) With the annual value system in particular valuations are usually made yearly and can take into account almost immediately any improvements to a district.

The main disadvantages are:—

(1) They encourage the withholding of vacant land from use as the rates on such lands are low and it costs little to hold quite large areas for speculative purposes. This is all too evident in Sarawak.

(2) Because rates are low selling prices of vacant lots tend to become inflated.

There is no economic compulsion to sell surplus areas.

(3) Because of relatively low rates these systems do not encourage the rehabilitating of dilapidated properties. Rates being more or less in direct proportion to the rentals received there is but the scant incentive to improve the property and thereby its rental returns in order to overcome the rating obstacle so there is no unimproved and site-value rating.

(4) They directly penalise the landowner who develops his property.

3. Rating on Unimproved Value

Under this system all improvements are exempted and only the land is rated.

What must be assessed is the virgin or natural value of the land. In Sarawak this is not an over-difficult task as the original state of the land is not hard to visualise.

Unimproved values can be arrived at with a fair degree of accuracy by deducting the value of improvements from the full capital value.

In highly-developed areas original improvements such as filling and stumping of jungle, clearing, drainage and filling tend to be lost sight of. They become what is known as invisible improvements and are merged into land values. Difficulties occur for example where the original contour has been altered by filling or levelling. Because of these difficulties the fourth system, site-value rating has been evolved.

4. Rating on Site Value

In fixing site values such invisible improvements as original filling, stumping, clearing, drainage and filling

would be added to the so-called virgin value while visible improvements, such as fencing, paths, buildings would be disregarded.

The advantages of this system are immediately obvious. The task of the valuer is made very much easier for he will have available sales of large numbers of empty lots with merged invisible improvements on which to base his assessments. He will not be plagued with the necessity of discovering existing rentals under the annual value system (practically an impossibility in Sarawak in any case) but will be free to derive into the past to discover the virgin condition of the subject lands.

A Local Government Commission appointed to report on desirable changes in the existing systems of rating in New Zealand in 1956 strongly advocated that the whole country change over to site-value rating. They had this to say also.

"The Commission is satisfied that the site-value system is not only more ethical, expeditious and equitable than the existing system but would occasion only the minimum of anomalies which could be taken care of in the rules by means of the existing hardship provisions in the Rating Act."

Advantages and Disadvantages of Unimproved and Site-Value Rating.

Advantages

(1) They discourage the withholding of land from use as vacant land pays full rates. As a corollary, they discourage speculation as it is expensive to hold land in anticipation of price rises.

In a country such as Sarawak development must be encouraged even to the extent of a little economic pressure.

(2) They encourage the erection of more and better buildings. As rates are levied on land only the man who erects a large and well-appointed building does not suffer a penalty as he does in annual value rating. They discourage slums for the rates are high in proportion to the income received.

(3) They tax the result of society-created increments in land values to a much greater extent than does annual value rating.

Land owners have certainly gained enormous unearned increments in values in this country in the past as a result of Government and local authority development projects. They will continue to gain considerable increments in the future, however there is no reason why a little of it should not be paid back to taxes.

(4) Site value in particular is relatively simple to assess.

Disadvantages

(1) They tend to cause land to be subdivided into the smallest possible holdings in order to keep the rates down; however this factor can largely be overcome by local authority by-laws and town planning.

(2) Unimproved values can be difficult to assess accurately in highly developed and long-settled areas.

As a general rule Unimproved and Site-Value rating favours:—

1. Residential properties in suburban areas where land values are not unduly high.
2. Multi-unit houses and apartment houses.
3. Multi-storey structures in the business areas.
4. Industrial lands requiring substantial buildings but not a great deal of land other than that required for building purposes.

Rating on Annual and Capital Value favours:—

- (1) Empty and undeveloped lots.
- (2) Under-developed sites in business and commercial areas.

- (3) Industrial enterprises where a large area of land is acquired with very little in the way of buildings.
- (4) Mines properties.
- (5) All properties where the ratio of value of improvements to land value is low.

In highly developed communities such as are found in the United Kingdom Annual and Capital Value rating has proved satisfactory for development in more or less complete and progress and values practically static.

In a developing country such as Sarawak rating on either unimproved value or on site value appears to have more to commend it for, and this is the more important aspect of the whole matter, neither system penalises the land owner who develops his property.

Site-Value rating in particular is a most promising development and is a system which could well be the one most suited to Sarawak needs.

B. A. MARSHALL

Excerpts from Reports of Administrative Officers for the First Half-year of 1958

FOURTH DIVISION

Miri District

District Officer—P. Scanton

Law and Order

There were no cases of individual importance or of particular interest. There have, however, been several prosecutions for gambling and a number of prosecutions for smoking opium. In the case of opium addicts, with the co-operation of the Divisional Medical Officer, Dr. Abbott, a great effort has been made to cure rather than to punish. Five opium addicts were sentenced to hospital for one month, and others are professing to be cured. It is unfortunately not possible to treat all opium addicts in this manner, owing to the expense.

Miri Area

Miri Urban District Council

In the Miri Bazaar, the stamp unfortunately grew worse. Shopkeepers found it increasingly difficult to pay their debts to their suppliers and collect money owed to them by their customers.

Schools

In January, the Miri Middle School was handed back to public management after having been managed by a Government nominated committee for twenty-one months. By agreement between Government and the present Chinese organisations in the town, the School was given a concession, providing for management by a committee consisting of one representative from each of the Chinese Community Associations. It was felt that such a committee would be stronger and better able to resist the sort of situation which led up to the Middle School strike in 1954, than would a committee comprised of individuals elected on their personal merits. Such individuals can hardly be considered able to deal severely with the children of their customers if required to do so, whereas the elected representatives of the various associations are able to rely that they have the backing of their associations for any action they may take.

Low Cost Buses

The Low Cost Bloating area remained unimproved. The Development Secretary visited Miri on the 26th May and after discussion, it was agreed to recommend that a three-pronged approach be made to this problem.

- (a) That thirty houses be made available for the use of Government servants.

- (b) That another block of houses be sold outright to the public on hire purchase terms.

- (c) Any houses remaining be rented out at minimal rates.

These proposals were approved in principle and at the end of June, arrangements were in hand for the construction of furniture to be used in the houses to be made available for Government servants. Efforts were being made to sell or rent the remainder of the houses. Negotiations have been sold outright. Details of rental scheme was not yet available.

Rural Areas

Agriculture

Devalts continued to farm by traditional hill farming methods. They enjoyed an average harvest in 1958. In June, recent migrants from the Second Division found that the amount of land they occupy is not adequate for their needs. Much of it is sandy. It has therefore been necessary to attempt redistribution of Devalts amongst the various houses, and also to restrict at least one group of migrants.

Chinese from Sibul have shown great interest in the rubber replanting scheme, and are anxious to take out land along the new Janggala Road and to plant rubber. It seems likely that the usual difficulties will be encountered in allocating land to would-be rubber planters, which is claimed as old reserves by Malays and Kadavans but either rarely or very inadequately farmed. When the road is finished and in good condition, this question will have to be further investigated.

Lands and Forestry

The Forest Department has now completed its minimum programme for a belt of forest reserve to check erosion and to provide a source of timber, which can be worked over a long period of years and gradually improved.

Health

Health in the district seems to be reasonably good. The Travelling Doctor from Sibul, Mr. Fao Kiu Teok, who has been there for seven years, was posted to Sibu at the end of June. His replacement arrived in Sibul just in time to take over. Mr. Fao has done good work under difficult conditions for a long time, and deserved a change of station.

Communications

A lot of time and energy has gone into the building of Miri Road. It was originally intended that this road should run from Tusan to the Janggala River. A fall of rocks, however, from the cliffs just on the Miri side of Tusan, has made this section of the beach impossible to route traffic except at very low tides. It was therefore necessary to build an extension circumnavigating this fall of rocks.

By the end of the half year, the road had been completed to the Janggala River although there remained a fair amount of grading and ditching to be done in the last three or four miles. It is hoped to complete this before the heaviest season starts in about September this year.

A franchise bus service started to run on January 1st. One franchise has been granted for the route from Miri to Kuala Baram and another franchise has been granted to the Miri Transport Company on the routes Miri to Lutong, Miri to Kookap, Miri to Pujat and Miri to Turiang Lubang. It has unfortunately not yet been possible to arrange with the Borneo Government for a franchise to be awarded to the company from Miri to Kuala Belait. Thus the Miri-Belait Bus Company is running a service from Miri to Kuala Belait with the franchise only as far as Kuala Baram. The Miri Transport Company is still encountering many travelling troubles. Its buses are old, in poor condition and are not regularly maintained. Two new buses were purchased during the half year. The manager complained that many of the passengers they can legitimately expect to carry are stolen by taxis running

along in front of the buses, or by other vehicles such as lorries which pick up passengers by the roadside and accept money from them when they get down. There is a limit to the usefulness of trying to deal with these problems by police action. It would be much more satisfactory if the Miri Transport Company could provide a regular service in good buses in order that the public would prefer to travel by them. This whole question should be carefully reviewed in another two or three months when the Miri Transport Company should have had time to see the effect of their new buses on their service, and the effect of a recent reduction in S.O.L. amenity and other transport.

Niah Caves

The Curator of the Sarawak Museum led another expedition to the Niah caves in February, March and April. This year's expedition was larger than any of its predecessors. Mr. Barnes was attached to the expedition as administrative manager for some three months. Professor von Koenigswald, discoverer of the Java man and a World-famous anthropologist visited the caves for a short period. It was understood that further interesting discoveries were made although at the time of writing, exact information as to the age and significance of the recent findings is not available.

The contract for extraction of guano from the caves was terminated at the end of March, in order to prevent, if possible, damage to as yet undiscovered archaeological remains. This unfortunately deprived natives of the area of a means of their earning money and it was much resented. There has been a considerable amount of guano straining in spite of the fact that the Museum is now maintaining a permanent watch by cave guards, who have a stake in the mouth of the great cave.

Sarawak Oilfields Limited

Messrs. Sarawak Shell Oilfields Limited as they are now known, continued to expand the scale of their operations. As far as possible, they have not been draining labour, but when any of their employees leave their service, they are rarely replaced.

Work commenced on two deep test-wells, one on the M.H.C. padding and one at Sungai Esong, Pirmasari Road. The well on the M.H.C. padding produced a supply of gas as was expected. It was understood that the amount of gas does not justify the installation of a separate gas supply from this well but does justify forcing this gas into the existing supply. At the time of writing, drilling had not commenced on the other deep test-well although the site was under preparation.

I have written in my last year's half-yearly report on the possible consequences to the Miri area of the reduction in S.O.L. activity. This matter was further discussed most carefully during the period under review with a number of senior officers. It does not appear practicable to injure industry, light or heavy, into the Miri area to absorb surplus labour formerly employed by S.O.L., rather would it appear desirable to open up new land and encourage agricultural development. The Ulu-Bunggahu Road should be of assistance in this connection. It is desirable, however, that an extension to the Riam Road, at least to the far side of the water catchment area, should be constructed as soon as possible. Owing to pressure of other activities and shortage of administrative staff, it was regrettably not possible to undertake this work during the first half of this year.

When the two deep test-wells have been drilled, if nothing promising of oil has been found, it would seem likely that S.O.L. will be in a position to consider releasing more land from their concession area. I have addressed them on the subject of either accepting or opposing the classification of land in the Pujut area, in order to encourage people who would like to build houses or plant crops there. I suggest this is a matter which could well be reconsidered late this year, or early in 1939. By this time, the road system in

the Kriting area should be developed enough to make a connection from Kriting to Lunang Road near Pujut a comparatively simple matter.

It is unlikely that S.O.L. will undertake any more drilling in the Miri area, other than at sea and this must await the arrival of a mobile sea-drilling barge.

BARAN DISTRICT

District Officer—M. M. McPherson

Amusements

A verdict of death by drowning was returned on four Penans of L. Bala, who were drowned when attempting to reach their farms in the Akah during flood water. The Akah is a hazardous river and difficult even for experienced boatmen. The Penan are not.

A preparation scare amongst Foochoos in the Lubok Nibong—Peyer area in February resulted in a sharp decline in rubber shipments from Lubok Nibong. No Foochoos dared to leave their houses before daylight. Strange lights were reported signalling near isolated houses and an old lady claimed to have sensed the voice of an intruder who tried to climb in through her bedroom window. Two sections of Field Force from Miri patrolled the area and laid ambushes. On one occasion they are reported to have changed a light near a house and found nothing apart from a rather surprised glow-worm sitting on the branch of a tree. Otherwise no incidents were reported.

Medical and Health

M. A. Francis Keith spent a very useful two months in the Ulu Barau and Kelabit country between February and April visiting the dispensaries. More visits of this type are required. He had more than his share of troubles; his boat capsized in the Tapis; his a rock and all but capsized in the Akah; and he was chased by a wild buffalo at Pa Peak.

The dispensary at Long San has been completed. Equipment has been sent by the Catholic Medical Society of Holland. It is an excellent building. It is staffed by five men and fills a long felt want in the Ulu Barau.

The first Koryah for training as a Hospital Assistant left for Kuching in February. He is Kajan the son of Pongshih Gaa.

Four more Kelabits returned from their six months' course in Kuching in February and were posted to Pa Lunang, Pa Main, Pa Dath and Bacoa. By the end of June there were eight six months in the Kelabita country. A ninth completed his training shortly afterwards.

Complaints were made following the instruction of increased dispensary charges. It was suggested that charges should be properly scaled so that the patient who received a couple of aspirins should not be asked to pay the same as the person who received an expensive injection. The S.H.A. who finds it very difficult to decide who should pay and who should be exempt usually asks Dusaks to pay on the grounds that most of them have rubber gardens. The Orang Ulu who have few rubber trees normally receive free treatment although individuals may be far better off than most Dusaks. Meanwhile Barau people of all races continue to pay high rates for various types of local treatment.

Native Affairs

There, Ho-T.E. Uenang continues to make a thorough nuisance of himself. It had been agreed that land should be found for him in the proposed Lembitan Enclaves, but he moved in before land was allocated him. Unfortunately the area he chose is normally belonging to the Penan Toys who are very much alarmed. To make matters worse Uenang has stolen some doves from Ulu Kamp to his house. These doves have since been found.

Strong feelings are still running in the Kedi-Jang land dispute in the Bakang. The case has already been the subject of a long series of Court cases. An appeal is pending. Meanwhile both houses have agreed not to farm the land this year.

Many Japungs have been lured and have their returned houses. The favorite method of infiltration is to get married first and request permission to remain afterwards.

Orang Ulu

The T.E. of Ulu Pawa in the Belaga has requested permission to move with his house to the Tinjar. Ponghala Balas Lajan and the people of the Ulu Tinjar would be delighted to accept them, but apparently their own people oppose the move.

Ponghala Jok Ngau is keen to acquire land at Long Lian on the main Barum river for rubber planting. There is insufficient land at Long Tabangan for the growing community there, particularly if rubber is to be planted. The Pongogong who claims right over the land is unwilling to part with it to anybody who does not permanently settle there. The Tun Kasegong is opposed to any move, but a split in the house is inevitable sooner or later as pressure on the land increases and it is to be hoped that the matter can be settled amicably.

Eighteen doors of Ponghala Balas Lajan's long house at Long Triel were burnt down in May. An immediate grant of \$300 was made by the Miri branch of the Red Cross and this together with a donation from the B.D.C.H. & S.W. committee was used to purchase immediate necessities. Other houses in the Barum valley round to help with cash and assistance in kind. An excellent temporary longhouse has since been built at Long Sebena.

Requests for the move of twenty doors of Tabans from the Limbung to the Tanch were refused when enquiries revealed that most of them were Ithans. Ponghala Yama Ulong was prepared to accept any state Tabans or Marahs from the Limbung provided they joined his longhouse at Long Tansau.

The Kalabits require strong leadership. Ponghala Lawai is no longer fit enough to still his warring kasegongs and finds them impossible to control from Barau. The Northern and Southern Kalabits disagree on any issue of principle.

There is an impressive amount of fertile land lying empty in the Pa Peak area of the Ulu Barau above Liu Maba.

The seven doors of Kenyah Lapa Kih from Indonesian have now built a house as close as possible to the Saban house at Pa Peak.

The clearance for permission to move deservably to the Long Bang area from Long Selau and Long Semang has died down and now only the two T.E.'s concerned and one or two doors seem interested. The remainder have requested subsidies under the rubber planting scheme and have every intention of remaining where they are.

Agriculture

There is widespread interest in the rubber planting scheme and many more applications have been received. To cope with these, two Junior Agricultural Assistants have been recruited locally—a Dayak for posting to Long Tera and a Kenyah for posting to Long Sen.

In January the Barau Forestee 2,000 acre block planting scheme was found to be below the standard expected and the representatives were warned. The Manager has since been changed and the Rubber Development Officer reports considerable improvement.

Two parties from the Barau attended courses at Samarahan. Fourteen Kenyahs from Ulu Barau attended Course No. 4 in March and twenty Dayaks from the Lower Tinjar attended course No. 6 in April.

All returned full of enthusiasm and the courses appear to have been most useful.

Increasing interest is being shown in irrigated paddy farming. In the Akah Indonesian Marahs have been engaged on a contract basis and have prepared land ready for farming complete with funds and water supply for \$100 an acre. New Long Senai and Long Lohang are following suit. Ponghala Balas Lajan also wishes to experiment in the Ulu Tinjar.

Harvests in the Ulu Barau were extremely poor and many doors have insufficient to eat.

There is some excellent potential swamp farming land at Long Lama in the Community Development Project area. The Officer-in-Charge does not want the scheme to assume responsibility for this at present, but would like to see it used and has tried unsuccessfully to persuade the Long Lapan people to open it up. Ponghala Jok Ngau has now been allocated a part of this land and is farming it this year with the aid of Indonesian Marahs.

Tobac and Cassava

Quantities of cigarettes are known to be smuggled into the district from Brunei, but very few offenders have been caught so far.

Brunei appears to have lost interest in the Pengalayan Canal project and there is now no hope of direct shipments from Kuala Belait to Mirah and establishment of a Customs Station in Marah, meanwhile negotiations have gone ahead among local traders to form a Barau Chamber of Commerce which would consider the possibility of direct trading with Singapore and Hong Kong by using a launch to meet ships off Mirah.

Labour

Indonesians have continued to come across the border in search of work, but they have had some difficulty in finding suitable jobs during the first few months.

Local Authority

The Barau District Council held its meeting in February at Long Lama, and gave Councillors an opportunity to see progress made at the Community Development Project and to discuss the policy of the project with the Officer-in-Charge, Mr. Southwell. The Councillors were impressed with progress made at the school. Another meeting of the full council was held in Mirah in May.

A party of Kota Belud Councillors attended the Barau Heights and the Barau District Council meeting in May. They found the visit interesting, but admitted that they thought Barau drinking customs a little strenuous.

The bazaar at Long Lama, Long Tera, Belau, Lubok Nilong and Long Akah have begun to pay assessment based on rental value instead of the flat rate of 24 annually and the Barau District Council has been able to provide scavenging and maintenance services. Long Lama is now a model bazaar. Belau has been considerably unimproved and even Long Tera and Lubok Nilong look reasonably respectable.

Public Works Department

Progress on Marah Town Development has continued. The Barau Roads and near access roads have been surfaced and earth access roads constructed in the new residential area behind Marah bazaar.

Levels have been taken for the road up the hill from the bazaar which will link it to the Limbung Road. This at present crosses the airstrip and a destination has been marked out, but it is unlikely that sufficient funds will be available for this particularly since it will involve acquisition of land. Work on the road has since begun.

Work has at last begun on the Marudi commercial wharf and is progressing slowly. The contractor has been held up by failure of a sub-contractor to deliver materials.

Airline

Progress on Marudi airstrip has been held up by unserviceable equipment. Both bulldozers were out of action for long periods and one has been practically rebuilt. These breakdowns were later attributed to the presence of grubs subsequently unweeded during earth-moving operations. Cucklers were fired and the buses returned.

Long Akah airstrip has been completed and used on several occasions by the B.M. Avions.

The Sabans at Pa Peak are interested in building an airstrip for use by Mission plants near their houses.

Now the 5/6 Airtrails have been built there is a demand to open for an air service particularly from the Kelatins. There are still no firm proposals for such a service.

Education

The problem of non-payment of Kelabit school fees has still to be solved. The Baram District Council proposed that Kelabit porters should carry travelling officers' housing fees for the first day's journey from Kampong to Kampong and the 50 per day which they would have received paid into the Kelabit schools' accounts. The Southern group of kampongs agreed to this proposal, but the Northern did not. The Baram District Council has since proposed that all Kelabit porters should be paid only £2 a day and the remaining £1 paid into the schools' fund.

The drastic reduction in the Batu Lintang Grade IIIA Teachers Training intake hits the Baram particularly hard. There is nobody yet in the Baram capable of passing the IIA teachers' course entrance examination. It is possible that Grade IIA teachers from elsewhere in the country will volunteer to teach in Baram schools and one has in fact done so, but for many reasons it is preferable to have Orang Ulu teachers to staff the Kayah/Kayan/Kelabit schools. It is hoped that a special course can be arranged to bring promising Baram candidates up to Grade IIA entrance standard.

General

The Baram Regatta was held in Marudi on the 14th May. Large crowds attended.

The Hon'ble the Resident led a contingent from Mili and S.O.L. Mili and B.S.P. Senta with a large number from the fields. There would have been more visitors from Kuching had not Kuching chosen the same date for their Regatta.

Wireless sets lent by Royal Shell Co. Ltd. and the Marine Department installed in sterns' and ambers' launches and outboards and a central control point set up in the Kadu enabled races to be started more or less on time and there were no long delays between races. All Championship Cops went to the Turoh and Apoh. The Nyctar competition was a great success. A Rowing Competition attracted a large entry and a committee of experts headed by the British Resident, Bruce, Mr. J. G. Gilbert, had a difficult task to select the best boats. Rowal was later sold at the Rowal Bar at ten cents a plate and raised \$165.75 for the Baram H. & S.W. Fund.

The stream of visitors to Marudi has continued. Very few travelling officers bring their own servants nowadays and it throws a heavy burden on my house-hold staff. A Rest House is essential. It has been recommended that this should be incorporated in the terminal building to be built at Marudi airstrip. A caretaker (cook) would be necessary.

BENTALL DISTRICT

District Officer—R. J. Polo-Evans

Cases

Criminal. The total number of Criminal Cases was thirty-three.

Thirteen of these were in respect of offences against Native Customary Law.

Three of them were preliminary inquiries into murder. Following one of the latter the High Court sentenced Strong anak Pasa to death for murdering Jabong anak Katsah.

Native Affairs

Malay/Melanos. Approval was given in March for the constitution of a Native Constabulary Reserve along the coastal strip between Kuala Bintulu and Sungai Mas. Seventy-two families led by Tuan Ismael, Head Abolul Kadir intend to make use of the area.

Considerable interest was shown by Bintulu Kampong people in moving across to Kampong Kaw in anticipation of a Bailey bridge being erected to span Sungai Selirau.

At Pandan the Malay Community, spurred on by T.K. Johari, built themselves a new Kampong road and bridge with financial help from Government.

The Malay rubber planters both at Sempu and Selirau returned generously again on their land under subsidy. Similarly the Malay Schools in Bintulu and Tatus sub-district prospered under terms of loan teachers.

Disaster. The lower Anap was hit by flood during the second week in January which damaged crops extensively. In most other areas the harvest was fair to good.

Tatus was lucky in having a good replanting crop while other places didn't. Pans from 140—20 per cent were obtained in Tatus basins.

Following the harvest there was an outbreak of requests to rub. Permission is given only once in three years.

Owing to the scarcity of racing boats it was decided not to hold a Regatta this year.

Throughout the district longhouses were very low about covering Head Tax and remainder were sent to all Turoh Rumah.

A number of small communities were found to have split away from longhouses and to have either joined other houses or set up their own without permission. They will have to be dealt with after next harvest. Several cases of illegal jinabah from outside the district were discovered and several parties of Dondok arrived from Selipagan, Oya and Mukah in search of land. Bangas anak Jabong who arrived unannounced from Kuban in 1957 with eight doors to join Rumah Boma, Tatus was made to return home in May.

Lengthy and elaborate arrangements were made during February and succeeding months to receive and move sixty-five doors of immigrants from the Second Division to the 5/6 holding. In March the figure fell to forty-eight doors, and in April and May only thirty-three doors actually arrived. The last lot moved up to Kuala Marangon from the transit camp at Tuhon on 3rd July after immense procrastination. They brought quantities of jars and gongs but insufficient padi and rice. After staying in the transit houses they were taken to move upriver and then farming or building temporary houses. With assistance from the local Pansas they put off their departure until it was too late to fall and borrowing of Pansas would be the only possibility of obtaining a crop this season.

Within the district demands to jinabah or for more land have been continuous. The demand is now almost entirely for paja NOT kadi. No interest at

all is shown locally in moving to the Jelalong. Many swimming pools have been cast on the Kakas and Simalaja.

Disputes have been slowly overflowing out of the areas assigned to them by the 1941 Farming Areas Rules and there is now definite feeling amongst non-Dayaks that this has gone far enough. There is however general misapprehension as to the Farming Rules. Non-Dayaks regard the rules as a title to all land outside the Dayak Farming Areas whether there are customary rights or not. Though fallacious it is a very real fact that the Rules were a guarantee in the minds of non-Dayaks and this ought not to be forgotten. A statement on *pejabat* policy within the district would be the best thing in the world.

Fences. Work started on the rebuilding of Rumbih Bering at Pandan. It could not have been left longer.

In the Kakas there was a great concern about the opening up of the river to Dayak immigrants and the strongest disapproval was voiced. This has never been Dayak country and it seems that there would be no justification for causing bitter quarrels about this peaceful part of the land, especially when the available areas in the Jelalong remain to be filled. This one fairly unspoilt river in the district should remain as such.

Chinese Affairs

Business did not flourish this half year and the upriver barua complained of hard times. Dayak imports from Singapore decreased.

At Seliew the planters put in a lot of hard work on their new rubber gardens and were greatly encouraged by the excellent budding results.

At long last the Chinese Community at Tana reached agreement about the site for the new Chinese School.

A census done at Seliew shows that between thirty and forty families will move from Seliew to their new rubber gardens at Seliew in 1962. After asking for two schools at Seliew the applicants decided to postpone the idea for a year or two.

Trade and Customs

Trade was generally slack and had repercussions on labour.

Labour

The Bako Wharf Labourers Union complained in March that they were not being given enough cargo off-loading work to do. Direct transhipment cargoes from Singapore via Kuching which they always handle fell off a lot during the half year and their services were not required for local cargoes. There was too little work for too many labourers.

Other labour was always easy to get at \$3.40 per day.

There were many enquiries from Dayaks seeking work in the fields.

Shipping and Transport

M.S. *Kau* went to Kuching in early January and returned from dock on 8th February. She was used continuously during the next five months and her crew worked hard but happily. She made eight trips and carried three hundred and fifty-three passengers plus cargo.

Two boats went down between Bintulu and Tana during the incident but there was no loss of life. Also a young man from Tana who missed the river entrance lost his carboard just off Kochong. He was carrying a coffin which also sank.

Three fishermen from Bintulu and one from Kuala Tahan received loans for inboard engines from the Agricultural Department in June and started work straight away installing the engines.

Bintulu Airways opened a new feeder service on 27th May using Twin Pioneer aircraft. There were two flights a week each way which was not so convenient as previously from the point of view of month though passenger booking was easier. A stopover means at least two nights.

Travelling

Several unanticipated but heavy items of expenditure during the first few months necessitated a very careful watch being kept on travelling expenditure but as much as could be done was done. Nevertheless experience has shown that for the district to be properly travelled a bigger vote is very necessary.

Owing to first dry months rivers such as the Jelalong and Bingle were most difficult of access.

Agriculture

A new bullock was supplied to Sanga Station and a "spontaneous" stud boar sent to T.R. Saban's house at Seliew.

T.R. Encharung's farming methods in the Sg. San block were very haphazard and in order to get him to farm there properly this season he was refused permission to borrow Puanan land.

Rubber Development

During the first six months of the year approval was given for 558 acres to be planted under rubber subsidy.

Of the above it is estimated that 738 acres were actually planted.

The estimated total acres under rubber in the district is 3,236 acres, mostly concentrated around Sg. Seliew.

Budding started in March and by the end of June over thirty thousand seedlings had been budded.

The Sanga hardwood nursery supplied 124 yards of hardwood, the best coming from Sibu, Sarak and Malaya.

Mr. Wong Kim Fah and his husband did excellent work and the high percentage of successes gave useful encouragement to those who had put in so much hard work on their gardens.

The inspecting and writing efforts of all the Rubber Planting Staff have contributed immensely to the success of the scheme so far.

LOCAL DISTRICT

District Officer—J. T. Wicks

Court

Court work has been light during the half year and there have been no cases which presented difficulty. A total number of civil cases was twenty-four and of Native Court cases fourteen.

Land

The *Penoh* area: This was laid out early in the year to a most satisfactory plan, which secured a Reserve for the Murut inhabitants in part of the area, and also sufficient land to satisfy the wants of the local Chinese and others for some time to come. Applications from the *Penoh* were then called for, but not one was received in spite of the fact that the premium on this valuable land was subsidised by Government

at the rate of \$10 per acre. However, the land remains available for Poonchos or others and there is little doubt that it will be taken up rapidly. A premium of \$5 an acre for excellent rubber land by the side of a main road only a few miles from Lawas must be tempting.

Messopok: Little progress has been made in developing the valuable swamp at Messopok. This swamp is particularly fertile even by Lawas District standards and there is unlimited hill land about a mile away which is suitable for banded rubber. Water for the irrigation of this swamp must be obtained from the Mungalong river in the North Borneo and accordingly an approach was made to the District Officer in Neasden for permission to channel water from the Mungalong through some ten chains of his District into Sarawak. The District Officer, Brasnet, showed considerable interest in the project, as he saw the possibilities of developing his side of the swamp under a parallel scheme.

Permission for Sarawak to use this water was therefore not long in coming. However, no further progress was made as money has not been forthcoming to dig the necessary irrigation ditch. A sum of \$6,000 would have been enough. Without these funds being made available it was considered inadvisable to look for settlers, as they would have no water when they arrived.

North Borneo in the meantime have pressed on with their side of the scheme and have dug some extremely satisfactory irrigation ditches on their side of the border which will be of great value to their people for this year's crop. It would appear to be a pity that the Sarawak part of the swamp cannot be developed if only from the point of view that our neighbours post-poned difficulties will be enhanced by a lack of cultivation and control on their boundary.

It is understood that the District Officer, Brasnet, has been kind enough to arrange that one of their irrigation ditches will be taken to within a few yards of the boundary in order that it can be tapped by Sarawak Kampong Paterikan. This is very satisfactory as Paterikan is a most progressive kampong from an agricultural point of view and may be expected to make good use of the water.

It has been suggested that this swamp might be satisfactory for fish migration; it does not seem likely North Borneo will view with favour their water being used to enable those to learn how to plant swamp rice.

Agriculture

Rice: The harvest was severely affected by drought in all areas of hill paddy cultivation. Murat cultivators around Lawas were only able to glean sufficient for seed. Long Samadok and the silt areas did somewhat better, and Bah Kalatan obtained its usual magnificent yield from swamp paddy.

It is a great pity that Malay and Kadayan cultivators abandoned their swamps for the hills. There are welcome signs that a number of them are returning to their swamps this year; particular interest has been shown by Malay cultivators in the excellent swamp across river from Sunda, and those at Messopok will probably be better used this year.

The Borneo Evangelical Mission made full use of a small Japanese tractor, costing about \$1,000 and obtained remarkable results. This has stimulated considerable interest in Lawas District and several applica-

tions have been received from persons who wish to borrow money from Government to purchase similar tractors on good security. No definite reply has yet been received to their requests.

Rubber: The low price of rubber particularly during the early part of the year resulted in a decrease of tapping. The increased price of the rubber dealer's licence, taken in conjunction with the low price of rubber, put most rubber dealers out of business.

Very great disappointment was felt by the majority of planters in the rubber subsidy scheme as the seedlings were not supplied in anything like adequate quantities.

Coffee: The interest formerly shown in banded rubber has waned to coffee, particularly among the Murats. This is understandable, as coffee was introduced in a large scale to Mungalong some ten years ago, where it has proved very successful and has provided the North Borneo Murats and Tagals with a steady and adequate income. Some of the best coffee is grown in the silt areas without supervision. For this reason it was recommended that coffee seeds should be distributed to the silt Transa areas of this district. An attempt to solve the knotty question of landraces is being made by propagating, but the North Borneo Murats, do well on their own, and there is no reason why Sarawak Murats should not succeed equally.

Coconuts: Malays are showing enthusiasm for the proposed coconut subsidy. There is little doubt that such a subsidy will considerably increase the area under this valuable crop.

Cereals: As a result of intensive propaganda by the Department of Agriculture and the Administration, considerable enthusiasm has been aroused among the Kertawas and Tagals in the Mirapok area. This has shown itself in very greatly increased planting of beans, groundnuts, vegetables and other crops. Indeed, this is the first year that any considerable number of Tagals have planted anything but padi. This is a welcome trend among what must be the most poor, distressed and backward people in Sarawak.

Livestock: In 1958 an Assistant Veterinary Officer noted extremely high mortality in buffaloes, cattle and pigs throughout the district but particularly in the silt areas. The upriver areas of this district contain sufficient pastures for perhaps ten or twenty times the present Friesian population. It could supply meat sufficient for the needs of most of Sarawak, if sufficient encouragement and a guaranteed price was given to the stock owners in these areas, they would be prepared to cull to the full their grazing lands and import additional stock from Indonesia.

Chickens: A severe outbreak of rinderpest disease occurred early in the year and swifter vaccine was distributed too late to avert infected flocks, though it may have contained the epidemic to some extent. One of the most progressive chicken farmers near Lawas lost the whole of his stock.

Education

Existing Schools: With one or two exceptions school attendance has increased satisfactorily throughout the district. Of eleven Local Authority schools only three have less than seventy students, and three have over one hundred. Attendance has also improved throughout through a falling off among Malay schools was noted at the beginning of the new padi season. The Local Authority Education Committee has done much to promote interest and to improve standards. Standing instructions for teachers and for

School Committees have been issued, sports gear, tables and chairs for teachers, blackboards and various other apparatus, clocks and bells have been distributed throughout. New desks have been distributed to two schools. Afternoon classes as well as morning classes are now compulsory. Timetables have everywhere been revised and standardized. Sporting and other extra-curricular activities have been encouraged, as well as handicraft, singing, etc. Although much remains to be desired in regard to improving the standard of untrained teachers, there is at least one qualified trained teacher to every large school; one school has two trained teachers.

New Schools: New schools were opened at Long Lupo and also Mirapok. Buildings, teachers' quarters and dormitories were provided by the people themselves to the required standard. Both these new schools have every prospect of success although that in the old Mirapok was a doubtful experiment. This is the first school to be opened by the Tagals, who are extremely backward and who do not possess the population sufficient to feed the school adequately. It will remain a one teacher school; but at least it represents the first real attempt of the Tagals to better themselves.

Text Books: Considerable difficulty has been experienced in providing the schools with adequate text books. The only supplier to be found by the Local Authority was at all satisfactory was the Malayan Publishing House in Singapore. But even from there a number of text books were out of stock; other recommended text books were out of print and the district supply remains inadequate although some £2,500 has been spent.

With large numbers of school children and schools now coming from primary IV, Lawas District, particularly feels the dearth of suitable reading material to interest boys of this type. It is a problem which demands an early solution.

Two new schools have been recommended by the School Committee for opening next year, these are at Long Trusan and Long Luping. When these schools have been opened every child will have a school within reasonable distance and there will remain no reason why compulsory education should not be brought in. As it is, it is estimated that about 70 per cent of the lower children of school age are already in school; a census is being undertaken to confirm this estimate or otherwise.

Medical

Dispensaries: The two dispensaries at Sandar and Lawas have functioned adequately; no serious epidemics have been reported. The Sandar dispensary has treated 710 patients and the Lawas 3,459.

Malaria: Two trained midwives have qualified during the half-year. One has been paid a retainer by the local authority and is practicing in Lawas. She had only a disappointing number of deliveries to her credit, but no doubt these will increase in the course of time. One of the reasons for this is that the neighbouring kampongs are Malay or Chinese with their own so-called midwives, and they are reluctant to put their trust in so young a girl.

The other got off to a slow start owing to domestic difficulties, but she has now settled down to a job or work in Long Semadoh. She is not receiving assistance from the Local Authority, but is charging the women whom she assists £10 a confinement. This is not entirely satisfactory but lack of funds preclude a salary for both midwives, and adequate supervision is difficult in Long Semadoh.

Ulu Densars: Three Ulu Densars have returned to the district during the half-year and have been posted to Buh Kelaban, Long Semadoh and Long Luping. In the case of Long Semadoh and Long Luping, the

local people have put up, free of charge, a building adequate for use as a treatment centre. Long Semadoh has already a dispensary building put up by Government. Reports from the local people are entirely satisfactory and they appear to be providing excellent service. The ulu Densar at Buh Kelaban, is, over all, providing a service for a large Indonesian population.

Epidemics: Nothing further has been heard of the rumoured dysentery epidemic in the Kelabit plateau. A painful eye infection around Lawas refused to yield to other treatment than caustics.

Travelling Dispensary: A Travelling Dispensary Service was inaugurated shortly before the arrival of the Ulu Densars, who rendered dispensary visits to the ulu unnecessary. Jambel, an old style and knowledgeable Medical Assistant, runs a weekly service to Pongah, Long Yama, Mirapok, Kuala Lawas, Putang and Awat-Awat. All these are places accessible by jeeps, and have large schools. Jambel itinerates in the schools, inspects the classrooms and bazaar, treats slightly sick and brings back the seriously sick for further treatment. He is approaching his various tasks intelligently, and has been responsible for a considerable improvement in general health. It is probably even more valuable that he has been able to disseminate a minimum of medical knowledge in these areas and therefore publicized the Government Medical Services.

Long Semadoh Dispensary: This was completed during the half-year.

Bazaar Hospital and its many facilities have been very much at the disposal of the Lawas District during the half-year. X-rays and early treatment of tuberculosis has been particularly valuable.

Chinese Affairs

The prevailing mood in Lawas and Trusan bazaar is one of optimism in spite of the decline in rubber exports. The new bazaar site is nearly filled, and is ready for the commencement of the construction of the new bazaar. Traders are pleased with the layout and have agreed to build shophouses to a reasonably good standard on the lines of those in Seragaang. An increasing interest has been shown in land along the Trusan road. The airstrip is ready. In general the Chinese feel that Lawas is a developing area and that in ten or fifteen years Lawas may become a rich bazaar.

The failure of the Foodies to arrive has been the only set-back. But on the brighter side of the picture the Chinese realize that this means that a considerable amount of very valuable land may be opened to their own occupation.

Lots in the new bazaar area have largely changed hands at as much as \$4,200. More remarkably there has been co-operation between the Club and a Chinese trader to build on the extremely large and expensive cinema site. A building to an approved plan on this site would probably cost in the nature of \$80,000.

There has been no decrease in the number of closed shophouses at Trusan but their owners are showing interest in reopening when the road is through. Mirapok has completed four new and well-constructed shophouses. The traders there manage to keep remarkably cheerful in spite of having very little trade.

The Chinese in Sandar are holding their hopes on the possibility that Government may eventually build a road to Trusan. If Sandar and Trusan are not linked, the Chinese there have very little hope for a prosperous future.

Land prices provide an interesting barometer of Chinese opinion. They are soaring at Lawas and Trusan. Sandar, Mirapok and Putang remain low.

Native Affairs

One of the most important events was the approval for the appointment of an Upriver Agent at Long Semadoh. This is a difficult and busy area capable of great development and a government representative there is essential.

At the beginning of the year all the leading Murats met to discuss the formulation of a simple Murat code suitable for the changing conditions under which they are now living. This discussion favorably indicated the immense difference between customs and punishments imposed by Native Chiefs even in nearby Ilongpong. It served to indicate the urgent need for some kind of guide for practical use by Chiefs. After considerable discussions a Draft Code was concocted which was unanimously accepted in all respects. This was forwarded to Kuching in February. No approval of it or otherwise is yet to hand. One valuable section, agreed to by all, was to control the sale price of Murat customary land to \$15 per acre. This ruling, which has already been followed, has so far effectively controlled land speculation at which the Murats were learning to be adept, chiefly at the expense of the Malays but also at the expense of Chinese. It speaks well of the fair-mindedness of the Murat leaders that they agreed to this clause.

The position of Murat social progress remains inviolate. They have but a small allowance, the unwillingness to allow them to rear their areas, hence the majority of Ilongpong seldom see their chief. Control is therefore vested in Tan Kumpung who are inadequate for the task. Simple administration is rendered extraordinarily difficult. In point of fact much of the authority for hearing cases and generally managing the affairs of the Ilongpong has, *pace de minor* developed on the matters of the Brunau Evangelical Mission. Repeated requests have not as yet resulted in the upgrading of their salaries or allowances, although some have far more difficult and extensive areas than the ordinary Iban People.

The Murats continue to be progressive and very willing to learn. They are a most rewarding people to work with. Their one blind-spot is in the matter of hygiene. Even this is gradually improving.

In order to encapsulate some of the under-populated Murat areas, a party of leading Murats was sent to the Limbang in order to persuade the minority group of the Murats there to move to Lawas or Trusan. Though it is believed that the majority of Limbang Murats are willing to move, the mission failed, partly because of the opposition of a self-styled Murat leader in the Limbang, a Talon, named Tan Kumpung Bryong Peling, and partly because of a death in a Trusan Murat house at the time the Murat pagans from Limbang were visiting the Trusan. This was regarded as a bad omen. It is inevitable, however, that they will move sooner or later.

The most pressing Malay problem remains at Kuala Lawas where the heirs of the late Dato Pengiran Haji Marudah still retain rights to the land, although they have surrendered to Government certain other rights. They steadfastly refuse to permit any progress in their area, including a total prohibition for their people to use land for the coconut or rubber subsidy schemes. This is resulting in increased hostility towards the heirs, who have neither the brains, nor the breadth of character, nor the compassion of the late Dato.

Educationally the Malays are unfortunately still lagging behind the more progressive Murats, except in the main centers and larger Ilongpongs. However, limited progress has been achieved.

There has been little political activity in the last six months. The Anai-Anai people have made it abundantly clear that their allegiance remains with Brunau. This is hardly surprising since they are always in contact with the Brunaus, fish in Brunau waters, and market their fish there; they are also Brunaus by origin.

One of the most depressing Malay problems is the absence of so many young men from their Ilongpongs who seek work in Brunau. The development that is going on may bring about the return of some, but it will be a slow process. This is the more unfortunate in that Lawas is already so under-populated and yet has such an abundance of rich land which could be used profitably.

Kedayan complaints that Murats from North Brunau are coming across the border and using up their lands remaining hill patch land in Marupok were settled at a border conference. The District Officer, Benuart agreed to a total ban on their entry into Sarawak for farming.

Communications

Trusan Road: After a shaky start, when it was uncertain whether sufficient money was available to carry out this project satisfactorily, the Trusan Road has progressed very well. At the time of writing it has been levelled and graded very nearly to mile nine at Sang-Siang.

The Trusan tract: All work on this project other than maintenance has been discontinued.

Telecommunications: The V.H.F. telephone service has been improved during the half-year and it is now possible to reach Brunau and Lawas without undue difficulty. However, Miri and Kuching are usually only obtainable in the evenings and often not then.

An H.F. aerial has been erected in Lawas and has enabled communications with Brunau. However, an H.F. set has not yet been installed in Long Semadoh. The land line between Trusan and Sandak has been discontinued to the great regret of the community concerned.

Air services: A very fine airstrip at Lawas was completed except for terminal buildings. These last were delayed owing to the difficulty of obtaining a reasonable tender price for them. The strip was delayed slightly as a postponed drought early in the year militated against the growth of grass. However, it was completed by the end of the half-year.

The improvement of the airstrip at Bah Kriban (at Brunau) raised high hopes among the air Murats that they would be given an air service, and indeed, it was thought that the Twin Pioneer had been purchased by Government for that very purpose. The disappointment was extreme when the Murats were told that the Government had no such immediate intentions—the more so as the air Trusan track was abandoned and hopes of pure transport crumbled.

The Mission Auster continues to render these people valuable service.

A suitable site for an airstrip was found at Long Seking where a strip could be completed for \$11,000. It was at that time hoped that an air service, fortnightly or monthly, could be put into all these airstrips and under the best maintenance of the air Trusan track unnecessary, a saving of \$4,000 annually in addition to a saving on capital expenditure of 120,000. However, any such project must remain dependent upon the Twin Pioneer being able to land on air airstrips and a service being inaugurated.

The APOW has plied continuously twice and three times a week between Brunau, Limbang and Lawas. It always takes a full load.

Works

Apart from other items already mentioned the Public Works Department has undertaken a new portion wharf at Lawas and a new wharf at Trusan. These were satisfactorily approaching completion by the half-year.

The new Government office at Sunda was completed during the first-half of the year and was opened by the late Mr. John Barcoff shortly before his death.

Miscellaneous

All other events were over-shadowed by the tragic death of Mr. John Barcoff in Lawas on the 6th June.

Kuching Letter

Recently there was in the vicinity of the Police Training School a storm of brief duration but astonishing violence, in the course of which considerable damage was done by falling trees and branches. An odd consequence was that when I used my telephone, dial what number I would, all that I got was the rattle in the police canteen. Nowadays, with the automatic exchange, telephoning has lost its interest and is all too rarely relieved by some aberration. In the old days, making a call was in itself a pastime, if not an adventure. One asked for people by name and not number, and very good service was given, for the operator could nearly always locate the desired person, though he were far from his normal telephone. One asked for "Tan K", the operator would reply "Sekurang di-Sekira Bar", and would connect with the bar accordingly; or he would reply "Adikang sama Mem Y" and so one would cancel the call; occasionally one reached an impasse, as when the operator replied "Ta' tash, sudah outak". The boys who operated the switchboard were an intelligent body and would go to great lengths to locate the desired person, for this ruses their occasional shortcomings were overlooked, though these could provoke passing irritation, as when a certain official, having vainly wound the handle of his telephone for a long time without effect, left his office and walked over to the exchange, where he disarranged the operator from a young woman and bade him connect as requested.

After the war the late William Gladstone Tat, then Postmaster-General, produced a telephone directory in which people and offices were given numbers. Many thought this both pretentious and unnecessary. In fact, it caused only delay and confusion, for visiting officials newly arrived from Africa insisted upon asking for persons by number and not by name, so that the operator was compelled to refer to the directory to ascertain who was intended. I myself was strongly opposed to the directory; its facility was manifest when on one occasion I rang up and asked for my own telephone number. There followed a pause in the operator referred to his book, and then the reply "Tan Nicholl sudah engaged." Which was, of course, perfectly true. The late Mr. Tat was himself something of a character. He used to relate that on one occasion while on leave, thinking himself in London and in liquor, he was accosted by a constable who enquired "Who are you?", to which he replied expansively "I am the Postmaster-General of Sarawak." "And I", said the constable, "am the King of England. Come inside."

I noted with interest that the recent Sale of Work at the Kampong Lomha Kuala School coincided with the Lunas Race Meeting. I have never known a Sale of Work coincided with such expeditions, and by the third race practically the entire clientele had migrated to the Popular Enclosure, so that many who came expecting to remain the poorer, in fact went home enriched. The value of such an occasion is that it enables wealthy sportsmen and others forbidden by conscience or convention to gamble, to indulge without offence, for they can plead that they have lost their way and were under the impression that the Toto was part of the Sale of Work. The school could, in fact, derive no small revenue by living out its premises on

race days to various charitable causes such as "The Naked Heavens," "The Deserving Inebriates," "The Fallen Gentlewomen," "The Devoutine Profligates," and so forth. Thus would charity be promoted, pleasure increased and the urthins profited.

Many of the tribulations which today beset the urthins of Sarawak would be averted if the various religious bodies would devote some of their resources to the endowment of choirs. It is seldom remembered how many eminent Englishmen from Pope Adrian IV to Sir Arthur Sullivan (albeit he was really Irish) owed their education to choral endowments. The piousness urthins who could sing, or be made to sing, got a place in a choir which paid for his education. Thus the great tradition of choral music was maintained and countless deserving urthins educated. Today, alas, choral music is no more, having been killed by the imperatives of congregational singing, ecclesiastical wealth is misapplied, and deserving urthins perish in the gutter.

Similarly many a youth whose his voice had broken secured his education by the higher mathematical pursuit of change ringing, which was also well restored. Perhaps the only thing, apart from the weather, which can furnish a thesaurical countryside is a well-rung peal of bells. Although in the less reputable parishes the ringers may be largely drawn from the village drunks (yet even here there is a saving in the rates), the more suitable and better endowed teams of ringers always embrace a number of town-agers, who thus ensure their sustenance. In such times as these might not the arts be promoted and education fostered by a better use of ecclesiastical wealth on traditional lines.

One can but note and deplore the cult of carols at Christmas in Kuching; all that is worst in English tradition is foisted upon an unsuspecting populace. The carols, as their name implies, are the primitive character and embody a tradition of folk song whose origins are lost in obscurity. They were not essentially limited to Christmas, though some of the most beautiful were associated with this season. In England they perished almost entirely during the two centuries following the Reformation. "God rest ye merry, Gentlemen" (the position of the comma should be noted), is a medieval survival adapted in the nineteenth century. With the Oxford Movement, æsthetic, and St. Francis, there came a revived interest in carols and those which are current today were composed or adapted to suit Victorian taste. The influence "White Shepherds smooth their flocks by night" is an Italian carol with English words. "Good King Wenceslaus" is the tune of the beautiful medieval song "Adieu jublicon renouveaux amoureux" put to words which only Victorian romantic could have devised. "Adonia Fidelis" is of reputable age, being sixteenth century Portuguese. "Hark the herald Angels Sing" is an invention of the Devil. But the really beautiful English traditional carols such as "Sing we to this merry company, Ragins Cook Lesters", or "Now sing we both all and some, for New Year's is y-come", are today seldom heard outside the Cathedral or the Benedictine Abbeys, where the beauties of tradition are valued. If carols are to be introduced into Sarawak, let them be the best and not the trash.

Christmas in Kuching has been signalled by a reunion of former Private Secretaries. As some of these are now married, and many have become pillars of respectability, one wonders what was the tone of the feast. Gatherings of reformed persons are always embarrassing: should the theme be the Meetings of the virtuous estate, or a nostalgic reminiscence of the good old days of licence?

Water Sport

The Kuching Boat Club seems to be fairly well established after over four years of constant effort. The small band of enthusiasts who gathered together in 1954 really meant what they said when they agreed that the objects of the proposed club would be to "encourage and develop water sports of all kinds" and they have always worked along those lines.

The first two, and always difficult, problems were to arouse interest and raise money. Both aims were achieved by means of outboard race meetings. The first meeting aroused much interest and subsequent meetings, a certain amount of money. This money was used to provide prizes and trophies, in which the club was greatly helped by many generous donors, and to improve the meetings.

In a river with the current, and also and fall, of the Sarawak River at Kuching, things would be difficult in any case but when are added such hazards as floating debris of all kinds, half submerged spoil banks, and even whole spoil piles like floating islands, to say nothing of ocean-going ships leaving on the tide, the difficulties can well be imagined. However, despite course marker-boats departing rapidly seawards with the current, or simply disappearing below the surface with the rush of water, and anchors dragging and picking up the main electric cable, the races have always been run on time before a large and enthusiastic crowd.

The technique of running such meetings has greatly improved since the first efforts with their flag waving and false starts, through the boy-scout-bicycle-chain operated starting clock to the present system where the electric clock, starter and judges are all mounted, with unobstructed view, on the top of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. Much interest, too, has been aroused, and improvements made, in the technique and practice of boat-building and engine maintenance, both of which must be greatly to the general good.

The Club has not rested here, though, but has pushed ahead with its aim of encouraging and developing water sports of all kinds. During the year 1958, with some of the money raised at outboard race meetings, the Club started on a bold scheme of expansion. A large outboard-motor launch was purchased, together with an engine, as well also two pairs of water skis, one pair most excellently made by a local firm of carpenters. These all have seen much service at Sumbong and many people have used them to learn the pleasure and thrill of skimming along over the water's surface. Many members too have taken advantage of the twice monthly trips to Sumbong (or elsewhere) to swim and others have occupied the somewhat less energetic pleasure of an afternoon nap in a deck chair by the sea, full others, watching that old English sport of progressing from bar to bar, have occasionally given a shipshape at Sumbong a certain resemblance to an English country pub.

The section which deserves a very large measure of support, but which is as yet still on its baby legs, is the sailing section. The boys at the Sarawak Boys' Home, in 1957, made a fifteen-foot, center-board sailing dinghy, to a nondescript American design and this the Boat Club bought as its first sailing boat. And an excellent sailor for beginners Burrey Macle turned out to be—as steady as a rock and almost impossible to capsize. At about the same time, early 1958, the club also acquired two old Eclair class dinghies from the Royal Brunei Yacht Club. Although these have required a great deal of maintenance to keep them going yet the three together have formed a grand nucleus for a sailing group. With this little experience in sail boats the club has finally decided to concentrate on the Eclair-class class which would seem most suitable for the

purpose here. An appeal was launched for funds to purchase two of these thirteen-foot dinghies (to be built in Kuching) but, despite of a very generous contribution from the President of the Club, Sir Ernest Williams, enough money to buy these two craft has not yet materialized. However, the Club still persists on and it is doubtless that the boats will appear during 1959.

With two Eclair and two Enterprise it will be possible to form two equal, if very small, teams so that visiting sailors from, say, Brunei or North Borneo, could be invited down to compete against Kuching sailors. Such an event would be sure to arouse a very great deal of interest and would materially help to set things going.

Swimming, rowing, ski-ing, outboarding, and sailing are, together, a fair contribution to the encouragement and development of all forms of water sport! The Kuching Boat Club has them all. And what more? Some people are said to be interested in juggle and sea-bag diving.

Problems of English in Chinese Schools

The problems confronting Chinese schools are many, but the most important and pressing one is, "How to raise the standard of English there?"

At present, due to the prevalent low standard of English, many students are obliged to leave after completing either primary, or junior middle school. In the process of switching from Chinese schools to English schools, difficulties and complications in admission are more the rule than exception.

It may be asked, of course, that, since the parents of these students, or the students themselves, are so keen on a Chinese education, why don't they stick on? Conversely, if they are so desirous of an English education, why don't they send their children to the English schools in the first place?

This seeming paradox may not be appreciated by Europeans, though most Chinese will readily see the point. When parents send their children to school, their primary aim is to get them educated. Education, being tied up with language, customs and culture, remains a very delicate matter. Hence, most English parents would prefer to send their children to be educated "at home", Malays would like their children learn a workable dialect, and the Chinese their children to have a primary Chinese education.

This aspiration does not necessarily symbolize nationalism, nor should it be interpreted as such, for the simple reason that every people must take root on something, such as traditions, customs, language and culture which, as they must appear to them, are essential and vital.

Most Chinese parents realize and agree with the popular argument that it is a poor financial investment to send their children to Chinese schools which will lead to a "dead end", yet they continue to do it. There must be very compelling reasons to do so from their point of view. They agree, *inter alia*, that if their children are exclusively English-educated, they will be having total strangers in their houses, very probably, they will not even be able to speak their mother tongue correctly.

Then come the problems of morals. Whatever their shortcomings, the Chinese are convinced that their conceptions of morals are superior. They are convinced that by sending their children to Chinese schools, they will also learn to be guided by a standard of morals that they know and understand. Therefore, when a Chinese hears of something being committed or certain moral acts not committed, he does not hesitate to exclaim: "Ah! He has not been educated in a Chinese school", which implies, of course, that a different

standard of morals has been taught there. This may be prejudice pure and simple, but it is their conviction nonetheless.

There is no intention to probe into or criticize the merits or demerits of the Chinese versus the English schools, or between Occidental and Oriental morals and culture. The point stressed is, this is their conviction. While they do not dispute that an English education would pave the way for Government scholarships, professional training and white-collar jobs for their children, they find it difficult to forsake that conviction, viz. their children would be more Chinese in every aspect if they had attended Chinese schools for sometime than otherwise.

The dilemma that confronts the Chinese parents may be real or imaginary. However their aspiration should not be viewed as either a discrimination against, or opposition to, their children pursuing an English education. On the contrary, while convinced that a Chinese education would give their children a more solid Chinese character, they are equally aware of the glaring fact that a technical or professional training will promise their children a better and brighter future. And the most practical and convenient approach to attain this is via an English education.

The solution lies not in depriving the Chinese school students of an opportunity to be Chinese-educated but to remedy that paradoxical situation whereby they should be given more time and opportunity for the study of English in the Chinese schools.

That a higher standard of English may be attained by Chinese students studying in Chinese middle schools is not mere conjecture or innovation, for such had already been experimented and practised with considerable success by such well-known institutions as the Pui Cheng, Pui Ying, Lingnan Middle School, True Light, Pui Tse and many other middle schools of Canton before 1950. The same may be said of middle schools in Hong Kong today. There, in addition to Chinese and English, science and mathematical subjects were taught in English. As a result graduates of these middle schools were eligible for admission into such universities as St. John's, Shanghai University, Yenching, Lingnan and other American Universities where English was the only medium of instruction.

Assuming that the standard of English could and should be raised in Chinese schools, it would be preferable to appoint principals or headmasters who have been educated in both Chinese and English. More experienced English teachers will have to be produced from somewhere and, considering that only gifted men are accorded attractive salaries, the prospect of utilizing local talent is none too bright. For the simple reason that neither Batu Lintang nor the Higher School graduates would be too anxious to cast in their lot with Chinese schools where, in some at least, conditions and developments can be such as to render a serious teaching atmosphere almost impossible. Therefore, in considering the raising of English standards in Chinese schools, the procurement of suitable English teachers remains insurmountable, unless Higher School graduates and experienced English teachers can be induced to come and stay on.

Like many parts of the world, this country is combating the infiltration and spread of subversive ideologies. In Singapore there is a marked division of the English-educated and the Chinese-educated. Language barriers can cause misunderstandings and even create havoc in spite of the fact that language is no determinant of any ideology. The popularizing and raising of the standard of English in Chinese schools should, to a certain extent, solve some of the problems, such as sweeping of language barriers, giving the students more opportunities to study and thus obtain a technical education, and leveling out the division between the Chinese-educated and the English-educated, that may become more marked as time progresses and if allowed to continue. The Chinese may be good linguists, in the

sense that they readily pick up "Bazaar Malay" or a workable lingo, but not so in picking up English. And the only place where they can learn it is still in the class-rooms to that of the regular or night school.

Regarding what the nationalists or the philologists have got to say, it is folly to attempt to introduce or enforce any language as a unifying national language in this country. In the struggle of languages, some will dominate the world scene, no matter whether one likes it or not. Of those English will be the major one, and no matter how prejudicial or discriminating one may be, it is hard not to see that English will command that ascendancy for at least another century.

While it is not disputed that every nation or people on earth should enjoy the inalienable right of speaking and using their own mother tongue, the grim fact that certain languages do and will dominate the changing world scene must not be ignored. In the case of the Chinese, Mandarin has been forging ahead to the exclusion of the other Chinese dialects because more and more Chinese schools have adopted it as the medium of instruction.

The English language has been "sold" in this country during the past century, therefore, it is deep-rooted. However, this is no ground to conclude that a superior commodity needs nothing more than just itself in order to keep selling well. More English must be "sold" to the Chinese schools and the younger generations in general. There is little doubt that Chinese leaders, such as members of the Boards of Management, will readily see the point and the issues involved. The allegation that a Chinese education would lead to a "dead end" may be debatable but a strong infusion of English into Chinese schools will, without the least shadow of doubt, prove to be most desirable and beneficial for all concerned.

Diary of a Seditary Officer Holiday Extracts—I

Edited by
J. P. KULL

26th. To start off the round of Christmas Festivities Eve and I went to the Radio Sarawak All Star Variety Show. We found it most enjoyable, especially the comedy. Only one item I thought in rather bad taste was the same gag put on by the dramatic club, it had been very under-rehearsed, mis-takes kept falling off, cast was mixed, properties came to pieces, and the whole thing was laughed off the stage. Comedy took a leading part in it. As I used to be in the dramatic club, I took the producer, Bainton, to task. He tried to make out that all the comestones were part of the act. "It was so," I said "it makes it worse. To get up and play the fool, and ridicule the Royal Navy, in front of the whole town, and His Excellency too, shows a very poor sense of propriety." Bainton countered something about the ability to laugh at himself being the Englishman's sole redeeming virtue.

I'm glad to say that both Claverton, of Public Insurance and Investment Trusts, and Graham of the Treasury (both very active men) agreed with my view. There are so many good, suitable works from the great heritage of English drama they could have done instead. I have a book of short dramatized excerpts from Sir Walter Scott's historical novels which I should have been only too pleased to have lent to the club. Something of Kipling's, too, would have been most appropriate.

27th. Busy preparing for Christmas. Left office early to buy Eva's present. Eventually went to the record shop and bought her a record I have long had my eye on: *Amesonia Metaphor* from the Maestri, recorded by Libanese and the Detroit Philharmonic

Orchestra. Although Eva does not greatly care for what she laughingly calls the "more stodgy" classics, I feel sure she will enjoy this.

29th. Christmas Day. Church and carols in the morning, then quickly back to get the turkey in. The Waters's and Page-Whitely's come to Christmas lunch. Eva's usual wonderful spread, with two bottles of Rheingold (served chilled, of course—I know my Rheingold Prose!)... Could not get the pudding to light—in spite of pouring almost a quarter of a bottle of brandy on it. Eventually Eva added some surgical spirit from her medicine chest, and just as we were clearing, the whole lot went off! Whoof! and set fire to my paper hat. Page-Whitely was rather too apologetically amused for my liking, as I only just escaped being badly burned. Then he was rather offensive about the pudding—"Like eating Hlasoptan," he said. Eva put out. There was only a slight flavour of surgical spirit, and my comment was quite unheeded. But Page-Whitely kept going on over coffee about his new *Wardach*, trotting out a list of statistics about compression ratios, torque, and I don't know what. Personally, I don't like the look of it, and as I said to Eva (privately, of course) the rear lights remind me of nothing so much as a pair of w.e. testis. I must say I was rather pleased when Page-Whitely (showing off by covering himself) hadly wrapped the rear mud-guard while leaving. But then felt rather ashamed of such a mean feeling at Christmas time.

Children's Party in the afternoon. P.W.'s, Waters's, Thwaiter's, etc. A great success on the whole. Again slightly marred by Page-Whitely, who insisted on being Father Christmas (though I have always considered that to be my prerogative) and appropriated my new Father Christmas mask and beard that I had just got from England. Of course it was an entirely trivial incident, and I was not in the slightest concerned, but I record it here because it does show light on P.W.'s character, and his way of putting himself into the limelight.

Adrian Thwaiter was a perfect pest, showing off, teasing the girls, and punching our Christopher; later he smeared ice cream all over Eva's new custom covers. His mother made no attempt to suppress him. I felt like boxing his ears, and in fact I *did* box his ears while his mother was out of the room, with a very salutary effect. The Christmas tree looked quite nice, although half of the lights went out at one stage, and I got a nasty shock trying to repair them. It was only a Camarita tree, of course, and had been out too soon, with the result that most of the leaves had fallen off. After "The nutcracker and the shooting" had died, I sat and looked at the tree and could not suppress a pang of regret when thinking of the good old Christmases in Purley. It's not the same out here somehow. The dinner is, of course, different.

Christmas Dinner at the Waters's. Page-Whitely's was there, and he continued talking loudly all through the messages coming in from all over the Commonwealth. I was most annoyed, especially as one of the speakers, an old man of 100, lives not far from where my sister used to live in Pembrokeshire. How Page-Whitely manages to eat and drink so much it is a mystery.

30th. Boxing Day. Staged in bed until 11.30, as not feeling very well. Perhaps a touch of gastric influenza. *Koel Courier*—a very well-illustrated and politically sound magazine. A quiet lunch. Elvira Waters dropped in at tea time, with the news that Page-Whitely is unwell—says he "thinks it's a touch of the old malaria coming back". I am not surprised—malaria, indeed! It is purely the result of self-indulgence, as I did not hesitate to inform Elvira.

31st. Back at work to-day, but difficult to buckle down to routine. Putting finishing touches to draft estimates. I have invented some new up-beats of quite brilliant comprehensive vagueness. Director im-

pressed. Cocktail party at the Chiversons (Pacific Insurance) to-night. I must say their house is much better furnished than the Government ones. Young Balfour, the new epidemiologist, was complaining bitterly that the government would not let him import an air pistol. I'm not surprised at the decision, and consider it very prudent. I have been at Balfour's flat, and there were following publications lying around (*Blanchester Guardian Weekly*, *New Statesman*, and such), and books about politics quite openly displayed on the shelves. Again, he frequently expresses very radical opinions, such as at the time of the *Suez* Police Action, when he was openly critical of Sir Anthony Eden, and he is known to be against H-bombs, and so on. As I said to him, "The difference between an H-bomb and an air pistol is only one of degree, after all, so you should be the first to submit to the unilateral disarmament you're always advocating." This only went down quite well.

31st. Cardley's wife arrived to-day. I must say I was most surprised to learn that he even had a wife; there is certainly nothing in his manner or conduct to suggest it. Although we hardly detect Cardley (especially since the incident with the sugar) Eva and I went down to meet her on the *Rajah Brooke*, in the interest of office solidarity (and perhaps feminine curiosity on the part of Eva). Mrs. Cardley calls her "Lain" (passed out to be a very personable young lady, in spite of a tendency to flightiness and a dress which was much too fashionable for Kuching. Cardley insisted on opening up the bar and made us all drink Champagne (at 9 o'clock in the morning!).

29th. Unwashed.

30th. There's no accounting for women. Eva insists that we invite the Cardley's to our table at the club for New Year's Eve, and what is more they are coming. I should have thought that after all the insults, annoyances, and embarrassments we have had to bear from that man, she would have learnt her lesson. I can only hope that the presence of his wife will act as a restraining influence.

31st. Putting finishing touches to our costumes for the *Costume Fancy Dress Ball* to-night.

(To be continued)

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,

Sarawak Gazette,

Kuching.

12th December, 1958.

Sir,

Your editorial comment on the passing of the Museum Zoo is to the point and to the persons who had much to do with the day-to-day supervision of it in recent years. I should like to put in the Gazette a record of why it went, which is certainly sad.

Before the Japanese Occupation the then Curator, Mr. E. Banks, ran a small Zoo in the Museum Gardens, which were actually part of the Museum then. After the war, these gardens were taken over by the Municipal Board. But the interest was all in plants and none in animals. All the same, animals kept on coming in, some of them confiscated as illegally owned, others injured or strayed. So the present Curator gradually found a Zoo growing on him, but in the very small space, still left under Museum jurisdiction behind the Library and where the new museum building is now.

This Zoo got bigger and bigger. The price of food-stuff has also increased, as we all too well know. Thus the available space was cut further by the erection of the new building.

What with one thing and another, it gradually became more and more difficult to run the Zoo properly. Most of the public loved the monkeys and snakes, tortois and crocodile and spiders and the crocodile we had from the egg. But the more educated quite naturally noticed that as the Zoo got more and more animals, and more and more expensive, and also more and more popular too, the standards of caging and hygiene were not really up to modern standards. It was a constant battle to make ends meet. I mean such of wire and planks as well as raw meat for the crocodile and fresh egg for the young ones. Also, we had a lot of trouble with the new generation, more and more teasing and barking the animals. We have not enough staff to check that all day and every-day.

Things came to a head last year when it was decided that it was unwise to go on housing the valuable but highly inflammable spirit collections of fish, frog, snakes, etc. in the Old Building. A new separate quarter had to be built for them. The only place for it was where the Zoo was.

At this stage the Curator and I felt a bit badly. We wanted the public to enjoy seeing Sarawak animals most of them could never hope to see wild. We also felt we did a little good by caring for rare animals no longer able to find for themselves. But what could we do? More funds were not available. Unless we were to put in for a whole new big section of the Museum and get the Zoo on to a really decent basis for all to see. But this would be more of a job for someone else, not the Museum, surely.

Approaches to other bodies did not have any success. No one was interested and there was even long delay in acknowledging our letters at all. So H. E. ruled that the best thing was to disband the Zoo, nothing else to be done. Which was done, the whole collection behind the Library going to the Taronga National Park at Sydney, Australia, all expenses paid by Sir Edward Halliwell, kindly arranged by Mr. L. H. Minnie of Colonial Timber Company, Sarawak, except for two which went to Batu. The Zoo orang, Charlie, is now flourishing at Sydney, as are all the others. Two other snakes, which Mrs. Harrison nursed back to life in Pig Lane, have gone separately by air to the very famous rept houses of San Diego, in U.S.A., and Berlin, Germany.

We still are nursing three more snakes at present. One more just died despite of treatment received from the veterinary clinic and special care given by us; it never recovered from its cruel treatment as a tiny baby. Otherwise we no longer can accept animals except on the instructions of the Game Warden or temporarily to help out in an emergency.

But we all feel quite sorry not to have a Zoo any longer. It kept sometimes the day museum work after somehow. So we should be very glad at any time to help any organisation set up to start a proper Zoo in Sarawak. We know about treatment, feeding and all that. Wish, Ica and Bichi see Museum attendants with a knowledge of care for wild animals.

It actually seems a pity that the ordinary townfolk of Sarawak, and the many others who can never travel for inland, may not see the many exciting birds and animals of their country. But it has to be done properly, which is quite expensive. But certain it is that a good Zoo would attract very many visitors from far and near who would far more be ready to PAY TO GO IN and make it self-supporting.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE JONES,
Assistant Curator,
Sarawak Museum.

23rd December, 1938.

The Editor,
Sarawak Gazette,
Kuching.

Sir,

I am writing to answer Mr. Urquhart. First of all Mr. Urquhart must know that never for a moment have I ever considered that Saribas is standard Ica. The Scott Dictionary came to be reviewed and I feel that most of the words which have entirely spellings should have proper spellings, so as to be easily understood not only by the Saribas themselves but by people all over Sarawak.

Scott's Dictionary, has produced a disturbing controversy, still going on all this day. The notion, who never set foot on Sarawak soil, had apparently everything quietly in his hands before a Sar Dayak Language Exploratory Committee in Sarawak was formed, to advise Government on this very subject. It was formed and in the middle of its meetings and recommendations were arrived, printed, Scott's Dictionary. Just that of that.

Of course the Dictionary never came from Saribas. It was purely done in London. But the main informant, the only informant actually, was a Saribas Dayak. If Mr. Urquhart is right in his remarks, how does he explain that Mr. Gorman provided the words which Mr. Scott wrote down.

Complaints from Ithau about the language used in Raffles Sarawak, in Porehela and elsewhere are not my business. As Mr. Urquhart is a District Officer himself, full of Native studies, he should know why the Saribas variety of language is used. Do we have enough of Uluapan, Ulu Ais and Lemauka in Kuching, who could have stated like the Saribas variety have done?

I respect Mr. Urquhart's guess. But the least Ithau or lower Uluapan does not differ from the Saribas to any extent. So we who are Dayaks, needn't worry over that matter.

Respectfully Yours,
Kuching.

From Kuching to United Kingdom

With the best wishes of my family and friends, I proceeded to Singapore in a Malayan Airways Dakota on 7th September, 1938. It was not a good day for air travel. Clouds were thickly piled on the way. Air pockets caused the plane to sink and rise constantly. The sign "fasten your straps" was shown several times. Fortunately, there was no air sickness among the passengers. In spite of the bad weather, the skilful pilots brought us safely to Singapore at the end of the day.

On the 11th September, 1938, I and thirty people seated ourselves in comfortable armchairs in a giant Princess-B.O.A.C. plane, which was on its way from Singapore to London. Throughout the flight, the cabin staff were always at hand to give us every attention. Frequent announcements were made through the loudspeaker to tell the passengers times of take off, places to land, height of flying and the necessary door seats for inspection. For safety, passengers were shown how to wear a life jacket and when to find the emergency exits. Every service was given to satisfy the requirements of passengers. When we were leaving Tel Aviv Airport at midnight, everybody slept soundly. I felt very cold and pressed the call button. The stewardess came at once and brought me a blanket. She gave me a cup of hot water and said, "You will be

boater after drinking." I was so delighted with the excellent service. Because the journey was too long, the crew and the cabin staff had their service in tiers. While we stopped at Delhi, Beirut and Frankfurt-on-Main, new crews and cabin staff took over the duty from the old ones.

The plane flew on as if to chase after the sun. Some passengers adjusted their time according to the announcement, but I purposely kept my watch to Sarawak time just to experience the interesting changes in various places.

Our first stop was Kuala Lumpur (local time 9.45 a.m. Sarawak time 10.15 a.m.) where a number of Malaysian students came in the plane for United Kingdom. 1.10 p.m. (Sarawak time 2.25 p.m.) we were in Hongkong Air Port, where a big wall picture of a Buddhist legend was displayed. The signature of the artist was Ma Kyi, whose painting had a strong Indian flavour. We flew over the vast fields of Hongkong and the Bay of Bengal and we then came to a big city at which we did not stop. We presumed it was Calcutta, from which a big area of arable land stretched to Delhi. It was a very fine evening. We landed at the airport at 6.15 p.m. (Sarawak time 8.30 p.m.) There was a staff offering for sale fine Indian handicrafts. Some of us brought quite a number of them.

When we were going to land at Karachi (8.15 local time, Sarawak time 12 p.m.) a wonderful view was sighted. Lights of all kinds glittered as if of diamonds scattered on the ground. Not very far from the airfield, there was a R.D.A.C. hotel, where we enjoyed bathing and an hour rest. The waiters wore their traditional costumes, which were delightful to look at.

The next stop was Teheran (local time 1.40 p.m., Sarawak time 6.10 a.m. 12/9/1958). Health officers came to the plane and inspected the health certificates with a view to avoiding some passengers, who came from cholera epidemic countries, to step out of the aircraft. Owing to too much time taken for checking, the plane had to fly at the scheduled time. None of us could leave it.

Early in the morning (local time 3.30 a.m., Sarawak time 11.45 a.m.) we walked to the nearest restaurant of Beirut for our tea. There were tanks, cranes and military airplanes on the airfield. American soldiers were working on a trench. Two planes were dropping parachute troops. It was so attractive that we walked to the veranda to have a good look. Suddenly an Arabic waitress came to stop us saying "no, no." After some interpretation, we knew that we were not allowed to expose ourselves in a big group, because there had been shooting recently. Some naughty passengers repeated "no, no" which means "shoot, shoot" and made the crowd laugh. When we left Beirut, we saw five battle-ships cruising in the sea.

Having passed Cyprus, our plane turned to Axamin, and cruised as to view the famous snow-capped Alps. An English woman showed me several peculiar peaks and a glacier, which were just like a geographic model in our schools.

We arrived at Frankfurt-on-Main at 12.40 p.m. (Sarawak time 2.40 p.m.) Passengers began to feel cold. Another three hours flying and we reached our last destination—London. It was, local time, 3.45 p.m. (Sarawak time 10.45 p.m.) I should confess that I had the most pleasant and comfortable journey I had ever had.

On my arrival at London Airport, a British Council representative met me at "Airways Terminal". He sent me to the British Council Residence, Queen's Garden, London, where I stayed for two weeks in transit to Winchester.

I attended a three-day introduction course sponsored by the British Council. A party of thirty overseas students from various parts of the British Commonwealth, we learned how to adapt ourselves to our new environment. Among the group, four of us came from

Sarawak: Mr. T. M. Chin, Mr. W. T. K. Tang, two administrative officers, N. B. Han of P. W. D. and myself. Under the representatives of the British Council, we visited London Zoo, Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London. All were attractive and impressive objects, each of which has a long history back.

The first thing to bother me was the weather, which made me feel a sudden chill. I had to wear more clothes to keep myself warm. The other was the food, in which the flavour and style of cooking were entirely different from ours. It upset my stomach for a few days. Whenever I seated myself in dining hall, I thought of home.

Being a stranger, I tried to go round the city as far as I could. I did not lose myself in this nine millions people's city, for the helpful policeman always guided me to the right destination. One afternoon, Mr. Tang, Mr. Chin and I were very hungry. We could see no snack bar in Regent Street. We went to a policeman, who showed us the places where we could have our lunch.

London appeared to be a mixture of immeasurable streets, which were side by side with mass buildings, narrow courts, alleys and historical monuments. When I walked out from the Tower of London to Westminster Abbey and then to Oxford Street, I found almost every variety of architecture ranging from a piece of old Roman wall to the most modern building. London itself was really a huge gallery.

Everything in London seemed to be moving. Cars, taxis, buses and pedestrians were always rushing madly in the streets. One day, when I was in the tube on my way to the platform, hundreds of people, both men and women, walked at a high speed. In order to avoid the pushing from the back, I too had to follow their steps. I asked a Londoner why they were always in a hurry. Two reasons came given; one was the cold weather which forced them to walk fast to keep themselves warm, and the other was that they had to finish many things in a very short time.

In the tube, many people read newspapers and seldom talked to each other. But they argued strongly at Hyde Park Corner, where people often conducted speeches on all subjects on whatever they liked to speak in the public. Policemen were standing nearby and no interference was taken against any speaker, who might sometimes talk beyond the point of view in certain cases. Freedom of speech in London was deserving of heavy praise in many countries.

Automatic sales were very popular in this country. One could get his train tickets, cigarettes, chocolate or stamps any time he wished provided he put a sufficient amount of money into the machines. In some parts of London there were heaps of newspapers of different kinds exposed at certain baskets or stalls on sale. Each paper had its fixed price. No seller attended the business. Those who wished to buy a copy, would pay the exact value for it. No person would take more papers than he had paid for. Such a system rarely be seen in other countries.

Parks were another distinguished master-piece of the British people. Beautiful flowers, paths and trees were so naturally and skilfully planned that you would forget all about your fatigue and worry. Without parks, London would lose half of her beauty.

Time seemed to be very short. I had to step into a train at Waterloo station and say good-bye to the World's greatest city—London.

After one-and-half-hours' journey, I was in Winchester, the old capital of England, where I was admitted in King Alfred's College on an in-service training course. I am a boarding student and live in the College hostel, where most European students are. Good relations and co-operation are closely secured. We study together in a harmonious way as if we were a big family so that it makes my life happier despite the severe cold weather which attacks me.

LEE KOK YIN.

"Five Hundred Centuries of Borneo Man"

A Review

Mr. Peter Davies' first public act since his return from leave was to introduce the production team of this wholly Sarawak film at its Sarawak premiere on Thursday night, 18th December.

Presented jointly by the British Council and the Sarawak Museum to a full house in the William Tan Auditorium of St. Joseph's School, the film was shot in Kotucherosa by Mr. K. F. Wong, A.R.P.S. in the Niah River and Caves, produced and edited by Barbara Harrison, under the scientific direction of Tom Harrison who gave a live commentary throughout its forty minute running time. The film is at present about 14 mm. Eastmancolor, and the only copy yet printed.

While Ray Brown took a collection for the Mental Hospital Christmas Fund, Mr. Harrison profused the film with credits to all concerned (which include Sarawak Shell Oilfields Ltd. and Henry Waugh & Co., Ltd.) and an elaboration of the techniques, problems and merits of the film's production.

The film's location is strictly Niah; its time range is (with scanty openings to its Catholic hosts) from anthropoid ape to anthropoid man, Mesolithic. A scene illustrating the shambling gait (rear view) of its scientific adviser disappearing into the darkness of the cave tends to support the unacceptably evolutionary premise of the film.

The film opens with shots of caves sites and beds and such old fashioned creatures as wolly anteater, hornbill and adjacent storks, the bones of which have been identified and are numerous in the archaeological diggings of the Niah caves which homesteads Gunung Saba, to which the camera now turns.

I wish the commentary had drawn attention earlier to the size of the Great Cave mouth in relation to human figures. Its dimensions do not automatically strike home from the several, nevertheless very impressive, shots of, and through, it.

Film and narrative here concentrate upon Niah man, his environment, the cave and its surrounding; his food, the birds, bats, shellfish and terrestrial and arboreal creatures whose remains abound. We are shown how bats were caught by fire, roasted and eaten. I did not find Mr. Wong's standard of acting at the last banquet very convincing!

Down in the diggings the archaeological team is shown at work. Finds are seen in situ and in various stages of collection. The Curator is seen working on a theory of major, ancient human disturbance of the deposits. His experienced Sentabong Malin diggers receive high praise and obviously enjoy their life and work unearthing the unknown.

A short sequence splendidly illustrates the high-level pole-climbing techniques of edible bark-eating.

From cave man to a more recent society, presumed to have lived in houses but who put their dead to rest in high caverns with local and imported China pottery, and so to modern Iban, is a long transition covered in a few short sequences presenting many questions. I thought it a pity the local Iban did not enter the picture here, but appreciate the difficulties of persuading "Ibanes about Melanes" to act primitive.

The Iban, however, who settled in Niah first in 1934 (S.M.J. No. 10, N.S., p. 133), served well to point the survival or slow evolution of some primitive techniques: his use of the pyrethroid use in curing cane; his adze, now from replacing stone, lashed in an aboriginal shaft, etc.

An attempt to make fire by wood friction was less successful. I wonder if this was in fact done by

Niah man? Fire making by flint on bamboo and on metal, and by percussion are variously known in parts of Borneo, but not apparently at Niah.

The sequence on making a blowpipe is almost certainly unique and it is surprising to find this still done in Niah today. Not having seen the operation myself I was surprised to hear that water was used to control heat at the drill point. I would not have thought such pressure and speed possible by the primitive hand methods illustrated. Water does also serve to float the chips out.

There is humor in the film, and one feels sure that this will be exploited when a sound version is produced. Tom's running commentaries give opportunity to try out various treatments of these situations: the hand-shake of a cover up from the underworld; Barbara disappearing head first into a cliff-face catacomb, and many more which eluded laughs from the audience.

The incidental animals add interest: civet cat marauding, hibernating up a tree, cave centipede, "kuching" porcupine, clouded leopard, and a perky little unnamed Disney creature scampering along behind a hapless party. The animals in the film, alone, could make up an educational short.

One felt that the game industry received grudging notice. Mr. Harrison does not even rate game proof stamps. To be it once Curator of archaeological remains and Conservator of the game trust, of course, set up conflict—especially when both occupy the same space.

Mr. Harrison is certainly right in praising the photographer for a high-quality film of exceptional subject matter, made in most difficult lighting and working conditions. The editing has been well done but could perhaps be carried even further when commentary has been perfected for recording. The resultant production will then be an instructional and general-interest film of high merit and I see no reason why it should not make money commercially.

The promoters of this most interesting evening were probably right in not giving opportunity for questions. There would have been too many. But to try the film out on a small questioning audience would no doubt suggest points which could then be dealt with in narrative. (Mr. Harrison tells me that a series of drawings with this in mind is already planned during the next month or two.)

I noticed one feature of cave-man etiquette which I would like to see spread—the way Mrs. Harrison cared for her husband's dry speaker's throat!

R.A.B.

Book Review

Agriculture nomade, Volume 1 Congo belge, Côte d'Ivoire.

(P.O. Box, 11) or \$2.00 U.S.A.)

The first part of this volume deals with shifting cultivation (Ouhé follows) in the Equatorial Rain Forest of the Belgian Congo and is practically identical with that practised in the hill-lands of Sarawak. The second part deals with a comparable but slightly more complex system practised in the mixed Rain Forest and Savanna-Woodlands of the Ivory Coast, French West Africa by a somewhat more advanced people. Shifting agriculture is not necessarily bad agriculture: given the climatic circumstances of high temperature and rainfall from which follows dense primary forest and, usually, poor soils, it is probably the easiest and most economical of labour of all the possible systems of agriculture but it wastes enormous amounts of timber and, if excessive it denudes and impoverishes

the soil. In Sarawak, the Congo, and Ivory Coast, where the people are still more interested in hunting, fishing, and food-gathering than in agriculture, this system has evolved with its simple leisure for other pursuits. There are, however, a few striking differences, one of which is so gross as to cast some doubt on the accuracy of the figures presented. In order that this point may be made clear and that the reader may compare the data for the Congo and the Ivory Coast with that of Sarawak I have tabulated and, where necessary, converted the details to similar units as follows:—

Climax	Congo	Ivory Coast	Sarawak
Alt. (ft. approx.)	7000	5000	1000
Area (sq. miles)	100,000	100,000	100,000
Soil (See details in text)	See text	See text	See text
Average area cleared and burnt annually	2 acres	2 acres	2.5 acres
Average area in use	2 acres	2 acres	2 acres
Yield of staple crop (rice, maize, and tubers) in tons	5.5 tons (dry)	5.5 tons (dry)	5.5 tons (dry)
Average area cleared for staple crops per family	20 acres	20 acres	20 acres
Yields of staple crops per family (tons)	1.5 to 2.0	1.5 to 2.0	1.5 to 2.0
Yields of staples (See text)	See text	See text	See text
Yields of staples (See text)	See text	See text	See text

From the above it will be seen that Sarawak has a similar annual temperature but a very much higher rainfall, twice that of the Congo and three times that of the Ivory Coast, and that, despite higher yields per acre the farmers in Sarawak appear to need from 2½ to 4 times as much land on which to feed their families. In fact, combining the increased yield with the large area planted it would appear that the average Sarawak family disposes of 3 to 8 times the amount of food of a comparable African family. This result does not appear entirely fanciful when one considers the amount of rice consumed at a meal in the country longhouses, about three times the amount a European can eat; the use of rice for brewing; the fact that maize is not considered a staple as in Africa but is eaten unripe as sweet corn between meals; that large numbers of fighting cocks are kept; that very few families have to eat any tapian (if not fed to the pigs it is left in the ground as an insurance against food losses); but it becomes very difficult to believe that the Congo farmer, disposing of only one fifth or one sixth of the food of the Sarawak farmer can sell half his harvest (p.42). . . . "In maize he is unable to vend". Comparison with the Ivory Coast is rendered more difficult by the fact that cattle are kept, hence the incredibly high density of population attained, (it is not possible to keep cattle in the Congo because of beryne trypanosomes carried by the tsetse fly) but the same argument applies, yams, ground-nuts, cotton and tobacco being sold. Leaving aside any question of the accuracy of the figures which, coming from the FAO can be presumed to have been critically examined before publication, it immediately becomes apparent that population pressure may be a factor in increasing the range of crops grown and the tendency towards mixed farming. Crops sown and planted in the Ivory Coast (p. 148) are as follows:— "During the first rains after the burn, ground-nuts and ground, while a little later maize is sown on the preceding year's clearing; then early or late yams, together with other (African) vegetables and tapian and other cotton, okras or malar all in the same mound, although often the tapian will be planted only on every other one or missing two mounds and the maize only on every 5th or 10th mound." This description does not completely agree with that given on p. 154 but if there is as much difference between individual farmers in the Ivory Coast as there is in Sarawak, this is only to be expected. It appears likely that the use of yams instead of rice

as the major staple is more economical of ground but as yams rarely enter into commerce there are no figures available on which to base a comparison of their respective food values or their effect on the soils.

One final point of difference is that *Albizia* (*Albizia* spp.) does not appear to be a part in the Ivory Coast where it does not form a fire climax as it does in parts of Sarawak. Apparently 5 to 8 years of bush fallow suffice to exterminate it provided that fire is excluded. This indicates either that the tree grows (secondary forest) is more virile in Africa or that the *Albizia* is not so happy under the lower rainfall regime. The first alternative seems more likely from the lists of species found in the Congo and Ivory Coast secondary forest which springs up during and after cultivation. Although the species are, naturally different, many of the genera are the same but leguminous trees are far more prominent and the total number of tree species is greater.

This is a very valuable treatise on shifting agriculture which should be required reading for all Government Officers. It is a pity, however, that more detailed figures are not given to explain the wonderful economy in the use of land.

W. ADAMS

SARAWAK TURF CLUB

LANDAS MEETING, 1958

First Day, Saturday, 29th November, 1958

RACE 1. THE SENGAI KAYAN HANDBICUP
Females Division III B. 5 Furlongs.

		Time	Weight
1. Mr. Ong Koo Hai's			117 lb
Dondang Sayang	8.4	Sarawak	512
2. Pinnars' Brier	7.7	Ek Pah	512
3. Phoenix	7.8 (7.5)	Libes	340
			1777

Win by: Distance, 4 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 27 sec. Total: 34.50

RACE 2. THE BANGAL KAYAN HANDBICUP
Females Division III A. 5 Furlongs.

		Time	Weight
1. Mr. M. C. Yaw's			117 lb
Kuhit Prince	7.7	Ali I	175
2. Brunel Beauty	8.1	Mat II	1692
3. Seri Pangpong	7.7 (7.3)	Ngor	141
4. Cabaret	7.7	Ek Pah	353

Also ran:—

Hari Raja	7.12	Sarawak	418
Kawari	7.9	Wahab	364
Musari Iram	8.11	Libes	371
Boy Valiant	7.10 (7.1)	Manan	194
Happy Ending	7.13	Aeng	136
			3084

Scratched: Norys Bulleh 8.5.

Win by: Head, ½ lengths, 3 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 26 sec. Total: 34.00

RACE 3. THE SARAWAK SARAWAK HANDICAP

Female Division II. 3 Furlongs.

		Tickets	Sold
1. Madam Yap Gook Eng's			
Bachelor Boy	8.7	Tan Ean	152
2. Atom Boy	9.5	Liben	147
3. Bajang Beking	1.3	Samsudin	112
4. Bintang Ara	8.2	Eddie	309

Also ran:—

Talking	8.8	Mr. H	186
Ruby	8.13	Manson	152
Saya Bedoh	8.13	Kerem	75
Silver Star	8.8	Medin	159

Won by: $\frac{1}{2}$ length, $\frac{1}{2}$ length, 1 length.

Time: (Not taken). Total: \$2.00

RACE 4. THE SARAWAK SARAWAK HANDICAP

Female Division I. 5 Furlongs.

		Tickets	Sold
1. Madam Yap Gook Eng, Mr. Tan Poo Tung & Mr. Choo Lee Chien's			
Borneo Boy	7.7	Mr. H	359
2. Thunder Storm	7.8 (7.11)	Liben	850
3. Three Sevens	9.0	Ek Pah	68
4. North Bays	7.7	Wahed	1924

Also ran:—

Bintang Kilang	8.1	Manson	328
Leela	9.7 (9.2)	Jusick	156
The Hat	8.8 (8.3)	Ngot	797
Mengpai	8.0	Kerem	511

Scratched: Begawal 7.3.

Won by: $\frac{1}{2}$ length, $\frac{1}{2}$ length, $\frac{1}{2}$ length.

Time: 1 min. 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. Total: \$30.50

RACE 5. THE SARAWAK SARAWAK HANDICAP

Horse Division II. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets	Sold
1. "Panda Stable's"			
Caribbean	8.5 (8.0)	Manson	1125
2. Bashed	10.4	Liben	640
3. Avilor	8.0	Mr. H	287
4. Happy Birthday	9.5	Tan Ean	1125

Also ran:—

Miss Molly	8.0	Medin	449
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Scratched: Lighthouse 10.4, Sweet Violet 8.0.

Won by: Distance, 1 length, 3 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 23 sec. Total: \$2.50

RACE 6. THE SARAWAK SARAWAK HANDICAP

Horse Division I. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets	Sold
1. Mr. A. Chong's			
K'Knechko	8.13	Eddie	1312
2. Fresh Boy	8.10	Medin	724
3. Bajang Bantal	9.8	Manson	811
4. Birthday Gift II	8.2	Samsudin	1392

Also ran:—

Herrick	8.8	Ek Pah	365
Ethias	10.2	Leela	750

Won by: Head, Head, 3 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 22 sec. Total: \$2.50

RACE 7. THE SARAWAK SARAWAK HANDICAP

Female Division III. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets	Sold
1. The Estate of the late Mr. Phillip Koh Pe's			
Happy Ending	8.6 (8.0) (8.0)	Mr. H	155
2. Karwai	8.5 (8.15) (8.13)	Manson	468
3. Blue Rays	8.18 (8.7) (8.7)	Samsudin	427
4. Kasket Prince	8.5 (7.15) (8.6)	Ali I	995

Also ran:—

Boy Valiant	8.13 (8.7) (8.2)	Paul	86
Phoenix	8.4 (7.12) (7.13)	Liben	137
Cobweb	10.7 (10.1) (9.8)	De'an	154
Printer's Error	7.13 (7.7) (7.7)	Ek Pah	211

Scratched: Tanjung Ara 7.3.

Won by: 3 lengths, Head, 4 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 47 sec. Total: \$6.00

RACE 8. THE SARAWAK SARAWAK HANDICAP

Female Division II. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets	Sold
1. Mr. Ong Kim Hai's			
Bajang Beking	7.7	Samsudin	308
2. North Bays	9.5	Manson	797
3. Bachelor Boy	8.8 (9.1)	Tan Ean	368
4. Mutara Iam	7.7	Asing	532

Also ran:—

Ruby	8.9 (8.4)	Ngot	106
Bintang Ara	7.15	Wahed	651
Silver Star	7.3 (7.10)	Medin	348
Saya Bedoh	7.12 (8.5)	Kerem	94
Sea Dragon	8.15	Manson	118
Talking	7.11	Ek Pah	275
Bachelor Days	7.7 (7.8)	Bajang	377

Scratched: Begawal 9.10, Brand Beauty 8.13.

Won by: 3 lengths, 2 lengths, Distance.

Time: 1 min. 44 sec. Total: \$8.50

RACE 9. THE SARAWAK SARAWAK HANDICAP

Female Division I. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets	Sold
1. Mr. Daniel Lim's			
Thunder Storm	7.7 (7.11)	Liben	1459
2. The Hat	7.10 (7.2)	Ngot	787
3. Borneo Boy	8.8 (9.1)	Tan Ean	613
4. Three Sevens	9.12	Manson	111

Also ran:—

Mengpai	9.1 (8.15)	Jusick	444
Bintang Kilang	10.9 (10.2)	De'an	74
Leela	8.9	Kerem	383
Atom Boy	7.13	Medin	681

Won by: Head, Head, 1 length.

Time: 1 min. 46 sec. Total: \$2.00

THE \$100 FORECAST TOTE

Total Pool = \$2,088.00

1st Lay—Race 4, Winner: Benson Boy, 185 Tickets
2nd — — — — — K'asabiku, 63 —
Final — — — — — Bujang Baling, 10 —

Dividend \$167.00 each.

Second Day, Saturday—31st December, 1958

LANDAS MEETING, 1958

RACE 1. THE BERNAM OPA HANDEAP

Ponies Division IIIA. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets Sold
1. Mr. Tan Teck Ann's		
Cobarr	9.12(9.10) (9.10)	Eddie I 354
2. Kadar Prince	9.1 (9.12) (9.12)	Samsudin 438
3. Noyan Balleh	8.12(8. 9) (8.5)	Ali I 658
4. Printers' River	8.12(8. 9) (8.5)	Jusaidi 98

Also ran:—

Phoenix	8.1 (7.12) (7.5)	Ngor	190
Pearl Sera	7.10(7. 7) (7.10)	Ali II	50
Salleh	8.4 (8. 3) (8.1)	Ek Pah	60
*Richmond River	8.5 (8. 0) (7.5)	Bujang II	50

1804

*Left at the start.

Scratched: Jolly Boy 7.7.

Won by: 1 length, 1½ lengths, 4 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 30 sec. Total: \$4.00

RACE 2. THE BERNAM MUMAS HANDEAP

Ponies Division IIIA. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets Sold	
1. Mr. Ong Koo Hai's			
Dondang Sayang	8.7	Samsudin 891	
2. Sapa Boleh	8.0 (8.1)	Biring	162
3. Seli Punggong	7.10	Wahed	808
4. Hari Raya	9.1 (8.12)	Pain	66

Also ran:—

Brunei Beauty	8.13	Mar II	378
Kasuari	8.0	Maman	524
Boy Vallant	7.7	Ali	84
Mutiasa Iam	7.10(7.7)	Liben	118
Silver Star	7.10(7.11)	Medis	157

3089

Won by: 3 lengths, ½ length, 1 length.

Time: 1 min. 28 ½ sec. Total: \$2.50

RACE 3. THE BERNAM BALANAS HANDEAP

Ponies Division II. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets Sold	
1. Mrs. Lily Goh's			
Bintang Ara	9.5	Eddie I 255	
2. Rany	8.11 (8.0)	Ngor	252
3. Bujang Baling	8.8	Samsudin	2626
4. Begawal	8.13 (8.0)	Jusaidi	424

Also ran:—

Atom Boy	7.7 (8.2)	Liben	677
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4312

Won by: ½ length, 2½ lengths, 6 lengths.

Time: 1 min. 26 ½ sec. Total: \$9.50

RACE 4. THE LANDAS HANDEAP

Ponies Division I. 4 Furlongs.

		Tickets Sold	
1. The Ong Kang's			
Nandi Sapa	7.7 (7.8)	Samsudin	1126
2. Three Seasons	9.3	Wahed	315
3. Bachelor Boy	7.8	Mar II	1865
4. Thunder Storm	} D.H. 8.5	Liben	469
Mengshi		8.1	Bujang I

Also ran:—

Bintang Kibang	8.1	Maman	622
Leah	9.3 (8.12)	Jusaidi	304
The Bat	9.8	Maman	218
Benson Boy	9.4 (8.12)	Siti	212

4997

Won by: 2 lengths, 4 lengths, Distance.

Time: 1 min. 27 ½ sec. Total: \$3.00

RACE 5. THE BERNAM BUNAS HANDEAP

Horses Division II. 1 Mile.

		Tickets Sold	
1. Mr. Ong Koo Kang's			
Remember Mar II	9.15	Eddie I	1045
2. Harick	9.8	Ek Pah	515
3. Bantak	9.15	Liben	457
4. Fresh Boy	9.15	Medis	548

Also ran:—

Avitor	8.0 (8.2)	Mar III	658
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2760

Won by: 4 lengths, 1½ lengths, Distance.

Time: 1 min. 57 ½ sec. Total: \$2.00

RACE 6. THE BERNAM TUNAS HANDEAP

Horses Division I. 1 Mile.

		Tickets Sold	
1. Mrs. Janet Ong's			
Bujang Bantak	8.0	Maman	2372
2. Sitawan	8.12	Lunda	815
3. K'asabiku	9.9	Eddie I	843
4. Sarawak Ramis	8.3	Ek Pah	565

Also ran:—

Birthday Ght II	10.1	Medis	610
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3621

Scratched: Caribbean 8.3.

Won by: 4 lengths, 1 length, 1½ lengths.

Time: 1 min. 56 ½ sec. Total: \$1.50

RACE 7. THE SUNGAI BARNAS HANDEAP

Ponies Division III. 1 Mile.

		Tickets Sold	
1. Mr. Ong Koo Hai & Mrs. Janet Ong's			
Hari Raya	7.7 (7.8)	Samsudin	454
2. Cobarr	8.12(8.0)	Eddie I	775
3. Boy Vallant	7.12(8.0)	Maman	316
4. Sapa Boleh	8.1	Mar II	640

Also ran:—

Karwai	7.8 (7.9)	Wahed	517
Bintang Ara	8.9 (8.2)	Medis	420
Phoenix	7.12(7.5)	Ngor	191
Mutiasa Iam	9.2	Liben	168
Kualat Prince	7.8	Ali I	615
Bachelor Days	9.1	Bujang I	96

4216

Won by: 2 lengths, Neck, 6 lengths.

Time: 2 mins. 32 sec. Total: \$7.50

RACE 3. THE BALANG LUPAT HANDEAP

Points Division II. 1 Mile.

		Tickets	Sold
1. Madam Yap Gook Eng's			
Bachelor Boy	8.5	Ten Ems	516
2. Silver Star	8.1	Mat. II	958
3. Husky	7.1 (7.4)	Night	476
4. Sea Dragon	8.10	Mature	391
Also ran:—			
Atan Boy	9.8	Liben	440
			2781

Scratched: Nash Srys 9.5, Begawal 9.4.
 Won by: Head. Distance: 3 lengths.
 Time: 2 mins. 25 1/2 secs. Total: \$4.00

RACE 5. THE LASTING HANDEAP

Points Division I. 1 Mile.

		Tickets	Sold
1. Mrs. Irene Nelson & Mrs. Janet Ong's			
Three Sevens	8.3	Samudra	1248

2. Lookin	7.3 (7.9)	Mat II	785
3. Bintang Kilang	8.2	Mature	429
4. The Bat	7.8 (7.4)	Night	393

Also ran:—

Thunder Storm	8.7	Liben	1343
Belangai	7.8 (7.12)	Bojong I	351
Borneo Bay	9.3 (8.12)	Said	327
			9058

Won by: Head. Head, 2 lengths.
 Time: 2 mins. 31 1/2 secs. Total: \$3.00

THE \$100 FORECAST TOTE

Total Pool = \$2,084.00

1st Leg—Race 4, Winner: Nash Srys. — 656 Tickets	
2nd — — — 8. — Bojong Bantal, 178 —	
Final — — — 9. — Three Sevens, 35 —	
	Dividend \$54.00 each.

Recent Books

Additions to the Sarawak Library during the month of December, 1958.

AUTHOR	TITLE	AUTHOR	TITLE
Andrew, Lucilla	<i>A Hospital Summer</i> (1958)	Brown, Howard	<i>The Taste of Ashes</i>
Balzer, Hans von	<i>Devil Stories</i> (1958)	Edwards, M. G.	<i>Another Man's Murder</i> (1958)
Baum, Vicki	<i>Belshazzar</i> (1958)	Gunn, Victor	<i>The Fourth Chamber Murder</i> (1958)
Beatty, Phyllis	<i>Crematorium</i> (1958)	Howard, Hamley	<i>The Big Search</i> (1958)
Benson, Peter	<i>The Coast of Love</i> (1958)	Hunter, Alan	<i>Crash Through the Wall</i> (1958)
Best, Martin	<i>The Night of the Party</i> (1958)	Proctor, Maurice	<i>Man at Amboak</i> (1958)
Bridson, Russell	<i>Gabriel Comes to Jif</i> (1958)	Rhodes, John	<i>Eight Fates in Paradise</i> (1958)
Bridge, Ann	<i>The Portwine Caper</i> (1958)	Sayers, Dorothy L.	<i>A Treasury of Mystery Stories</i> (1958)
Buller, Gerald	<i>The Peacock Bride</i> (1958)		Non-fiction
Cain, Max	<i>The Devil at Four O'clock</i> (1958)	Antiles Club	<i>Modern Athletics</i> , edited by N. J. Meyer (1958)
Christiansen, Synnove	<i>Landman's Daughters</i> (1958)	Asimov, Isaac	<i>The Chemistry of Life</i> (1958)
Christopher, John	<i>The Career of Wright</i> (1958)	Belling, Douglas	<i>Secret of the Dragon's Blood</i> (1958)
Conroy, Geoffrey	<i>Ten on Madam Court</i> (1958)	Brown, Clifford Thomas	<i>Aids to Working Practice</i> (1958)
Corbin, Mary	<i>The Garding of Sir West and other stories</i> (1958)	Burrows, Geoffrey	<i>A Short History of French Literature</i> (1958)
Franklin, Pamela	<i>And My No More</i> (1958)	Burrows, Geoffrey	<i>An Introduction to the French Poets</i> (1958)
Gather, Ernest	<i>A Wind in the Country</i> (1958)	Burford, Walter Horace	<i>Antony Cleburne</i> (1957)
Gilbert, Jay	<i>The Minner</i> (1958)	Carlin, Neville	<i>A Composer's Eleven</i> (1958)
Glover, Bernard	<i>The Dance on St. Saviour</i> (1958)	Coil, Henry	<i>Widow to Counsel</i> (1958)
Glover, Bernard	<i>The Journeyman</i> (1958)	Cyril, Clifford	<i>Be a Librarian</i> (1958)
Green, Graham	<i>Our Man in Havana</i> (1958)	Edlin, Milvren	<i>Lord Wilton's Justice</i> , an autobiography of his youth (1958)
Gunn, Neil M.	<i>Moving Tide</i> (1958)	Edwards, William	<i>Chinese Festivals</i> (1958)
Hackforth-Jones, Gilbert	<i>Murderous Harbour</i> (1958)	Espin, Nina	<i>India and Europe: a Monsoon Journey</i> (1958)
Hastings, Phyllis	<i>Golden Apollo</i> (1958)	Fring, Bright	<i>Parables and Paradoxes</i> (1958)
Hayes, Edward	<i>Talking to Sam</i> (1958)	Dunford, John	<i>Search for a Reason</i> (1958)
Jones, Hammond	<i>The Land God Gave to Cain</i> (1958)	Fuchs, Dr. Wilton and Hilary, Dr. Edmund	<i>The Creation of Antarctica: the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition 1955-1958</i> (1958)
Knight, Nigel	<i>The Choice and the Child</i> (1958)	Gent, Jean	<i>The Railway</i> (1958)
Leaving, David	<i>A Mistle from the Storm</i> (1958)	Harbutt, C. H.	<i>Descriptive Statistics</i> (1958)
Leaving, David	<i>The Bath of Lening</i> (1958)	Institute of Public Relations	<i>A Guide to the Practice of Public Relations</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Devil Comes to Wanchester</i> (1958)	Mason, George	<i>Practical II of Holomatawa</i> (1957)
Lindley, Philip	<i>Position at Noon</i> (1958)	Woodhead, Alan	<i>The Russian Revolution</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>The File over One</i> (1958)	Witchard, (1958)	<i>Witchard</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Peacock Family</i> (1958)	Wong, Seng	<i>Water Slings</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>Our Small Boy</i> (1957)	Wong, Seng	<i>The New Year of China</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>Deployment Commission</i> (1958)	Yong, Seng	<i>Female Jungle a Malayan Journey</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>Up and Out</i> (1957)	Smyth, J. G.	<i>Love Poems</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Easter Party</i> (1957)	Starkin, Edna	<i>Andie Gide</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>Deployment</i> (1958)	Van Der Post, Laurens	<i>The Last World of the Eskimos</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Search</i> (1958)	Vera, Henry G.	<i>Tropical Aquatic Fishes in colour</i> (1957)
Lindley, Philip	<i>Sepulchre</i> (1958)	Wheeler-Jones, John W.	<i>King George VI: his life and reign</i> (1958)
Lindley, Philip	<i>Light Above the Lake</i> (1958)		
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Pelicans</i> (1957)		
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Snow</i> (1958)		
Lindley, Philip	<i>Anatomy of a Murder</i> (1958)		
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Mountain Road</i> (1958)		
Lindley, Philip	<i>The Stones</i> (1958)		

Kuching Market Price List

December, 1938

RICE—(per gantang)		Average
Local White Government Milled	...	145
Local White Milled	...	175
Siam "A" 7 1/2	...	160
Siam "B"	...	—
Siam "C"	...	—
Siem Broken Rice At Super	...	165
China Broken Rice	...	150
SUGAR—(per kati)		
White Sugar	...	56
Brown Sugar	...	46
Black Sugar	...	25
FLOUR AND BREAD—		
Wheat Flour per kati	...	21
Bread per small loaf	...	21
Bread per large loaf	...	36
MILK—(per tin)		
(a) Nestle	...	45
Libby Brand	...	35
Golden Wheat	...	30
Milk Maid	...	45
(b) Local Fresh Milk per pint	...	30
EGGS—(each)		
Turtle	...	30
Dark, fresh	...	13
Dark, salted	...	15
Fresh	...	15
EDIBLE FATS—(per kati)		
Butter per lb.	...	100
Coconut Oil	...	78
Peanut Oil	...	120
Lard No. 1	...	100
Lard No. 2	...	120
Olive	...	120
Dipping	...	80
PORE—(per kati)		
Lard No. 1	...	120
Lard with Fat No. 1	...	140
Pig	...	100
Rice	...	100
BEEF—(per kati)		
Beef, steak	...	100
Beef, Curry meat	...	100
Beef No. 1	...	100
Beef, curry meat	...	100
Mutton (Australian)	...	120
Mutton (Local)	...	100
POULTRY—(per kati)		
Capein	...	120
Chinese Chicken	...	115
Pullet	...	120
Chinese Hen	...	145
Duck, Fresh	...	155
Duck	...	155
Muscovy	...	155
Cross-Breed	...	155
Geese	...	145
FISH—(per kati)		
Fresh Fish No. 1	...	140
Fresh Fish No. 2	...	80
Fresh Fish No. 3	...	40
Preserved No. 1	...	100
Preserved No. 2	...	80
Crab No. 1	...	100
Crab No. 2	...	70
Salad Fish No. 1	...	240
Salad Fish No. 2	...	120
Salad Fish No. 3	...	80

SALT—(per kati)		Average
Coarse	...	20
Fine	...	20
Wash	...	20
VEGETABLES—(per kati)		
Bamboo Shoots (Salted)	...	40
Bamboo (Tubkaya)	...	28
Bamposang	...	20
Bayam	...	25
Bean Sprouts	...	20
Callappa	...	20
Changkat Muntia	...	21
Cucumber (Taman)	...	25
Chilies (Red)	...	30
Chilies (Green)	...	40
Cham, Marung	...	35
Ground Peas	...	27
Ground Bean	...	25
French Beans	...	28
Garlic, fresh	...	100
Garlic	...	25
Kachang Petai	...	30
Kangkang Air	...	30
Kangkang Bera	...	40
Kangkang Bera	...	40
Kangkang China	...	30
Kangkang	...	30
Kangkang	...	15
Kangkang	...	15
Kangkang	...	30
Kangkang	...	31
Kangkang	...	30
Kangkang	...	100
Kangkang (Chinese Method)	...	30
Kangkang, salted	...	40
Onions, Bombay	...	25
Onions, small	...	30
Peas, Imported	...	30
Peas (Bitter Green)	...	20
Sauerkraut, Imported	...	30
Sauerkraut, Local	...	20
Tomato (Black Assam)	...	40
Tomato	...	77
Trong (Belgian)	...	35
Beans per bottle No. 1	...	110
Beans per bottle No. 2	...	90
Beans per bottle No. 3	...	40
TEA—(per lb)		
Tea, Ceylon	...	400
Tea, Chinese	...	100
COFFEE—(per kati)		
Raw, Java No. 1, Local	...	100
Raw, No. 1	...	100
Powder	...	100
FRUITS—(each)		
Pineapple (Uniform per kati)	...	15
Pineapple (Tambak)	...	20
Guava	...	30
Guava (Break per kati)	...	30
SUNDRIES—		
Beans (local) per piece	...	15
Beans (white) per piece	...	15
Beans (yellow) per piece	...	15
Blackbean per kati	...	70
Chickpeas per piece	...	100
Coconut, fresh milk	...	20
Coconut (hard) per tin	...	150
Dried Peas per kati	...	100
Karamond (oil) per tin	...	100
Karamond (oil) per bottle	...	34
Mancham (local) per box	...	65
Mancham (imported) per box	...	65
Soap, washing (local) per box	...	30
Soap, washing (imported) per box	...	30
Salt (local) per tin	...	100
Salt (imported) per tin	...	30
Shik Wood, per gantang	...	20.00
CIGARETTES—		
Playsan per packet of 10	...	45
Playsan (Bitter) per packet of 10	...	35
Crown "A"	...	45
Dark Light	...	35
Star Express	...	100
Capstan per packet of 20	...	15

INDEX

A

	Page
Arrivals and Departures	1, 15, 24, 34, 82, 103, 118, 140, 152, 184, 204, 234
Architecture and Kaching	5
Atmosphere of the Borneo Forest	18
At the Reception of Customs	23
Agriculture, Closer Association and Education	85
A Nasty Problem	145

B

	Page
BIRTHS:—	
Young	1
Geilliam	15
Uyghart	81
Wood	81
Devies	104
Pitz-Cobben	101
Griffin	117
Wilkinson	117
Rawlin	117
Steele	139
Kruel	135
Bomphrey	135
Farnon	231
Scarlon	231
Kirk	231
Borneo Rozaries	7
Book Reviews	T. 46, 78
Book Numbers of the Gazette	78
Burcott, John Coleridge Hanbury, <i>comd.</i>	101
<i>o.s.a.</i>	101
Belaga	104
Brunei Nat. The	105
Berley—Sir Charles Vyner Brooks	152
Bornean Hospitality	164
Book Review—"Under Chartered Company Rule"	176
Book Review—"Yatons Shepherds"	227
Book Review—"Agriculture Nomads"	237

C

Civil Service	1
Correspondence	4, 21, 78, 111, 151, 175, 193, 227, 294
Closer Association	25, 83, 157
Chinese New Year in Hong Kong	28
Community Development with Land Dayak Women	59
Council Negri	81, 153
Colonization	112
Choose Your Weapons	138
Commonwealth Games, The	131
Celebrations at opening of Mosque at Brunei	184
Children in Sarawak, The	193

D

Delegation of Authority with Emphasis on District Office Administrations	19
Duty of a Secretary Officer	30, 64, 253
Development	117

E

Excerpts from Reports of Administrative Officers for the Second Half of 1957	31, 62, 89
Education and the Economic Realities of Sarawak	35
Excerpts from a Report on the Mass Youth Campaign in Lita Bas and Lunzu District	88
Excerpts from a Report on British Borneo Petroleum Production, Resources and Industry	120
Excerpts from Report of Administrative Officers for the First Half 1958	145, 209, 245

F

	Page
Film Reviews	4
From Kaching to the United Kingdom	235
Five Handed Centaurs of Borneo Man	237

H

His Excellency the Governor's Hari Raya Broadcast	33
His Excellency the Governor's Visit to Brunei and Miri	110
His Excellency the Governor's Visit to Brunei and Sabah—August 1958	150
His Excellency the Governor's Speech to Council Negri	204
Happy and Glorious	204

I

In the Footsteps of Tamerlane	2, 18, 36
Inter-Divisional Athletic Meeting	109
Iron Tubs—Admir Boney	129
In reply to—"Choose Your Weapons"	144
Once Not, The	146
Indifference—Late or Early	183

J

Jubilee Recreation Ground Fund	137
--------------------------------	-----

K

Kaching Market Price List	12, 13, 32, 89, 114, 130, 153, 181, 201, 233, 262
Kaching Letter	56, 124, 144, 181, 208, 251
Kaching Athletics	108

L

Local Authority Taxation	241
--------------------------	-----

M

Marriage	101
Medical Report from Lawas	182

N

Notes and Comments	1, 13, 15, 34, 82, 102, 118, 156, 183, 203, 233
Nasty Problem, A	145
Niah Excavations, 1958	148
New Year Honours	231

O

Other Yaines	45, 73, 113
Origin of Headhunting	89

OBITUARIES:—

Burcott, J. C. H.	101
Tait, W. G.	100
Carson, T.	112
Edwards, B. E.	112
Wright, F.	214

P

Peoples of Sarawak, The	104, 125, 141, 189, 197, 205, 237
Philology and History	185
Problems of English in Chinese Schools	232

Q

Queen's Birthday Honours	104
Queen's Birthday, Kaching	104

	Page		Page
E		U	
Rajah Brooke Memorial Settlement, Kuching	7, 60, 107	Upper Agriculture	96
Recent Books	8, 12, 47, 78, 93, 115, 138, 152, 180, 198, 228, 261	Unitecon Unlimited	126
Recital, A	...		
Regatta in Retrospect	...		
Radiation and the Bomb	...		
		V	
S		Visits of His Excellency the Governor—	
Sarawak Turf Club	5, 48, 96, 131, 171, 191, 258	Second Division	57
Serek Cattle Farm	...	Fulwara	58
Sarawak Association	...		
Sport in Sarawak	...	Virgin of Borneo, The	132
Sematan Bazaar	...		
Selling	...		
Shadow of Apartheid, The	...		
		W	
T		Water Village	90
Tout of a Broadcast by His Excellency the		World Beyond the Rivers, The	148
Governor	...	What Price Nationalism	171
The Ilupa Nua	15, 182	Wark Bank?	128
The World Beyond the Rivers	148	Water Sport	152
The Churches in Sarawak	...		
The Shadow of Apartheid	...		
The Peoples of Sarawak	104, 125, 141, 166, 187, 205, 217		
		Y	
		Young West Tale	185

PUSTAKA
NEGERI
SARAWAK