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The Sarawak Gazette

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31st, 1964

Excitements of Entity

An aspect of Archive

Some words sound dull which spell deadly exciting. "State Archives" are two such words which have appeared regularly in this *Gazette* lately. One of the editors has been presenting material which has long lain dormant, but is now arousing far keener interest, with Sarawak's new-won independence and entity within the wider pattern of Malaysian nationhood. What does the term "archive" in fact embrace, as of 1964?

There was no exact central record focus before Sarawak became a Crown Colony in 1947, although some Brooke and other papers were well cared for in the Astana, the Secretariat and outstations, surviving the Japanese Occupation (which raped many of the documents on the Malayan mainland to disaster level).

Let us take, as a start, a Sea Dayak *tusut* record (which we will mention again later). This one shows how Sarawak's Minister of Local Government traces descent from the epic Iban culture heroes, who brought a new flowering of Dayak culture centuries ago, far inland.

1. Beji
2. Nisi Bunga Besi
3. Antu Rambayan Bulu
4. Telichai Tuai Kitai

× *Endu Dara Sia* (female line)

5. Berenai Sugi	Retak Daai
6. Kumpai Benai	Serapoh
7. Tali Bunga	*Remi* (f)
8. (unknown)	Menggin
9 *Seri Ngiang* (f)	Sera Gunting

×

10. Sera Kempat
11. *Ridoh* (f)
12. *Gupi* (f)
13. Garaman "Ensoh"
14. *Beragai* (f)
15. Beti "Brauh Ngumbang"
16. Talak
17. *Badas* (f)
18. Blaki
19. Penyut
20. *Sudan* (f)
21. Blaki
22. Bayang
23. Jabat
24. *Amba* (f)
25. *Melaia* (f)
26. Penghulu Minggat
27. *Chenggit* (f)
28. Sa
29. *Rinya* (f)
30. The Hon'ble Mr. Dunstan Endawi
31. The Minister's family

These genealogies kept, especially by Ibans, Sarawak Malays, some Land Dayaks and the aristocratic Kenyahs and Kayans, are among our illuminating archive materials for the study and understanding of the state's long past. There is apparently *nothing* equivalently nice in Sabah, Singapore or "Malaya Proper".

* * *

Such archives are obviously an integral part of literature, group's identity, continuity and pride. Here they are composed of several different and sometimes opposed elements, all interesting—like the state itself. First and best known are the Brooke letter books, case books, outstation records, and other administrative material of the 105 years of White Rajah rule. The first Rajah left very little; but the Second, Sir Charles, quite a bit. Sentimentally, this is a priceless part of the country's tradition and heritage. Without the Brooke's there would be no Sarawak. They invented it, moulded it, and left a stamp on it which remains unmistakable today—and will continue so as long as Sarawak continues. Without the Brooke papers, Sarawak would be as psychologically bereft as we would be physically if the Astana was removed to Kuala Lumpur or Niah Great Cave blown up by the Public Works Department.

This is why these and all other historical records were written into the Inter-Governmental Committee (I.G.C.) Agreement as State rather than Federal. Thus Sarawak retains a coherence which in no way detracts from adherence to and full integration inside Malaysia. The same principle is, of course, recognised in every civilised country. It is why Kelantan and Johore maintain their own Royal families and B.B.C. Television has unintelligible (to the English) programmes in Welsh at noon. The Brooke archives are, in this sense, at the heart of Sarawak. They prove a proud past into a prouder present.

Second in interest is the material of Sarawak's indigenous folklore, those records and manuscripts which preserve for posterity the great Iban *Pengap* and *tusut* epics of Sengalang Burong and his three terrific brothers, the migrations of the Kayans over 20 generations, or the over 30 hand written books compiled by Mujah anak Mambang from the Second Division, telling in his own language the story of his own people.

This second class of archives is, with two notable exceptions, based entirely on the spoken word, of a pre-literate period. That is, all of it has had to be transcribed in recent years from speech or song and has not previously been put on paper. Most of it would, in fact, have been lost for ever in the changing culture and switching values of this decade, had it not been so transcribed.

One of the exciting items of this kind is a large file-tin filled with the only surviving information of the once dominant tribe of the Saratok district and Kalaka River, the Serus. Chula, the last of the Serus, has now died. His people, who numbered many thousands in previous centuries, had a distinctive code of ethics and observances, with a rather marked emphasis on violence—not to say bloody-mindedness. As the Iban spread west out of the Kapuas in Kalimantan over into Sarawak, they pushed up against the Serus. Whereas most such groups made compromises to share land, intermarry leaders and otherwise integrate in these movements and expansions of population (which have been going on across Borneo for at least 10,000 years), the Serus, proud, arrogant, separate, never really came to terms. At least twice they made most solemn peace-pacts with the up-coming Ibans—and betrayed their side of the pledge (*sumpa*). Chula spent some of his last days leaving the mark of this strange, tough folk upon the record, including a vocabulary of the Seru language. Soon, it is hoped to publish this now unique information, and so achieve another object of archive work: conservation of the past, permanent preservation of the vanished for the unborn; on the record forever.

Third and remarkable also is the rare and little known class of archive derived from indigenous Bornean writing. One group of these is supplied by *sila*[2], the Jawi script transcriptions of ancient Malay, Melanau, Bisaya, Kadayan, and also some Murut history and mythology. Immediately after World War II the present writer scoured the Fourth and Fifth Divisions and down to Niah and Bintulu in the Third for the few surviving genuine *sila*[2] reported to remain in these parts. Some twenty hand-written books of texts were recovered, on condition that they were preserved in the Museum, for good. Some work has been done on these texts; but they are mostly in archaic Jawi script and abstruse metaphoric verse, which has so far defeated every Malay scholar save one. This is not simply a difficulty of language. The texts are full of allusions, symbols, delicate undertones of *pantun*, which can only be correctly interpreted by one deeply versed not only in the thinking but also in the actual facts of life among the people to whom the imagery refers.

Textual complications relate even more to the other sub-class of Sarawak writing, that found on Dayak *papan turai*. This is an ideographic script of mysterious origin and until recently unknown to outsiders. Again, a first report on turai from Saribas and Mukah is now well advanced for publication. A similar writing is found among the Leppo Tau in Kalimantan, who gave the present writer the only known example—partly because he was the first friendly outsider to re-appear among them during World War II.

Recently, by informal arrangement with the dynamic South East Asia Project of Cornell University, U.S.A., an independent appreciation has been made of Sarawak's holdings, especially in the folklore and ethnological field. The idea is that Cornell will loan graduate students for six month spells to help interested Sarawakians advance the translation and publication of such material, in return for reciprocal services in aid of their own studies on related themes.

Necessarily, access to archives is restricted—by law, by regard for personalities or groups still alive, by amenities and space available at any one time. But as well as extensive use by government departments, schools, and individuals inside East Malaysia, an increasing flow of outside specialists come to Kuching to study these records in relation to their wider outlooks. In recent months for instance, a Professor from Yale and another from Ohio University; lecturers from the Academica Sinica, Taiwan, and from Tokyo, Hong Kong, Canberra (A.N.U) and Melbourne. Queries from other lands are answered as fully as possible. Among these dealt with in detail last month was one from Dayang Valerie, daughter of the Third Rajah, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, to whom photo-material and information was sent at her present home in the West Indies—to her warmly expressed delight. In gentle ways, then, Sarawak links states of mind and phases of time, not only with other states in Malaysia but—more and more—more widely.

* * *

These notes were opened with a specific illustration, and may suitably be closed in the same way. With difficulty in 1954-9 the Baram and Simanggang Court Books were recovered, reconditioned and presently completely indexed, for back reference to the District Courts whenever cases should arise involving past disputes and decisions—as frequently happens. This is a very simplified result of one part in this analysis of living archives.

Here, there is a comparison of certain types of sexual and marital cases brought before the courts at Simanggang (predominantly Iban area) and Baram (predominantly Kenya and Kayan area) over approximately 40 years up to the end of World War I. As the total cases at relatively peaceful Baram are only a third of those at litigious Simanggang during this period of emergent law, we have here trebled the Baram cases to give an easy, ready-reading compari-

son for the *relative* frequency of each sort of case as between two ethnically different areas. (The full analyses of course divide cases by race, etc., in detail).

		CASES BEFORE 1919	
		At Simanggang	At Baram
	Marital		
D. 19.	Abortion	17	3*
D. 20.	Adoption	81	30*
D. 21.	Bigamy	20	9
D. 22.	Betrothal, etc.	110*	153
D. 23.	Divorce	751	99**
D. 24.	Desertion	133	81
D. 25.	Restitution of Conjugal Rights	92	3**
	Extra-Marital		
E. 26.	Abduction	10*	24
E. 27.	Adultery	668	498
E. 28/29	Criminal Force, etc.	47	12*
E. 30.	Incest	37	39
E. 31.	Paternity	336	39**
E. 32/33	Perversion, Rape	12	9
E. 34.	"Seduction", etc.	53	24

Asterisks indicate differences of valid statistical—and deep sociological—significance.



The Hon'ble Mr. Dunstan Endawie, Minister for Local Government. *See Genealogy in our Editorial.*

Confrontation By Eye

"Jak", the celebrated cartoonist, recently made a tour of Malaysian fronts on behalf of the *Evening Standard*, London and the Public Relations branches of the Services, who arranged that he see an exceptional amount of the remoter and more confronted countryside. The result has been a series of brilliant, witty and sympathetic cartoons, capturing with precision the mood both of the Security Forces and of the Sarawak scene — which attracted his eye more than any other. Through the good offices of the Director of Public Relations, Far East Land Forces, and of P.R.O. Major Garcia locally we reproduce here the first in a series which so brilliantly recapture moments of 1964 — this one complete with Orang Utan!—ED.



"I still say it's one of the Royal Ulster Rifles on the scrounge."



His Excellency the Governor at His Birthday Parade, October 5, 1964

H.E. The Governor's Birthday Honours, 1964

In the list, the highest order, the Panglima Negara Bintang Sarawak, which carries with it the title of Dato, is awarded to ten persons, and the Honorary Panglima Negara Bintang Sarawak is awarded to six.

Twenty-seven receive the Pegawai Bintang Sarawak, 35 the Ahli Bintang Sarawak and 104 receive the Sijil Kehormatan Negara (Certificate of Honour).

Heading the list in the highest Order is the Datin Hajjah Masniah binti Abang Haji Abdul Rahman; the wife of the Governor. Others are the Chief Minister, Dato Stephen Kalong Ningkan, P.D.K., Dato Temenggong Jugah anak Barieng, P.M.N., P.D.K., O.B.E., Q.M.C.; Dr. Murugasu Sockalingam, C.B.E., O.S.S.; Temenggong Oyong Lawai Jau, M.B.E., Q.M.C.; Abang Haji Marzuki bin Abang Mohamad Nor; Abang Spuani bin Abang Juaini; Mr. Wee Kheng Chiang, C.S.S.; Mr. Ling Beng Siew and Mr. Edward Brandah.

Recipients of the Honorary Panglima Negara Bintang Sarawak are: Dato Donald Stephens, P.D.K.; Tengku Mohamad bin Tengku Besar Burhanuddin, J.M.N., P.P.T.; Capt. Douglas Ronald Gribble, O.B.E.; Mr. Alistair Robin Gwyn Morrison; Brigadier Arthur Gordon Patterson, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C.; Mr. Peter Turnbull, C.B.E.

The full list of other awards are as follows:

Pegawai Bintang Sarawak

Dr. Wong Soon Kai; Mr. Gerunsin Lembat; Tuan Haji Morshidi bin Osman, M.B.E.; Mr. Joseph Goh Meng Teck; Mr. Kong Yu Siong; Mr. Raymond Egbert Donough; Abang Othman bin Abang Haji Moasili; Inche Mohamad bin Haji Bakri; Mr. Racha Umong; Mr. Wee Hood Teck; Pengarah Banyang anak Janting, Q.M.C.; Pengarah Montegrai anak Tugang, A.M.N.; Mr. Tan Tsak Yu; Mr. John Nichol Kassim; Mr. Chen Ko Meng; Mr. George William Geikie, O.B.E., O.S.S.; Mr. Luke Lee Chuan Guan; Pengarah Sibat anak Semada, Q.M.C.; Pengarah Storey anak Ngumbang; Abang Haji Adenan bin Abang Haji Azahari; Canon Basil Temenggong.

Honorary Pegawai Bintang Sarawak

Lieutenant Colonel Mohamad Nordin bin Mahaludin; Reverend Burr Baughman; Reverend Father Bruggeman; Mr. Robert Ernest Chater, M.B.E.; Lieutenant Commander Geoffrey James Sherman; Archdeacon Peter Henry Howes, O.B.E.

Ahli Bintang Sarawak

Mr. Benedict Sandin; Mr. Chan Choon Siew; Inche Hamdan bin Mohamad Sirat; Mr. Rentap anak Jemut; Mr. Edmund Law Fook Hin; Mr. Frederick August Enchana; Mrs. Lily Lee (Mrs. Lee Swee Ling); Mrs. Madge Chan (Mrs. Chan Khiok Leng); Abang Haji Mohamad Trang bin Abang Mohamad Nor; Mr. Aloysius Ho; Penghulu Ngang anak Bundan; Tuan Haji Su'ut bin Tahir; Mr. Chia Chin Shin; Mr. David Lawrence Usit; Mr. Lee Keng Meng; Wan Abdul Rahman bin Datu Tuanku Haji Bujang; Abang Narudin bin Abang Sharkawi; Abang Haji Amin bin Abang Haji Abdul Salam; Mr. Edward Jeli; Mr. Maja anak Guyang; Inche Ainie bin Dhoby; Penghulu Tawi Sli; Mr. Lionel Bediman Ketit; Penghulu Ngelambong anak Libu; Mr. Sng Chin Joo; Penghulu Francis Umpau; Mr. Sim Boon Liang; Penghulu Jinggut anak Atan; Mr. Edwin Tangkun; Wan Hashim bin Datu Tuanku Taha; Penghulu Entri anak Sanyah; Mr. Jonathan Bangau anak Renang; Mr. Abing Nawan.

Honorary Ahli Bintang Sarawak

Miss Elizabeth O'Kelly, M.B.E.; Mr. George Alexander Thamotherampillay Rasiah.

Sijil Kehormatan Negara (Certificate of Honour)

Mr. Louis Barieng; Orang Kaya Pemancha Rahun; Orang Kaya Pemancha Salau; Tua Kampong Munal anak Nabong; Penghulu Gau; Penghulu Baya Malang; Tua Kampong Abang Abdul Karim bin Abang Hassan; Ustadz Mohamad Mortadza; Penghulu Langi anak Jilap; Tuan Haji Jara'iee bin Haji Ibrahim; Mr. Britten Untai; Mr. Francis Tan Eng Chong; Mr. Tan Han Boon; Tua Kampong Muip bin Tabib, M.B.E.; Inche Ahmad bin Shafi'ee; Inche Mohamad Pauzi bin Hamdani; Tuai Rumah Banying anak Kamarau; Tuai Rumah Libau anak Merom; Mr. Timbu anak Adal; Tuan Haji Abu Bakar bin Abdullah; Inche Hasbie bin Sulaiman; Mr. Loh Yang Cho; Mr. Gawan anak Jangga; Awang Daud bin Awang Matusin; Inche Habibollah bin Majid; Mr. Eddie Jolly; Tuan Haji Nokman bin Haji Besi; Mr. Amit Yeo Leng Soon; Mr. Tawi anak Ragai; Mr. Anthony Belayong Beat; Penghulu Daniel Baran Broke; Mr. Ellai anak Seman; Mr. Sim Kheng Lung; Mr. Sylvester Chai Mook Ngien; Penghulu Abok anak Penghulu Jalin; Mr. Johnny Senang; Mr. Sandah anak Penghulu Jaraw; Penghulu Ngali anak Bundan; Tuai Rumah Jenggi anak Chaie; Dr. Daniel Kok Yan Swee; Mr. Utong anak Sigan; Penghulu Mani anak Stang; Inche Pokok bin Meratim; Mr. Sang anak Sawing; Tuai Rumah Jabing anak Empaling; Mr. Japok anak Gelayan; Tuai Rumah Malis anak Isek; Mr. Umpang anak Pelima; Mr. Jilin anak Layang; Tuan Haji Satem bin Haji Sulong; Mr. Ngelambong anak Bungka; Mr. Ningkan anak Igam; Che Rugayah Majid; Mrs. May Tan; Ustadz Abdul Kadir Hassan Mr. William Chua Tamby; Mrs. Fatimah Wan Abdul Rahman; Mrs. Jack Brodie; Mrs. Francis Umpau; Mr. Chin Ah Joon; Mr. Chin Nyit Joon; Mr. Robert Vyner Chai; Mr. Gulam Kadir; Mr. Yap Chong Howe; Mr. Kho Lai Aik; Orang Kaya Pemancha Kalong anak Orang Kaya Jumat; Tua Kampong Mohamad Su'ud bin Udin; Mr. Goh Hong Ping; Tua

Kampong Rojey anak Tadak; Tua Kampong No'ew anak Ulai; Tua Kampong John anak Maso; Tua Kampong Mamiu anak Nyai; Tua Kampong Munau anak Nchaden; Awang Haji Hashim bin Pengiran Osman; Orang Kaya Pemancha Sinyam anak Matod; Madam Ju Inn (Mrs. Ang Thiang Sang); Tuan Haji Dol bin Osman; Mr. Upok anak Mawan; Abang Mansor bin Abang Pong; Tuan Haji Iman bin Haji Plee; Abang Ahmad bin Abang Haji Sidek; Mr. Limbang anak Melaka; Mr. Peter Frank Siburat; Penghulu Narok anak Penghulu Bakar; Mr. Gol anak Sadam; Mr. Ong Ah Huat; Mr. Goh Kheng Ou; Ex-Penghulu Skudan; Penghulu Imban anak Medan; Mr. Yeo Ah Kit; Mr. Laing Lirong; Penghulu Giman anak Juan; Tuai Rumah Sirai; Mr. Tan Cheng Swee; Mr. Lau Kim Lok; Inche Drahman bin Kasah; Mr. Tan Khim Siah; Mr. Loh Then Kong; Inche Latip bin Osman; Mr. Tajang Laeng; Mr. John Chua Lai Huat; Tuai Rumah Bering anak Bungka; Mr. Jampi anak Pungga; Mr. Ambau anak Inggol.

Poppy Day, 1964

Once again, on November 8, Sarawak celebrates a great and in a way sad International occasion, within and outside Malaysia. Remembrance Day, more commonly called Poppy Day, remembers with gratitude all those who died in the two great wars, and in the lesser ones, that freedom and decency might live.

Right now we are in the middle of one of the lesser ways. But it is no less the better and bloody, and miserable, for being small and meaningless, the work of greedy megalomaniacs, ever on the search for more power and fresh alibis to cover-up on failure.

The sale of poppies on this day is in Remembrance of those who gave their blood (the poppy's scarlet colour). This signifies personal generosity in return for the gift of life itself that some so readily made — and make — that others may live.

All but a small fraction of the Poppy Sales money goes to local, Sarawak Charity. The small fraction is for actual costs and expenses, here and from the London Headquarters supply end.

These funds are administered through the Ex-Services Association of Sarawak with H.E. the Governor and the Chief Justice as Patrons, and five Sarawakians as active committee men, — all of course themselves ex-servicemen and including Malay, Dayak and Chinese. This year, new and wider demands are being made on the Association, which is helping the dependants of men and women who fought in the Japanese war with S.R.D. or other forces, and more recently in Malaya, in the Brunei Rebellion and in the present Indonesian Confrontation. Gifts and lump sums or education grants have been paid to help, for instance, the widows and children of those killed at Limbang in December, 1962; an aged Kayan lady who lost her son in the Indonesian assault on Long Jawi in the ulu Baloi; the orphans of a Bukitan ex-serviceman further down the Baloi; the retarded son of the late Penghulu Miri, B.E.M. at Ramudu in the upper Baram; three Chinese and two Iban ex-service children at Sarikei and Binatang; three Kelabit schoolboys now at Marudi and Miri; two Land Dayak boys in Kuching; a widow at Long Lellang far up in the headwaters of the Akar, — and many others.

By paying generously for a Poppy on November 8, you make this work of mercy possible. Please give generously. In 1965 more help will be needed. It will be given, for sure.

One always hesitates to use the word 'genius', it is so often bandied about without just reason; the most accurate description is without doubt the not-so-old adage that it is "one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent perspiration." Particularly in this climate.



Billy Yapp

There is no point in our arguing as to whether Billy Yapp Ket Siong, or just plain 'Billy' to most of us, is or is not a genius. I gather I'm tone deaf, and therefore cannot make any authoritative aural statements on the subject; suffice it to say, Billy is generally accepted as being exceedingly talented.

Billy, who is 19 years old and was born in Lutong in the Fourth Division of Sarawak, came to St. Thomas's School about three years ago, with some knowledge of piano playing. Once in Kuching, he joined the Cathedral Choir, and took up the organ. It soon became clear that his talent for the organ was exceptional (although he is a creditable performer on the piano and has passed the Grade VIII examination for that instrument; he has also recently taken up the viola). In the final Grade VIII examination for the organ he gained 143 marks out of 150, was singled out by the examiners, and recommended to apply for a scholarship of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, in which he has been successful.

Only a handful of these scholarships are awarded annually; they are given on the basis of results in the Associated Board examinations, conducted all over the world, in which competition from many hundreds of candidates is fierce. This award was won in competition with players from Singapore and Borneo where only one award is made each year.

Examiner Alwyn Surplice, Organist at Winchester Cathedral, Denis Matthews, the pianist, Ian Wilson, the oboe player and many others have all used superlatives in their acknowledgement of his musical capabilities. Having taken his Higher School Certificate in November, Billy will be leaving Sarawak at the end of the year to take up his three years of study at the Royal Academy of Music in London, and will be well looked after there by leading musicians who have recently visited Sarawak.

By the time this goes to print, Billy will have given a recital at the Organ of St. Thomas's Cathedral in Kuching — to the best of my knowledge, the first ever given by a Sarawakian. Indeed, any musical recital in this country given by a local born boy or girl must be welcomed as a rare and creditable event. Our very warmest thoughts go with Billy to the United Kingdom:

"... There let the pealing organ blow,
To the full-voiced quire below,
In service high, and anthems clear,
As may, with sweetness, though mine ear,
Dissolve me into ecstacies,
And bring all Heaven before mine eyes."

J. D. T. HUGHES

Why Was "Lawyer-Made" Law Necessary For Sarawak?

by G. C. V. YOUNG
(Barrister at Law)

As I mentioned in my last August article, up until 1927 Sarawak laws were not drafted by lawers (apart from the Indian Penal Code which was adopted as Sarawak law in 1922).

While it is admitted that a few of the laws must have been based on legal precedents, the larger majority of them were obviously written without a lawyer's help, direct or indirect.

It must be appreciated that in the period in question there were no lawyers in Sarawak (either among the judiciary or civil service or in private practice) and that it was therefore essential to write the laws in very simple language so that they could be understood without difficulty by the courts and by litigants and accused persons.

Although the language of the early legislation was simplicity in the extreme, nevertheless, in certain concepts the laws were more advanced than are ours to-day. For example, on the 14th of November, 1870, the Second Rajah in Council provided that all capital cases should be tried by a jury. The system of trial by jury in such cases seems to have lasted for over fifty years. To-day, such cases are tried with assessors and the ultimate decision lies with the judge who if he disagrees with the opinions of the assessors, must order a re-trial.

It seems that the end of trial by jury coincided with the introduction of the Indian Penal Code.

Readers may well claim that the abolition of trial by jury was a retrograde step; but on the other hand it was a realistic one. Trial by an unsophisticated jury is perfectly all right when the laws are simple and there are no complicated rules of evidence and of procedure; but, when one has such rules, trial by jury, even in a sophisticated country, can lead to grave miscarriages of justice. In these circumstances, the argument in favour of the assessor system becomes almost irresistible, particularly in countries like Sarawak, because justice must not only be done to the accused but also to the people of the country.

As a result of what I have just stated, some readers must wonder why it was either necessary or desirable to change the simple legislation of the Rajah's for the much more complex system of "lawyer-made" law. Surely, they will say, the advantages of the simpler type of laws which can be translated easily into the local language and be readily understandable both by those to whom it applies and by those who have to administer it, far outweigh any other advantages.

At first sight, the argument in favour of the simple form of legislation seems hard to refute. I would hesitate to refute it at all when the situations with which, and the people to whom, the law has to apply are simple. However, such a state cannot always exist; and as a child must grow up and face the world so must a young country. This progress or development must of itself bring about more complicated situations and produce more sophistication.

As early as the 12th of August, 1872, the Second Rajah and his Supreme Council realized that his laws were not wholly adequate when he provided that, where any debt case came before the court involving a European and any Native, Chinese, Indian or the member of any other Eastern race, judgment was to be given "in accordance with the latest enactments of the English law".

This provision seems at first glance perfectly simple but when analysed raises some extremely complex problems. First, was it the intention of the Rajah that only the statute law of England, and not common law and equity, should apply. Secondly, what is meant by the "latest enactments" — the latest enacted in England, the latest received in Sarawak or the latest received by the court hearing the case? This is an example of the problems which can and often do arise from over-simplification.

The main need for complex legislation arises in the spheres of commercial law and revenue law. The first is occasioned by the need to protect the public from being exploited by unscrupulous adventurers, for example in the field of company law, and the second is necessary in order to prevent unscrupulous members of the public from evading their liabilities and responsibilities to the country by not paying their taxes.

In 1885, Rajah Charles was able to deal with the problem of certain unscrupulous Chinese traders who were swindling the Dayaks out of money deposited with the traders by requiring all such loans to be reported to the Officer of the Court of Requests or to the Officer in charge of the District; and failure to comply with the law was punishable by imprisonment or a heavy fine.

Such a simple law would not, unfortunately, be capable of dealing with the modern counterpart of such methods (which is practised in some parts of the world), namely, the publishing of false prospectuses as a means of getting subscriptions from members of the public who think they will get wonderful dividends from their investments but who often, in reality, find subsequently that they have lost the whole of the money they invested in the company. Legislation to control such activities must to be fool-proof be comprehensive; and complex and prepared by an expert draftsman. This equally applies to modern tax legislation which often ends up in a battle of wits between the draftsmen of the revenue laws and the tax-payers. The latter, as history has shown, are extremely good at finding the slightest loop-hole in any tax law.

There is also considerable merit in having a codified Penal Law and a code of Criminal Procedure in order that the people of the country can have an opportunity of knowing what the criminal law and procedure is. I fear that laws of this nature also should be drafted by lawyers if they are to be really effective.

I feel, therefore, that legal draftsmen are a necessary evil — even though sometimes they may produce legislation which is hard to understand. Frankly, I agree that in some cases drafting could well be simplified. In fact, it has even been suggested that in one country laws are deliberately drafted in a complicated manner because otherwise the Members of Parliament would be able to understand them and be able to discuss them very much more easily with the result that it would take twice or more as long to get any law through Parliament! I am not prepared to comment on that allegation! I merely quote it for what it is worth!

In my next article, I will deal with the Transitional Law Period 1927-1941 during which the "Rajah-made laws" were gradually superceded by "lawyer-made laws.".

Ad Astra

'AD ASTRA' was started in 1962 to cater for the literary interests largely of the Senior Students in St. Joseph's School. We did not want it to be just another school magazine with stereotyped class essays (which are rarely read anyway in school magazines) combined with photographs of school groups and activities and a number of news items thrown in to add flavour! Our goal was to get Senior Students in particular thinking anew about everything from the Arts to the Sciences and to express their views in writing for the benefit of fellow students. We wanted stories too, but stories mainly with a Sarawak background and therefore original. We also hoped to publish important news items from the school such as examination successes, etc. We had our aims set high. Hence the title, 'Ad Astra'.

Since the magazine's inception in 1962 there have been the inevitable difficulties but rewarding successes too. Students had to be persuaded sometimes to write and help make the magazine a success. This was never easy at the beginning since many of the more talented students held back lest writing articles might affect their studies. At any rate the first issue was put on sale and inevitably there was a chorus of disapproval —'too heavy', 'starchy' and 'badly printed'. That was all we wanted. Now the onus was on the back benchers!

From that day there has never been any serious difficulty about getting articles and stories, some very good, some average and some poor. At any rate 'Ad Astra' was established.

There have been some very fine contributions since 1962. Among *them* Gabriel Yong's 'The Modern Student—An Escapist?' (earlier reproduced in the *Sarawak Gazette*), Chang Khen Lee's 'The Only Hours when we really live' and 'Iban Agriculture' have been among the best.

We have had a few contributions from the public and quite a number from Old Boys studying overseas. Such contributions are always very welcome as they help to maintain a standard and establish links with the world beyond the walls of the classroom.

There is now general satisfaction, with what is being achieved and this is shown by the fact that most students are taking copies of each issue and writing even though some contributions are not always up to the standard required. At least the effort to think independently and write is being made. This is something worthwhile. The next issue will be in the First Term of 1965.

BROTHER ALBINUS,
St. Joseph's School,
Kuching.

DEMOCRACY

by

ADENAN SATEM
(Form Six Arts)

[Adenan Satem is at present studying in Upper Six Arts. He is Sales Manager for the Magazine and also Secretary of the School's Literary and Debating Society. He was one of the founder members of the Magazine and has always taken a very keen interest in its progress not only in Committee work but also in contributions in writing. He hopes to do an Arts Degree in University.]

Different people define Democracy differently but to my mind a democracy is a country which can vote its rulers into power and, even more important, vote them out of power should they prove to be inefficient, corrupt or power-hungry. In short the central characteristic of Democracy is that venerable institution called "representative government".

Now I must admit that this is a very crude definition of Democracy but at the same time I believe it is a practical one. I am no sophisticated political theorist. I am only one who seeks to understand Democracy as it works and it applies to our everyday lives. If you want to know from the first whether I am for or against Democracy I would like to quote, if I may, Sir Winston Churchill. When he was asked for his opinion on Democracy he said: "Democracy; the worst system of government in the world—except the others."

I maintain therefore that Democracy is not the most perfect system of government but it is the best system so far. We have not yet devised a system of government which may prove to be better than Democracy.

Democracy has numerous faults. It is cumbersome, sluggish, often mistaken and prejudiced in its decisions and policies and at its worst it can develop into a disconcerting force, but political experiences down the ages when Democracy was first conceived have that all other ways of governing complex modern societies are far, far worse.

Of course the sole right of choosing a government and then chucking it out if it dissatisfies us is not the whole concept of Democracy. On the other hand, there are many rights and institutions which revolve round the central nucleus of representative government. For a democracy to work the people must first be free to express themselves, they must be allowed to air their views in public, they must be allowed to say what kind of government they want and who their leaders should be, and they must be allowed to criticize the powers that be. Secondly, the people must have the right of assembly. This is to say that the people must be allowed to group themselves into various associations so that their views may be appreciated all the more and to allow no one group to dominate all the other groups and also to protect the individual from being victimized by stronger and concerted forces. It goes without saying that these associations, like political parties, trade unions and employers' associations, must be allowed a relatively and reasonably free hand in its organization, policies and procedures. If the internal affairs of these associations are interfered with unnecessarily by, say, the government, then the whole democratic concept of free associations is simply meaningless. And thirdly there must be independent law courts. The "rule of law" must be the watchword because this is the one principle which protects the individual in society from the whims and fancies of would-be tyrants and demagogues. It establishes the superiority of law, which must have its origin in the sovereign people, over mere arbitrariness or caprice, and goes on to state that "no person may be deprived of life, liberty or property except in consequence of an infraction of the law proved in open court, and that no man stands above the law, and that therefore everyone is liable, in case of such infraction, to punishment or exaction of reparation on lines laid down by law, regardless of his station or connections." Again it goes without saying that judges and juries must be completely independent and not give verdicts according to what has not been proved in open court. The position and appointment of judges must never be based on political loyalties, and judges must never be involved in politics during the tenure of their office.

All this of course is part of the worn-out, classical definition of Democracy. But developing in our own time is another very important element which has more or less indentified itself with the Democratic concept. I am speaking of political parties. Democracy essentially means choice and we can choose only if there is an alternative or are alternatives. A country which has only one political party is not democracy because the people have no choice. However much people are assured of the above "inalienable rights" they will not be able to practise them effectively unless there are in existence at one and the same time at least two rival political parties between which the electorate has a choice and which stand on entirely different platforms. One may for example stand for socialism and planning, and the other 'laissez-faire' capitalism but their policies must be different or else there will be no real choice. This then is the importance of the political party system. It offers a choice.

If all these then are the dominant features of Democracy what is it worth? There is no need for me here to relate the sad tale of the decline of Democracy and the rise of nations which seek to undermine all that it stands for. Suffice it to say that much of the fault can be traced to ourselves, of our losing faith in Democracy amidst poverty and backwardness, ignorance and fear.

Iban: A Living Language

by

ERIK JENSEN

Language is merely one of several possible means of communication. Take, for example, the two dogs who were watching a fish swim round in a goldfish bowl. "The fish is happy", said one dog. "Why?" said the other. "Because he is wagging his tail".

We, however, think in words. Our thinking is restricted to the concepts covered by our language. The implications of specific words vary over a period of time as well as from language to language. This is the problem of translation.

The Iban language is rich in words which apply to a semi-nomadic life in the jungle and the shifting cultivation of hill rice. It is incomprehensible to them that English calls *betong, temiang, buloh, aur, muntih* et al. all "bamboo", although these are as different in uses as oak and willow. But, of course, there are no words for machinery, the appertinents of education, western methods of agriculture or new aspects of government.

In early days it was the custom to adopt a Malay word, where one existed, and this was standard mission practice: *malikat*, for example, for "angel", *nabi* for "prophet", and *sedekah* for "almsgiving" (which in turn is derived from the middle East). Some words have come in from European languages via Malay: for example, *Insel* ("a hinge") is derived from Dutch through the Malay *ensel*. *Gudang*, however, is an Iban form of "godown" which is Anglo-oriental derived from Malay.

Occasionally in the past an Iban word was coined to define a new concept, e.g. *rumah tutup*, literally "closed house" or "lock-up", for "jail"; but, more recently, the fashion has been to take over the English or foreign word bodily and treat it as if it were Iban. "Spell", for instance, sounds like an Iban imperative (root) from *spel* which becomes in the indicative *nyepel*. Similarly, "shake hand (s)" sounded to some Iban like *sheken*, an imperative or root form, and occurs as the indicative *nyeken*. "Type" in the same way becomes *naip* in the active indicative and *ditaip* in the passive.

"Mister" was originally taken into Iban as a title for local school-teachers to inspire respect, since these were not *Tuan* and the name without a prefix sounded impertinent in western ears when English was spoken. School-children were taught to address their teacher as "Mr X". Hence *mista* came to mean a teacher, and in many upriver areas the phrase *iya nyadi mista* means "he (or she) has become a school-teacher". Although this sense is already fast disappearing as "Mr" (or "Inche") becomes the standard prefix to Iban names on the radio and in the press.

Educated Iban use English words frequently, and there are several Anglo-Iban expressions, some of which are true slang and comprehensible only to the in-group. This applies for example, to the use of *very kambin* which means "very good": "good" with an Iban accent sounds something like "goat"; the word for "a goat" is *kambin*, hence *very kambin*.

An appendix follows of selected foreign (English) words which have been taken bodily into Iban and naturalised. Some have wide currency (and appear in the publication "Pembrita", for example,) most occur mainly in certain areas, and a few are decidely local. They are derived from contact and confrontation. Whatever the purists may feel, this is the way that languages live and grow. Iban traditional language is rich, and the present generation has the pleasure of naturalising new words to express new experience.

Ai paip	piped water (supply)
Atap semen	asbestos (roofing)
Automatik	an automatic weapon
Bedansin	dance (vb) (western style)
Belisin	be licensed, take out a licence
Bik	a bag, hold-all, case
Bilun buah rampu ...	a rocket (like a cucumber)
Bilun engkabang	a helicopter (like an "engkabang" fruit which revolves as it falls)
Bisin	a basin, bowl
Bol	a ball
Bom	a bomb, explosive
Brus	a broom, brush
Brus semen	a broom (with stiff bristles)
Bup	a book
Bus	a bus, public transport
Buta	butter
Butil	a bottle
Certificate	a certificate, commendation
Chek, nechek, dichek ...	check, verify (vb)
Chek duit	a cheque
Chemin	a chairman
Council	District Council
Councillor	District Councillor
Deo	a radio, wireless
D(e)risa	a Hospital Assistant, Medical Orderly, Dresser, Doctor
Dror	draw, paint (vb); a drawing, painting
Emplok	an envelope
Estisi	a bus, public transport, (from S.T.C., i.e. Sarawak Transport Company)
Filem	a film, film-show
Filfos	the Field Force
Fisin	style, fashion
G(e)las	a glass
Gohet	go forwards (vb) of any mechanical means of transport, road or river
Gostan	reverse, go backwards (vb) of any mechanical means of transport, road or river (from "go astern")
Grem	a programme (for travel or meeting)
Gris	lubricating oil, grease
Grukka	the Gurkhas
Gudang	a (ware)-house, store (from "godown")
Ikar, diikar	survey (vb); acre
Inchi	lipstick
Injin	a machine, engine
Injin bok	a hair-do, permanent wave
Jail	prison, jail
Jaket	a jacket
Jista	a register

Kar	a map (either from "acre" or "card")
Karin	electricity supply, current
Kat	an identity card
Kebin (meri)	a (Marie) biscuit (from "Cabin" biscuits)
Kelab	a club, society
Kena bom	"get a rocket", be scolded (vb)
Kerita	a car, motor vehicle
Ketil	a kettle
Ketri	a Secretary (especially of District Council)
Kinsil, nyisil, dikinsil	cancel, reject (vb)
Kodak	a film, roll of film
Koloni	a Colony, Colonial status
Komiti	a Committee, a Committee member
Kompani	a commercial company (especially of "Shell")
Komplen	complain, make a complaint (vb); a complaint
Komunis	a Communist, enemy
Kontrak	contract, make a contract (vb); a contract
Kot	court, court proceedings
Krani stem	Post Office clerk
Kuki	a cook, servant
Kuli	a labourer, daily-paid worker, coolie
Kunsil	a Sarawak Administrative Officer, Native Officer
Le(k)trik	electricity supply, current, electric light
Lisin	a licence
Loko	the Local Authority
Lumor	number
Lutor	a doctor, medical officer
Markit	open (vegetable, meat, fish, etc.) market
Matchis	a match, box of matches
Midul	a medal, decoration
Minsikal	bicycle (vb); a bicycle
Mista	a school-teacher
Motosikal	a motor-bicycle
Naip	type (vb) see "taip"
Ners	a (hospital) nurse
Ngerejista	see "rejista" (vb)
Ngerepot	see "repot" (vb)
Notis	give notice (vb); a notice
Op	off, off-duty
Opis	office
Padang ball	a football field, playing field
Pam ai	a pump, water-pump
Parti (Politik)	a political party
Pas	pass (vb) (of examination or standard)
Pasar	the bazaar, shops, downtown
Paspus	a passport, identity card
Pel	fail (vb) (especially of examination)
Pensil	a pencil
Penshin	a pension
Peri	free
Perpila	a propeller (outboard)
Petrom	a cartridge (from Dutch)
Pistol	a pistol, revolver
Piting, miting, dipiting	hold a meeting, discuss (vb)
Polís	a policeman, the Police Force
Pólis	polish
Politik	politics
Pot (sapot)	one potful (tin of condensed milk used as a measure)
Prais	a prize, award
Radio	a radio
Regista, ngerejista, direjista	register (vb); a register
Repot, ngerepot, direpot	report (vb); a report
Riffil	a rifle (generally as "senapang riffil")
Ripul	a rifle (variant "riffil")
Roba	a Land Rover, jeep
Romanais	Romanised Malay
Rori	a lorry, truck
Sain, nyain, disain	sign (vb); a signature
Sap	a shaft (of an outboard engine)
Sardin	tinned food (fish, meat, fruit and vegetables)
Sasi	a taxi (or private car)
Seken, nyeken	shake hands (vb)
Sekula	a school
Semen, nyemen, disemen	cement (vb); cement
Sigaret	a cigarette, cigarettes
Sing	zinc sheeting
Skaut	a Border Scout
Skol	a school (variant of "sekula")
Skru	a screw
Skup	a shovel (from scoop)
Spel, nyepel, dispel	spell (vb), spelling
Spital	a hospital, dispensary (as "Rumah Spital")
Stat	begin, start, set off (vb)
Stem	a stamp
Stentu	"stand-to" alarm signal
Taip, naip, ditaip	type (vb); typewriter
Tali paun	telephone (vb); a telephone
Tali ribun	a ribbon
Tali tai	a tie
Tangki	a (water) tank generally as "tangki ai")
Tim	a team (generally "a football team")
Tokis	a film-show, movies (from "talkies")
Toriti	the Local Authority
Trening, ditrening	undergo training (vb); training, a training course
Tribun	a newspaper (from the "Sarawak Tribune")
Truh	a truck, lorry
Viyu	a view (in the sense of "landscape")

[A fuller treatment of Iban language from several angles has been prepared by Dr. Jensen for the next issue of the *Sarawak Museum Journal*, due in early 1965].

Batu Puyang

by

BENEDICT SANDIN

Nyadi kelia leboh menoa Sarawak tu baru udah diuan Iban, maioh bendar macham utai ke mali diketawa enggai ka *kudi*. Samoa orang ti ngaga leman baka nya, enda tau enda kudi. Nya alai laban utai baka tu, ko pengarap Iban ba rambau nya kelia, samoa kampong jerong endang diuan antu babas, antu keranggas magang. Sida antu tu enggai bendar ninga jako orang jelar enggau chemegah, tauka meda orang ngereja pengawa ti ngelaban penti pemali.

Di Batang Ai dalam menoa Bagi Kadua enda jauh ari ili Rantau Panjai enggau semak endor sabengkah ke dikumbai Menawa, ba tebing kiba mudik, bisi bukit siti dia ti bebatu benama Batu Puyang. Agi kelia kenu ko jerita, ba bukit tu endor rumah panjai orang ti kena pegai tuai siko ke benama Puyang. Nyadi rumah tu kudi kategal ulah tu:—

Kurang lebih empat ratus taun ti udah Puyang, siko tuai orang di Batang Ai, begawai niri ka Gawai Burong. Maioh bendar orang kena ambi iya ngabang ngagai gawai iya tu. Nyadi benong gawai nyadi, angkat deh bisi siko anak mit lelaki ngabas bubu ini iya. Meda bubu nadai bulih ikan, iya lalu bira. Tai iya lalu dibungkus enggau daun ke dibai iya pulai kena iya beduan ini. Leboh ini muka bungkus nya, iya nemu nya ukai ikan. Ringat bendar ini, iya lalu nganu uchu iya balat bendar.

Nyau lemai hari ini lalu nangkap mayau ti digari iya enggau ngepan baka tumpa, geri, gerunong ti indah bendar baka ngepan anak dara.

Udah mayau nya tembu gari ka iya, iya lalu ngelepas ka iya ba tekang tugong bala diruai. Meda mayau nya bejalai bengepan bejalai ba tengah bala, orang ti meda lalu ketawa richah bendar.

Benong sida ketawa tu, langit lalu bebali bebuat petang enggau ribut puting beliong lalu bepangka nyadi bendar. Meda hari kudi orang lalu begau. Sida nemu Petara nganu sida, laban sida ti ketawa ka mayau. Ujan pen laboh lebat bendar, guntur enggau nyitar nyadi bendar deru-deru. Kilat nyau enda nemu agi pemalat ti ngasoh rumah sida bebali jadi batu ti dikumbai diatu Batu Puyang.

* * *

Nyadi dalam leka pengap gawai Iban enda nyengkaum Gawai Antu, lemambang nyebut Batu Puyang munyi tu, leboh Raja Sempulang Gana tauka Sengalang Burong alit ati ninga gu'u penatai Bunsu Ribut ti ngambi sida ngabang:—

"Sapa kitai tu ngudi tanah enggau dunya?
Uji tunu tubai tedai gemian,
Sayat ka buok mangka pisan".
Agi ga ribut mangka enda badu,
Bua bepangka enda leju!
O kada enda anembiak bisi muar kesa,
Enggau raga jarang!
Kada enda bisi nyungga ka pama,
Dipala dulang medang.

Nyaut deh anak anembiak:—

"Enti Batu kudi indai Puyang,
Dilubok Batang Simanggang,
Nemu ga kami aki!
Nya ga laban sida numpa ka mayau belang,
Nyentok ka berang buku siko,
Kudi bebali maya gawai".

* * *

Nyadi rambau kamaiatu, enti Iban gawa dalam kampong jerong diulu Batang Rajang, Ulu Balui, di Ulu Balleh enggau Baram, tauka ba menoa bukai ke jauh ari pendiau mensia, iya enggai ngereja utai ke mali ti tau ngudi, enggai ka kudi baka ke disebut datas tadi. Enti iya tepeda ka babi tauka ikan maioh, iya enggai bejako jelar-jelar ngumbai mudah ngulih ka sida. Enti iya bejako jelar, iya enda tulih ka sida, laban menoa nya diuan antu babas antu keranggas ke lansik amat ninga pemegah jako mensia.

English version: Batu Puyang

In olden times when Sarawak was newly inhabited by the Iban there were certain things which no one was supposed to laugh at, for fear of incurring "KUDI", flood and disaster due to the wrath of the spirits. Anybody who did this would always suffer from that dreadful punishment. The reason for this, according to Iban belief, was that all the virgin forests in those days were inhabited by various kinds of spirits called *Antu Babas, Antu Keranggas*. These spirits did not like to hear words of arrogance or see that men were doing the forbidden things.

In the Batang Ai, Second Division, not far below Rantau Panjai which is slightly above a place called Menawa, on the right bank, there is a limestone hill called Batu Puyang. In ancient times this hill was the site of a long-house under a headman named Puyang. This long-house was petrified for the following reason:—

About four centuries ago Puyang, the headman of an Iban long-house in the Batang Ai, held his *"Gawai Burong"* (Bird Festival). He invited many people to this feast. During the festival a certain young boy went out to examine the catch of his aged grandmother's fish trap. When he discovered that the trap had not caught any fish, he passed a motion and wrapped his excreta in a leaf. He took it home and handed it to his grandmother. When the latter opened the leaf she found that it was not fish; she was very angry indeed and at the same time accused her grandson roundly.

Later in the evening she caught a cat, attached bangles to its paws and dressed it in finery similar to that owned by any girl.

After she had dressed the cat, she released it in the middle of the gathering of hosts and guests in the communal verandah outside. As the cat walked among the people, they laughed to see it so gaily dressed.

While they were laughing the sky became overcast. The wind rose to such a fury that everybody became alarmed. They knew God was going to punish them for laughing at the cat. Rain began to fall in torrents and the sound of thunder became deafening, vibrating through the house until it was transformed into stone —which is now Batu Puyang.

* * *

In Iban songs for any feast except the *Gawai Antu* (Feast for the Spirits) the *lamambang* (singers) mention Batu Puyang, when Sempulang Gana or Sengalang Burong is puzzled by the sound of the arrival of the Wind-god who comes to invite them to attend the feast of men; as follows:—

"Who amongst us angers the land and the world?
Well, try and burn the remains of our derris root,
And crop the hair which falls over our foreheads!
But still the wind would not stop blowing,
And the hurricane blew continually!
O, may be the children have collected the red ants in baskets with holes!
Or maybe some one has dipped a frog into a wooden trough. . . ."

The children would reply:—

"We have known the petrified stone,
Batu Puyang in the river of Simanggang,
Caused by someone putting bracelets onto a white cat;
Which caused great disaster during the feast".

* * *

Now-a-days whenever an Iban wants to do any work in the jungles of upper Rejang, Balui, Balleh or Baram, or at any place far away from human habitation, he will not do anything which can cause such disaster or misfortune, for fear of the same thing happening again. When he sees a great number of wild boars or fish, he will never *say* he could catch them easily. If he boasted in this way he could not catch them at all,—as the country is uninhabited and

is occupied by the spirits of the wood, who have sharp ears to overhear human vanities, and turn them to trouble, by KUDI.

[EDITORIAL NOTE:

It should be emphasised that, within the limits defined in our *Editorial* of this July, we print what we receive in this *Gazette*. Presence of one or more languages and absence of any others is *not* any part of *Gazette* policy or editorial intention. Contributions from *all* linguistic sources will be welcome. Indeed they add considerably to the value of this monthly, not only for the long-term record, but also for more immediate reading and *study* — as several persons have favourably commented to us in recent weeks. In particular, contributions in the National Language of Malaysia will be welcomed—ED.]

Sarawak Malay Pottery

by

EINE MOORE

Very little is known of the earthenware made by Sarawak Malays before imported ceramics and the stonewares of the Kuching-Chinese kilns replaced home-made pots near the coast. The Sarawak Museum has recently acquired two pieces of Malay earthenware, both from Kuching Malays, which are apparently the only examples on record.

The first came among some other ceramics from Trina binte Awang Bujang of Parit Lama, Kuching. Known to have been in the family for at least fifty years, it is made of grey, rather coarse clay with a brownish grey, fairly smooth surface. The form is rounded, with an almost flat base and a slight angle on the side. The mouth is small, the neck slightly flaring, the rim thick and rounded. The height is $6\frac{1}{2}$" and the diameter $6\frac{2}{5}$". A strip of yellow cloth was tied round the neck by the owner.

The second pot (height $6\frac{1}{5}$", diameter $8\frac{4}{5}$") came from Sulaiman bin Ebi of Kampong Panglima Seman, Kuching. He found it, covered in soot, in an old basket while clearing the rafters of his house during 1964. This pot is undecorated, made of grey clay, with a rough surface. The form is round and squat with a round bottom, a small mouth and a rounded rim.

Both pots are made without the use of the potter's wheel, but firmly and well modelled. The form is functional and uncluttered. These are pots made for use; strong, without any unnecessary decoration, with thick simple rims which do not easily break. They are fired harder than is usual with Borneo earthenwares (e.g. Iban, Murut). We have no knowledge of the firing techniques used in their manufacture.

The making of earthenware pots in Malay kampongs in Kuching must have ceased quite a long time ago, as neither of these pots woke any recollection in the families of the owners and we can learn nothing else of the craft. They were regarded as old pots of unknown origin, but there must be more pots hidden in the rafters of houses. *The Museum would be grateful for more information and examples.*

Sarawakian in Hong Kong

Last month's *Gazette* published a Hong Kong piece written, deliberately, from the Mandarin (Hotel) point of view. This month, with the kind permission of the Editor and anonymous author, we offer an admirable piece of Sarawak writing on Hong Kong from another angle. It is by "Candidus" from the *Sunday Tribune*, Kuching, September 1964. When we asked this cloak and dagger pen, we got this amiable reply:

c/o "Sarawak Tribune" Office,
Rock Road, Kuching.
3rd October, 1964.

Dear Sir,

I am informed by Dennis Law that you wish to use my recent column on the subject of Hong Kong.

Since he appears to have no objection, neither have I.

I am, however, a little curious to know what interest you could have in reprinting any part of such an incomplete and untidy traveller's impression of a port that you probably know thirty times better than *Candidus*.

Writing this provides me with a long sought opportunity to pay tribute to the Museum and its particular, original selection and lay-out. There must be something significant in the fact that whenever I conduct a visitor over it, the invariable remark is something such as: "I don't recall any other museum quite like this one or so absorbingly *interesting*".

Yours sincerely,
Candidus.

Candidus Returns to Hong Kong

Earlier this year I re-visited this fabulous colony where every feature is stranger than fiction; including the spectacle of the two most extremist examples of Communism and Capitalism living as near neighbours, and the former supplying the latter with its water supply (at a price!).

As we entered the Port I recalled my huge elation fourteen years ago when going ashore from a refugee ship which had brought us down from Tientsin in the holds and we were held up along the coast by a typhoon. But it wasn't just the desire to get off that ship that filled me with elation. It was what I could hear, the strange sound of shouting and unrepressed laughter. For two years I had ceased to hear such sounds. The mainland people used to be vociferous, but we had all come to talk guardedly in semi-whispers, without realising it. And now I could listen to the music of the human voice in full, free and uninhibited gusto. So, this year again I heard the clamour of the Hong Kong waterfront.

But did I find any changes?

Two things struck me instantly as different. First, the aggregation of new cube-shaped concrete buildings, which the government, in full free-enterprise fashion, permit to sprout out of the rock on any prominent slope that takes the fancy of the developer, so long as it blotches the entrancing natural scenery of this harbour! Second, I was overwhelmed by the sense of population density. It is an impression that meets you full blast at every corner and which will never leave you alone. It is why I cannot leave it alone in this article.

Unfortunately there is an individual at large who should be classed as a public enemy: I refer to those who accept the prospect of an overcrowded world with equanimity and who resist measures to limit births: and I would deal with such a person by compelling him to live in Hong Kong. He should be given not a room but a bunk in a room, six stories up. The bunk will serve to store his few worldly belongings when he goes out, for there will be wire-mesh all round it, and he will have a pad-lock and key. Maybe this same bunk will be shared by a stranger, a night worker, who can therefore sleep in it during the day-time. In that case, there has to be some amicable arrangement for storing goods and chattels.

At dawn he will descend the dark stone stairway taking pains not to tread on any recumbent forms. He queues at a communal tap for water to wash with, as a start to a whole day of communal activities, like all other days. He won't enjoy one moment to himself. Even the side-walks of the alley or street where he sleeps are choc-a-block with his kind, all trying to cope. Every place he goes to, the baths, the latrine, the eating-house, the cinema, or boarding a tram or harbour ferry, helps to remind him that he is an ant

in an ant-hill. From three to four million of the world's 3,000, million live in the three territories that comprise Hong Kong.

There is no complete escape even for the well-to-do. One result of this situation is that the word "home" nearly always in Hong Hong means a "flat". And if you own a car the problem is how it can be used, let alone parked.

Much of this population increase has come in from mainland China, where, apparently, conditions are even less to be desired than Hong Kong overcrowding. It is said that some of the original citizens feel disgruntled at this huge influx which has properly spoiled things for them.

As our ship entered the Port the first thing I noticed was a straggle of squatter's huts creeping up the bare slopes of the mountain. Then one saw the government replacement tenements. These massive structures seem terrifying utilitarian, and bewilderingly too like the worker's flats in Moscow and all over Russia. For surely unaesthetic utilitarianism is a Marxist not a Christian Western ideal.

Their contrast with the other kind of building in the expensive parts of the Colony is so devastating as to take one's breath away: as, for example, the new Mandarin Hotel whose opulent air-conditioning extends to the whole road outside, every time the swing-doors open.

Yet, one must be fair and admit that it takes a colossal lot of cost and enterprise to house 700,000 penniless people, who have just come in unasked and uninvited, in huge waves of human heartache (in one year, 1962, nearly 300,000 crossed the border). After ten years of tremendous endeavour the authorities still have hundreds of thousands on their hands waiting to be housed.

I visited one or two of these resettlement schemes. Picture it. Seven stories up and no elevators; communal lavatories; a room for every family but sometimes more than one family to one room; and every room identical in size. The whole thing represents a drab monument of concrete, iron railings and interminable stone steps. Successfully functional in the aim to crowd as many live human beings as possible into the smallest possible space, and at the lowest cost.

Yet grudgingly one has to admit that the Hong Kong government has done a tremendous job. So have the many welfare bodies that have assisted: including the massive housing schemes undertaken by certain Christian churches. And a great deal is being done for the general well-being of the refugees. Some of them, too, are earning and saving, and bit by bit preparing for a better time ahead.

I was struck by the school, sponsored by a religious body known to me, functioning on the ground floor of one of these refugee buildings. It might have been any other school anywhere else. One marvelled at the sight of those neatly uniformed children with their bright looks and seemingly healthy bodies, after having just seen the cramped uninspiring homes they belong to just overhead.

On the roof is their art school and gymnasium. Their minds and imaginations are being fed and liberated from their surroundings.

I think it is this capacity for accepting adversity and then conquering it that belongs in a special manner to the Chinese race, and which one may see in Hong Kong today.

You see less admirable people as well:— the good-time tourist flitting from one honey pot port to another; the type of Chinese city dweller who makes money and gives his whole being over to making more, and luxuriating in wealth; the racketeer, the gambler and many other types.

But what I most vividly recall is the mild unconcern on the faces of the crowded alley people and tenement dwellers; their gaiety in non-gay surroundings; their decency, reasonableness, and give-and-take, when everything must conspire to make them irritable, unreasonable and rebellious.

Hong Kong is still a fascinating and exciting spot. But, for myself, give me Kuching, or Sibu.

CANDIDUS.

A Story of Kuala Sibuti

by

R. NYANDOH

Many many years ago a sailing vessel was wrecked at Tanjong Payong, near Kuala Su-ai, south of Niah river. This sailing vessel carried many people and their valuables. After the wreck, those who were saved managed to float off on a small boat. This boat at last landed safely at Kuala Sibuti. There the people dug a large hole in a high bank, and hid all their valuable belongings in the hole. They then planted a fruit tree, Kaya Ra, over the hole. This particular tree is not found in any part of Sarawak; it has now become the biggest tree at Kuala Sibuti.

Many years after, some new people, Kedayans, came and settled down in that area. They found broken pots and jars which they called *Gusi*.

On one occasion an old woman was collecting shrimps at Kuala Sibuti. Fortunately her net caught a large golden cup called a *Batel*. This old woman was called Haji Hanipah. She sold this golden cup, and with the money, she went on a Pilgrimage to Mecca. In later years many of her family died, and although she had many children, only a few of them survived. This she blamed on having taken the cup and used it for herself.

Some years later a Chinese named Towkey Eng Soon made a big coconut garden at Kuala Sibuti. He dug many holes for planting. One day, after some strenuous digging, he found another *Gusi* jar. After this he dug more holes, hoping to find some more valuable jars. But he was unsuccessful. The holes which Towkey Eng Soon dug are still there today.

In the following years, others went there to dig holes too in the hope of finding valuable things. But whenever they started digging, wind, rain, and storm came down. The people were frightened and gave up. No one has done such a stupid thing since.

The actual place where these old diggings went on was known to Tua Kampong Isa of Kuala Sibuti, who had his own land close to it. Nowadays people would ask the Museum to come. To dig on your own is illegal under the Antiquities Ordinance.

This year I spent a night at Kuala Niah, waiting for the tide. I saw Hipni bin Nor to confirm the Kuala Sibuti story of old days.

Advertising in this Keen Gazette!

September's *Gazette* saw a return (after a long lull) of advertising, once a feature of this widely influential journal! This wise new step comes from commercial firm Jardine Waugh. This is perhaps, a token of hard-headed confidence in the belief that prospects for Sarawak, as well incidentally as its unique monthly, remain bright. Business defeatism is poor stuff. The surest way to let a ship sink is to abandon it. Ours is not only floating high. It is racing.

We hope, in coming months, to recapture other advertisers. Jardine's have signed on for a season. The rates are *ridiculously* low (write to the Editor c/o Government Printer, Kuching). The Gazette is today

being read by more people than ever before. Each and every copy goes either to a paying subscriber or to an officer or office of significance. By a recent market research, we calculate that each copy is read by at least *ten* serious persons. The Security Forces are now taking an active interest in the *Gazette*—they had not heard of its existence as late as this June! Soon they will be including extracts and items of several sorts from our columns in written and broadcast service material. We hope to build up 100 readers or more per copy in that field by next year. We welcome ideas for improving reader service—new features, new arrangements, new distribution. . . .

This is the time for far-seeing (or even near-seeing), sensible business and other live units to bring themselves a small but worthwhile slice of the *Sarawak Gazette*. In so doing they will not only be helping themselves. They will also be helping Sarawak have a better paper by increasing our income. This is not run directly for profit. It is State business, with marginal federal aid. But we run it cheaply on a small budget. Cash returns help us get outside material, special items, faster service, wider distribution.—ED.

Birds' Nests: Sarawak All-Cure

by

CHU CHIN ONN

Birds' nests are highly nourishing and healthy. They suit all persons—sick or healthy, old or young. They possess substances good for all human organs. They contain *no* ill effects.

They were famous, in ancient times, as food preparations to entertain very important persons and visitors, or on special occasions.

A preparation cooked with chicken is best for pleasure eating and entertaining. If steamed with *ginseng* (a kind of stimulating root) then it is strengthening to the lungs and the respiratory system generally.

Persons who suffer from weak lungs or stamina weakness (not T.B.) should take birds' nests soup steamed with *ginseng*. For strengthening health purposes, birds' nests soup should be best taken at bedtime. It is traditional that a person who awakes from sleeping has the lung cartilage ring-tubes open and can be nourished by the bird's nests soup, taken in. This also applies to a person lying *down* to take the soup, which will not then flow direct to the stomach, but remains in the upper part of the body organs and gradually *moistens and warms* the respiratory system, leading to the lungs. Thence it will flow down-ward to other passage ways of the body, with health-giving effect. . . .

Birds' nests steamed with the swim-bladder of a good fish,—the stronger the fish, the better the bladder —provide a good cough cure.

The best way to prepare birds' nests, with *ginseng* and fish swim air-bladder is to steam it all up until soup becomes jelly-like, then take at bed-time. This is perfect to nourish bodily organs—refreshing, lively and energetic!

Recipes for Preparation, and *Special Role of the Young*

To steam birds' nest it is far more beneficial to use earthen cooking and steaming utensils. These produce vapour more effective than metallic ones. But do *not* use iron.

Earthen utensils can contain warmness longer. Besides, they concentrate a volume of heat which is more effective in vapour. Metallic utensils possess sharper heating, so cause evaporation to disperse quickly. Even to the present day, people prefer to use earthen pots and charcoal or a good fire-wood for steaming nourishing products—rather than to use metallic pots, gas-stoves, and quick stuff.

It is logical that the person who wishes to take birds' nests, he himself should not do the work—cleaning, picking, etc., for this is a tedious job, which requires time, concentration and energy; and also this work is liable to exhaust health, breath and energy which may be absorbed and *radiate to the birds' nests*, so that he takes away his own energetic health instead!

In olden days persons were exceptional and cunning. They used to engage healthy young and *unmarried* persons to do the job and to prepare the steaming at a quicker pace, as special preparation for health sake. Quicker pace saves a lot of time, avoids the birds' nests remaining (dipped) in water to soak away the good properties. Healthy young persons possess stronger health, energetic heat and breath. These can warm the birds' nests through contact of body heat, circulating around the working area at the time of concentration when the young clean and pick the nests, which can then absorb the healthy heat and energetic process from them, the young.

The Various Sorts

Many persons may think that these nest swiftlets take water bubbles. They form the edible nest from saliva, which is clear. The nests formed are clear in pure substances. Their clean organs consumed clean bubbles, cooling with pure effect. Therefore there are nests suited to all healths.

The House Swifts may be the same family but they do *not* produce edible nests at all. Their opening in the tail is longer and deeper cut,—like a V upside down Λ. People believe they are lucky creatures, which bring signs of good prosperity. Older people like very much to have them nesting in their houses, rightly.

In Gambier Road, Kuching, hundreds or thousands of them get on electric wires. They have been there for ten years or even longer, never moved away. They do not mind. That is why people say the Gambier Road is good for business and flourishing. These House Swifts were formally called in Chinese, "Holy lady Birds" (*KON-YIM YEN*); KON-YIM = Holy lady; YEN = Swifts. No body can tame them. They wish to be free-living and moving. The type that build edible birds' nests love to live in deep mystery—in places, quiet, dark, and cooling, in caves, like at Bau and Niah, not Gambier Road.

Cave Swiftlets and Birds' Nests

by

MICHAEL FOGDEN

Birds' nests soup, probably the most prized food in the Orient, is made from the nests of a number of species of cave swiftlets of the genus *Collocalia*, which are distributed throughout southeast Asia and islands of the Indian and Pacific Oceans, and very numerous in Sarawak. For centuries Chinese dieticians have recommended the nutritional properties of soup made from the gelatinous nests of swiftlets and, according to pioneer European travellers, the dish has been much prized for its alleged "aphrodisiac virtue in an eminent degree". Some of the nutritional and healing powers attributed to birds' nests are recorded in this same number of the *Gazette* by Mr. Chu Chin Onn.

Samples of these edible nests were first brought to Europe in the seventeenth century by the Jesuits and ever since there has been much speculation as to their composition and origin. John Ray writing in the first bird book to be written in the English language said, "In the Sea-coast of the Kingdom of China, a sort of small parti-coloured birds of the shape of Swallows, from the foam or froth of the Sea-water dashing against the Rocks gather a certain clammy glutinous matter, perhaps the Sperm of Whales or other fishes, of which they build their Nests. These nests are esteemed by gluttons great delicacies, who dissolving them in

Chicken or Mutton broth, prefer them far before Oysters, Mushrooms or other dainty morsels." Other early European accounts variously describe the nest material as "gluten from mollusca", half-digested regurgitated food, as well as algal substances from the sea-shore or from the walls of the caverns to which the birds affix their nests.

Although biologists have now discovered the true nature of the nest material, belief in a marine origin still persists to some extent (perhaps reinforced by the fact that a number of species do in fact nest in sea caves) as is shown by the following extract from the menu of "the best Chinese restaurant in Borneo" quoted by Tom Harrisson in B. E. Smythies' *Birds of Borneo*, "Bird's Nest is a gelatinous substance found in and around the nests of swallows in the rocky, coastal regions of the South Sea Islands. It is derived from some kind of sea food which the birds carry to their nests as provision for future use in the period of feather-shedding. It is either in small bits or in filaments, being semi-transparent, colourless and virtually tasteless." In actual fact the edible part of a bird's nest is pure saliva from the large salivary glands in the throat of the swiftlets, and a Chinese biochemist —C. C. Wang—has identified the material as a glycoprotein related to mucin which, despite its reputation, has very *little* nutritive value.

Most species of swifts build nests in which they use their saliva to help bind together other nesting material, but only swiftlets use saliva not merely to glue materials but as a major part of the nest. In fact in those species which make the best quality, most valuable nests, the white nests of commerce, saliva is the only nest constituent. These white nests are so valuable that in Java where one species has taken to nesting in the rooms of houses the owners of houses so invaded willingly and happily abandon the rooms or even the whole house to the swiftlets, and soon collect enough money for a new house and much more besides.

In other species the saliva is mixed and reinforced by the addition of feathers from the swiftlets themselves, of vegetable matter and other materials. Dr. David Lack in his book *Swifts in a Tower* records that one species in the Andaman Islands used once a month to bring in human hair from the prison after the convicts' regulation haircut. Such nests are known as black nests and in some areas form the bulk of the harvest, but they are commercially much less valuable than white nests. Some species of swiftlet build nests consisting almost entirely of vegetable matter which are commercially completely valueless. It is somewhat ironic and says much for the aptitude of scientific naming that one of these builders of inedible nests, common in Borneo, bears the Latin name *esculenta* (meaning edible).

The nests themselves are bracket-shaped and cemented to the wall or roof in the depths of some cave, in semi-darkness, or often in complete darkness. When freshly collected the edible varieties appear as small, hard, often fouled, crescentic cups and anything less appetising looking it is hard to imagine,—a far call from the epicure's delight at a Chinese feast. To quote Tom Harrisson again, "Between the daring climber and the Hong Kong millionaire picking at the soft gelatinous delicacy with chopsticks, the nests must be auctioned, washed, soaked, all dirt hand picked out (by girls), sun dried and compressed into thin, little pancakes, easy to pack and ship. The end-product will keep for years. To eat, soak overnight, boil, serve in one of many ways—with sliced chicken in soup; as stuffing to a Chinese capon done in the 'boneless wonder' style; sweetened with *lichees* and other fruit."

Swiftlets often nest in vast and spectacular colonies and Sarawak and Sabah have some of the most famous swiftlet haunted caves of all—notably at the great cave-riddled limestone masses at Gomanton, near Sandakan, in Sabah; at Long Lama on the Baram River; and at Niah. The Gomanton and Long Lama caves are principal producers of the much prized white nests built by the Brown-rumped Swiftlet *Collocalia vestita*. The other white nest species, the Grey-rumped Swiftlet *Collocalia fuciphaga*, that nests in Borneo does so only in small colonies in crevices in sandstone cliffs around the coast and on offshore islands, and although making a nest of excellent quality is consequently of less importance commercially. But it is the Niah Caves in the limestone mass of Subis Mountain that are undoubtably the most famous and most studied of all birds' nest caves. Between one and two million swiftlets breed there (by Museum counts) mainly Low's Swiftlet *Collocalia maxima*, a black nest species; and the daily dawn and dusk entry and exit through the mouth of the Great Cave of all these birds together with countless bats must be one of the most spectacular sights to be seen anywhere.

E. Banks writes in his book *A Naturalist in Sarawak* (1947):

"In the evening particularly from about five-thirty to six o'clock the cave entrance is filled with a squeaking mob of swiftlets on parade, fresh ones arriving from afar all the time, until for all I know the million and three quarter individuals are gathered together. New arrivals at top speed seem to loose their purpose, flying aimlessly to and fro within the cave mouth, others join in courtship troops, wheeling, screaming, high outside in separate parties intent on play, others make to leave the cave, flying straight away in silence almost out of sight, returning screaming at top speed only to loose their verve again once within the entrance. High pitched screams, persistent chirpings and the papery fluttering of small wings are the only sounds that are heard, occasionally a flap and an extra loud scream as some collision is avoided, but on the whole the individuals give an imitation of black snowflakes, so perfect is their repulsion for one another in mid air."

The harvesting of nests is always accompanied by some danger, but especially so at Niah in the cathedral-like, several hundred feet high Great Cave, as Harrisson points out. "(The element of risk) reaches its dizzying, terrifying heights at Niah, where single poles, connected by wooden pegs, ascend as much as 150 feet to the cave roof. The collectors, mostly Malays of Punan and Melanau origin, climb these threads of life apparently with ease and without concern to enter the labyrinth of chimneys, corridors, funnels and tunnels high in the mountain side; or to balance at the top and scrape for a twelve-foot radius with the bladed *julok*, while down below the collector's mate gathers up the nests from the teeming guano and insect life of the cave floor."

Cave rights in Borneo are jealously guarded and though at one time there was much surreptitious pillaging, the industry is now fairly organised. It is not known for certain how long the swiftlets' nests at Niah have been farmed but archaeological evidence suggests that it is probably for twelve centuries. In earlier times the nests were probably traded for ceramics and other Chinese goods. Nowadays the industry is possibly on the wane. Over the last 15 years or so market prices for nests have dropped, while at the same time standards of living have improved and, in particular, views on wages and working conditions have changed. Fewer and fewer men are prepared to run the risks of collecting and there are fewer owners offering employment. In parts the climbing poles have fallen into disrepair and are not being replaced; more and more nest sites are becoming inaccessible.

Swiftlets have one other remarkable attribute in addition to being the makers of edible birds' nests. They share with the Oil Bird *Steartornis*, a South American relative of nightjars, the distinction of being the only birds that possess the ability to navigate in

total darkness by means of echo-location. This is an obvious necessity as, has already been mentioned, some of the species nest in complete darkness deep inside caves in vast colonies. They must be able to find their way to their nests with great precision and at the same time avoid collisions with each other and other solid objects. Its has been proved that bats emit supersonic squeaks and detect the echoes of them given off by solid objects, enabling them to avoid obstacles and detect prey. Lord Medway, who studied the swiftlets of Niah, has shown that swiftlets find their way by a similar method of echo-location, although in the case of swiftlets the noise is a rattling call made up of a rapid succession of sharp clicks, audible to the human ear. Analysis of recordings made by Medway at Radio Sarawak and elsewhere has shown that the maximum rate of emission in steady flight is six clicks per second, and the frequency spectrum extends from 1.5 to 5.5 kilocycles. One Bornean species of swiftlet, the White-bellied Swiftlet *Collocalia esculenta* lacks the ability to echo-locate and correlated with this fact it only nests in the mouths of caves, in the light.

Durian: Top Fruit of the Land

by

SELLA BIN HAMZAH

In August the *Gazette* editorial suggested we have a year of the Durian in Sarawak. Here is news of how durians are grown, in a main Malay orchard area of the First Division. Among these peoples, to a man and a woman, durians demand some devotion, either as income for the few or food of a favourite kind for most.

A previous Conservator of Forests, Mr. F. G. Browne, states (in his *Forests Trees of Sarawak and Brunei*, Kuching, 1955, p. 253):

> "The cultivated durian (*Durio zibethinus*) needs no introduction".

Nevertheless it has to be planted; and in a special way. There are various sorts in Sarawak, but the names and grades vary and are not sure. The *pakun* in the Fourth Division (particularly around Niah) is usually said to be number one.

Durians are adaptable to most average soils, but dare not be exposed to high wind which scatters the blossom and prevents fruiting. This factor limits its distribution in the south-west. Scattered durian trees occur in most suitable places where Land Dayaks, Malays, or their predecessors have lived for any length of time; trees up to 50 years of age being regarded as "young" and producing larger sizes of fruit than those which are termed "old". A durian may live as much as 200 years and be worth $100 flat sale — but making far more than that in a lifetime and never normally to be sold by any person sane or solvent.

Durians can be planted anywhere and are found in all sorts of odd spots, although normal practice is to associate them with rubber nowadays. Other kinds of fruit are very often planted after rubber or introduced into rubber gardens. This will not do for the durian. It must be planted *first*, at the final clearing and readiness of ground through the previous fell-rice-tapioca cycle phases. It cannot be planted in among growing rubber, for close proximity kills it. The oldest Sarawak River delta "stands", such as those of the late Haji Rais and others on the Sungai Buah, are almost "pure", and far away from any rubber. These were planted before rubber was heard of in Sarawak.

Common Malay practice is still to plant durian, wait until the plants germinate, *then* plant rubber. The rubber must be kept outside a radius of about 12 fathoms, according to most views. This makes big "holes" in a rubber garden and poses — for the modern Malay — a calculation: is it worth the space for the long-lasting, always valuable, but erratic durian, beside the quick return, but often low-priced rubber, now clonal and with new standards required.

Durians not only dislike rubber. They also demand a lot of room on their own and a good deal of time. According to all local orchardists, they must be planted at least 12-15 fathoms apart from each other. Ten trees to the acre is about maximum. Less than that is better. "The further apart the planting, the more the fruiting". The trees normally do not bear fruit until about 12 years, some not until 18. The methods of pollination are obscure.

Wind and other weather, as well as the essential *nasib* (fortune) permitting, there should be two distinct crops annually. Trees that do not produce in the monsoon often only produce in the dry period crop. As the time of flowering approaches, there is noticeable tension among the orchardists. The main *flowering* is all over within 24 hours; high winds in this period are considered damaging.

In its season, the fruit must *fall*. It is collected almost "first bounce" on the ground, so concentrated does the attention around each tree become as fruiting is due. Then, the hillside of Buah, a lonely place most times, is crowded with make-shift huts and lean-tos, not only with the whole families of the fortunate durian tree owners but relatives, friends and even visiting picnickers giving a hand for the day from Kuching; especially a hand in eating them.

The fortunate may, in this way, make hundreds of dollars in a few days — over a thousand in a month. There is no other way in which a delta Malay can make so much quickly, except *ranto* netting out at sea. Yet, like fishing at its very best, the big yields are upset by uncertainty; the whole business is one of doubt, chance.

The durians in the coastal south-west are almost entirely centred in the delta country around the west entrance of the Sarawak River. Gelingan, Salak, Pasir Panjang, Pasir Pandak, Sungei Buah, Sungei Ja'ong, Bongkissam and Santubong. Of these the first five are on the left bank of the river mouth and belong to the Pasir Pandak group, though many trees at Sungei Buah belong to Santubong people and those at Gelingan to widely scattered families, including Kuching. The other three are continuous with Santubong on the left hand bank and are worked from Santubong directly. Elsewhere, there are mostly single, widely scattered, sometimes very ancient trees (e.g. on Tanjong Tegok).

The total "orchards" (checked in a recent season) as held:

Place	*No. of active orchard units*	*No. of adult trees*	*Average trees per person*	*Remarks*
Gelingan and Salak	10	196	20	varied Malay ownership
Pasir Panjang	7	157	22	Chinese mixed
Pasir Pandak	42	1,285	30	On Buah hillside (Malay)
Sungei Buah	23	361	16	Mostly old big trees
Sungei Ja'ong and Bongkissam	5	140	32	Incl. Mr. Everett's old planting
Santubong	20	463	23	Mostly heavily rubber mixed
	107	2,602	24	

The high "average" at Pasir Pandak is largely due to the big holdings of one man, Haji Ta'a and his family; and the associated trees of the late Datu Bandar.

Durians tend to be with the old communities; and with sheltered land. The main delta concentration (90 per cent of trees) is within 2 miles of Santubong.

At Pasir Pandak, for instance:

— 24 out of 40 main householders own durian trees.

— 1,300 + trees are of fruiting age (an increase of 150+ on 1955)
— about 152 acres are occupied by "durian orchards".

In one November-December harvest (to be examined in more detail later) the largest delta orchardist and his dependencies worked out thus:

Person No.	*Total collecting days*	*Average daily produce (ripe fruit)*	*Average price per fruit (cents)*	*Total cash collected*	*Relationship to Haji Ta'a*
1	30	84	23	$585.61	self
2	28	99	20	557.95	brother
3	29	31	22	194.36	sister's husband (her trees)
4	29	58	21	361.05	eldest son
5	28	80	685.90	22	1 is steward for 5 ..

No. 1 is reported to have made much more than this during good seasons of other years. True or *false*, this is the kind of money — always blown up in the wind — which caused a 1952 University of Malaya unit, working with the Museum during the Summer at Pasir Pandak, to report:

> "The most important fruit in Pasir Pandak is the *durian*. It occupies nearly three-quarters of the (readily) cultivated land in the immediate vicinity, although it is insignificant on the Santubong landscape — across river. A few villagers in Santubong have durian holdings at Bongkissam and Gelingan, the latter in the north eastern periphery of Pasir Pandak ground. In Pasir Pandak itself *most* of the cash for the purchase of land, furniture, fishing-nets, boats and guns is obtained from the sale of durians. . . . According to Che' Ramli and Che' Alias, the owners of the best houses in Pasir Pandak, and Che' Ali who is building a new house, more than three-quarters of the money spent in building these houses was obtained from the sale of durian. In Pasir Pandak, the size and type of houses bears close relationship to the size and productivity of durian holdings. The large wooden houses with



At Sungei Buah, Sarawak River—the orchard end of the *durian* story.

bilian roofs (e.g. Haji Ta'a, Che' Ali and Che' Alias) have productive durian holdings. The owners of smaller houses with thatch roofs and walls have either smaller and less productive holdings or none at all."

This is something of a simplification. The situation described regularly arouses a set question-response from the commercial-minded outsider (e.g. any European) learning about this durian business for the first time.

The question is:

"Why don't they do more of it then?"

One short answer:

"Are you sure it's as easy as all that?"

For one thing, do not think at once in terms of "investment" and "capital". The investment in a durian tree, in time and space, goes in itself far beyond the average for these parts. Possibly if it also involved the investment of too much *labour* at fairly frequent intervals, it might not come off at all. But once the young trees are established, they require rather little attention. The poor Museum has a particular reason to realise! When they started excavating at Sungei Ja'ong in 1952, they wished to clear a patch of land on very eroded sandy soil — wrecked by semi-refugee over-cultivation during the Japanese occupation, then under neglected pineapples. On enquiry, no one was actually "owning" the land.

On the small piece of land in question, a unit cleared the sparse vegetation managing to survive upon it. Months later, they received claim for the destruction of about *20 young durian trees*. This was correct; they had cut down, without then realising as such in this unlikely place, saplings grown from "seed" in the almost pure sand soil. These trees did not, in the outcome, "belong" to the people to whom the land belonged, — but to others, who had planted them there during the Japanese occupation. Suitable compensation was paid ($4 a sapling) the cost of learning exactly what a young durian looks like where it can grow!

But coming back to the big question:

"Why not do more of it, then?"

Malays are bound to observe Islamic law, which divides the property in equal shares to all sons and half-shares to all daughters. Unless a family is of one mind, in even one generation this can chop a fruit holding. With durian this can be particularly awkward. To own even a few trees is a big asset. But they could become too few to be "worth" collecting from, in one place.

The size of present holdings (in trees) of the core of the durian area is:

Sample No. of trees held in one lot:

	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-60	60+
Pasir Pandak and Sungei Buah	15	17	11	7	6	2
Santubong Sungei Ja'ong and Bongkissam	11	3	4	1	2	2
	26	20	15	8	8	4

Thus nearly a third of all holdings are of 10 trees or less.

Erratic Crops

Durian is invariably (here) planted from seed. The prescription, as given by a durian orchardist in the delta:

First: The seed of a fruit is planted in a pot. After a few months, when it grows to the height of a foot or so, it is moved to the spot where it is to remain permanently.

Next: The earth where the seed is first planted must be burned earth (*tanah masak*) and manured regularly. As these are primitive fruits, very few natives know other methods of planting.

The already cited description by a previous Conservator of Forests can hardly be thinking in our local terms when he states:

> "Nevertheless direct sowing of the species *cannot* at present be recommended; it is sometimes remarkably successful, but the danger from rodents is great, and expensive failures are frequent."

Whether such failures seem so "expensive" to a delta Malay is uncertain. Certainly, they are perfectly familiar with planting by cutting or graft and commonly use such methods for other fruit. But seldom for durian. As the immediate local supply of seed is a thousand times in excess of the planting need, and as the seedlings come hardy throughout the area, there is no exactly lasting failure hereabouts. It is a matter of trying again. Care is taken to select the best seed: that is, seed from particularly fine fruit on particularly strong-fruiting trees.

The apparent unpredictability of semi-annual durian harvests so closely parallels the results with which we Sarawakians are daily familiar at sea and in rivers, that whatever falls with a smashing thud to the ground on the Buah hillside is received and welcomed, while if *nothing* falls, it is just too bad. One usually hears that 1942, at the start of the Japanese occupation, was an extra good year, but that there was not another one until 1949-50, when yields averaged two to three times better than normal, though nothing like so good as 1942. Prior to that, another peak is recalled in 1932, especially by a school of thought which favours the theory of something like a ten year cycle of major success. On record, however, 1952 and 1953 were nothing very much, while 1955 was better than any of these.

The monsoon crop came early after the summer though, and the end of it is on the record, November 20th:

> "Durians ..... Only a few left. Relic after crop — 35 cents each here."

There is nothing else quite like the durian orchard as the fruit fall ripe. The normal procedure, in a big crop (but only then) is for the orchard operators to squat in small (*dangau*) thatch shelters and issue out each time there is the necessary loud report, day or night. Care is taken to see that the boundaries of each holding are clearly defined. Even so disputes are not unknown, — where the durian rolls down hill or lands on a border, as often on the Buah hillside of Pasir Pandak. Very good trees may up the average yield to more than 100—say 170 for the two harvests in the year. One way and another, about 150,000 durian fruits are marketed from Pasir Pandak and Santubong area in an ordinary fair year.

All Malay

The marketing of durian is another feature. Unlike everything else except turtle eggs, durians are gathered, collected together, sold to middlemen, shipped up river by and sold in stalls in town from and by *Malay* hands only. Most of this traffic from the downriver orchards up to Kuching and from Kuching distributed widely elsewhere, is handled in small Malay rowing boats by *cheko* (small traders). It is quite a business bringing these fruit from the hillside to the boat, and those with an aptitude for it build up connections which persist year after year as between individual *cheko* and one or more orchards.

Some *cheko* come from Kuching, and live in their small boats during the harvests. Two Santubong men without durian interests of their own are well known small buyers and carriers. One Chinese, Ah Chin, has acquired eight acres of durian (70 trees) in recent years, at Sungei Buah, in conjunction with a coconut garden purchased from a Malay. This has been the source nearly of litigation. Asked to explain how the Chinese had not got a finger into this potentially profitable pie, one expert merely replied:

"Well, they are newcomers to this country — how can they understand durian?"

It takes the (*cheko*) middleman a good six hours to row up to Kuching, and with the selling and return journey, each operation requires a day. Much is still carried by row-boat. 300 to 500 fruit for a boat is probably about average. At no time in the past ten years have we known the demand for durians filled. Buyers are more numerous than fruit. News of coming harvest seems to travel around like magic. The *first* durians of the season, are usually considered — as with so many things — the best. These may retail for as much as $1.30 a piece. As supplies come in, prices level down, running about 70 to 80 cents a piece.

The fruit are never sold by weight, but by a combination of size and look. The best fruit are called *buah pala* (head fruit); poor specimens are called *buah tolak* (not very much use) and may go for as little as 10 cents. More can be said about this another time.

Some New Sarawak Agricultural Research

(The following are some selected extracts from the impressive 72-page Report of the Department of Agriculture's Research Branch for 1962-1963 which has a foreword by our Minister of Natural Resources — Mr. Teo Kui Seng. We have chosen items readily intelligible to any reader and especially of direct application to Sarawak's rural development within Malaysia. The full Report deserves wide circulation and close study. Copies are obtainable from the Department of Agriculture, Kuching. We also hope to publish shortly in these columns a separate account of notable recent work showing that the expatriate Giant African Snail can transmit foot-rot in pepper, a preliminary account of which has already appeared by Mr. G. J. Turner, Plant Pathologist, in *Nature* 202, 1964, 4937:1133.)

Hill Padi (dry rice)

The growing of hill padi on a bush fallow system plays a dominant role in the agriculture of Sarawak. Yields are, however, very low when compared with swamp padi. It is necessary for a fallow period of twelve to fifteen years to follow the padi harvest if the soil is not to deteriorate, but this is practised in very few areas. The general picture is of increasingly shorter fallow periods and in consequence slowly degrading soils producing progressively smaller crops. The long-term aim is to abolish the practice, but this will only be possible when the planters are afforded alternative means of livelihood. In the interim period the deleterious effects on the soil and the consequences of its prodigal demand on land and labour must be kept to a minimum. Experimental work on hill padi is thus aimed at finding a method whereby the planter may obtain his family's requirements of rice from the smallest area of land possible, with the least damage to the soil and with the minimum effort on his part.

Trials have been carried out on the broadcasting of fertilisers on hill padi, but these led to the realisation that the difficulty and expense of transporting the fertiliser to the areas and broadcasting it on steep slopes covered with stumps and fallen timber made this method impracticable. Placement of fertiliser in the planting hole, possibly followed by top-dressing with nitrogen, is now considered more suitable. Recommendations for fertiliser use by farmers made on an acreage basis would be liable to be misunderstood; rates of application are therefore given in terms of pounds of fertiliser to be mixed with a fixed amount, one *gantang* (approximately 5.3 lb.), of seed. Seed-rates vary with the sower but an average rate of five *gantangs* per acre is assumed.

Fertiliser Seed Dressing

Seed dressing with Ammophos 11:48 has now been tested over four seasons in all Divisions of Sarawak under a wide variety of conditions and on sites selected at random. Over fifty of these experiments have been reported in the Annual Reports for 1960-63. Of these, all but one have resulted in significant or nearly significant increases in yield. In addition, numerous other observations and trials have given the same results. Of the experiments giving a statistically significant result, increases in yield varied between 24.1 and 71.5 per cent (mean 50.6 per cent), with actual increases of 161-444 lb. of clean, dry padi per acre. The cost of the fertiliser is approximately M$3.50 per acre: padi can be valued at M$1.00 per 10 lb.

As a result of these trials the general use of Ammophos in hill padi has now been recommended and Government has agreed to pay a 50 per cent subsidy on the fertiliser during the initial period.

Pelleted Fertilizers

The most suitable way of fertilizing hill padi is its placement at the time of sowing. It should be possible to mix the fertilizer with the seed in the form of pellets. While it proved possible to make pellets of the various mixtures, the physical mixing of the formulations to ensure a uniform analysis throughout, has so far proved impossible. For the 1963/1964 season pellets were prepared containing only a single nutrient. The hand-pelleting machine now in use has been shown to be of too low a capacity to be of any use for field trials: (80 pellets, each weighing 0.05 gram, were produced per minute). These pellets were therefore made on an electrically operated machine kindly loaned by the Director of Medical Services. It is hoped to have the pellets prepared in Australia for the coming 1964 season.

Wet Padi

Method of Cultivation

This trial was essentially a demonstration to smallholders of the benefits to be obtained from the adoption of field cultivation by buffalo-drawn implements. At Bijat, Second Division, the yield from the buffalo cultivated plots was 2,345 lb. per acre compared with 1,815 lb. on the traditionally cultivated plots (difference significant at $p=0.05$: coefficient of variation 18.2%). In the Third Division an observation gave similar results but suggested that in suitable areas mechanical cultivation (by Landmaster) would be of even greater benefit. In the Fifth Division trials were put down in four areas with the results given in the table below. In Sundar the traditional cultivation was by buffalo trampling, in Limbang it was by hand.

METHOD OF CULTIVATION—WET PADI

Site	No. of Blocks	Mean yield in lb. per acre			Coeff. of Variation
		Buffalo Implements	Traditional	Significance	
Kg. Aru Sundar	3	1,808	1,781	—	—
Kg. Sebelah, Sundar	3	2,803	2,559	—	—
Kg. Tantaya, Limbang	4	2,332	1,933	p = 0.01	3.4%
Tg. Darat, Limbang	4	1,890	1,592	N.S.	20.1%

In the Fourth Division, hand-cultivation with a *changkol* (hoe) gave a better yield than hand-cultivation with the traditional *peto* (side hoe).

Cultivation by means of the buffalo-drawn implements is quicker than hand-cultivation and often increases yields. In certain wet padi areas, now improved under the Assistance to Padi Planters Scheme, the use of machines is practicable but the economics of mechanisation requires investigation.

Off-season Cropping

Work at Paya Megok and observations elsewhere have shown that the successful annual cultivation of padi required that the land be dried out thoroughly once a year. This requirement allied to the high rainfall and the lack of drainage and irrigation facilities make the growing of two crops of padi per year difficult. It is considered the growing of other crops in the off-season is a more practicable and economic practice. Work is now concentrated on crops which can be utilised by the planter's family or his livestock and cash crops which would be saleable even when marketed only during a limited season each year. Soya beans are widely grown in the Nonok Peninsula of First Division and water melons, maize and ground-nuts are also grown.

Tobacco is a possible crop and seed of ten varieties from Malaya, one from India and one from Australia were tested in two trials at Paya Megok, First Division, where a cultivation and fertilizer trial was also planted. Unfortunately all three trials were seriously affected by a flood as the crop approached harvest in September. This is the second year in succession when this has happened in Paya Megok and flooding is a limiting factor in some other mid-river areas. The crop grew better on beds than on the flat, there were responses to inorganic fertilizer (PK) and to a less extent organic manure. An unidentified wilt, the symptoms of which were similar to those of the virus disease, leaf curl, affected some plants of the Indian variety *Delcrest* and the Australian variety *Virginia Gold*: the Malayan varieties were not affected. Tobacco is clearly a feasible proposition as an off-season crop in wet padi areas, the seed being sown immediately after the padi harvest. The following points, however, require further study:—

(a) the most suitable nursery technique for smallholders;

(b) the control of frog's eye spot (*Cercospora nicotianae*);

(c) the control of Agrotid moths;

(d) there is a limited local market for poor quality sun-dried tobacco for hand-made cigarettes, but a larger and more stable market would be opened if tobacco could be produced suitable for manufacture by the cigarette companies in Malaysia.

PEPPER

Piper nigrum is the species grown in Sarawak and most of it is planted by Chinese gardeners. Well-drained alluvial soils, rich in organic matter are preferred, but poorer sandstones and shales are usually available. Pepper is propagated vegetatively from selected vines. Three main stems are allowed to grow and are supported by hardwood posts, usually of belian timber (*Eusideroxylon zwageri*), 10 to 14 feet in height and placed 8 feet apart. It is a very intensively-grown crop. The vines are frequently handled; pruning is aimed at encouraging the production of thick bushy laterals and flowers are removed for the first two years in the field. Flowering normally occurs from October to December and harvesting generally takes place from May to July but in some areas may continue until November. By tropical standards high levels of manuring are necessary if reasonable yields are to be obtained; organic manures were very popular. About 7,000 acres are currently planted in Sarawak and the estimated crop for 1963 was about 8,000 tons of pepper of which about 70 per cent was marketed as white corns prepared from berries which have been soaked, washed and dried. Black pepper is prepared from ripe or damaged berries which are dried for two to three days in the sun. The size of a holding does not usually exceed one acre. Vines have an economic life of about fifteen years, but longevity is often much reduced by attacks of the very contagious foot rot disease.

The experimental programme aims at improving the efficiency of the grower and enabling him to withstand price fluctuation by increasing the yield of pepper per acre and reducing the cost of production.

During the season under review excessively wet weather occurred from January to March. Widespread flooding and waterlogging of the soil resulted and was followed by an increase in the incidence of the foot rot, particularly in the First Division and parts of the Fourth Division. Foot rot also entered five of the pepper experiments, three of which were damaged severely. In one experiment, a variety trial, the disease pattern has shown that a certain degree of field resistance may exist in some pepper varieties. Experiments which have yielded for the first time this year have added greatly to the general nutritional pattern for the cultivated pepper vine in the country. It has become possible to recommend to the farmer improved manurial methods involving the use of complete inorganic fertilizers which would assist him to produce his crop more economically. Cultural methods have also been improved with a saving in labour expenses and time and a considerable increase in the yield.

FIELD CROPS

The work detailed below was, unless otherwise stated, carried out at Tarat Experiment Station, which is the main experiment station of the Department.

PERENNIAL CROPS

Robusta Coffee

An observation plot of two acres of *robusta* coffee planted in November, 1959, had grown well on the single stem system. It was converted to the multiple stem system and two fertilizer experiments were laid down, one under shade and the other unshaded. Because the main stem had not been removed as soon as the suckers started to sprout from the trunk, many suckers were aetiolated and were blown out by the wind, particularly in the unshaded section.

Arabian Coffee

C. arabica, planted in March, 1961, did not thrive under the hot, humid conditions of Tarat. Growth was forced, there was no marked flowering season and attacks of *Colletotrichum coffeanum* were severe. Seedlings are being established at a new site at a higher elevation (c. 3,000 feet) and with a lower rainfall.

Dwarf Coconuts

Plots of dwarf coconuts, planted in April, 1959, and May, 1960, at a spacing of twenty-four feet square, are now coming into bearing, but most of the fronds were yellow and nuts were being shed prematurely. Leaf samples on chemical analysis showed a marked nutrient imbalance.

The potassium content was very high due to the excessive use of potassium fertilizers in the past; the

uptake of calcium and magnesium was lower than normal. The nitrogen content was lower than the accepted "cricital nutrient level". A blanket dressing of dolomite at the rate of 5 lb. per palm was given to counteract the adverse effect of the earlier fertilizer dressing. The leaf yellowing then disappeared.

Oil Palms

A plot of oil palms planted in December, 1948, at a spacing of 15 feet square were thinned in 1962 to a spacing of 30 x 15 feet. They had never been manured and the following fertilizer treatments per palm were applied at six monthly intervals on observation plots:

(1)	—	Nil
N	—	1 lb. sulphate of ammonia
P	—	1 lb. single superphosphate
K	—	1 lb. muriate of potash.
NPK	—	1 lb. of each.

Leaf samples were analysed six months after the fertilizer had been applied and frond production was recorded.

NUTRIENT LEVELS AND FROND PRODUCTION IN OIL PALMS, TARAT

	Treatment	Per cent in Dry Matter						Mean Frond production
		N	*P*	*K*	*Ca*	*Mg*	*Ash*	per tree
(1)	Control	1.76	0.120	0.631	0.796	0.425	14.3	7.0
N	Sulphate of Ammonia	1.79	0.123	0.527	0.930	0.490	12.7	8.5
P	Superphosphate	1.47	0.103	0.361	0.775	0.469	13.6	7.6
K	Muriate of potash	1.76	0.111	0.472	0.828	0.362	17.1	7.6
NPK	Sulphate of Ammonia + Super Phosphate + Muriate of Potash	1.64	0.111	0.459	0.844	0.466	13.2	8.3
	Nutrient Levels in Malayan Oil Palms	2.40	0.160	0.900	0.600	0.230	—	—

There was a response to fertilizer but the nutrient levels of the oil palms were still below those recorded from Malaya.

The Department had also been in partnership with the Commonwealth Development Corporation in establishing a 20-acre pilot planting of oil palms at Danau in Fifth Division. In August, 1963, the Department assumed full responsibility for the area which is now a small experiment station for oil palms and manila hemp. There are fifteen acres of a D x P selection and just over five acres of a D x T selection from Malaya planted in 1962/1963 and November, 1961, respectively. Growth and establishment of both plantings have been very satisfactory.

A fertilizer experiment was laid down in the 5-acre plot in August, 1963. At this stage, there has already been a marked response in frond production to applications of kieserite.

Cocoa

The *Amelonado* variety of cocoa planted in 1950 at two spacings, 15 feet x 15 feet and 10 feet x 10 feet over small areas of 0.38 of an acre and 0.12 of an acre respectively continued to give promising yields as shown in the table.

COCOA OBSERVATION PLOT, TARAT
(Yield of dry beans in lb. per acre)

Spacing	*1959-60*	*1960-61*	*1961-62*	*1962-63*	*Mean*
15 feet x 15 feet ...	821	1,424	2,187	1,841	1,568
10 feet x 10 feet ...	742	529	3,028	1,912	1,553

The trees were fertilized with a complete fertilizer at 3 lb. per tree at quarterly intervals during the 1962-63 crop season. There was little difference in the yields at the two spacings.

There has been a steady improvement in the technique of processing—both in fermenting the beans and drying them by the Samoan Cocoa Drier. The report from the manufacturers on the 1962-63 produce was as follows:—

	Per cent
Moisture in whole bean	6.3
Butter in dry nib	55.8
Shell	12.4
Germ	0.95
Partly brown—partly purple	36.00
Fully fermented	63.00
Mouldy	1.00

Apart from their small size and slightly low fat content, these beans resembled normal West African produce. Percentage of partly purple beans was normal and no Criollo type beans were present.

Improvement in the quality of marketable beans has been reflected in the sale price realised, which has increased from $0.51 per lb. in 1961 to $0.63 per lb. in 1963.

Bananas and Manila Hemp

Both bananas and manila hemp could be planted in Sarawak more extensively. With the object of selecting the most varieties for local conditions, trials were planted during the year at Tarat. A further manila hemp variety trial was also planted at Danau, Fifth Division, using the varieties *Tangongon*, *Bungalanon* and *Maguindanao* from Malaya.

FRUIT TREE PRODUCTION

Tarat Experiment Station fills an important need of the farming community by propagating budded fruit trees. Nearly 70,000 trees were supplied of seven clones of rambutans, two clones of durian and two varieties of mandarin orange. This output supplements that of the Divisional Agricultural Stations.

PLANT INTRODUCTIONS

The behaviour of recent plant introductions, in addition to those mentioned in others parts of the report, are here noted briefly.

Perennial Crops

Apple—Specimens of a supposedly tropical variety developed in Queensland, Australia, from *Rome Beauty* under the name of *Tropical Beauty* were planted in the lowlands (Miri) and highlands (Kelabit Highlands.) It was evident that the climate of Sarawak is insufficiently seasonal for the apple; this variety still has marked chilling requirements and symptoms of prolonged dormancy have appeared. Terminal buds have failed to develop and the leading shoots have died back.

Brazil Nut (*Bertholletia excelsa*)—Brazil Nuts were first planted in Sarawak at Semongok circa 1930 but records were lost during the Japanese occupation. Eight of these trees were found surviving in secondary jungle in 1963; the largest is about 70 feet high with a girth of 76 inches and was fruiting. The surrounding secondary growth was cleared and a thorough search made for the shells of fallen fruit, but none were found and it seems improbable that any fruit was produced before 1963. From August to November, 1963, the largest trees flowered heavily, but fruit setting has not been very satisfactory. Further seed was imported from Singapore in 1961, but it failed to germinate. Fresh seed imported from Kuala Lumpur germinated more satisfactorily if it was filed before planting.

Canarium—The Sibu olive is a local species of canarium (*C. odontophyllum*) which is valued for its edible fruit. Its habit makes it suitable for use as a live support. So that the most suitable species might be employed for pepper, seed of *C. vulgare* was imported from Singapore and four varieties of *C. indicum* from the Solomon Islands, but only one of the latter germinated.

Cinnamon (*Cinnamomum zeylanicum*) — Thirty bushes planted at a spacing of 20 feet x 10 feet in 1959 have grown well and branches were thick enough for harvesting the first crop in 1962. A crop of about 31 lb. of cured dry bark was taken at the end of 1963 and samples have been sent to the Tropical Products Institute for evaluation. This tree obviously thrives under Sarawak conditions, and, if the market was favourable, could be planted extensively on smallholdings.

Citrus—Mandarin oranges and pomelos grow satisfactorily in Sarawak. The quality of the fruit is, however, very variable and the fruit remains green when ripe. Nucellar seed material and some bud-wood were received from California of the tangelos *Orlando* and *Minneola* and the hybrid mandarins *Kara* and *Kinnow;* tangelos are hybrids of the tangerine (*C reticulata*) and grapefruit (*C. paradisi*). Growth of the seedlings was reasonable but not outstanding; buddings of root-stocks on pomelos and rough lemon seedlings grew more satisfactorily. A seedling tangerine of good quality was also imported from Tanganyika; a good germination was obtained and the seedlings grew well in the nursery. An orange variety *Holdfast* produces a fruit which ripens to a yellow colour on the tree at Tarat; the skin is rather thick when grown under local conditions.

Queensland Nut (*Macadamia spp.*)—Seedlings were imported in September, 1963, from Singapore Botanic Gardens of the following selections:— "Collard" of *M. tetraphylla* and "Tinana" and Rikard" of M. *integrifolia.* Seedlings of *M. ternifolia,* grown from seed imported in 1959, have developed very slowly at Tarat.

Tree Tomato (*Cyphomandra betacea*)—Growth has not been satisfactory in the hot humid conditions of Tarat. Plants from seed imported in 1959 are, however, growing and fruiting satisfactorily at Pa Mein at an elevation of about 3,000 feet in the Kelabit Highlands.

Grasses and Legumes

The following legumes have been established in the botanic plot and are promising for field trials:—

For pastures—*Aeschynomene americana, Phaseolus atropurpureus;* for browsing—*Desmodium distortum* and *Leucaena glauca* (El Salvador) if kept trimmed; for green manure or cover crop—*Crotalaria quinquefolia* and *Mucuna urens. Flemingia congesta* is at the moment the most popular fallow crop. Certain importations of grass seeds failed to germinate.

Annual Field Crops

Maize—Eight maize varieties were introduced and sown in small plots at monthly intervals from May to August. Yields ranged from 1,200 to 2,700 lb. of shelled maize per acre. Although these yields are better than have been obtained in the past, and, no doubt, exceed the yields of local varieties, they are not good by world standards. The incidence of rust attacks, *Puccinia polysora,* increased with successive sowings. Lodging was marked in all varieties. Higher yields could possibly be obtained from earlier sowings. The most promising varieties were *Mexican 17, G.S. 2* and *G.S. 1* from Ghana, *Mthenga* from Nyasaland and *Katumbili* from Tanganyika.

Millet—Finger millet, or ragi (*Eleusine coracana*) and foxtail millet or tenai (*Setaria italica*) were imported from India and two crops were grown, April to July and July to October, 1963, the latter giving the higher yields. Growth was reasonably good and, although not comparable with their performance in a drier climate, these millets could be used as a fallow crop after rice; both kinds were heavily attacked by sparrows.*

Teosinte (*Euchlaena mexicana*)—The trial of this tall maize-like grass, reported in last year's report, could not be repeated as much of the seed had lost its viability in store. Seed is being bulked up again.

Vanilla (*V. planifolia*)—Growth on supporting kapok trees has been very satisfactory but none of the plants has as yet started to come into flower.

Vegetables—Temperate vegetables such as cabbages, radishes and carrots cannot be grown in Sarawak at any time of the year as climatic conditions are too hot and humid, except in the Kelabit Highlands. Tomatoes are frequently and cauliflowers occasionally grown successfully in potting mixtures in various kinds of boxes or pots under cover. Lettuces will grow, but not heart; the variety of "Bibb" (Limestone) proved promising. There is, however, a large variety of tropical vegetables produced for the town markets. Some of these could be improved, and some new varieties have been recently introduced, among these are "Hawaiian Wonder" pole bean, "Landreth Stringless" green bean and two french beans, "Improved Tender Green" and "Kentucky Wonder". Several squashes, melons and dill were promising. The "Perkins" variety of Okra has been proved an improvement of that grown locally and seed has been distributed.

Ornamentals

A large amount of planting material was introduced by private individuals during the year, but is was almost entirely confined to orchid varieties.

*Presumably Munias (*M. Ferruginosa and M. Fuscans*) There are no Sparrows in Borneo — ED.

Pieces from the Brooke Past—VI

SELECTED FROM THE STATE ARCHIVES

by W. J. CHATER

Band Days

The second Rajah, Sir Charles Brooke, was passionately fond of music. This was probably the reason why he married Ranee Margaret, who under her maiden name of Lady de Windt was for some time during the 1860s regarded as the finest amateur pianist in France.

There had always been a band of sorts in Kuching, but the Rajah decided that he wanted something better; so in early 1888 he made a special visit to Manila to engage a Filipino band and although he had only little real knowledge of music insisted on auditioning and selecting the bandsmen himself. Having done this, he received an immediate setback when the bandmaster whom he had engaged was enticed away for higher pay. However, save for this, all went well and the band duly arrived in Kuching in May of that year, accompanied by a new bandmaster, Polycarpo. He was succeeded in time by such colourfully named personalities as Reyas, Labarento, Julian de Vera and finally Pedro Salosa, who was in charge when, as part of the Sarawak Rangers, they were disbanded during the slump of 1932.

The Rajah took a great personal interest in his band and insisted that all programmes be carefully selected and should the rendering of the music fail to be up to standard the bandmaster would receive a stern rebuke at the end of the performance.

Having engaged the band, the Rajah now had to find somewhere in the town for it to give public performances. So in 1889 he transformed what was once a swamp into what became known as the Esplanade (now the Central Padang). This was an ornamental garden with a bandstand in the centre. The first public performance given there was a great event for the people of Kuching and to mark the occasion the bandmaster composed a special tune, "The Sarawak Waltz," now long forgotten, but no doubt a copy of the musical score might still be found hidden away in some odd corner of an old ex-bandsman's home.

But the opening of the Esplanade brought band days which are unanimously recorded as the most unpopular social functions ever introduced by the Rajah. He was now in his seventies, stone deaf in one ear and with only little hearing in the other. Nevertheless, he ordered that band days should be held twice a week and all his European Officers were expected, — in fact commanded, — to attend. On these occasions, he used to like to surround himself with the prettiest ladies of all communities and once the band had started nobody even dared to whisper without receiving his icy stare.

For his Government Officers, attendance at the band was not only a "command" but a necessity since in those days the system of annual increments in salaries had not yet been introduced and officers only received increments when the Rajah remembered them. Thus it became a matter of "no band, no rise in salary."

The Ranee Sylvia who was then Ranee Muda disliked band days intensely and writes in her book *The Three White Rajahs:*

"There was an extremely undesirable ceremony called 'Band Day,' when twice a week everyone would dress up in their best clothes and congregate round the Rajah upon a stretch of grass where the band would play classical music, or would respectfully listen to the discordant sounds issuing from the Filipino band, which fortunately for him (the Rajah), he was unable to hear. 'Ah,' he would say, tapping his stick upon the ground, 'Mozart ... very lovely,' although the actual melody they had been playing at the moment was Chopin. None of us dared contradict him."

The Ranee Sylvia who had to suffer the ordeal of sitting through all these performances used to derive great delight from watching some of the officers, who having put in an appearance and been seen by the Rajah, would then try to slip away for a drink at the Sarawak Club, which in those days was quite close by, in fact just below the present Government Rest House. However, few managed to escape; the Rajah's eagle eye would usually draw them back.

Ranee Sylvia further records that at the end, as the Sarawak Anthem was being played and everyone stood to attention, a sigh of relief would ripple through that exhausted crowd.

Eventually, the time came when even the Rajah could stand things no longer. In his letter books is a copy of a memorandum dated May 22, 1910 addressed to the Commandant, Sarawak Rangers, to whom the band was attached, which read:

"The band was somewhat worse last evening and the programme very badly chosen. I can't stand this any longer and I now direct you to inform the Bandmaster, Julian de Vera, that he is to do no more duty and he will retire on pension of $6 per month as from today. Put the other man (Pedro Salosa) in his place, and I will see to the band when I return. It is much better to have none at all than a bad one. Be good enough to carry out these orders to the letter.

C. BROOKE."

Thus, after twenty-one years' service, most of the time as bandmaster, Julian de Vera's career came to a sudden end.

O and E

People in East Malaysia too often talk as if Kuala Lumpur was the centre for some kind of plot to make every Sarawakian or Sabahan a pseudo-Malay. False, true, false, how tiresome this can get! There is excessive reaction at several levels to *any* hint of mainland, Malayan, directive, any trace of suspected domination. *Up to a point* this is healthy. Cobbold and the I.G.C. Report promised the Borneo states special rights of entity and individuality, and these are now written into the Constitution of Malaysia. The Borneo states are exempted from religious, linguistic and cultural compulsions in certain fields and on certain conditions. It is astonishing, however, how few people—either here or in Malaya itself—ever seem to have read the I.G.C. Report and its sequels. Thus the misunderstandings, which help nobody. It is perhaps time the Information Services produced and circulated very widely a popular, easily assimilated digest of *exactly what was promised both ways*: by Kuala Lumpur to Kuching and (locally even more relevant) by Kuching to Kuala Lumpur. Both ends of a vital chain are linked in insufficient verbal *understanding*?

Meanwhile, it is a grave error in East Malaysia to think that West Malaysian Malays are being deliberately, nastily pressing or harsh on us, their new easterly brothers. The freedoms enjoyed in Sarawak are wide, even among Sarawak Malays as compared with Malayan ones. Language and belief pressures are steadily moving towards something near severity in certain mainland states, whereas Borneo's are subject to little more (so far) than verbal adjuration and propaganda, legitimate and appropriate (and slight in comparison to the activities of Christain sects). This can be simply illustrated by the following page item from a recent *Straits Times* (one of many such, week by week):

PUNISHMENT FOR MOSQUE TRUANTS

BUKIT MERTAJAM, Mon.—The Sungei Rambei Mosque Committee has decided to take action against Bukit Mertajam Muslims who fail to attend

the weekly congregational prayers.

The committee agreed yesterday that those who miss the Friday prayers for three consecutive weeks without reasonable excuse should be suitably dealt with.

The observant reader—anyone who gets this far in this column must surely be that!—will note the place. Bukit Mertajam gained fame as the first place in Malaysia to have social riots, back in June-July.

The same issue of the *Straits Times* features another item not irrelevant here, from Pontian, another sore point in mainland life lately; this item illustrates the difficulties being experienced by non-Bornean states and underlines the dangers (this side of the water), of exaggerating our local fears and of shouting everytime anyone from over the water even *whispers* of change. We have a good deal to be thankful for in 1964 Sarawak. And if we had nothing to be sorry about, Malaysia could hardly be of human origin. Only the divine is perfect. Anyway, here is the item:

SCHOOL'S PRIZE-DAY SPEECHES—AND ALL IN MALAY

PONTIAN, Mon.—All speeches were in the national language when the secondary English school here celebrated its prize-giving day last week.

Praising the staff for "perfect understanding and excellent co-operation," the headmaster, Mr. V. N. Radhakrishnan, said as there was a shortage of graduates in the school the upper secondary classes were handled by normal or college-trained teachers.

The chairman of the board of governors, Syed Ibrahim bin Hussein, said that while he was glad the school would have a new building next year, he was sorry there was no playing field.

A suggestion: could not a Sarawak school in better position make a gesture: go over to Pontian and help make them a playing field. Gestures—both ways—at this level could do so much to offset pronouncements from junior political bosses on the mainland who continue to upset too many of our *rayat* needlessly.

The obverse side of this is to be seen in Canberra, capital of Australia, now the second most important Malaysian diplomatic base in the world—second only to London. The commodious dwelling in the heart of Canberra which currently houses Tun Lim Yew Hock, one time Prime Minister of Singapore, as Malaysia's national representative there, is decorated outside with the coats of arms of the states. In mid-September 1964 there were eleven of them—and very handsome too. But where Sabah, where Singapore, where Sarawak? And what of the message on the fine portal gate? Guess? Yes:

MALAYA HOUSE.

What would it cost to add three letters to a new plaque?

MALAYSIA HOUSE?

And three more crests to the long open wall? Yet no one has done this, in over a year of Malaysia, at a place where people *notice* such things.

* * *

The Malay lessons ("Malay Conversations") on the Radio air at 7.15 p.m. are first class. But there are two points to be made about this truly educational, entertaining and delicate source of introduction from Radio Malaysia Sarawak:

(i) They are *so* good we can actually enjoy them—even if already Malay-speakers—seven times a week.

(ii) There is so much need of them, 7.15 p.m. is too late (tired man!).

They should be put on at 7.15 *a.m.* (not *p*), before the breakfast news. Chinese programmes are there, eh? Then make this a Malay-English-Chinese do. But even AFTER the early news, 7.35, will do!

* * *

On 23rd September evening listeners to the expatriate (or international—according to bias) language news of Radio Malaysia could hardly believe their ears. The tiresome intrusion often at three or more points in the English bulletin, of "High Malay" phrases did not occur. But 24th September passed and 25th September dawned damp but clear in Sarawak—and the news came on each time again in unbroken Anglo-Saxon. So it continues. . . .

* * *

On a Sunday evening we had a Yen to speak to Mr. William Brown, U.S. Consul, under another hat a scholar from Harvard deeply interested in Bornean history and prehistory. His home number not being listed, we rang 3300, Enquiries.

Dialogue:

Us: "This is X X speaking——
Can you give me please the home number of Mr. Bill Brown, the U.S. Consul?"

She: "Am I right? In Kuching he is living in Mr. Ong Hap Leong's old house?"

Us: "Yes, he is"

She: X X X X (the number is given AT *ONCE*)

What a *wonderful* treat such polite efficiency is! How well we are served by Posts and Telegraphs, the most effective department in Sarawak since Mr. R. Kirkwood, C.B.E. took over some years ago—and before that, almost the most chaotic.

Here is the dialogue that would probably have ensued in many parts of South-east Asia, after initial enquiry above.

She: "Who?"

Us: (You explain fully)

She: "Well, who are *you*?"

Us: (You explain fully)

She: "Why do you want him then?"

Us: (You explain fully)

She: "I'll have to ask the supervisor—on Monday."

Not even a "sorry" to brown you off with. . . .

* * *

The classification of Borneans is becoming more, not less, confused as knowledge increases. The well-known decision to rename all Dusuns "Kadazan" has been based on the statement that Dusun is a derogatory term, invented by the Europeans. In fact, it dates back long before Dent, Overbeck and Cowie, to the Suluks and Bajaus who thus renamed the pagan Orang Sungei, etc. At the *same* time, the Ranau Dusuns and others *have* no Z in their language and cannot (at present) pronounce it. So the nearest they can get is "Kadayan".

The Dusuns of Brunei, also called Bukits and Belaits, non-Mohammedan, have recently (Sept. 21) complained *as a group, calling themselves Dusun*, that they—like the Kadayans before—are not being properly represented in and catered for by the political parties and administration of Brunei.

At the same time, the position of the non-Mohammedan Muruts in Sabah in relation to the Kadazans is somewhat unclear. So is their relationship to the Muruts of Sarawak for that matter. Both lots of Muruts are very much in Malaysia. Moreover, these Sabah Muruts inhabit nearly the *whole* of the Sabah-Indonesian border, while the Sarawak Muruts inhabit key sections of the Sarawak-Indonesian border from

Bah Kalalan down nearly to the Usun Apau. Do they, too, deserve new blanket terms? If so, wider ones or narrower? Difficult questions these are. . . .

The point arises freshly with the publication of an official pamphlet by the Government Printer in Sabah—that old veteran of the press and Rotary, W.A. Spradbrow, I.S.O. ("Sprad" to everyone). This is entitled "English/Murut Phrase Book" and published "*By Authority*" (always an awesome preface). We tried it on two very educated Sarawak Muruts the other day. One said: "This is like Latin". The other said: "What is this—Dusun?". Neither could make anything of it.

* * *

Sometime Forest Botanist in Brunei, Dr. Peter Ashton is the only living expatriate to be repatriated after being nearly killed by snake bite (a Pit Viper on the Pagan Priok Mts). He is now on the impressive research staff of Sarawak's Forestry Department. With Che Hasan bin Pukul he has produced an excellent booklet in Malay and English, "A Checklist of Brunei Trees"—but of value throughout Borneo. In a hard cover, 132 pages priced at $4.50, it is not cheap. But he who needs must be grateful. A very curious (unique?) feature of the thing is that it does *not* bear the imprint of any printer or publisher. The authors are named; but there is *no* other identication of place, source, sponsor, year, or other information of a kind normally held to be statutary by law.

We hope Dr. Ashton will not have to enlarge his unpleasant experiences by a period under the harshness of human rather than reptilian attack, (Printers Ordinance)—especially by Brunei law! Meanwhile, may one ask the authors to let us know where the thing is published and how to get hold of another copy? The *Gazette* can help correct this chance error, no doubt.

T.H.

A Sarawak Malaysian Diary

SEPTEMBER

1st, Tuesday

It is announced that the entire inhabitants of an Iban Longhouse, numbering 72 men, women and children, who could not tolerate any longer the ill-treatment which they had suffered at the hands of Indonesian soldiers for over a year, fled across the border to seek refuge in Sarawak on Sunday, August 30.

Leaflets printed in Malay, English and Chinese are now distributed in the border areas of Sarawak and Sabah calling on the Indonesian armed forces and the so-called volunteers who have illegally intruded into Malaysian territory, to surrender.

The Sarawak Native Teachers' Association has resolved to ask the Government to establish a new college using the National Language as the medium of instruction, similar to the ones in Malaya, whilst the Batu Lintang Training College will continue functioning.

Serian and Limbang new post offices function.

Royal Air Force Team beat Sarawak and Sabah Combined Team in a charity football match in aid of the Sarawak Society for the Blind by 10 goals to 1.

2nd, Wednesday

The Deputy Chief Minister of Sarawak, Mr. James Wong, says that to give *kampongs* and longhouses and each person in Sarawak a better life and better standard of living is the avowed policy of the Alliance Government.

The Gala Charity Premiere of the 1963 Royal Command Performance film, 'Sammy Going South' opens at the Rex Cinema attended by a capacity audience.

First Division tops the Year's Sarawak Inter-Division Table-Tennis Championships held in Miri.

Sibu Chinese Team wins the "Khoo Peng Loong Challenge Cup" in the First Sarawak Inter-Station Chinese Chess Competition.

Dr. Wong Chong Way, 74, dies.

3rd, Thursday

The Chief Minister, Datu Stephen Kalong Ningkan, has received a flood of congratulatory messages following the recent announcement of the title of Panglima Daraja Kinabalu (the Order of Kinabalu, First Class) awarded by His Excellency the Yang di-Pertuan Negara of Sabah.

The Chief Minister says when he inaugurates the annual conference of Secondary School Principals at the Civil Service Training Centre, Kuching, that the whole of our future depends on unity, and the National Language should be a great force for unity.

The Fourth Sarawak open-to-all Volley Ball Competition for the Ting Ming Kang Challenge Gold Cup starts.

Installation work on the 100-line automatic exchange is now carried out in two new Post Offices, one in Marudi, Fourth Division and the other in Limbang, Fifth Division.

4th, Friday

The Chief Minister says that there is no justification in saying that because there is no Land Dayak M.P. in the Federal Parliament, their interests are overlooked.

Mr. Teo Kui Seng, Minister for Natural Resources, remarks at the Jaycee Trade Fair's Agriculture Egg and Pig Competitions, that Agriculture is the main step of the country's economy.

The trial of a Kuching First Class Magistrate, Mr. Bigar anak Deboi, under the Anti-Corruption Ordinance, 1959, begins in the High Court before Mr. Justice E. R. Harley.

Major Thompson, recruiting Officer for the 1st Battalion Malaysian Rangers reports that there is an excellent reponse in Lundu which is the first centre in the First Division to be visited by the recruiting team.

The Education Department wishes to notify all concerned that the implementation of the Inter Security (Amendment) Act 1964 requires all students who wish to be admitted into any higher educational institution in Malaysia, e.g. University of Singapore, University of Malaya, Nanyang University, etc., to obtain first a "Certificate of Suitability to a Higher Educational Institution" from the Education Department before their applications for admission can be considered.

5th, Saturday

A troop from the 22nd Malaysian Engineer Squardron Territorial Army from Kluang, Malaya, who have successfully completed their two-week annual camp training in Sarawak, leaves by RMAF plane for Malaya.

The Federal Minister of Labour, Mr. V. Manickavasagam, flies in from Jesselton, to hold discussion with Sarawak Ministers and meets Trade Union leaders.

6th, Sunday

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong acting under Section 47 of the Internal Security Act has proclaimed all Malaysia to be a Security Area, with effect from today. This

is notified for general information in accordance with Sub-Section (3) of that Section. The general effect of this proclamation is that emergency powers similar to those which have been exercised in Sarawak under the Preservation of Public Security Ordinance and the Preservation of Public Security Regulations since 8th December, 1962 are now being introduced throughout Malaysia. Severe penalties for offences relating to the Security Area are imposed. The offence of possessing arms or ammunition without lawful excuse carries with it a mandatory death penalty.

A police source discloses that about twenty gangsters or 'paper tigers' have been arrested at the Kuching Jaycees Trade Fair at Padungan.

The Prime Minister, Tengku Abdul Rahman, says that Jakarta regime wants to rob Malaysia of her wealth and strip her bare as it had done in Sumatra, Celebes and Indonesian Borneo.

7th, Monday

Another excellent recruiting response for the 1st Battalion the Malaysian Rangers in Bau.

The people of Sarawak are hospitable, cultured and friendly (Everybody smiles). This is the opinion of H.R.H. the Princess of Sikkim, Princess Pema Tsedeun, who visited Kuching recently as a delegate of the Third Triennial South East Asian Regional Conference and Seminar of the Associated Country Women of the World.

8th, Tuesday

The Sarawak Stall at the MAHA (Malaysian Agri-Horticultural Association) Exhibition is an outstanding success; run by Inche Hasbie Sulaiman; Mr. Benedict Sandin and Mr. Owen Wright.

Mr. Lim Kim Seng, Secretary General of the First Division Trades Union Congress tells the *Tribune* that the objects for which they have been fighting for years are at last coming into reality and no longer a dream. He is referring to new proposals made by the Commissioner of Labour under new provisions of the Trades Union Ordinance, one of which is an agreement to be entered into between the Sarawak First Division Workers' and Labourers' Union and members of six Trades Associations in Kuching which represent the majority of employers.

9th, Wednesday

The world was shocked at the admission by Dr. Sudjarwo, the Indonesian delegate to the UN Security Council meeting who confessed in his speech that "I would not deny that our volunteers, our guerillas, together with the militant youth of Sarawak and Sabah some of whom had been trained in our territory have entered so-called "Malaysian" Territory in Sarawak and Sabah. They have been fighting there for some time. This is no secret. And, in the absence of a peaceful solution to the problem of 'Malaysia' to the conflict between 'Malaysia' and Indonesia, particularly after the inconclusive end of the Tokyo summit conference last June, the fighting and activities on both sides could only become aggravated or even escalated. And now this fighting has spread to other areas in 'Malaysia' such as Malaya. . . . As a matter of fact, the fighting now in Malaya is only on a very small scale compared to the magnitude of the fighting in Sarawak and Sabah."

The Divisional Medical Officer, Dr. R. M. Melville reports one new case of cholera from Long Pilah of Baram District in the Fourth Division; now 23 confirmed cases, three deaths.

The man who predicted the ending of the Emergency and the prosperity for Malaya under the present Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tengku Abdul Rahman, and forecast the independence of Cyprus several years ago, is here in Kuching hoping to 'see as many hands' as possible. He is Mr. Shastri Revashanker Baradwala, an Indian Palmist, and well-known astrologer.

10th, Thursday

The "body beautiful" competition organised in conjunction with the current Kuching Jaycee Trade Fair at Padungan takes place.

The Minister for Local Government, Mr. Dunstan Endawie, in a radio broadcast to "friends and relations across the border in Indonesian Borneo", informs them of their real enemies and the plans of the Jakarta Regime.

Mr. Wee Kheng Chiang donates $2,000 to the Sarawak Lawn Tennis Association.

It is announced that proceeds from the show which took place on September 2nd at the Rex Theatre ("Sammy Going South") amounted to $4,367.35.

The Inland Revenue Department last year collected a total net revenue of $15,602,846.00.

11th, Friday

The Sarawak Amateur Athletic Association resolves to run the future Sarawak Championships along the same line and pattern of the Malaysian Games in a two-day meet on Saturday and Sunday.

Total value of Sarawak's external trade for June, 1964, amounted to $77.23 million. This was $11.28 million more than the figure of the previous month and was $10.33 million more than the total of $66.90 million for the corresponding period of 1963.

The Annual Report of the Medical Department states that considerable progress has been made in the year 1963 with buildings. Despite floods and epidemic (Cholera), the department has successfully undertaken the prevention of the spread of epidemic disease, particularly in the flooded areas.

12th, Saturday

The Junior Chamber International World President for 1964, Mr. Conrad E. O'Brien, pays a 24-hour official visit to Jaycees in Kuching.

Mr. Robert Nicholl, the longest serving expatriate officer in the Education Department and long-time co-editor of the *Sarawak Gazette*, to which he contributed many articles of permanent value, retires.

Bigar anak Deboi, a First Class Magistrate of the Judical Department, Kuching, is sentenced to four years' imprisonment by the High Court Judge, Mr. Justice E. R. Harley, after he is found guilty of having on August 17, 1964, accepted a gratification—money in sum of $100.00—other than legal remuneration as a reward for doing official act—the issuing of warrant of arrest against one Harnam Singh.

In Kuching to unfold the splendours of the starry heaven is the Director of the "Voice of Prophecy Correspondence", Mr. D. Guild.

13th, Sunday

The Chief Minister of Sarawak reveals that about eleven battalions of Indonesian troops are massing along the Sarawak border. He also discloses that another five battalions are stationed opposite the Sabah border.

At the closing ceremony of Youth Leadership Course held at Simanggang, the District Officer, Inche Arni bin Haji Lampam, speaking in the National Language, stresses the importance of good leadership in youth clubs.

14th, Monday

When declaring open the Third Annual Consultative Meeting between the Public Works Department Management and the Central Executive and Divisional Representatives of the P.W.D. Workers' Union at the Kuching Rural District Council Chamber, the Minister of Works and Communications, Inche Abdul Taib Mahmud states that the politics of the Alliance Government are the politics of a new nation faced with the problems of change and the need for stability and that it is therefore not a luxury of our Government to be engrossed in the formulation of either a rightist or leftist policy.

The President of the Sarawak Government Asian Officers Union, Inche Dawi Abdul Rahman, discloses the dissatisfaction of the Union with the slowness in the implementation of Malaysianisation in the Sarawak Civil Service, and it would be the Union's duty to bring this fact to the attention of Government.

The Junior Chamber International World President for 1964, Mr. Conrad E. O'Brien of Trinidad, pays a courtesy call on the Chief Minister at his office.

A 24-year-old Chinese, Yong Wei Min, who pleaded guilty to a charge of having in his possession a banned publication, is fined $200 in default two months' imprisonment, by Magistrate Anthony Jiram in the Miri District Court.

When declaring open the Council's new $18,000 school building at Kampong Tambirat, in the Muara Tuang Sub-District, the Chairman of the Kuching Rural District Council, Tua Kampong Suaidi bin Haji Arsat, says that there will be 7,100 pupils attending the Council's Schools next year.

The Minister for Local Government, Mr. Dunstan Endawie, says that the Government is trying to ensure that there is a school place available for every child in Sarawak in 1968.

15th, Tuesday

Seven hundred and fifty would-be recruits turn up at the recruiting centre at Pangkalan Batu Building to enrol into the First Malaysian Rangers Battalion. The Recruiting Officer, Major D. Thomson, who expects only forty persons to turn up, is indeed surprised to find 750 waiting for him.

The Australian External Affairs Minister, Mr. Paul Hasluck, announces that his country will provide Malaysia with aid amounting to more than seven and a half million Malayan dollars especially for projects in Sarawak this year.

The Minister for Natural Resources says the fertiliser which the Government has decided to provide free this year to hill padi farmers, is intended specially to help those farmers who have little or no swamp padi land nearby and who have to plant hill padi to obtain their food supply.

Four of the resigned Central Committee Members of the Sarawak Chinese Association and another member of the SCA make a joint statement to criticise the Association for attempting to use the party as an agency for selling Malaysian Social Welfare Tickets.

Fong Kim Fup, aged 77, dies an hour after being admitted to the General Hospital when he was alleged to be knocked down by a British Army truck.

A 22-year old Chinese, Liew Thow Then, was alleged to have attempted committing suicide by taking *insecticide* at 11th Mile, Simanggang Road.

A clash between a band of some 25 Indonesian border terrorists and a 12-man security force patrol occurred in the Sematan area of the First Division. A member of the security forces patrol was wounded and several casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

16th, Wednesday

Mr. Lau Han Choon, the Youth Organiser, takes over the "Calling All Youth" Programme on Radio Malaysia, Sarawak.

17th, Thursday

Revenue collections for the month of August, 1964 in respect of Export, Import and Excise duties amounted to $3,000,513.08 compared with $3,687,133.70 collected during July, 1964 a decrease of $686,620.62.

A new Blood Bank—the first in the Second Division is handed over by the Simanggang Red Cross Division to the Simanggang Hospital.

French Consul-General in Singapore, Monsieur Eduord Hutte and his wife fly into Kuching.

18th, Friday

Mr. Justice E. R. Harley refuses a request by Mr. T. O. Thomas for admission to bail pending appeal for Mr. Bigar anak Deboi sentenced last week to four years' imprisonment in the Kuching High Court for bribery.

A police spokesman issues a warning in Kuching to all owners of bicycles to have their bicycles locked securely. One bike per day is being stolen in Kuching and Sibu.

19th, Saturday

First Joint Kuching Municipal Council and Kuching Rural District Council Primary Schools Sports held at Jubilee Ground, Padungan.

Sarawak's first single group trade mission leaves for Singapore and Malaya with the main purpose of getting a good knowledge of the industrial set-up there. Mr. T. Y. Tan heads the Mission.

Mr. Lee Hun Hoe is appointed Judical Commissioner, the first Bornean to preside in a High Court in the Borneo States.

The Governor of Sarawak, Datu Abang Haji Openg, makes an appeal to parents to send their children to schools, when he officially opens the Bintulu Government Secondary School.

20th, Sunday

With the recent raids by police of houses in which Chap Jee Kee was played, the illegal operators are now changing their venue frequently to avoid detection; the police are tracking them down.

In the Terbat area of the First Division three Sarawak villagers from Kampong Bunan, one a woman, were working their padi farm not far from the border when three uniformed and armed Indonesian terrorists approached. One villager got away unseen and gave the alarm. The other man and the woman were shot down in cold blood. None of the villagers were armed. Security Forces immediately mounted an operation to find the terrorists. However, they had returned back across the border into Indonesia.

The Governor of Sarawak, Datu Abang Haji Openg, while opening the new office of the Department of Agriculture in Bintulu says that a well-organised team is not enough and they must go out to meet the farmers because they form the most important link between the Government and the people.

Seni Budaya Melayu Football Club beat Post and Telegraphs 'B' in the Division Two Soccer Knockout final by three goals to two at the Jubilee Ground. SBM also won the League Championship.

21st, Monday

At the Kuching Rural District Council Meeting, Abang Othman, M.P. refers to Council's Minute (e) and wants to know which Council has so far paid allowances to their Councillors in accordance with the scales approved by the Government.

During August of this year the Kuching Port Authority handled a total of 30,930 tons of general cargo through its premises at Tanah Puteh, the highest tonnage handled by the Authority since it commenced operation in June, 1961.

The prominent philanthropist, Mr. Wee Kheng Chiang, has contributed a sum of $10,000 to the school building fund in aid of the St. Luke's Secondary School at 10th Mile, Penrissen Road, Kuching.

22nd, Tuesday

Inche Ya'acob bin Hitam, A.M.N., P.I.S., B.C.K., an experienced Malaysian Development Officer arrives in Kuching to take over the post of State Development Officer from Mr. J. G. D. Warburton (on leave).

The President of the Kuching Municipal Council notes that a grant of $50,000 allocated to the Council for the 1965-1968 Development period for non-educational projects has been considered fair and reasonable.

Inche Abu Hassan bin Ali, 34, an experienced lecturer, arrives from Malaya to train teachers in the teaching of the National Language in Secondary Schools in Sarawak.

23rd, Wednesday

The Netherlands Ambassador to Malaysia, Mr. L. Kruytbosch, accompanied by Mrs. Kruytbosch, flies in to pay his first visit to Sarawak.

The Kuching Football Association's Disciplinary Board has suspended Joseph Lee, All Saints' Centre-Half from playing one game this season and another in the 1965 season following the incident in a knock-out game between All Saints and Bornell.

The Deputy Regional Director of Posts and Telegraphs says that due to lack of training facilities locally, arrangements have now been made with the Director-General of Telecommunications, Government of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, for the admission of technical staff from the Posts and Telecommunications Department in Sarawak to the Telecommunications Training Centre in Kuala Lumpur for Training.

24th, Thursday

Sarawak, in the opinion of the Chief Minister, Dato Stephen Kalong Ningkan, is faster in its process of Borneanisation compared with other states in Malaya.

Singapore's Delta Community Centre Basketball Team beat Nanyang by 77 to 70.

Two Members of the Council Negri, Mr. Kadam Kiai, MP and Mr. Sim Boon Liang, MP, have been selected by the Executive Committee of the Sarawak Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to visit New Zealand, at the invitation of the New Zealand Government.

The lastest issue of the *Farmers Bulletin*, published by the Department of Agriculture, explains why the department still advises farmers to plant rubber.

A small Indonesian incursion in the Lubok Antu area of the Second Division.

25th, Friday

St. Joseph's School wins the Malcolm MacDonald Cup when they beat St. Thomas's School two goals to nil in the final played at the Jubilee Ground. (Last year's holder was Dragon School).

The Sibu Boys' Club Team captures the "Ting Ming Kang Challenge Gold Cup" in the Fourth Sarawak Open-to-all Volley Ball Competition sponsored by the Sibu Volley Ball Association.

Kuching's Mayor and Member of Parliament, Mr. Ong Kee Hui, leaves the capital for the United Kingdom as an observer of the British general election to take place on October 15.

The Governor of Sarawak, Datu Abang Haji Openg, has in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 8 of the Public Holidays Ordinance, appointed the 1st day of June in every year to be observed as a public holiday, to be known as "Dayak Festival Day" in substitution for the public holiday known as the Sarawak Day.

26th, Saturday

The Minister for Communications and Works, Inche Abdul Taib bin Mahmud, congratulates members of the Kuching Port Authority Staff Union for its fine efforts in bridging the gap between the English-speaking staff union and a Chinese-speaking Labour Union.

The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation Regional Representative and Veterinarian for the Far East, when visiting the Veterinary Clinic at Sekama Road, Kuching says that one of the outstanding achievements has been our control of *raniket* disease in poultry.

An Australian Official from the Federal Department of Works, in Melbourne, Mr. H. G. Wolfram, calls on the Minister of Communications and Works, to discuss ways and means of implementing Australian aid under the Colombo Plan to Sarawak's various development projects.

The Hon. Secretary of the protem committee of the proposed Sarawak Fishing Club, Mr. Francis Yong, says that *more than one hundred* supporters are ready to join the Club as soon as it is registered.

Four orphans in Miri, aged between 12 and 8 years, left destitute following the death by cholera of their father and mother are now being taken care of by interested civic and charitable bodies.

27th, Sunday

The Federal Minister of Health, Inche Bahaman bin Samsudin, says Government plans to spend $14 million to improve health services in the country under the first Malaysia National Development Plan.

28th, Monday

A Cessna 185 *Amphibian* aircraft arrives in Kuching.

Sarawak first Trade Mission consisting of representatives from the various Chambers of Commerce and the Sarawak Manufacturers' Association, to Singapore and Malaya returns to Kuching after "a very successful visit" which lasted about 10 days.

The Federal Minister for Sarawak Affairs, Dato Temenggong Jugah anak Barieng warns, that if there is no "give and take" attitude among the different races in the nation, then Malaysia will break.

The Chief Minister announces the approval of a series of rural projects for the Second and Third Divisions. The total of these projects which are a part of the 1964-68 Development Plan is $71,900 in the Second Division and $145,930 in the Third Division.

The Assistant Minister for National and Rural Development, Inche Abdul Rahman Yakub, commends the Persaudaraan M.B.H.T. for taking the initiative in spreading interest in the National Language.

The Army authorities announce that road convoys from Simanggang to Balai Ringin will be reduced to five per week. Starting Sunday, October 4, there will

be no convoy on Sundays and Wednesdays.

The Kuching Selected Team conceded their third defeat when they were trounced by the visiting Singapore Delta Community Centre Basketball Team by 75 points to 59.

The First Civics Assembly in Sibu, organised by the Sarawak Information Service, is a real success: attended by about 80 people from four villages, and held at the premises of the Malay Union Club.

29th, Tuesday

Mr. J. R. A. Bottomley, Deputy British High Commissioner, Kuala Lumpur, says in Kuching Airport that Britain's Technical Aid to Malaysia (already been agreed to under the expansion programme when Malaysia was being formed) is being given and will continue to be given.

The Sarawak Chinese Association do not intend to discuss their internal matters in public. This is stated in an official announcement released to the press by Party Headquarters.

The Deputy Regional Director, Posts and Telecommunications announces that a new post office building has been completed at Kanowit; with effect from 1st October, 1964, all post and telegraph business will be transacted at this new office.

The Borneo Company Ltd's first *Yale Trojan Tractor*, Model 204, is put on demonstration near the Kuching new Port at Tanah Puteh.

Another "first day cover" stamp selling at ten cents per copy is now out at the Post Office, to commemorate the late Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of former war-time President Roosevelt of the United States, who died November 7th, 1962.

30th, Wednesday

The Federal Assistant Minister for National and Rural Development, Inche Abdul Rahman Yakub, discloses that the Federal Government will "very soon" introduce adult education classes in the rural areas of Sarawak.

Kapit Airfield opens after a successful proving flight carried out by a Royal Air Force *Twin Pioneer* aircraft.

Three Ministers—Dato Temenggong Jugah, Mr. James Wong, Inche Abdul Taib Mahmud, take off from Kuching Airport in Sarawak's *Skywagon*—the Cessna Amphibian 185—on a demonstration flight.

DUNSTAN LEE

Winter Meeting at the Turf Club

by

NORMAN LAWRENSON

According to the Turf Club we have passed through the 1964 Winter Meeting. This without any hold up due to frost, nor did John Dunsmore (the Honorary Clerk of the Course) have to sweep any snow from the track. Why the club persists in naming its meetings after fictitious Sarawak seasons I don't know, may be one of our readers could enlighten me. Don't forget the Spring Meeting commences in January.

Very little untoward occurred during the meeting, Miss Heinze's Brunei Bill managed another win on the third day, if he keeps this up he will not rate a mention in future, only the unexpected is news.

The race for the honour of being the champion jockey of 1964 has developed into a duel between Keram bin Ali and Taloon bin Sukut. The former has ridden eighteen winners, one more than his opponent. The odds are, however, in favour of Taloon, who is attached to the powerful Wee Hood Teck stable and is virtually assured of two or three winners each meeting.

Two newcomers to the Sarawak racing scene ran in the horse races. One of them, Regimental, scored a double in the sprints and the other, Intuition, ran very creditably to fill second place in the six and nine furlong events, both are owned by Mr. Jong Ah Heng.

The outstanding feats in the pony classes were a treble scored by Sarawak Time and another convincing win by 19th September carrying 11 st. 9 lb. over five furlongs. Both animals are owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wee Hood Teck.

On the third day only seven races were run, the Class I pony event having to be cancelled due to insufficient acceptors. The shortage of runners is such that the Club are giving consideration to limiting each Meeting to two days racing until more importations are received.

Prices of winners were generally short, the highest odds being $12.00 paid out for a win by The Boss. In all, thirteen favourites obliged out of twenty three races contested, which showed again that punters were on the mark. After all, may be the new electric totalisator has something to do with it.

* * *

A notable absentee from the meeting was Robert Nicholl, who has returned to Europe on long leave and will not be returning to Kuching. Mr. Nicholl was the expert anti-doper, he supervised saliva and urine tests carried out on all winners and suspects. Every evening on race days when we took farewell of him, he would be sat in a chair with a copy of Tolstoy's 'War and Peace' or similar 'pamphlet' and a *whiskey ayer* by his side, waiting expectantly for various ponies to urinate.

The most bashful animal is Nasib Kuching who obviously does not relish urinating under public gaze and delays his effort till the early hours. Robert would throw up his hands in despair when Nasib Kuching came in; but I thought I saw a gleam in his eye at the same time, since it gave him a chance to read another 'pamphlet' and enjoy more of the product of Scotland.

Now the post of Superintendent of Urination is to be shared between the committee members, who will take it in turn to spend their Saturday evenings collecting the samples. On that wee thought I close.

Arrivals and Departures

Arrivals

Miss M. A. Johnson	On first appointment, 16.7.1964.
Mr. A. Neenan (Newly appointed Accountant P.W.D.)	On first appointment, 30.7.1964.
Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Clark	Returning from leave, 7.8.1964.
Mr. & Mrs. T. P. Ogier (Newly appointed Agricultural Officer)	On first appointment, 9.8.1964.
Miss C. Bradley (Newly appointed Nursing Sister)	On first appointment, 13.8.1964.
Mr. S. D. Sisson (Newly appointed Assistant Controller, P. and T.)	On first appointment, 14.8.1964.
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Baily	Returning from leave, 19.8.1964.
Mr. A. F. R. Griffin	Returning from leave, 28.8.1964.
Mr. P. H. R. Ghey	On first appointment, 3.9.1964.

Mr. L. F. Savery (Newly appointed Deputy Superintendent of Police)	On first appointment, 7.9.1964.
Mr. G. H. Hard (Newly appointed Works Superintendent (Mech.) P. W. D.)	On first appointment, 12.9.1964.
Mr. J. Robinson	Returning from leave, 17.9.1964.
Mr. J. Peet (Newly appointed Works Superintendent, P.W.D.)	On first appointment, 26.9.1964.
Mr. J. R. Dunsmore	Returning from leave, 26.9.1964.
Mr. & Mrs. H. P. Halfter (Newly appointed Government Electrical Engineer, P.W.D.)	On first appointment, 30.9.1964.
Mr. P. B. D. Henchman (Newly appoined Assistant Commissioner of Police)	On first appointment, 30.9.1964.
Mr. J. A. Williams	Returning from leave, 2.10.1964.
Mr. A. MacPhee (Newly appointed Works Superintendent (Mech.) P.W.D.)	On first appointment.
Miss I. A. Cowan (Newly appointed as Nursing Sister)	On first appointment, 3.10.1964.
Departures	
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Meeks and child.	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on completion of contract, 10.8.1964.
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. B. Wilson and three children	Proceeding to the United on leave, 15.8.1964.
Mrs. A. C. Dickie and son	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave, 22.8.1964.
Mr. V. R. Jinks	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave, 24.8.1964.
Mr. L. E. Macey	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave prior to retirement, 26.8.1964.
Mrs. J. C. Ramsey	Proceeding to the United Kingdom, 27.8.1964.
Mrs. D. L. Bruen and two children	Proceeding to the United Kingdom, 28.8.1964.
Mr. J. F. Drake-Brockman	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave, 28.8.1964.
Mr. T. B. R. Nicholl	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave prior to retirement, 12.9.1964.
Mr. M. R. Hobbs	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave, 6.9.1964.
Mr. & Mrs. T.W.D. Taylor	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on completion of contract.
Dr. E. Azzopardi	Proceeding to Malta on leave, 15.9.1964.
Mr. R. J. Thomas	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave prior to retirement, 24.9.1964.
Mrs. J. K. Wardzala	Proceeding to the United Kingdom, 27.9.1964.
Mr. D. L. Bruen	Proceeding to the United Kingdom, 28.9.1964.
Mr. G. W. Stevens	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on completion of contract, 1.10.1964.

NOVEMBER, 1964

CALENDAR			MOON PHASES	HIGH WATER			
ENGLISH	CHINESE	MUSLIM	● 4th New Moon ○ 19th Full Moon ☽ 12th First Quarter ☾ 26th Last Quarter	KUCHING		MIRI	
SUN. 1	27	26	ALL SAINTS' DAY. 23RD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.	0310	1515	0835	2315
Mon. 2	28	27	ALL SOULS' DAY. Common Entrance Examination for Chinese Medium Schools. Sarawak Junior Examination commences.	0349	1606	1002	2305
Tues. 3	29	28	DEEPAVALI. The Festival of Light.	0424	1651	1117	2303
Wed. 4	1	29	1st day of 10th Moon (30 days). Chinese Junior and Senior Middle Examinations commence.	0456	1734	—	1236 2310
Th. 5	2	1	1st day of *Rajab*.	0524	1812	—	1406 2321
Fri. 6	3	2	.....	0550	1850	—	2338
Sat. 7	4	3	November Theory Examination of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.	0618	1928	—	—
SUN. 8	5	4	REMEMBRANCE DAY. 24TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY. Basketball Commercial Cups Tournament. Kuching Boat Club Expedition to Santubong.	0645	2008	0001	—
Mon. 9	6	5	Kuching Rural District Council Meeting.	0711	2053	0026	—
Tues. 10	7	6	.....	0742	2141	0053	—
Wed. 11	8	7	.....	0819	2237	0123	—
Th. 12	9	8	Higher School Certificate Examination commences.	0910	2338	0153	—
Fri. 13	10	9	.....	1023	—	0230	—
Sat. 14	11	10	.....	0040 1153	—	0317	—
SUN. 15	12	11	25TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.	0135	1318	0450	2230
Mon. 16	13	12	.....	0219	1428	0745	2216
Tues. 17	14	13	London Chamber of Commerce Autumn Examination commences.	0300	1524	0933	2215
Wed. 18	15	14	.....	0337	1615	1058	2225
Th. 19	16	15	Kapit District Council Meeting.	0412	1704	—	1229 2240
Fri. 20	17	16	.....	0450	1751	—	1435 2303
Sat. 21	18	17	King Tide at 1839 hours.	0528	1839	—	2330
SUN. 22	19	18	LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY. King Tide at 1931 hours.	0608	1931	—	—
Mon. 23	20	19	School Certificate and G.C.E. Examinations commence.	0651	2027	0001	—
Tues. 24	21	20	Kuching Municipal and Kanowit District Councils Meetings.	0738	2126	0033	—
Wed. 25	22	21	Sibu Urban and Kalaka District Councils Meetings.	0833	2229	0110	—
Th. 26	23	22	Mukah District Council Meeting.	0941	2334	0145	—
Fri. 27	24	23	.....	1100	—	0222	—
Sat. 28	25	24	Sarawak Turf Club Races.	0040	1230	0304	2237
SUN. 29	26	25	1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT.	0138	1354	—	2203
Mon. 30	27	26	*St. Andrew*. Institute of Book-keepers Examination commences.	0228	1502	0853	2150

ABSTRACT OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1964

Division	Station	Latitude N.	Longitude E.	AIR TEMPERATURE IN DEGREE FAHRENHEIT													Mean Relative Humidity (%) at 2 p.m.	RAINFALL				Bright Sunshine Mean Hours
				Mean Temperature			Absolute Extremes											Total Inches	Most in a day Inches	Date	No. of days	
				8 a.m.	2 p.m.	8 p.m.	Maximum	Minimum	Highest Maximum	Date	Lowest Minimum	Date	Lowest Maximum	Date	Highest Minimum	Date						
FIRST DIVISION	Kuching Airport	1° 29′	110° 20′	73.9	87.8	79.1	89.6	72.0	94.1	9	67.3	2	81.4	1	74.7	10	63	4.92	1.59	27	17	5.87
	Simunjan	1° 20′	110° 11′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.94	1.61	1	11	—
	Dahan	1° 21′	110° 11′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.46	1.30	27	12	—
	Semongoh	1° 24′	110° 20′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.73	1.28	4	16	—
	Bau	1° 25′	110° 09′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.20	1.00	28	10	—
	Matang	1° 35′	110° 11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9.10	2.60	24	15	—
	Sungai China	1° 37′	110° 12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.62	3.60	28	13	—
	Lundu	1° 40′	109° 52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.16	1.35	27	11	—
	Talang2	1° 55′	109° 46′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.40	2.15	13	7	—
	Telok Assan	1° 43′	110° 27′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.73	5.60	27	11	—
	Dragon School	1° 17′	110° 25′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.36	2.84	1	13	—
	Serian	1° 10′	110° 32′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.26	1.84	29	11	—
	Sematan	1° 48′	109° 46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.57	3.03	26	14	—
	Batu Lintang	1° 33′	110° 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9.05	2.60	27	15	—
SECOND DIVISION	Simanggang	1° 18′	111° 28′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.74	3.04	15	11	—
	Saratok	1° 44′	111° 20′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.20	2.12	26	14	—
	Betong	1° 25′	111° 31′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.73	2.90	24	7	—
	Lubok Antu	1° 02′	111° 50′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.97	1.03	18	6	—
	Lingga	1° 21′	111° 10′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.39	3.50	1	4	—
	Sebuyau	1° 31′	110° 53′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.48	3.42	24	8	—
	Pantu	1° 08′	111° 08′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.66	1.57	16	5	—
	Kabong	1° 48′	111° 06′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16.87	5.07	26	6	—
THIRD DIVISION	Sibu Airport	2° 30′	110° 30′	73.6	88.0	79.5	90.4	71.3	94.9	9	67.9	21	80.5	20	73.3	1	63	6.08	1.06	27	17	6.73
	Kapit	2° 00′	112° 56′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.13	2.02	29	15	—
	Sarikei	2° 07′	111° 31′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13.59	3.72	20	11	—
	Mukah	2° 54′	112° 06′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.29	1.16	25	17	—
	Song	2° 00′	112° 32′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.60	2.40	2	9	—
	R. Panjang	2° 25′	111° 48′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.01	1.38	27	12	—
	Daro	2° 30′	111° 24′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.18	1.44	24	8	—
	Kanowit	2° 06′	112° 09′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13.64	2.72	16	14	—
	Balingian	2° 57′	112° 32′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.93	3.35	26	8	—
FOURTH DIVISION	Bintulu	3° 10′	113° 02′	74.7	85.9	78.9	87.8	72.0	91.9	18	69.8	12	80.4	1	74.2	24	68	6.74	2.49	4	15	6.70
	Miri	4° 23′	113° 59′	76.9	86.0	80.8	88.0	73.4	93.8	8	70.0	14	81.9	1	77.2	7	72	10.57	3.02	18	12	7.02
	Marudi	4° 10′	114° 18′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.68	2.18	13	8	—
	Lutong	4° 30′	114° 00′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.94	2.60	13	11	—
	Tatau	2° 52′	112° 51′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.89	1.88	15	17	—
	Niah	3° 52′	113° 42′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.81	2.62	20	6	—
	Long Lama	3° 30′	114° 30′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.74	4.50	1	15	—
FIFTH DIVISION	Lawas	4° 51′	115° 24′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.68	3.61	19	12	—
	Lawas Airfield	4° 51′	115° 24′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.60	2.00	24	10	—
	Ukong	4° 35′	114° 51′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.47	1.64	31	13	—
	Limbang	4° 44′	115° 00′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.43	0.92	18	10	—
	Long Semado	4° 16′	115° 36′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.74	1.20	29	13	—
	Sundar	4° 53′	115° 12′	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.48	1.96	14	11	—

Kuching Market Price List

September, 1964

	Average
Rice—(per gantang)	
Local, White, Government Milled	1.60
Local, White, Milled	1.80
Siam White 100%	2.20
Siam "A"	1.90
China Rice	1.60
Siam Broken Rice	1.50
Rangoon	—
Sugar—(per kati)	
White Sugar	.35
Brown Sugar	.50
Nipah Sugar	.30
Salt—(per kati)	
Coarse	.10
Fine	.10
Nipah	1.20
Flour and Bread	
White Flour, per kati	.30
Bread, per small loaf	.25
Bread, per large loaf	.45
Milk—(per tin)	
(*a*) Condensed	
(i) Liberty Brand	.65
(ii) Tea Pot	.65
(iii) Milk Maid	.70
(*b*) Local Fresh Milk	.80
Eggs—(each)	
Turtle	.10
Duck, fresh	.15
Duck, salted	.15
Fowl	.13
Edible Fats—(per lb.)	
Butter	2.00
Coconut Oil	.70
Vegetable Oil	.75
Lard, No. 1	1.50
Lard, No. 2	.90
Ghee	2.20
Dripping	.80
Pork—(per kati)	
Lean, No. 1	3.40
Lean with Fat, No. 2	2.40
Fat	.90
Ribs	2.00
Beef—(per kati)	
Beef, steak	3.20
Beef, Curry meat	1.80
Buffalo, No. 1	3.20
Buffalo, Curry meat	1.80
Mutton, Australian	3.00
Mutton, Local	3.00
Poultry—(per kati)	
Capons	2.20
Chinese Cocks	2.00
Pullets	2.20
Chinese Hens	1.75
Dayak Fowls	1.80
Ducks	1.70
Muscovy	1.50
Cross-Breed	1.50
Geese	1.50
Fish—(per kati)	
Fresh Fish, No. 1	1.40
Fresh Fish, No. 2	1.00
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	2.40
Salted Fish, No. 2	1.10
Salted Fish, No. 3	.70
Vegetables—(per kati)	
Bamboo Shoots, salted	.35
Bandong (Ubikayu)	.10
Bangkuang	.18
Bayam	.40
Bean Sprouts	.30
Cabbage	1.10
Changkok Manis	.40
Cucumber (Timun)	.30
Chillies, Red	1.20
Chillies, Green	.80
Daun Bawang	.93
Ensahi Puteh	.45
Ensahi Besar	.45
Ensahi Bunga	.45
French beans	.60
Garlic, fresh	1.70
Ginger	.78
Kachang Panjang	.40
Kangkong Ayer	.30
Kangkong Roots	.40
Keladi Batawi	.15
Keladi China	.30
Ketola	.38
Keribang	.15
Kundor	.20
Labu	.20
Labu Duri	.30
Ladies Fingers	.48
Lettuce	.60
Lobak (Chinese Radish)	.60
Lobak, salted	.50
Onions, Bombay	.30
Onions, small	.50
Potatoes, Imported	.50
Priak (Bitter Gourd)	.60
Sauerkraut, Imported	1.50
Sauerkraut, Local	.70
Tamarind (Buah Assam)	.40
Tomatoes	1.00
Trong (Brinjals)	.60
Sauce, No. 1 (per bottle)	1.10
Sauce, No. 2 (per bottle)	.90
Sauce, No. 3 (per bottle)	.50
Tea—(per lb.)	
Tea, Ceylon	4.30
Tea, Chinese	1.80
Coffee—(per kati)	
Raw, Java No. 1, Local	2.00
Raw, No. 2	1.90
Powder (1st quality)	3.20
Fruits—(each)	
Pisang Umbun (per kati)	.12
Pisang Tandok	15–25
Nanas	20–1.00
Buah Betek (per kati)	.20
Sundries	
Bean curd (per piece)	.10
Bean cake, white (per piece)	.10
Bean cake, yellow (per piece)	.25
Blachan (per kati)	.70
Charcoal (per picul)	8.50
Coconut, fresh (each)	.20
Corned Beef (per tin)	1.20
Dried Prawn (per kati)	2.00–3.00
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
Bako Wood (per panchang)	25.00
Cigarettes	
Players (per packet of 10)	.50
Rough Rider (per packet of 10)	.40
Craven "A"	.50
White Eagle	.45
State Express (per tin)	2.85
Capstan (per packet of 10)	.45
State Express 555 (per packet of 10)	.55
Lucky Strike (per packet of 20)	.90

Sarawak Turf Club Winter Meeting, 1964

FIRST DAY—SATURDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1964

TOTE

Race No.		Horse	Dividend Win	Place
1.	1st No. 1.	Sarawak Time	$ 2.50	$1.60
	2nd No. 3.	Pegasus II		2.60
2.	1st No. 3.	Nasib Kami	2.40	1.30
	2nd No. 13.	Olympic Torch		5.10
	3rd No. 8.	Honey		2.10
3.	1st No. 3.	Happy Valley	8.70	3.60
	2nd No. 4.	Malaysia Time		1.70
4.	1st No. 2.	Regimental	1.70	

TOTE

Race No.		Horse	Dividend Win	Place
5.	1st No. 2.	Black Beauty	$ 1.90	1.50
	2nd No. 4.	Tokyo Holiday		2.30
6.	1st No. 5.	Bintang Sarawak	5.20	—
7.	1st No. 13.	O.K. O.K.	1.90	1.20
	2nd No. 4.	Larry II		2.50
	3rd No. 7.	Marina		1.70
8.	1st No. 4.	Challenger	4.00	1.40
	2nd No. 1.	Follow Me		1.70

$1.00 CASH SWEEP

Race

1. 1st No. 1530 $183.00, 2nd No. 1096 $91.00, 3rd No. 1122 $45.00.
   Starters: 1823, 1061, 1672, 1740, 1560 $9.00 each.
2. 1st No. 1056 $263.00, 2nd No. 1739 $131.00, 3rd No. 1061 $65.00.
   Starters: 1721, 1615, 1106, 1052, 1539, 1103, 1508, 1623, 1821, 1081 $6.00 each.
3. 1st No. 1127 $274.00, 2nd No. 1557 $137.00, 3rd No. 1933 $68.00.
   Starters: 1524, 1780, 1671, 1593 $17.00 each.
4. 1st No. 1110 $375.00, 2nd No. 1013 $156.00, 3rd No. 1681 $93.00.
   Starters: Nil.

Race

5. 1st No. 1797 $260.00, 2nd No. 1121 $130.00, 3rd No. 1037 $65.00.
   Starters: 1619, 1750, 1729, 1768 $16.00 each.
6. 1st No. 1469 $232.00, 2nd No. 1889 $116.00, 3rd No. 1830 $58.00.
   Starters: 1902, 1886, 1015 $19.00 each.
7. 1st No. 2454 $238.00, 2nd No. 1697 $119.00, 3rd No. 1667 $59.00.
   Starters: 1788, 1981, 1534, 1477, 1901, 1458, 1849, 1742, 1101, 1729 $5.00 each.
8. 1st No. 1916 $181.00, 2nd No. 1643 $90.00, 3rd No. 1856 $45.00.
   Starters: 1197, 1715, 1135, 1559 $11.00 each.

NUMBER FORECAST TOTE (THREE DIGITS)

1st Prize No. 946	$300.00 each	50 cents ticket
2nd Prize No. 973	10.00 each	50 cents ticket
3rd Prize No. 076	5.00 each	50 cents ticket

SECOND DAY—SATURDAY, 3RD OCTOBER, 1964

TOTE

Race No.		Horse	Dividend Win	Place
1.	1st No. 5.	Malaysia Time	$ 2.80	$1.80
	2nd No. 2.	Enjoyment		2.20
2.	1st No. 5.	Spitfire	3.40	1.40
	2nd No. 12.	Bujang Bolong		6.30
	3rd No. 7.	Chantek Manis II		5.10
3.	1st No. 1.	Sarawak Time	3.00	—
4.	1st No. 1.	Regimental	1.30	—

TOTE

Race No.		Horse	Dividend Win	Place
5.	1st No. 1.	Nineteenth September	$ 1.20	$1.10
	2nd No. 4.	Yes or No		1.80
6.	1st No. 1.	Rubber Exporter	1.50	—
7.	1st No. 6.	Five Rings	6.40	1.40
	2nd No. 11.	Satisfaction		4.50
	3rd No. 9.	Dark Romance		5.00
8.	1st No. 7.	Hijo	4.40	1.50
	2nd No. 1.	Challenger		1.00

$1.00 CASH SWEEP

Race

1. 1st No. 1215 $317.00, 2nd No. 1136 $158.00, 3rd No. 2376 $79.00.
   Starters: 1167, 1043, 2364 $26.00 each.
2. 1st No. 1254 $474.00, 2nd No. 1394 $237.00, 3rd No. 1853 $118.00.
   Starters: 1159, 1119, 1735, 1543, 2504, 1376, 2711, 1154, 1648, 1217 $11.00 each.
3. 1st No. 1989 $568.00, 2nd No. 2425 $284.00, 3rd No. 2474 $142.00.
   Starters: 2022, 2840, 2056 $47.00 each.
4. 1st No. 1353 $682.00, 2nd No. 2494 $284.00, 3rd No. 1643 $170.00.
   Starters: Nil.

Race

5. 1st No. 2485 $567.00, 2nd No. 1015 $283.00, 3rd No. 2838 $141.00.
   Starters: 2418, 2145, 2920, 2802 $35.00 each.
6. 1st No. 1379 $505.00, 2nd No. 1935 $252.00, 3rd No. 2716 $126.00.
   Starters: 2496, 1890, 1119 $42.00 each.
7. 1st No. 2576 $445.00, 2nd No. 1216 $222.00, 3rd No. 2656 $111.00.
   Starters: 2385, 1991, 1574, 1512, 2008, 1655, 1923, 2063, 2688, 1788 $11.00 each.
8. 1st No. 1258 $320.00, 2nd No. 1153 $160.00, 3rd No. 1824 $80.00.
   Starters: 1810, 1045, 1646, 1838 $20.00 each.

NUMBER FORECAST TOTE (THREE DIGITS)

1st Prize No. 968	$300.00 each	50 cents ticket
2nd Prize No. 563	10.00 each	50 cents ticket
3rd Prize No. 664	5.00 each	50 cents ticket

THIRD DAY—SATURDAY, 10TH OCTOBER, 1964

TOTE

Race No.		Horse	Dividend Win	Place
1.	1st No. 7.	Sarawak Time	$ 1.40	$1.10
	2nd No. 3.	Hijo		2.90
2.	1st No. 2.	Pegasus II	5.10	1.90
	2nd No. 1.	Hongkong Holiday		2.30
3.	1st No. 7.	The Boss	12.00	2.70
	2nd No. 11.	Laksamana		9.50
	3rd No. 6.	Larry II		1.80

TOTE

Race No.		Horse	Dividend Win	Place
5.	1st No. 2.	Sixteenth September	$ 2.20	—
6.	1st No. 2.	Spitfire	2.90	1.50
	2nd No. 11.	Tunggu Nasib		2.70
	3rd No. 1.	Nasib Kami		2.30
7.	1st No. 6.	Brunei Bill	8.10	2.90
	2nd No. 4.	Malaysia Time		2.70
8.	1st No. 8.	Joget Modern	1.60	—

$1.00 CASH SWEEP

Race

1. 1st No. 1792 $261.00, 2nd No. 1771 $130.00, 3rd No. 1117 $65.00.
   Starters: 1875, 1083, 1815, 1704 $16.00 each.
2. 1st No. 1645 $344.00, 2nd No. 1210 $172.00, 3rd No. 1090 $86.00.
   Starters: 1716, 1314, 1193 $28.00 each.
3. 1st No. 2508 $406.00, 2nd No. 1963 $203.00, 3rd No. 1876 $101.00.
   Starters: 2463, 2479, 2462, 1526, 1461, 1626, 1197, 1035 $12.00 each.
4. 1st No. 1516 $95.00, 2nd No. 1588 $47.00, 3rd No. 1671 $23.00.
   Starters: 1111, 1672, 1538, 1133 $5.00 each.
   (OFFICE BOOKING ONLY)

Race

5. 1st No. 1292 $457.00, 2nd No. 1561 $228.00, 3rd No. 1988 $114.00.
   Starters: 1597, 2748, 1976, 1951 $28.00 each.
6. 1st No. 1563 $453.00, 2nd No. 1222 $226.00, 3rd No. 1313 $113.00.
   Starters: 1283, 1946, 1536, 1211, 1084, 1749, 2403, 1123 $14.00 each.
7. 1st No. 1494 $308.00, 2nd No. 1325 $154.00, 3rd No. 1668 $77.00.
   Starters: 1329, 1914, 1239 $25.00 each.
8. 1st No. 1355 $312.00, 2nd No. 1381 $156.00, 3rd No. 1296 $78.00.
   Starters: 1015, 1556, 1580, 1095. 1045 $15.00 each.

NUMBER FORECAST TOTE (THREE DIGITS)

1st Prize No. 345	$300.00 each	50 cents ticket
2nd Prize No. 251	10.00 each	50 cents ticket
3rd Prize No. 386	5.00 each	50 cents ticket

Results of $1.00 Unlimited Sweepstakes drawn on Race No. 7, Second Day, 3rd October, 1964

TOTAL POOL			$130,959.00
Less:			
10% Government Tax	$13,095.90		
10% Charitable Organisations	13,095.90		
10% Sarawak Turf Club	13,095.90		
5% Added Money	6,547.95		45,835.65
		POOL DIVISIBLE	85,123.35

	Horse	*Ticket No.*		*Prize*
FIRST	Five Rings	132097	(KUCHING)	$42,561.00
SECOND	Satisfaction	235310	(SIBU)	21,280.00
THIRD	Dark Romance	231860	(KUCHING)	8,512.00
ACCEPTORS:	Larry II	180266		851.00
	Marina	189783		851.00
	Kiss Me Again	185355		851.00
	Sukiyaki	181258		851.00
	The Boss	189877		851.00
	O.K. O.K.	149260		851.00
	Laksamana	190541		851.00
	Summer Holiday	230453		851.00
	Spring Time	127866		851.00
	I Love You	172809		851.00

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES @ $212.00 EACH

202286	114911	223347	183263	207113
220897	172002	107740	112553	233088
105515	182402	141397	181040	215381
220440	233661	125053	159175	120029

SCRUTINEERS

Mr. A.G. Smith — Hon'ble Mr. Dunstan Endawie
Mr. Lai Thian Sang — Dato Temonggong Jugah
Mr. Liew Fook Loy — Mrs. Dunstan Endawie
Temonggong Oyong Lawai Jau, M.B.E.

Results of the Special Cash Sweep drawn on Race No. 6, Third Day, 10th October, 1964

TOTAL POOL			$28,800.00
Less:			
10% Government Tax	$ 2,880.00		
10% Charitable Organisation	2,880.00		
10% Sarawak Turf Club	2,880.00		
5% Added Money	1,440.00		10,080.00
		POOL DIVISIBLE	18,720.00

	Horse	*Ticket No.*		*Prize*
FIRST	Spitfire	21969	(KUCHING)	$9,360.00
SECOND	Tunggu Nasib	40721	(KUCHING)	4,680.00
THIRD	Nasib Kami	27001	(SARIKEI)	1,872.00
ACCEPTORS:	Sarawak Pepper	34153		234.00
	Olympic Torch	36252		234.00
	My Luck	21986		234.00
	Sundra Khumara Nei	26009		234.00
	Jadi Lah	12110		234.00
	Honey	14518		234.00
	Chantek Manis II	19415		234.00
	Tanjong Datu	40663		234.00

20 CONSOLATION PRIZES @ 46.00 EACH

10762	29744	33866	13376	38176
33064	18587	13284	36590	35248
33474	41482	28100	37398	18059
19691	31099	25798	21447	27197

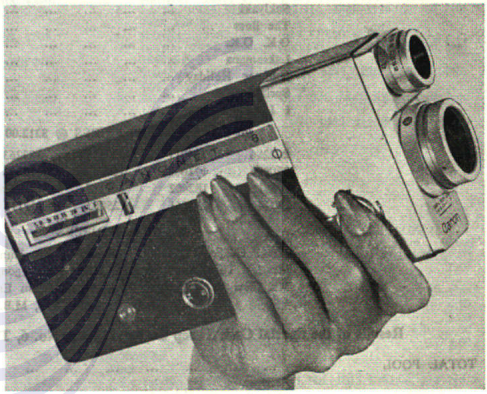
SCRUTINEERS

Mr. S.M.L. Robertson — Mrs. H. Woodall
Mr. V. P. Woodall — Mr. Siong Thian Cheok
Mrs. Ong Swee Lan — Mrs. Marilyn Robertson

The numbers of the winning tickets are those stated in the appropriate records of the Club. The above are published for information only and while every effort has been made to ensure their accuracy any number or dividend erroneously published herein shall not give rise to any claim against the Club.

HENRY ONG,
Secretary,
Sarawak Turf Club.

Kuching, 10th October, 1964.



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