

Sarawak Gazette

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The Sarawak Gazette

TUESDAY, JUNE 30th, 1964

TOURISM or the FUTURE of PLACIDITY?

Perhaps now is a suitable moment to make a general point about this Gazette. It is a government publication. But by very long tradition it is not run from above, or directed closely by high policy. Other and much more powerful channels have the full official view. Editors of the Gazette have long been allowed a latitude in what they write themselves or print from others. That is part of the point of the publication, an unusual one in any land.

It follows that, for instance, in the somewhat rambling observations on tourism now to be offered, government policy is NOT necessarily in any way involved—though, clearly we are writing as responsible persons within a government framework, just as a leader-writer in a newspaper keeps one eye firmly on his boss, the proprietor (but the other on his public, the reader). Neither here nor on any future occasion in such Gazette matter a reflection of direct government views. Rather, within the general framework of policy, the aim is to raise border-line issues, unsettled debates, ideas for further discussion inside the democratic framework of which Sarawak as a state and Malaysia as a nation are justly proud.

"TOURISM" in Sarawak (and throughout South-east Asia) is in the news. Yet seldom has the issue offered a less settled atmosphere for the consider. Maybe this only adds spice to the dish? Local interest has been lately sparked by the presence in Kuching,

of representatives from three tourist agencies—all American controlled. One has already opened a trial office here. The established agency considers we have a great tourist potential, predicts a boom in the next few years. A second expert found the hotels visited were "up to international standard" (whatever that is) and said that Sarawak could boost tourism more than any of her neighbours since there are "many more things to be seen in this country". The third, evidently went into the matter with more thoughtful caution. He was of the bold opinion that Kuching and Sibu were very behind Jeddah and Sandakan in thinking and planning; and he offered other interesting and useful advice,—albeit unwelcome to some?

Sabah, already has a tourist organization, with an experienced senior man in charge, to give guidance and offer experience, and to help tourism by external promotion. Hence, too, has a Tourist Bureau in the first fortnight of last month they handled 89 formal tourists, mostly from U.S.A. In those things, we must admit that our neighbours are a step ahead of us. But is it necessarily a step in the right direction?

The simple question is this, do we really want tourism in Sarawak at this moment? The immediate feeling, not! But a slower answer, yes, if it can fit into the other problems of 1964, and if the tourists can be sent away satisfied with us and we with THEM. What, then, do we have to offer? Unlike many other Asian countries we have no ancient buildings, no Angkor Wat. Our oldest, in fact, are the Court House and the Azlan—the former 110 and latter 94 years—not olden even by American standards. We have national parks. But the animals to be seen, though exciting, are shy and hard to watch except for the hardy and skilled jungle-goers. We have no open spaces of roaming big game, no lakes teeming with exotic waterbirds, alas. Lushes famed waterfalls is lovely—but awful smog over Zambesi or Niagara.

Sabah has three big advantages over Sarawak at this stage—though not necessarily in a few years time. First (and unmistakable) is that King of Mountains, highest in South-east Asia and one of the most beautiful on earth, Kinabalu. Access to it, by air and road, is well shown. There are many open spaces and fine views on the way. The upper mountain levels are protected by low and relatively easy for the ordinary walker (just and cool up there); so, round the sides, most for the intrepid mountaineers. Second, in Sabah, had no natural, easy system of navigable rivers, land transport just had to be developed way ahead of Sarawak, which was well served by so many mighty rivers. Thirdly, these same mighty rivers discharge, all along Sarawak's west coast, an everlasting flow of mud which makes blue water, fine bathing, swimming and all the rest of the pleasures of tropical sea-bicidry almost non-existent from Kuala Sarawak right up to Kuala Baram (and again in our Fifth Division), whereas at Jesselton, Kudat, Sandakan or Tawau you can enjoy superb bathing, diving and boating on the doorstep. Here Sabah by the sea has something on Sarawak that only another 1st Agt, a couple of billion Super-Scherman, and a couple of Island-wide Volcano-Eruptions are ever likely to undo.

What, then, has Sarawak got that Sabah has not? In the towns, we are rapidly catching up on our sister state in technical amenities (e.g. air-conditioned hotels). If our towns are sometimes more old-fashioned, they have an unobtrusive charm and style. Kuching has real character, a feel all its own, comparable only to a few places like Malacca on the Malaysian mainland. The Museum is a firm attraction; the range of local arts and crafts, vividly displayed there can now largely be bought at the Aurora Hotel Shop (corridor gallery) and elsewhere. Rapid advances have been made, though the Arts Council and several energetic education helpers, aimed to maintain (and even in some cases improve) the quality and the quantity of such work training in for sale—thus past blankets, Kayan wood-carving, Kayan *parangs*, Kuching Malay gold-thread weaving, Melanau basketry, Kolahit bead-work and so on. With all respect to the fine skills and crafts of the Kadazans, Bajaus and Muruts to our north, few will deny that in this field of art Sarawak is second to none,—not only in Borneo, but in Malaysia! The best Bornean carved bowls and Puanan patterned mats are among the finest craft works in the world, as that

which brings us on to the one unclouded and overwhelming tourist focus in this State, the LONG-HOUSE. Sabah has only a few—mostly the Rongga people behind Kudat. Borneo's are far up there or low rather wretched rivers; and poor things at that. On the Karam and Rajang, Bako, Ai, Tutoh, Saribas, Limbung, Tujau and many other rivers we can display—as our special facet of Malaysia—fine long-houses, living communities. There are arguments for and arguments against the long-house in the future; we hope to aid them in these columns before long! Whatever the arguments, though, they exist and thrive in 1964, as the basic way-of-life of a very large part of this state's population. A bad long-house can be horror. A good one, like many in the Baloh (Bhor), the Temenggong's at Long Akar (Konyah) and Belaga's at Belaga (Kayan), are handsome, clean, exciting, exciting with the very guts of the country—and its generous heart.

Here we begin to get into difficulties, though. Just how long can this generosity and good nature suffer the tourist approach? Perhaps the short answer is "a long-time", if the right houses are selected, the tours properly conducted, and some reasonable benefit derived by the inhabitants. For that matter, over the past 15 years a sort of V.I.P. longhouse hospitality system has been run by the Resident, Third Division and Data Temenggong Iqah, with conspicuous delight to the V.I.P.s and no known damage to anything except fairly tough obdurate and portable piglets.

Our contemporary, the "Borneo Bunter", has recently expressed strong views on the subject, however. In an editorial commenting on a visit of a party of 15 Italian tourists, it said that all who have the interests of indigenous Malaysians at heart will be disturbed at their recent excursion into the side to see "one of our famous native longhouses". But the visitors themselves were very impressed indeed. They suggested that more such trips should be organized. So what?

There are real difficulties involved. We suggest three things could be ineliminable, but (if foreseen) are avoidable, as possible future trends:

- (i) Uncontrolled rubber-working by small gangs of tourists or "tree hoppers", at large. (This is also highly undesirable for other reasons as well, including their own security).
- (ii) The development of phoney long-houses with phoney arts and phoney arts and crafts, growing up to meet an ignorant, outside demand.
- (iii) Any sort of condescension, patronage or bad manners by visitors to any long-house anywhere.

Unfortunately, a good many of these likely to sink us in the foreseeable future have come widely out-of-

date ideas about long-houses and Sarawak generally. Books like those by Jürgen Blich (Dane), Pierre Pflieger (French) and Guy Fassinol (Italian), to mention only three recent examples, give inaccurate and in places quite absurdly exaggerated ideas of how people here behave. And such books have been translated into many languages, very widely sold as genuine versions of present-day conditions. It is not unusual for newcomers (the other day even at least one fresh to government service here), to arrive checking their Jürgen Blich (spelt Blich in the Danish original) with one eye open for his famed tribe of missing-link pygmies!

NO, we want to show "native life" as it is,—dynamic, progressive and "in the mood", as well as traditional, natural and honourable in its own local right (and rise).

Here one may pause for as long as it takes to assimilate a stiff meal and recognize that, in actual fact, since the first week of December, 1963 (when a lot of Borneans and Malaysians went off their champs) large slices of Sarawak have been receiving visits from outsiders on a hitherto unimaginable scale. At least a score of previously remote communities, visited by any outsider once a year or less, suddenly become centres or hubs of activity—arts and scenes of race from Nepal, Uttar, Yorkshire, Edinburgh and (since September, 1963) Malaysia proper; soldiers, police, engineers, naval helicopter crews, R.A.F. pilots too.

It takes a LOT of change to change utterly; more still to destroy. What must our tourists do, then, if run with even half the same common-sense and sense of discipline as the security services? These effects depend, in the end, on orderly control. So long as government sets a positive policy, and local officers and their agents exercise authority under it without hesitation, tourism can probably do little harm to anyone, within defined limits. On the other hand, it can do some good to our far from divorced overseas. It's on the verandah now, spilling southward from Hong Kong, eastward from Singapore, by jet aircraft and luxury liner.

The issue has surely to be faced sooner or later. If we try and keep tourists out, they'll come in round the side. We have enough of that already from the Indonesians! It could get a bit like the old song:

"That the door, boys, They're coming through
the window!"

"Shut the window, boys! They're coming through
the door!"

A crypto-tourist can be almost as troublesome as a C.C.O. It may be best to get organized for them—with a polite undercurrent of "against" up the sleeve. Some areas may have to be totally banned—for security, or economy, or whatever other reason. No excuses are necessary—and the State is large. In Kuching for instance, the Secretariat is not open to parties from Texas, even though the President of the United States is Texas; but the Aurora is open even unto the basest goldwaver.

Further thinking and preparation has, of course, to be done, organization established, a form of guide-management system provided, if tourism is to be allowed really to "develop" here. More could be arranged, too, in stimulating the really good local dances and the wonderful Norwaki staging (e.g. Krayan). Few outsiders, even old-timers, ever see most of the really interesting dances or hear the superbly elaborate songs of our folk. For various (and rather absurd) reasons, over the years these people have got certain fixed ideas about the sort of song and dance suitable to Residents, D.O.s and other visitors. These have become, almost without exception, short, pale, unarranged and sometimes even meaningless versions of "the real thing". Here again, the Arts Council, with govern-

ment support, could play a useful part in bringing out the true beauty of Malaya from music or their ritual dances.

We can leave many other things to already more communication-developed States of Malaya. Malay dancing and drama, supreme in its kind, is best seen on the peninsula. The turtles are best seen on the wonderful long beaches of the East Coast in Tringganu, where there is room for visiting and sight-seeing, without the disturbance laid on our three tiny little island beaches offshore in Sarawak. Of course, once we go that far, clearly the final solution is a "Pan-Malaysian Pocket Tour", including the majestic new Parliament buildings of Kuala Lumpur, wild tigers and tigers in Pahang, ending up with sundry night-life in Singapore and that hang-over inside soft tones of the Van Klief Aquarium.

The other day (June 22) the Chairman of Head Singapore Investment, Mr. Richard K. M. Du, put it in a nutshell in his annual report. After welcoming the establishment in Singapore of a Government Tourist Board, he added:

... our best salesman abroad is the *unspoiled tourist*.

A real tourist, in a rather difficult land like ours, is that if we do genuinely accept tourists, then we may send them away disappointed, before we get involved in anything, we have to be sure to satisfy. To satisfy not only the visitors, but the people they visit. This latter is the heart of the matter. Tourism can be a profitable—and even stimulating—industry. But it can only too easily, under present conditions, become a pain in the neck.

Anthony Trollope, immortal of English prose, in what is surely his best of so very many novels, "The Fastest Diamond" (1873), tells a story that provides an appropriate end-note to this saga of doubtful adventures. A gentleman once, on ordering a meal for his fish dinner, was told that a fresh mackerel (that *scotch*) would cost him a shilling; but for night, he was told, he served with a stale one for sixpence (20 cents). "Then bring me a stale mackerel", exclaimed the gentleman.

We don't want that sort here! Beware lest we get it. . . . Too late, then, to cry stinking fish. . . .

Birthday of His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong

On the 3rd June, 1964, Sarawak, in common with all other States in the new Federation of Malaya celebrated the birthday of His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

In Kuching, the capital, the celebrations took the form of a Ceremonial Parade in the morning and a Variety and Cultural Show in the afternoon, both at the Central Padang, with, in addition, a football match at Puchong and a reception at the Astana in the evening.

A bright sky with a cool morning breeze, which later turned to intense heat, brought out a large crowd to witness the parade. Flags and banners fluttering in the breeze added colour to the occasion.

At the seven o'clock strike eight, the gates of Fort Margherita started to boom out a twenty-one gun salute—the first accorded to His Majesty in Sarawak. Simultaneously, His Excellency the Governor, Dato Abang Haji Apeng, in his uniform of the Malaysian Civil Service, arrived at the Padang accompanied by the Datin Hajah Muziah and proceeded to mount the dais erected behind the invited guests and facing the various contingents which had already been drawn up in parade formation. These included the 4th Royal Malay Regiment, the Sarawak Constabulary, the Es-Scribers

Association of Sarawak, the Boys' Brigade, Boy Scouts, Civil Guides, the Sarawak Red Cross and the Salvation Army. Command was, for the first time, given in Malay.

After inspecting the contingents on parade, His Excellency the Governor took the Salute at the March Post. At the same time, two Royal Air Force Jetstream fighters, and two Bellvedere and seven Whirlwind helicopters roared low over the Padang in close formation.

In the afternoon, His Excellency attended a Variety and Cultural Show at the Padang organised by nine Malay Youth Clubs in Kuching.

In the football match, also played in the afternoon, at Puchong, a Kuching Malay Youth Club selected team defeated a team representing the Combined Malaysian Armed Forces by six goals to two.

In the evening, His Excellency the Governor and Datin Hajah Muziah entertained some six hundred guests at a reception on the lawn of the Astana.

Honours

During the month of June, two separate honours lists were issued in Sarawak; the first on the 3rd June containing the names of those Sarawak citizens—all Malaysians—who had been honoured with awards on the occasion of the birthday of His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong; and the second on 12th June containing the names—all Europeans, either resident or recently resident in Sarawak—of those who had been honoured with awards on the occasion of the official birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

With the coming into being of Malaya, we can now expect a possible four honours lists a year in Sarawak, namely: on 1st January, Queen Elizabeth II's New Year Honours List; on 3rd June, His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's Birthday honours; some time early in June, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Official Birthday honours and on 14th October our own Sarawak Governor's birthday honours.

This year there have already been thirty awards of honours contained in three lists, His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's birthday honours 22; Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's New Year Honours 5; and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Official Birthday Honours 3.

We congratulate the recipients of honours bestowed during June and record their names and honours awarded them below.

His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's Birthday Honours List

Jaya Dato Marjan Nopon

Dato Temenggong Jagah anak Barong

Kawan Dato Marjan Nopon

Abang Haji Adnan bin Abang Haji Anshah

Abdi Dato Marjan Nopon

Awang Haji Jaid bin Awang Mahidin

Isah Mohamed bin Haji Bakri

Isah Mohamed Taib bin Ali

Mr. Ong Yong Chuan

Pengarah Muzium anak Tuggang

Tuan Haji Saion bin Selang

Mr. Tan Kuan Poh

Mr. Tazong anak Mingkan

Mrs. Vida Boyang

Mrs. Wilhelmina Tan

Mr. Wong Kie Tong

Mr. Austin Jaga

Raja Pengiran Negara

Mr. Hojung bin Ramayan
 Mr. Julius Chung
 Mr. Khoo Kah Kheng
 Mr. Ling Kee Choo
 Mr. Sia Soon Chung
 Penghulu Manggai anak Ajan

*Gallantry Awards—Kapitan Peranakan
Kebudayaan*

Mr. Hit Apa of Kapit District
 Mr. Ieh anak Nyaran of Song District

**Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Official Birthday
Honours.***Commander of the British Empire*

Mr. R. Kirkwood, Regional Director, Post and
 Telegraphs, Kuching. *Formerly of Sarawak.*

Officer of the Order of the British Empire

Dr. J. D. Finlayson, Medical Officer, formerly of
 Sarawak.

Member of the Order of the British Empire

Mr. R. Babson, Field Officer, Royal Communi-
 cation Society for the Blind, Kuching,
 Sarawak.

Pieces from the Brooke Past—II

SELECTED FROM THE STATE ARCHIVES

by

W. J. CHATER

Scholar and Statesman

It is said that the second Rajah, Sir Charles Brooke, having served as a midshipman in the Royal Navy in his youth, observed certain naval traditions for the rest of his life. This is possibly the reason why he possessed, in his later years, almost an obsession for salutes, especially those which affected him personally and the Sarawak flag; as well as the question of his own personal status as Rajah of Sarawak.

His letters show that he was always extremely sensitive regarding these points, but although he was accustomed to receive a personal salute of 15 guns when visiting Labuan this was only out of courtesy shown by the Governor since he had at this time (1889), in fact, no claim to such an honour until 1901, when his order of precedence as the English Crown and in the Empire was ranked as first after the ruling Princes of India. Similarly, the Sarawak flag usually received a salute of 21 guns from British warships in Sarawak waters, but again purely out of courtesy shown by the Admirals and Captains of these vessels who were not under orders to do so.

The following letter from the Archibute is an example of how sensitive the Rajah was to anything regarding salutes which he assumed might have been a slight on himself or the Sarawak flag but, at least, this letter did bring matters to a head and produce results as you will see later.

Kuching.

25th May, 1889.

"H.E. Sir Rowell Salmon, K.C.B., V.C.,
 Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief,
 H.M.S. *Amphitrite*,
 Singapore (or anywhere).

Your Excellency,

I have the honour with all respect to bring to Your Excellency's notice the fact that heretofore

it has been customary to salute the Sarawak flag in Sarawak waters with twenty-one guns.

This has been the practice for the last forty years and more, and any change is naturally likely to be commented on in an unfavourable light by the Native Chiefs who form part of the Sarawak Government, and also by the general community, who feel a certain amount of pride in the independence of their country, of the ruler, and of their institutions.

I have understood by the late British Protectorate granted to Sarawak that the Government and country were not to be touched or altered so far as its local administration and independence were concerned, in fact this is stated in the Deed of Agreement between England and Sarawak, and I explained this fact with special stress laid upon it, in the Supreme Council, to the Native Members before the Protectorate was accepted.

On all previous occasions when vessels of war have visited Sarawak, the flag has received a full salute and, of course, the change now under British Protection, if continued, forms a new rule.

On the occasion of my visit to Her Majesty's Ship *Peperang* at Your Excellency's kind invitation, if the flag had not been hoisted, I should not have commented on this affair, as then the salute would only have been in the light of a private mark of honour to myself, a British subject, which is of secondary importance, though I may mention the fact that heretofore, I have always, except in the case of H.M.S. *Sappho* about a month ago, received 19 guns in the Port of Labuan accorded me by H.E. Sir Henry Bulmer and other Governors—but as far as the private matter is concerned, I will waive the question, especially, when beyond the limit of Sarawak territory.

Regarding it, however, in a public light, may I request Your Excellency in the event of any of Her Majesty's ships of war calling in Sarawak waters that provided the flag cannot be honoured as heretofore by the full number of guns that has been accorded to it by Admirals and Naval Captains, it shall receive no mark of honour in the form of a salute, and be permitted to pass unnoticed.

In this way, any feeling of apprehension or disappointment on the part of Chiefs or people may be avoided.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's

Humble and Obedient Servant,

C. BROOKE

Rajah"

The late Rajah (he was now aged 60) obviously insisted on "all or nothing at all".

Then, as if as an afterthought, four months later, on 1st September, 1889, in case any British warship in Sarawak waters should salute any of his Ports, determined not to be the least in this question of guns, he issued an order that all salutes should be returned gun for gun.

A month later, and five months after having written the above letter, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty issued instructions that Her Majesty's ships were in future to salute the Rajah with 21 guns.

With the subject of salutes still very much in mind, he then did an extraordinary thing by issuing another order, also on 1st September, 1889, in which he drew up a detailed official list of all those whom he considered should be entitled to military salutes, and divided them into three classes—each with its appropriate salute—as follows.

1st Class Salute.

His Lordship the Bishop.

Divisional Residents.

The Treasurer.

European Members of the Supreme Council.

The Commandants, Sarawak Rangers.

The Principal Medical Officer.

The Deans, Bander.

Consuls.

2nd Class Salute.

Residents 2nd Class (retired to 1st Class salutes in their own Districts).

Magistrates, Kuching Courts.

The Superintendent of Works & Surveys at F.W.D.

The Inspector of Police and Prisons.

Medical Officers.

Assistant Residents.

Officers in charge of Districts.

The Government Chaplain.

The Native Members of the Supreme Council.

Vice-Consuls.

3rd Class Salute.

All other junior 1st Class Officers and Cadets.

The forms of salutes given were, 1st Class, Full present arms, 2nd Class, Arms across body in rifle butt, 3rd Class, Simply attention.

It is said that this system of salutes caused a sort of caste system among the Europeans since the local people began to refer to them as 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class Europeans instead of Officials.

There is evidence that a system of this kind must have been in force much earlier since Mrs. Middleton, wife of the Chief Constable, Joseph Middleton (1838-1868) is described in the "Memoirs of Bishop McDougall and of Harriette his Wife" as a second class European.

It is also said that, amongst the Indians, this caused much resentment to some and bitter disappointment to others, as it fixed once and for all their order of precedence at State and social functions. This might have been one of the points the Rajah had in mind.

To return to the subject of the Rajah's status, when in England in 1874, he requested leave to attend one of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's levees as Rajah of Sarawak, the answer by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was somewhat discouraging in view of Sarawak having been recognised as an independent State. He was informed that Her Majesty's Government did not see their way to present him to the Queen as the Rajah of Sarawak, but that he could attend the levee in the private capacity of an English gentleman simply as Mr. Brooke. The Rajah took exception to this, but the officials insisted that "Rajah of Sarawak" should be placed in brackets after his name, Mr. C. Brooke, as though in apology for his position. A successful conclusion to this question was not to be arrived at until twenty-seven years later (1901).

When King Edward VII came to the throne in that year, one of the things in which he was quick to show an interest was the affairs of Sarawak and the status of its ruler and after making full enquiries he decided that the Rajah of Sarawak should be given precedence at the English Court immediately after the ruling Prince of India, but his son's Sarawak title was not recognised and they were not allowed to be presented at Court until 1913 in the reign of King George V.

On receiving the news the Rajah was highly elated since at last his rank at Court and in the Empire had been confirmed and with it automatically went the right to a 19 gun salute. He was again in England when he received the news and replied immediately as follows.

August, 24th, 1901.

Brook's Hotel,
Downer Street,
London.

"His Majesty's Principal Secretary
of State for Colonial Affairs,
Downing Street,
London.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of yesterday's date, announcing that it has been His Majesty's Command that I shall hold rank immediately next to the Prince of India, and I hereby express my thanks and appreciation for His Majesty's most gracious favour.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

C. BROOKE
Rajah"

However, he was in for bitter disappointment when he learnt later that this had not been the result of a spontaneous act of the King but had, in fact, been brought about by the Rango who had signed the Rajah's name in the King's Book and thus drawn His Majesty's attention to the matter.

Unable to contain her excitement at the result, she wrote to the Rajah and gave him the facts and the following is his reply written on 18th October, 1901.

Oakley Hall,
Grimston.

"Dearst Margaret,

Your letters and enclosures have arrived. I must confess that the King's notice of my position has fallen 50 per cent in my estimation as I thought he had paid me the honour without in any way being solicited. I do not wish my name to be written in the King's Book, nor anything more done. Sarawak, I consider, as well as myself are able to take care of ourselves and such worldly-like ambition neither does the country nor myself any more of real benefit whenever anybody may say and think to the contrary. I wish to live and die in peace in my own narrow way of thinking—arrogant as it no doubt is according to aristocratic ideas—an simple particular.

I would rather that no more letters passed on the subject.

Yours ever,
C. BROOKE"

This was a real blow to the old Rajah's pride. He was now aged seventy-two and had already ruled Sarawak for thirty-three years. This is the last recorded interest that he showed in his own personal status as Rajah of Sarawak. Perhaps it was now too late to care about "such worldly-like ambitions" any more, since his status had been recognised—but it had not been brought about in the manner in which he would have wished.

"Tau Tepung": (Iban) Evil Eye or Witchcraft

I. AN EVIL-EYE PERSON, THE IBAN IDEA

("Tau Tepung")

by

BERNARD SAGAN

In Iban, a person with the evil-eye is known as "Tau Tepung"; or literally interpreted as an "Evil Eye"—"Tau Malar". The history of the origin of persons who possess such a power to bewitch is related as follows.

In older times, a certain man of Iban Paka Mar, Tai Manang, Terong Nanggang, went to the forest with his blowpipe to shoot birds. In the forest he shot an Argus Pheasant, *Argus Rana*. After he had killed it he brought it to the longhouse. On his arrival he placed the dead bird in a winnowing basket (*rihapen*) on his communal verandah.

Seeing to find a bird the children rushed to look closely at it. As they stood near it, the bird suddenly gave a strange low sound, known as *Nyentun* in Iban. The children laughed at this while some of them ran into their respective rooms to tell their mothers. The women came out. Some of them opened the bird's mouth and noticed a tiny thing like a knife stuck in its throat. Seeing this, one of them said: "It must be a knife given to us by Kamang and Lukong, the postboys of Gelong and Pangau Lifen, so that we can become expert in weaving *pas kareta* (blankets) and other cloth".

Later, when the man dressed the bird for cooking, he took a knife out from its throat and gave it to his wife. He divided the flesh among those who wanted to eat of it. This was only done by some. In the night, a certain woman dreamed the *net* a spirit which told her that all those who had eaten the flesh of the bird must hereafter become evil eyes.

In the morning she told her dream to the people of the longhouse. This information frightened them. They realised that this dreadful case would affect their future descendants, of course.

Shortly after this strange event, the distressed people of the village separated themselves from the rest. They refused to form the same *triat* of land, nor would they approve the marriage of their children with those who had eaten the bird. This sort of attitude is still continued, in some places, even to the present day.

A person with the evil eye could never have a good effect on anything. If he passed a fruit tree and said how plentiful the fruits were, the same would suddenly drop. Again if he passed a hen with many chicks and remarked how plentiful they were, that same hen would not produce as many chicks as before. It was, and is, due to this that the evil-eye people will always remain very poor.

The laws of Sarawak forbade people to accuse one another of this thing. If a person complained such an offence he would be fined one *picul* (or \$M 25.00), in the same way as a person who called another a slave.

For many years after the Sinsungang Court opened in 1864, there were cases brought to the court by persons who had been accused of "Tau Tepung". In every case where it was proved, a heavy fine was inflicted. But if a person being accused of "Tau Tepung" was a thoughtful person he probably would not bring the matter to the Court. For he would see that although the offender would be fined, according to the customary law, he himself would become more widely known as a "member" of the evil-eye family.

II. ORANG TAU TEPANG: RUNDING IBAN

Nyali asal penamal orang ke dikambai tau tepung sabakita dibebet tau maket nya bakata.

Agi belia bini siko orang teme ke temang tau siko di Iban Paka Mar, Tai Manang, Terong Nanggang, nyampit ke dalam kampung. Datal iya dalam kampung dia iya nyampit barong tau siko, ti lalu siko iya. Barong tau iya lalu dibet iya paku ke rumah, dural di rumah lalu diangkut iya mas chapen ba rangap tau.

Meda barong apamalah nya gawai, anak mi lalu begun beranda tin, deka meda ke iya. Leboh sika berperang ke iya, siki rasi lalu apemba. Niaga omba tau, sika lalu korwa, sataba sika lalu belanda ke sika mada ke sika, penyala barong nya. Datal sika lalu inda dural, sika lalu tau rebaga ke maket barong, ti sika sika bini meda sika mi bender baka barong. "O kaku meda lungga dibet sika Kamang sika Lukong ari Gelong ari Pangau Lifen ngapi kiki, ngapi ke kiki lantik ngapi lantik nyali lantik maring lantik ngapi barong", ke sika.

Udah nya leboh iya ke baki barong nya maket barong, iya lalu ngapi ke lungga ari barong maring iya. Lungga nya lalu dural ke iya ngapi bini iya campu. Pita muga ke barong nya lalu dibet iya ngapi sanna sika ti deka maket, ke barong ke maket sanna iya orang maket. Nyali maket nya siko baka bini sampa ti sika iya asal ke barong ngapi sika ti maket ngapi iya nya sanna sika ti sika maket ke barong nya deka lalu ngapi tau tepung.

Tema paji siki iya lalu maso mampi diri ngapi sika sanna. Niaga sampa mampi nya sika lalu leboh ari, lutan sanna sika maso sampa nya iya lalu apamalah ngapi rebek sika saba sika dural ke dural bini.

Tanda luma saba baka ke, orang ti sika maket barong nya, nyali nyera pentalis diri ari bala sika ti maket iya. Sika ke nyera diri nyali sika maso dural ngapi sika maso baki burai barong; sika muga nya ngapi aji betamp belaki belaki ngapi bala sika ti sika maket barong nya. Runding ke aji bender dipagi penamal sika ke sataba ender dalam maso ke dural ke komsiti.

Nyali orang ti tau tepung sika tau tepung ngapi sika ke jali maso. Kiki iya maso baki lalu ngapi baki iya khat, lutan tau iya, baki nya lalu deka rebek. Pita muga siki iya maso maket lada burai maket, and iya nyera penamal anak sika, maso nya ngapi aji burai apamalah nya buru. Nya sika ari ngapi maso baka ke, nya kataba saba sika ke tau tepung sanna sanna bera ari dural ngapi maso.

Nyali sika dalam Sarawak sika ngapi orang ngapi baki diri maso diri tau tepung. Barong sapa ngapi pangan tau tepung, iya deka koma sikon berai, ngapi sika and paku ngapi maso wang \$M 25.00, maso sabakita ngapi penyampu sikon and ngapi pangan sika.

Adi sambung ke, sika dipagi di Sinsungang dalam tahun 1864, maket bender pesterah saba luma dural ke paku orang ngapi pangan tau tepung. Nyali asal asal ke maso, iya ti saba deka dikambai baki. Tang tau paku, and iya ti dikambai tau tepung nya orang ke berperang, iya ngapi maso laka baka ke ngapi kiki. Kataba baka nya maso orang ti saba nya koma sanna sika ke adia sanna, tang iya muga deka dural orang nya sika orang ti tau tepung. Nyali and iya sika diri orang ti sika maso temo muga sika maso iya nya tau tepung.

III. THE EVIL EYE IN THE COURTS

by
W. J. CHURCH

The statements made above, that persons accused of evil eye were reluctant to take cases to Court, seems to be borne out by an analysis of Court Records recently carried out in the Archives Section of the Sarawak Museum. These show that out of a total of 14,337 cases in four main Divisions between 1874 and 1918, only four came under this heading. All four cases were in the Second Division, and between Iban.

The few records available also seem to suggest that the Courts were reluctant to accept the charge of "evil eye" and the case was either dismissed as being absurd or the charge reframed to one of "abuse" or "defamation". However, under whatever charge the case was eventually tried, and whatever the result, the stigma always remained, and any person involved was regarded with suspicion for the rest of his life.

The following are the four recorded cases brought before the Courts over the period, but one has been taken out to give the slightest clue to any persons involved, since the Iban with their devoted custom of memorising the pedigree of their ancestors would recognise the parties at once, and great shame might inadvertently be brought on their descendants.

Case 1. Betong; 27th March, 1877

Plaintiff accused defendant of saying that he was able to *sempang*. This had happened some time before and the case had been settled by the Deputy by *abeyah*, according to their custom. Since then, defendant had again accused plaintiff of possessing this power.

Defendant stated that it was a long time ago. It was true that he did say that plaintiff could *sempang*, but since that occasion some six years before, he had not said it again. He stated that plaintiff's *sempang* is to the diving was false as it never came off, and in any case the Saribas had all been called out to take part in the Malak Expedition.

Plaintiff maintained that it was before the Expedition.

Case dismissed.

Case 2. Sintang; 31st October, 1883

Plaintiff complained that defendant was *tan sepong* and had prevented him by means of this power from catching any fish in his fish traps.

The defendant denied having done anything of the kind.

An old Malay woman said that defendant told her to tell plaintiff that the reason why he could catch no fish was because he (defendant) had cast a spell on the fish (*tan sepong*); defendant denied this.

The case was dismissed as absurd, but the defendant was warned not to make a fool of himself in future and talk nonsense—or he might be taken in court by the parties concerned.

Case 3. Sintang; 13th November, 1900

Female plaintiff accused defendant of saying that she was *tan sepong* and that he had also said that she had cursed his farm on several occasions.

Defendant said that plaintiff had burnt some of his paddy and when he asked her for the usual *pondok* (compensation) she cursed his paddy. He denied calling plaintiff a "*sepong*" (*witch*).

The Tual Rumbak (head of the long-house) said that he heard defendant call plaintiff a "*sepong*", but that plaintiff did not lay a curse on defendant's farm.

Defendant fined \$2.00 for abuse.

Case 4. Sintang; 17th December, 1900

The plaintiff complained that he had been unjustly fined by two of the Chiefs of his district for *tan sepong*. He had allowed them to try this case, because he had been threatened that if he went to Sintang Court

he would be fined at least two pikul *sempang* (255 1/2 lbs brass, usually paid in goats or small cannons).

Defendant had said that plaintiff's *sempang* had been fined for saying that he was *tan sepong*, which led to a quarrel among some children.

The defendant said he did not at first know that the case was *tan sepong* but admitted that he did not tell the two chiefs to settle it all the same.

The Sintang Court ordered the fine to be returned to plaintiff.

IV. THE EVIL EYE ELSEWHERE IN SARAWAK (AND SARAWAK)

by

TONN HANSEN

It would be a serious oversimplification to say that the "Evil Eye" is essentially an Iban idea. It would be true to say that the Iban and their neighbours, the Lund Dayak, attach more strength to this particular form of evil influence than most Borneans. Among the northern inland Sarawak peoples, for instance, the world is full of potentially evil influences. In a way that is at the very roots of traditional pagan "animism". It is also deep in the new cult of *Bungan Malin*, which has spread so tremendously through central Borneo (especially Kalimantan) in the past fifteen years, and centres in part on the symbolism of horribil, egg and dream.

Among the Bidayuh Land Dayaks of the upper Savan District it is also traditional to believe that *Tukuh Sempang*, specialist spell-binding, can project, over long distances, evil into and through an egg. Unlike most forms of Bornean "magic", this is nearly always a purely masculine skill. Just a few days ago (June, 1964) a highly educated Land Dayak was telling me that some Indonesian Land Bidayuh from across the border were being very much feared at present. Their particular form of contamination is the power to focus an eye on anything and have an instant impact on the spot. To be effective they must get within about 20 yards of you (though range, so to speak). Then the most powerful can actually shift your heart; you die within the hour. Withering a banana tree is a side-line for these specialists, once roused.

Further north, we find other versions of these "magician" skills. The upper Kelabit believe that the coastal Binaya of the lower Limbung can cast spells and project lethal poisons. Enterprising Kelabits are said to have taken paid courses in this craft, for some one—and there was a serious charge of this kind laid in 1954 (though dealt with quietly at the *bruduan* level).

Broadly, however, the inland Kelabits, Kayans and Kerepaks do not much believe in this sort of *sempang* evil. The coastal Kadayans, on the other hand, do; but are very sceptical about this.

In the Iban story told by Benedict Sandin above, the association is of course with the spectacular, bearded, eye-patterned of the Argus Pheasant, one of Borneo's largest and loveliest birds. Many other stories refer to this pheasant, now—and often in the context of cheating or deception. One of the most widespread through the inland regions how *Siam* birds some other bird into painting (or tattooing) on some elaborate designs, then refuses to keep its half of the bargain and redemptive. But usually direct evil consequences of using any animal here are centred on stories of giant snakes or other monsters, and the consequence is generally even more severe than in this Iban version,—viz: the whole community is perilled, turned into stone. (Many such stories are to be found in the last 12 issues of the Sarawak Museum Journal and elsewhere).

It is significant, perhaps, that several inland groups wear an Arqun Pincunat headdress in decoration, (e.g. on hats) even where they are often visited. No "reason" for this survives into the present, so far as I know. The greatest users of Arqun headdresses are undoubtedly the Tagal Muruts, a few of whom live behind Lawas in the Fifth Division of Sarawak, many in the northern part of Sabah and many more through Lomaha down to Long Basing and the Mioningay River in northern Kalimantan. In general, it is fair to say that ideas of evil influences and especially malevolent monsters are probably stronger in Sabah than in Sarawak. Every few weeks there are reports on such matters in the local press of Sabah, though rarely in Sarawak. May be we could do with a fairer share of those and less of other and more organized sorts of spiritual subversion down here. Nor is there any racial discrimination in these matters, as the following item from a very recent issue of the *Straits Times* proves.

GIRL TELLS OF THREAT TO USE WITCHCRAFT

JERSELTOWN, PE.—A schoolgirl said in the magistrate's court here today that a man threatened her with witchcraft if she gave evidence against his friend who was charged with outraging the modesty of a woman.

Miss Chong Li Kien, 14, was giving evidence in a case in which Chai Koo Song was charged with outraging the modesty of Sim Gook Lan.

Miss Chong said that another man, Yap Kiew, who lived in the same flat as Chai, Sim, had herself threatened to use witchcraft if she gave evidence in the case.

So the *Strangings and Being Court* books of 50-60 years ago enter into sophisticated 1964. If we wish to look further than this, then of course the whole idea of *Aster eyes* goes back into Western mythology, Greece, Roman, and all,—every bit as much as *Saribas* and *Rimas*.

Terry Weekes, R. I. F.

On the morning of the 2nd June, a pipe of the 2,5th B. E. C. Curtha Rifles played a Lament, "Flowers of the Forest" as the ashes of the late J. T. Weekes were lowered into a grave at Long Semado in the Uplands of the Ulu Trusan, Fifth Division.

Terry died tragically when on leave in England; and at his mother's request his ashes were sent out for burial in Lawas, his favourite district.

The Burial Service, conducted in Malay, was attended by Panglima Lempay and his people, who had known Terry so well. Terry was an omnivorous District Officer who was always happiest when travelling in upriver areas. But his great love was the Ulu Trusan and that is where he would wish to be. I am sure too that he would approve of the site which the Muruts selected for his grave. It is not tucked away in some secluded corner, but lies next to the school football field close to the main track to Lawas, very much at the centre of Long Semado life. It overlooks the valley of the Trusan, which I hope will soon see the development for which he strove as District Officer, Lawas.

The cross on the grave is inscribed:

John Terence Weekes	
Born	8. 8.22
Died	21. 1.64
District Officer, Lawas	
17.10.57	— 23.10.59
7.12.59	— 1. 4.60

(and in Malay, by the Muruts)

HERE LIES THE FAITHFUL WHO SERVED SO WELL, SO MUCH RESPECTED, SO WELL REMEMBERED, THIS DAY AND EVERMORE.

MALCOLM MacSPRUEAN
Raffles, London

Skull and Cross-Bones

by

ROBERT MCGILL

The Sarawak Museum Annual, Vol. XI Nos. 21-22, which has just been published, contains articles of outstanding historical interest. To begin with there is Dr. Nicholas Tarding's on "The James Brooke and Brunei".

Dr. Tarding is Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Queensland and the author of "Fancy and Fidelity in the Malay World" (published by Donald Moore Limited, 1963). His Sarawak Museum Journal article amplifies Chapter III in the latter work. I here offer further observations arising from his work, and other historical sources.

Professor Tarding's researches have thrown new light on the course of events in South-East Asia during the last century, and some of the obscure pages of Sarawak's past have now been illumined. It has been customary to start Sarawak history with the arrival of James Brooke, rather as Holy War starts with the Garden of Eden. But such techniques are un sound, for they ignore all that has gone before; and in both cases previous events so profoundly influenced the narrative, that without elucidating them the chronicle becomes unintelligible. The latest date at which Sarawak history proper can commence is 1311, the Portuguese capture of Malacca, for from that depend all other events that have followed.

The Indonesian archipelago differed from most other parts of the world in that, apart from Java, it offered no firm basis for territorial claims. Its small population was scattered along the fringes of jungle, and was kept together only by the tenuous ties of coastal traffic. The states of the region were not territorial monarchies but trading empires, similar to the medieval European republics of Venice and Genoa. They depended for their strength upon their ability to keep the mastery of the seas, and assure the unimpeded flow of sea-borne commerce. The impact of the Europeans during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries shattered all the native states capable of maintaining law and order, but put nothing in their place. For though the Europeans enjoyed technological advantages in much superior ships and armaments, they were numerically but a handful, incapable of settling or even poling the area; they had the power to destroy but lacked the ability to create. Once the Portuguese, Spaniards and Dutch had destroyed the naval power of the native states, these rapidly disintegrated and authority was atomised, as occurred in Europe during the dark years of the tenth and early eleventh centuries. The Sultan or Rajahs being reduced to impotence, lost all control over their subjects. As in India from the wreckage of the Mogul Empire the provincial governors, or Nawabs, emerged as sovereign princes, so in the Archipelago the Pengrangs, Datus or Rajahs, who had been officers of some Sultan or high ruler, now set up for themselves in their own right, and their former master counted himself fortunate if he could still exact some annual tribute. The classic example of such over-riding subjects is, of course, Sir James Brooke himself.

The eighteenth century was a period of mounting anarchy. As the Netherlands East India Company became increasingly embarrassed, so it became more and more oppressive, and sought to recoup its losses by creating an artificial scarcity, thereby securing higher

prices for smaller shipments. Hence the destruction of pepper crops and the confiscation of cargoes, which had the effect of undermining the whole economy of the area. As commerce contracted, so the petty rulers at each river mouth sought to seize what they could, covering merchants in jail at their ports, and levying dues or making seizures of those who would pass by. This was the anarchy and oppression that the nineteenth century inherited from the eighteenth.

It is easy to see in retrospect that there were, but few possible solutions: either strong native states must emerge, or European rule must be imposed. In fact neither was possible: no native rulers of any competence appeared, and had any attempted to reconstitute the great empires of the past, they could have incurred European wrath and intervention, though Governor Pufferson of Singapore declared that only strong native states could bring any stability to the afflicted Archipelago. The possibility of direct European rule was ruled out in the case of the Dutch by weakness, and in that of the British by policy. The Netherlands had emerged from the Napoleonic Wars much weakened, and were occupied by the successor of Belgium in 1830; only in the latter part of the century were they in a position to give substance to their claims in the Archipelago. Great Britain emerged from the same wars by far the wealthiest nation in the world, with a fleet which equalled the sum of all other fleets. But she was in a strongly anti-colonial mood, even in mid-century the leader of the Tory Party, Benjamin Disraeli, could hope before long "to be rid of the damned colonies". Canada, New Zealand and South Africa were more trouble than they were worth, Australia was tolerable only as a dumping ground for convicts. The vast sub-continent of India alone sufficed to attract the talent and reward the enterprise of vagrant Englishmen. For the rest, policy was firmly established that annexations should be strictly limited to strategic, coaling stations, and harbours of strategic significance, hence Penang, Singapore, Labuan and Hong Kong.

This mentality was the natural outcome of the industrial revolution. England possessed such a lead over all other nations in industrial technology, that the need was no more than freedom to trade in order to assess wealth immeasurably greater than would be procured from territorial expansion. When she could understand any rival in the market place, there was no point in her undertaking expensive wars in the places. But this attitude to politics was far from pacific, indeed it proved bellicose in the extreme, and was finally crystallised in Palmerston's infamous *Cris de Commerce* Speech of 1830, which announced the dictum that no trade was sacred, the British merchant could do no wrong. It was the age of gambol diplomacy, when the viceroy roostered best, but to run up the British flag to escape justice, and the most abandoned ruffians could invade the substance of the Queen's Navy in their delirious enterprises.

It is against this background that the problem of piracy must be studied, and here Dr. Turling's analysis is most penetrating. Piracy existed, indeed it existed on a large scale, and the offenders were the *Barons of Borneo*, whose great fleets of perahu annually set off in November with the North-East Monsoon and swept round the southern side of Borneo to the Sulu Settlements, returning home by the north side with the South-West Monsoon in August, harrying and devastating as they went. These people were pirates pure and simple; they lived by piracy, indeed they spent hardly three months of the year in their homelands, and that only to refit their vessels and dispose of their gains. Dr. Turling points out that the *Barons* owed their astounding immunity (they continued to ravage up till the 1850's) less to their undoubted seamanship, than to the palaeosity of the European power. Nominally

they were subjects of the Sultan of Sulu, but he was in practice a puppet in the Sultan of Brunei, his seat barely run in his own capital, in reality they inhabited waters where the ill-defined zones of influence of England, Holland and Spain clashed, and because of the bickerings of these three, the *Barons* escaped with impunity.

The *Datus*, *Rajahs* and *Pengrangs*, who sprung up in the wreckage of the Malay states cannot properly be considered as pirates. They regarded themselves as sovereigns and their concern was not to destroy trade, but to annex it, the means they used, however, were open to misinterpretation. They would in any case disappear as soon as effective governments, either native or foreign, was established.

The *Barons* of the Suluhan and Suluhan could by no stretch of the imagination be considered pirates. Annually they indulged in head-hunting forays during the off-season, just as otherwise respectable Englishmen at certain times of the year slaughter grouse. The fact that these forays were frequently undertaken by women, and were led by rival *Datus* and *Pengrangs* for their own ends, does not justify the charge of piracy. At exactly the same time the *Kayans* were annually taking *Brunei*, but nobody ever stigmatised them as pirates.

The abuse of the term pirate derived from current British policy, which was definitely committed to protecting lawful trade, but wholly opposed to intervention in the internal affairs of native states. Were a British subject mistreated, fearsome reparation could be exacted or it need be a *travaux* raised, but Her Majesty's shipment on no account become involved in disputes between native rulers. Because of this principle, the word pirate was given a vast extension, for as the navy could only be invoked if piracy were taking place or apprehended, so whenever it was desirable to launch naval assistance, the cry of piracy was raised. Again the classic example is afforded by Sir James Brooke.

James first established himself as *Rajah* or Governor of Sarawak, and this custody he finally transformed into sovereignty. He brought law and order in the distracted province largely with the assistance of the naval vessels, H.M.S. *Samarang*, H.M.S. *Dido* and H.M.C.S. *Philopation*. This was indeed a most laudable cause, but it would never have been possible for him to procure the services of these vessels had he not stigmatised his opponents as pirates. It was after all, even by most liberal interpretation, no part of the duties of Her Majesty's ships to serve a private kingdom out of the Sultan's dominions for Mr. Brooke.

In his article in the new *Malayan Journal*, Dr. Turling analyses Sir James Brooke's relations with the Sultan of Brunei. In the earlier years he had nominally courted a *Baron* and reformed *Brunei*, guided by his two friends *Rajah Muda Hassan* and *Pengrang Badabuddin* (Sir James was a notoriously bad judge of men). When, however, these came to a violent end in 1843, he set about consolidating his own position and abandoned cooperation of reform. In this he was obviously right; *Brunei* had to wait exactly a century for the changes he had envisaged. But Sir James (the R.C.B. was awarded in 1848) now became caught in the web. In 1847 he had been appointed Her Majesty's Commissioner and Consul General in Borneo, and in 1848 Governor of Labuan. These two offices were fundamentally irreconcilable with building a private kingdom in Sarawak at the Sultan's expense. The Sultan, albeit he was an imposed puppet, maintained friendly relations with the British Government, how then could Sir James as Her Majesty's Commissioner with the help of the British navy strip him of his provinces in order to found a private principality. There was, however, a way out; Sir James could raise the cry of piracy, and this he did with vehemence.

The climax came in the so-called Battle of Tanjung Raging Marau (or was it Spring Maru, the author's error?), when a flotilla of Ithra pinnas returning from an abortive raid on Maru was destroyed with an estimated loss of 300 killed in action and 500 more dead of wounds or exposure. The affair was discordant in the extreme, for the Ithra were certainly sea pinnas, and the loss of one thousand white-headed men must have crippled the economy of the Saribas for decades.

In defence of Sir James Brooke's action on this occasion much has been written, not least by Sir James himself. In the second article in the *Malayan Ancestral Mr. Harrison* prints a series of unpublished letters of the First Rajah, two of which (of January and February, 1851) deal with this subject. They are of considerable length, and make most hilarious reading (indeed were they not authentic, one would suspect that they had been composed by Mr. Harrison himself as *jeu d'esprit*). It has been discreetly known that during his last years Sir James suffered a defect of reason. From these two letters it is apparent that upon occasion he was "as mad as a hatter", as early as 1851.

One important consideration which the Brooke apologists have overlooked, but which weighed with contemporaries, is that by the middle of the century there were dozens of English cut-throats and adventurers scattered throughout the East, seeking to exploit the anarchy of the native states to set themselves up as local tyrants. If every such man were to be free to invade the aid of the Royal Navy in his nefarious delinquencies on the ground that his opponents were pinnas, Great Britain would be involved in a multitude of world adventures in direct contradiction with her established policy. It happened in this case that Sir James Brooke was a man of high purpose and lofty ideals, but this little affair offended the principle involved. Meanwhile the occupants cost the British taxpayer £217,000 at £250 per head for each pirate killed and £15 for each pirate dispersed. Really, one might ask, who were the head-butters?

The third historical article consists of two extracts from a manuscript life of Ludwig Heilm written by his grand-daughter Mrs. Isabelle Gardner and entitled *Footnote to Sarawak*. Heilm arrived in Sarawak in 1852 and stayed till 1872, when he returned to England. He left a journal and letters which cover these years and which contain much information that is new. As one of the founding members of the Brooke Company, he was able to view the Rajah and his government with a certain detachment, which makes him a valuable witness to controversial events. He was also an intimate friend of the unfortunate Captain Brooke Brooke. Only two chapters of the work are reproduced.

The third of the historical articles is by Mr. Harrison, and discusses the extraordinary love affair of Miss Fosselot. Her father M. Fosselot had been a teacher in Ambuaya and there married a local girl. Tiring of the scene, he and his wife set out for Singapore, but were wrecked on the Sarawak coast in 1854. As an educated Frenchman (he came from Sedan, where his house had been destroyed in the Franco-Prussian War) he was highly prized by the Rance Margaret, for he had a good taste in music and spoke French to the Rajah. He was appointed Librarian, and Mr. J. Chaste has since discovered that his salary was 57 p.m. Surely a modest one, even with the dollar worth 4.2! This was exactly half the pay of an unskilled agricultural labourer in England at that time. M. Fosselot died in 1898, of Mrs. Fosselot nothing is known, and the sole reference to Miss Fosselot in this intriguing letter is of 1895. Did she die in her little cell overlooking the river or was she released at a later date to become a prolific mother in some unknown homing. Who knows, but there may be little Fosselots with us yet.

"The Fresh-water Fishes of North Borneo"

by

DR. ROBERT F. DENON and CHAN PELL KONG

Published by "Fieldiana" (Chicago Natural History Museum), 268 pages, 125 color drawings

REVIEWED by

PROFESSOR I. TOMIYAMA, Tokyo. (*)

As well as being essentially scientific, this handsomely produced report is very useful and instructive for non-specialists, whether interested residents of Sabah or Sarawak or the visiting biologist. The topographic and meteorological features are outlined mainly: the keys to the fresh-water species, as well as to the higher or lower categories, are made as simple as possible; the local fish names actually in use are given; and so on.

The majority of the materials was collected by Dr. Inger's Zoological Expeditions, 1950 and 1956, for the Chicago Natural History Museum, and by the Agricultural Department, Sabah (of which Mr. Chin is a staff member). Most of the field work was carried out in the eastern half of North Borneo (basically Sabah), where the water temperatures of streams were relatively high and constant (more or less 26°C); the localities amounted to 66 in number.

Enumerata. Being accompanied with 93 text-figures, 133 fresh-water forms, including five new species, two new sub-species and one hybrid, are well described; the introduced puppy, *Labeo reticulatus* (Peters), now occurring in several small creeks in Sandakan, is also included. Because of the lack of local specimens, the descriptions of *Puntius aspinus* (Boulenger) and *Labeo maculatus* (Regan) are cited from the originals, and the data of *Puntius aspinus* (Valenciennes) are obtained from the materials of Thailand. The figures of the new species are drawn precisely. Those of the other forms are drawn in outline, and frequently the characteristic markings are shown at the same time.

Natural History. Though ten species were collected only in clear water, no species lives in clear water all the time, because the frequent and heavy rainfall washes silt into all streams at all times of the year.

Thirty species were collected only from the coastal streams, less than 50 km. long and draining directly into the sea or into bays, but not from the interior streams. More than half of them belong to ordinary marine or brackish-water families (Atherinidae, Eleotridae, Gobiidae and Tetraodonidae). Most of them were obtained from both clear and turbid waters and found associated with all types of bottoms, varying currents, and small as well as large streams.

The stomachs in 320 individuals of 49 species were examined. The result reveals that inorganic food, such as terrestrial animals (almost exclusively insects) and plants, is more important for the North Bornean fresh-water fishes than for those of the temperate zone.

The strata of a stream occupied by various species are divided into 5: surface layer (0-5 cm.), upper strata (5-20 cm.), mid-water, lower strata (20-60 cm.), and bottom. Most of the forest streams have one or two surface species, one or two living just below the surface, three to five mid-water species, two to four living just above the bottom, and three to ten living on or in the bottom. In the smaller and shallower streams, the layers occupied by the surface fishes and by the bottom species overlap; but the middle layers are compressed. Stratification in the major rivers (50 species recorded) is virtually unknown.

(*) Professor Tomiyama (Institute of Zoology, Tokyo) joined Inger's research laboratory and is personal adviser to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan on Ichthyology. He recently spent 10 months attached to the Sarawak Museum and is preparing a full length report on new ichthyofauna and related subjects in Sarawak waters, covering over 300 species of fish.

Two recurrent "groupings" in the small streams were noted. The first consists of six species occupying all strata of small, clear, or turbid forest streams. The second consists of five species occupying the mid-water to the bottom. Besides having a narrower water level range, the second group has a more limited geographic distribution, occurring as a unit in the Kinabatangan drainage in the middle region of eastern North Borneo.

Geographic relations. After inquiring into the distribution ranges of the fresh-water fishes, the authors point out that endemism generally is characteristic of the North Borneo fish fauna. The 78 primary fresh-water fishes include 35 (44 per cent) species endemic to Borneo, 18 (24 per cent) of them are apparently restricted to North Borneo, and 8 of the 19 are known only from the major part (or the watershed) of all streams draining into the Sulu Sea of eastern North Borneo. Another peculiarity of the Bornean fish fauna is the presence of 7 species known otherwise only from Thailand; 6 of these occur in North Borneo, and 4 of the 6 are surviving in the major part of eastern North Borneo.

Preliminary Explanations for Borneo Fish in general.

In connection with these interesting features, the authors recognize the existence of Sundaland, a large land consisting of the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java, Borneo and the lowlands between the peninsulas and the islands, at least once in the Pleistocene. They consider that at that time (or times) the fresh-water fauna of south-western Borneo, eastern Sumatra, and the Malay Peninsula were essentially one.

Since the number of primary fresh-water fishes (genus as well as species) diminishes along the axis Kappas River (western Kalimantan)—Baram River (Sarawak)—Sabah—Philippine Islands, they assume that the Kappas River, which had been a branch of the once great North Sunda River (draining the lower region among the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra and Borneo), was closest to the source of the major Sundaland fauna and closest to the center of dispersal; and that from this center the fresh-water fishes dispersed northward to Sarawak and then to the west coast of North Borneo. Or eastward to the east coast of Indonesian Borneo and then northward to the southernmost part of North Borneo. Thus the major part of eastern North Borneo, geographically furthest away from this center, has been isolated longest; and the great isolation has brought forth a concentration of fish relics in this region.

Fresh-water fish culture in Sabah. Finally 9 species, including the 3 famous Chinese carps and the common carp, used in fish culture in Borneo are illustrated. This and much other material has not before been available to a wider public and is of direct value for the whole of Malaya.

(I. TOMIYAMA)

[The book is available in the Sarawak Museum, or by application to Department of Agriculture, Sabah.]

Non-Literary-Literature Programme

Methodist Church,
Kapih,
Sarawak.

2th June, 1964.

Dear Sir,

In *The Sarawak Museum Journal*, XI, 1963, 11-22, there is an article, "The Spelling of Iban, from Dr. Burr Bogerman (Methodist Mission, Sibu)".

The author of this article is MRS. B. CUNNINGHAM, of the Borneo Evangelical Mission, now stationed at Paka, in the Third Division. I should be grateful if some note of this could be made—possibly in a later issue of the *Journal*.

I sent out copies of this article to various individuals in Sarawak. But a covering letter stated explicitly that the article was the work of Mrs. B. Cunningham. I am sorry that the mistake has been made. Mrs. Cunningham has put in a lot of work on the orthography of the Iban language, and should be given credit for what she has done.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

BURR BOGERMAN

[Editorial comment.]

The above letter was addressed to the *Museum Journal*. With the permission of the writer, we have been asked by that Journal to publish it in the *Gazette* now, while the *Journal* issue referred to is in circulation, and with sincere apologies. The next *Journal* is not due until December, 1964. Incidentally that issue will include an important new Ibanic study, by Mrs. Shirley Lox of the B.E.M., Lawas. Such studies are equally important today and more will be welcome.

Sarawak Turf Club

The Sarawak Turf Club Summer Meeting was held on the 26th May and 6th and 13th June, the first two days in brilliant sunshine with a hard, fast track which unfortunately resulted in many ponies being withdrawn on the third day due to lameness. The third day followed a night of heavy rain and although the sky was overcast the weather remained fine, but there was a definite change in the going.

Large crowds attended each day's racing and showed that parting of cars is now becoming a major problem, many car owners having to park some distance from the main entrance.

Prize money was well distributed since with only three doubles out of the 24 races (18 on each day), 4 horses and 17 ponies figure in the winners list, with 20 lucky owners and 15 successful jockeys, including 4 apprentices. At present, the club appears to be better off than ever in good lightweight apprentice jockeys.

Perhaps the unluckiest rider at the meeting was Lohan Lohar who after winning a race on the first day proceeded to ride a string of 4 seconds and a third on the following days being beaten once by only a nose in a photo finish.

Highlights of the meeting was the Sarawak Derby, open to all horses, run over 1½ miles on the third day with a trophy presented by the Sarawak Steamship Company Limited. Here, also, a stallion named Wookwootan Sialdi's Rubber Exporter (Class I) narrowly defeated Mr. Boon Tern Ioon's Steaming Sarawak (Class II) by 1½ lengths; the latter surprisingly carrying 6 lbs. overweight.

The two other trophies at the meeting were won by Mr. and Mrs. Wan Hood Tack's *Ninesworth September* (The McWhirer Shipping Trophy) and Magic Sable's *Bakay Bakoy* (The William Ong Challenge Cup) presented by Mr. K. Nicholl.

Ninesworth September, freshly back from his triumph in Jesselton—where in winning the Class I, 4 furlongs, event he equaled the course record of 37 seconds (the Sarawak record is 28 sec.)—scored two wins and a second. His easy 4 lengths win on the third day carrying 11.5 now seems to put him in a class of his own.

Dividends, on the whole were good, with Hijo paying the highest—\$19.50 for \$1.00—on the third day.

We notice a marked improvement in the steadiness and style of riding of our jockeys nowadays. This is no doubt due to the engagement in Kuching recently

of Singapore apprentices and riding boys who have apparently imparted some of their riding skill to our local jockeys.

The new electric automatic toy has now been installed and will be in operation at the Autumn Meeting.

A welcome innovation at the meeting was the new pleasant arrangement of the combined bar and tea-room which we are informed is open for dancing to band music on three evenings a week for members and their guests.

The following is an analysis of winning horses, ponies, owners and jockeys for the meeting.

Winning Owners

	1st	2nd	3rd
Mr. & Mrs. Woo Hood Tack	3	3	2
Winkowstan Stable	2	1	0
Mr. Abdul Rahim bin M. Masri	2	0	0
Mr. Loh Yung Chin	1	4	2
Wonder Stable	1	4	0
Ms. Ronn Then Joon	1	2	0
Mrs. Janet Ong	1	1	1
Mr. Wong Tsong Hwe	1	1	1
Mr. Lee Hong Loong	1	1	1
Mr. J. R. Dunmore & Miss S. Hinton	1	1	0
Tombahvok Stable	1	1	0
Mr. Charlie Boon	1	0	2
Mr. Tan Teck Soon	1	0	2
Mrs. Chan Cheon Ghoo	1	0	1
Mr. Wu Cheong Hong	1	0	1
Mr. Chan Khlok Lang	1	0	0
Mr. Ong Kee Hai	1	0	0
Mr. Sia Eng Kang	1	0	0
Magie Stable	1	0	0
Mong Liang Stable	1	0	0

Winning Jockeys

	1st	2nd	3rd
Koran Ali	3	3	3
Talwa Sultan	3	2	1
All Aziz	3	1	3
*Saber Mohd	2	1	1
Mac Kassim	2	1	0
Lutip Abang	2	0	3
Liban Lohor	1	0	1
Samsudin Karim	1	3	1
*Kanan Lohor	1	2	2
Putih Abang	1	2	2
Maman Suliman	1	1	1
Jusaid Suliman	1	1	1
*Eli Sabu	1	0	2
Tau Ek Pah	1	0	0
*Kamar Yusam	1	0	0

*Apprentices.

Winning Horses

	1st	2nd	3rd
Rubber Exporter	*2	1	0
Bintang Sarawak	1	2	0
Padi Trial	1	1	0
Gerry's Luck	1	0	0

*Includes the Sarawak Derby.

Winning Ponies

	1st	2nd	3rd
Ninamonth September	*2	1	0
Sardine	2	0	0
Sandra Khamsa Mei	1	1	1
Larry II	1	1	1
Three Kings	1	1	1
Sarawak Time	1	1	1
Three Sevens	1	1	0
Bojeng Lapok	1	0	1
Suliyati	1	0	1
Satisfaction	1	0	1
Spring Time	1	0	0
O.K. O.K.	1	0	0
Tanjung Po	1	0	0
Hijo	1	0	0
Bojeng Bolong	*1	0	0
Malaysia Time	1	0	0
Sarawak Billies	1	0	0

*Includes the McAlister Shipping Trophy.

†The William Ong Challenge Cup.

Sports Commentary

by

Rao Mahamoo

The most important item of news in the Sporting world recently, raised little or no comment in Sarawak circles. I refer to the important announcement of the formation of a Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, with the Prime Minister Tengku Abdul Rahman himself as Minister. This will undoubtedly have an important effect on the development of sport throughout Malaysia and should make all state authorities wake up to the fact that the provision of reasonable sporting facilities in their areas must not be neglected. In this connection it was good news to learn of grants and allocation of funds for such facilities as a fifteen-man running track in Kluang, the construction of a new playing pitch inside the Sarawak Turf Club Course, and improvement and provision of playing fields in the Fifth Division. In addition a further 291,500 has been released to District Councils in the Third Division for recreational facilities.

Athletes in the last two months have received a real boost with coaching visits from Bill Miller and Stanley Wright, the internationally well-known coaches from the U.S.A. They have both been prominent in Malaya and Singapore in recent years. Bill Miller represented the U.S.A. at the Melbourne Olympic Games and was once javelin world record holder with a throw of 264 feet 8½ inches. Stanley Wright was a sprinter who could put up times such as 9.5 seconds in the 100 yards, 18.4 in the 100 metres and 20.8 in the 220 yards. He also represented America in many international meets. It is certain that these two coaches have helped all our enthusiastic athletes in general and our best performers like Lutfi Olan, Koshi Dita, Joseph Mang, etc., in particular. These top athletes of ours have really been working hard and everyone was delighted when Lutfi Olan went over to Singapore for an all-comers meeting and whipped Malaysian champion Abdul Rahman turning in a new Malayan record and best performance time of 1 minute 36.5 seconds. To show that this was no fluke in the pen he bettered this the next Saturday at the Jubilee Ground with a time of 1 minute 35.6 seconds against no opposition winning by 40 or 50 yards.

Soccer, undoubtedly the most popular sport in Sarawak, has been having a successful season particularly in Kuching with the inclusion of several Armed Forces sides in the Kuching F.A. League. 42 Commando, B.A.A. and the R.A.F. have all been worth watching and they will, I am sure, be responsible for the raising of the standard of play among the local teams. In fact this is apparent already and F.A.T. the league champions who went down badly at the beginning of the season losing 3-1 and 11-2 to 42 Commando and B.A.A. respectively, are now holding their own. At the moment the fight for the league championship is very open with All Saints, B.A.A., Sarawak S.C. and P.A.T. all in the running. 42 Commando unfortunately have now left Sarawak and their matches have been deleted from the league.

The Sarawak Cup is progressing well and First Division had little difficulty in beating Second Division 3-1 in Kuching this month to reach the semi-final stage against Third Division. This game will be played in Kuching on 30th July. This First Division side is certainly the best I have seen and has been strengthened by the inclusion of two serious players of real ability—Franklin of the R.A.F. at centre forward and Smith of B.A.A. at left half. Another McCorkindale, President of the Kuching F.A., has arranged weekly practice games for the team and I know he is very confident of his team winning the Cup if they strike anything like their best form. In Sibu, football got off to a late start because of bad weather conditions and the closing of the King George VI ground. However, the league is going well now, and the Third Division possible team has had encouraging trial games defeating an Army XI (the Royal Ulster Rifles) twice 3-1 and 5-2.

Tennis is another sport which is becoming more popular these days and a very successful open tournament was held in Kuching last month, which attracted quite a large entry in all sections. The Sarawak T.T.A. is a well-organised and enthusiastic Association and deserves the success which it is achieving. A friendly match between Kuching and Jesselton was arranged resulting in a convincing win for Jesselton by 4 matches to 1. Unfortunately for Kuching their strongest player Augustine Song was unfit, but even his inclusion could not have altered the result. Outstanding for Jesselton was Van Wu who certainly showed the benefit of his coaching by Jesselton's famous non-playing Captain Gordon Lum, one of the stars of the 1950's. It was interesting to hear him on Sports Report over the radio speak of his playing days at Wimbledon with such stars as Bill Tilden, Cochet, Bruguier, Perry, etc. His best performance was when he reached the singles final of the American indoor championships and was defeated after five sets and three and a half hours. Gordon is now a prominent businessman on his own account in Sabah.

Hockey has been going very successfully this season with 14 teams in the league. Wanderers have a clear lead so far having dropped only one point in seven games.

The inter-divisional badminton tournament was won by First Division who had convincing victories against Third and Second Divisions by 7-2 and 9-3 respectively. The Sarawak Open Championships are now taking place and it looks as if Lim Khooi Seng will take the singles title for the third time.

A new sport in Sarawak has started this year with Go-Kart racing in Miri. About a dozen of these miniature racing cars are owned by enthusiasts and a number of successful exciting meetings has taken place.*

Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals

Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Jacobs	Returning from leave, 11.5.64, supplementary to previous May list.
Mr. F. W. Goodwin, M.B.	Returning from leave, 14.6.64.
Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Simpson	Returning from leave, 15.6.64.
Master I. R. Howard	To join Mr. J. J. Howard, 15.6.64.
Mr. S. Hardy	Returning from leave, 15.6.64.
Miss E. Dohin	To join Dr. Dohin, 16.6.64.
Miss Doreen Parrelly and Master Paul Parrelly	To join Mr. R. M. Parrelly, 17.6.64.

Departures

Mrs. C. A. K. Wilson and 7 children	Proceeding on leave to United Kingdom, 23.6.64.
Mr. & Mrs. M. D. Jupp and children	Proceeding to United Kingdom on leave, 18.6.64.
Dr. R. M. D. Tyrer	To Australia on leave prior to retirement, 24.6.64.
Mr. T. D. Sykes	To United Kingdom on leave, 24.6.64.
Miss H. M. Wells	Proceeding to United Kingdom on leave prior to retirement, 24.6.64.
Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Woolley	Proceeding to United Kingdom on leave, 25.6.64.
Mr. E. C. Ince	Proceeding to India on completion of agreement, 19.6.64.
Mr. H. G. Aldrich	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave prior to retirement, 26.6.64.
Mr. & Mrs. R. B. S. McCormick	Proceeding to United Kingdom, 21.6.64.
Mrs. D. W. Carbery	Proceeding to United Kingdom on leave, 21.6.64.

A Sarawak Malaysian Diary

MAY, 1964

1st, Friday

The inauguration of a Triax service between Kuala Lumpur and Kuching takes place.

S.A.S.A.'s All Camera Sport Meet at the Jubilee Ground, Kuching.

Mr. Bill Miller presents 36 certificates of attendance to Kuching athletes who attended his six-day coaching course.

2nd, Saturday

The Chief Minister of Sabah, Dato Donald Stephens, accompanied by his wife, Davis Stephens, arrive in Kuching for a four-day visit to Sarawak.

The Kuching High Court Judge, Mr. Justice D. B. McCalligan sentences three Indonesians who pleaded guilty to charges under the Preservation of Public Security Regulations to eight years' imprisonment each.

The drilling vessel *Subwinder* moved to a new location 7½ miles off Barron Point, Sarawak, and oil drilling begins.

3rd, Sunday

Perry Marchants, the seventh political party to be formed in Sarawak, resolves in inaugural meeting that

*14 spots on Go-Kart racing at Bagan Kappas will be printed in the July Sarawak Gazette—1964.

the badge and flag of the party should have a sheet of eight stalks of golden paddy in Sarawak, Ceylon, and that the motto of the Party should be "For People and Country" with the slogan "Hidup Sarawak" and "Hidup Malaysia."

The Sarawak District Annual Report for the year says that the seventeen illegal Indonesian immigrants were apprehended in Sarawak and Brunei Districts last year; 14 were issued with removal orders to leave the State of Sarawak, and 31 Chinese remained in China for good.

Sabah's Chief Minister, Dato Donald Stephens says (at a luncheon party given by the Sarawak Alliance National Council at the Borneo Hotel) that the next few years would be a period of hardships and difficulties for Malaysia.

The President of the Sarawak Government Adnan Officers Union, Inche Deroi Abdulrahman issues a statement that all Government Officers will now begin their office hours fifteen minutes earlier than usual and end fifteen minutes later for the lunch break, to make up the additional half an hour's work each working day of the week.

A Security Forces Spokesman says that another Indonesian Border Terrorist in the Lubok Antu Area of the Second Division has been eliminated, bringing the total known enemy casualties in the Second Division during April to twenty-two killed, two wounded, and six captured.

4th, Monday

Sabah's Chief Minister, Dato Donald Stephens and Datin Stephens arrive in Sibau. They are accompanied by Sarawak's Chief Minister and Mrs. Ningham. They are later welcomed warmly at Kapit in a series of typically Dyak colourful ceremonies, which end with a community buffet dinner at Fort Sylvia.

5th, Tuesday

The Chief Ministers of Sabah and Sarawak appeal to the people of Sibau to declare their loyalty by supporting the Alliance Government Policy of condemning the Indonesian Aggression and ECD subversion.

6th, Wednesday

The Acting Director of the Federal Information Services and Secretary to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Tuan Syed Zaimul Bin Abdida, today declares that information and broadcasting in all the aspects, including psychological warfare, will be greatly strengthened.

The Minister for National Resources, Mr. Tan Kai Seng, visits Kuching today in connection with the Third Division 4-6 Clubs Conference.

7th, Thursday

The Borneo Literature Bureau invites poems of original writing in all Sarawak Languages (except Iban) for the 7th Literature Competition. Prizes: \$200.00.

Holders of pre-Malaysia British Passports, who are British Subjects, citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies by virtue of their Birth, Naturalisation or Registration in Sarawak become Malaysian Citizens by operation of Law on Malaysia Day (September 16th, 1963) as a result of the United Kingdom Malaysia Act, 1963 and therefore ceased to be Citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies.

The Chief Minister of Sabah and his party leave Kuching in morning after a four-day official visit to Sarawak.

The Sarawak Trade Mission which visited Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan returns here with substantial.

Part of an overall plan to improve telecommunications in towns of the Rajang Region of the Third Division comes into operation later this week, with the installation of the Subscribers Trunk Dialing (STD) system from Song to Kapit.

The late Rev. Father Halder, founder of the Sibau Catholic Mission, who was buried in Sibau 18 years ago, is found "in perfect condition" after the exhumation. Talk of a "miracle".

8th, Friday

The Commander-in-Chief Far East Armed Forces, Admiral Sir Varyl Begg, flies back to Singapore after a very quick 24-hour routine inspection tour of Sarawak.

9th, Saturday

The Lunai Branch of the Sarawak United People's Party, including its various Sub-branches, proscribed by the Federal Secretary under Regulation 9A of the Preservation of Public Security Regulations, 1960.

Mr. Wee Kheng Ching presents a cheque of \$4,500 to the Kuching Women's Home Welfare Association at the Hian Ching Bank in Kuching.

Two top Federal Officials from Ministry of Education in Malaya, the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry, Inche Aziz bin Yusop, and the Education Advisor, Inche Amaluddin bin Baki, arrive to investigate the possibilities of introducing free primary education to Sarawak.

10th, Sunday

The MPP presents strongly against the State Government's notion to close down Lunai Branch and its other sub-branches.

With effect from today the Fifth Division of Sarawak will become a separate police Division, known as Limbungan Division.

11th, Monday

In Kuching from Sabah, the Federal Minister for Transport, Dato Gordon bin Haji Jabot, visualises that the merger of Borneo Airways Limited and Malaysian Airways would be finalised within three months' time.

12th, Tuesday

The Chief Minister of Sarawak, in a statement, says that more than \$14,000 has been paid out in awards by Government to the Borne in Second Division who routed and killed or captured a gang of twelve Indonesian Border Terrorists.

Representatives of the Sarawak State and Federal Governments hold a 90-minute meeting on Educational matters connected with the introduction of free primary education to Sarawak in the Chief Minister's Office. No official release of results.

13th, Wednesday

It is officially disclosed today that the secret ballot conducted at the Extraordinary General Meeting at 3.15 p.m. of all members of the Kuching Commercial Employees' Union showed 99.5 per cent voted in favour of strike action against seven big companies (Sino Derby and Jardine Wauah not included).

14th, Thursday

The Department of Agriculture announces today that the Fresh-water Fisheries Division has successfully bred a new fish known as *Lampusa Jawa*.

The Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for National and Rural Development, Tun Abdul Razak, says in Kuching that Sarawak Government is faced with three separate problems: (1) Consolidation and integration of the Government and the People; (2) Planning and implementing a new, imaginative and far-sighted development plan that can meet the needs and aspirations of the people; and (3) Meet the challenge posed by Sukarno's confrontation and to defend the borders of Sarawak against the aggression and subversion in the State.

The Government has approved a sum of \$40,000 to Construct in the Fourth Division four recreational facilities.

The Governor of Sarawak, Dato Abang Haji Opong, visited Sibul, Belaga and Subis Districts, on his way to attend the Baram Regatta, receives loyal and enthusiastic welcome from the people.

15th, Friday

The District Officer, Lundu, Mr. Michael Sartin, says that false rumours are being spread by certain elements that the curfew has been relaxed. He warns the people in the area not to listen to such rumours; curfew is still on between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.

16th, Saturday

The Minister for Defence, Tan Abdul Karim, states at Baiti Kingin, First Division, that the situation in Sarawak is under control and the present military strength is quite sufficient.

17th, Sunday

The Commencement of construction of the Kabong-Nyabor Drainage scheme in the Kalak District of Second Division announced by the Ministry of Communications and Works. This is the first of a number of major land drainage and irrigation schemes programmed in the 1964-1968 Development Plan.

18th, Monday

The Minister for Communications and Works, Ichee Abdul Taib bin Mohamed, hands over the new Government Analytical Laboratory at Selatama Road, Kuching, to the Director of the Federal Department of Chemistry, Malaysia. Laboratory is of highest standard and developed by Sarawak initiative.

The Sarawak Electricity Supply Corporation is successfully converted electricity supply in Sibu from 5,600 volts to 11,000 volts.

Sarawak's Chief Minister says that if further Indonesian armed incursions occurred in Sarawak territory, Malaysian Security Forces would have no alternative, but to attack and chase these guerrillas into Indonesian territory; but this does not mean that our Security Forces have to attack the Indonesian bases.

Two Gurkha soldiers and two Indonesian Bunker Terrorists killed in Lundu District.

19th, Tuesday

The Chief Minister, accompanied by Tan Kuan Fah, Acting State Financial Secretary, flies to Kuala Lumpur to attend the National Finance Council Meeting.

Master of Fishing Kotaka, owners, and Association Officers are requested to paint their registered numbers of their Vessels in large, clear letters on a dark background, at least twelve inches high and two inches thick on the cabin roof so that they may be identified by friendly aircraft.

The Governor of Sarawak, Dato Abang Haji Opang and Datin Hajjah Mariyah return to Kuching.

20th, Wednesday

The British Minister of Defence (Air) Mr. Hugh Fraser today assures the people of Sarawak that further Indonesian armed incursions into the State would be repelled and their lives protected.

Malay will be the sole official language of Peninsular Malaysia by 1967, says the Malaysian Minister for Education, Ichee Abdul Rahman bin Haji Taib today. Only Malaysian territories outside Malaya (Singapore, Sabah and Sarawak) will have until 1973 before changing to one language.

The General Manager, Malaysian Airways, today announces that Comet Services Singapore/Kuching are being increased to four per week.

Kuching Port Authority Staff Union supports commercial employers over the issue of a fifteen per cent cost of living allowance claim.

21st, Thursday

A Government statement released today comments on the alarmist rumours circulated in Chinese Schools in Kuching concerning the taking of blood samples in the schools.

One of the first of the block planting schemes under the 1964-1968 Development Plan is taking place in Taji Area of Sentin District in the First Division.

An Indonesian guerrilla, Mohammed bin Osman Noto Kanda of Sengul Raya, Indonesian Borneo who surrendered himself to villagers in Kempong Padaman in Iban District on March 14 this year is sentenced to 10 years imprisonment by the Kuching High Court Judge for being in unlawful possession of a sten-gun, 21 rounds of ammunition and two hand grenades.

The Borneo Literature Bureau, after heavy public criticism, allows Evan Anthon to compete in the Iban Section of the 7th Literature Competition (see 7th May).

22nd, Friday

Nearly 400 members of the Kuching Commercial Employees' Union today stage a 'token half-day-strike' following a breakdown in talks between the Union and Employers of Seven European Commercial firms this morning (see 19th May).

Four Iban Trackers who had just completed the training course for tracking are presented with the green berets bearing the crest of 42 Comdante Royal Marine this morning at Sengokok Camp near Kuching Airport. They are inducted into the army.

As a result of incidents in the recent Puduang-P & T 'A' game, the Kuching Football Association has suspended Puduang F.C. for the rest of this football season.

Dr. M. Soekalingam, Chairman of the Sarawak Social Welfare Council, and the Speaker of the Council Negeri, in the presence of a huge crowd, declares open the Sarawak Iban Nam Seng Tag Trade and Fair to raise funds for the Management of its poor peoples' homes.

23rd, Saturday

The Chief Minister of Sarawak, the Deputy Chief Minister, and the Federal Secretary, Tan Sri Yusoff Hashim call representatives of the Kuching Commercial Employees' Union, the Sabah Commercial Union and Representatives of the Employers group to a meeting in the Secretariat at 4 p.m.

Members of the Kuching Commercial Employees Union who staged a half-day token strike last Friday following a breakdown in talks between the union and the employers of several commercial firms find themselves locked out today when they turn up for work.

24th, Sunday

At the Annual General Meeting of the Malay Savings Co-operative Society held today, it is agreed by the members that the present society be changed into a multi-purpose co-operative society.

The Chief Minister approves \$15,000 for the building of a Primary School at Bintulu in the Fourth Division.

25th, Monday

A decision to recommend the abolition of the appointment of Kapitan Cina in Sarawak is reached at a special meeting of the Serriai District Council in the Third Division.

The Chief Minister spends one hour today listening to local peoples' problems at Serbau and briefs them on the Development Plan.

26th, Tuesday

A Security spokesman, following the discovery in the Second Division of Sarawak of two anti-personnel mines on a track used regularly by women and children, warns the civilians, especially children, not to pick up unusual objects found lying on roads or tracks.

The Chief Minister arrives at Mirat in the Third Division and is given a warm welcome by members of the Mirat Peochow Association.

A fire breaks out at Bukit Engangoh. Six and petrol about ten acres of young rubber plantations owned by Mr. Wong Yit Min.

A Recruiting Team for Sarawak's own Battalion, the 1st Malaysian Rangers, under the Command of Lieutenant Jack Wingfield starts in the Fourth Division from today until June 27th.

27th, Wednesday

The Sarawak United People's Party today scores "a major victory of the year" when a motion seeking the introduction of free primary education throughout Sarawak is unanimously resolved without any dissent. In the First Divisional Advisory Council Meeting held this morning in the Kuching Municipal Council Chamber.

The Divisional Development Officer, Mr. S. Cottrill, today discloses that more than 20 major scale projects for rural development have been approved in the First Division.

Mr. Sim Eihong Hong of the SUPP (KRDC) is today elected by the First Divisional Advisory Council to sit in Council Negri to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Datu Bender, Abang Haji Marang.

The Deputy Regional Director of Post/Telecommunications announces that current postage stamps of all Malaysian States are now available for cash sale at the Stamp Bureau, General Post Office, Kuching.

Two Australian "Ten-Class" minisubmersibles arrive here today to assist Malaysia maintain her internal security against possible sea-borne incursions by Indonesian infiltrators along the Sarawak/Irabak coast. The minisubmersibles—HMAS HAWK and GULL have come to Sarawak direct from Sydney, in response to the Malaysian Government's request.

28th, Thursday

The Federal Secretary, Tuan Syed Hashim bin Abdullah, acting on the recommendation of the State Security Executive Committee, has today ordered that public rallies and concerts organized by assemblies of young members or more held by or under the auspices of, or on the premises of, the Sarawak United People's Party, will require a permit from the Divisional Superintendent of Police.

The Annual Sarak Race—the opening of the new season on the Turtle Islands—was successfully completed at Sarang Island, with joint participation of Majlis Islam, many local Malays, Royal Navy and other personnel.

The Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. James Wong, in a radio broadcast tonight pays tribute to the late Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, describing him as the greatest pioneer in the fight against colonization.

29th, Friday

The Aids Foundation contributes \$12,000 to the Education Department towards a new Educational Project in Sarawak—the Audio Visual Aid Scheme.

30th, Saturday

The Director of Medical Services has declared the whole of the Third Division of Sarawak as an infected local area for cholera as from today.

The Chief Minister today reaches the last stage of his tour, when he and his party arrive in Saratok by Zohora from Saitan.

11th, Sunday

The Indian Community of First Division, Sarawak, pays tribute to the memory of the late premier of India, Mr. Nehru, at the Sarawak Union Club.

A Regatta and Land Sports are held at Selangan Bazaar of Sintang District, First Division, in connection with the celebration of Sarawak National Day.

Coak fighting, Land Sports, etc., are held at long-house of Kuahh Muah, Sungai Pinang, in the Sombing District, First Division.

Fifth Division Report 1963: The Rebellion and other Matters

(J. A. N. Urquhart, M.C., Resident)

Court and Crime

Had it not been for the Court cases dealing with rebels, Fifth Division records would, as always in the past, have shown that the Division has been remarkably free from Crime. Court work has not been arduous either on the civil or criminal side.

The Rebellion

The Rebellion occurred in December, 1962. Limbang was controlled by the rebels for four days, but on arrival of the security forces the rebels who had were not finally dealt with until several weeks later. Indeed it is so far as it can be said that "Confrontation" is the direct result of the rebellion, it is, at any rate in Indonesian eyes, still being carried on.

This report deals with the rebellion as it affected the Fifth Division; but it must always be remembered that it was closely connected with the bigger rebellion that took place in both parts of Brunei State and coastal Sabah in the Fourth Division, and cannot be considered in isolation.

So far as the Fifth Division was concerned, it must be stressed at the outset that the majority of the population did not support the rebellion. Many of the people close to Limbang showed their opposition by staying passively at home. Great credit must be given to these people, especially in the middle and upper Limbang River, who resisted and even captured rebels, despite the fact that there were no Government officers in Limbang to give them a lead; that news was blank indeed from Brunei; and that the captured rebels were continuously threatening their Ban and Murat captives with the most dreadful future, when the news of their capture had been received downriver and rebel forces would rush up to release them.

The people who mainly supported the rebellion actively were certain Kedayan followed by some coastal Malays, though there were one or two people of other races also caught up in it. Many people have got the impression that all the Kedayans were rebel sympathisers. This is not so, as some remained loyal to Government throughout. There are many very surprising factors about the rebellion, and after close questioning of various rebels, of rebel victims and of people closely connected with the rebellion, I can still find no satisfactory answer as to why the majority of the rebels acted as they did.

It seems astonishing to me that one or two Kedayan villages were almost 100 per cent involved in the rebellion, while what are apparently exactly similar villages not far away were scarcely or not at all involved. The coastal Malays that were involved, had almost all been the victims of penetration by Brunei's Pany Rajayat and were in favour of returning Limbang District to Brunei. The Kedayans involved in the rebellion were typical Sarawak peasant padi planters who also grow rubber as a cash crop. Most of them very rarely moved outside their own villages and even then only visited other Kedayan areas or Brunei, which many considered to be the centre of the world. They were an ignorant, gullible and self-deceived that they believed unquestioningly the stories told them by the Indonesian and Brunei Pany Rajayat scoundrels who wooed them, and by their own Indonesian trained leaders; such as that the whole of British Borneo was longing to change the existing form of Government for one with His Highness the Sultan of Brunei as nominal head; and with Arabah and his followers as leaders, heavily supported by Indonesia.

My own explanation for the rebellion, which will also account for the fact that only certain villages were affected, is that certain unscrupulous and ambitious men were trained for subversion in Indi-

boats or by Ferry Ra'ayat Brunei and then sent back to certain chosen villages, where they completely hamboozed the local villagers. In that as it may, all the able-bodied men, in the few villages concerned went in for drilling secretly, collecting arms, ammunition and uniforms, having indoctrination meetings, and creating secret cells on the Holy Quran not to divulge what was going on. They did this so effectively that these few villagers were on the night of 28th December, 1962 able to surprise the established forces of law and order in Limbang, and despite the heroic resistance of the policemen in the police stations, the rebels were soon in complete charge of all Government buildings and most Government officers were captured and the rest in hiding. They then waited for the expected support from Indonesia and attempted to keep law and order, and the local population on their side by cutting in what areas they could, and by a mixture of promises for co-operation and horrible threats as to what would happen to those who did not support them now.

An abortive rebellion was started in Lawas too. But the rebels there disbanded themselves as soon as they saw they had failed to achieve surprise.

It is difficult to determine in what way the rebels thought that their way of life would be improved by armed rebellion. The leaders of the movement were undoubtedly led by personal ambition and hoped to become senior military or civil officers or powerful politicians. The great majority of the rebels, however, seem to have had very little clue as to what was happening. They felt bound by their oath, they were undoubtedly flattered at the thoughts of favours to come after the rebellion, they looked forward to no longer paying rates and to the fact that the Moslem religion would be the state religion and Brunei's riches would be distributed to all and sundry, and probably the fact is that they gave very little thought to the future, except that it would undoubtedly be pleasant than the present, and it does not seem to have occurred to them that there might be much loss of life and property while effecting these changes. Certainly the fact that electoral rolls had been prepared and arrangements announced for the holding of general elections leading to a Government desired by the people, and that therefore there was no need to change the existing Government by violent means, had not been considered by them. I can find little evidence that the villagers felt that Malaysia was a form of neo-colonialism and must be avoided at all costs. On the other hand, neither had it occurred to these thoughtless rebels that possibly Indonesia's help was not purely altruistic and that she would very likely wish to absorb the so-called state of North Kalimantan into the Indonesian Republic.

The above grievances and desires seem scarcely sufficient justification for armed rebellion, but in fact the majority of the rebels appear to have had very little idea why they did rebel. The Kodjapans had one other grievance, which was that there was no Kodjapan in any position of importance in Brunei or Sarawak, and it appears they may have attributed this to victimisation by other races, when in fact the clearest Kodjapan and Malays of the Fifth Division were reasonably well off and had much easier access to schools, medical services, roads and other amenities, than did most of the races of the Division, and if they remained backward, it was largely because they had failed to take advantage of what was offered them. Again it does not seem to have occurred to the rebels that if their contention of racial victimisation was a true fact under the existing regime, then it would probably continue to be so under the new regime, whose main leaders were not Kodjapan.

The fact that the rebellion could take place at all, with its centre so close to the Divisional Headquarters, can be partly explained by the effectiveness of the oath and partly by the fact that though reports of preparation for armed rebellion by the Kodjapans and supporters of Ferry Ra'ayat did filter through they were

not given full credence as it seemed fantastic and preposterous that such a threat could happen from such a quiet, law-abiding travelling by Government administrative officers to discover villages, some of them very close to Limbang and Lawas no doubt also contributed to the lack of trust in an affection for the existing set up shown by the rebels, while the reasonable amount of travelling done further aids equally helps to account for the trust in Government shown by the people there.

Consequences of the Rebellion

Even after the rebellion had clearly failed, many rebels were so desperate or fearful that they refused to surrender and had to be hunted all they were captured or shot. Those who were taken were put into detention and where evidence was forthcoming, were brought to trial. There was one life sentence and one of fifteen years, a few sentences of five years or under, but the majority of sentences on rebels were under two years. Several rebels caught in Brunei, have turned out to be Sarawak citizens and were sent here by the Brunei Government. At the time of writing nearly all the detainees have now been returned to their homes and several prisoners now have been released after a rehabilitation course held early in 1964.

For a period it was pathetic to travel along the Fardzan Road or villages such as Bangsalan Ulu, where nearly all able-bodied men were absent, and to see the millets unattended, undergrowth growing unchecked in the villages, and the children running wild without fathers to look after them. In a few villages relief is still being given to the women at the time of milking.

Most of the rebels who have returned to their villages are repentant and ashamed. It is obvious also that the women, who were the people who suffered most, will not have the same respect and obedience for their husbands that they used to have, and in some cases they have announced that will have nothing to do with politics in future.

The few rebel villages, that caused all the trouble, still appear broken and apathetic, despite the efforts at rehabilitation described in the District Officer Limbang's Report, but elsewhere in the Division Government officers are welcomed with gestures varying from friendliness to enthusiasm.

Due to the lack of manpower there is a lack of ready cash in the villages that provided the rebels and this has adversely affected boat builders and other trades in the neighbourhood.

Meanwhile the hill behind Limbang town is still stoned with unbagged residues and trees of the effect of bullets are visible on nearly all steep slopes and many other buildings in the town.

Women's Institutes

One of the most amazing events of the year, undoubtedly largely as a result of the rebellion, has been the sudden and spontaneous demand for Women's Institutes to be started. Miss O'Kelly was called, the women showed great enthusiasm, including some of those from the Pandaruan Road area, and six institutes were formed, one of them being of mixed races, with a total membership of about 180. There was a slight setback when some of the women from rebel villages handed in their resignations on the grounds that they had been misled once by managers coming to recruit them to persuade them to take actions which they would not otherwise have done, and they did not wish to be caught that way again, however, this matter was soon cleared up. Already thirty of the women organised a picnic taking a launch to Brunei and then a bus to Maura Beach and visited the Brunei Mosque on their return journey.

Agriculture

A pleasing after effect of the unprecedented and terrible flood in the Limbang River in January has been the sudden agricultural leap forward taken by

many of the Bissas, who have witnessed the advances made by the Agriculture Department. In some cases the development has taken the form of drains to assist swamp-pool planting, in others the Bissas are beginning to use their buffaloes to plough their paddy land, while in certain areas they have planted large areas of vegetables, ground nuts, maize, etc. in a most encouraging manner. Unfortunately they have no market for the produce; the surplus is fed to the animals.

In the Mempok area, too, the Agriculture Department has obtained the co-operation of the Kadayans who are annually increasing their areas of swamp-pool and bring joined, seasonally, by some Malays from Kuala Lemas. I hope the Malays and Tagals there will realize the Kadayans more than it is at present the case.

The Fifth Division buffalo population was reduced from 9,219 in 1962 to 5,048 in 1963. Most of the reduction took place in Limbang District and while a lot of it can be attributed to the floods, undoubtedly the many buffaloes were smuggled to Brunei during the year.

Development

The rebellion meant a considerable delay in getting out the Divisional Development Plan. However, despite the lack of a Divisional Development Officer and the fact that certain Departments had abandoned this Division from Miri, plans were put out for the 1964-68 Development Plan, and indeed preliminary work was started in 1963 on carrying out recommendations for the trace of the Puaning and Wangi-Melintang Roads.

Local Government

Both District Councils have got to a stage where they cannot progress any further without more money. Increasing the rates here is even more unpopular than elsewhere, with neighbouring Brunei as an example of a country where no rates are imposed, and indeed the amount that can be raised by a one per cent increase in the rates is not in any case very great.

It is quite clear that the general public and some Councilors, have only the faintest idea of how the rating system works and of how and when to appeal against valuation and when to ask to be exempted paying rates. Rates here are usually known as *chuloh* (school) rather than "Road Maintenance Rate" "Education Rate", etc. Furthermore the principle of "He that benefits from a service shall contribute towards its cost" is not always observed by the District Councils. Councils' secretaries rarely leave their offices and explain the why and wherever and advantages of local government and explain the Council's policy and find out the public's complaints and desires, while I have seen little evidence that Councilors, even in the more manageable wards, travel around and meet their constituents. It is little wonder therefore if local government is not a popular conception with large parts of the population.

Communications

Sea communication between Lawas and Brunei is reasonable and between Limbang and Brunei is good, and as the air mail service is generally quite satisfactory. The amount of people I have met who do not know that two days a week there are flights from Brunei to Lawas, leads me to believe that the distribution of Borneo Airways timetables leaves much to be desired.

The Borneo Airways once weekly service from Lawas to Long Semadoh is of benefit to site development, and is especially used for the carriage of goods. I agree with the District Officer, Lawas, that it would be advantageous to find a more suitable plan for this service.

It is unfortunate that Borneo Airways were unable to accept the Limbang strip as suitable for civil purposes. It would be most advantageous to have Limbang

connected directly with Lawas and Miri by Borneo Airways and connected with Kuching and Sibn via Brunei, so that visits from one part of Sarawak to another could be carried out without having, as at present, to go through the formality of having one's passport stamped and health papers examined on reaching Brunei, what customs from Limbang and then driving to the airport at Brunei to go through the process again and finally go through the process once more at one's point of entry into Sarawak. It is an especially wearisome business complying with all the formalities if one wishes to send an animal or plant by air from Kuching to Limbang or by road from Miri to Limbang.

Sea communication between Kuching and Sibn on the one hand and Brunei, Limbang or Lawas on the other is negligible, and the result is that sea or parcel mail is dreadfully slow. I wonder how many other stations in Sarawak had not received their *Sarawak Gazette Almanac* by 25th January, and their official diaries by 27th January as happened here.

Radio Sarawak broadcasts in Chinese, English, Iban and Malay. Unfortunately a large number of people, especially amongst the women in this Division, understand none of these languages.

Trade

Some of the Divisional Trade Agents for the years 1962 to 1963 are self-explanatory and show:—

	1962	1963	1964	1965
Value of exports	\$ 173,482	185,433	261,729	276,114
Value of imports	\$1,444,402	1,282,293	1,729,384	1,564,294
Merchandise	762	—	119	—
Other goods	15,428	17,449	19,446	—
Merchandise	4,296	4,495	1,411	—
Merchandise	3,286	11,200	12,748	10,700
Merchandise	10,174	24,214	—	—
Imports	\$ 588,224	271,284	212,294	244,214

The lower duty on certain goods in Brunei, especially on petrol, makes it very tempting, to some of the Division's citizens, to indulge in smuggling.

Compensation

Compensation for damage or loss due to rebel action has not yet been forthcoming and compensation for damage or loss due to the security forces has only partially been paid to date.

Education

It is somewhat galling to read about the urban district council talking about universal "free" primary education, when people of a low class in this Division cannot be said to be within reach of a day school, when attendance rates are often very poor, and when schools are struggling on understaffed and with underqualified teachers. The results are seen in the large number of failures amongst people sitting for the Common Entrance Examination.

Malaysia

It must be admitted that many of the people here tended to think of themselves first and foremost as Chinese, Iban, Malays, Muruts, etc. and secondarily as Sarawakians. In some ways this has meant an easier transition for them to Malaysia, though as yet only a few of them if asked where they came from would answer "Malaysia". Nevertheless in all sorts of ways Malaysia, coupled with having a State Government of its own, is having a favourable effect on development and helping the people to begin to think of themselves ever more as Malaysians.

Malaysia celebrations in both Lawas and Limbang were carried out spontaneously and happily.

Elections and Politics

There is a group of people in this Division, mostly Kadayan and Iktay Muslims, whose ancestors fled to Limbang and Brunei, who would now like to see Limbang once again administered by Brunei. Their main reason for this attitude appear to be the fact

but in Brunei the villagers do not pay taxes, have old age pensions, have "free" water in Brunei Town, and the Muslim religion is the state religion, with corresponding advantages to people of the Muslim religion. This group was also strongly affected by Pany Ra'ayat Brunei. They also have many relations still in Brunei.

British Friends, though not officially a political party, also had a strong following in the Malay/Kedayan parts of the Division before the rebellion, but has been very quiet since then. Some of its leaders had strong pro-Indonesian leanings.

Sarawak United People Party was the only officially organized party here. Pro-independence it had been very active in raising political consciousness locally, but its support of Pany Ra'ayat Brunei had left it isolated in the view of some and since the rebellion it has shown little activity, and by the end of the year its Limbang Headquarters were returned to the censor who promptly rented the building out to the newly formed Women's Institute.

Election time came and went and nearly all the District Councilors elected were Indonesians. Party politics scarcely ever enter local government affairs in this Division, though at times Limbang District Council's voting shows a division between those in favour of returning Limbang to Brunei and those against such a course.

By the end of the year the Alliance was taking steps to attempt to convert the independent attitude of councilors and people to their favour.

There is as yet no need to have even a paragraph in this Report on communism in this Division.

Confederation

The fact that Limbang and Lawas Districts had some villages with rebel tendencies and that the Fifth Division is interwoven with both parts of Brunei State,—both of which had their rebel troubles,—has inevitably caused anxiety for persons carrying out President Sukarno's policy of confederation should try to reach such areas to foment trouble anew. In fact, it has been most reassuring in the Fifth Division to find how much support there was for helping to control up rebels in the early part of the year and to cooperate with the Security Forces to cope with threats directly from Indonesia over our borders and, when those failed, by threats on our flank via Sabah. The people most affected by confederation have been the Muruts of Long Seridan and, especially, of Ba Kelalan. Even so, they have managed to carry on with their normal occupations to a very large extent and to keep up a high morale. In both Lawas and Limbang Districts there have been plenty of volunteers to become Border Scouts. Those in Limbang were stood-down after training. Some in Lawas have been greatly helping the Security Forces; and as a result there is for once spare cash in the Ulu Trass.

This is perhaps a good place to reiterate what has been mentioned before in the press on several occasions,—namely firstly how well the Security Forces have fared in here. In the early part of the year their work in helping out with the floods was greatly appreciated. They have never made a mistake of themselves,—on the contrary in all sorts of ways they have helped the local population with any means at their disposal. No-one likes confrontation, but so far as this Division is concerned, it has had very little effect. The unfortunate death of a Border Scout in action has been partly compensated for by the large number of captures and death of men so callously misinformed and trained to carry out President Sukarno's pathological policies. Incidentally this is the only Security Force death caused by enemy action in the Division during the year.

Extracts from Annual Reports of Administrative Officers for the year 1963

Third Division

Kanowit District

District Officer—Ignatius L. Angling

General

The year in general has been a happy and prosperous one. Although it is difficult to set any particular material progress, there has been one most important development and that is in the field of political progress, development and understanding. Since the announcement on the proposed Federation of Malaysia, all emphasis has been placed on understanding and appreciating the motives involved, and this in turn has led to a remarkable increase in political action amongst the Iban in the District.

Administration

"Things ain't what they used to be." With the ever increasing amount of paper work to be dealt with and the resultant and inevitable consequences of an insufficiency of staff, District Administration seems to suffer. Some years ago it was possible to visit virtually every house in a district. Nowadays, it seems that the only way to reach the people is by holding meetings at some central spot accessible to several houses. In some ways this is probably a good thing, but it seems a pity. But the fact does remain, the paper work increases and instead of the staff also increasing it does not even remain up to its previous strength—on the contrary it decreases.

(i) Whereas before in July there were two Sarawak Administrative Officers, now there is only one. In Kanowit there were three, now there are only two, the junior one of whom has been changed so often that three times during the year. The same happens with the Clerical Staff; there have been six changes during the year and at one period of several weeks there was not even a typist in the District Office.

(ii) This is merely pointing out facts which tend to make District Administration more difficult every year. It is also a fact that with constant changes in staff it is difficult, in a small station, to achieve and maintain morale.

Agriculture

Excellent progress has been maintained in all branches by the District Agricultural Staff to whom the greatest credit is due. The Agricultural Assistants, in particular, at Kanowit and at Julau deserve the utmost praise and excellent relations are maintained by them amongst their staff.

(i) The greatest emphasis has naturally been placed on the Rubber Development Scheme which in future years will play a vital role in the economics of this District. Large areas have been planted, particularly in the Julau and Ulu Kanowit, and some of the first rubber planted under the Scheme should be able to be tapped in the very near future.

(ii) The Extension Teams too have played a very valuable role and are achieving much success. It is most important for their success to gain the confidence of the people and this the teams have managed to do in a comparatively short time.

(iii) There are several 4-H Clubs in existence in Kanowit and Julau.

The above Clubs have been started and organized by the American Peace Corps, Mr. Edwin Prior E. and Mr. Richard Monroe, assisted by the Extension members of the Agriculture Department.

Members of the Clubs have been active in having individual garden projects which serve to supplement the family diet. Several members were engaged in

handicraft as well. The girls, besides planting gardens, also participated in sewing and cooking projects.

Chinese Affairs

Amongst the Chinese Community happiness and goodwill seem to depend largely on prosperity. In Jala, where the trade is good and the Bazaar flourishes, the Community appears to be happy and certainly exudes goodwill. In Kanowit, where trade in the Bazaar is virtually at a standstill, the picture is completely different. The Kanowit Bazaar is lifeless and almost soul-destroying. The Bazaar, and the Station, can only be saved if Kanowit is linked up to a road system and it is hoped that this will happen under the new Development Plan. The Bazaar road was completed in 1963, and I think this may well have a great effect upon the Bazaar people and permit them to have a certain grip in the Bazaar and its appearance.

(1) Difficulty has been experienced in getting the Bazaar shop owners to pay off their Government Loans. Going to the state of trade, most of the owners cannot afford to keep up their payments; and they certainly cannot afford to make any improvements to their premises. The District Council is anxious that all shop-owners should install waterborne sanitation, but the owners are in no financial position to do so.

Community Development

I consider the results being achieved by the teams at Masong, Entabai (Entah and Kuchap are quite remarkable. Progress, being based on very solid foundations, is bound to be slow or appear to be slow. The basis on which these teams work is the very sound one that unless the people really understand a project or suggestion, accept it and then provide the driving force behind it, nothing solid can be achieved, and any super-structure will inevitably fall. It is for this reason that I remain convinced that European leadership of the teams must be retained for some considerable time yet. The Officers in charge of these teams provide the leadership, advice and guidance, without which these teams would, in my opinion, very quickly collapse.

(2) Difficulties in communications between the teams and Kanowit and Kuching tend to cause delays. However, the District Council has now established a Parish Council (Kowit) and K.D.C. for the Entabai; and this has led to a greater understanding between the Council and the people, and to direct and quicker communications between the two. At first the Council refused to consider establishing this Kowit mainly for fear of being committed financially to projects over which it could establish no control. Once these fears were removed the Council readily agreed and the success of the Kowit is measured with, of course, a corresponding advantage to the Council.

Constabulary

The Constabulary detachment in Kanowit, too, deserves the greatest praise. Although here too there have been many changes amongst the Inspectors and N.C.O.s, as well as amongst the men, the morale has remained high and the detachment's efficiency and co-operation has been outstanding.

Courts and Crime

Court work throughout the year has been heavy; and as there is only one First Class Magistrate in the district, most of this work has fallen upon the District Officer. The Court Room in Kanowit must surely be one of the most uncomfortable and uncomfortable District Courts in the country. The noise from above caused by visitors to the office, and the noise from in front caused by outbursts and launches is insufferable; the noise from behind caused by persons talking on the Public Telephone is infuriating, and the noise made by spectators peering in through the windows is sickening. In addition to all this, the Magistrate's

vision of the accused and the witnesses is often obscured by the large pillars supporting the office above. Under these conditions it is often difficult to obtain that certain degree expected of Magistrates when sitting in Court. A Magistrate's blood pressure, which invariably runs too high when dealing with these litigants in legal disputes, seems to cause an expansion in the diameter of the neck. With the wearing of coats and ties, this expansion is severely restricted and is a cause of much discomfort.

(3) Crime statistics are submitted regularly by the Police. Theft cases are the most common, but cases brought under the Arms and Explosives Ordinance are also common. There is no evidence to believe that there is any illegal trade in arms and ammunition. Most of the cases can be considered to be due to three weaknesses.

Co-operative

Co-operative work has continued steadily, and again the Department submits its own report. It is gratifying to see that the people who want co-operatives generally appreciate the value of them to the community. There was a time when a person wanted a co-operative for his own personal gain; but this attitude seems now to have changed.

Dayak Affairs

As already mentioned, main Dayak interest throughout the year has been centred on Malaysia and on Politics. Although by no means can it be said that all the Dayaks accept Malaysia in its entirety, it can certainly be said that the majority of the Dayaks understand what it is all about and appreciate that it is by far the best solution available. This has largely come about as a result of the locally formed and locally inspired PARTY PELAJA AMAK SARAWAK. The formation of this Party has, I think, given the Baram, Rajang Dayak population a sense of comradeship. Whereas before the Dayaks were all split up between rivers and indeed between houses, there now exists a bond, and a feeling of being united to a certain degree. It is doubted if the Rajang Dayaks could have stood on their own feet without this Party; they would have undoubtedly been split into many groups, and they certainly could not have put on any form of a united front.

District Council

The election of the District Council was carried out successfully and without any hitch and this was due to the co-operation and hard work of the Resident and District Office staff, the Agricultural staff, the Co-operative staff, Forest staff and the Kanowit District Council staff, who acted either as Presiding Officers or Polling Assistants in the various wards and as Assistant Returning Officers during the counting of the votes.

Cr. Ferginiah Manan was elected as Chairman of the Kanowit District Council and Cr. Lee Chin Chang as vice-Chairman.

Public Works Department

History was made in January when Kanowit town residents turned on their taps and got a fully treated water supply for 24 hours. At the same time they were able to switch on electricity for 24 hours.

It is regrettable to note that although the Malay language are on the pipe line, up till now only one house is connected to the line. It is hoped that a stand pipe can be made available to these people.

Kanowit town road was sealed and this brightened the appearance of the town, but side roads are yet to be done.

Four Class IV quarters were completed on the new site of the new development area for Government Quarters. These were the housing shortage a little for Government staff.

The Public Works Department established its Depot in Kuching for the first time and this cuts out quite a lot of unnecessary extra work for them. In the past the Public Works Department used to send supplies of stores to Kapit and from there down to Kuching. Since the establishment of their Depot here the work has run more smoothly.

Third Division

SARAWAK EXTRACT

District Officer—Abang Seliman

Courts

The Court proceedings were heavy during the year. The majority of cases were in respect of traffic offences and land disputes.

The single Court-room available is often found inadequate. It is considered that an additional Court-room is necessary. An arrangement for this has been made, and the present Post Office room will be converted into a Court-room when the Post Office moves to a new office building.

The number of Court cases heard and settled during the year are shown as follows:—

Criminal	
High Court	Nil
District Court	41
Police Court	21
First Court	149
Magistrate	1
Magistrate	1
Native Court	Nil
Division Native Court	Nil
Civil	
High Court	Nil (2 at Sibu)
District Court	10
Small Claims Court	14
First Court	9
Magistrate (Magistrate's Court)	Nil (2 at Sibu)
Magistrate (Native Court)	Nil (4 at Sibu)
District Native Court	7
Native Officer's Court	9
Headman/Chief's Court	45
	(Magistrate District—25)
	(Magistrate Civil—24)
	(Magistrate Crim—8)

The amount of fines imposed during the year was \$4,227 and Criminal Court fees collected \$21.

Administration

1963 had been a year of excitement in this district. All in brief, was an account of the changing status of the country in achieving its independence through Malaysia, in which we are fortunate to be in today as one of the States.

Prior to Malaysia Day on August 31st, the first general election by universal suffrage in accord with the principles of democracy were held in June, in which 17 councillors were elected to the Sarawak District Council. Of these, eight were SUPP, seven Independents, one Alliance and one PANAS. The work of travelling to longhouses, sampungs and Chinese areas in the district by Sarawak Administrative Officer was intensified before registration and election took place, in order to explain more fully to the people on the spot the right procedure to be followed. It was most gratifying to note that the work throughout the election including registration of voters and counting of votes was not only carried out in a satisfactory manner according to plan, but also highly commended by the electorate. There was no complaint reported. The elections were conducted with much more enthusiasm than ever before.

The inauguration of Malaysia on August 31st, 1963, was well attended by all the communities in Sarawak both young and old, and solemnly observed at King George the Sixth Recreation Ground. A guard of honour mounted by the local Police Force was inspected by the District Officer, Sarikel, who was accompanied by the Chairman of Sarawak District Council. Afterwards the proclamation of the birth of the new nation by the Chief Minister, Sarawak, was read by the District Officer, Sarikel, at the date in the past, and Malaysian and State Anthems were sung by the school children.

After this, all the participants went across the field to the newly constructed Basketball Stadium, where they were entertained with drinks and biscuits. Every one was filled with new vigour and excitement. Apart from the irrational scattering of city dirt on lawns, cutting of tyres, and other minor forms of annoyance caused by a certain section of the people, presumably those connected with the COO, on the eve of Malaysia Day, the people in Sarawak had a peaceful day.

The call for the surrender of arms and ammunition from the non-natives received remarkable response and co-operation of the people concerned. Almost all the guns and ammunition were surrendered to the Police within the specified period at short notice.

A middle-aged Cantonese woman was reported to have been killed by an unknown person in the vicinity of her house in broad daylight at Sungai Potal, Sarikel. Many thefts and mischief cases, such as cutting of pepper vines and snatching of acid to a person's face, were reported during the year, which necessitated Government action in imposing curfew during dark hours. The imposition of curfew has so far proved fruitful, and is therefore considered essential for the maintenance of peace and order, though it may undeniably cause some economical set-back to the farmers. Not only the number of crimes in the rural areas has been reduced to a considerable extent, but it has also facilitated the work of the Security Forces in restraining the unreasonable activities of undesirable persons.

At the height of adverse activities in this district during the year, two Indonesian-made land granades were thrown and exploded at the old Jalar bridge on the night of 5th October, 1963.

Land

Many applications for land have now been accepted, the work of the Land Clerk had slightly decreased by end of the year.

More and more Natives who are holders of Peasants land have applied for permission to have their land changed into peasant title. Their intention of doing so was to dispose of the land to non-natives. 90 per cent of the land within the Mixed Zone area has been surveyed already. Quite a number of Chinese families have submitted their applications for land along the Jalar/Roban Road.

Health

Health has been reported good through the whole year. There was no major outbreak of any infectious disease in the Sarawak District. The only common ones were typhoid and diphtheria.

A few of these who contracted such diseases came from the Bintong and Kuching Districts. The authorities concerned were informed for their necessary action.

The Post Health work at Tanjong Mudi considerably increased, especially during the last quarter of the year under review, due to more informants Asian countries having children brought in and out by travellers from one country to another.

All hotels in the town were equipped with water-borne sanitation, and it is hoped that others will, in future, follow suit and take advantage of using more water. This was the first installation of water-borne sanitation introduced in the hinter area.

Immigration

Seventeen illegal immigrants from Indonesia were caught in the Serikin and Sintang Divisions. Fourteen of them were issued with Removal Orders to leave the State of Sarawak, the others were issued with special passes on the validity of three months to enable them to stay temporarily in the district. This was due to the emergency situation at the border between Sarawak and Indonesia.

Forestry

Almost all merchantable timber areas within the district had been licensed to the Colonial Timber Company Limited. 50 per cent of these have been worked out already.

It is hoped that the Company will be able to extract merchantable timber as quickly as possible in order to make it possible for interested farmers to plant cash crops and so on, on suitable and fertile land through recommendation of the Agriculture Department.

The tonnage of logs exported during the year was 67,728 tons.

Agriculture

The overall situation of agriculture in the Serikin District has been improving. More and more farmers are keen to adopt modern methods of agriculture. Field Assistants were constantly sought by farmers for help and technical advice.

It was unfortunate that the flowering stage for both swamp and hill padi for the 1962/1963 season was in the very wet weather, which caused poor harvests. The yield per acre for swamp padi was about 160 gantang and hill padi 80 gantang. The total estimated average planned with padi for the 1963/1964 season is 1,680 for wet padi and 3,680 for hill padi. For this reason more Chinese are participating in the planting of swamp padi; a few of them are coming from the Sibau District in Kuching, Pahang. The growth was better where the burns were good. The harvest is expected to be good next year.

The pepper harvest during the year has been fairly good and better than that of last year, due to the favourable weather, and fewer pests, dropping up. The yield per acre has been approximately four katis per vine, or 29 piculs per acre.

The planting of coconuts under the subsidy scheme has been very slow in the district, this probably is due to the difficulty in drainage, and this is evident on some of the coconuts planted under subsidy scheme. 12,000 coconut seeds were removed from Kuching and 10,500 were marketed at Jeriuh for planting in the scheme.

The production of coconuts in the district is insufficient for the local demand, and some have to be imported from other places such as Kuching and Kating. Selling price per net is between 20-25 cents.

The remainder of Coconut Planting Scheme land at Jeriuh, which was left unactivated during the year, was cleared, burnt and temporarily planted with maize, bananas and padi, while waiting for the coconut seedlings. Good harvests of maize were reported.

13,024 coconut seedlings were distributed to planters at Kampong Jeriuh during the year. As the above seedlings were not sufficient, the Coconut Planting Scheme applicants had to use their own seedlings, which are as yet unpaid, at 30 cents each as replacement.

Co-operative

The number of co-operative societies was eight at the end of the year. One registration had been cancelled during the year.

The co-operative movement has been progressing steadily. The single-purpose societies have been converted into multi-purpose societies. This is to render better service to the co-operators in the district.

The classification of co-operative societies is as follows:—

(a) Store Societies	— 2
(b) Port Consumer	— 1
(c) Agricultural Marketing	— 1
(d) Vegetable Marketing	— 1
(e) Saving and Loan	— 3

The memberships and turnover may be summed up as follows:—

Membership	Turnover	Capital
783	\$653,753	\$54,140

Public Works

Serikin Post Office and Auto-Exchange. This building is one of the main buildings of the Post Office in Lunday Rajang District. It is situated near to the existing District Office. It was designed and supervised by the Public Works Department and the whole job was undertaken by Sarawak Construction (1963) Company at the cost of \$115,000. It is expected to be completed in April, 1964.

Serikin Launch Wharf. With the increase of water transport, the existing wooden wharf is hardly congested and unable to cope with the number of launches. A R.C. floating pontoon of 100' x 14' with two approaches made of steel fixed ramps is being sited at the old Chinese launch wharf site. In view of the softness of the ground, R.C. friction piles were introduced for the foundation of abutments. This wharf is designed and supervised by the Public Works Department, and the whole job was carried out by contractor Tiong Heng Seng at the cost of \$73,000; it is expected to be completed in May, 1964.

Green Road Extension. This Green Road extension was constructed to open up land for industrial purposes. It is a formation width of 24 feet and carriageway 14 feet and the total length is 0.44 mile finished with crushed stone surface. This road construction was carried out by Serikin Public Works Department which took two months to complete the whole job at a cost of \$33,208.

Serikin/Kelton Motor Road Project

This is a road designed and constructed to secondary road standard and will form part of the Trunk Route. Very little progress was made during the first four months of 1963 due to very heavy rain during the season, and extraordinarily heavy earth-moving was involved in crossing Sublot range (227,000 cubic yards) between Mile 7 and Mile 8. From there onwards work proceeded at the rate of approximately one mile per month until Sungai Seblik was reached and crossed at Lichok in December at Mile 16.

Investigations of a sandstone quarry were made early in the year and production of crusher-run material commenced in June, which enabled a stone running surface to be laid on just over nine miles of road by the end of the year. It was not possible, however, to open this road to limited traffic due to the condition of the old bridge at Taka, which, it is hoped, will be replaced in 1964.

The road location survey was completed up to Mile 25 (near the Serikin Secondary School) and the survey of the spur road to Kelton was nearing completion at the end of the year.

Transport.

With the development of land communications, there was a marked increase of vehicles in Sarawak during the year. The present bus service was operated by the Borneo Amalgamated Transport Company Limited. Taxi-cabs were owned by individuals. Except during the busy hours of the day in which intending passengers had to wait for half an hour or so, the present public transport service was quite satisfactory.

The present motorable roads (though some of them are under certain restrictions) which link Sarawak with other stations outside the district are as follows:—

- From Sarawak to Bintang.
- From Sarawak to Pagan.
- From Sarawak to Baying, Second Division.

Obituary

The tragic death of Zaimuddin bin Idris, the District Officer, Serriks, who fell overboard from a Government launch at Mena Pampang while on his return from Sibu, had given a tremendous shock not only to all his friends, but also people in Serriks. He was a young intelligent and promising local officer. His untimely demise was indeed a great loss to the people of Sarawak in particular and Malaysia in general.

Special note: The editor of this Gazette knew Zaimuddin well as T.A.G. Nish and fully avers that he was an outstanding officer, whose sudden death is a real blow to Sarawak. This man was in the top flight of dedicated Malay officers.—T.H.]

Chinese Affairs

Like the other races, the Chinese generally had a difficult time in the pursuit of their livelihood during the year under review. This was due to the low prices of local produce and the generally untimely situation caused by the Indonesian confrontation and aggression. Quite a good number of Chinese farmers planted padi, potatoes and other subsidiary food crops this year for fear of shortage of supply of imported food, if the country continued to be threatened.

It is most encouraging and heartening to note further improvement, namely a considerable number of houses of a more permanent nature, though not too attractive, were built in the rural areas by farmers, particularly by Cantonese who are gradually following the pattern of housing of the Focshew community. The general standard of housing of the Cantonese community has in the past lagged behind that of the Focshew community due to the difference of attitude towards Sarawak. The fact that they have now established houses and long-term planning of agricultural and other enterprises and participate in the development of the country, speaks for itself of the general attitude of the Chinese in treating Sarawak as their permanent home, although a small section of the youths still stupidly indulge in subversive activities.

Native Affairs

Almost all the Malays and Melanau in the Malay Kampong, Serriks, earned their living by working as labourers with C.T.C. Serriks, MRCU, Jalar and the Sarawak Company (1959) Limited at Seldang. Only a few of them are farmers.

The Melanau of the coastal villages have depended on various kinds of efforts whereby they can earn their living, namely, padi planting, cash crop planting, fishing, etc. These efforts are of course seasonal.

The Itham in the coastal areas are in a very deplorable economic condition due to the fact that padi is the mainstay of their economy. They have no rubber to turn to at the time when their padi becomes exhausted.

There is a long outstanding dispute between C.T.C. Limited and people of Ramah Anyem of Itham and Ramah Ulap of Selayang regarding the forest area near the latter's longhouse, but already leased to C.T.C.

Limited for timber extraction. A compromise was almost reached between the parties concerned, but this turned to failure when the Itham found the area given to them contained no valuable timber. At the time of writing, negotiation between the Itham and Government is still not finished yet.

Some, seeing the price of land offered by Chinese to be very attractive, take the opportunity of grabbing others' *Tenahs* and the consequence of their actions involved many disputes about ownership of *Tenahs* coming to Court for settlement. The disputing parties will never be satisfied with the decisions of their *Penghakis*, however justified these judgments may be.

Many Itham complained that the five rounds annuities rates per gun is not enough and is not worth bothering to log.

Some longhouses under the three *penghakis*, especially those under *Penghaka Giam* in lower Sungai Serriks, are short of land. Nearly all their good *Tenahs* has been sold to Chinese, leaving only impoverished areas for their padi fields. Quite a number of dots from the area have been removed to other areas in this district, while those which remain have never enjoyed good harvest. This state of affairs also applies to a number of longhouses under *Penghaka Giam* and *Penghaka Ulap*.

Education

The Council is responsible for all primary education in the district and has direct management of 24 out of the 48 primary schools; thirteen of these are Itham, four Chinese and seven Malay. The total number of students was 2,685 (1,216 boys and 879 girls) and there were 71 teachers. The rest of the Aided Schools were managed by local boards of management with the Council subsidy of nine per cent towards recurrent expenditure.

Three Itham central schools continued the feeding scheme and they have school mothers. This scheme was started in 1962 and seems to be running satisfactorily. There were about 215 boarders joining the scheme. Each boarder has to contribute two and a half pounds of rice and cash \$1.00 per month, but this cash \$1.00 per month collected has been refunded during the second half year 1963. The Council subsidize \$3.00 for each student per month in the form of provisions to be supplied by contract.

The School building programme of the Council was a great success. All the projects were completed in its three-year planning plans. In 1963 alone, the following buildings were put up: One boarding house, two school buildings and ten teachers' quarters. The Council has now drawn up a new building programme for the next Five-year Development Plan.

With the help of the Group Headmaster, Mr. Colin Hutchins, the standard of education in the Council schools has been greatly improved. I wish to extend my grateful thanks to him for his co-operation and assistance in enabling me to carry out the education programme so successfully.

Public Health

On the whole, public health work was quite satisfactorily carried out, but due to the shortage of health inspectors, sanitation work in the rural areas has been somewhat neglected.

There were seven rural midwives under the supervision of a Senior Staff nurse with final allowance from the Council. Two of them worked in the Main Clinic and the rest were assigned to and served in Sungai Rusa, Baying, Bepong, Batus and Pahn areas. Two native midwifery candidates were training in the General Hospital, Kuching, under the sponsorship of the Council.

As the population is rapidly growing, it is advisable for the Council gradually to train more personnel such

as Health Inspectors and midwives to look after the general health of the public in the district.

Public Works

Three wells at the Pabit, Rejong and Belawai Bantars were duly completed at the beginning of the year.

All projects for the year 1963 at the following places were put to out contract and completed in the current year—

1. One boarding house at Uda School, Bayang;
2. Earth filling of part of Abdukraban and Herald Roads;
3. Two school buildings with two classrooms each at Belawai and Sengul Raza Schools;
4. Ten teachers' quarters at various L.A. Schools;
5. 24 sets of furniture for teachers' quarters;
6. Maintenance of Sengul Kasa and Sengul Raza Roads.

The maintenance of Municipal Roads was handed over to the Public Works Department by issuing Service Orders amounting to \$6,000 for gravelling these.

Fire Brigade

The Council had paid greater attention to fire-fighting, and a training course was conducted for the Council firemen. The Kuching Municipal Council has generously made available one of its leading firemen to run this course. Twenty volunteers were called in this course.

Finance

Apart from Government grant, the main revenues of the Council are rates and school fees. The collection for the first half year was not satisfactory. The total amount of rates collected during the first half is \$47,590 out of total collection amounting to \$128,081, i.e. 37.21 per cent collected during the first half year, and the amount of school fees is \$11,593 out of a total collection amounting to \$27,080, i.e. 42.81 per cent. In comparison with the second half year 1963, the rates and school fee collections are less by \$20,962 and \$3,894 respectively.

JULY, 1964

CALENDAR			MOON PHASES		HIGH WATER			
Day	Month	Month	☾ 2nd Last Quarter ☾ 16th New Moon	☽ 16th First Quarter ☽ 2nd Full Moon	KUCHING	MELO		
Wed	1	21	20	Corpus Day.	0947	1409	—	1553
Th.	2	22	20	The Visitation of Our Lady.	1008	1368	—	1477
Fri.	3	24	20	Sarawak Amateur Athletic Association Championship Meeting.	1113	1316	0820	1526
Sat.	4	23	24	Antarctic Invention/First. Sarawak Amateur Athletic Association Championship Meeting. Kuching Boat Club Races. 1st Sarawak ATAA Trophy.	1158	—	0757	1604
SUN.	5	24	25	—	0905	1246	0753	1541
Mon.	6	27	28	—	0433	1340	0811	—
Tue.	7	28	27	—	0008	1436	0824	—
Wed	8	29	28	—	0602	1532	0834	—
Th.	9	1	28	—	0987	1634	0855	—
Fri.	10	2	1	—	0659	1715	0889	—
Sat.	11	3	2	—	0668	1806	1123	—
SUN.	12	4	3	—	0707	1856	—	1205
Mon.	13	5	4	—	0825	1949	—	1249
Tue.	14	6	5	—	0952	2045	—	1316
Wed	15	7	6	—	0976	2146	—	1401
Th.	16	8	7	—	1049	2249	—	1458
Fri.	17	9	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sat.	18	10	9	—	1125	—	0750	1495
SUN.	19	11	10	—	—	1211	0831	—
Mon.	20	12	11	—	0433	1358	0761	—
Tue.	21	13	12	—	0128	1444	0758	—
Wed	22	14	13	—	0028	1432	0759	—
Th.	23	15	14	—	0418	1526	0840	—
Fri.	24	16	15	—	0688	1625	0921	—
Sat.	25	17	16	—	0779	1645	1002	—
SUN.	26	18	17	—	0645	1721	1042	—
Mon.	27	19	18	—	0449	1800	1123	—
Tue.	28	20	19	—	0720	1840	—	1200
Wed	29	21	20	—	0854	1921	—	1242
Th.	30	22	21	—	0954	2007	—	1323
Fri.	31	23	22	—	0949	2037	0911	1406
				—	0946	2104	0927	1455

ABSTRACT OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1964

Division	Station	Latitude N.	Longitude E.	AIR TEMPERATURES IN DEGREE FAHRENHEIT								Mean Relative Humidity (7.30 a.m.)	RAINFALL				Night Radiation Mean Hours
				Maximum				Minimum					Total	No. of Days			
				8 a.m.	12 p.m.	4 p.m.	Maximum	Minimum	8 a.m.	12 p.m.	4 p.m.				Maximum	Minimum	
PORT DIVISION	Ranking Airport	0° 12' N	113° 52' E	79.0	84.0	78.4	82.4	74.0	81.0	69.2	75.0	71.0	70.0	71.0	71.0	4.11	
	Cheroh Airport	0° 21' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Cheroh (Main)	0° 21' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Cheroh (Sub)	0° 21' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Malinau Airport	0° 21' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Malinau (Main)	0° 21' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Malinau (Sub)	0° 21' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
BOKROB DIVISION	Belaga Airport	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
TUMBU DIVISION	Sim Airport	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
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	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
TUMBU DIVISION	Sim Airport	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
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	Sim (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
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	Sim (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
BOKROB DIVISION	Belaga Airport	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Belaga (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
TUMBU DIVISION	Sim Airport	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Main)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	
	Sim (Sub)	0° 52' N	113° 52' E	78.0	83.0	77.0	81.0	69.0	75.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	4.11	

Kuching Market Price List

May, 1964

	Average
Rice—(per gantang)	
Local, White, Government Milled	1.80
Local, White, Milled	1.80
Siam "A", 7½%	2.10
Siam "B"	1.90
China Rice	1.70
Siam Broken Rice	1.50
Rangoon	1.50
Sugar—(per katil)	
White Sugar	.40
Brown Sugar	.45
Nipah Sugar	.30
Salt—(per katil)	
Coarse	.10
Fine	.10
Nipah	1.20
Flour and Bread	
White Flour, per katil	.25
Bread, per small loaf	.25
Bread, per large loaf	.40
Milk—(per tin)	
(a) Condensed	
(i) Liberty Brand	.65
(ii) Tea Pot	.60
(iii) Milk Maid	.70
(b) Local Fresh Milk	.80
Eggs—(each)	
Turtle	.10
Dark, fresh	.15
Dark, salted	.15
White	.12
Edible Fats—(per lb.)	
Butter	2.00
Coconut Oil	.70
Vegetable Oil	.75
Lard, No. 1	1.30
Lard, No. 2	.90
Slack	2.50
Dipping	.80
Pork—(per katil)	
Loin, No. 1	2.00
Loin with Fat, No. 2	2.40
Pig	.80
Ribs	2.00
Beef—(per katil)	
Beef, steak	3.20
Beef, Curry meat	1.80
Buffalo, No. 1	3.20
Buffalo, Curry meat	1.80
Mutton, Australian	1.80
Mutton, Local	2.00
Poultry—(per katil)	
Capeans	2.40
Chinese Cooks	1.20
Fullers	2.40
Chinese Hens	1.70
Dayak Fowls	1.80
Ducks	1.80
Muscovy	1.60
Cross-Breed	1.70
Geese	1.60
Fish—(per katil)	
Fresh Fish, No. 1	1.40
Fresh Fish, No. 2	.80
Fresh Fish, No. 3	.50
Prawns, No. 1	1.60
Prawns, No. 2	.80
Crab, No. 1	1.20
Crab, No. 2	.80
Salted Fish, No. 1	2.80
Salted Fish, No. 2	1.10
Salted Fish, No. 3	.70
Vegetables—(per katil)	
Bamboo Shoots, salted	.30
Banding (Uluayan)	.10
Banghany	.15
Bayan	.40

Vegetables—(per katil)—Contd.	Average
Bean Sprouts	.30
Cabbage	.50
Changkok Manis	.40
Cucumber (Tiaman)	.30
Chilies, Red	0.45
Chilies, Green	.25
Dwarf Beans	1.00
Ennabi Fresh	.55
Ennabi Bean	.55
Ennabi Beans	.55
French beans	.60
Garlic, fresh	1.20
Ginger	.80
Kuching Panjang	.30
Kangkang Ayam	.20
Kangkang Kudu	.40
Keladi Batani	.15
Keladi China	.30
Ketola	.40
Kerubang	.15
Kerdas	.20
Labe	.15
Labe (Dui)	.40
Ladies Fingers	.60
Lehuan	1.00
Loroi (Chinese Radish)	.60
Lubak, salted	.50
Onions, Bombay	.35
Onions, small	.50
Peasants, imported	.20
Pink (Bitter Ground)	.75
Samburak, imported	.90
Samburak, Local	.60
Tamarind (Black Assam)	.40
Tomatoes	.90
Trong (Brinjals)	.60
Sauce, No. 1 (per bottle)	1.10
Sauce, No. 2 (per bottle)	.80
Sauce, No. 3 (per bottle)	.50
Tea—(per lb.)	
Tea, Ceylon	4.20
Tea, Chinese	1.80
Coffee—(per katil)	
Raw, Java No. 1, Local	2.80
Raw, No. 2	4.80
Powder (1st quality)	1.20
Fruits—(each)	
Pisang Umbon (per katil)	.15
Pisang Tandok	12-15
Nanas	20-1.00
Bush Berri (per katil)	.20
Spices	
Bean curd (per piece)	.10
Bean cake, white (per piece)	.10
Bean cake, yellow (per piece)	.25
Bhachan (per katil)	.70
Charcoal (per piece)	8-90
Coconut, fresh (each)	.20
Cornd, Beef (per tin)	1.20
Dried Prawns (per katil)	1.00-1.00
Kerosene Oil (per tin)	4.00
Kerosene Oil (per bottle)	.20
Matches, Local (per box)	.05
Matches, imported (per box)	.10
Soap, washing, local (per bar)	.60
Soap, washing, imported (per bar)	.95
Salmon (per tin)	1.60
Sardines (per tin)	.70
Buko Wood (per panchang)	25.00
Cigarettes	
Flavors (per packet of 10)	.50
ROUGH RIDER (per packet of 10)	.40
CROWN "A"	.50
White Eagle	.45
State Express (per tin)	2.85
Captain (per packet of 10)	.45
State Express 505 (per packet of 10)	.35
Lucky Strike (per packet of 20)	.60