

Sarawak Gazette

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The Sarawak Gazette

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1971

Seek and Ye shall Find

The Gazette is still a firm believer in the necessity of recognizing the importance of social values in development planning. This is more so in a country whose traditions still urge a rural pull. Dare you forget it, your elaborate graphs and tables are likely to come to naught. No where perhaps, is this more clearly shown than in the implementation of minor rural projects. Inset as much as you will, education, development to an average rural dweller means footpaths, gravity feed water supplies, plant-walks and the like. These are the things that he can immediately see and understand. Trunk roads, unless they pass by his doorstep, are something for the "others".

There is an obvious corollary to this sort of affairs, which is easily recognizable to anyone with even a casual experience in what is term as "development" work. Not only does this sort of situation reflect traditional norms, it has also unfortunately encouraged the establishment of a belief that sides far too literally on one of the commonest biblical exhortations—seek and it shall be given. Somebody once remarked that nowhere else is there a total belief that the Government can provide all, in Sarawak this is so.

It is far too easy to deride such development offhand but unfortunately that won't help. There is a story once told me by a friend whose assignment was at one time to supervise the laying of gravity feed water supply pipes at a particular longhouse. This friend was about as comprehensible himself on a well-done job after he had fixed and laid the whole length of pipes along the thirty-five acre longhouse except for a burst at one end of the longhouse. Our chap was obviously more a victim of vanity rather than conscientiousness, and went over the worse. He hardly

argained for what he came to being accused of favoritism, unfairness and the rest of it. It turned out that somebody was convinced that our chap had deliberately given him a shorter sized tape and this according to his reasoning would mean that he will be getting less water. Lengthy explanation that this was not so and that in fact the pipe was of equal length were unheeded. It took sometime for our chap to wear himself that the objector was in fact a genuine doubting Thomas, whereupon he took his tape and showed to all and sundry that the two pipes were both two-foot six inches high from the base. It was certainly not his fault that the uneven floor of the longhouse should have given cause to apparent injustice!

This sort of perfectly innocent misunderstanding, frustrating though it might be to the uninitiated, is reflective of some deeper social values. It is the exhibition of what in another circumstance we might be glad to recognize, and that is, a most wholesome and acute sense of justice and fair play. It is the sort of phenomenon which the political theorists will gloat on. It is a case to the new castles of many countries—the development implementers, Communities that in the past strived on self-reliance will now await for some handout before constructing a pipe-walk of, say, fifty-foot long. Longhouses that count some twenty or thirty able-bodied men among its occupants will await the grant from MRP funds before constructing a short jerry to a bathing place by the small stream. All these, not because they cannot undertake the job without any help, but because some nearby communities, perhaps more deserving, had had Government help in building similar work. The basic point is, if he gets it to night I. Much as we wish to ignore social issues in preference to economic rationality, such issues are basic. We need first to show that it is necessary to seek before one can find.

L.M.

The Malayan Kaul at Medong

Law Clerk

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A glance round the posters displayed in a Travel Agency offers an oddly retrospective idea of England. Scourie coated Redoubts with floppy hats clutch their medieval halberds by the barlements of the Tower of London. It lacks only the occasional arrow, or whiff of boiling oil, to conjure up all the ancient atmosphere, sieges, beatings, Divine Right of Kings. On the other wall a smocked and gaitered Morris Dancer manages to look almost unselfconscious as ribbons flowing and bells jangling, he prances to the accompaniment of his friends' tambourines, another held high. The black and white tracery of a thatched cottage in Shakespeare country is slightly dazzling on a day of rare sunshine. The underlying theme to this display, of course, is Tradition, that link with the past that gives substance to the present and may prove a shield or a shackle to the future. Like the astronomical clocks left behind by early European travellers at the

Chinese courts, the precise one may have been forgotten, but the precious performance is preserved.

Such a revival of ancient mystery surrounds my memory of the various English customs of Floating the Bonks of the Pariah. As a subofficer in the Corps of Drums of the Cadet Force (to thump a drum or tootle a bugle was far more fun than rifle-drill!) I used to find myself once a year wandering my lonely way round the outskirts of some neighbouring Pariah, making merry martial music to all the ancient Landwehr, Javelin Archers in reverse, we thus upheld the invisible walls of the parochial system. I cannot remember any of the inhabitants being much interested, except a crowd of children wanting to stroke the leopard-skin spored by the Big Drummer, and a chorus of excited dogs eager to out-do our tin.

This magical scene from a schoolboy memory (for I am yet to be persuaded it was our magic we were playing at) was conjured up again as I mingled with the Melanau at Mading on New Year's Day for the celebration of their Kaol. Mading, Dalat and the other villages on the lower Oya still contain a high proportion of pagans who hold on to the old way of life with its traditional rites. Many are not quite certain now what they actually believe, for the hard facts of twentieth century materialism make as dramatic an impact on Animism as ever Mission or Mosque message. The numbers who rely largely on medicinal and magic for curing their ills appear to be greatly under-estimated. Five minutes' paddling in my small canoe can take me the sounds of half-dozen *Antony Johns*, each of whom is an acknowledged expert in his craft, and can carve a differently named image appropriate to upwards of one hundred and fifty ailments. Not a night goes by but I can hear from some neighbouring house the rhythmic tapping of the *dayak* drumming to let familiar spirits, to seek out the cause of some disorder. She is old and bent, straight out of Macbeth, and keeps me in the background when I visit her house to talk to the medicine. Others are not so shy, and are willing to have their speech recorded, display their skills.

The first thing a visitor notices as he approaches the Mading Gathering is that everyone is involved. On the river-bank in the centre of the village stands the *belating*, its shrine not unlike the burial heap on view in the Museum) the focal point of this annual communion with the spirits from whom the Melanau claim to be descended. Flanking it on either side, tall bamboo poles richly decorated with curly shavings and pieces of coloured cloth have the appearance of elaborate Victorian cake-stands. A series of woven baskets, the largest at the bottom some six feet across and smaller ones higher up, are to receive the votive offerings of the participants. And that means everyone. Each family has been hard at work baking special cakes such as *spirits delight* in, *kaol koman ipan*. The elders who officiate take a selection from each family's gift, and place these in the baskets. For essentially this is an occasion of community solidarity. The huge crowd congregating indoors is a reminder that real community life, the sort that Planners and Architects in the West are trying to recreate in model new towns, still exists in the East as the basic way of life.

After a demonstration of *beulak*, stylised unarmed combat between pairs of friends, the huge family cut together from the profusion of special balconies. There is an odd contrast in dress in the crowd. The girls are in their finery, all pinkish hues and shining hair. Even the shrine gets a new yellow sash to replace last year's faded one as the spirits are invited to join the company by a long recitation in archaic *Loumau* speech. But the men, even the dancers with their glaucous poles and elegant garters, seem to be in nothing better than worn everyday workclothes. The spirits see this too, and are moved by pity to letar efforts next year.

The central gathering over, 'beating' the bonks begins. The officary trees, *sewawa**, are hoisted aboard launches and we all set out in the upstream line, if the *hampung*, *labi**, and *cher**, upstream and downstream, are very important concepts in a community that is built along the riverbank, and are the primary references of all Melanau directions.) At Dalat's Kaol there was the added refinement of a huge paper boat, *mere**, sailing, not unlike those made by the Chinese for ceremonial burning. Behind such launch trails a long rope to which the many boats carrying the holiday-crowd can cling. It is *palet* to get in front of the officiating riders, who *semer-pelawer* as they continue their communion with the spirits. Jolly music on a *gribung-apan am**, an eight-piece gong-xylophone, is kept up by relays of the talented amateurs who make professional players redundant in this balanced community.

A clearing has been made on the river-bank at each extremity of the village, and here we leave one of the *sewawa* with a liberal shower of rice. Children fill up the bushes with cakes, then happily set to to eat up everything that will not go in. It is *palet* to take home any of the devoted things. But that is not to say there is no more to be had. In the houses of Mading tables are laid out as the Muslim ones were for *lilin*, *Bayan* and the Catholic ones for Christmas. We still have a duty of *poeny*, visiting from house to house to identify with the individual families as we have done with the extended family that makes up the whole village. With Chinese New Year just round the corner and up-river thaus already tanning their minds to *Carwai*, it looks like being a busy time of year.

With the permission of those involved, I offer your readers one of the many versions of the invitation to the *ipen**, the unseen spirits who surround (and still to a large extent govern) every occasion of Melanau life. The poetry is remarkable for its skilful balance of both thought and rhyme. I cannot hope to do justice to such elegant word-play in a literal translation, but the concluding lines perhaps suggest something of the idea of the original.

Koman ipan,

Koman rumat, koman asal,
koman sia, koman senu.
Wa? dalat, wa? laseu,
betin hapin latta nenuak,
Pa? seuk, wa? ait,
wa? ipak, wa? dayak,
Wa? ipin, wa? alia?
semer rasi, lamar ayawa.
Koman selan,
Mewa?i? wase, wewa?i? waseu
gub lili dalat apai,
Mewa?i? mawak jerek,
Koman saw pisan
lab? saw alia jank?

Come spirits and eat.
 Crowded into our hall, there's plenty for all.
 Be you aged or old, don't wait for a call
 From your river or jungle. There's no-one too small.
 From upstream and downstream, come one and
 some all.

Come now to our treat.
 We ask for long life, we ask for good health,
 For peace from all strife, and say-yes month,
 For our grandchildren's children we make this
 request:
 May those who shall follow them also be blessed.

*The letter *J* is a consonant in written Melanau, but of long standing in the spoken language is a guttural roll far back in the mouth. It is quite distinct from the forward *j* sound, and there are pairs of words depending on the difference, such as *rumat* 'crowded together' and *rumak* 'broken into fragments'.

Man in the Sarawak Civil Service, 1883-1941

X. Charles Hose, 1884-1907

Selected from the Museum Archives

by

Low Guan Yee

(LANSING)

X. Charles Hose, 1884-1907

Charles Hose was undoubtedly one of the most well-known figures in the Sarawak Civil Service. He was not only a wise administrator but also a distinguished anthropologist, geographer and collector of natural history specimens. The many books and articles that he had written, particularly those about the peoples of Sarawak, have remained an important source of reference for scholars and general public alike.

Charles Hose was first appointed a Cadet on 15th April, 1884 for duty in the Baram District, which was recently acquired by the Brooke Government. He worked there for the next twenty years. He became Officer in Charge of Baram in August 1888 and was promoted to Resident 2nd Class in January 1894. His numerous journeys in the Baram District, which he was the first officer to explore thoroughly, brought him into contact with many interior tribes, who, through his influence, came under Sarawak control and made peace with Sarawak tribes. He was responsible for the success of the great peace making in Baram in April 1899 during which the well-known Baram Boat Race was originated whereby effectively ending the rivalry of head-hunters to peaceful competition in sport. However, it was not plain sailing all the way. The success of persuading the tribes to live in peace with one another was achieved through much patience, tact and courage as illustrated by the following incident concerning the chief of the Tinjar Sengos.

This Tinjar Chief was named Alan Jan whose territory was included in the area which the Sultan of Brunei had recently handed over to the Rajah, but he denied the right of the Sultan to give rise to transfer his allegiance claiming that he was a free and independent Chief. Shortly after this date Alan Jan's wife died. To conform with the burial and mourning ceremonies, he must acquire the head of an enemy. He originally intended to send a war party to attack the people of Batin in Brunei territory, but the Batin people had somehow learned of his intention and Alan Jan had accordingly to change his tactics. Instead he sent one of his men to the Sultan of Brunei and purchased a slave from one of the Ministers. As the slave was an old man the return journey was slowed down. Consequently they beheaded the slave as only the head was needed for the ceremony and left the body by the jungle path. When the Administration at Clanton town learned of the murder, Hose was sent to intercept and capture them as they entered the Baram District. They were subsequently tried, convicted and sent to Kuching to await the Rajah's pleasure.

When Alan Jan learned the news of his men's capture, he flew into a rage and threatened to attack the fort at Clanton town. Hose tried to prevent this and decided to "take the bull by the horns" to be put it, by meeting the rebel on his own ground.

With a host of twenty men Hose sailed up the Tinjar and in five days' time reached the vicinity of Alan Jan's longhouse. Taking two followers as a guard, he ascended the longhouse unarmad. The villagers were taken by surprise and were so impressed by his courage that they permitted him to make his way to the Chief without stopping him. These followed a lengthy negotiation. Finally Hose managed to persuade Alan Jan to go with him to Clanton town to await the arrival of the Rajah. The meeting between the Rajah and the Sengop Chief was held in the

Court room two weeks later when the Rajah arrived from Kuching. Alan Jan swore to live at peace with the Sarawak Government and the Tinjar prisoners were set free.

From that time onwards Charles Hose and Alan Jan remained firm friends. When Alan Jan was about to die at the age of eighty, the old man agreed to Hose's suggestion that instead of ordering the killing of slaves so that their heads could be used for the funeral ceremonies, he would be content with the use of heads already taken. This was perhaps one of the few occasions that the method of borrowing a head for burial occasions was adopted to prevent further killing. After his death, Alan Jan's granddaughter possessed the Chief's beautifully carved door to Hose as a memento. This famous door has been on display at the Sarawak Museum until today.

In 1903 Hose served on a diplomatic mission to Brunei on behalf of the Rajah.

In June 1906 Hose was promoted to Resident 1st Class in charge of the Third Division and appointed a member of Supreme Council. During his service in the Third Division he conducted a successful expedition in the Ulu Rajang with a force of 280 Kapias against Dyaks on Bakit Bum. He was instrumental in effecting the surrender of Batin and other disaffected tribes of the Empuan, Engliari and Kanowit districts.

Shortly afterwards Hose took his leave and went back to England where he married a Miss Boland in December 1903. The couple returned to Sarawak in the following year. Mrs. Hose assisted her husband greatly in the preservation of his many natural history specimens and the preparation of his books and essays.

Charles Hose retired on pension on 28th August, 1907 and was appointed a Member of the Sarawak State Advisory Council in England in 1918.

After leaving Sarawak he was responsible for bringing to the notice of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company the possibilities of the Miri Oilfield and for conducting negotiations between the Rajah and that Company resulting in the full exploitation of the field.

Hose had won many awards. Among these were the Order of Knight of the White Falcon, Sarawak, First Class 1893; Order of Merit, Netherlands Government, 1893; Order of Knight of the Prussian Crown, Third Class, 1896; Officer d'Academie, Paris, 1898; Hon. D. Sc. (Canab.) 1908; Golders Park grant of the Royal Geographical Society 1893 and elected a Member of the Council of that Society 1924.

He died in England on 14th November, 1935, aged 68.

The following are his notable work on Sarawak:

Hose, Charles.

1895. *A descriptive account of the mammals of Sarawak*. Norfolk, E. Asher.
1918. *Natural mammals record from Sarawak*. London, Macmillan.
1917. *City story of romance and research on a jungle-wildlife at Kuching*. London, Hutchinson.
1928. *The field-book of a jungle-wildlife*. London, Widsby.

Hose, Charles & W. McDONNELL.

1912. *The paper-birds of Sarawak*. 2 vols. London, Macmillan.

Sarikel District Annual Report for 1970**General:**

The 1970 Population and Housing Census shows that the Sarikel District which covers an area of 673 square miles was on Census Night (i.e. 28/12/68 August, 1970) populated by 24,628 persons. They were housed in 3,443 living quarters. Males outnumbered females by

221 persons. The density of population was therefore roughly 52 persons per square mile. The population at the last census in 1960 was 28,154 persons. Thus, the population growth in the district was at an average rate of 2.5 percent per annum. Although the data collected during the last census have not yet been analysed by the computer in Kuala Lumpur, it is quite clear that the Chinese constitute the majority of people in the District. The next largest group is Iban followed by the Muslim community which includes Melanau and Malay. The number of people belonging to other racial origins is rather small. There are a few foreign nationals working in Sarikoi. They are mostly teachers, missionaries, American Peace Corps and employees of the plywood factory at Selatung and the Japanese Wood-chip factory at Kempong Rejong.

Despite disturbance created by communist terrorists the people of various races continued to live together in peace and unity. There has been no indication of racial tension at any moment. The people should be highly praised for their spirit of good will and racial harmony.

On the whole, the people enjoyed a reasonable standard of living throughout the year. Although the number of secondary school leavers has increased considerably, there have been little un-employment problems. Iban who depend on padi as the mainstay of their economy had a good harvest in 1970. Going to the un-expected early commencement of "landau" season many of their padi farms were not adequately burnt. It was generally feared that the next harvest might not be as good as it should be. It was reported that about 17,000 acres of both hill and swamp padi were planted in 1970. The Melanau and Malay fishermen at the coastal areas managed to get good catches. The fishing industry proved to be quite a lucrative occupation. Many Melanau and Malay were also employed in the sawmills at Sarikoi and Bekin Kinapan, plywood factory at Selatung and wood-chip factory at Kempong. Quite a large number of them have participated in the Coconut Planting and Assisted Padi Planting Schemes administered by the Department of Agriculture. The Chinese too had a successful year. The majority of them are pepper planters and rubber tappers. During the period under review, the price of rubber was extremely low but the price of pepper remained at the level which makes pepper planting a profitable industry. Unfortunately, many pepper gardens have been attacked by pepper disease known as foot-rot. The livelihood of these pepper planters will be seriously jeopardized unless the Department of Agriculture is able to contain the spread of the pepper epidemic on new land is opened up by Government, for those whose gardens have been infested with the disease.

The response to the Hari Kebangsaan celebrations organised by the District Goodwill Council was overwhelming. It was clear that the people not only supported the work of District Goodwill Council but also recognised the significance of our Hari Kebangsaan. It is hoped that this healthy situation will always be maintained so that solidarity and prosperity will prevail at all times. The Hon'ble the Minister of Local Government, Mr. Sim Kheng Heng attended the celebrations and declared open the Main Rally and second night's cultural shows. His presence in Sarikoi was a great honour to the people.

Apart from the incident at Sungai Petai which will be reported later under the heading of Law and Order, the two general elections were successfully conducted. All candidates and their agents co-operated with the election officials and observed the election laws. The percentage of voters also cast their votes was extremely high. This showed that they fully realized the importance of exercising their franchise. Unfortunately there were surprisingly large number of rejected votes. A candidate who was returned in one of the State constituencies in Sarikoi District later became the Head of the State Government.

The general health of the people was good. There was not outbreak of epidemics. A gang of labourers working in Tanjung Maut who fell ill seriously due to food poisoning were at first suspected to have suffered from cholera during its outbreak in Fifth Division. The patients were treated at the Sarikoi Hospital. The fear of outbreak of cholera was removed after the Medical Officer, Sarikoi announced that their illness was due to food poisoning.

Law and Order:

The Sarikoi Detachment of the Royal Malaysian Police continued to maintain its work at a high standard. The morale of the Police Officers was high. There was no indication whatsoever that it was shaken by the communist threats and intimidation. The effectiveness of the Department was appreciated by the Sarikoi District Council and the appreciation was recorded in the minutes of one of its meetings.

The military operations mounted in August, 1969 following the killings of innocent civilians by communist terrorists continued throughout the year under review. The operations were at the beginning of the year carried out by the Territorial Army. In March, 1st Malaysian Rangers took over. In August, they were replaced by 1st Battalion Malaysian Police Field Force who were in October succeeded by the 4th Battalion of the same Force. To facilitate the operations, curfew was imposed in certain areas of the District. The current curfew hours were from 7.00 p.m. to 5.00 a.m. daily.

During the course of operations in 1970, seven communist terrorists were killed and 14 were arrested by the Security Forces. Seven were killed in 1969. The Security Forces also suffered casualties. A ranger who was driving a military landrover was killed at Bukit Head when an ambush was laid by communist terrorists. A Border Scout by the name of Kebu anak Jelan of Hamah Jans and his brother-in-law Loman anak Rangge were brutally shot by communist terrorists on 7.10.1970 when they were working in their padi farms at Ulu Sungai Sarikoi. Another incident of ambush the last general election in June, 1970 when one of the election mobile teams escorted by Police and military personnel was fired at by the enemy and as a result three members of the election team including its Presiding Officer, SAO Christopher Jordan were killed. Several others were injured. One ranger who sustained serious injuries succumbed two months after the incident. A total of six civilians were murdered by communist terrorists.

Apart from the five cases of murders committed by the communist terrorists, there were no serious crimes. The cases which are worth mentioning were the arson case at Belawai and the illegal entry into Malaysian waters by Thai trawlers. The former case was tried by High Court at Kuching and the accused Japar bin Telaha was convicted under section 439 of Penal Code for causing damage by fire to a fishing trawler belonging to Chai Foh. The accused was released on probation for a period of one year in his own surety of \$200.00. The case in respect of illegal entry into Malaysia was heard at Sarikoi and the crew of the three trawlers were convicted under section 8(1)(c) of the Immigration Ordinance, 1959 and each was fine \$200.00. The fines were paid and the trawlers were sent out of Malaysian waters under escort by Marine Police boat.

There was slight decrease in both criminal and civil cases as compared to the number of cases in 1969. The total number of criminal cases brought before the Court was 214. In addition, 98 civil cases and two Native Court cases were disposed of in 1970. Sarikoi was the only district in the Third Division which was not covered by the Magistrate's Magistrate stationed at Sibn. All cases were tried by Administrative Officer conferred with magisterial powers.

Development:**(i) Minor Rural Projects:**

The people of Sarikei was very keen to implement minor development projects on going ruyong basis. It was a matter of regret that funds for minor rural development projects for 1970 were inadequate and many proposals submitted by Sarikei District Development Committee in 1969 for implementation in 1970 were not approved.

The total sum approved for 1970 was \$31,000/- but only \$27,000/- was spent as the approval for constructing a jetty at Belawai with an estimated cost of \$4,000/- was cancelled. This was because the Federal Marine Fisheries Department has decided to construct a wharf costing \$42,500/- at Belawai. The projects implemented during the year included 3 jetties, 4 water supplies, 2 bridges and one tennis court.

(ii) Religious Projects:

The mosque Committee at Kampong Belawai and Kampong Biring were each given a grant of \$15,000/- for the construction of a new mosque at those places. A grant of \$4,000/- was also approved for the construction of a new Methodist Church at Tang Daga, Sarikei but the grant was not released by the end of the year.

(iii) Major Projects:

The Public Works Department fully utilized and mobilized its men, plants and equipment and the following major projects were implemented during the year:—

Name of Project	COST
1. Sarikei Water Works	\$1,200,000.00
2. V.H.F. Station at Bukit Kaye Malau	46,099.00
3. 1 No. R.A.K. Building—Solang	15,900.00
4. Telecom. Workshop and office—Sarikei	44,189.00
5. 1 x 3 door barrack at Sarikei Secondary School	25,000.00
6. 2 units of Class T' Quarters at Sarikei Secondary School	29,540.70
7. 1 x 3 door barrack for Agricultural Department, Sarikei	23,284.00
8. 1 No. Best shed for Agricultural Department, Sarikei	3,000.00
9. Public Latrine—Sarikei Town	18,000.00
10. 1 No. Low cost House at Paloh for Agricultural Department	9,200.00

In addition, the construction of the new R.C. Wharf at Sarikei started in April, 1970. The foundation stone for this new wharf was laid by the former Chief Minister of Sarawak, Dato Ponghala Tawi Sili on 3rd April, 1970. The work is now in progress and is expected to be completed by the middle of 1971. The estimated cost of this project which was long awaited by the people is in the region of \$1.7 million. Improvements to Sarikei/Busing and Sarikei/Sarawak Roads and various public buildings were also carried out by the Department.

The year 1970 also saw the completion of the installation of the new 60 channels equipment at the V.H.F. station at Bukit Kaye Malau by the Telecommunications Department. This equipment which will be put to service in early 1971 will meet with the increasing demand for telephone calls between Sarikei and Sibu. The underground duct-work was also completed. The laying of cable will be undertaken in 1971. This new set-up will facilitate the Department in carrying out repairs and maintenance works and also provide room for expansion when necessary.

(iv) Agricultural Schemes

Officers of the Department of Agriculture did another year of hard work. Considering the difficult

working conditions prevailing in the district during the year, the achievements in the various agricultural schemes were commendable. Better results could have been achieved had there been no shortage of planting materials.

There was a growing demand amongst the native population to participate in the various schemes but unfortunately many of their gardens accepted for subsidy were not maintained up to the required standard.

The following schedule shows the acreage or units of various schemes implemented during the year under review:—

Name of Schemes	Achievements
1. Rubber Planting Scheme "A"	
(a) New Planting	6 acres
(b) Re-Planting	368 acres
2. Coconut Planting Scheme	900 acres
3. Assisted Padi Planting Scheme	126 acres
4. Farm Units	20 units
5. Fruit Trees Subsidy Scheme	47 units
6. Animals (Off Season Cropping)	80 units
7. Cocoa	29 acres
8. Ulu Figs Subsidy Scheme	6 units
9. Panch Schemes	34 units

Local Government—Sarikei District Council:**(i) General:**

The Sarikei District Council which is under the control of Sarawak United Peoples' Party has seven Councilors. One of them who was arrested in 1969 was still under detention under the Preservation of Public Security Regulations. Due to his inability to attend Council's meeting his seat became vacant. However, the vacancy has not yet been filled by the end of the year.

Cy. Lo Poh Ung and Ch. Dehman, his Kevia were re-elected as Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Council respectively. There was very little change in the membership of the various standing committees.

There were four Standing Committees viz: Education Committee, General Purpose Committee, Finance Committee and Town Planning and Rural Development Committee. The main bulk of the Council's business were transacted through these Committees which held their meetings monthly. The full Council also met once a month. These meetings were well attended. All councillors continued to show keen interest in the affairs of the Council.

(ii) Finance and Rating:

The level of taxation remained unchanged. The total revenue collected in 1970 was \$149,828.83 out of the estimated yield of \$172,000.00. The figure to total expenditure for 1970 was not available at the time of writing this report. However, a small surplus is expected in the 1970 Budget. During the year the Council made a concentrated effort to recover arrears of rates which stood at \$41,673.00 at the beginning of the year. Out of this amount, a sum of \$25,828.03 including interest was recovered. The Council's efforts in collecting this large amount of arrears of rates were appreciated by the Ministry of Local Government.

(iii) Education:

Primary education still occupied the main field of the Council's activities. Thirty-three out of the total of fifty-three primary schools in the District were under the direct management of the Council. Nine were Chinese medium primary schools. It employed 105 teachers. Only 23 of them were untrained.

Over seventy per cent of the total recurrent expenditure was spent on education in 1970.

Altogether 352 pupils sat for the English primary six common examination. 45 pupils were selected for secondary education. In the Chinese Primary six examination, only 11 out of 71 pupils passed the examination.

A sum of \$26,548.50 was expended on educational projects which included two units of teachers quarters, two blocks of school buildings and one school dental clinic.

(iv) Non-Educational Projects:

In 1970, the Council was given by the State Government a piece of land near the present vegetable market for the construction of a new open air food market through a Vending Order. The construction of this market which will provide 27 eating stalls is expected to commence in early part of 1971. All the temporary food and coffee stalls along the river bank and on the road sides will be asked to move into this new market when completed in order to impose the general view of the Sarikoi town and its water front.

A new public latrine near the pastoons was constructed by the Public Works Department and handed over to the Council for maintenance in July, 1970. This new latrine replaced the old one behind the pork market which was removed for town extension.

The Council's proposed new sewerage system for Sarikoi town received full support from all quarters. The Government has provisionally approved a capital grant of \$41,440.00 under the Town Development Fund. Once this project has been completed, it will be possible for the shophouse owners to replace their bucket latrines by flush toilets by making use of the sewers.

6 more street lighting points were installed. 75 out of a total of 141 points have tungsten lamps and the Council decided to gradually replace them by mercury lamps in order to give the Sarikoi town a brighter illumination.

(v) Maternity and Child Health:

The Council continued to maintain the main maternity and Child clinic in Sarikoi town and 6 sub-clinics in rural and coastal areas. Owing to a number of resignations, there was shortage of mid-wives to staff the sub-clinics. Some of them were only periodically visited by the mid-wives during the year.

Conclusion:

From the above sketchy report, it was clear that for Sarikoi 1970 was a year of steady progress despite the unforeseeable working condition created by successive elements. The fine achievements were so much attributed to the conscientious and dedicated service rendered by civil servants in Sarikoi and the close co-operation of members of public. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to them.

A Sarawak Malaysian Diary

DECEMBER, 1970

compiled by

DUNSTAN LEE CHEE LANG

1st, Tuesday

Deputy Director of Research and Analysis for East Asia and Pacific in the U. S. State Department, Washington, Mr. Edward C. Ingraham, arriving on a 3-day familiarisation visit, says that Malaysia is making 'impressive progress' in economic development, and it is the process of overcoming social problems.

Mr. Nigel Hayward, Principal of St. Thomas's Secondary School, speaking at the School's Speech Day, when he presents the Annual Report, says that examinations must be seen in the context of the whole

educational process, and if examinations are permitted to dominate the school's life, then priorities could be confused.

Minister for Local Government, Mr. Sim Kheng Hong, dedicates upon a new \$14,500 school building for the Sarikoi Maara Tibus and a new \$8,000 maternity and child health clinic at Maara Tibus, along the coastal area of the West Division.

Out-going Commander of the Third Malaysian Infantry Brigade, Brig-General Zain Hashim, arrives in Miri for a one-day farewell visit to troops stationed in the district.

2nd, Wednesday

Minister with Special Functions, Tan Sri Muhammad Ghazali Shafiq, telling newsmen on his arrival in Kuching, suggests that the people in Sarawak particularly the professionals and other intellectuals to have regular fortnightly meetings to discuss problems concerning the nation and our people and to work out possible solutions. The problems and solutions should be noted on paper and could be sent to him and he will work out with the Federal and the State Governments.

French Ambassador to Malaysia, Mr. Bartholomy Epinat, accompanied by his wife, arrives in Kuching for 3-day familiarisation visit.

Scientists newly arrived United States Peace Corps Volunteers accompanied by their officials pay a courtesy call on the Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub at his office.

Governor, Tan Dato Yusofa Haji Bajang, in his Hari Raya Message, urges the Malays in the State to take an active interest in the promotion of the national language by learning it themselves and at the same time teaching it to other races.

3rd, Thursday

Prime Minister, Tan Abdul Razak, on his arrival for a brief visit in Kuching, says the severity situation in recent months in Sarawak has caused some concern to the Government. His visit is mainly to investigate exactly 'how things are going on here' and then to find ways how the Central Government could assist Sarawak with the problems.

More than 3,000 relatives and friends, including the Governor, Tan Dato Yusofa Haji Bajang and the Minister for Welfare, Abang Rahman Zaini, are at the Bawak Wharf, Kuching, to bid "Selamat Belahay" to Sarawak's Pilgrims to Mecca. A total of 319 pilgrims from the various parts of the State embark the Pilgrim Ship M.V. *Aruban*, this afternoon to begin the Hajj.

KMC Councillor, Keong Yee Cheong, speaking at the KMC Third Annual Combined Selothon Praise-Giving and Concert, stresses the importance of learning Bahasa Malaysia as it is the National Language of the country.

The Sarawak, Australia and New Zealand Association holds its annual general meeting. Joseph Keong is elected the President and Ong Shih Foo the Vice-President.

4th, Friday

Prime Minister, Tan Abdul Razak, speaking at the end of a 24-hour visit, announces the setting-up of several committees to deal with communist terrorism and subversion. This would ensure greater co-operation from the people to assist the Government eradicate the communist threat and end the emergency quickly.

Prime Minister, Tan Abdul Razak, telling newsmen at Kuching Airport before leaving for KL, after a 24-hour visit, describes the new Sarawak Coalition

Government as a strong one with good leadership. He is very happy with the co-operation between the Alliance and the SUPP.

Ministry of Education chief guidance officer, Mr. G. Krishna Iyer, arrives to assist the Education Department conduct an in-service guidance course.

Brigadier-General Mohd. Ghazali bin Dato Mohd. Sath, who is to succeed Brigadier-General Zain Hashim as Commander of the Third Malaysian Infantry Brigade, arrives in Kuching.

Marine Survey Assistant, Bohari bin Haji Dohah is jailed for six months and fined \$3,000 or in default three months jail after he is found guilty on a corruption charge in the Magistrate's court, Sibu.

Minister with Special Functions, Tan Sri Muhammad Ghazali Shafie, leaves for KL after having "very useful discussions with State officials on further improvements for Sarawak".

State Minister for Culture, Penghulu Abock anak Jalin, opens the Food and Fun Fair and Cultural Show at the Dewan Mambesak, Kuching.

Dato Ling Beng Siew is seen at a farewell lunch given in honour of departing Brigadier-General Zain Hashim at the Aurora Hotel, Kuching.

5th, Saturday

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, telling reporters before leaving for Kuala Lumpur to attend the Grand Alliance National Council meeting tomorrow, says that Sarawak officials have got down to work on the details of the Committee to be set up to deal with the communist menace in the State. The matter is at the moment under the State Secretary, Dato Geraman Lambat.

French Ambassador to Malaysia, Mr. Barthelmy Epinat, returns to KL after a 3-day visit to the State. Speaking to newsmen at Kuching Airport, he says that he is impressed by Sarawak's immense resources and nature arts and crafts.

November rainfall: Kuching 14.81 inches, Sibu 8.30 inches, Bintulu 17.04 inches, Miri 12.82 inches. Kuching had 74 rainfall days, Sibu 27, Bintulu 25 and Miri 13.

The people of Malak have collected a total of \$1,112 for the State Goodwill Council Trust Fund.

Out-going Commander of the Third Malaysian Infantry Brigade, Brigadier-General Zain Hashim, accompanied by his successor, Brigadier-General Ghazali Sath, pays a courtesy call on the Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, at Rumah Sarawak, Kuching.

Bishop of Kuching, the Rt. Rev. Basil Temenggong is the guest speaker at the 12th Graduation Service of the Methodist Theological School, Sibu. This is his first to speak on an occasion in a Church of another denomination.

6th, Sunday

Prime Minister, Tan Abdul Razak, takes over as Chairman of the Alliance from Tunjika Abdul Rahman at the Alliance National Council Meeting held in KL.

Ministry of Health, Tan Sri Sardon bin Haji Azid, declares to newsmen that the Ministry of Health has allocated \$3.95 million next year to complete rural health projects under the First Malaysian Plan.

7th, Monday

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Simon Dombak Maju, declares open the \$276,000 Showrooms/Workshop Complex of Cycle and Cartage (M) Sdn. Berhad.

Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister Department, Enche Taib Mahmud, speaking to reporters on his arrival for a 4-day visit, calls for more response to government's efforts to balance the economic disparity between the haves and the have-nots. The stability and prosperity of Malaysia depends in efforts to eradicate the distortion in the economic structure.

Prime Minister, Tan Abdul Razak, speaking to newsmen after the Open Day at the Medical and Research Centre for the Orang Asli at Ulu Gombak, KL., says that the National Consultative Council which begins its 3-day meeting today, discusses the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

The Town Cleaning Campaign Week for Sempang Town begins under the patronage of the Resident, Second Division, Tuan Haji Yusuf Azis.

Secretary-General of the Ministry of Sarawak Affairs, Enche Yang Amat ben Kamaruddin, speaking at the opening of the first in-service course for career guidance teachers in Kuching, urges voluntary organisations, employers and public spirited people in Sarawak to form a state vocational guidance association.

Six farmers from the Fourth Division, who are currently on educational tour of the First Division, call on Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Simon Dombak Maju.

Vice President of the Sarawak Chamber Home, Mr. Ang Lai Soon, has received a cassette tape recorder worth about \$500 from the Rotary Club of Tokyo North.

Out-going Commander of the Third Malaysian Infantry Brigade, Brig. General Zain Hashim, commends the role of the local press in the State and says the good co-operation that the government and the security forces are now getting from the local population is in a large measure due to the press.

8th, Tuesday

Minister of Education, Enche Hassan Om, speaking at the opening of the 41st meeting of Chief Education Officers, attended by about fifty people, at the specialist teachers' training institute in KL, ask Chief Education Officers to give some thoughts to the reasons for the large drop out at the end of primary and early secondary level, especially in rural schools and the means to check this trend.

Resident, Fourth Division, Enche Amil HJ. Lampion, addressing heavily secondary students taking part in a civic course run near at the Development Operations Room, Miri, calls on youths in Miri to take advantage of the agricultural development in the State.

Two new members have been appointed to the 66-member National Consultative Council. Tan Sri Khaw Kai Siah, Vice-President of the Malaysian Chinese Association replaces Dato Yeng Kee An, Chairman of the MCA, Baring Ward, in Penang who resigned while Enche Lattain Erma Offener, a lawyer, takes the place of the late Enche Ramin bin Dato Abdulah, Managing Director of Bank Bumiputera.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Simon Dombak Maju, who is also the Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, pays a brief visit to the Departments of Lands and Surveys Headquarters and District Office, Kuching. He also visits Drainage and Irrigation Department.

9th, Wednesday

Chairman of SUPP, Dato Ong Kee Hui, is appointed a cabinet minister without Portfolio. He stays in Sarawak to help the Coalition Government to carry out functions of the Federal Government that may be allotted to him.

Secretary-General of the Sarawak Alliance, Mr. Chang Yew Kien, says on his return from KL that people can now apply to become direct members of the Sarawak Alliance. This follows approval of regulations on this at the Grand Alliance Council Meeting on Monday.

Commander of Kotlan XII, Brig. General Seemah, when he arrives for a short visit, discloses that the communists have waged a war of attrition to win support of Ibans along the Sarawak Kalimantan border. The Indonesian authorities have captured communist documents urging the Ibans to oppose the Indonesian and Malaysian Governments.

Commander of Kotlan XII, Brigadier-General Seemah, presents eighty-six antiquing musical instruments to the Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub. Brigadier-General Seemah hopes that the instruments would be fully utilised to promote the common culture of Indonesia and Malaysia. Minister for Welfare, Abang Hussein Zainie receives the gift on behalf of the Chief Minister.

Mrs. Chong Kim Loi and Miss Susanna Lo are the two candidates representing Sarawak at the Girl Guides Association Senior Branch Conference in Malacca from December, 14-18.

SUPP's Publicity Chief, Mr. Choo Siew Hin, says that the SUPP's Delegates Conference on December 19, is waiting approval from the State Operations Committee. The permit for holding the conference has been submitted two months ago.

Deputy Director of Research and Planning in the Federal Police Headquarters, Dato Albert Moh, arrives in Kuching on a week-long visit. The object of his visit is to assess police needs in terms of manpower, equipment and other facilities.

Chairman of the EPF Fund Board, Tan Sri Mohd. Yusoff bin Abdul Samad, arriving in Kuching from KL, discloses that EPF in East and West Malaysia may come under one board in two or three years' time. Tan Sri Mohd. Yusoff, who is also Secretary-General of the Federal Treasury, says that EPF offices in Sabah and Sarawak have done very well since their establishment in September 1969. In Sarawak there are about 68,000 members while Sabah has 48,000.

TON, Thursday

Nanyang Kindergarten celebrates its Ninth Anniversary at its premises, Green Road, Kuching.

Asian Development Bank has approved a US\$1.5 million loan to the Government of Malaysia for the Sibu Port Expansion Project in Sarawak, Malaysia. The loan agreement is signed in Manila.

First series in the programme 'Your Minister Meets You' is broadcast over Radio Malaysia Sarawak. On this occasion, Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, professes the question and answer session with a talk on the functions and responsibilities of the Chief Minister.

Inter-section basketball competition organized by the Kapong Social and Recreational Club is declared open by the Club's President, Mr. Andrew Chua at the Kapong playground, Kuching.

Divisional Development Committee meeting held in Seranggapi at the Development Operations Room.

SUPP's Secretary-General, Mr. Stephen Yung, commenting on Dato Ong Koo Hai's appointment as Federal Minister without Portfolio, says that Dato Ong's decision to accept the Federal Ministerial Post is his own, not that of the party. SUPP has not met prior to the appointment because the offer is not made to the party. He hopes that his party will take the view

that it is in the interest of Sarawak for Dato Ong to accept the offer.

Assistant Minister for Defence, Tengku Ahmad Kibriauddeen, in Sarawak for a 3-day visit, says that there is no cause for alarm in Sarawak as the security situation in Malaysia as a whole has been well contained.

Minister without Portfolio, Dato Ong Koo Hai, says in KL that the first test that awaits him on his return to Sarawak is to 'take a look at matters and explain to the people what the Sarawak Coalition Government and the Federal Government are trying to do for the State'. He adds that with the appointment, Sarawak Government would have more say in the Cabinet.

Proprietors of Chop Yoo Lou Cafe and Chop Eng Soon Cafe, both of Miri, are presented under Section 14 of the Labour Ordinance, Sarawak, at the District Court, Miri, for employing a child under the age of 14 years. They are convicted and fined \$75 each.

Manager of the Employees' Provident Fund, East Malaysia, Mr. Lau Siew Meng, says that the Employees' Provident Fund Board East Malaysia, meets in Kuching to consider, among other things, the declaration of a rate of interest of 4½ per cent for 1970.

Sarawak District Goodwill Council has collected a total of \$2,491.41 from various activities held during the late Hari Kebangsaan celebrations in the district. Executive Secretary of the Sarawak District Goodwill Council, Mr. Michael Tan, stating this, says that of the amount, \$1,000 has been donated to the Sarawak Benevolent Society. The balance of \$1,491.41 would be donated to the National Goodwill Trust Fund.

Outgoing Commander of the Third Malaysian Infantry Brigade, Brigadier-General Zam Hoshin, at a farewell Press Conference at the Kuching Airport before his departure, calls on the people in Sarawak to take up the challenge of fighting the communist terrorists in the State.

Sarawak Native Teachers Union appeals to the Government to give better recognition to teachers who possess Bahasa Malaysia Certificates and who have a fair knowledge of Jawi.

Sarawak Table Tennis Association has elected Mr. Ngu Kim Hwang, who donated the Gold Cup in the recent tournament, president for 1971. Mr. He Rio Kai is elected Chairman and Mr. Wong Chung Kang, the Vice-Chairman.

JAM, Friday

Thirty young farmers from the Sibu and Serfok Divisions graduate from the Farmers Training Centre, Mile 21, Gya Road, Sibu, after successfully completing their 14-week course.

Inspector-General of Police, Tan Sri Salleh Ismail, arriving to witness the opening tomorrow of the PPF training camp, discloses that the strengthening of the Police Field Force in East Malaysia is a long-term plan to meet future requirements, particularly in view of the impending British military withdrawal. The PPF would have to bear the brunt in ensuring peace and security in concert with the Malaysian armed forces after the withdrawal.

Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister Department, Eneke Taib Mahmud, speaking in rapport at the end of a 4-day visit to Sarawak, says that every sector of the economy in the country must contribute towards helping the government, develop rural balance, in proportion of this employment, and encourage the participation of businessmen in every field of commerce and industry. This is in view of the effort of the government to seriously restructure the society, as far as its progress is impeded by imbalance.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Stephen Yong, who is also Minister of Communications and Works, speaking at the opening of the Seventh Consultative Meeting between the Sarawak P.W.D. Management and P.W.D. Union leaders, says that a view of the terms and conditions of service of disaffected workers in Government service in Sarawak is being considered, adding that no have to get down to finding ways of improving the lot of workers.

James bin Zaimi who has pleaded guilty to a charge of house-breaking and theft is sentenced to two years jail by trial Judge, Mr. Justice B. T. H. Lee at the continued hearing of the case with four others.

12th, Sunday

The Governor, Tan Yaukua Dato Haji Bujang, speaking at the official opening of the 33 million headquarters of the Police Field Force in Kuching, says that the Government streamlines and activates its machinery to counter communist terrorists and subversive elements in order to ensure peace and prosperity for the people.

Over two dozen of the disabled at the Christie Home sat for the first time hundreds of people, mingling with them to celebrate the Open Day Aged Sales at the premises, Ong Tiang Swan Road. Amongst those present are the Governor, Tan Yaukua Haji Bujang (patron), the Minister for Youth and Culture, Pengshuh Abok, and the Speaker of Council Negri, Mr. William Tan.

The Royal Malaysian Police scores a total of 13 points to win the Amateur Athletic Association third annual relay race festival. Second is the Jubilee Athletic Club of Kuching (Jach) with 11 points while Chung Hwa Middle School No. 1 (A) Team is third with 9 points. In the women's section, Chung Hwa Middle School No. 'A' and 'B' Teams are first and second with 9 and 6 points respectively, and St. Teresa's with 3 points is third.

President of the Sarawak Jayans, Mr. Ting Ing Chiew, speaking at the annual convention of the Sarawak Jayans at Aurora Hotel in Kuching, says that social harmony in a country and harmony among nations to produce peace on earth, are some of the basic aims of the Justice Chamber movement. He stresses the need for young men with talents to join the movement to "promote harmony and progress" in the country.

Four lawyers Mr. Ting Tung Ming presented by Mr. Cheong Siew Hai and Messrs. Loh Yik Ping alias Lok Ng Jian, Alexander Ling Lee Soon and Anthony Tai Fok Hin presented by Mr. S. K. Borkh, are admitted to the Rolls of Advocates in the Kuching High Court before the Chief Justice of Borneo, Tan Sri Ismail Khan.

The SGAOU 2nd Badminton Championship organised by the Sports and Social Sub-committee commences.

A new \$512,000 farm institute, situated within the Kuching Agricultural Experimental Station at the 27th Mile, Miri/Sinatala Road has been completed.

The Chairman of the Sarawak Federation of Women's Institutes, Chai' Roland Haji Muski, declares open the 21,000 Kampong Kaap W.I. meeting house.

A Political Secretary to the Chief Minister, Escho Ali Sultan, presents certificates to twenty-eight farmers graduating from the Farmers Training Centre, Sempu Wasing, near Serian.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Simon Dambab Maja, addressing thirty farmers at a presentation of certificate ceremony in Limbung, says that farming as a career should be held in high esteem, particularly at a time

when the upholding of the standard of the rural community is being given emphasis by the Government.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Simon Dambab Maja, speaking to reporters in Miri on his arrival from Limbung, says that he is very happy with the support and co-operation of the people in Limbung to the new Government led by the Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub.

13th, Sunday

Two brothers, Messrs. Ngia Koo Teck and Koo Sang of Bintuang, donate a total of \$2,500 to various institutions and charitable organizations in the district during a public dinner party on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of their parents at the Lion Has Restaurant in Bintuang.

Mr. E. J. Neal, General Manager of the Borneo Development Corporation, tells Sarawans that the BDC is actively looking into the possibility of developing a small industrial/commercial complex in Limbung in the Fifth Division.

Chairman of SUPP and the newly-appointed Federal Minister without Portfolio, Dato Ong Koo Hai, speaking to newsmen on his return to Kuching, says that one of his first tasks is to explain to party members his position as contractor the propaganda put forward by some politicians.

Three communist terrorists are captured in the Third Division after a brief exchange of fire with the security forces. In a separate incident in the same division, a communist terrorist surrenders after continuous harassment.

Assistant Federal Minister of Defence, Tongku Ribumbukun, pays a brief visit to the various armed forces establishments in the forward locations in the Third Division.

Out-going Resident of the Third Division, Mr. Fajar Tinggorn, is guest of honour at a reception given by a community leader in Sibu, Dato Ting Lik Hong, at his residence at Queens Lane in Sibu. The party also welcomes the new Resident, Mr. Yao Ping Hui.

14th, Monday

SUPP Biennial Delegates Conference scheduled for December 19 and 20 is off. This follows SOC's decision to reject its application for permit to hold the conference. SOC Chairman, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, says that the rejection has been made on Security Ground.

New Federal Minister without Portfolio, Dato Ong Koo Hai, accompanied by the State Minister for Local Government, Mr. Sim Kheng Hong and the Secretary-General to the Ministry of Sarawak Affairs, Datoke Yang Azmi Kamaruddin, calls on the Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, at his office.

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, in a message to the latest issue of the Farmers Bulletin, regrets that although thousands of acres of land in the state have been planted with high yielding rubber, vast areas of matured trees are not tapped. He asks farmers to be self-reliant.

First Malaysia Rangers stationed in Sibu presents its Battalion plaques to the out-going Resident of the Third Division, Mr. Fajar Tinggorn, at his residency.

15th, Tuesday

SUPP Secretary-General, Mr. Stephen Yong, commenting the SOC's refusal to allow the holding of the SUPP biennial delegates conference this weekend, says that the SUPP is to ask the SOC on the form of communist infiltration into the party. "We have to accept that there are subversive elements very active

in the State, not necessarily in our party only," he says.

Mrs. Mary Keffit, McAlister's Travel Executive, who has just returned from her European tour, says that greater publicity campaigns on Malaysian tourist potential should be conducted overseas to inform the people of the attractions the country can offer to holiday-makers, adding that Sarawak and Malaya are not well in the picture for people in Europe but when told, they are anxious to know more.

A three-day river cruise cum-tour for ten persons from Marudi and Bintulu District begins in Miri.

16th, Wednesday

Dato Stephen Kalong Ngabin, Chairman of the Sarawak National Party, says in a statement that the Sarawak National Party has discussed with West Malaysian Opposition parties for closer contact and better dialogue.

The Chairman of the State Operations Committee has assured the Sarawak United People's Party that its application to hold its delegates conference will be favourably considered as soon as the SOC is satisfied that the security situation and conditions are conducive to the holding of such conference.

A vacant house at the junction of Hajj Taha and Saab Roads, Kuching, catches fire and is completely burnt down. The cause of the fire is not known.

A World Bank team arrives to find out how it could assist the Malaysian Government in financing telecommunications facilities under the Second Malaysia Plan.

The Governor, Tan Dato Taminah Haji Bojong, and his wife, Toh Puan Hajah Rajmah, arrive in Sibu on board the yacht "Zohara" for a one-week Hart Kaya visit.

The Sarawak Branch of the Malaysian Leprosy Relief Association (MAL-RA), has donated a total of 11,000 worth of clothing, two radio sets and two ping pong tables to patients of the Kajah Brooke Memorial Hospital, 13th Mile, Penrissen Road.

A total of 933 pupils out of the 4,806 who sat for the Sarawak Junior Certificate Examinations in November have obtained Division I Certificates. 1,387 obtained the Division II Certificates and 1,037 Division III. Statements of Attainment are awarded to 2,169 while 279 pupils obtain neither a Certificate nor a Statement of Attainment.

The Lim Tock Basketball team wins the Loong Lu Shweodong Challenge trophy in the Men's section of the Miri Basketball Tournament sponsored by the Miri Basketball Tournament sponsored by the Miri Basketball Association. Harveaux' team comes in second and the Sarawak Colours Team is third. In the Ladies section, the Hlop Ghee Ladies team win the Sze Choo Shweodong challenge trophy, followed by Yee Lee team in second place and Miri Chung Han Middle School team third place.

17th, Thursday

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, is studying proposals to deal with communal matters in the State. He says that his call for an overall long-term plan with greater participation from the people. The proposals which also deal with the question of stabilising detainees will be submitted to the Prime Minister, Tan Abdul Razak, for approval.

Police spokesman announces that the 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. curfew imposed in certain parts of the Kuching/Bau Districts have been further relaxed by two hours. The curfew area, however, has been extended under the new curfew. The new curfew will take effect from

4 p.m. today, and will remain in force from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. daily until further notice.

Supreme Council approves and accepts the FAMA pepper marketing scheme, which is aimed at improving the marketing of pepper and promote market for Malaysia pepper in order to ensure higher and equitable returns for the planters.

Sarawak Alliance Secretary-General, Mr. Cheng Yew Kiew, says in a statement, that the Sarawak Alliance welcomes the SUPP Chairman, Dato Ong Kee Hui's declaration in an uncertain term his party's stand against communal terrorists.

Secretary General of the Sarawak United People's Party, Mr. Stephen Yong, says in a statement that the Party's Chairman, Dato Ong Kee Hui and he himself had taken advantage of the invitation to examine the documentary evidence on which the decision of the State Operations Committee to withhold permit for SUPP to hold the delegates' conference is substantiated.

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, commenting on reports that his name is among the new ones that had been mentioned as contestants for the posts of vice presidents of UMNO, says that he would have to consider any proposal to nominate him for the post of vice president of UMNO.

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, has received a cheque for \$2,000 from the Sabah National Youth Association (SANYA) as a donation to the families of the border scouts who were killed in an ambush by the communist terrorists recently.

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, says that the Sarawak Supreme Council approves the creation of five more posts in the Sarawak Development Finance Corporation. A deputy planning manager is to be appointed in addition to some junior posts in order to cope with the increased volume of work. The Supreme Council approves the SDPC's budget for 1971.

Seven doors of a 35-door longhouse, Ramah Maja at Sungai Moman in the Kapit District are completely destroyed by floods. Forty-eight people are made homeless. Another longhouse, an 8-door Ramah Loyok within the same area is also destroyed, rendering another forty-eight people homeless.

18th, Friday

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, is guest of honour at the Fifth Annual Dinner of the Raffles Students' Association, Singapore.

Inspector Herman Wong of the Special Branch is fatally wounded in an ambush by a small group of armed communist terrorists. In engagement that ensues and the follow-up operations later, one terrorist is killed and two arrested.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Simon Dandiah Maja, speaking at a "barandau" at Ramah Jebat in Nanga Rukar, Ulu Strang, calls on the people to strictly adhere to the five principles of Rukunegara which will ensure a peaceful and harmonious nation.

19th, Saturday

SNAP calls for the immediate setting-up of an independent commission of inquiry into the alleged religious persecution in Sabah.

St. Joseph's Old Boys' Association holds its first Reunion Dinner at the William Tan Academies, St. Joseph's School. The Association has for its first President, Mr. Polycarp Sim and its first Patroness, William Tan.

Governor, Tan Datu Tuanku Haji Bojang, visits the 13th Battalion Police Field Force Camp at the Upper Laming Road, Sibu.

Education Department wins the NIAAFU Inter-Department Badminton Championship after beating the Medical and Health Department 3-2 in the final at the Dewan Maharaja.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Stephen Yong, at a meet-the-people session at Biau, twenty-two miles from Kuching, appeals to the members of subversive and illegal organisations to 'give up these wrongful activities.'

26th, Sunday

Sarawak police have captured two more communist terrorists responsible for the murder of Special Branch Inspector, Herman Wong.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Stephen Yong, declares open a new \$270,000 theatre at Biau, named 'Kinari'.

Secretary-General of the Sarawak Alliance, and Member of Council Negri, Mr. Cheng Yew Kiew, speaking at the start of the 'Jaya Dar' (Self-help) project organised by the First Division Youth Council at Dato's Road, Kuching, on its 15th Anniversary, asks youth leaders to combine their efforts to find ways to solve common problems faced by the young people. They should also take an initiative and play an active part in the country's development programme so that concrete improvement could be achieved.

27th, Monday

Chairman of the State Operations Committee, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, referring to the capture on Saturday of two more communist terrorists involved in the murder of a Special Branch Inspector, Mr. Herman Wong, in an ambush in Sibu District on Friday, says in a statement issued that he is glad to note that the people have responded to the Government to give their full co-operation to the Security Forces in fighting against the common enemy, the communist terrorists.

Mr. Edmund Longgo, M.P. and Secretary-General of SNAP, announces that the opposition Sarawak National Party is to stay away from the presentation at both the Federal Budget and the State Budget. This was decided at a recent meeting of the elected representatives of the Sarawak National Party for both Council Negri and Parliament, through two resolutions.

27th, Tuesday

Mr. Sidi Masan, Political Secretary to the Chief Minister at the division of Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, in a statement issued, says that the division of the Sarawak National Party to boycott the presentation of both the Federal and the State Budgets for 1971 has been regarded as a matter for regret.

The Kuching Municipal Council adopts at its full meeting the proposed rates of fees for parking in the Municipal area. The Council has agreed that no fees will be levied on: Bicycles, Tricycles, and carts and bus termini.

The 290 patients of the Rajah Charles Brooke Memorial Hospital, 13th Mile Puanrasan Road, Kuching celebrate Christmas with a dance and concert party.

28th, Wednesday

Federal Minister for Sarawak Affairs, Tan Sri Teongmeeng Jagah, speaking to reporters on arrival at Kuching Airport after attending a Cabinet Meeting and the Budget Presentation in KL, says, that prospects in the field of development would be brighter, in 1971.

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, presenting his Budget Speech at the Radio Malaysia

(Sarawak) auditorium, announces that timber royalty will be reduced or doubled uncertain species as from February 1, 1971. The species in Section C under Cl (1) of the First Schedule to the Forests Ordinance will increase from \$6 to \$18 per ton for round timber. In respect of the mangrove species in Section E, the increase will be from \$1 to \$2.

Chief Minister, in presenting his Budget Speech, pays tribute to the retiring State Financial Secretary, Mr. Tan Kuan Poh, for his dedication to service. He says Mr. Tan now on official duty in KL has over the last years been directly involved in the second management of the financial matters of Sarawak.

28th, Thursday

First Secretary, British High Commission, Kuching, Mr. L. S. Prior, pays a courtesy call on the Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, at his office.

28th, Friday

An 18-year-old Malak girl Fani Yee is chosen the Christmas Queen at the Adventure Club's Christmas dance party held at Sibu Recreation Club.

Governor, Tan Datu Tuanku Haji Bojang and his wife, Joh Puan Hajah Rajmah visit the General Hospital in Kuching.

Mr. Simon Dambub Maja, a Deputy Chief Minister, who is also Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, is the speaker in the 'Year Minister Meets You' series broadcast over Radio Malaysia, Sarawak. Dealing first briefly with the functions and responsibilities of his Ministry, the Minister answers questions submitted concerning matters which fall within the portfolio of his Ministry.

29th, Saturday

Sarawak Tribune 25th Anniversary.

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, in his Christmas and New Year message to the people of Sarawak, broadcast over Radio Malaysia, Sarawak, reiterates that as long as the Coalition Government has the people's mandate it is pledged to work for the people's welfare, for a just and fair Malaysian society and for the national interest.

Governor, Tan Datu Tuanku Haji Bojang, in a Christmas and New Year message broadcast over Radio Malaysia, Sarawak, makes a call to the people of the State to work harder and to give their full co-operation to the Government in the implementation of its various projects, particularly as the second Malaysian Plan would be launched in the new year.

A water supply system costing \$3,200 at Bumbah Uman in the Bintaning District has been completed.

29th, Sunday

A 3-man Taiwan Educational Mission, led by Mr. Hwang Guan Der, arrives in Kuching for a brief visit during which they will hold discussions and consultations with education authorities in Sarawak.

Minister without Portfolio, Mr. Lee Sook Yew, speaking at a goodwill youth camp at the Selangor Youth Training Centre, advises youths in the country to adopt matured and incisive thoughts so that they will realise the consequences of their actions.

29th, Monday

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, commenting on report that bulldozer-driving riders from Sarawak are ploughing over Brunei's border areas and stealing timber, says that Sarawak is losing millions of dollars through illegal felling of trees. He says that the State Government is considering ways of

checking this illegal felling as well as strengthening the Forest Department.

Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Stephen Yong, says that the recently established managerial survey ad-hoc committee has been directed to include in its survey the school leavers from the various schools in the State. The committee is under the Chairmanship of the Deputy State Financial Secretary who collects the necessary data before the State Government could make a policy decision on the matter.

Twenty headmasters from schools in the First Division have completed a one-week course in agriculture at the Farmers' Training Centre, Sempang.

Six RMAF aircraft stung by at three RMAF bases to provide immediate assistance and carry on evacuation operations in flood-stricken areas throughout West Malaysia. More than 1,368 people in Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang and Perak have been evacuated to safer areas following continuous heavy rain since yesterday.

Out-going Chairman of KRIC, Mr. Sim Kiang Hong, says that the year which is going to be out has had both happy and sad aspects for the council, happy because it has collected fairly good rates as compared with last year and sad because the council lost three councillors: Baki bin Nawaz of Sambit, Jagan anak Baki and Chai Chit Kian.

Three brothers, Messrs. Loi Lik Kiong, Lik Song and Lik Kong of Buntong, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of their parents, donate \$1,000 to various schools in the district.

Mr. Chung Eian Kang succeeds Mr. Sim Kiang Hong as Chairman of ERDC. Tan Kampong Seah is the Haji Arshid is re-elected Vice-Chairman.

Deputy Commissioner of Census, Mr. Chin Hing Ming, announces in Kuching that tremendous appreciation of the good work by supervisors and enumerators during the 1970 Population and Housing Census are now ready for issue by Assistant Commissioners of Census for the various districts.

Director-General of Education, Tuan Haji Hamzah bin Sheikh Tahir, expresses the hope that a national-level association for the arts could be set up in Malaysia.

Director of Education, Sarawak, in a Departmental Circular to all schools, has stated that the Common School Uniform will be introduced by stages in all Government and Aided Primary and Secondary Schools in Sarawak, with effect from 1971. He adds that the decision is in line with the Government's aim of utilizing every avenue to build up national unity and consciousness throughout the country and especially among the young and up-coming generations in our schools.

SNAP's Chairman, Dato Stephen Kalong Ningkan, says in welcoming the statement by the Secretary-General of Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia, Dr. Tan Chay Kohon, suggests that the leadership of the Opposition in Parliament be discussed by all opposition parties before Parliament convenes on February 22, 1971. He proposes that the leadership of the Opposition in the Parliament be shared among the five parties by rotation, each party providing a leader a year.

JNA, Tawant

There has been a general improvement in the food situation in the affected parts of West Malaysia—Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang and Perak. Death toll has gone up to eleven.

Chief Minister, Dato Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, says that the State Ministry of Welfare has been directed to make necessary preparations for the possibility of the floods.

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Malaya, Prof. Ungku Abdul Aziz, speaking at a forum on 'a university for South-east Asia' at the 4-day convention of the

International Federation of Free Teachers' Union (Asian Australian region) in KL, says that the setting up of a university for South-east Asia may serve as the first spark to ignite a cultural renaissance in the region. He adds that such a university could serve to recover and revive several aspects on South East Asian culture which are now in danger of extinction.

Minister for Welfare, Abang Hilwan Zaki, says in a statement that during the recent flood in Kapit, two longhouses were partly damaged involving fifteen doors and a total of ninety-six persons. The losses affected are Ramah Lopez and Ramah Majo of Sungai Merman, Kapit.

Fifty-six ex-detainees and seventeen detainees donate a total of \$80.35 to the slain border scouts fund. The amount is handed separately to the Chief Minister by Mr. Bong Tee Fong and Miss Lee Nyuk Lan respectively.

Mr. Kong Chung Siew, Vice-President of the Sibu Hakkia Association, who is also a member of Council Negri, donates \$2,000 to the Association to be used as its education funds.

JNA, Pribantay

879 out of a total 1,383 candidates pass the 1970 Qualifying Test.

Sungai, District Haji Kelengkapan Celebrations Committee has donated \$1,651.75 to the State Goodwill Trust Fund.

JNA, Tawant

Tan Abdul Razak, speaking over Radio and Television Malaysia on the eve of the New Year, declares that the Government's policies would lead to a new social and economic revolution which would ensure happiness and prosperity for Malaysians. The Prime Minister says that all Malaysians should look forward to the new year with courage and confidence and work towards racial unity in the true spirit of Malaysian nationalism.

British High Commissioner to Malaysia, Sir Michael Walker, speaking to reporters at the end of a two-day farewell visit to Sarawak prior to taking up a new appointment in London as Secretary of the Overseas Development Administration of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, expresses confidence that the relationship between Malaysia and his country would continue to stand on "very firm foundation" after the 1971 British military withdrawal.

Commander of the Third Malaysian Infantry Brigade, Brigadier-General, Mohammed Ghazali bin Dato Seib, has called on members of the Security Forces to redouble their efforts in maintaining peace and security of the country.

Minister of Health, Tan Sri Haji Serdon bin Haji Lilit, in a New Year Message, says that his ministry would intensify its medical and health services to raise the living standards of the people under the Second Malaysia Plan. He adds that priority would be given to provide more rural medical and health facilities.

Fauze Hamdan Sira, the Police Commissioner, says that the Sarawak Component of the Royal Malaysian Police have done very well during 1970 lapses of the communist threat and the difficult time of the first Direct General Elections.

Honours awarded by Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of the New Year 1971 include Miss Ruth Emily Kaulah Duncombe, M.A. (M.A.S.), who has been Principal of St. Mary's School, Kuching since 1958. Mr. Edmund Charles Maguire, (M.A.S.), who is an Executive Engineer with F.W.D. and Mr. James Avelline Hendrick, (M.A.S.), Deputy Director of Agricultural Department.

Yang di-Pertuan Agong sends a congratulatory message to Dr. Benjamin Henry Sheares on his election as President of Singapore.

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Sarawak Gazette

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FEBRUARY, 1971

CALENDAR			MOON PHASES AND EVENTS		HIGH WATER		
Day	Calendar	Month	☽ First Quarter—Sat, 0411 hrs. ☾ Full Moon—Sun, 0741 hrs.	☽ Last Quarter—Thu, 2214 hrs. ☼ New Moon—Thu, 0447 hrs.	Extreme	Max	
Mon.	1	6	.....	.....	0908	2128	0200 1947
Tue.	2	7	.....	.....	0942	2138	0244 1947
Wed.	3	8	.....	.....	1047	2211	— 1934
Thurs.	4	9	.....	.....	1156	2266	— 1926
Fri.	5	10	.....	.....	—	1322	— 1754
Sat.	6	11	.....	.....	0015	1445	— 1639
SUN.	7	12	.....	.....	0116	1533	— 1654
Mon.	8	13	.....	.....	0240	1648	— 1590
Tue.	9	14	.....	.....	0359	1733	— 1517
Wed.	10	15	.....	.....	0445	1811	— 1230
Thurs.	11	16	.....	.....	0456	1844	— 1237
Fri.	12	17	.....	.....	0540	1912	— 1211
Sat.	13	18	.....	.....	0629	1938	0029 1451
SUN.	14	19	.....	.....	0715	1959	0059 1459
Mon.	15	20	.....	.....	0801	2017	0129 1455
Tue.	16	21	.....	.....	0840	2036	0218 1441
Wed.	17	22	.....	.....	0922	2041	0348 1457
Thurs.	18	23	.....	.....	1008	2110	— 1557
Fri.	19	24	.....	.....	1108	2156	— 1600
Sat.	20	25	.....	.....	—	1237	— 1720
						2000	
SUN.	21	26	.....	.....	—	1406	— 1820
Mon.	22	27	.....	.....	0040	1516	— 1940
Tue.	23	28	.....	.....	0203	1619	— 2101
Wed.	24	29	.....	.....	0356	1716	— 2204
Thurs.	25	30	.....	.....	0446	1807	— 2310
Fri.	26	31	.....	.....	0514	1846	— 1421
Sat.	27	3	.....	.....	0529	1929	0019 1409
SUN.	28	4	.....	.....	0514	1947	0119 1401