

Sarawak Gazette

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"Anybody smokin'?" Just one more?"
 "Yes, sir?" I only want seven-ten."
 "Well wouldn't you feel a tiny bit tense
 With a price of two dollars and eighty-five cents?"

ROLL

The Sarawak Gazette

FRIDAY, APRIL 30th, 1954

BIRTH

Mrs.—On 1st April, 1954, at the General Hospital, Kuching, to Susan, wife of R. F. Minton, a daughter—
 HELEN ANN.

Saying for the Month

Man is born to reverence; his spirit cannot but fly upwards; and when he fails to achieve great things, he falls into the slumber of revering small ones.

L. H. MERRIN: *The Root and the Flower.*

Pastime

Don't you think it's nice? Don't you think it's fun?
 To come up to the club with the eight o'clock gun?
 To sit with your friends and a nice fizzy drink
 And play this lovely game where you don't have to think?

He's got a splendid voice and it carries as far;
 You can hear him on the links, you can hear him in the bar.

"Eyes down and lookin'" and off we go!
 I'm that excited, I really don't know!

Isn't it grand? Isn't it heaven?
 "Lucky for some" and "Lops eleven,"
 "Doctor's special"—that's number nine—
 Just another couple and I'll have a line.

Obituary

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Yew Khay Sian which took place at Seremban on 27th March, 1954. Mr. Yew was a prominent man of business, being the proprietor of the Seremban Saw-mill. He was also a well-known man of public affairs, especially in the Fourth Division where he was a member of the Divisional Advisory Committee. He was appointed an Unofficial member of the Council Negri on 24th April, 1952.

Her many friends and acquaintances, both in and outside the religious life, will remember with sorrow the death which occurred in the evening of Tuesday, 30th March, of the Rev. Mother Bernardine, F.M.S.P., of St. Clare's Convent, Kuching. Mother Bernardine was 78 years old.

Born in 1876 at Burton, Lancashire, Mother Bernardine joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph in 1898. She was professed in May, 1900 and taught in a school at Nelson, Lancashire, for over 20 years.

In 1924, Mother Bernardine came to Kuching and took over the post of Principal of St. Teresa's School. She remained in this post until, upon the death of Mother Helen in December, 1937, she was appointed Regional Superior.

During the greater part of the war years she was interned at Batu Lintang where she was for some time head of the Women's Camp. Here her motherly solicitude for all and her frail figure and other-worldly look became so well-known that they found special expression in Agnes Newton Keith's book, *Three Came Home*.

After the liberation, very frail and old though she was, she did not spare herself in the reorganisation of her Convent. In March, 1951, she was recalled to England as a member of the General Chapter of the Congregation. It was in that year, in the old House at Putney, Manchester, that she had the happiness of celebrating the Golden Jubilee of her profession.

Upon her return to Kuching Mother Bernardine was reappointed for a final three-year term but she was unable to complete it owing to ill health. She retired in October, 1953, and spent the last few months of her life happily in the peace and serenity of a jungle mission.

P. & T.

The Posts and Telegraphs Department has been of late too much absorbed in turning the streets of Kuching into a possible imitation of a devastated area to have much time, we are sure, to think of smaller things. But when all this labour is done, when we all bow in thankfulness before shining new telephone instruments which produce a reply, and a reply from the correspondent we seek and seek, when we get one at all, from three unknown speakers in three different tongues—when this happy day is come, perhaps the Department will turn its attention to the little things in their care such as postage stamps, and tell us what is happening about them.

Philately in Sarawak has a long and honourable history, and we hope soon to print an article by an expert on the story of our stamps. The present series is generally acknowledged to be of outstanding artistic quality. Requests from abroad and comparison with the issues of many of our neighbours leave no doubt about this. But a new series for the Queen must surely be somewhere under consideration? Hong Kong's new set, of their long-established delicacy in design and colour, came into circulation at the beginning of this year, and North Borneo's are now on sale. We are confident that Sarawak will maintain her high standard and we feel sure that many people would like to know about the designs and the time of appearance of their new issues. We do not want to exaggerate, and there is no reason to encourage philatelists to falsify themselves more seriously than they do, but it is certain that the little bits of coloured paper, moving in art-like circles about the earth, do perform a service in fostering, on a superficial but not negligible scale, international interest and goodwill.

And, apart from the Elizabethan mysteries, soon to be abolished for ever, of the Kuching telephone service, there is another departmental mission that has for long puzzled the letter-writing public of this territory. The universal establishment of air mail services was followed by the institution in many countries of the admirable cheap air-mail letter form—the form bearing the stern legend "If anything is enclosed this letter will be sent by ordinary mail," a legend which, no doubt to conform with the general benevolence of the time, was altered on the special forms issued in the United Kingdom for Coronation Year to "If anything is enclosed this letter may be sent by ordinary mail," which has often made us wonder how many correspondents in Britain last year enclosed a nylon stocking or a haggis in their air mail forms and got away with it. Generally, these thin letters can be sent, from their countries of origin anywhere in the world at a fixed rate—from Hong Kong and Singapore, from Great Britain for instance, from the United States for ten cents, and there is a fixed rate for postcards and Gopher coupons for ordinary air-mail letters. But in Sarawak we have no such simple thing. We apprehended with diffidence rates for each kind of mail and for every country on earth, sheet upon foolscap sheet of them. Used by long and expensive practice you have trained your memory you must read a book before you post an adequately stamped card or letter abroad. It is true that the Post Office in Kuching is most courteous—it is always that, in every department—in using its own telephone or even sending you a messenger to tell you your letters are insufficiently stamped and in holding the letter till you call to put it right; but surely all this complexity is unnecessary, time-wasting for both correspondents and Post Office staff, and altogether out of date?

The main is not even consistent in its own strange pattern—if it has one. You may send a letter to France for 40 cents, but to Italy, nearer both by the map and air services, you pay 70. A postcard to Argentina costs you 30 cents more than an airmail letter form but a postcard to Hong Kong is 10 cents less than an airmail form, and to the Philippines 5 cents less. An airmail letter fees to India or to Ceylon is the same

price—25 cents, but a postcard costs 5 cents and an ordinary letter 10 cents more to India than to Ceylon.

It is time all this was ended, and we look forward to the day when, banking in the golden haze of goodwill earned by giving an articulate, speedy and crystal-clear telephone service, P & T, as we affectionately know them from the land across now-dashing like well-trained sheep-dogs all over the capital, will produce new postage stamps we shall be proud of and a system of postal rates simple people can remember and understand without resort to Petrusian or the higher mathematics.

Noise and Comments

Since that 'go-ahead' laws whose interest in youth welfare has been pronounced of late, does not lag behind in an important field as awaiting. On 15th March, 1954, a meeting was held in the Resident's office to discuss the formation of a Boy Scouts Association. Present at the meeting were the Resident, Mr. D. C. White, the Education Officer, Mr. A. Wanka, Mr. Chew Gook Lim and Abang Haji Abdul Kajah as Chairman and Vice-Chairman (respectively), and another meeting was arranged for 22nd April at which the Scoutmaster and Instructor would be present and the District Commissioner would give directions regarding the organization of boy scouts in the various schools and the Boys Club.

Upon St. George's Day, the 23rd of April, the Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan, sent this message to all Scouts: "As St. George's Day comes round once more we remember our brother Scouts across the sea and in other lands and wish them the average of St. George to have the difficulties and disappointments they may meet on life's journey, with the good clear before their eyes of Peace and Goodwill to all men."

April 23rd is not St. George's Day only: it is also St. William's day on which William Shakespeare was born and on which he died, and the day of William Wordsworth's death. "Every commemoration of the past," wrote George Santany, "every linking of the common living things that are, with the immortal and stable things that have been, is an infinite gain for the health and the life, the pleasure and the profit of the soul." Of no day is this more true than of April 23rd, the greatest secular commemoration in the Englishman's year.

"Kuching is a dull town," we learn from an anonymous letter in the *Sarawak Tribune* of April 16th. Its people have a "drab and somber existence." This is in some measure true. In every community, as long as it has its poor people, its lonely and its sick, there is drabness and gloom. But that the judgment is generally true, as true as of much larger towns, we strongly doubt. If it is, the people of Kuching are committed actors, and of great resolution. The strain of providing, day in, day out, in the streets and shops, in their houses and kampungs, in hospital and beer camp, to be so cheerful, so warm-hearted, so full of enjoyment and of kindness, must be very great. We hardly know how it can have been kept up so long and so continuously.

Certainly the people of Kuching, or some power in their behalf, are in one way doing their best to make the town drab by cutting down the beautiful trees that line some of the roads. The only reason we have heard for this outrage is that it will make it easier for reckless motorists to drive off the roads without colliding

with the trees that border them. If this is so, the action is not only outrageous in destroying beauty in a world already short of it, but also extremely stupid. There can be no justification for undertaking the very difficult if not impossible task of encouraging Kuching motorists to drive cars worse than they do now.

Tarika Tarnava is the very and slightly repulsive title of a paragraph in the latest London Letter, issued weekly by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Many of the facts are familiar but it is interesting to taste them so nicely whipped up and seasoned:

"Tom Harrison is an English archaeologist and explorer who has made his home in Borneo, where he is curator of a museum in Sarawak. He also has a curious but important sideline. For he runs the only turtle egg industry in the world. When Mr. Harrison came to Britain on leave he broadcast in *Radio Newsworld* and said that turtles are sacred animals which no one is allowed to kill; their eggs, however, can be collected. Turtles weigh about two hundredweights and come to lay during certain months of the year on three coral islands off the coast of Borneo. Each island has a small beach, the total area of all three being not more than one and a half acres, but on these three little beaches something like two million eggs are laid each year. As every female turtle coming in lays between a hundred and ten and a hundred and sixty eggs the beaches look just like a vast battlefield each morning. They mix up each other's nests and no one could possibly tell where a turtle had laid if some system of marking the sites were not followed. Harrison's staff is out all night through the season marking the nests with flags so that they can be found next morning and the eggs dug up. Some are put aside in a hatchery so that the stock can be kept up, and the rest are distributed throughout Borneo and elsewhere in the East at a price of some five cents in Singapore currency, the equivalent in sterling of about three-halfpence. The eggs put aside take some fifty to sixty days to hatch and when they emerge the young turtles are beautiful little creatures measuring two or three inches across. They are quite soft and if they go straight into the sea are eaten almost at once by sharks or other fish. Harrison has proved that if ten thousand or more twenty thousand young turtles are launched off into the sea from the beaches nearly all are taken by sharks within two or three hours, so special tanks are built for them and they are fed up on coconut and dried shrimps. Quite a number die in the interval but the others grow large and strong enough not to be eaten by sharks and they in two or three months time they are launched into the sea, ready to grow into strong adults who will come back to the beaches to lay in their turn."

Comings and Goings

In April the following returned from leave and, with all their friends, we welcome them back: Mr. and Mrs. J. A. G. Benson; Mrs. R. A. Bousher and her son; Mrs. J. R. Blagden and her youngest daughter; Mr. and Mrs. A. R. G. Morrison, and Mr. J. K. Wilson.

Mr. H. S. Brown (an Assistant Registrar of Co-operation Societies, on transfer from Nigeria) with his family; Mr. E. W. Cranston, newly appointed Assistant Superintendent, Sarawak Constabulary; Mrs. D. G. Merry with her three children, and Mr. J. D. Yates, newly appointed Assistant Controller of Posts and Telegraphs, with his wife, all arrived in Sarawak for the first time, and we wish them all happiness here.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Blacklock, Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Patterson, and Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Ray went home on leave and our warmest good wishes go with them.

Miri Letter

The early part of this year was a season of extreme drought in Miri. As the water diminished, so the oil increased, and in the end it was impossible for me to draw a bucket of water from either of my wells without inhaling the S.O.L. concussion. Myosphate lines through being washed in crude oil with the addition of a little water assumed an aspect of aquifer which became acutely embarrassing. However, the drought is now ended and the oil has flooded from domestic life.

This has been a very good season for padi. In the Baram most of the houses have a surplus. Long Lapet, the largest longhouse in Sarawak, has had the best harvest for twenty-two years, and there is now talk of their rebuilding the house. Only Long Palai is deficient, and here the people have but half the quantity of padi that they need.

Long Akah has undergone considerable development with the establishment of Tama Wing Tiggan's padi mill, and the bazaar now surrounds with such wharings and explosions as to entitle it to be considered an industrial area. In line with this is a municipal development quite without parallel in Sarawak, an imperial highway built of massive Indian the whole way from the fort to the bazaar, so that it is now possible for the visitor to cycle to the bazaar and be returned there in a wheelbarrow. Nonetheless carrying and accessory persons have drawn unfavourable comparisons between this massive viaduct, which will in fact be used a few times annually, and the possible school buildings and what-not which might have been constructed out of all this immense expenditure in time and money.

There has been an extraordinarily good crop of angkotang this year, and coming as it does when the rubber market has evaporated, it is most appreciated by the able people. From any good savings pots columns of smoke may be seen rising out the jungle where people are drying the mats in temporary camps.

A good example of the Baram people's desire to progress even despite the occasional retarding disease, is afforded by the case of the Tan Kampong of Long Jelutang (Mr.), who thought to set a good example to his people by planting all his padi this year in a canal. Unfortunately for lack of guidance his canal dried, after showing great promise, was utterly laid and so became a total loss, which has caused much discontent amongst the folk.

One of the more delightful features of the able Baram at present is provided by the influx of songs from Indonesia. These are of increasing interest, for they are the first examples of harmony and counterpoint in Bornean folk song that I have encountered. They closely resemble the thirteenth-century masses and motets in the Worcester manuscript in their harmonic effect. For over a year now they have been percolating into Sarawak from across the border and they have now spread down the Baram as far as Long Akah. Apart altogether from their intrinsic beauty they are of great interest, for the question arises as to whether they are a natural development of the indigenous musical tradition, or whether they owe something to other influences. Are they perhaps Kayan adaptations of Gregorian melodies, or do they owe their origin to some religious or political movement in Indonesia? Report speaks of them as having only recently developed, but it is very difficult to get any information on their origin. However that may be, the able Baram now surrounds with charming melodies and a contribution of major importance has been made to the culture of Sarawak, for now at last the people have an indigenous choral music. No longer will artists be marshalled to sing *Kaba Arwah* for persons of distinction; instead they will be asked with a gracious three-part canon. Surely it should be possible to procure some thousands of dollars from Government under the head "Security", sub-head "Infiltration of Indolent Danies", to finance research, including the

recording, scoring, and analysis of these delightful melodies!

The fine example set by the Temenggong in his decoration of the spacious chambers and galleries of Long Sun with murals executed by Indonesian artists, is now being followed elsewhere. Long Apoh now has a mural of vast proportions in which the traditional designs are given a colour treatment of much originality. There is now hope that Kayan and Kanyah art, which seemed to be on the verge of extinction, is in fact undergoing a great renaissance, thanks largely to the impetus from across the border. It is a welcome sign of cultural progress that walls hitherto covered with the New Ford Times and the Los Angeles Herald are now the sporting grounds for a world of delightful arabesques. St. Francis Xavier's academy at Long Sun reflects the same influence in education. Here the central block is ornamented with a lattice frieze of singular beauty and the boys show a considerable proficiency in the traditional arts.

Apart from the more formal aspects of education, St. Francis Xavier's is setting an excellent example to other schools in carpentry instruction. Brother Alexander, himself a skilled carpenter, has established a well equipped shop in which he is making excellent furniture. He now has several apprentices with him and when these return to their long houses, they should effect many improvements therein.

Anybody who questions the work of Dr. Zuhara should visit the sika barns. Formerly evening conversation was much interrupted by the continual clapping of mosquitoes; in some houses contrivances were possible only if a smoky fire were lighted under the floor, so that one sat in swirling clouds of smoke somewhat like those in Hell. Now that is all changed; one may, if so minded, sleep naked on the mat and suffer never a bite the night through. This is progress indeed.

ROBERT NICHOL.

Roadside Reflections

OR

Walking the Right Way

In the course of two recent journeys from Serian to Kuching, I noted that, without exception, all the pedestrians I saw between these places, of no matter what age, sex or race, walked on the left of the pavementless road. Why?

I can find no Sarawak law ordering a human being to walk on the left of the road (nor, for that matter have I been able to trace any law requiring a vehicle to keep to its left). Is there then an unwritten law to this effect, taught in schools and passed on to headmen at local authority meetings? I shouldn't be surprised if the former suggestion is not correct, for on my journey I once saw a lot of school-children leaving the school precincts and some of them turned left immediately, while all the rest crossed the road directly they had left the gates and turned right. I cannot believe that all these lived on that side of the road, and I feel sure some of them would have had to cross back again to reach their homes. But if school teachers have not taught children to walk on the left of the road, could there be some remote statutory reason for this? Surely it is not due to an order of the traffic police or of the local district officer? Ah! But I have just remembered that in Britain led horses have to walk on the right of the road and have the oncoming traffic—can it be then that the people of Sarawak walk on the left so as not to be mistaken for animals? Yet no, I can scarcely think so, for probably the majority of the Serian Road pedestrians have never seen a horse in their lives, and those they have seen were probably being walked on the left.

Another possible reason occurs to me. Perhaps the people who walk along the Serian Road are so aware

of its possible dangers that they have subconsciously allowed a comforting switch-like attitude to life to dominate them and, while extremely not sticking their heads into the sand, they yet turn their backs to the dangers of the road, and thus effectively (?) ignore them.

Nevertheless, when car engines are becoming ever quieter, a pedestrian may not hear a vehicle behind him, especially if a lorry coming the other way helps to drown the noise, or if he is singing loudly to himself or his thoughts are miles away as he considers what he would do were he a millionaire. The Serian Road is narrow and in many places there is no room for a pedestrian on the meeting when a car and truck pass one another. The danger is especially great at corners, where the two vehicles may suddenly, at the same moment and while moving at considerable speed, see each other and the pedestrian, and be too occupied, striving to avoid one another to be able to react. The normal car driver would probably judge it a lesser evil to hit the back of a pedestrian than crash head-on into another vehicle and will possibly not avoid the pedestrian. Under such conditions (to quote less unhappy cases) is it better for the pedestrian to face the oncoming danger? One side step on to the grass verge or if necessary a leap into the ditch, will avoid a horrible accident, and the pedestrian will re-assess living, possibly mildly, and certainly very angry. But I have noted that when pedestrians are on the left of the road and hear a car engine or a motor-bike they usually look intently around to see what is there. If by then what-is-there is close to them, and it is too late to jump, that is just too bad! At the speed vehicles go along the Serian Road, it is not unreasonable to say that in one second they may cover 15 yards! How long does it take a child or a heavily laden adult to look around, focus his eyes on the on-coming danger and react to it—if he troubles to look around at all? The danger is upon him before he can sidestep or jump for it, and he is propelled sideways and heavily on to the verge, into the ditch, or under the wheels. Even if the danger passes close by, there will undoubtedly be many palpitations of the heart and much re-orientation (on both sides, for the pedestrian is not always right). These could have been largely avoided by walking on the right of a pavementless road. There is no law to prevent you from walking on the left of the road, and if you do so and are suddenly hurled into the ditch and injured, it gives very little satisfaction to you to know that the vehicle may have been in the wrong, and even less to your family if you were a hard-working and popular member of it, to know that you are dead through proving you were right!

It is not only horses that are suddenly startled and made restless by a sudden noise behind them, even though they are quite calm when they can see the oncoming vehicle approaching. I have also noted a remarkable tendency amongst pedestrians not to turn on their own axis, but to step a foot or two towards the middle of the road as they turn. This habit is especially annoying when the pedestrian is carrying two loads slung on a stick across his shoulders. I am told it is becoming quite a game for the vehicle to test from behind at the last possible moment to attract the pedestrian's attention. As he turns round the vehicle gives his load a good wallop as it passes, and moves on too fast for his number to be read by the loaded pedestrian, spinning like a top.

All this is even more apposite when pedestrians are walking two or more abreast, and it applies also largely to cyclists, who never move immediately to the left at the sound of a horn, but look woefully to their right to see if there is any danger. By then there often is. Far too often a pedestrian who looks around has not left enough time to jump out of danger. How much more is this true of cyclists riding abreast? Which of you cyclists can, or will after looking round, suddenly get into single file or leap into the ditch to escape injury or death?

In Britain it is recommended that led horses and pedestrians should walk on the right of pavementless roads, while people using pavements should walk on the

left, thus always facing oncoming danger (which all people agree is the best thing to do in face of tigers, rabid dogs, charging bulls and the other unpleasant things one hopes never to meet), thereby giving themselves that extra second for action which those who prefer to keep the danger behind them do not have.

There is much to be said for bicycles as well as pedestrians, horses and other slow-moving narrow traffic keeping to the right of the road where fast-moving vehicles keep to the left. Even an absurd-minded cyclist on the right will not veer into the middle of the road to overtake a pedestrian if he can't help seeing, merely by looking straight in front, a lorry approaching on his side. In these circumstances two cyclists almost will hurriedly get into single file when they see a vehicle bearing down on them.

Stepping out in party clothes after tea to an Astian garden party or a party given by one's husband's boss's wife, and possibly slightly late, one is more than slightly annoyed to be splashed by a car not passing dangerously near, but going at speed through a muddy puddle. To avoid these little contretemps, which may even cost one's husband his promotion, is it not better to walk on the right, where one can see the puddles and avoid the splashers?

At present, one of the most frequent causes of accidents (and of heart-burning and even of rude coats in a variety of languages) is the sudden swerving of a cyclist in front of the car to cross the road. As he does so, for usually a little after starting to do so, he puts out his hand and contemplates to look behind him. But you car drivers must not be annoyed with such people. Remember it is a much greater strain on the cyclist's neck muscles to look right round at what is coming behind before crossing the road than first to turn the cycle towards the centre of the road and then to look. A cyclist riding on the right of the road must be aware of traffic approaching him and he will not cross the road in front of it. If there is no traffic approaching him and he thoughtlessly swerves to the left he would have more time and space for looking before any fast-moving vehicle moving on to the left comes suddenly upon him.

Indeed, the only disadvantage I can see in bicycles riding on the right (and I can see none for pedestrians walking there) is the inevitable disorganization of the transition. This occurs whenever improvements are made, such as a change to the metric system or from a colony to a dominion or state, but temporary disorganization is no sufficient reason for not carrying out an improvement. And now, while Sarawak still has relatively few roads and vehicles, is the best time to make this change.

Where a road has a pavement, pedestrians should walk on the pavement, but this is not so easily done in Kuching, where bicycles cut a lot more than pedestrians and disappear more quickly. As mobile and mental work will not stand long exposure to strong sun or rain, and Kuching weather is notoriously variable, even fishermen and farmers and Astian gardeners will rarely prognosticate more than three hours ahead! Bicycle owners will park their cycles on the left-hand side. With this, and the truckies unloading goods there and also storing boxes and crates until they are opened the pedestrian often finds it easier to leave the traffic and walk in the road, especially in the end of early morning. At midday, however, when walking in Cassiar Street or Main Bazaar really is hot work, the klansid pedestrian is prepared to struggle along the left-hand side in single file with long and frequent stops while his life is held up by mothers hand-in-hand with their under-10-year olds, pedestrians wheeling their cycles, and heavily and wistfully laden coolies. But the pedestrian really is in a heavy funk pavement life too cooperating with its narrow, slow-moving, chattering single line of traffic, and unwillingly decides to brave the heat and traffic of the road. On rainy days normal pedestrians cannot hope to use the left-hand side at all; the space is taken up by parked bicycles drawn further in whether than usual and with cyclists protecting their ma-

chines by pushing them round and beside them, as their pedals turn slowly round and catch the pedestrian in a painful part of his leg.

A little more politeness and consideration on the pavement and road of Kuching and along the Serian Road would be good. One might go further. If one is, as I am a European, one might instead of castigating Chinese, Dayaks and Malays, or, if one is a Chinese, a Dayak or a Malay, one might all, instead of automatically cursing the others as being wrong, try to be more thoughtful of others in public, especially if of another race, and not wait for the others to do this first. After all we are none of us above criticism even if the other fellow is always completely in the wrong.

LAINU

Sarawak Caves

Possibly few residents of Kuching realize that within 20 miles of their homes there are spacious limestone caverns in which one could accommodate the General Hospital and buildings of comparable size.

I strayed in Sarawak with a speleological interest whetted by Derbyshire caves, Yorkshire potholes and Mendip traps to find that this country had been richly endowed with "negative topography" and that the caves are more numerous and larger than British caves and as interesting, if not more so. Furthermore their beauty has not been marred either by layers of candle wax, spent batteries and discarded clothing, or by the complete destruction and obliteration of stalactites and other formations, so typical of caves in Britain.

Where are the Sarawak caves? The Niah Caves, about an hour's walk from the Niah river in Fourth Division, are probably the best known of all and together with the Mala Caves near the Tumbi River are famous for their birds' nests. Other caves in Fourth Division occur at Long Larn and above Long Alan on the Baran, at Long Lobang on the Tajar and near Belaru. In the Fourth Division caves are reached near Seruan on the Bako River, near Tana, and in the headwaters of the Kabau River, a tributary of the Tajar. Little is known about these. It appears from general reconnaissance that limestone outcrops at Batu Bera in the headwaters of the Maran River above Belega. There is every possibility that caves never before visited by human beings will be found there. Probably the largest number of caves, though by no means the largest in size, are to be found between Tana and Serian in the First Division.

How does one find a cave? Because of birds' nests, guano, fishing or the appetite for a bat supper the local inhabitants generally know the entrance and ramifications of most caves. It is unlikely that one will stumble on a large unknown cave in inhabited parts of the country. Caves have almost always been occupied by birds or bats in the past and it is their flight which has led to the discovery of entrances and not normal exploration. Entrances both large and small are to be found in the sides of rugged, rocky commonly cliff-like limestone hills and vary from the vast 120 feet high and 500 feet wide entrance of the Niah Caves to a stream-creek-through-bushes typical of the smaller ones.

Once inside, armed with torches and preferably a pressure lamp (and plenty of guano) what does one find? Perhaps one of the first things after dunking one's head to avoid a stalactite (=stair case approach) is a smell of ammonia. This comes from guano on the cave floor. (Hence it would perhaps be advisable to wear would-be cave explorers that a hat is an asset. The comfort dropped by hundreds of birds and bats when disturbed in a poor substitute for hair oil). The surface of the guano is a mass of brown decomposed chitinous material which appears to be alive as cock-roaches and centipedes hunt, generally in vain, for something a little more tasty than their immediate en-

esters. Though perhaps not the most ideal of substances to handle, it is this material when compacted and partly decomposed that is Sarawak's chief fertilizer. Guano is rich in ammonia and phosphate and is exploited mainly at the Niah Caves. Using a superficial deposit this will soon be used up. Fortunately, however, birds and bats have indulged in their habits for thousands of years and the excrement they have been kind enough to leave in the caves has reacted with the limestone and clay of the cave floors to form thousands of tons of rock phosphate which will be of considerable value to Sarawak agriculturists in the future.

So much for the floor of the cave. By now one's lamp and face will be smothered in fire attracted from the guano. As one bears a hasty retreat a quick eye will spot a rat running along a rotten bamboo pole near the wall or perhaps a brown centipede six inches in length and with legs two inches long gliding away to safety. Both can bite, if cornered, but are not dangerous. Perhaps the most beautiful creature to be seen in the cave snake which is fortunately quite harmless. More often than not it is the vast skin which is seen below some small crevices in the cave wall. It is apparently a lazy snake—lying in wait and feeding on young bats and birds which accidentally fall to the ground in the cave. Its habits are, however, largely unascertained. For the antiquarians there are, of course, spiders and scorpions. The former, despite the fact that cave temperatures are rarely much below outside air temperature, are beautifully clad in fur and have long hairy legs. If you frighten one sufficiently to make it jump into your shirt a strong nip will probably be the only ill effect unless you happen to be one of the few people who dislike spiders.

Bats, said by Banks to be the most numerous mammals in Borneo, are found in most caves. Most commonly found are the leaf-eared bat and the horse-shoe bat. Others recorded have the names, mouse-eared, bent-winged, dusky fruit, short-eared Malay fruit and hairless, and need no further description. They all, nevertheless, look and behave like bats. Bats can be found near the entrance and in equal abundance in the deepest recesses of the caves where any small track or uneven surface is adequate for them to cling to. At dusk they awaken and emerge at the larger caves to form long processions rather like a thin trail of smoke issuing from the ground in a high wind. Only when they have gone about a mile from the cave does the procession break up and the individual bats dive into the jungle to search for food. Eagles, hovering over the columns of bats in the twilight, often swoop down and an instant later fly off with a bat in their talons.

The well-known edible birds' nests are small, half-moon shaped and are found in clusters in the dark recesses of cave roofs. They are made by at least three species of swiftlet. Nests built by two swiftlets consist of concrete strips of a white gelatine-like hardened saliva, and are the most valuable. A third swiftlet produces a similar nest but fastens one mixed with the hardened saliva and have to be removed before the nest can be used for food.

Nests are collected two or three times a year and sold at public auctions. The bird's nest industry is on the decline, particularly in the more populous areas such as the First Division, and there is abundant evidence in the caves that swiftlets were much more numerous at one time. It is interesting to compare the appearance of nest collectors perched precariously on a flimsy scaffolding of bamboo and rotan 200 feet above a heap of rocks in the Niah caves and the doubtful pleasure of paying several dollars for a plentiful of insipid watery gelatine.

So much for the inhabitants. Now the caves themselves. At first sight cave passages appear to be extremely variable in shape, size and direction. At second glance some will be seen to have flat or nearly flat roofs, sometimes stepped. The flat roofs in all probability correspond to bedding planes in the limestone. Other passages have the form of long narrow rifts a few feet wide and a hundred feet high. Solutions along

a fault or joint plane might account for these passages. Others perhaps the most common, are arched or roughly circular in shape and appear to wander in all directions through the rock, doubling back on each other at different levels and forming "mazy-mazes" in which one has quite a good chance of becoming lost. No one has yet been able to account satisfactorily for the origin of such passages.

Closer examination of the walls and floors of the caves reveal a great number of pitting features. Small almost perfectly spherical chambers, smooth flutes stretching from floor to roof, groups of almost symmetrical conical depressions in the floor and roof and numerous smaller scallops, flutes and cavities which tend to make the passages look more like Henry Moore's static than a cave. The fact-book theory that caves originate by the percolation of water down joints and cracks in limestone will need a great deal of modification to account for the multiplicity of forms and shapes found in Sarawak caves.

Several caves contain streams flowing through the lower passages. The longest one seen so far is that of the Sarawak River which flows through a limestone hill at Jambuan, near Baa. The stream can be followed by foot or small boat for a mile through the hill before it sinks in its bed and emerges again to day light further on.

Mention must also be made of the ubiquitous wall-sockets and window-sills together with the well-known shorts, curtains, pillars, and rock flowers which grace the higher passages in the caves. There are many small "grooves" in which walls and floors are coated with shimmering calcite crystals and roofs festooned with stalactites. Small terraced pools on the floors contain cave pearls and minute moss and flower like incrustations.

Sarawak caves are still virtually unknown, unexplored and rarely visited by people other than nest and guano collectors. Problems are many and intriguing. For instance bats emit sound waves to guide them through dark caves. Swiftlets also live in deep caves far beyond the zone of light penetration. Do they also use sound waves to guide themselves to their respective nests?

Knowledge of the whereabouts of a cave may lead to a potential guano supply or the discovery of an important archaeological site at the entrance, such as a burial chamber to be excavated. A semi-fossilized tooth found in a cave at Baa may be the only evidence that indigenous elephants once inhabited Sarawak. It is also becoming more and more apparent that the knowledge of the whereabouts of a deep cave may be a useful form of insurance in the future though most people would probably prefer submarine ways to a bed of soft ground and cold birds' nest soup three times a day.

Information of any kind concerning caves will be welcomed both by the writer and by the Curator, Sarawak Museum. Also if there are any budding speleologists in Sarawak the writer would be pleased to hear from them.

G. E. WILKINSON

Suburbanalia

There is no doubt about it: the history of suburbanisation has been sadly neglected. The city and the country have always been well treated but the suburbs has somehow been regarded as slightly beyond the pale. There is no real reason for this. Quite nice people live in suburbs; they may be a trifle lacking in social polish perhaps, and their table manners may at times leave a little to be desired but at least they are good steady folk and deserve to be encouraged. Situated on a low ridge of hard clay (see Greenbury Notes below) some 2½ miles to the south of the city of Kuching there lies just such a suburb as I have in mind—Ridgeway! Here we have the very quintessence of

suburbanism. Indeed with its commanding, not to say intimate, views of bedrooms, bathrooms and stores on all sides Ridgeway may justly claim to be Kuching's No. 1 Residential Area. Social activities, science, the arts—all are represented in this unique Colony within a Colony. Any form of commentary on Ridgewayian activities is not a matter to be lightly undertaken. It calls for much acuity of judgment and the strictest impartiality—particularly where personalities are concerned. Let us therefore start with the greatest caution and introduce a subject which may well be controversial but has the merit of being strictly non-personal.

Gardening Notes

Gardening in the highlands of Ridgeway presents special problems and foolish is the newcomer who does not early seek the counsel of his neighbours on how to begin (if at all), and having begun, how to continue, a garden in the arduous conditions prevailing. The following notes are collected from the advice of a number of gardeners who have had experience here of Ridgeway conditions:—

First clear your garden of jungle, for his a weedy or sickle is useful but more effective is a flail task. It is in fact a wise precaution to have two of these, since being only designed for the clearance of smallish they are liable to break down under severe conditions.

Next eradicate all secondary growth which will flourish as soon as the primary is removed. Tackle this problem boldly with a determined, agreed-upon policy. Liberal use of an industry flame-disposer is recommended but be careful not to burn down neighbour-bearing houses. The close proximity of these should be apparent after the first clearance has been effected and may occasion you some surprise.

Now that you have cleared away the vegetation you can get busy on the soil (etc). First break up the top surface by applying a light sprinkling of hard granules. This should expose the sub-soil below if it does nothing else. The next task is to break up the sub-soil into as small fragments as possible. This is a lengthy job but steady perseverance is sure to bring results. First drill a series of shallow holes all over the area to be cultivated. Any old pneumatic drill will do for this but be sure to have plenty of spares. The holes should then be filled with 4.5 inch mortar bombs fitted with electric detonator wired to the domestic electricity supply. In this way the bombs can be detonated from the house without even bothering to go out the garden; but care should be taken over the electric wiring otherwise there is danger of a fuse being blown.

Allow the garden to simmer gently for a few hours or days as necessary, dumping down any unwanted firms with the Kuching Municipal Fire engines. Your garden is now beginning to take shape, and if you are not already on your way home, you can start thinking about what to put in it. That is a matter requiring very careful consideration, and must stand over till next month.

By way of contrast to the foregoing let us now have a quick look into the city and see what human dramas are there unfolding.

Round the Courts

It is most regrettable, but it has to be admitted that there are occasions when the citizens of Kuching, as with the citizens of other great cities, attempt to settle differences of opinion by methods which bring them into conflict with the law. Such a case appeared in the Courts recently when three well known, big game characters "A" and "B" were charged with voluntarily causing hurt to unhappy victims "X", "Y" and "Z" by means of "a dangerous weapon". As was very right and proper the Prosecution specified the weapon in each case and, lest there should be any doubt about it, went on to describe what it was used for thereby focusing attention on its dangerous nature. Thus A was charged

with voluntarily causing hurt by means of a hammer "which is an instrument for hammering", and B the same by means of a steel "which is an instrument for striking". Nothing, surely, could be fatter than that! There was nothing very remarkable about the case itself but tribute must be paid to a magnificent document prepared on behalf of the Defence by an anonymous political writer, whose terse eloquence of word power and brilliance of descriptive colour singles it out as a literary masterpiece of unusual quality. The following is an extract which is best appreciated if it is read with the eyes shut. As this is a very difficult feat the next best thing is to close the eyes and get someone else to read it out loud. Now close your eyes and visualize the scene....

"At about 1.00 p.m. there came Z..... who showed us.....and without due warning being given straightaway came to our stall and assaulted the second accused at random. The first accused accused, as they bound to do, being employer and employee, tried to stop the assault by begging Z not to do so, but Z instead of being moved by this plea kindled his spark by shouting out "Pia! pia! pia riam!" meaning "Beat! beat! beat those men to death!" Wonderful are these words which he had used to stir up his gang about 10 people to direct an assault with such a force rushing like a swarm of bees and immediately had us surrounded and straightaway assailed us first with hands then later with sticks, wires and whetstones. The action was so quick that we thought we would meet our death at such juncture in the hands of those ruffians. Could we resist such a savage attack and ferocious onslaught made against us at such rapidity without giving us warning and chance to think of escape but forcing us to defend ourselves by trying to use our hands and feet as so kindly bestowed upon us by the almighty God to extricate ourselves with all might from being killed by an animal stampede. That was clearly a premeditated attack which only could be a heater of a moment when blows were landed and instruments hit against our head and bodies and it is human instinct that to protect one's life at that time is to resist with only hands and feet one has got by punching and pushing at random all directions to force a way out for safety. We were successful in our attempt and action to extricate ourselves from such entanglement though being attacked by such a force very much we were outnumbered but received only minor injuries. During the scuffle who hit who was never ascertained and ascertained for it was a great mass and confusion chaos, missiles and apparatus were being used and flung from all directions apparently aimed at us, but when it was in a confusion that they themselves could not have missed from getting hurt themselves by their own men. Thank God that such murderous attack was thwarted or we might have not the life to live at this moment to tell the tale."

After this vivid and colourful description it seems rather an understatement to have in record that the case itself resulted in one man being bound over to keep the peace. But the whole incident serves to illustrate the large gap there is between Urbanism and Suburbanism. We never have anything like that on Ridgeway!

Nomads in Borneo's Jungle

We in this country have often deplored the general lack of knowledge regarding Sarawak especially among people abroad who do not know Sarawak is, what the people are like, or how they live.

Sarawak was ceded to the British Government in 1948. It occupies about a quarter of the island of Borneo. The country is divided into several states each of which is termed a division. We have altogether five divisions, which include Kuching, the capital. The divisions are sub-divided into districts and sub-districts. A district is similar to a hamletised town and has more population—a sub-district is just a village and is usually situated on the coast and over some remoter parts of the district.

One of the largest districts in the country is Barum; here the inhabitants live in much the same way as their ancestors did. Barum, also called Marau, is a few hundred miles from the capital, Kuching. The only available transport is by sea. The first call is made at Bintulu, then another is made at Miri, and then the boat proceeds up the great Barum river. This great river stretches for hundreds of miles from far beyond the Indonesian borders.

From Miri to the Barum mouth, a distance of approximately fourteen miles, one can travel by road or sea, and on reaching the river, one can stream upstream for ten hours. During the whole journey one may see no other vessel, nothing except jungle scenery in which monkeys are the most interesting features.

The indigenous population of Barum, approximately 15,000, consists of about a hundred different tribes, among which the Puman is one of the most primitive, being quite untouched by civilization.

This tribe is found at several points of the hinterland. In the Ulu Tinjar there is just a small section; there is another living at Long Melinau, "Ulu Lerin or Apo", and Silai, "Ulu Barum". They are more numerous in the Kelabit country. They are not on good terms with certain other tribes. When they go to war with other tribes they build a fort with fallen trees.

The Puman hunt with blow-pipes and poisoned darts. The poison is obtained from a particular kind of tree, which gives off a milky juice which is non-toxic until it is heated to boiling point, when it becomes very dark. The poison causes death instantaneously: only by cutting away the affected part immediately can the poison be prevented from spreading and proving fatal.

I was told a very strange story about this poison. Approach to the trees which produced it, my informant said, was forbidden. Punishment for going near in the vicinity of the trees was death. The only way that the indigenous could obtain this juice was by shooting a sharply pointed bamboo on to the tree and extracting the juice through that. I was also told that under the trees there were skeletons of animals and birds that had succumbed to the poison—how, I do not know. This strange story, I found out later, was pure invention.

Blow pipes are not manufactured by the Puman themselves. The price is according to the quality of material and workmanship. Some are valued at as much as thirty to forty dollars each, the price of a short gun in post-war days. The job of making a blow-pipe requires skill, art and patience. I have seen this done only at points along the Tinjar and Barum rivers and it took a long time to make just one of them.

This is the way the poison is applied: a wooden stick some eight to ten inches long is carved to a needle-point at one end and to this the poison is applied. To the other end is fixed a cork-like piece of pitch. When

an animal is caught by this poisonous stick from the blow pipe the poison remains in the body of the animal whereas the rest of the stick may break away.

The pressure of the blow pipe is only effective at a short distance. To overcome this disadvantage the natives use the age-old method of camouflage to get near their quarry and remain hidden from sight. They use various camouflage, one of the most ingenious being to cover the blow pipe with twigs and walk with it towards the quarry, the animal's attention being drawn to the "stick" which conceals the hunter. This enables the hunter to come within range of his blow pipe.

Because of their primitive weapons the Puman have to follow the game instead of having a permanent settlement. At nightfall they camp under their shelter of rocks or hollows of big trees, and at daybreak are on the hunt again—a precarious, unsteady existence. When animals are not available then the flour of wild plants is substituted to stave their hunger.

For instance, if any one of the family dies, regardless of the hour the whole tribe vacates the spot as soon as the dead body is installed on an overhanging branch of some conveniently large tree and the family of the deceased never set foot again in this place. Gradually the dead body remains in the branches until it decomposes, often attracting wild animals such as leopards and bears.

The Puman travel in the darkness with a good speed and soundlessly. They rarely cover in a day's time a distance which takes the ordinary walker two to three days. So softly do they walk that one can hardly notice them. They are small of physique and squat.

CHONG AN ONG.

How the Cobra got its Venom

*As told by Iremas of Mentau Tapa, in the
ulu Kudap*

Some time ago, in fact a very long time ago, there was among the creatures on the earth a certain black fish, the *Ilau Jabel*. This fish was the most poisonous of creatures, so much so that if even a man's shadow fell on a pool in which the *Ilau Jabel* was lurking, the man would immediately die. The cobra, the air snake, although a wise and cunning beast, in those days had no weapons of defence, but wore in the centre of his head a bright jewel. One day the cobra slipped up to the pool where the *Ilau Jabel* lay and bit it:

"Oh, black fish! Are you not ashamed of the deaths you cause among man and the other animals? Are you not ashamed? You are a stupid fish, with to have this vilest poison which you use so indiscriminately. Give it to me, the wise, the clever, the prudent man, and I will see that it is to put to proper use! In exchange I will give you this magnificent diamond!"

So saying, the cobra reared up his head in the sun and the fish saw the sparkling jewel. He wanted the poison on to a handy tool, and exchanged it for the cobra's jewel, which, of course, was not a real diamond at all.

"Good!" said the cobra, "Now I promise you that I will not spread death with this poison as you have; I will only strike men in their eyes or on their big toe."

And so to this day, the cobra rears up proudly to search for your eye, (provided you don't tread directly on him, and you can find a white stone in the head of every *Ilau Jabel* you catch. And if you break against the stone and, which is the best the fish chose to do on, you feel the effect of the remnants of the poison, and come out in a painful rash.

N. S. HALL.

Recent Books

The following are further recent additions to the Sarawak Library, Kuching:

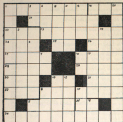
Author	No.	Category	
C. H. Hayward	9163	Furniture Designs	60
C. H. Hayward	9164	Furniture Designs (Second Book)	60
		Architecture	
Edna Walling	9165	Cottage & Garden in Australia	72
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Chiang Yee	9166	Chinese Painting	75
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Henry Cecil	9014	Natural Causes	-
Basel Deringford	9012	Tales to be Told in the Park	-
Charlotte Tye	9016	The Fugitive Eye	-
Ngain Marsh	9017	Death in Ecstasy	-
Paul Murray	9018	Free Agent	-
Margot Neville	9019	Murder of the Well-Beloved	-
	9020	The Snow-pelt Sled Murder	-
John Nevole	9021	The Lake House	-
"	9022	Death on the Inn	-
"	9023	The Secret Meeting	-
"	9024	Nothing but the Truth	-
"	9025	Death at the Dance	-
K. M. Stevens	9026	Panic in the Solomon	-
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Terrance Rattigan	9177	Collected Plays Vol. I	-
"	9178	" Vol. II	-
		Fiction	
Ann Bridge	9000	A Place to Stand	F
Rapun: Crab-Cook	9001	Harvest Moon	F
Alfred Duggan	9002	The Little Emperor	F
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Angela Thirkell	9012	The Duke's Daughter	F
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Douglas Jerrold	9120	England, Past, Present & Future	93
Hugh Ross Williamson	9121	Sir Walter Raleigh	93

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H. Klinge-Klingenstein	8990	<i>Judo & Judo-Go</i>	79
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Capt. F. A. M. Webster	8992	<i>Athletics</i>	79
"	8993	<i>Sports Grounds and Buildings</i>	79
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Ed. Ian Brown	9123	<i>The Southwest Country</i>	91
Douglas Bolton	9124	<i>England's Western Seaboard</i>	91
R. W. & E. M. Burchfield	9125	<i>The Land and People of New Zealand</i>	91
G. D. & J. E. Cairns	9126	<i>The Land and People of Australia</i>	91
Kenneth B. Cumberland	9127	<i>This is New Zealand</i>	91
John Scott Douglas	9128	<i>The Story of the Ocean</i>	91
Christmas Humphreys	9129	<i>Via Tokyo</i>	91
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Frya Stark	9132	<i>The Valley of the Amazon</i>	91
Brig. Gen. Sir Percy Sykes	9133	<i>The Quest for Cathay</i>	91
Young Readers			
Hans Anderson	9027	<i>Forty-two Stories</i>	YR
R. Old Anderson	9028	<i>So you Want to Enter Publishing</i>	YR
Edward Anderson	9029	<i>Fun in Danger</i>	YR
Richard Armstrong	9030	<i>See Change</i>	YR
Stephen Bone	9031	<i>The Little Boys and Their Boats</i>	YR
George & Maria Canziani	9032	<i>Behind the Bush Baby</i>	YR
George Canziani	9033	<i>Fun Book</i>	YR
Bruce Carter	9034	<i>Speed Six</i>	YR
Miguel de Cervantes	9035	<i>Don Quixote</i>	YR
Colin Clair	9036	<i>The Things We Meet (M&M)</i>	YR
"	9037	" " " " (Paper)	YR
"	9038	" " " " (Wood)	YR
"	9039	" " " " (Paper)	YR
"	9040	" " " " (Rubber)	YR
"	9041	" " " " (Don & Don)	YR

Author	No	Category	
		Young Readers—(Continued)	
A. Bruce Connell	9042	<i>The Ship's Crew</i>	YR
Wanda Crag	9043	<i>Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs</i>	YR
Orlando Greene	9044	<i>The Little Motor Bus</i>	YR
James Kennell	9045	<i>Great Discoveries by Young Children</i>	YR
Coel Day Lewis	9046	<i>The Chertbury Incident</i>	YR
Marie Neuzath	9047	<i>A Message Round the World</i>	YR
Mary Newton	9048	<i>The Buccaneers</i>	YR
Rosalie K. Fry	9049	<i>Fights the Wood House</i>	YR
Kat. Constance Hob	9050	<i>Modern Miss</i>	YR
Jean Hanson	9051	<i>The River Detectives</i>	YR
Hilcher Kay	9052	<i>The Legend of the Red Dragon</i>	YR
Gilda Lund	9053	<i>The Art of Home-making</i>	YR
Mary F. Moore	9054	<i>Lo Chien from China</i>	YR
Marie Neuzath	9055	<i>How the World War Explained</i>	YR
"	9056	<i>Fish?</i>	YR
"	9057	<i>Rockets and Jets</i>	YR
Mary Elwyn Patehall	9058	<i>Agnes the Warrior</i>	YR
Helmut Peinace	9059	<i>An Arrow's Life for Me</i>	YR
Ever Powell	9060	<i>The Acropolis Road</i>	YR
Joyce Rosses	9061	<i>Secrets of Iron</i>	YR
Ronald Seth	9062	<i>The Secret Service</i>	YR
J. M. Scott	9063	<i>Captain Smith and the Pacifist</i>	YR
Cecilia Smith	9064	<i>So you Want to Enter Local Government</i>	YR
R. J. Steward	9065	<i>The Middle Ages</i>	YR
"	9066	<i>From Circumlocution to Filings</i>	YR
"	9067	<i>Fights and Events</i>	YR
"	9068	<i>Queen Anne or Queen Elizabeth II</i>	YR
M. I. Swanson	9069	<i>Postcard Across</i>	YR
"	9070	<i>The Pearl Fishery</i>	YR
"	9071	<i>The Brothers</i>	YR
"	9072	<i>The Ninth Life</i>	YR
"	9073	<i>The Lone Journey</i>	YR
"	9074	<i>The Outpost</i>	YR
"	9075	<i>The White Finger</i>	YR
G. O. Barnes	9076	<i>The Yellow Finest</i>	YR
"	9077	<i>The Hat</i>	YR
"	9078	<i>The Jade King</i>	YR
E. A. Bean	9079	<i>In the Hands of the Secret Agents</i>	YR
George Carstairs	9080	<i>The Kajah's Arrow</i>	YR
A. G. Carlsson	9081	<i>Karlo the Kibbapper</i>	YR
Alan Cowdy	9082	<i>The Red Tiger</i>	YR
W. I. Culshaw	9083	<i>Death in the Mountains</i>	YR
L. A. Corbin	9084	<i>Into the Darkness</i>	YR
"	9085	<i>The Hold-up</i>	YR
"	9086	<i>Young the Mystery Man</i>	YR
F. J. Docherty	9087	<i>River</i>	YR
F. Fairbairns	9088	<i>The Witch Doctor</i>	YR
H. F. France	9089	<i>Silence</i>	YR
J. T. Corran	9090	<i>Through Forest, Fire and Flood</i>	YR
"	9091	<i>The Tiger Spine</i>	YR
"	9092	<i>Toss of the little people</i>	YR
"	9093	<i>The Ghost of Doom</i>	YR
S. C. Harrison	9094	<i>The Conquest of Wang Dan</i>	YR
K. Hawkins	9095	<i>The Food in the Jungle</i>	YR
E. M. Field & C. M. Drury	9096	<i>Amulets and Ornaments</i>	YR
Roger Holden	9097	<i>Food on the Altar</i>	YR
"	9098	<i>The Broken Vow</i>	YR
"	9099	<i>The Forbidden Word</i>	YR
J. S. Hogarth	9100	<i>The Moral Point</i>	YR
D. Ireland	9101	<i>Roaring Island</i>	YR
David James	9102	<i>A Second Chance</i>	YR
K. Kelley	9103	<i>The Secret Temple</i>	YR
R. J. McGeagar	9104	<i>A—Bicycle</i>	YR
J. Marvale	9105	<i>The Sandowner's Gold</i>	YR
"	9106	<i>Was the Love</i>	YR
D. Pocock	9107	<i>Bury the Bones</i>	YR
"	9108	<i>The Sacks at Sabba</i>	YR
"	9109	<i>The Criminal Secret</i>	YR
L. Brown Rose	9110	<i>Save Life</i>	YR
W. G. Scott	9111	<i>Over or Die</i>	YR
"	9112	<i>Ross Riley's Bridge</i>	YR
A. E. Southern	9113	<i>The Snake</i>	YR
G. Sney	9114	<i>Feeling the Death-Grill</i>	YR
Geoffrey Tresser	9115	<i>Fighting the Judo</i>	YR
"	9116	<i>My Child</i>	YR
Newland Waller	9117	<i>Anti-Bird Aim</i>	YR
L. A. Corbin	9117		

The "Gazette" Crossword No. 6

(New Series)



CLUES

Across

1. A body (7)
5. Elder female relation (4)
8. The partner of the last word (3)
14. Perfumed by water (4)
15. Young widower (4)
16. A multi-jointed examination body (3)
21. Under the flickering light life is portrayed (5)
22. You may see a different one when writing (3)
23. To bring to fruition (7)
24. Expires quickly in some (3)
25. A spin or a through-line? (3)
26. You do this when you had debts (3)
27. Reservoir of emotions, summary of things (4)
28. A Sarawak river (3)
29. A vessel which adds to a lady's elegance but depletes her husband's bank account (4)
30. This man had something to do with his country and his people (3)
31. Some do this with the physician, others with the child's eye (3)
32. An expert knows them all (5)
33. Royal Cypher (2)
34. Passionate ardour (4)

Down

1. To expect the quarters and to offer none (10)
2. Beginning (4)
3. Part of Ignition (3)
4. Associated with the Head of Medical Services (3)
5. Test for Impure Blood (2)
6. Some regard it as an invigorating drink (3)
7. A profit (2)
8. A solution (complicated form) (3)
9. This burden lies on the prosecution under British law (4)
10. A delicious tropical fruit (4)
11. Hunt for a type of snake? (4)
12. Whose—though a Malay will never use it (3)
13. Whom suppose it was never met? Whom suggestion was disproved (3)
14. Australian version of P.P. (2)
15. A Chinese Mohammedan General (3)
16. To add the virtue of others (4)
17. He will solve all your unrequited problems (Chinese) (3)
18. It shows you agree to what you said in a race (2)
19. He is associated with confidence of foot (4)
20. We say this to show good faith (3)

(Some answers are in Malay, two in Chinese and the rest in English)

Solution to Crossword No. 3



GOLF

Men's One-Club Competition, 7th April, 1934

	Green	Handicap	Net
1. C. D. Adams	72	2	70
2. N. Thomas	85	14	71
3. H. D. Mohr	80	7	73
4. J. R. Outram	80	6	74
5. A. M. R. Currie	90	16	74
6. H. W. Harcus	85	7	76
7. I. S. Gordon	89	11	78
8. E. Bonpliny	101	23	80
9. L. C. Smith	105	24	81
10. W. L. Whyte	88	6	82
11. C. B. Hors	109	24	84
12. W. H. Dinkin	105	20	85
13. B. A. Hepburn	104	19	85
14. G. P. Booth	112	24	89

(Comment: Both gun and skill were little in evidence)

Club Championship (Scratch), 7th April, 1934

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
C. D. Adams (1)	73	67	66	68	268
H. W. Harcus (7)	75	77	72	77	299
W. L. Whyte (5)	83	74	78	74	308
I. S. Gordon (11)	84	76	80	72	312
N. Thomas (14)	84	85	88	79	332
A. N. Outram (16)	89	83	86	76	334
A. M. R. Currie (18)	86	79	92	85	344
H. Mans (12)	89	84	82	88	344
B. A. Hepburn (10)	96	81	91	80	348
L. C. Smith (24)	119	109	97	92	417
G. P. Booth (20)	100	123	119	112	454

Handicap Section:

1. I. S. Gordon	268
2. A. N. Outram	279
3. H. W. Harcus	271

C. D. ADAMS

Governor.

Golf Sub-Committee

PUBLIC RECREATION GROUND FUND

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31st December, 1953

EXPENDITURE	1953	1952	BALANCE
Club—Honouraria 1 year	1,115.51	30,94.51	
Update of Ground			
Wages Caretaker 1953 ..	9435.00		52,890.00
Contract—clearing of compound ..	70.00		1,000.00
Lighting & water bills			805.00
December 1952 to December 1953 ..	136.34		1,200.00
Loss recovered from Malaya Theatre & Red Cross	11.15		485.00
Miscellaneous Expenditure			95.00
Fire Insurance—premium 1953 ..	150.25		
P. W. D.—repairs to Main ..	52.50		
Honouraria—A. P. Minicelli ..	120.00		
Honouraria—T. B. Tomson ..	50.00		
Sandwich ..	15.60		
Depreciation			
Furniture ..	25.12		
Office Appliances ..	50.46		
Lighting Installation ..	124.82		
Water Installation ..	12.52		
Income over expenditure transferred to Balance Sheet ..			
	144.36	144.36	144.36
			303.00
			<u>96,639.00</u>
			<u>96,639.00</u>



Kuching Market Price List

26th March to 26th April, 1954

RICE—(per gantang)

Local, White Striking	22.12
Govt. Store	21.6
— Ranagan	21.6
— Broken	1.78

SUGAR—(per kat)

Java, White	28
— Brown	26
Mpak Raper	24

SALT—(per kat)

Coarse	30
Fine	35

FLOUR AND BREAD—

Wheat Flour, per kat	30
Bread per loaf	30

MILK—(per tin)

Milkmaid	30
----------	----

EGGS—(each)

Duck, fresh	17
— salted	16
Fowl	17

EDIBLE OILS—(per kat)

Coconut Oil	50
Pork Fat No. 1	1.80
— " " 2	1.60

PORE—(per kat)

Lean No. 1	5.40
Lean with fat " 2	1.80

BEEF AND OTHER MEATS—(per kat)

Mutton (Australian)	3.80
Beef, steak	3.80
Beef, curry meat	1.80
Buffalo No. 1	3.80
— curry meat	1.80
Kambing (steak)	3.80

POULTRY—(per kat)

Capon	2.82
Duck	2.30
Fowl, Chinese breed	2.80
Fowl, Dayak breed	2.30

PORK—(per kat)

Fresh fat No. 1	1.70
— " " 2	70
— " " 3	45
Forem " 1	1.47
— " " 2	1.05
Cure No. 1	1.30
— " " 2	80
Salted fat " 1	1.40
— " " 2	1.00
— " " 3	60
— " " 4	1.40

VEGETABLES—(per kat)

Bananas (from boat)	8.33
Beans	36
Bean Sprouts	30
Cabbages, imported	30
Changpok Mung	36
Chen Kembang	30
French Potatoes	65
— Bunga	47
French Beans	38
Garlic, fresh	48
Kangkang Panjang	27
Kangkang	28
Keladi (China)	38
Keladi	37
Kelung	33
Kandi	30
Lada	32
Lada/ Finger	60
Lettuce (per kat)	10
Lotah (Chinese radish)	37
Lotah, salted, imported	30
Onions, Bombay	36
Onions, small	48
Peas, Royal	58
Pis (white ground)	48
Radish, steamed, salted	48
Tring (tripe)	30
Yam	28
Cucumber (small)	34
Ginger	58
Chilies (red)	83
— (green)	41
Sweetpot, imported	80
— local	50
Tomatoes	33
Tomatoes, fresh	28

TEA—

Tea, Upper per lb.	1.50
— Chinese per packet	80

COPPER—(per kat)

New, low No. 1	2.11
— low No. 2	2.00

FRUIT—

Pineapple, Chinese	per kat	15
Pineapple, Yandak	each	18 to 19
Pineapple	per kat	30
Papaya	"	30

MUNDIES—

Sea Card	4 square pieces	10
— Color (white)	per piece	10
— " (yellow)	"	20
Kerosene Oil	per tin	5.80
—	per bottle	23
Charcoal	per pikul	9.00
— semi-converted	"	3.30
Soya (Kedap)	lot. (1) 10.00, (2)	70, (3) 30
Starch	per kat	70
Dried prawn	"	1.40
Coconut, fresh	each	20
Batu Wood	per panchang	21.00

Cigarettes:

Flavon	2 sticks for	12
Green "A"	"	12
Capsun	"	12
Rough Rider	3 " "	18
Star Express	1 stick for	80

BEST WORKER IN TOWN

The caterpillar HT4 Shovel will dig and load heavy earth and rock, bulldoze, finish grade or load from stockpiles.

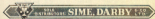
Municipalities have found this machine ideal for street maintenance and repair, garbage disposal and building excavation. Because it digs and loads fast it reduces labour costs and saves on expenditures of public funds.

Specially designed buckets are available for specific applications. Operators need not pamper this machine, for it can withstand hard usage and is built to last a long time.

Call on us for more information and complete specifications.

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ENGINEERING SINCE 1906



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ROVER GRADERS
CATERPILLAR EQUIPMENT

CAT. 9/51



The most complete selection of matched earthmoving equipment

Track-type Tractors 5 sizes
32 to 150 drawbar horsepower

Mixed-type Tractors 3 sizes
115 to 225 horsepower

Scrapers 3 sizes
4.5 to 27 cu. yds. (heaped capacity)

Wagons 2 sizes
14 and 26 cu. yds.
(heaped capacity)

Bulldozers 21 sizes
Hydraulic and cable controlled

HT4 Shovel
1½ cu. yds.

Motor Graders 3 sizes
50 to 100 horsepower

Cable Controls 4 sizes
Front and rear-mounted

Hydraulic Controls 3 sizes
Front and rear-mounted

Agricultural Tool Bars 2 sizes
For D2, D4 and D6 Tractors

Agricultural Loader
For D6 Tractor

Rippers 2 sizes

Diesel Industrial Engines 12 sizes
52 to 500 horsepower

Diesel Electric Sets 12 sizes
29 to 315 kilowatt

Diesel Marine Engines 12 sizes
28 to 400 horsepower

We are the authorized dealer for Caterpillar equipment in this area

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MOTOR, BULDOZER
EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT

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[15-0]

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SARAWAK

38, LINCOLN ST.

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Sarawak Gazette

KLING KUCHING, Friday, April 30th, 1954 60 CENTS

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Letters and other contributions must be authenticated by writer's name and preferably to the Editor.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications, or to give reasons for not inserting them.

Residents at the Outstations will confer an obligation by forwarding to the Office early intelligence of all matters of general interest in their respective neighbourhoods.

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M.B.—20 cents to cover Post Commission should be added to all cheques drawn on banks outside Sarawak.

MAY 1954

EPOCH		CHINESE		HINDU/BUDDHIST		MOON PHASES		HIGH WATER	
Days of Week	Month	Month	Date	Month	Date	2nd New Moon 22nd First Quarter	15th Full Moon 25th Last Quarter	A.M. h. m.	P.M. h. m.
S	1	3	28	.....	28	1st. Malay and N. Malay International Labour Day	.....	3 19	1 31
S	2	.....	29	.....	29	2nd. British Army Day	.....	4 25	4 20
M	3	4	1	.....	1	B.M.S. Private Days Frost Suppression, 1952	.....	5 22	5 03
Tu	4	.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	6 18	5 56
W	5	.....	3	.....	3	.....	.....	7 10	6 34
Th	6	.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	8 03	7 20
F	7	.....	5	.....	5	.....	.....	8 54	8 06
S	8	.....	6	.....	6	Germany celebrates Independence, 1953	.....	9 47	8 57
S	9	.....	7	.....	7	2nd. British Army Day	.....	10 38	9 53
M	10	.....	8	.....	8	.....	.....	11 32	11 06
Tu	11	.....	9	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	00 27
W	12	.....	10	.....	10	.....	.....	00 14	1 17
Th	13	.....	11	.....	11	.....	.....	1 35	2 00
F	14	.....	12	.....	12	.....	.....	2 48	3 43
S	15	.....	13	.....	13	.....	.....	3 48	3 21
S	16	.....	14	.....	14	.....	.....	4 34	3 25
M	17	.....	15	.....	15	.....	.....	5 18	4 27
Tu	18	.....	16	.....	16	.....	.....	6 58	5 00
W	19	.....	17	.....	17	.....	.....	6 35	5 34
Th	20	.....	18	.....	18	.....	.....	7 30	6 03
F	21	.....	19	.....	19	.....	.....	7 46	6 37
S	22	.....	20	.....	20	.....	.....	8 23	7 15
S	23	.....	21	.....	21	.....	.....	9 01	8 01
M	24	.....	22	.....	22	.....	.....	9 43	8 36
Tu	25	.....	23	.....	23	.....	.....	10 29	10 01
W	26	.....	24	.....	24	.....	.....	11 20	11 36
Th	27	.....	25	.....	25	.....	.....	.....	00 12
F	28	.....	26	.....	26	.....	.....	00 39	1 06
S	29	.....	27	.....	27	.....	.....	1 53	2 03
S	30	28	28	3 09	3 32
M	31	29	29	4 37	3 44

- time for a
Tiger



AGENT — THE BORNEO CO., LTD.

The **BORNEO**
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**WORRY
ANXIETY GRIEF
OVERWORK
EXCITEMENT
SLEEPLESSNESS**

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RELAXA-TABS

They Promote Healthy Natural Sleep

RELAXA-TABS

**ARE COMPLETELY HARMLESS
AND NON-HABIT FORMING**

DISTRIBUTED BY SIME DARBY

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