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The Sarawak Gazette

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FRIDAY, APRIL 30th, 1963

Science and Technology in Government

It is a platitude — and none the worse for that — that we are living in a scientific era, a period of vast and accelerating technological change. Much of the scientific and technological thinking which is characterising the pattern of the modern world is happening in a very few countries, notably the United States and Russia at the first level, Britain, France, Germany, Australia, Communist China, India and, increasingly, the United Arab Republic, at the secondary level. However much a small and remote country may talk of independence, the fundamental pattern of the world to-day is of growing dependence on new ideas thought out by an extremely limited number of people, in a few places utterly remote — insignificantly — from Nepal, Trinidad, Uruguay or even Malaysia.

This is the dilemma in which every small and "underdeveloped" country finds itself to-day. It has quite a lot to do with Confrontation, too. President Sukarno is desperately trying, or rather juggling, to have a part in both worlds: the old and the new. The odds that he may be moving towards an atomic project should perhaps not be heated with all the defiance that has been poured upon it. It is consistent with his desperate sort of struggle for people who wither from hunger in Kalimantan and from radiation poisoning next in Java.

Malaysia, in general, and Sarawak, with Sabah, in particular, have been caught in this web of 1963 confusion. What we are being confronted by is not only Confrontation with the same sort of compulsions and confusions as those which drenched Germany thirty years ago, but also Confrontation with the extremely difficult technical facts of life in the second part of the twentieth century.

Important research is being done in Malaysia, notably at the Universities of Malaya and Singapore, at the Rubber Research Institute and similar bodies. Here at Sarawak, major new discoveries have been made — though very little publicised — for instance, by the staff of the Agricultural Department working on the diseases of rubber. Large sums of money are now being expended by several Government Departments in research. Our Forest Department is probably one of the best of its kind in the world, and the Geological Survey built up in British Borneo before Malaysia is internationally recognised as of the highest class.

What is striking, however, is that despite the accelerating importance of scientific and technological ideas, both from outside and, on a much smaller scale from inside, this type of thinking is hardly if at all represented at the higher levels of Government and policy. Of course, our Ministers and leaders recognise the role of science and new ideas. But it is much more difficult to interpret and integrate these into the everyday thinking of Government, administration and policy thinking. Yet that is the desperate need of our time. It is perhaps not ridiculous to suggest that if we had one key person in the top echelons of Government in the State of Sarawak and his equivalents up to the highest level in Kuala Lumpur, the whole direction of effort in some of our subregions might be altered periodically. People who have had no training or interest in technology, however brilliant they may be in other fields and however eloquent on the platform or into the microphone, can never quite catch the essential mood which determines every decision and each single aspect of long term planning if it is to be of abiding value not just in 1965, but in 1975 — and much more, in 1985 and 1995.

In some respects, indeed, it is probably not going too far to say that some under-developed countries are not only failing to catch up in the race of modern technology, but are going to be more and more left behind in the next generation. The Land Dayaks and Kuchibis have yet to smell even the first faint, far whiff of automation. But make no mistake about it, the implications of automation, computer determination, new genetic research, nuclear power, an entirely novel conception of what constitutes living matter, are all going steadily to affect everybody in the world before most of those who read this are dead.

These not very constructive thoughts are stimulated by the recent visit of an old friend, Sir Jolly Zuckerman, who accompanied Lord Mountbatten in his tour of Sarawak and Malaysia previously the other week. Sir Jolly is a biologist and his main published work has been on the world life of monkeys. But for more than a decade his main life and thinking has been at the very highest level of Government in the

United Kingdom. He has not, naturally, treated members of the cabinet as if they were halibuts. But the basic principles of his training and thinking as a biologist have been applied to the whole mechanism of Government, with revolutionary effect. This was so with the Conservative Government who are not always regarded as the brightest hope of science. Now, with a Socialist Government in Britain, the status of science has been even further upgraded. Sir Solly placed on a pedestal above the mere line to which the famous novelist and scientist of that name has been co-erected. Mr. Wilson has even found it necessary to establish a Ministry of Technology. Such ideas are already commonplace in the United States and Soviet Russia.

How to apply them to Malaysia as a nation or Sarawak as a State is a much more difficult matter. On the other hand, failure to think at all along these lines can mean that long term planning and thinking are worthless near long term enough for the factual realities of the boys and girls hawking for their O-levels to-day. It is even true that under the past colonial system, this division in Government was in one way better met than it is now. For instance, in our old Supreme Council, the heads of several technical departments were permanently represented. Necessarily, under this now and democratic system, there is no voice in the top policy body, in any State of Malaysia, picked in this particular case. Policy must, to-day be determined by politicians freely elected. But, for various reasons, rather few people indeed are likely to go into politics in this part of the world if they are newly qualified in science and technology. And it is not really the same thing for the policy makers to consult experts or technicians brought in ad hoc or acting in a capacity directly subordinate to Ministers or administrative officials.

None of these observations are aimed at anyone or anything. This is no complaint. The dilemma is inherent in the state and time of our Asian countries. To solve it presents profound difficulties, as Nehru so vividly illustrates. Nevertheless, in a gentle way, it might be worth considering that Sarawak should send a mission on its fellow States and have a new Minister, with the necessary qualifications, entirely responsible for thinking twenty years ahead of existing policy. No doubt he could receive the necessary computer allowances, in lieu of entertainment and pecuniary help?

Sago Today

(A Preface to the Morris Report)

Sarawak's early prosperity, even for richness and growth, was founded largely on two stimulants and gold, Malak-Cyn-Dalar sago, Bornean indigine and Brooke common sense. Of these the second and third remain important, but frequently underestimated. The other two are valued mostly in memory.

Sago was the grain and is currently the elixir of Sarawakian economy. It is full of complexities as something between agriculture and industry. There seem grounds for the guess that in some respects the problems have increased less than their share of attention in recent years — roughly since Sarawak became a Crown Colony in 1946? Part of the blame (if blame there be) undoubtedly attaches to the Melanese peoples who own the sago palms. Like the Land Dayaks nearer Kuching or the Orang Ulu in Sabah, the Melanese are a very quiet, patient people. They hate to make a fuss or to blow their own trumpets. In the modern world patience can be a handicap as much as a virtue. The clamorous outbreak you, the readers pass you by?

No outsider, since the late R. G. Adams, C.M.G. retired from government, has understood and described Melanese problems as well as Dr. Stephen Morris of the London School of Economics. He has spent two

long spells living among these kindly, generous, gentle but rather reserved delta folk. We therefore find his report on his latest studies, already mentioned in the Sarawak Gazette, most fuller publications. The report is controversial in places. Some may say it takes "too Malanese" a point of view, or that some "Malanese" squinty attitudes to riches and cheaper delta folk who have sold out on adopted modern Chinese and other ideas and left their fellows behind.

After it is not correct to think that sago is really standing still in Sarawak. In late September, for instance, Minister of State, Awang Hapsi bin Pengiran Annu, officially opened Mr. Tiong Kiang Huan's new 100,000 sago-milling factory, employing 15 to 20, at Kempong Kot, Daru, under the Pioneer Industry scheme. This is a welcome sign? Yet the wider aspects remain to be considered, on Dr. Morris' argument—and possibly some other ones. In this, the Gazette will be glad to receive and publish alternative views, comments and criticisms. As such matters tend to get overlooked beside the greater issues of the time, it is right to air the lesser things of life. This is one function of this journal, in fact.

Again in late September, Councillor Mohammed Fuzul of the Third Division Advisory Council, meeting in Sibu, raised the need for "introducing a subsidy for sago planting similar to rubber and coconut, which would benefit people who have no means to join the rubber or coconut schemes". That is, basically, the Melanese people living in delta areas of swamp land unsuitable for other tree crops, right across the Rajang to the Mahak River.

In reply Agriculture's Mr. R. E. Tremmer, after announcing that 180,000 more acres would be planted with high yielding rubber during the current Five Year Development Plan, went on to stress the complexity of the sago problem, and added very relevant comment:

"From the purely agricultural point of view, very little fundamental knowledge concerning sago is available. As far as I know, no basic research work on the cultivation of this crop has been carried out anywhere in the world".

Alas, it seems that Mr. Tremmer is correct. What a situation on Sarawak, which lived off sago and sago reserves over long periods and is still a world producer. No wonder the Melanese groan—and Dr. Morris!

So, sago has been almost left out of the Development Plan and is being given no research and either. There is clearly here a case to go to a jury as well as an observer. We would emphasize that Dr. Morris as advocate could be overall unfair, for example, to suggest any one case as at least in exploiting commercial opportunities with sago. Business is business. Government's business is to watchdog other kinds. Nevertheless there is a problem here—and one which, neglected, could mean stagnating and need for a large geographical area and a considerable part of the human population of the state. There are several sides to the complex of sago. Dr. Morris' report is presented now in full — as a highly informed and beautifully put side of the case, — by kind permission of the author.

He has revised or added a few sentences, and I have altered those on the original at his request. I have also made one or two wholly trivial editorial changes, mainly for clarity in this context.

It should be added that Dr. Morris completed his Sarawak field work early in 1963. Several things have happened since, which it has been the purpose of this prefatory note to indicate above. The basic situation remains more or less the same: no radical change appears imminent. The facts are seldom open to dispute, but the co-related arguments and of course the detailed recommendations (paragraphs 25-46 following) are those of the distinguished author, and will be considered on their merits, in his own sympathetic, personal, scientific contribution to a people he knows well and greatly likes.

15th April, 1965.

TOM HARRISON

The Sago Industry of Oya and Mukah

by

Dr. SYRINUS MIMAN

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Introduction

1. In 1948 the writer was appointed under the auspices of the Colonial Social Science Research Council and the Sarawak Government to study a sago producing community in the Mukah District of the Third Division. A report was presented to the Colonial Social Science Research Council and the Sarawak Government in 1952 (Report on a Melanau Sago Producing Community in Sarawak, I.H.S.L.D., 1952). From August 1963 until February 1964 the writer re-visited the area in the course of independent research, and this report is the outcome of that visit.

2. Until recently the sago industry has been one of the most important economic assets of Sarawak, and most of the flour for export came from the Mukah District of the Third Division. In the early days of the Government of the Rajah Brooke a very large proportion of its revenue was derived from the sago industry, a fact which partly led to the conquest of the Mukah and Oya Rivers a hundred years ago. Merchants from Kuching were being lured by local rulers in buying wet sago (*lemakak*), which they took back to their factories in Kuching for refinement into flour (*tupong*) and export to Singapore. With the pacification of the Mukah District, Malay-speaking middle-men settled in the area. They bought raw sago flour (*lemakak*) and moved it in local warehouses (sometimes for weeks on end) until sailing vessels arrived from Kuching to take it away. The long storage of *lemakak* evidently did not cause it to deteriorate sufficiently to affect the suitability of the flour produced from it. Chinese middle-men soon joined the Malay settlers; and in the years before 1900 the Melanau, in response to the expanding trade with Kuching, the Government's increasing need for revenue, and their own growing reliance upon consumer goods brought by the middle-men, were obliged to transform the whole of their social life and economy.

3. By 1900 they had practically abandoned long-house life, and instead of the relative independence and safety of a subsistence economy, they now relied almost exclusively on the sale of one cash crop which was subject to recurrent fluctuations of price on the international market. They had also come to depend on middle-men to sell their crop and bring them the necessities of life. In certain respects the process was deleterious to the life of the Melanau and had been allowed to go forward unchecked by the Administration, whose principal concern in the area was with maintaining a steady revenue on which its existence depended.

4. The social and economic consequences of this process have continued unchecked down to the present day. In exchange for expanding the production of sago and providing Kuching with a revenue, the Melanau were provided from most of the gains of their transactions and the depredations of pirates. But the Administration was this on the ground and as long as the supplies of sago were regularly and peacefully shipped from Mukah and Oya, it was assumed that all was well. The slow deterioration of the quality of Melanau life was unobserved; and it occurred in fact, rather than later, that the inhabitants of the rest of Sarawak owed a heavy moral debt to these people who for half a century contributed so much to the welfare of the country and the viability of the region.

Present Condition of the Industry

(i) Cultivation and Land.

5. Sago flour is produced from a palm (*Utricularia sagu*) which grows well on the swampy and rather poor peaty soil characteristic of the Mukah District. It is a perennial plant which, once planted and properly tended, does not need weeding. Nevertheless, certain types of soil, conditions of drainage, and methods of cultivation appear to favour its growth and yield of flour. There is no systematic body of knowledge about these matters apart from the practical rules employed by the Melanau themselves.

6. Sago gardens are individually owned and are surveyed and registered with the Administration. Until now only native Melanau may own sago land; and the Chinese middle-men, who completely displaced the earlier Malay arrivals, can acquire gardens only with great difficulty. Until 1950, and probably still, land was evenly distributed among men and women alike in the villages which cultivated the palms.

(ii) Production of Wet Flour (*lemakak*).

7. The production of wet flour was organized as a cottage industry. In any one household both husband and wife might own sago gardens, but it was the man who needed them, killed the mature palms, and prepared them for the women to extract the wet flour (*lemakak*). Having felled the palm, the man cut it into conveniently sized logs and brought them to the village. There the bark was stripped and the log split. The pith inside it was then reduced to a coarse sludge. In earlier days this was done in the domestic work-shed by chopping with an adze, later by rapping with a nail-studded plant used like a saw. After 1945 these were replaced by a nail-studded wheel driven by an engine at refilling mills just outside the villages, but the rasped pith (*reyo*) was still brought back to the household for the women to process. The introduction of power driven rasping greatly speeded production, and allowed the industry to expand after the war in response to the world demand for cheap industrial starch. It also introduced for the first time the real danger of over-felling the sago crop. This did not in fact occur because of the great accumulation of palms unfelled during the war, and because the market for Sarawak flour collapsed before the crop was exhausted.

8. When the pith of the palm had been reduced to sludge the women processed it by mixing it thoroughly with water, expressing the starch from the woody part

of the pith, and straining the water off. In the Oya and Mukah Rivers they placed a pile of screed on a mat spread over a platform built beside the river. They then mixed water with the pith and tamped it wide bare so that the fine flour passed through the mat and a straining cloth below into a wooden trough. The starch in suspension slowly settled, and the water was drained off, leaving the crude wet sago (lawa-mat). The effectiveness of the process depended on the fineness of the weave of the mat, the use of a straining cloth, and the quality of the water used. In the Mukah and Oya rivers the water is peat-stained and this is said to affect the quality of the final dry flour (topong) produced.

(iii) Refining of Sago Flour (topong).

8. When the trough was full of lawa-mat a middle-man, always Chinese and usually the owner or employee of a refining factory, came and bought it at a price based on the market quotations radiated from Singapore. The cash from the sale was divided in equal parts among the owner of the pines and the man and woman who had produced the flour. All, even if they were husband and wife, took independent charge of their own shares.

10. In order to assure himself a regular supply of wet sago the Chinese dealer generally ran a small retail business in conjunction with his sago refinery. By retailing consumer goods on credit he bound a number of producing households to his factory by their need to pay for goods which they had taken on credit. As a rule he was careful never to clear the account completely at any sale of wet flour, so that if the family did not begin to work again after a reasonable run he could bring pressure to bear on them by withholding further credit. In spite of a belief to the contrary held by the Melanians and the Administration, the system produced little hardship. The Chinese dealers, because of the rules of land tenure, were unable to convert a debt into land, and there was therefore no temptation for them to allow extravagantly valued credit. The giving of it was simply a device needed to keep the workers on the job in order that a dealer could be sure of a steady supply of crude wet sago (lawa-mat). The export market required regularly predictable quantities of the final flour (topong), which he himself refined.

11. The preparation of sago flour (topong) from wet sago (lawa-mat) in 1950 was a Chinese monopoly. A small factory with mats for washing and straining the lawa-mat and a man-covered open space for drying and bagging the sago in the sun was all the equipment needed. A few Melanian labourers, often children would be hired. Their number and kind, Melanian or Chinese, would depend on the size of the enterprise; but wages were low and relatively few were needed, so that openings for villagers as wage labourers were limited. In addition, the owner of a refinery would require sufficient capital to stock and run his retail business. The conditions in which the factory operated were primitive, inefficient, and dirty. The profits came from keeping costs low and not troubling to produce flour of good quality.

12. The capital necessary to open and run such an enterprise was not great, though it was beyond the resources and experience of most Melanians. It was usually beyond the resources of most local Chinese entrepreneurs as well, and they relied on bigger merchants in neighbouring settlements and towns for capital loans and regular credit in the form of consumer goods. The merchants in the towns might not be the ultimate exporters of the sago flour and were themselves often tied to the exporters, a very limited number of firms, in similar relationships of credit. This "ladder of indebtedness" was an integral part of the structure of the Chinese society and closely related to its internal political functioning, so that suggestions for modifying any part of it, such as the sago industry, were likely to be resisted by every possible means (See Tien, J. K.: *The Chinese of Sarawak*). This situation remains unchanged.

13. The price of Sarawak sago flour fell steeply in the middle of the 1950's, and the industry experienced a severe slump. The annual tonnage of flour exported declined from 38,247 in 1950 to 9,871 in 1955. During the same period the refiners began to introduce machinery which allowed them to process the scraped sago pith (sopo) into wet flour (lawa-mat) in their own factories. This innovation removed a principal source of Melanian income, and had the effect of concentrating the whole process of manufacturing sago flour into a limited number of refineries which required very little labour for their operation. The lawa-mat produced by machinery was in no way superior to that manufactured by the older method and was frequently even dirtier, but the work was quicker, a little cheaper, and much less troublesome to the refiners. If the profits of the refiners' retail business are also taken into account it is even doubtful that the new process brought him real gain. By 1964 almost the entire cottage industry which had supported the Melanian population was gone; most of them were under-employed and harmful social effects were beginning to appear. In particular, most refiners were now refusing to buy wet sago from the tramping platformers.

14. For nearly a century, under pressures of which the Melanians were unaware and which were tacitly approved by the Government, the people of the Mukah District had come to rely on only one cash crop. Technical changes and a slow re-organization of the handling of the product had gradually reduced their share in the industry, and when this had increased the invention of the machine for processing scraped sago into white flour suddenly cut off one of their principal sources of income, they were bound to suffer, for it was no longer possible to return to a subsistence economy. The full effects of the change have not yet shown themselves, because the refiners do not yet own many sago gardens and the Melanians still do. But most Melanians having insufficient land to support themselves without work and a minority own no sago gardens at all. Although a refiner will no longer buy wet sago (lawa-mat) from the tramping platformers, he still depends upon the owner of the gardens to sell him pines, and will require men to fell and transport them to the factory. A certain number are therefore able to earn some cash for materials such as clothing, tools, dry and salt fish, schooling for their children, and so on; but it is an irregular and very uncertain income. (Sago, it is worth noting, has not been eaten as a staple food, except in times of hardship, for more than two generations.) Moreover, this labour market is limited, and families without active men are beginning to suffer. It can only be a question of time, unless the process is checked, before sago gardens are sold in quantity to the owners of refineries, and the industry comes to be based on plantations in the hands of a few factory owners. The Melanian population will then be reduced to a landless peasantry with very few ways of earning a living.

Other Types of Work open to the Melanians

(i) The Lumber Industry

15. The effects of the new economic and social situation in the sago industry have been partly disguised by new openings for men as lumber workers in the sawmills of the coastal areas; but this work is in no sense an effective substitute for the sago industry, for it is relatively very small indeed, and is mainly in the hands of young men, not the heads of families.

16. An area of forest is granted, usually to a Chinese entrepreneur for the extraction of certain types of timber under the supervision of the Forestry Department. The entrepreneur in turn demarcates the area into blocks, and grants one or more of these to a gang leader whose responsibility it is to recruit workmen for felling the timber. At all stages the entrepreneur deals only with the gang-leader, who undertakes work according to his estimate of the size of the gang he can recruit, the amount of failable timber in the block, and the length

of time he can hold together his group of workmen. The entrepreneur makes him an advance in cash and he returns to his village to recruit men. He will naturally prefer the young and strong without ties to make them want to return home quickly, but he may not be able to build up an entire gang of such men. He makes cash advances for the maintenance of dependents during the men's absence, and these are deducted from the final share in the gang's profits.

11. The success of the group's work will depend on the general ability of the leader in organizing and his judgment in selecting men. If he recruits too many, the profits will not be worthwhile; if he has too few he will fail in his contract. The block of forest allocated to him may be short of failable timber. He is responsible for all dealings with the company on behalf of his gang; he keeps a record of the timber they have felled and receives and divides the money finally paid for the work. He may also buy food and other consumer goods collectively for his men at the company's shop, though the more usual custom is for each man to be issued a book by the store and to buy his own necessities on credit. These books are usually written in Chinese, and therefore cannot be checked by their holders. If a gang leader is dishonest or his judgment is faulty at any stage; if his education is insufficient to keep clear records or he is not able to stand up to the clerks of the timber company, then the whole gang suffers and is in practice without redress. The rewards of the work are variable and never very great. A man will usually take an advance of £50 to £50, and after six to eight weeks away from the village may return home with anything from £20 to £300. He can return with much less. If his dependents have not been able to manage on the money he left, they may have incurred considerable hardship, because without, without the security of former regular sales of wet sago, are no longer willing to give household credit.

12. The organization of this industry is, of course, finally conditioned by the Government's over-riding need to have timber extracted and exported as cheaply as possible. A substantial part of the revenue (25-35%) now depends upon it. In order to achieve this and it is necessary to tempt entrepreneurs with favourable terms, for the capital invested is, in the context of local finance, very large, and the risks are considerable. If the rewards were not correspondingly high the timber might remain unfelled or the Government might have to enter the business itself. Even so the share of the total profits received by the workers is disproportionately low. The industry could well afford a basic wage for each labourer before he was put to a piece work. Moreover, an occasional unannounced inspection of working conditions, company shops, and prices would be neither costly nor would it deter entrepreneurs from taking up future contracts.

(B) Rice Growing

13. Various alternatives to replace sago in the economy of the Melanau have been suggested, and any plan which will diversify it is clearly good. In the lower reaches of the Oya and Melanau rivers a rice growing scheme has been inaugurated and could probably be extended; but to transform the district into an extensive rice growing area producing cash for the people would require very large capital investment and most careful consideration of the economic and social consequences.

(C) Coconut Growing

14. It has also been suggested that large-scale coconut planting, combined with small factories for processing the meat, should replace sago as the main crop of the Melanau District. It is however worth noting at this point that the coconut, like the sago industry, has always been subject to booms and slumps; but if the scheme is considered to be no more than a supplement to and diversification of the present economy, it undoubtedly has merits. If on the other hand, it is in-

tended to displace sago and make the Melanau once again wholly dependent on a single cash crop, then it is bad.

(D) Migration

15. The market for migrant labour in the lumber industry produced a few of the undesirable social consequences that are more familiar in African countries, where rural districts have been reduced to a condition close to disaster by the prolonged absence of large numbers of young men. Nothing on this scale is yet observable in the Melanau District; and it is clear that the Administration is aware of the dangers. A scheme of establishing a palm oil industry in Sabah, for example, requires labour and the Administration has been at pains to try to attract whole families of Melanau, not just individual labourers, to emigrate there by offering very favourable terms. The response from the Melanau has been negligible. This is not surprising in the light of their history. For more than a century they have endured the constant flow of the Malays from Brunei, and then of the British; they have been attacked by the Iban and have learnt to live with them as neighbours; and finally they have seen their living and farming lands in danger on the goodwill of Chinese arrivals. Notwithstanding all this they remain Melanau, speaking their own language, and still living in the villages that their ancestors founded many generations ago. They can see no reason why they should leave their homes and very dearly loved river to other people. They will have to become much poorer than they yet are before they can be persuaded to migrate in numbers.

(E) Fishing

16. Fishing has always been one of the means of livelihood open to the Melanau. But their methods are primitive and not very productive. In its present form fishing cannot contribute significantly to their needs either for cash or food. The South China Sea is one of the richest fishing grounds in the world, the potential market for fish in South East Asia is immense, and yet so full attempt to develop this resource has been made; there is not even a Department of Fisheries in existence in Sarawak. Such neglect of national resources is hard to understand. This development during the current Five Year Plan, in the national interest of Sarawak and Malaysia and in the local interests of the Rajang delta and the Melanau District should be a high priority.

17. All these schemes and any others that can be devised are highly desirable as means of diversifying the economy, and they could do much to mitigate the growing rural poverty of the sago cultivating areas. But the real problems of the sago industry itself would remain. It is still, in spite of present conditions, a national capital asset of great value, and it would be most unwise—economically, politically, and socially—simply to write it off. The introduction of alternative methods of making an income should be accompanied by a vigorous redevelopment of the sago industry too.

The Social Consequences of the Present Situation

18. The undesirable social consequences of the latest slump in the price of sago and the recent technical and economic changes, most of which have already been mentioned, are summarized for convenience here:

(i) With the concentration in a few privately owned factories of all stages of refining sago flour, the principal source of income for the Melanau has been narrowed.

(ii) A large number of formerly independent self-employed peasants has therefore had to look for work as wage labourers hired irregularly by riflemen or as migrant labourers in the lumber industry.

(iii) The problems of migrant labour and chronic under-employment, familiar in most extreme forms in Central and South Africa, are as yet only incipient. But there is evidence already of neglected and broken families and potential political unrest.

(iv) The complete removal of the women's main occupation and their traditional independence, combined with an almost total lack of alternative employment, has forced them and their children to rely wholly on their husbands' seriously impaired earning powers. This is a situation in which neither men nor women are disadvantaged. It leads to distress and friction and still further disruption of Melanau society.

(v) Sago refineries employ a small number of women without domestic responsibilities which demand their presence at or near their homes. They also employ an even smaller number of men. Child labour is often adequate and cheaper.

(vi) The refusal of the owners of refining factories and retail businesses to buy wet sago (*besamut*) from the trampling platforms has meant that almost all domestic credit facilities have been withdrawn from Melanau households. A family without sago gardens in which there are mature trees or whose men are unable to find work now suffers hardships never previously known.

(vii) Owners of refineries safeguard their supplies by purchasing palm before they are mature; and a Melanau with very few trees to sell may find it difficult to obtain a fair price from a factory owner who is in a position to beat him down. Moreover, the only method open now to a Melanau of raising a large sum of money for some necessary purpose is to sell his whole crop, often several years' ahead. Formerly he could have obtained the money less adversely on credit against the regular sale of wet sago. He can, of course, and frequently does sell a garden to obtain the needed cash; but if the present trend continues the area is likely to become one of refineries and associated plantations. A few Melanau might be employed in cultivating the plantations and tilling the palm; but even this is not certain. The owners of refineries are Chinese, and unemployment in their own community in the Third Division is high. Judged only in economic terms these developments might be considered as improvements which will ultimately add to the efficiency of the industry; but a profit and loss account which ignores social factors is not contributing to efficiency. It is more likely to lead to disaster. Racial tensions in the Third Division are already sufficiently inflamed to make any additional irritations undesirable.

The Economic Consequences of the Present Situation

25. The principal changes in the economic organisation of the industry fall under two heads:

- (i) At the level of primary production, and
- (ii) At the level of international marketing.

(i) Primary Production

26. The most significant recent change here is, as we have seen, in the development of machines for processing wet sago (*besamut*) from the raised pit of the palm (*reper*). These machines are extremely crude and inefficient, and the quality of flour produced by them is, if anything, poorer than that which comes from the trampling platforms. Little care is taken in their use, and impurities of all kinds, including the novel use of machine oil, frequently find a way into the flour. A machine can, it is said, process the palms more quickly than a woman; but since work is limited in the end by the supply of palms available at any one time, this fact may be less important than it first appears.

27. Sarawak flour has always had a bad reputation for being dirty, and in the past the blame has usually been put on the quality of water used in refining or the conditions of trampling. But the introduction of machine processed wet sago (*besamut*) has not produced flour of any better quality. There is no reason why it should, because quality depends on subsequent refining; and because it has also usually been possible to sell almost any kind of Sarawak flour at a indicated

price. Local refiners have consequently not thought it worth their while to make flour of the same quality as that produced in Singapore, or to bother about the industry's reputation. Sago has been, and still is, regarded by nearly everybody, except the Melanau peasants, more as an extractive industry than as a permanent asset which requires careful management and conservation.

28. The concentration of refining sago flour in factories has probably reduced costs slightly; it certainly makes management of the factories easier, and could, in the right circumstances, ensure a better final product. The ultimate reasons for the poor quality of Sarawak flour are to be found, not in technology, but in the structure of the refining and marketing sections of the industry. It is in the washing, drying, the bagging, and the re-bagging of the flour that impurities are not removed and may even be inserted; but the reasons for this lie in the need for keeping an unnecessarily large number of middle-men solvent. Every stage between production and export increases the risk of contamination and reduces the economic efficiency of the industry.

(ii) Marketing

29. In 1850 there were about a dozen staple firms which under licence exported sago flour from Sarawak. Most of it went to Singapore for re-export to Britain and Europe. The distance of these markets and the heavy cost of freight made the flour competitive as a source of cheap industrial starch only if its quality was reasonably good or if it was noticeably cheaper than other sources of starch. Such a concentration on a distant and narrow market also meant that any slight political or economic changes in the purchasing country could have the most serious consequences in Sarawak. In 1859 a large proportion of Sarawak flour was bought by one food-producing firm in Britain which was subsequently taken over by an American enterprise closely allied to maize growing interests. Although sago flour has chemical and physical properties which will always make it preferable to other types of starch in the production of some kinds of food, nevertheless this firm turned to maize flour; and the Sarawak sago industry was almost ruined. The private firm which the Government had permitted to handle the marketing of a commodity that produced between 2% and 10% of the national revenue, had apparently been content to watch the slow contraction of their traditional markets and had made no serious earlier attempts to open new and diverse outlets in food and textile industries nearer home. Such an extraordinary situation could probably have occurred only in a colonial economic system.

30. At present only three firms are significantly concerned in exporting sago. When the market for Sarawak flour collapsed, one of these firms with immense difficulty found new purchasers in Japan, who manufactured a type of gravy powder in great demand throughout South East Asia, and who have subsequently opened factories in Singapore and Malaya. These Japanese manufacturers had earlier made an investigation into opening a refining factory in Sarawak in order to be sure of obtaining a reliable and uniform flour. They met with little encouragement from the Administration and hostility from the local refiners and exporters. The firm therefore bought expensive and up to date equipment in America and established a refinery in Japan. They would have liked to import dried *besamut* as prepared by the Melanau, but eventually agreed to buy the poorer and cheaper quality of refined flour that the industry in Sarawak was willing to export. The compromise was just profitable enough to keep the refining and exporting section of the industry alive, but reduced some Melanau peasants to near poverty.

31. By 1963 the annual export of sago flour from Sarawak had once more reached its approximate maximum of about 20,000 tons annually. At the beginning of 1964 the price of sago doubled itself and showed no immediate signs of dropping. The rise was no doubt caused by the interruption of the supplies from Indo-

area, which exports about the same quantity of sago as Singapore each year as is produced in Sarawak. It is worth noting that unlike the Sarawak sago, the Indonesian sago has hitherto been exported in the crude (unmilled) form. There is no doubt that the Singapore refineries would be very willing to import unrefined sago from Sarawak too, but although this might possibly have the effect of stimulating some of the steps in the "bottle of independence" previously referred to, there is no certainty that this would happen, and the Sarawak Government would undoubtedly be anxious to permit one of its own industries to be treated solely as a source of raw material for an industrially developed area in another state.

Conclusion

32. In both social and economic terms the sago industry is badly organized and inefficient. This opens the way to an important series of the interests of Sarawak, and is in danger of stirring up racial animosity in the Malak District which is adjacent to an area in which it has long been endemic.

33. In Sarawak at the present time there would appear to be a view held in certain quarters that the difficulties of the sago industry can be solved only by "writing it off", since it is used to measure the efficiency of an industry in terms of monetary profit and loss and to disregard its efficiency in social terms. All Administrations are aware that such limited views cannot always be entertained, and to write off the sago-producing areas and its people at the present time would, in my opinion, be economically foolish, politically unwise, and morally most questionable. The debt which the people of Sarawak owe to the sago workers of the Coastal District of the Third Division for the past economic stability of their country is very high indeed. Notwithstanding this fact and the well-known present distress in the area, the current Five Year Plan contains no provision at all for aiding and developing the existing industry which is still an asset of prime national importance. Those who have constituted the funds for Development could well view such a policy of neglect adversely, especially since it is certain that if the Sarawak sago industry is allowed to disappear, its place will ultimately be taken by an enlarged industry in Indonesia or New Guinea. Sago flour is never likely to be without market in the expanding food and textile industries of South East Asia, including Australia, and eventually, no doubt, China as well.

Recommendations

34. Practical measures to put the sago industry on a sounder footing are necessary. The difficulties which the trade faces are both local and national, and re-organization at both levels is needed.

A. Recommendations at the National Level

(i) Marketing

35. The international marketing of Sarawak sago flour has fallen into the hands of two or three private firms, and though they have handled their responsibilities with some sense of public duty, a state of affairs of this kind is inherently undesirable. In the political context of South East Asia today it lays the Government open to the charge of permitting monopoly capitalism and all the consequences that go with the term. In the economic aspect it makes it harder for the Administration to be sure that national resources are being well used and to perform its proper functions in safeguarding the welfare of the smaller workers in the industry. However public spirited a trading concern may be, its ultimate aim must be the making of cash profits and not public welfare. In marketing organization will therefore necessarily look for the immediately most simple and easy market to operate. Once having secured it, a private enterprise tends to turn its attention to its other interests, and only when a crisis arises does it review long-term policy in a wider context, and perhaps regret that it did not disperse its contracts more widely while disposal was still possible. A margin of profit

which is sufficient for a few firms to continue in business may not in fact be beneficial to the industry as a whole, but owing to their control they are able to impose their own terms on dependent businesses.

36. I therefore recommend that the Government seriously consider instituting a National Sago Board on the lines of the Kanya Coffee Board, the Lint Marketing Board of Uganda, and many other organizations of the same kind in countries whose governments have faced similar problems of the production and disposal of a primary product of national importance. In Sarawak the Sago industry alone might not be able to support such a board, but as the rubber and pepper industries have closely related problems, there would seem to be a strong case for a joint marketing board.

37. A properly constituted national marketing board is able to keep the state of an industry under continual review in the light of political and social developments as well as purely economic considerations. If adequately funded, it is also able to maintain and manage a floating fund to regulate the internal price of the product in periods of boom and slump alike. Indeed, such a fund is essential if it is to replace the industry for the benefit of the country as a whole. In addition it has more imagination than most private firms to keep national marketing policy under constant review. In Sarawak it could insist on contracts for the sale of sago being placed widely, and could make serious and sustained efforts to open new markets in the rapidly developing industries of Asia and possibly South America rather than in the distant, marginal markets of established industry in Europe and North America.

38. Detailed suggestions about the structure and function of such a board would not be in place in this report, but many models exist and are well known. In Uganda the Lint Marketing Board sets the price of cotton throughout the country, and the whole crop eventually passes up through authorized businesses into its hands. It then publicly auctions the cotton to licensed exporters, and the profits go into the national floating fund for industry. Through a system of export licences it is able to keep the ultimate destination of the crop under review, but other methods for doing this are also available. In Sarawak some modification of the present extravagant system of middle-men is badly needed. Their number is too large and could be reduced by setting up a few authorized refining and collecting depots. The saving here alone might well go some way towards paying the expenses of a sago board.

(ii) Quality of Sago

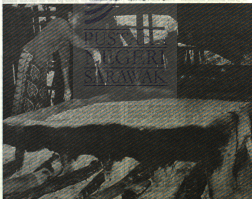
39. In spite of the many official and private efforts made over the past seventy-five years to control the quality of Sarawak sago flour, it is still the poorest on the international market. There are no technical reasons why it should not be as clean and reliable a product as that made in Singapore. It is simply that the industry in Sarawak has never been compelled to do better. In the past, sufficient flour could always be sold to keep the main structure of the industry alive, even in periods of slump, and thus there was no real incentive to improve either the organization or the product. In the past the Government has relied on inspection by Customs Officers to check that a uniform flour was being exported, but experience has shown that it is impossible to control quality in this way. The problem needs to be attacked at the point of production.

40. The simplest and most reliable method of ensuring a flour of good quality would be to set up one central modern refining factory operated by a Sago Board to handle the country's entire crop. This suggestion was first made in 1912 by the Resident of Uva (Sarawak Gazette, Vol. LII, No. 325). The sago-producing district of Sarawak is small in area, and, as the Resident observed more than forty years ago, the existing modes of transport, with slight additions, would be sufficiently cheap and adequate. If the factory were built close to a centre such as Sibu, where shipping facilities for export already exist, the reduction in the cost



Melanau Sago: Splitting the Logs

Copyright Sarawak Museum



Melanau girl: Rousing the Sago Peleets

Copyright Sarawak Museum

of production would be very great indeed. In 1921 it would not have been expensive to build such a factory; today it would be, and it would take a number of years to reimburse the investment. Since funds for development exist, and since virtually nothing has been allocated to the nature of the currently depressed sago producing areas, the building of an efficient refinery as an essential step in re-organizing and maintaining the sago industry merits the Government's most serious consideration. Some kind of active central control of the production of a flour of uniform quality has now become imperative, if the industry is to survive and if the Melanau population is not to be reduced to living in rural slums.

41. The building of two or three less ambitious refineries at Dulit, Mahak, and Baram might achieve the same ends, though not so simply or efficiently in economic terms. The water at none of these places is said to be good for refining flour, but it can easily and very cheaply be purified. The required conditions of cleanliness and honesty of management might not be difficult to attain, and the refineries would not need to be elaborate in equipment or organization. Factories in Singapore produce good quality flour with simple apparatus. Open heated drying grounds or special kilns instead of the present sun-dried muddy clumpings, and well-designed buildings would ensure the required minimum of cleanliness. It would, however, be necessary to divert a large part of the raw sago (*kesamak*) or sago palms to these refineries, though a sufficient and calculated quantity could be left to the more reliable firms already in the business. These Government factories, besides handling the bulk of the refining, would also have the function of acting on behalf of the Sago Board as the only official depot for collecting and exporting the flour to a central depot. In addition to these functions it would be essential for the factories, in close consultation with the Sago Board at Kuching or Sibiu, to set the prices of sago, and see that they were known and observed locally. To build three cheaper Government factories might bring the further advantage that there would be less temptation to seek financial assistance from private industry in their construction and running, and thus the way open to some possible loss of control in the wider regulation of the industry.

B. Recommendations at the Local Level

42. The institution of a national Sago Board and factories belonging to it in order to control the quality and marketing of sago is only a part of what is needed. These bodies could hardly operate successfully unless certain local matters were also taken in hand. These matters fall under four heads:

- (i) Research into the best conditions for growing the sago palms.
- (ii) Research into the yield of palms.
- (iii) Sale of land.
- (iv) Policy concerning the future of the "Cottage Industry".

(i) Research into Growing the Sago Palm

43. Little is known about the cultivation of the sago palm. Rules of thumb used by the Melanau indicate that certain types of soil and conditions of drainage shorten the length of time needed for the palm to mature, and also affect its yield. As the palm requires 12 to 16 years to grow, an adequate body of knowledge cannot be quickly built up; consequently it is recommended that a permanent Sago Scheme be set up by the Department of Agriculture for basic horticultural research, and that Sago Officers should be stationed at Mahak, Dulit, and possibly Baram, to advise on and inspect the management of sago gardens, and water in the course of the industry generally. Such a scheme would also help convince the Melanau that their interests were not being entirely neglected.

(ii) Yield of Sago Palms

44. Before the refineries discussed in Paragraph 41 could operate satisfactorily, and before any realistic control of essential prices was possible, a detailed and exact knowledge of the yield of flour from palms of different sizes and kinds would be needed. An initial and not very expensive piece of research in which a few hundred palms were processed in carefully controlled conditions would give provisional tables of the yield to be expected from palm of a known type and girth and length. Subsequent observations and records kept by the factories would finally produce a set of tables which would show a quick and fair price to be set. By the use of such tables the recurrent danger of over-billing could be removed by forbidding the sale of palms below a stated yield capacity. Moreover, the keeping of such records and the use of such tables would also permit a reasonably accurate estimate of the value of standing crops, and allow the allocation of realistic quotas of palms of *kesamak* to the remaining private refineries.

(iii) Sale of Land

45. With the advent of Malaya and the concept of planning and equal citizenship, discriminatory privatisation of Melanau land-ownership will become increasingly obnoxious. Already the owners of refineries have in one way or another acquired control of considerable areas of sago gardens and the standing crops on them. They are not slow to point out that it would be easier to run their businesses if they had still more control, and that to own large plantations would be an even better way of ensuring a predictable supply of palms. But the social dangers of an industry based solely on plantations in the present situation are so great that careful thought should be given to the matter before permitting such a development. The temptation for a Melanau in need of capital to sell his land has now become almost irresistible. It is also said, with some truth, that when the owner of a sago factory sells a garden he will only sell it privately to another factory owner, even though a peasant is willing, able, and anxious to buy it. It would therefore be wise to insist that all sales of land should be publicly and widely announced beforehand in the villages, as well as at the Administrative Centre. It would be wise, too, for the sale to be handled by public auctions at regular intervals. In any event all sales should be carefully supervised in the light of the Sago Scheme, and there should be adequate controls.

(iv) Policy Concerning the Cottage Industry

46. The almost complete elimination of domestic production of wet sago (*kesamak*) has been the immediate cause of the present distress among the Melanau peasants. The effects are cumulative and have not yet fully developed. The situation has, therefore, not attracted the attention it merits. It could be dangerous, both socially and politically, and I would therefore recommend that in any Sago Scheme which might be devised all refineries should be required to buy a quota of wet sago (*kesamak*) from the villages. In my opinion this would not prove unduly costly, and would be an expense in the interests of social if not economic efficiency. Such a quota should always be reviewed as circumstances required. In no other way, I believe, can a fairly adequate standard of life be secured to the Melanau people in the immediate future.

Acknowledgments

47. I have written this report with some diffidence and hesitation, for I have not been closely connected with the sago industry since 1950, and during my visit in 1963 and 1964 was mainly concerned with other problems. I trust that my suggestions will be accepted in the spirit in which they are offered, and may be found useful.

48. My debts of gratitude are so numerous, and extend back to 1946, that it is not possible to acknowledge them all in detail. My thanks are due to the Colonial Social Science Research Council and the

Sarawak Government who first brought me to the country; to many Government Departments, especially the Secretariat, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Land and Surveys, the Forestry Department; to a great number of District Officers, Native Officers and Sarawak Administrative Officers, both past and present, who in Kuching, Tulu, Matrah and the Oya River guided, helped, and advised me at every stage of my visits in Sarawak. To the Curator of the Sarawak Museum and his staff I owe a special debt of gratitude. From the headmen of the villages in which I lived and worked, from the Melanau people themselves, and numerous Chinese traders and owners of sago refineries I have received more than I can repay. If this present report results in any mitigation of the present hardships suffered by all the inhabitants of the sago growing areas, it will still be only a token repayment of what I owe.

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—ED.)

Sukarno's Claim On U.N. Methods Incorrect

By

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[Bill Church was an officer in S.R.N. with Secret operation in Sarawak, 1945. He is now Deputy Leader of the Country Party in New South Wales, Australia, and for the past 20 years M.P. for Tamworth constituency. He has kept up close contacts with war-time friends here. The present article was recently in the *Melburn Daily Leader*, New South Wales, and is reproduced here with the author's permission.]

I was in Sarawak when World War II ended in 1945 and was associated with many of the pioneer administration officials and leaders of the Dyak, Malay and Chinese communities. As a result, I have maintained a personal interest and concern in the area.

Following Indonesia's withdrawal from the United Nations and rejection of the assistance of its various agencies as announced by Dr. Sukarno, my observations may be of interest.

Sukarno's vehement hostility to Malaysia came into the open when it was announced early in 1962 that North Borneo (Sabah) and Sarawak were to be given self-government and that both these new countries would join the Malaysia Federation rather than continue as separate independent units.

Sukarno claimed that these people and their territory belonged to Indonesia and in this latest statement has repeated the false charge that the United Nations Investigating Commission of 1963 gave a "lying" report as the method by which the expressed wishes of the people was obtained.

1963 Visit

I visited North Borneo (Sabah), Brunei and Sarawak from August 12-18, 1963, and it so happened that this was the week that the United Nations Commission arrived to carry out its investigations.

This was an ideal time to gauge the feelings of the people and I met and conversed with the heads of government departments (some of whom were Australian), magistrates, ministers in the new government, community leaders in many centres, many of personal acquaintance going back over the years, and the representatives of organisations with trading interests in Borneo.

Places visited were Jesselton, Brunei, Seria, Miri, Kuching, Sibu and Kuching. In addition to observing

the activities of British Army Units, including the Glinckas and the Royal Air Force, I was also able to learn something of the security arrangements along the borders to deal with Indonesians.

Without British Commonwealth assistance the only internal security forces available at the time were their own armed constabulary which were very efficient, but too few in numbers to deal with the Indonesian threat.

"ACHIEVABLE SELF-GOVERNMENT"

I was greatly surprised at the postwar reconstruction program and results achieved in the development of schools, teachers' training colleges, public health services, agricultural extension and research, land reform and settlement on a secure tenure basis, animal health and veterinary services, roads, public works and trading expansion.

Great tributes were paid to the work of the Colombo Plan in the provision of equipment and training selected persons.

Over the years the people have been trained towards the goal of ultimate self-government and many now hold many of the senior offices.

There can be no doubt that the people accepted the responsibility of self-government. Their enthusiasm is significant for the adoption of the parliamentary system. They wanted to become part of the Federation of Malaysia and they succeed, if allowed to arrive in peace.

Only a small minority element with foreign ties were collaborating with Indonesia and Communist elements linked with the mainland of Asia, to threaten the will of the people.

CREDIT TO AUSTRALIA

The Borneo people give the greatest credit to Australia for relieving them from the Japanese occupation, during which they remained loyal to the Allied cause, as official records disclose.

The war cemetery on Labuan Island is wonderfully well cared for and is the scene of an annual pilgrimage on Anzac Day.

A war memorial is being established on the slopes of Mt. Kinabalu overlooking the route of the infamous Sandakan Death March, from which very few of the Australian POWs survived.

The Borneo people, through their Governments, also contributed heroically to the fund created to bring back to Australia on Anzac Day, 1964, the war time vessel, *Evatt*, to be maintained in Sydney Harbor as a floating memorial.

This was the small ship which was navigated through 1,000 miles of enemy waters in 1945 to carry out a successful S.R.D. raid on Singapore harbor, when thousands of tons of Japanese shipping were sunk.

On Our Side

Sabah, formerly North Borneo (population 500,000, area 100,000 sq. miles) and Sarawak (population 700,000, area 45,000 sq. miles) would be unable on their own to resist takeover threats from Indonesia with its 80 million people unless given outside reinforcement and assistance as part of the Malaysian Federation.

The disclosure by the British Prime Minister that there are now 50,000 troops in Malaysia should be sufficient to alert the people to the potential seriousness of the position.

These people were on our side in the last major conflict and are entitled to feel confident that Australia will help them to preserve their integrity and security to pursue their destiny in the conduct of their own affairs.

Christian Minorities in Muslim Countries— Part II

by
VINEY BAY, MAJ WARREN
(Canon of Westminster Abbey)

In the first place there is the historical fact that in each of these areas the Christian community, under imperial rule, did enjoy what can not safely be described as 'protected status'. This is not to say that, in these countries, British rule actively encouraged the growth of a Christian community at the expense of Islam. The Southern Sudan is no exception to this because in the 'pagan' South, Islam, prior to political independence, was not a competitor. Islam had had six hundred years of opportunity to spread into the Southern Sudan and had signally failed to take the opportunity. Far from British rule encouraging Christianity at the expense of Islam, it has usually been an axiom of British policy in regard to Muslim areas to be hyper-sensitive to the emotions of its Muslim subjects. Nevertheless wherever a Christian minority did come into existence in such areas it was treated, in some real measure, on those basic freedoms that de Altonnes defined, that essential security of which Lord Acton wrote. British rule achieved this result for the Christian minorities because it applied the 'secular' principle to its own role, 'secular' not in being indifferent to religion, but as refusing to allow undue privilege to any one religion.

The immediate rush of political independence for these areas was to overthrow this 'secular' principle. In one form or another, Islam was written into the constitutions of these new countries. Not is it to be wondered at that Muslims, once free to rule their countries, should in greater or less degree follow the traditional pattern of Islam in which 'Church' and 'State' are reckoned as two aspects of the same political entity. Strictly speaking Islam knows no distinction between the two. In this aspect, and perhaps inevitably, this unity has been overtly expressed in word and deed by the new Governments. No less inevitably such expression created nervousness in the Christian minorities.

In the second place there is the unbridled gap between provisions written into a Constitution and the general attitude of public opinion. Constitutions, even when not drawn up in association with the former ruling power, are nevertheless drawn up with an eye to world public opinion. It is important for a new State to stand well in the eyes of the world, and for this it is necessary to be able to point to safeguards for religious liberty written into the Constitution. But the extent to which an appeal can be against the decisions of lower courts to higher courts on the grounds of a breach of the principles of the Constitution, depends to a very large extent upon the state of public opinion. Law, and a fortiori such 'constructs' as a Constitution, cannot be very far ahead of public opinion and remain effective. Now it stands to reason that a Muslim public opinion will, in the early years of political independence, be much exercised to express its distinctively Islamic character. The Christian minority, even if its Christianity is not repugnant to the majority, is a visible reminder of imperial rule, and suspect as such of being less than loyal to the new regime. To this may be added the fact that the new Government, inheriting as it must all the responsibilities for law and order, as well as the control of the economy, all inherited by the previous regime, is itself nervous of any threat to the homogeneity of the new State. Minorities, and especially religious minorities, are now an embarrassment. Nervousness breeds nervousness.

In the third place there is a threat of Islamic tradition which is inherent of all religious diversity to the point of posing the chains between submission and the sword. To say this is not to pass an indictment

upon Islam as a religion. No Christian with the most elementary knowledge of history will lightly throw stones at Islam on grounds of religious intolerance. All that can be said, and can justly be said, is that there is a threat of Islamic tradition which does not treat the distinction between the Dars-ul-Islam and the Dar-ul-Harb as a matter of religious indifference, and is not too sure in its 'missionary' methods. Once again, I repeat that this is not to throw stones from within a glass house. But this particular threat, together with the known 'Law of Apostasy', is one component in the nervousness of present-day Christian minorities.

In 1948, prior to the independence of Nigeria, the Secretary of State for the Colonies appointed a Commission 'To ascertain the facts about the fears of minorities in any part of Nigeria, and to propose means of allaying these fears whether well or ill-founded' and 'To advise what safeguards should be included for this purpose in the Constitution of Nigeria'. The Commissioners, in their Report to the Secretary of State, give evidence of having made most careful enquiry as to the fears of the minorities. They found ample evidence that there were such fears, though they concluded that they were somewhat exaggerated. Events, so far, would seem to have justified this conclusion. What is important is not whether fears are justified but the fact that they are held. In particular great nervousness was expressed both by pagans and Christians but they should be tried for offences under Muslim law (Sharia), and by the procedures of that law. The Commission recognised that this was a genuine fear, and it made the explicit recommendation that in the Northern Region of Nigeria non-Muslims should 'have the option of being dealt with by non-Muslim law'.

In response to this recommendation the Native Courts Law was amended to provide such an option. Later this amendment was rescinded because experience showed that it was being abused for purely political and not for religious reasons. Meanwhile in 1960 Provincial Courts, as first courts of appeal, were set up in each Province, and are working well to the satisfaction of all communities, so far as this can be ascertained.

In the Constitution of Nigeria there is a clause (27) which states that—

"A citizen of Nigeria of a particular community, tribe, place of origin, religion or political opinion shall not, by reason only that he is such a person... be subjected... to disabilities or restrictions to which citizens of Nigeria of other communities, tribes, places of origin, religions or political opinions are not made subject."

Available evidence suggests that this clause is being respected. Further, the Northern Region has now adopted a secular system of criminal law in place of the Sharia.

If the above analysis of the main sources of anxiety on the part of Christian minorities in these four countries is substantially accurate, it remains to consider briefly the present situation in each of them.

In Malaya, as indicated earlier, it might almost be claimed that it is the Muslim community, the Malay people, which is most nervous, despite the fact that it is the majority community. The reasons for this nervousness were explained earlier. At present their only significant effect upon the Christian minority is in matters, very slightly, its freedom, to quote de Altonnes, 'to share religious and philosophical insights' with the Muslim Malaya. That is a real restriction on Christians at all concerned with his Faith and the good of his fellow-men will deny. But it is a restriction which must be read in the light of a particular political rather than religious situation. It is noteworthy that a responsible group of Christian leaders studied very carefully the proposed Constitution of Malaya with special

reference to its provisions for religious liberty and did not consider that there was any necessity to make particular representations.

In Pakistan the main threat to the Christian minority, indeed the main threat to the progress of the whole nation, lies in that misbegotten element of Muslim opinion which cannot yet accept that the 'dignity and responsibility of man' in such demands and religious freedom for all men. To its infinite credit the Government of Pakistan is working to resist the demands of its more fanatical citizens.

In the Southern Sudan the whole situation is highly explosive. Earlier an explanation of this situation was offered in terms of the psychology of both the Northern and Southern Sudanese, a psychology which is in large measure the creation of history and geography, both of which have 'divided' the Sudan and largely conditioned the thinking of its peoples. It must, however, be added that the situation remains extremely grave. A responsible group of African Christians met the Ambassador of the Sudan at the time of the All-Africa Christian Conference held in Uganda in 1962. They expressed their misgivings about the religious situation in the Southern Sudan. It is perhaps significant that after being given assurances by the Ambassador about religious freedom in the Sudan these Christians record with regret that they—

'came to the conclusion that the Islamic interpretation of religious liberty is quite different from our concept of it, and therefore this is a point which requires more serious investigation before any progress can be made to convince the Sudanese Government that their views are in fact contrary to generally accepted ideas of religious liberty'.

That observation of those African Christian leaders comes very near the heart of the problem, a problem which is in no wise confined to the Southern Sudan.

In Northern Nigeria the Christian minority would appear to be suffering, if anything, rather less in the way of limitation of its freedom than in the days of British rule when the policy of 'sensitivity to Islamic feeling' sometimes appeared to fall over backwards. In so far as the Government in Northern Nigeria is acquiring self-confidence, and in so far as its administration is now virtually in the hands of northerners, there is less disposition to view minorities with distrust. Furthermore the Government would seem to be aware that the very large continuing pagan element in its population, almost one third of the whole, must be treated with respect. This in turn contributes to the comfort of the Christian minority.

Enough has been written here to show how treacherous would be any attempt to generalise about the condition of Christian minorities in these four areas—Malaysia, Pakistan, the Southern Sudan, and Northern Nigeria. It is, however, worth repeating a point made at the beginning when it was noted that these four areas have all experienced British rule within the recent past. That period of alien domination has left its mark, not least within the circle of those who rule, in a very real respect for the principle of the equality of all men before the law, and a real concern with social justice. It is worth remembering that when the Sudan Government had to confront a serious rebellion a few months before its de facto independence became de jure and despite the savage murder by the revolutionaries of more than two hundred Northern Sudanese with their wives and families, a very high standard of justice obtained. The military courts which dealt with offenders maintained the standards of the best type of courts martial inherited from the earlier regime. That is no the record and deserves to be remembered, and set in the scale against later acts of discrimination which may well over something to

the precarious political and economic situation of the country as a whole.

In the twilight of the old imperialism it is instructive to remember that the rejection of a ruler does not necessarily carry with it the rejection of all the principles by which the rule was conducted. In all the countries with which this article has been concerned a tradition of even-handed justice, and of respect of the dignity and responsibility of man, was firmly established and has not been forgotten.

In conclusion a word may be said about the Christian minorities themselves. The accent in this article has been laid upon their nervousness. It would be safe to pretend that they are otherwise than nervous, but it would be wholly inaccurate to portray them as being merely nervous. Still more inaccurate would it be to picture them as nostalgic for past imperial rule. The members of these Christian minorities are patriots in their own right. They love their country and they want it to be free. They are jealous of its reputation, and deeply concerned to have the right to a full share in its development.

That is a proper right to assert, but it has to be admitted that, as is common with all minorities, there is a tendency for Christian minorities to be pre-occupied with more general rights, especially when these are threatened, rather than to be anxious in the discharge of duties, in and through which the rights of citizenship can alone be securely established. But that is very easy to say when written from the security of a country where it is possible to exercise the duties of citizenship and likewise enjoy its privileges. Perhaps the real task of the Christian minorities in these Muslim countries is not to be defined either in terms of rights or duties, but rather in a preliminary achievement of an attitude of mind.

May it not be the case that the overriding need for a Christian minority is to consider how far it can fully identify itself with the 'values' of the nation, accepting as it must in Pakistan, for instance, that 'values' is the concept of a basically Muslim culture? In Pakistan, to continue our thinking to that country for the moment, it is a question for Christians to consider how far social customs which have a semi-religious relationship with Islam can be accepted by Christians without compromise to their faith. Here we are dealing with what is essentially an attitude of mind. Behind this lies the age-old problem of the Christian minority in a Muslim environment retaining the identity of the Faith without withdrawing into a spiritual 'ghetto'. As someone has remarked the real problem is to learn how 'to resist the temptation to keep a small group together by dogmatism rather than by giving to each the full freedom to choose to follow Christ'. It is at least possible that the phenomenal spread of Christianity today may offer, through the strength of a commonly experienced world-wide fellowship, the possibility for Christian minorities to maintain a far more sustained and effective witness to the Faith than was always the case in the past. If this proves to be the case then the whole psychology of a minority group might be changed, and thereby make a very significant contribution to the peace and harmony of the nations and the world.

I have cited Pakistan because there the issues facing a Christian minority are more straightforward than in the other areas here considered. But in these likewise the same principle can be applied. The Christian can never be excused the responsibility of discerning for himself, and with others corporately, the meaning of 'the Word whereby Christ hath made us free'. (Galatians v.1.)

References

—1. Lord Acton, *The History of Freedom and Other Essays*. (1907) p.4.

The Witch

I am a handsome Witch
Smooth and gentle to the touch
Switzerland is my home
Into the wide world do I roam
In a company must I sometimes stay
Call me Thani if you may,
Many a time I change my face
To suit every taste.
Two short, strong, straight arms have I
See me carefully if you think I lie.
Always am I on the watch
From where I go with a twist.
Sixty minutes make an hour
Day and night is within my power.
Twenty-four hours of a day
All the time must I convey.

MOHD. AUGUST HAH KIPLI

Form IID.

The Land Dayak Padi-Stone Festival

by

R. NYANOH

(This on-the-spot record was made in 1955 at Kampong Pandak).

The Nyarah Mahok ceremony began with Panyeh Ateng's prayers addressed by Ruk Karam, the priest, to the evil spirits. These prayers were given to pacify the spirits and it was hoped the ceremonies would not be disturbed. Offerings were laid out: 4 piles of *padar* (glutinous) rice cooked specially in small sections of bamboo, one bowl of *padar* (not), one bowl of ordinary rice, half a fowl, a small bamboo container of head rice wine, one egg, a bundle of salted fish, and one bamboo length of cooked chicken.

Seven piles of the Sarawak variety of bamboo, complete with leaves, had been collected that day, and were being prepared for use as a *anuger*, a platform on which the offerings could be laid. Young *pas* leaves were tied to the bamboo, and then eight head-net flowers were picked. Enough had been done for this day, so the people relaxed and enjoyed themselves, talking throughout the night.

Early next morning (May 14th) the appointed helpers, whose names were Magah, Kayong and Guchang, completed the *anuger* and built a small hut to shade the priestess while she prayed.

The first ceremony of the day was Nara Anah. Seven bamboo lengths were chosen: one was used to hold seven cakes, the second had seven eggs tied to it, the third was filled with seven salted fish, and the rest were only needed for ceremonial reasons. These were placed on the platform and covered with a length of white cloth. Two very small plates were arranged alongside. Tobacco to evil spirits for the continued good health of the people and *padar*, called *Kut Tayan*, were placed at the foot of the platform. This tribute consisted of cockroach and one *manan*. A yard of white cloth was tied to the bamboo—the flag of bad spirits. The tying of a couple of pigs and eight fowls to the base of the platform completed the preparations which had kept the men busy from early morning until two in the afternoon.

The priestess Tanyang Sari and Tanyang Raga were seated the longhouse blowing each room with blood from two cooks, after which one cook was killed (the fat was an offering). Sickness and disease was thus ward-off.

The Nara Anah offerings were then arranged in five rows. Three bamboo trays were laid with an assortment of salted fish, various kinds of rice, cakes, chicken, egg-rice wine in a small container, head-net and head-net flowers. Bells were put on top of the offerings. These three trays, called *Panyeh Panyeh*, *Panyeh Nyahong*, and *Panyeh Panyeh*, were used to invoke the spirits of the mountains, of the flat lands, and of the sky. Two large brass trays held similar offerings, one for the spirits of ancestors and the true Dayak god, and the other for the souls of people living at present in the longhouse. Land Dayaks believe that the body has seven spirits, each one belonging to a certain part of the body.

Sixteen priestesses were present to pray over the offerings, three of them being in charge of ceremonies. In the afternoon, a priest blessed the sugar, then killed the fowls and prepared them as offerings. The prayers that followed lasted two hours. All the offerings were eaten, those from one of the brass trays being saved for the priest.

A short while later, the Nyahong ceremony was held calling any spirits from the *padar* who might still be out in the fields. Offerings of different kinds of rice topped with eggs and head-nets were set before the longhouse community where they had gathered on the outer verandah. Baskets of *padar*, joint property, were put to greet the *padar* spirits. The *padar* was later to be blessed and used for weddings. Everyone set off for the *padar* fields, calling to the spirits from each junction of the track. The three chief priestesses used the *Kramoh*, large metal shells to which offerings had been attached, to blow their *manans*. They were followed by young men beating drums and gongs.

The following prayers were made:—

God akan Tampa Tanyang Raga, Tampa Tanyang Nyahong, Tampa Tanyang Minah. God manat agin-moi i tang *padar* man Guchang bitan. Manan guchang, living, peking tambi. Manan i tang *padar* manat agin-moi, agin-buri. Nyahong akan Tanyang Mahok, manat i tang *padar*. Si bliding ang manat agin-moi ang jama. Akan si man agin-moi i tang *padar* manat agin-moi, i tang *padar* manat, i tang *padar* dayak i tang *padar* manat dengan manan i tang *padar*. Bada akan manat agin-moi gawai korja ani gawai ang man-gai ang bama.

This manat, roughly:

Come here, god of grandfather Raga, god of Tanyang Nyahong, Tanyang Tanyang Minah, the grandmother of Nyahong, god of the grandmother Minah. Come with me and assist in recalling the spirits of the *padar* from the Chinese, Malay and Indian stores. Let the *padar* spirits return to the seedlings in the *padar* store, let your grandmother bring back *padar* spirits lost in the fields, jungle and tracks. You, who are used to recalling the *padar* spirits, bring back both the spirits of wet and hill *padar* of *padar* rice, of every kind ceremonies in the kampong and longhouse.

This half-hour prayer was repeated at each junction of the *padar* field tracks before the priestesses returned to the longhouse. There, everyone gathered to share a welcome to the *padar* spirits whom they believed had entered the baskets of seedlings. Late that evening there was a special blessing for each grain store, performed by the priestess Ruk Mahok, who waved a bowl over the stores' contents, to the sound of beating drums. Then she danced in ceremonial style with two men, this being repeated at each store. Prayers were again said, after which two priestesses blessed every longhouse room, as they had done in a previous ceremony. It was midnight by now, and the people enjoyed themselves dancing the night away. A special ceremonial dance was performed under the moon, called the *Nyehong* *Sembong* *Panyehong*, using a large five-foot long bamboo filled with rice wine. The wine could not be drunk until the performance was properly completed.

On May 15th, the appointed helpers killed two pigs and prepared them by singeing the bristles off, taking out the skull and washing the intestines. The carcasses were then taken home and chopped up in readiness for the Nara-Auli ceremony, though some was used for feeding visitors at breakfast. Four men visited each room, followed by one woman holding a shield and a *shul* parasol, and another carrying a bowl for reddish beetroot water, with flowers in her hand. This Nara-Auli ceremony was to cleanse the longhouse of sickness and disease. A priestess dipped the Dayak version of a rosary (*bevwaw*) into a bowl of water and sprinkled water round the rooms.

The Pinyahan padi ceremony, held to prevent the padi becoming diseased, was performed at the bathing place. Four men beat drums and gongs while the priest blessed with chicken's blood the plate on which offerings were to be laid. The chickens and a pig were then killed and cut up to be placed with the other offerings:—bushes of glutinous rice cooked in leaves, egg, bowls of ordinary rice, and salted fish. All this was put on a large brass tray. One section of this presentation, the *Isiding Kola*, was for the priest, to give him the physical strength to travel far in search of his parents' god. The other offerings were for the padi souls. Food was also offered to placate evil or jealous spirits who might be around. A tribute as protection against evil spirits of one jar, one plate, four bowls and a coconut shell was placed beside food offerings for Peling Gana, owner of land and water. A tin full of padi husks was put out for evil spirits, being so perverse, they would have found good clean rice unacceptable. Twelve spurs made from roots, and an equal number of bamboo crosses were used as further protection against disturbance by spirits.

These ceremonial arrangements took up most of the day, and Bak Samon, the priest, was rewarded for his efforts with a good quantity of food from the offerings. The longhouse community ate well too, seated on the outer verandah.

In the evening, preparations were made for the *Nyapuchan* ceremony, with pigs and fowl being killed and spread out on two platforms. Brass trays were used to hold some of the offerings, while women used baskets for their share of the presentation, grain for ancestral gods. Prayers were said, invoking the spirits of the mountains, plains, and sky.

Two urns of husks filled with food and milk wine in bamboo containers were hung from the roof of the prayer hut; these were for the prisoners' souls. It is believed that souls can follow prayers heavenward as long as offerings are made so that they do not get lost.

More prayers followed, and the padi spirits were removed from the fields. Inside each padi store, food and wine were prayed over in a short ceremony, after which the store owners were able to eat their share of the offerings.

Special ceremonial dances in which Tayang Sari held a wooden shield, while two other priestesses followed her around heaps of padi, lasted until early morning. More prayers and offerings were made in an effort to keep padi healthy. Certain of the offerings were covered with a white cloth; this assured their prayers would travel over the sea to reach any stray padi souls. For the *Nyapa* ceremony, a piece of lion-cloth was laid at one end to the outer verandah roof, and at the other to a bowl of water hanging a short distance above the floor. Two laps of pork had been arranged under the bowl, separated by two knives. A dish of rice was put close by. The priestesses then swung the suspended bowl back and forth, pretended to dash the pork with knives, and stirred the dish of rice. It was hoped these actions would protect the village and its people from sickness. The storm came between this last ceremony and break of day was dashed away, both Malay and Dayak dances being popular.

Next morning, water in which the Dayak rosary had been dipped was sprinkled in blessing over the padi seeds, and over children and adults. Later the *Shul* Longi dance was performed by four men. In this special dance, two corbs are passed between the performers; afterwards the birds are killed, cooked and eaten. Certain food and wine from the offerings were shared amongst the people and care was taken to see everyone got some, for bad luck would befall those who did not participate. Generous shares of food from the ceremonial brass trays were given to the priest and priestesses and their various assistants. The longhouse community was free to take the rest.

A no-work sabbath was enjoined for the next four days and nights and people had to keep within the village confines. Life resumed its normal course on the fifth day.

Four Important New Natural History Books

Three new books of highest standard for all those interested in Natural History have been published in the latter part of this year: (1) "Cats of the World" by Armand Denis, the well-known T.V. naturalist and editor of the best nature magazine *Animals*, published by Constable, London, 30/- (\$31.00). (2) "The New Dictionary of Birds", edited by Sir Landborough Thomson, published by Nelson, London, 25/- (\$42.00). (3) "The Life Natural History of South-east Asia" by Dr. Dillon Ripley, published by Time-Life Magazines, local price not yet known (already reviewed in February Gazette).

All three of these works are beautifully illustrated and thoroughly informed. They will remain the standard works for years to come, such in their different class.

Armand Denis' Cat Book has a special section on "the Cats of Asia". It is interesting here to see what a high proportion of the observations on these cats quoted derive from records made at or in connection with Sarawak and the Museum. The main information on Chinese Leopards, which is fast scarce from India to Indonesia, is provided by previous Curator E. Banks, previous Sarawak civil servant E. M. Wilson (associated by the Japanese), and from Dr. Dwight Davis whose several expeditions have been in co-operation with the Museum. The only observations on the Marbled Cat found from the Himalayas eastward depend on Banks. For the Bornean Red Cat apparently the present reviewer is the only naturalist to have seen one alive — and we have it on film, too. On the Leopard Cat, Mr. Denis cites the present writer, and for the curious Pink-headed Cat, widespread in Malaysia and Indonesia, Banks and R.E. Sneath are the sole authorities.

We are not trying to blow our own trumpet — At least not too long. But the simple fact remains that without the interest in natural history focused in West Borneo because the Brookes established a museum and research centre in Kuching — without this far far less knowledge would be available, even at the level of a popular, highly readable, best-selling book like Armand Denis' "Cats of the World".

With Sir Landborough Thomson's mighty dictionary of birds, Sarawak can again be fairly satisfied for its small share. Of 280 invited specialist contributors, the great majority came from Western Europe and the U.S.A. Only three came from Asia, and of these two, R.E. Sneath and the present writer, write from Sarawak. The Sarawak contributions include special articles on Swiftlets, Goshawk, Stomach Ivory, Feather Ornamentation, Green Birds, Bird Polka and Ruddy Birds Nests.

The 16 pages of colour illustration for the bird dictionary are mainly by Peter Scott and by another ex-Bornean with close Sarawak ties Commander A.M. Hughes, who illustrated "The Birds of Borneo" so superbly and is now preparing colour paintings of Borneo Mammals for Museum use.

This is also the place to make mention of another though rather more technical work, due to be published by the Malaysian Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, by the middle of the year. This is "A Checklist of the Mammals of Borneo", by Lord Medley, now lecturer in Zoology at the University of Malaya and previously for some years working with the Sarawak Museum. The basic data for this extremely important and authoritative work derives from the local collections, and the help we have been able to give Lord Medley in extending his extensive and scholarly studies outward to cover museum collections across the world. The Sarawak Government has also contributed to publication. A separate review will be published as soon as this Checklist is available from the Royal Asiatic Society.

Finally, the Royal Asiatic Society's area branch has now expanded from Malayan to Malaysian. This is not one of those take-overs from K.L.! One of the six senior officers now represents Sarawak, and at the Annual General Meeting, in January, he proposed to increase the Council and have three statutory members representing Sarawak, Sabah and Brunei, which was accepted and adopted. The Society will also be publishing plenty of material from East Malaysia, including two Sarawak articles — on Kenyah folktales and on the Pe-hang — in the current issue of its Journal; the Midway monograph as above; and another monograph on some monuments and carvings in Sarawak (especially Sarabong and Kuching) and Sabah (mostly Sabak and Danau). Also shortly articles on Russell's pioneer voyage up the Borneo coast in 1902, the "secret language" of romantic Pumas in the Bako; turtles as Kayan charms and the Balaglan gold Koba.

This new arrangement will strengthen East Malaysia's hand with the oldest and most influential cultural organization in the area, especially if all interested will join the Society. The annual subscription is \$18.00 a year, which entitles you to all reports and monographs and to attend meetings. It is hoped to hold our first 1965 meeting in Sarawak. Write the Hon. Sec. M.B.R.A.S. c/o National Museum, Singapore, or to the undersigned, c/o Sarawak Museum. I shall be glad to propose anyone interested as a member, and a stock of the necessary forms are held here.

T.M.

Kenyah above the Snow Line

Exploration into New Guinea can properly be ranked as impressive, tougher than Borneo — above all, on the mountains which carpet Sabah's Kinabalu (just too low for permanent snow — though in company with two Bornean Kenyahs from the Vanoh and Jomant his Begol of Sarabong we found ice at about 12,454 feet in February 1932). The first attempt to reach the New Guinea snow-line were two Dutchmen with seven Borneo "Dayaks" (actually Kenyahs and Kayans from the Braung Kayan and Melakum). This famed expedition was led by Dr. H.A. Lorentz in 1908. Two years before, he and three others had failed to reach the same summit's Wilhelm Top, turned back by inadequate supplies and by hostile tribesmen. They lost eleven carriers and support troops on their painful retreat march to the coast. In 1908, those mountains remained the last of the great equatorial snow-peaks still un conquered. The others, in Africa and South America, were done.

The 1908 expedition was a Dutch race against a British group, sponsored by the British Ornithologists Union (of which the present writer is a member today!). Dutch leader Lorentz recruited 41 Dutch-Indonesian troops and 81 Bornean Dayaks, who were allowed to bring blowpipes and poison darts but not "killing swords". More than a month after leaving their forward base, Lorentz and his party reached the snow at 14,786 feet, on 26 November 1908. As Lorentz later wrote:

"It is still incredible, as it was then, to think of us and our five Dayaks standing on that high white island".

On the way down Lorentz fell and was seriously injured; his Dayaks saved the day. Meanwhile the British expedition got into serious difficulties and perished on largely owing to the inadequacy of its 50 mules, all from Ambona; but they had as well ten Durwading Gumbies who were expert, though four got gravely ill and one died.

There is a wonderful photograph extant of the 1909 Lorentz party up high. The two Dutchmen are frantically heaving one of the Dayaks, has covered his face with either snow or mud, and looks miserable. The photo is reproduced in a recent, first-class book, "New Guinea: the Last Unknown" by Gavin Souter (Oxford: Angus and Robertson, 1963) p. 152.

In 1912 the British Ornithologists Union tried again, and with much greater success — in part due to the presence as second-in-command of Dr. C. Boden Kloss, then Curator of the Museum in Kuala Lumpur, along with twenty-four Bani (his Dayaks) partly from Sarawak. They reached the then snowed height of 14,886 feet on the Carving Peak snow. Weather and ice conditions blocked their view and they missed the highest point, which was climbed less than a month later by three Dutchmen, led by Captain Henderikse who had failed in an earlier ascent (1908) from the other side, the north.

In later times, the well-organized Airfield Expeditions, in conjunction with the American Museum of Natural History, in 1938 penetrated a new highland by using a helicopter to land on Lake Habbema — and to make the first-ever water take-off at an altitude of over two miles. This daring enterprise was based on a large group of Kalimantan Dayaks, including Kenyahs and Kayans from the Apo Kayan, who among other things planted gardens for beans and lettuce above 10,000 feet!

T.M.

Ninety Years Ago
FROM THE SARAWAK GAZETTE
No. 89 Price 5 cents.
TUESDAY APRIL 6TH 1915
(Coal and Gunfite Warfare)

We notice in the minutes of the Committee meeting that Dr. Robertson left last night for Europe, and that H.R. the Rajah awaits his arrival.

Dr. Robertson and two other experienced men, together with a staff of coolies, have been employed during the last eight months in boring and making a thorough examination of the Lingga coal mines, as well as prospecting for a convenient line for a railway to the most advantageous shipping point. These investigations being now brought to a satisfactory conclusion, we have every reason to hope that the report of their operations will lead to the formation of a company to work these extensive coal-fields on a large scale.

We are sure that our readers, with ourselves, must wish this scheme every success, as they must have seen in our pages that it has ever been the desire of the Government to give every facility and help to European enterprise in opening up the country and development trade.

racist that he thought was in the bet. Finally the banker revealed his chip and paid out accordingly. The result was written on a small black-board hanging up in front of the shop. One session took about fifteen minutes.

There were stories of gamblers sleeping in the games of their relatives, hoping that the dead would reveal a favourable word for the bet. All dreams during the night were closely examined, to see whether they had any relation to the twelve characters? The bankers in their turn, made offerings to their gods, asking for protection against the spirits which might reveal the secret of his words. In short: "hell of a mess".

For a period of several months in 1964, Chap Jee Koo was flourishing in different forms under the full protection of the law in Kuching. I refer to the numerous number of stalls set up at the Berjaya Fair Ground and the old Government Bore at Gambler Road. Instead of the twelve Chinese characters, numerals were used. One had to buy "chips" to place one's bet. The numerals were fixed on a round spinning board with an indicator. When the board stopped spinning, the indicator would show the winning number. Another method was to have two rows of twelve numbers fixed at the end of a board placed at a slanting position. A glass marble was shot over a series of obstacles and it finally landed on a number which would be the winner. That was pure Chap Jee Koo, but operated faster than its old form. The bankers had to use buckets to hold their winnings. How much did the Government get out of it?

Let us come back to Brooke Sarawak. The 1959 Elton Report had the following remarks on gambling:

"It is not considered feasible yet to abolish this monopoly, although there is a feeling that we should aim for its eventual abolition in the interests of morality."

It is suggested, however, that the system now adopted in Kuching and Miri of leasing table-borneos should be extended elsewhere in the State. It is felt that a considerable profit must be going into the pocket of the farmer under the "trede" system, and that a great portion of this profit could be diverted to Government by adopting the alternative system of individual licensees. The prices of licensees would, of course, be graded in proportion to the probable business in each centre."

However, gambling was banned on it as it was, until the Japanese Occupation in 1941.

Confrontation

A Note of Praise

by

COLONEL L.G. WILKINSON, G.B.E.

[This item from the *Asiatic Times* recently introduced the following text by Colonel Wood, Colonel Wilkison, who is a British Malay speaker and scholar, placed an important question on H.Q. staff is the 1963 rebellion here and is now a key man in training forces, British and other personnel inside the Armed Forces. This is what he said when he took the command during our period of 100 British recruits of the First Battalion, Malaysia Rangers, at Ipoh, Perak:]

"Your battalion has only one task and one aim, to prepare to fight as a battalion and fight to defend your homeland," he said.

"Already your comrades of the other companies have been on active service in North Malaysia, searching for Communist terrorists who may try to infiltrate. Unfortunately no enemy has yet been found."

"However, if the enemy does come over the border, I have no doubt that you and your comrades will meet him, beat him, kill him or capture him . . ."

AWARDS

Col. Wilkison presented prizes to Sgt. Benda and Agut (commander of "B" platoon which was adjudged the best); Ranger Babon and Anggeh (best recruit); Ranger Angpahan Lingkong and Ulong (best rifle shot); Ranger Buehgang and Naping (best heavy barrel self loading rifle shot); and Ranger Syong and Kinet (best stinging machine gun shot).

Raising a Malaysian Regiment

by

LT. COL. W.D. WOOD, M.C.

On September 16, 1963, the Territories of Malaya, Singapore, Sarawak and British North Borneo entered into the Federation of Malaysia. On the same day the formation of a new Regiment was announced — The Malaysia Rangers — of which two battalions were to be formed. The battalions were to be raised and trained under British supervision with seconded British personnel, equipped by the British Army and paid for by the Commonwealth Relations Office, and eventually handed over to the Malaysian Armed Forces for service primarily in the Borneo territories.

The 1st Battalion was to be raised on an existing unit, the Sarawak Rangers. This unit of company strength was raised in the early days of the Malayan Emergency and quickly gained renown for the skill of its fine trackers on jungle operations. Their history in fact goes back further than this — to 1887 when the Sarawak Rangers were first formed as a "private army" by Rajah Sir James Brooke. This battalion is recruited solely from Sarawak.

The 2nd Battalion, with which this account is concerned, was to be raised absolutely from scratch with men recruited from Sabah; soldiers have never before been recruited in Sabah. To facilitate the raising of the battalion a cadre of approximately 100 Malayan W.O.s, N.C.O.s and soldiers of the Federation Armed Forces were to be posted to the battalion, along together with the small British element of Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s would form the basis of the unit. Because of a complete lack of suitable facilities in Sabah, the battalion was to be raised and trained in Malaya.

In August, 1963, a small number of British Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s, seconded for service with the Malaysia Rangers, began to arrive in Singapore. This was the first tangible sign that the 2nd Battalion was really to be formed, and even then the final decisions had not been taken. A great deal of hard work and planning had been done by P.A.R.E.L.F. in the previous three months, but it had all been seriously hampered by the lack of firm decisions on what was required, who was to provide it, and above all, who was to pay for it. Thus the situation was still confused and fraught with uncertainty when the first officer arrived, and continued so far for another few weeks. However, a start was made immediately, and subsequent developments fell into three distinct phases.

The first phase was a Malay language course for the British Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s. This was essential as the "lingua franca" of the unit was to be Malay. This lasted five weeks and took place at the Far East Training Centre, New Soco. Concurrently with the course, detailed planning, including and preparations for the actual formation of the unit went on apace.

The next phase was the merging and fitting of the Malayan and British elements of the cadre, who had not yet met, into a team, and actually forming the

unit. This was done at the Jungle Warfare School, Ulu Timan, where a very basic of adequate company camp — a relic of the Emergency — was made available. It was, of course, a vital phase, and the future efficiency of the battalion was dependent upon its success. There were two main tasks to be done, firstly, the creation of a unit and all that implies. All the arrangements, procedures, institutions and orders taken almost for granted in a long established unit had to be laid down, initiated, set up and made to work — and in Malay! The second task was the training of the Malayan N.C.O.s as instructors for the recruits. Some, of course, were experienced in this already but the majority were not.

That this important phase was accomplished successfully was due to the hard work and enthusiasm of all, and, in great measure to the cheerfulness and good-natured adaptability of the Malay N.C.O.s and soldiers.

The battalion cadre then moved to Sungai Patah for the third phase where a large company camp was made available in the lines of the Training Depot, Brigade of Gurkhas. It was here for a time at any rate that the real job of training the recruits and building up the battalion was to take place.

On November 1, 1962, the first 120 recruits arrived from Sabah. They had been recruited by the F.A.R.E.L.F. recruiting organisation during the battalion's time at Ulu Timan. They were a splendid lot, comprising a dozen different races and tribes, of good physique, intelligent, cheerful and industriously keen to learn. They were in fact more sophisticated than expected and many had given up good jobs to join up; all had had four or more years' schooling. The main racial groupings were Kadazans or Dusun, among well built hillmen; Bajau, the pliant and horse men of N. W. Sabah; Malays of various sorts from the coastal and riverine areas; and Chinese, traffickers and industrious as always. These and the minority groups of Marana, Iban, Suluks, Land Dayak, Borneo etc., fortunately all had one thing in common, with one or two exceptions they all spoke Malay if in varying degrees. This fact greatly facilitates the task of instruction.

The training of this first intake of recruits is now in progress. Before this article is in print two more intakes of 160 each will have been received, two more will be coming, and the battalion will be 500 strong with 20 British officers. By April, 1963, the battalion will be at full strength of 740 and the first two rifle companies ready for operations.

However there is much to be done to produce a fully trained battalion by the end of 1965. Approximately 200 specialists and N.C.O.s have to be selected from these recruits and trained to complement the battalion establishment. Officers from Sabah have also to be recruited, trained and assimilated into the battalion. Two years is the planned time for all this, but if Indonesian Confrontation continues it is conceivable that the pace will be accelerated.

The battalion is being organised on the establishment of a battalion of the Royal Malay Regiment but with the addition of a special establishment of patrol boats with H.P. out-board motors for use on the rivers of Borneo. Equipment and weapons are of the latest type, although in some instances older versions have had to be accepted temporarily until the supply position of the planned items improves.

This matter of making do with things — is no consolation, stores and equipment — all arises from the fact that there was no long term planning for the battalion. That the extent of having to "make do" is fortunately fairly limited is due to the enthusiastic support and assistance forthcoming from the staff at H.Q. F.A.R.E.L.F. and at the Federation Ministry of

Defence. Without their sympathetic understanding and willingness to stretch regulations to the limit, a good deal of frustration would be the order of the day.

It is, of course, too early yet to talk of military lessons learned, but in the political sphere one thing stands out very clearly. This is that if a regiment is to be formed then the decision, a political one in the case of the Malayan Rangers, must be a firm one, taken in good time and all the financial implications sorted out and spread at an early stage.

The idea of raising a regiment somehow conjures up notions of designing clothing uniforms, badges choosing colours, regimental mottos and marches, and of course, all this has to be done. In practice, however, staff and other dress committees combined with stringent finances tend to take the dash out of any design, and Ordnance authorities press strongly for conformity. However, some success has been achieved and it has been ensured that the uniforms of the Malayan Rangers will be distinctive — unlike any other in the Federation Armed Forces. This has been achieved by adopting the green and black motif of rifle regiments and not without good reason. The Rangers will be essentially jungle units living and operating in the jungles and rivers of Borneo, "brownness" if you like, these greens is a natural choice. Black has been adopted as a complementary colour since it was one of the colours of the earliest Sarawak Rangers.

One of the greatest difficulties experienced in promoting the life of the battalion has been the almost complete lack of funds. Messes, canteens, welfare projects, sports trophies, corps of drums simply do not just happen, they need money to get them going. Thus the development of these things has to be a little slower and rather less ambitious than one would like. However there are but both pains and will pass.

Lower Sadong District Annual Report, 1964

by
MICHAEL TORRES
District Officer

Courts

A total of 47 Criminal Cases were heard which comprised 12 District Court, 1 Police Court, 18 Petty Court, 12 Native Court and 1 Magistry. In all 16 cases were heard in the Civil Court—which made up of 4 District Court, 4 from Court of Small Causes, 3 from Petty Court, 4 from Native Court and 1 from District Native Court.

	Criminal	Civil
High Court	—	—
District Court	12	4
Police Court	1	4
Petty Court	18	3
Resident Native Court	—	—
District Native Court	—	1
Native Officer Court	12	4
Magistry	1	—
Total	47	16

The volume of court work has no doubt decreased considerably as compared to the previous year of 1963. This does not "help off" the District Officer from suggesting that a Second Class Magistrate should be posted to Samarahan so as to keep the smooth running of the Administration of the District. The District

Officer is carrying an extensive travelling programme and sometimes had to cut short his time when travelling in the outlying villages and come to deal with Court cases. Other general routine Administration would also be hampered as the District Officer has to settle both cases triable by a Magistrate of the Second Class and a Magistrate of the First Class.

Five accidental deaths, four by drowning and the other one was alleged to have died by lightning strike, were recorded under Section 311 of Inquest Ordinances, without holding an inquest in all cases. The unfortunate victims were four Malays and one Chinese girl.

Inquiry into the state of mind of a Chinese of Simunjan, because was held under Section 4 of the Mental Health Ordinance, 1961, during the year. The patient was ordered to be sent to Sarawak Mental Hospital, Kuching for further observation by Specialist Assistant for a period of one month. No violence of any sort has been reported.

Crime

Apart from cases concerning petty assaults and theft, the District has concentrated no serious crime although it is thought that this District is not entirely free from crimes and had characters of sufficient measures and steps were not taken. There have been a lot of rumours of "Gang Mings" who aimed for Cocks and fair sex, came roaming round the town, shaking buildings here and there and of course disturbed the peace of the town. Although suspicious characters had been observed, no one has yet been caught!

Medical and Health

The Travelling Dispensary No. 1 Simunjan under the Hospital Assistant In-Charge Mr. James Ngai made a constant worthy visit to Schengans to cater for Medical need of the inhabitants over that end. This of course raises the question of the extent which may take place during the absence of the Hospital Assistant—then who is going to dress wounds and so forth?

A total of 16,000 out-patients were treated during the year—a considerable increase—which shows that the Natives over this District are getting to experience the benefit gained from Western Medicine rather than that of the *Powang* and *Sin Sib* of the Eastern World. The Health of the people on the whole can be termed satisfactory.

The posting Ulu Desser at Gelong, Jemehau and Mungga Apes, relaxed the flow of patients to Simunjan Dispensary itself.

The Districtal Medical Officer, First Division and the Supervisor of Travelling and Static Dispensaries never neglect to pay a visit to Simunjan District.

The services rendered by the two District Council's Mid-wives were very much appreciated by the Public and the Natives were beginning to enjoy the drugs and services offered by the Western Medicine rather than the old fashioned drugs prepared by the elders who believed in the supernatural elements. In all, the following cases were treated and attended to by the Mid-wives:—

Anti-Natal (New)	325
Anti-Natal (Return)	886
Post-Natal Attendance	271
Normal deliveries	99
Infant (New)	96
Infant (Return)	264
Injection Triple Antigen 1st time	128
Injection Triple Antigen 2nd time	37
Injection Triple Antigen 3rd time	17

It is really regretted to learn of the resignation of one of the Mid-wives Miss Siew Siew Ioon whose services have been highly appreciated by the public. Her resignation had also caused a great loss to both the Lower Sadong District Council body and Miss Aish Aish who has to tackle the task single handed.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

Malays

The Malays around the District had shown interest in the Coconut and Rubber Planting Scheme offered by the Government. More and more are applying to come under the Schemes. The Malays in the District are wholly engaged in the padi planting, fishing, rubber tapping and timber extracting to earn their living. Though Simunjan's soil is noted for its fertility, the result of insufficient suitable land for padi planting made it impossible for the farmers to plant padi which can cover their requirements for the whole year through, and therefore they were sometimes forced to buy imported polished rice.

Through some unforeseen circumstances there has been no applicant for Pilgrimage for the year 1964 in the District. There is evidence that the chronic state of Ceylon prices accounts for the non application to Mince.

Land disputes between Natives are not rare business at all, and it is of worth to mention that Tan Rampong Abang Chie rendered invaluable help in settling some of the minor disputes.

Native Court has been occupied throughout the year and this is of course involves mostly young couples, i.e., marital disputes. Many of the cases resulted in divorce, either mutually or in Court.

Crocodile Reward Funds exhausted well before the end of the year—though the Cashier tried with utmost care not to overpay the money. Nevertheless the catches made by the local catchers were fruitful ones of season!

Prophet Mohammad Birthday which fell on the 21st July, 1964, was gaily celebrated with large procession and rally being organized in grand manner. A huge crowd turned up early in the morning to hear speeches delivered by well known personalities.

Dayaks

Like Malays, they are interested in the Coconut and Rubber Planting Scheme and applicants for Land usually crowd the Office building. This year had not been a prosperous one; this can be seen as from August, 1964 when the Dayaks from the Ulu areas, were faced by hardship—not enough rice for own consumption—and as such they were forced to buy imported rice.

Land disputes are also predominant among the Dayaks in this area.

Chinese Affairs

The trade as a whole seemed to be less prosperous in the town area and seemed to be quite alright in the rural areas. The main attributing factors of this are the line of trade in the town area has been blocked by the recent merger of isolated shops springing up here and there. The shops in the town by now appear to have adequate supply of sundry goods and commodities. In spite of unprosperous trade, there has been no report of any Chinese Turkey who has gone bankrupt.

The majority of the Chinese population over this area are engaged as farmers who put up at areas surrounding the sub-urban areas—supplying vegetables and other commodities in the town areas.

A busman road had been constructed around the busman area and the busman people seemed to be very happy to have it.

A majority of the Chinese marriages have been registered and there is no news about application for divorce being made!

Posts and Telegraphs

The handling of the inward and outward mails had increased considerably but our newly recruited Postman/Messenger, Inche Awang Rani bin Awang Tera, seemed to cope with the work alright.

The YHP unit was functioning satisfactorily throughout the year, though on several occasions one may imagine that he has to shout at the top of his voice so that the person at the other end can hear properly. At other times nothing could be heard from either end, except for the sound like "thundering joss in the sky".

Several Posts and Telecommunications Mechanics from Kuching frequently paid visits to Simunjan to repair the machine when it was out of order.

Operator/Mechanic Mr. Bahrol bin Marjapur went on one month leave from the 1st May till the 2nd June, 1964. Technician Assistant Inche Bujang bin Salleh from Kuching came to relieve the former.

Local Government

Throughout the year the Council in its deliberations produced a satisfactory volume of business. The attendance at the following meetings was said to be very satisfactory:—

Full Council	5
Finance Committee	11
Health Housing and Town Planning	7
General Purposes	5
Education	5

One of the most important businesses accomplished by the Lower Sadong District Council was the construction of the New Council building—which is expected to be completed in mid-April, 1965. The cost of the new double storied building is estimated to be in the region of \$480,000.00.

The Council has facilitated the implementation of various projects such as adding more classrooms to schools, teachers' quarters, as well as maintenance of school children in the District are growing rapidly indeed.

Through the financial aid from the Education Department the following buildings have been erected:—

1. Simun School (3 classrooms and toilet)	—\$21,750.00
2. Sungai Peta Boarding House	—\$17,000.00
3. Abang Man School (4 classrooms)	—\$20,000.00
4. Tera School (1 classroom)	—\$ 5,000.00
5. Sungai Ben' School (3 classrooms)	—\$ 5,000.00
6. 4 Semi double married teachers' quarters:—	
1 at Abang Man School	—\$ 5,000.00
1 at Simun School	—\$ 5,000.00
1 at Sungai Peta School	—\$ 5,000.00
1 at Gading School	—\$ 5,000.00

Earlier in the year of 1964, Inche Afandi Sita was the Acting Secretary to the Local Council but on the 26th May, 1964, the post of Acting Secretary and Acting Treasurer was handed over to Clark Awang Rani bin Awang Hassan when the former was selected to undergo a six month course of Local Administration in New Zealand. As such the Council was really handicapped when having only two clerks including the Acting Secretary/Treasurer and one School Affairs Officer to keep the Office going. It was not until 31st August, 1964, that the post of the Secretary was filled by Mr. Lee Kim Leong.

An experienced pipefitter Inche Awang Tera terminated his service on his own accord on the 11th December, 1964, and the Council of course lost valuable staff, because as far as we can see there is no local man who can really tackle his job to the Council's satisfaction.

Agriculture

Despite the incessant rainfall resulting in big floods in the District—a satisfactory report of the general favourable outlook regarding the growth of both the hill and wet padi was made. A total of 1,481.7 pounds of padi, 489.6 pounds of rice and 1,800.5 pounds of padi has been exported to Kuching.

There has been a report of common pests (Rats and 'Tengapung') attacking padi and through pesticides issued by the Agriculture Department—pests were well under control. The Department issued free of charge a total of 236 pounds of Agrocide No. 3; 309 pounds of Agrocide Day 10; 113 pounds of Sorax 98 ounces of Mergath; 2 bottles of Malthion; 185 ounces of Minal and 184 bags of (11:40) Ammonophos. Through practical usage it has been noted that Sorax was not as effective as Zinc Phosphide.

In connection with Padi Planting Scheme in Simun, it is worthy of note that three total choices have been established there and it has been reported that one acre of padi harvested produced about 22 pounds of padi.

The Rubber Planting Scheme is still very popular among the Dayak, Malay and Chinese communities over this, though the Dayak prefer traditionally coconut planting.

The 118 acres of 1964 approved acreage were successfully planted; the 1957-1960 approved acreage brought into tapping for the year was 284 acres. With the financial aid from the Department of Agriculture this year, two processing centres were constructed and this brings to a total processing centres in the district. This results in the better price of rubber sheet.

Great interest in the Coconut Planting Scheme is still preserved by the planters in this district. To cite one of the striking instances, during the first half of the year 146 new applications were received into the Scheme to plant 127 acres of coconut and by the end of the year a total of 221 applications to plant 1,034 acres of coconut.

The main coconut producing centres are Ibel, Jain, Simun, Tanjung Belahan, Pelanduk and Subangsan. Though Ibel had been constructed to smelt the cocon, there has been little improvement in its quality, but still this District ranks top amongst the cocon-producing districts in Sarawak.

As pepper is the most important source of income to the Chinese, they have been noted to have patiently attended to their pepper vines, though in other instances one could find them planting tobacco in their abandoned pepper gardens. A total of 12,000 vines of tobacco were planted this year and 4 pounds of dry tobacco were harvested this year and were sold at a price of \$9.80 per kar.

A total of 56,981 vines of new pepper were planted by the Iban in the Ulu areas but reports say that their maintenance works are not really satisfactory, due to lack of capital or what?

This year 393.8 pounds of White Pepper were exported to Kuching.

Off-season crops such as maize, water melons, groundnuts, soy beans, pumpkins and Indian fingers are grown by the Malays and Dayak for own consumption or at times for local markets.

Bananas are always in a surplus quantity and a great amount of them are being exported to Kuching. Other

a number of beaked rambutan, rambutan oranges, beaked durian and coffee seedlings were supplied by the Department to interested farmers.

As far as livestock in this district is concerned we can say that the supply had been satisfactory as a whole, as twenty-three buffaloes have been purchased by the local farmers under the Buffalo Training and Distributing Scheme for land ploughing. An Agriculture report said that seven cattle had been slaughtered to meet the demand for fresh meat by the inhabitants in the area.

Interest in inland fisheries is still being upheld by the farmers around Simunjan district. Another five more fish ponds have been constructed.

A. A. Edward Vincent Allas, from Simunjan, attended a training course at the Rubber Research Institute Experimental Station at Sungai Buloh, Malaya from 17th August to 2nd November, 1964. In his absence A. A. Wali bin Ojek was in-charge of Simunjan district and performed his duty most creditably.

Land and Survey:

Hundreds of applications for land came pouring in from the four corners of the district making the Land Clerk on several occasions stand on his toes to cope with the ever increasing jobs. We can really call the people over this area "Land Hungers". The new applicants to land do not have to pay anything in the first instance.

The trouble with the Natives in this area is that they get the impression that when they apply for an area in the District they can start to clear the "Tumudu" right away without having any Land Title, and this of course resulted in disputes between communities.

Economic and Labour:

Trade seemed to be less prosperous and this of course is attributable to the slump nature of the cost price of rubber, copra, and other products exported from Simunjan district. As the Malays around the town engaged themselves as porters, carpenters and so forth, they seemed to remain about looking for jobs to be done.

The coming of Public Works Department sub-branch to Simunjan to construct the major roads and other minor ones provides employment to local boys—even then one could marvel that there are still a lot of "beggars" roaming on the five set way on the bazaar—unemployed of course.

The youngsters over this area are always dreaming of getting a "White Collar Job", which is of course impossible due to their low qualification. This is easily seen when there happens to be an advertisement for employment in Government Service in the District, hundreds of applicants will or sure be received, but because of inadequate knowledge in the field of Education, most of the applications are turned down.

There has been no labour dispute in the District, and during the year under review only three accidents of temporary incapacity in nature were reported to have occurred during the course of employment. A total Workmen's Compensation of \$414.00 was paid to the injured workmen.

Co-operative Development:

The Assistant Co-operative Officer—whose base is at Kuching made an occasional visit to all of the Co-operative Societies in the District—and to give spot teaching to the office-bearers of such co-operative society, and to see to the welfare of the co-operative societies.

The Kampong Dui Pelandok Rural Co-operative Credit Society Unlimited, was saved from being dis-

solved when the Bagan inhabitants of the village became interested to start a Co-operative Multi-Purpose Society and so brought up the project to the society. This Co-operative Credit Society seemed to be the most progressive one in the District.

Annual auditing of Co-operative within the District had always been done regularly. Teaching on the achievement of Co-operative Societies in the District we must say that it is really very encouraging indeed.

Public Works:

One may be in the state of perplexity when he happens to revisit Simunjan town after leaving the same for just a few years. The town which was noted for its "Muddy" roads has turned into well and smoothly constructed roads, with clean and well planned houses emerging here and there. Bicycles would be seen in hundreds in town and the first coming of FWD Trucks into the town seemed to attract a huge crowd of people gathering round the trucks. What a phenomenon!

The use of old railway line in transporting the earth proved to be better service than the FWD trucks as whenever these heavy trucks are sent to fetch earth from Gunung Ngali—three miles away from the town—one or two water pipes is sure to get broken.

One newly constructed Class IV Quarters: one hospital for the Forest Department, were constructed by the Public Works Department in Simunjan and were ready for habitation on December, 1964.

The fast nature of water at Beting Sadong river, partly because the river lacks in tributaries, the District suffered severe erosion problem. The Government has taken no step yet in the prevention of erosion. Simunjan Town suffered most, as the old Office Buildings and Chinese Temples and Prisons have by now ceased to exist—becoming "Under Water City".

An extension work to the present Hospital building and also District Office building was completed during the year.

The Development Plan, 1964-1968 is at our door and we have developed almost from jungle life to a town way of living. The following is a list of completed Major Rural Projects done during the year:—

(1) Water Supply:

4 pipes and amount expended RM198.00. Provides fresh water to thirty villages. Kampong Mureka, Entangan, Pritak and Temiang, and also 4 wells amounted to \$4,000.00 to Kampong Semra, Temukan, Pandan and Pritak.

(2) River Clearance:

5 projects and amount expended comes to \$10,400.00.

(3) Recreational Facilities:

1 projects, amount expended on them comes to \$1,400.00.

(4) Miscellaneous Minor Projects:

44 bridges and 1 landing stage was completed during the year and amount expended \$35,270.00.

The Government provided the money and technical advice and most of the labour was provided by members of villages on a Gasing Ruyong, in the spirit of self-help.

I am glad to record the Lower Sadong people's gratitude to the Territorial Army Engineers who have recently been at work in Sarawak under Major N. Selvarajah's command, have been undertaking the constructions of four wooden bridges situated at Iremban, Julo, Pandan and Sungai Pulin, and also three Water Supplies at Kampong Mureka, Kampong Pritak and Kampong Temiang.

Their work is bringing much happiness to our people here.

Counterbush:

As usual an inter-transfer of policemen from Samaritan to other districts and vice-versa took place during the year and the police strength in this district consists of one Saripuan, and seven other Bantak of forces, but it is expected that more and more will be coming in.

A new style six-door-hatchback had been constructed and was ready for habitation at the end of the year.

Security Forces—including the Malayan Soldiers and Gadjah—made a few visits to this area, to check the peace of the people and of course to win the trust of the inhabitants.

The Samaritan district is directly under the charge of Sarawak and the OMSD from Sarawak made an occasional visit to this area.

Education:

This District was really very lucky to have a very experienced Group Headmaster Mr. M. V. McKinn— a New Zealander who was sent to Sarawak under Colombo Plan; but the way was of course not a permanent one as on July, 1964 we saw the departure of Mr. McKinn and family to New Zealand—who had served well for the last two years—administering a group of schools under the jurisdiction of the Lower Sading District Council, Samaritan.

A Peace Corps Volunteer, Mr. Jack Pomeroy came towards the end of October, to replace Mr. Mike Gibbons in Supervising the Primary English Medium Scheme, better known as Pocki Classes in the District.

Towards the end of the year, the Lower Sading District Council was busily engaged in building Teachers' Quarters at Abang Main School, Hag Kajah School, Senawa, Jematan School and the Combined School of Pandan/Bos/Pelandok and classroom blocks at Jematan and Bos/Pelandok.

At the end of the Third Term, 17 teachers left the District to join Kuching New Listing Training College, as student-teachers for a period of two years, 1965-1966.

In November, 1964 out of the total number of 140 candidates taking part in the Chinese Entrance Examinations 1964, 57 were selected to attend Form I at the Samaritan Government Secondary School at Gunung Ngli.

Secondary School:

A first batch of pupils enrolled at the Samaritan Government Secondary School which was situated at the Former Government Store building. Heading the School as Headmaster was Mr. Gordon Lee formerly a teacher at Drapen School, Kuching and his Mistress as Miss Anderson—V. S. D. In August, 1964 another member of the V.S.O. Mr. Anthony Roberts came to replace Mr. Ian Murdoch who returned to United Kingdom after completion of valuable service in Sarawak.

While the first Form I Class was busily engaged at their normal Scheme work, the Contractors under the Supervision of the Public Works Department were laboriously putting up permanent buildings at the Secondary School at the foot of Gunung Ngli, Samaritan, about three miles from the Samaritan Bazaar.

Forestry:

The first sawmills in the District seemed to have prepared some more during the year. A total of 5,074 tons of Ramin Logs, 2,731 tons of Mixed Light Hardwood Logs and a total of 21,655 tons of sawn timber were exported from the district during the year.

Shipping:

Apart from Government launches coming in and out of Samaritan from time to time, there was a total of 447 incoming boats and 175 outgoing boats were recorded from the 1st January, 1964 till the 31st December, 1964.

Although there were four boats linking Samaritan and Kuching and as such there is no hardship in communications between the said two places.

The total revenue derived from payment of royalties amounted to \$288,431.46 which shows a rise in figures as compared with \$264,798.47 as collected in 1963.

Forest offences such as felling of virgin jungle for farming or working timber in the Forest Reserves without proper Licence or Permit are not uncommon in this District.

General:

On the 19th June, 1964 the Honourable Chief Minister of Sarawak, Dato Stephen Kalong Ngiam, who was accompanied by the Resident, Finance Division and his Private Secretary Abang Bohari came to visit Samaritan.

The Chief Minister arrived at about 10.30 a.m. by helicopter. People from the civil and coastal areas and the nearby kampung looked together waiting for the arrival of the Chief Minister at the New Bazaar and the Government Office.

On arrival the Chief Minister and the Resident, First Division was met by the District Officer and the Native Officer who introduced them to the local Councillors, Lower Sading District Council's Staff, the Notables and the Government Staff of Samaritan. The Chief Minister then delivered an "meet the people session" at the Courtroom, Samaritan.

About thirty minutes later, the Chief Minister and his group went off to visit the Lower Sading District Council building, Government Secondary School old building. Then the Chief Minister and his group went to Chang Hwa School and they walked through a line each erected by the Indian Chinese led by Mr. Low Ming Chung, Kapitan Cina. At the Chang Hwa School a short tea party in honour of the Chief Minister was given by the township of Samaritan Bazaar.

Later in about 11.45 the Chief Minister and his party attended an all-community lunch at the District Office, Samaritan attended by about 50 persons. Here a speech was delivered by Mr. Lee Thian Koo, the Chairman of the Lower Sading District Council, Samaritan on behalf of the Councillors and was replied to by the Chief Minister.

At 2 p.m. the Chief Minister and his party, who was accompanied by the District Officer, Mr. Michael Topal, went to inspect the site of the new Government Secondary School at Gunung Ngli, Samaritan.

At 4 p.m. the Chief Minister and party went off with a helicopter bound for the State's Capital, Kuching. On the whole the visit can be termed as a successful one and the reception given was indeed very good.

Successful Regatta were held at Labuk Punggut, Samaritan, Sebagan and Samaritan on the 26th April, 1964; 1st June, 1964 and 15th August, 1964 respectively.

From the 21st May, 1964 till the 1st June, 1964 a Land Sport and Cock Fighting was held at Sungai Pising Samaritan.

The Samaritan National Solidarity Week Celebration Committee has collected an amount of \$4,215.05 in favour of the National Defence Fund. Samaritan did go gay and became the centre of attraction during the National Solidarity Week. Events such as Land Sports, Joga Ronggong, Concert, Cock Fighting were held.

Racing Notes

by

G. N. LAWRENCE

Racing again made front page news in the local press during the past month, with a report of alleged doping of two winners on the Second Day of the Easter Meeting via, Happy Valley and Yes Or No.

To everyone's relief, confirmatory analytical reports of the usual urine and urine samples taken immediately after the races in question, disclosed no drug had been administered to any of the animals and the Stewards issued a statement to that effect.

In the present depressed state of the Turf Club's fortunes it is essential that any malpractices do not occur which could lead to loss of confidence from the racing public. As mentioned in previous articles the depression surrounding racing in Sarawak will not be lifted until the Social Welfare Board in Kuala Lumpur make up their mind on who should operate their agency in the State. There is no reason why they should hurry this decision, since the Malaysian Social Welfare lottery tickets are being openly sold illegally in the State at a premium of \$1.20 per \$1.00 ticket. Until the local police take more vigorous action to curb this violation of the law then the present state of affairs will be allowed to drift.

Getting back to the more pleasant aspects of racing in Sarawak of which there are many if one takes it at its face value and does not constantly refer it in comparison to U.K. events. The atmosphere is casual and friendly and a provider for all races in the State to meet on equal terms and enjoy each other's company.

The outstanding performance of the Easter Meeting was the historic of wins scored by newcomer Nanyang Dragon, an Australian gelding by Tourist out of Dovesnest owned by the powerful Waterhouse Stable. In the Class I horse events, Intuition scored a double in the 5 and 4 furlong races, but in the open nine furlong race could not give 4 lb to the newcomer and finished a well beaten fourth. Nanyang will obviously be promoted this coming meeting and should again show his superiority until the handicapper "clothes" him.

Three ponies scored doubles, viz, Tanjong Po, Nash Kari and Blue Diamond, the latter was the more impressive since it occurred against the Class I field. Blue Diamond is a recent importation by Mr. Ang Cheng Ho from Sabah where it ran under the name Tanjong Dara. The reason he was sold was his unruly behaviour in the starting stalls, obviously our "old fashioned" starting gate is much more to his liking.

Liban bin Lohor streaked ahead in the 1965 Jersey Championship table with a four times on the opening day, finishing with a personal tally of eight for the meeting, giving him a total of fourteen winners for the year so far. This is six more than his nearest rival Kanan bin Ali the 1964 Champion.

Favorites again showed their skill in selecting fourteen winning favorites from the twenty-four races contested. Bookmakers would become bankrupt if they dare show their face on this track.

The weather was fine throughout the meeting, with very hard track conditions prevailing, causing a spate of sore shins and subsequent scratches to occur on the final day. Apart from the two unfortunate falling incidents, an excellent meeting could be reported.

A Sarawak Malaysian Diary

MARCH, 1965

1st Monday

Colour and traditional pageantry marks the Duke of Edinburgh's packed three-hour visit to Sibu, Third Division.

Revenue collections for the month of January, 1965 in respect of Export, Import and Excise duties amount to \$1,781,145.68 compared with \$4,033,516.79 collected during December, 1964, a decrease of \$2,252,371.02.

The Nanyang University Entrance Examinations begin this morning in the premises of the Kuching Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, Main Bazaar, Kuching.

There is a rush to join the First Division Civil Defence Corps when over 150 volunteers, Dayaks and Malays reported to be enlisted at the Civil Defence Headquarters at Padungan Road, Kuching.

2nd Tuesday

The Roman Catholic Bishop of the British Armed Forces, Monsignor Gerald W. Tickle, arrives in Kuching.

A man is reported to have been detained by the Police for questioning in connection with the \$2,000 snatch which occurred yesterday afternoon at Padungan Road.

The Education Department says that 1965 is a year of outstanding progress with regard to the training of teachers in Sarawak Schools.

Another 280 young people join the First Division Civil Defence Corps.

3rd Wednesday

The Governor of Sarawak, Tan Abang Haji Opong, speaking at the dinner party given by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to celebrate the Bank's Centenary, says that when a Bank with such a long established history and excellent reputation decides to establish itself in our country it is a very proof of confidence that investors have in our economic stability and future opportunities in this country.

A second number of 100 pilgrims leave for Mecca in the Holy Land of Islam this year.

A report released says that the Advisory Committee on Education decides to urge Government to provide secondary education for all children up to Form III as soon as possible.

The Assistant Commissioner of Civil Defence, South Group of Regions, Mr. M. Amerah, who is on a four-day visit to Sarawak, says in Kuching before returning to Singapore that there has been splendid response by the people for the call for volunteers.

The Duke of Edinburgh visits forward positions in the most sensitive part of the Malaysian Borneo border region.

4th Thursday

Statistics just released by the Department of Statistics, Sarawak, show that the total value of Sarawak's External trade for the month of November, 1964 amounted to \$28.80 million. This was \$3.12 million less than the previous month's total and was \$5.01 million more than the total of \$24.78 million for the corresponding period of 1963.

A naval Wessex helicopter of the 845 Squadron crashes into the Nanga Cant area of Sarawak's Third Division. Six members of the 6th Squadron, Royal Malay Regiment, are killed and a pilot seriously injured.

16th Friday

The Chief Minister, Dato Stephen Kalong Ningkan, says in Kuching that it is heartwarming to see the Malaysian armed forces are here not only to defend us but also to live and play with us.

16th Saturday

Mr. James Lim, M. of Wood St. (Bharu) Kuching, is the last councillor to sign up for the Civil Defence Corps at the Civil Defence Headquarters, Kuching.

Mr. Tan Ngi Chin, Secretary of the Kuching Municipal Council, declares that the RMC will spend about \$11,000 this year for the construction of three footpaths. This construction of footpaths is aimed for the benefit of pedestrians and particularly school children.

Over 1,000 entries from Secondary Schools all over Sarawak are exhibited at the two-day Schools' Science Exhibition held in Cheng Hwa Middle School, Sibu.

16th Sunday

The Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. James Wong, on behalf of the Chief Minister, welcomes at Prenting thirty-one National Service Volunteers who have returned after completing military training in Malaya.

16th Monday

The State Minister for Natural Resources, Mr. Tan Kai Seng, announces that when the new land legislation is introduced, it will play a vital part in furthering Government's policy of getting the various races in Sarawak to think of themselves as Sarawakians and Malaysians. He declares open the Lands and Survey Department Conference.

The Federal Minister for Selah Affairs and Minister for Civil Defence, Dato Donald Stephens arrived for a two-day visit.

The Director of Agriculture draws the attention of all importers of meat and meat products and fertilisers of animal origin to the Public Health (Control of Importation of Carcasses of Animals) Regulations 1964, which came into effect on 1st January, 1965.

Senator William Tan is unanimously elected President of the Sarawak Society for the Blind—his third year in succession.

The Chief Minister, Dato Stephen Kalong Ningkan, says at Seremang that he is most impressed by the Progress of our people—Government servants and public alike—is cultivating a new and progressive outlook.

16th Tuesday

A seventeen-year-old Chinese, Wong Sing Hui, is sentenced to two years imprisonment by Magistrate, H. S. Daniels for robbing \$2,000 belonging to the Hok Hai Bank, on January 25th this year.

A spokesman of the Department of Agriculture says that the incidence of a Ranikhet disease (Poultry Influenza) in the main killer disease of poultry in Sarawak, has been considerably reduced over the past five years.

16th Wednesday

Dato Donald Stephens, Federal Minister for Selah Affairs and Minister for Civil Defence, declares that a co-ordinating committee has been set up in Kuching and plans drawn up for Civil Defence Corps to be started in other parts of the country.

The second intake of National Service recruits from Sarawak, numbering 18, leave Kuching for Port Dickson, Malaya. They are seen off by the Chief Minister and Minister for Local Government.

Chia Zaitoon binti Manda Khan becomes the first woman to contribute to the Masjid Fund when she gives a sum amounting to \$100 to the Working Committee managing the Fund.

Mr. Fred Yoo Loong Hai, President of the Kuching Bank Employees' Union says that representatives of the Union meet the Accountant of the Chartered Bank in an attempt to get the Bank to reinstate a dismissed employee but without success.

Dr. Daniel Koh is elected President of the Kuching Rotary Club for the year 1965/66, while the 5th Rotary Club elects Kong Sang Sing to be its president.

A small security force patrol, operating in the remote jungle areas of Western Sarawak, opens fire on two long boats moving suspiciously down river and which contain four people whom the security forces have good reason to believe are part of an Indonesian incursion. Three of the occupants of the boat are killed and there is one survivor.

17th Thursday

A party of some fifty to sixty Indonesian infiltrators are ambushed this morning in the Bas District of the First Division of Sarawak. A Security Forces spokesman states that the enemy are surprised since six hundred yards inside Sarawak and that several are seen to fall when the ambush is sprung. There are no casualties to our own troops.

The Kuching Bank Employees' Union this evening holds an emergency general meeting at the Trade Union Centre the object of which is to decide on the course of action to be taken by the members against the Chartered Bank for what they claim to have been wrongful dismissal of a fellow member of the Union.

Iskha Narawi bin Dallah and Mr. Wang Teck Chai have been respectively re-elected Chairman and General Secretary of the SESCO Employees' Union.

The Governor of Sarawak, Tan Abang Haji Openg, who is also the Patron of the Charitable Trust and Fund-Raising Committee of the Kuching Masjid, presents a \$2,000 cheque to the Committee's Chairman, Dato Abang Haji Marzuki, at the Astoria. Yoh Puan Hajah Mariah also presents a cheque for \$200.

17th Friday

The Chief Minister, Dato Stephen Kalong Ningkan, approves minor projects costing \$15,000.

17th Saturday

The Minister for Communications and Works, Iskhah Yusoff bin Mahomed, pays tribute to the men of Second Youth Gurkha Rifles for their bravery.

The first Russian Journalist, Mr. Georgi G. Sytin, of the Soviet Government Newsagency Tass, stationed at Bangkok, visits Sarawak.

The Kuching Table Tennis Association holds the 1965 Open Junior Championship Tournament (Single) in the Kuching Youth Club at Reservoir Road, Kuching.

17th Sunday

Uagha Mohsein bin Abdul Kadir, Assistant Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, arrives in Kuching for a three-day visit to Sarawak.

17th Monday

A statement from the Department of Agriculture says that the new planting quota for Third Division to be carried out during the 1964-65 Development Plan is almost exhausted and for this reason it is reported that no further applications will be accepted for new planting.

A 16-year-old Sarawak Girl Guide, Hajah Norjanah Haj Sharif, the first to be presented with the Putrajaya Peranginan Nipahs Badge, receives the medal at an investiture.

Security Forces open fire on an enemy reconnaissance party approaching a forward post in the Baga District of the First Division of Sarawak.

14th Tuesday

The Kuching Fire Brigade brings into action this afternoon when some unidentified person or persons ring up 999 to inform them that there is a house on fire somewhere in the Kampong area along Jalan Daya. But when the Brigade and the Police come, there is no fire.

The Divisional Education Officer, Fourth Division, announces the establishment of an adult education school in Marudi, Barisan District.

15th Wednesday

The Federal Minister for Sarawak Affairs, Datu Temenggong Jughah, officially declares open two bridges at Nanga Arewan, Third Division.

Visiting residents of Kampong Gita and some areas along Matang Road, the District Council Ward of Along عثمان bin Along Hajj Manshi, make history when they get together to form an advisory committee which will render advice to their councillor in the Kuching Rural District Council, Along عثمان.

The Federal Minister for Transport, Datu Saridin bin Raji Jabbir arrives from Kuala Lumpur to perform the opening of the new V.I.P. room at Kuching Airport.

The Commissioner of Sarawak Constabulary (Mr. R. Henry) states that inquiries into the deaths of three persons shot and killed in a boat on a river in a remote border area of West Sarawak are proceeding.

The Sibu General Chamber of Commerce is formed and registered.

Mr. Milton Tan, Chairman of the Automobile Association of Singapore, presents a breakdown motorcycle service to the Automobile Association of Sarawak.

The Resident, Third Division, Mr. A. F. R. Griffin, presents a shield bearing the Sarawak Crest and inscription as a memento to the 6th Battalion Royal Malay Regiment, who are returning to Malaya at the end of their tour of duty in Sarawak.

16th Thursday

The Assistant Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Daghin Mubatin bin Abdul Rader appeals to all youth leaders in Sarawak to work together irrespective of race, build up really strong youth bodies in Sarawak, and try to put each other's feeling of belongingness to Malaysia.

The total collection for the Kuching Masjid Baiter Building Fund to date is \$46,162.74.

17th Friday

The Resident of the Third Division, Mr. A. F. R. Griffin, says that the emergency situation in the Third Division since the last meeting of the Third Division Advisory Council has not noticeably changed but there are signs that the people are coming forward with more information.

18th Saturday

The main body of Parti Barisan which is a member of the present ruling Alliance Government holds its meeting at the premises of the Malay National Union. The meeting, consisting mostly of executive members

in the First Division of Sarawak, is to clarify to Barisan members the stand the party has taken following the mandate given by voters that eight branches throughout the State. This mandate is to establish unity among pre-Malaysia natives and non-natives in both Parti Barisan and Negara.

The British Ministry of Overseas Development announces a grant of £100,000 (over RM250,000) spread over three years to the Government of Sarawak for agricultural research.

Councillor Toh Gook Choon, Deputy Chairman of the Sibu Urban District Council, declares open the 150,000 Sibu Swimming pool canton.

19th Sunday

The State Government presents a shield to the 1st Battalion 2nd King Edward Seventh's Own Gurkha Rifles on their departure from the Fifth Division. The Shield bears the Sarawak crest and crossed puring (dag and kris). The Resident of the Fifth Division, Mr. M. M. McSparran presents on behalf of the State Government.

Police are investigating the mysterious death of an engaged couple whose decomposed bodies are found in a wood near Sipit in the Batu Kiang area.

20th Monday

Indonesians fire a total of 12 medium mortar rounds at targets in the First Division of Sarawak. There are no casualties to either civilians or Security Forces.

The Sibu Boys' Club team wins the championship in the Sibu Basketball Association Open-local tournament with its Hie Company's National Team at runners-up.

Dr. Thiam Ah Kwe, Director of Fisheries Biology Unit, Zoology Department of the University of Singapore says that Sarawak can have a prawn industry and a big boost to the national income if prompt investigation on the possible swamp areas at Temengong, Senem, and Boral in the First Division are successful for prawn cultivation.

21st Tuesday

Australian troops take up fighting positions in Serapiak. Men of the 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment are flown from Baga to forward positions taking over the defence from the 1/7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles.

At Kuching the Chief Minister, Datu Stephen Kalong Ningkan, presents a shield bearing the Sarawak crest and crossed puring and kris to 1/7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles at Stomach Ward, as a farewell memento. The Battalion has just completed its third tour in the State.

Revenue collections for the month of February, 1963 in respect of Export, Import and Excise duties amount to \$5,128,408.46 compared with \$5,791,245.58 collected during January, 1963, a decrease of \$55,737.12.

An Australian patrol leader and a civilian tracker are killed by a sudden explosion in the border area of the First Division and another two members of the patrol wounded.

22nd Wednesday

The Malaysian Youth Soccer Team contingent arrives by the Coast Flight. The contingent, twenty-three strong, comprises four officials and the rest players whose average age is 18½ years.

Mr. Lo Suan Hsin, the Registrar-General, who is also the Registrar of Chinese for the State of Sarawak, presents Malaysian citizenship certificates at an informal ceremony at the Registrar-General's Office at Temple Street, Kuching to the second batch of people, numbering 150.

Three New Zealand External Affairs Officers, Dr. H. G. Harper, First Secretary, New Zealand High Commissioner, Kuala Lumpur; Mr. T. P. Davis, Head of the Asia Division External Affairs, New Zealand; and Mr. G. S. Abbott, Investigating Officer, Treasury, New Zealand, arrive for a two-day visit.

21st Thursday

The Chief Minister, Datu Stephens Kalong Ningkan, in an official statement says that any communication to the Press or other form of publication of Government officer's views on Government policy without permission, is a breach of discipline.

Over eighty people are considered homeless when the totally gas oil shophouses. It is believed that a total of about \$250,000 worth of goods and machinery has been destroyed.

The Malaysian Youth Football Team beats Kuching Selected by five goals to one at the Jubilee Ground, Kuching.

Thirty-five-year old, two feet four inches, Inche Ali Uta bin Berhal, believed to be Sarawak's shortest man, comes to Kuching to seek assistance.

Partials of paperback books from the Church of Scotland's Services Club at Terasdeli Camp, Malacca, Malaysia, are being dropped by helicopter to British troops on patrol in the Borneo jungle.

22nd Friday

The Chief Minister, Datu Stephens Kalong Ningkan, announces the approval of minor rural projects valued at M.170,264.00. These projects, which cover all divisions, are to be implemented in 1963.

An official statement from Malaysian Airways says that Malaysian Airways and Berneer Airways will merge on April 1 and on the day the people in Sabah, Brunei and Sarawak will be offered an increase in air services and, at the same time, a decrease in fares on some domestic routes within Borneo.

A contingent of the Third Battalion, Royal Malay Regiment, arrives in Sibu by air to replace the Sixth Battalion who are returning to the mainland.

23rd Saturday

The Governor, Tan Abang Haji Osman, advises 18 TNKU prisoners not to leave to and be influenced by the glib talkers who may lead them astray.

The Education Department releases that the number of successful candidates in last year's Sarawak Junior and Cambridge Examinations shows a large increase over the previous year. This is one result of the expansion and progress of Sarawak secondary schools which has taken place in recent years.

The Chairman of the Sibu Urban District Council, Mr. Khoo Peng Loo, presents trophies for winning teams in the Sibu Basketball Association Open to all Championship tournament.

24th Sunday

Sarawak's Chief Minister, Datu Stephens Kalong Ningkan, leaves for Kuala Lumpur to attend a meeting of the National Land Council.

25th Monday

The British Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. F. D. Webster, says in Kapi, Third Division, that Britain will continue to help Malaysia in her present difficulties.

A visiting Public Works Department Superintendent who has put in thirty-six solid years of meritorious service to the country, Mr. Tan Ah Kheng calls on all in the country to serve it well and with devotion.

Seven Group Supervisors of Schools leave for Kuala Lumpur for an observation course at the Selangor Department of Education.

Three units of the Armed Forces serving in East Malaysia present coats-of-arms on shield, for display in the Sarawak Museum.

Relief for Jahan fire victims are now coming in from individuals and various organisations in Sarawak. A fund-raising campaign is also launched under the leadership of Mr. Ling Chai Tong, Chinese Headman in Jahan. An amount of \$1,161 including \$60 from Siam has been collected in Jahan Town.

Military authorities condemn the accidental wounding of an Australian soldier in active service in Sarawak's border of the First Division against Indonesian infiltration.

The American International Coach, Bill Miller, who arrives from Sibu says that athletes in Sarawak or Sabah and Malaysia as a whole never lack enthusiasm or interest, but one of the most essential links is missing—and that is guidance.

Fourteen boys from Sacred Heart School pass their life saving examination and get bronze medals of the Royal Life Saving Society. The examiner is Mr. Jeremy Hagler of British Council, Kuching.

25th Wednesday

An Indonesian army private, 'Agent IP Sejono alias Samat who defects to Malaysia says that Indonesians should realize that Malaysia's stability and prosperity would also benefit the Indonesian people. He also emphasises the close racial and ethnological affinities of Malaysia and Indonesia.

The Minister for Local Government, Mr. Duncan Endowin, says that Sarawak is fortunate in possessing a well-developed system of Local Government.

The American coach Bill Miller gives a coaching session to athletes at Dragon School, 24th Mile, Samarang Road.

The President of the Kuching Municipal Council, Mr. Ong Koo Hui, declares open the new football field in the Jubilee Recreation Ground, Padungan Road, Kuching.

DONALD LEE

O and E

The district councillor for the Kolabaia was found guilty, last year, of forging a policeman to forge the fingerprint — a toe was actually used! — of my old friend Ponghala Lawat of Bako allegedly petitioning the government to remove the District Officer, Marud. Previously, this police constable (son of the headman of Pithi) had been sentenced for the offence; he was fined and dismissed. Sometime after that, the new rule was brought. The elected councillor, was sentenced to three months (without the option of a fine). He did not understand how to appeal. He served his sentence in Mile, and has incidentally since been for several months in the Mental Hospital, Kuching.

In consequence, of course, his age had by law to be declared vacant. The results of the recent, consequent by-election in Sarawak's remotest upland constituency are of interest, since the winning candidate is well-known as an outspoken younger critic of the Ponghala. The one who got second most votes (see below) is an older critic (he was one of our best guerrillas back in SRD times); and at the bottom of the poll came the Ponghala's own nephew:

Raja Ngiam (Pa. Malak)	270 votes
Isaiah Mahan (Pa. Benger)	172 votes
Balang Rada (Barak)	76 votes

All candidates were "non-party", but pro-Alliance. Nephew Balang Rada had previously been the

councillor, returned unscathed before the first fully dressed Kelabit dancer passed. The older order (invariably) changes!

Much is said in the Kelabit highlands, these days, though they took to politics almost last of anywhere in Malaysia — if not the world! I hear from Maroon Topong, the Group Headmaster there is Canadian on loan under the Colombo Plan that there are now the astonishing number of 287 Kelabit kids at the Marau school, a continuation of the first upland school which I was able to start partly with private funds back in 1946-7. Maroon, he tells me, this year 28 youngsters went on from there to secondary school in Marudi, making a total of over seventy Kelabit students in Marudi and Miri secondary schools. Meanwhile Lian Ansa, a Kelabit from Long Lelang, is doing well at Ohio State University, U.S.A. — where Maroon's family had him over to Canada for Christmas and where I hope to see him myself in May (social time).

Another interesting potential advance for the younger hill people is the development of a project as between a group of Rotary Clubs in Victoria, Australia and the Kuching Rotary Club. This arose from a trip I made to Australia last year, where some of the old "settlers" in S.R.D. (not time parenthesis) expressed a wish to continue to be linked to the Kelatins, Maraus, and Ithans and others they served with in 1945 in the Trusan, Limbung and Barun. It looks as if five Australian clubs may start this year, each "adopting" an old school or its kind (the details yet) for all sorts of extras and special things — outside the ordinary curriculum. Through Baidon, (Mr. Malcolm Macdonald), a star is already being made with the Marga Melanin school in the Limbung, in which area Rosarian Henry, now a leading businessman of Robin Vale, Victoria, served as a young soldier (there are several references to his extraordinary service in my "World Within"). Here was some of the toughest guerrilla fighting by Ithans and Kelatins against a force then numbering over 700 well-trained Japanese trying to escape into the interior. 360 survivors eventually surrendered after a hot battle at Bob Kaliah, on the then Dutch and now Confrontation border, on 11st October 1945; 24 months after the Armistice. (The Official War History puts this event 1 day later, incorrectly).

Henry is one of many Aussies who still feel the warmest affection for Sarawak and its people. It is just over twenty years since they first saw it and jumped in. Few have been back since — and happily one, Bill Chaffey, now a leading politician, writes of a visit elsewhere in this time.

One of the best presented publications we have seen since Malaysia is the "Annual Bulletin of Statistics: State of Sarawak". The state department is part of the wider set-up through the Federation, and the acting Chief Statistician for Malaysia M. R. Chander, notes a forward which could serve as a model for State-within-Federal operations of this character. As he says:

"Statistical Development in Sarawak is in its Infancy".

Nevertheless, more than 70 pages of detailed tables cover Population, Migration, Agriculture, Forestry, Mining, Fuel and Power, Transport and Communication, Foreign Stamp Sales and Telegrams Sent, Trade in all its aspects, Teaching, Health Clinic statistics, Deaths by Cause, Mental Hospital data, Meteorology, Crime and Co-ops. An absolute treasure-trove for the fact lover, and in itself an introduction to Sarawak. Price \$1.35.

I was specially interested in the race, migration and related information, which is very full and covers every year from 1949 to 1963.

The figures for "economically active population" (p. 2) are noteworthy, because on gross total Ithans beg twice as many as the Chinese and three as many as the Malays. This is largely because such a large proportion of Ithans — and such a small proportion of Malay — women are, in this sense, "economically active". Nor is the distinction a paper one. Few women really do work. Often harder than some of their men! Here are the figures for the last available year (as re-arranged by infancy-age):

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE PERSONS

	Male	Female
Ithans	64,083	58,618
Chinese	58,135	17,858
Malay	51,331	11,644
Europeans	591	176

Whereas the Chinese birth-rate (p. 9) has remained almost steady at 25.5 per thousand or over since 1955 the Ithans rate has varied between only 8.8 and 12.8; the Malays far below the Ithans here, with a 1957 low of 28.9 and a 1962 high of 41.5. This is recorded, however, by an all-time record put up by the Lund Dayaks, 41.8 in 1962 (2,508 births).

Compare the birth-rate — set out, of course, in much more detail in the report — with the "Natural Increase in Population" (p. 31). Again, the Chinese figures are remarkably constant, the Malay more erratic, and the Ithans much below. What is notable here is the high increase rate for Lund Dayaks.

NATURAL INCREASE RATE:

Year	Ithans	Chinese	Malay	Lund Dayak
1949	6.3	26.7	22.8	22.1
1950	6.9	31.4	27.8	28.4
1962	9.5	32.3	34.2	34.2
1963	7.8	30.6	21.4	22.2

It is an astonishing fact that although Ithans outnumber Lund Dayaks by nearly 4 to 1 (p. 4), almost the SAME number of children have been born to each group since 1955. Put another way, the Chinese are increasing their population fastest, and the Ithans are losing ground fast. In 1963 there were 1,338 Ithans births, 8,145 Chinese, 4,347 Malay (and 39 European!). Allowing for errors and delays in registration, the inference seems.

There have been some recent mentions in this Gazette of the fact that Sarawak Ithans have an ancient form of writing. The astonishing thing is that this script, paper word, was not noticed (or anyway mentioned) by the many earlier writers on Ithans here, such as Perham, Gosses, linguistographer Harwell and Mr. Anthony Richards. With the help of the late Mr. George Jurek, several old types of these remarkable writing boards have been obtained and studied in the last two years. Father Erik Jessen has also taken up the subject in the Second Division. Mr. Benedict Sanden has been collecting other material in the Third and Fourth Divisions. A fine and rather full report (about 80 pages of text) on a board with 64 characters from the Ulu Mahab, will be published by the National Museum of Holland in Leiden in April, and anyone interested who lets me know is welcome to a copy (free) provided she or he will help pursue this whole fascinating — and important — subject further. Drop me a line.

I have also found another form of board writing among the Konyak, and hope shortly to publish this extraordinary script, which has certain strange (if remote) affinities with the well-known — and still misunderstood — Easter Island script. Bishop Dennis Galvin at Miri is actively following up some of the problems raised by this and other Konyak ancient ideas, centred around the elaborate rites and grades of the Maruat society.

The Maxian Negara is a Federal Museum, in the federal capital, Kuala Lumpur. The other Federal museum is at Taiping. State Museums in Malaya Proper, so far as there are three run separately by Selangor and Malacca. Penang opened a new museum on April 18th, to which they kindly invited us. Others are projected soon. In Singapore the venerable and massive Raffles Museum, perhaps confusingly renamed National Museum, is run by the Singapore State Government. Sabah now has adequate funds and is starting Museums this year, energetically pushed by Mr. J. Bernick M.A. there. Brunei is now putting on its first public exhibitions in the Civic Hall, under qualified and keen Pengiran Sharifudin. He plans to begin building a full museum shortly.

This is a great change from five years ago, when there was only a hut as any sort of museum in Kuala Lumpur, and almost nothing anywhere else except Taiping (without a Curator), Singapore and Kuching. Much is due to the interest, in Kuala Lumpur, of the Tongks personally.

Sarawak has done a considerable amount both to train Museum staff and make collections for Sabah and Brunei (they have three insurers in Kuching at present), and in helping the Maxian Negara get started. Now this well established co-operation is initially visible in Kuala Lumpur, with a series of Sarawak exhibits, at present mainly contemporary crafts — Biau-pau textiles, Kayan barkwork, Konyak metal work, Melanau basketry, Berayan sculpture and so on. It is of course only a beginning. As more space becomes available in the Maxian Negara it is hoped to enlarge and improve this Sarawak exhibit considerably. Meanwhile, the Maxian Negara has generously reciprocated by loaning us valuable Malayan textiles, keris and woodwork for study and display purposes here.

The other day we had a letter from a well-wisher (and she really has proved herself one) on a visit to Kuala Lumpur. She is terribly unkind but is quoted here to give another point of view — has anyone think us too complacent. She writes:

"In Kuala Lumpur recently, I visited the Museum. Sarawak's 'Corner' among models of the rivers and a panorama of aboriginal re-settlement gave me a horrid shock. With its display only of barkwork and woods with its captions of Konyak, then etc., it doesn't help strangers to visualize Sarawak. I expect there are plans in hand for a proper display, but at the moment it looks rather like the handicrafts in the 'Antara' shop.

"The juxtaposition of the photographs of Malayan aborigines and our handicrafts gives a very poor impression to visitors in Kuala Lumpur, most of whom will never come here."

See next page for pictures.

We receive some splendid letters in various capacities. This is one dated 16th March, 1965, from one of the big film companies in U.S.A.—U.K., addressed from Soho Square, London, W.1.

Curator,
Sarawak Museum,
Kuching, Sarawak.

Dear Mr. Harilaou,

The London Zoo has suggested that you might be able to assist us in obtaining some filmed sequences of gorillas in their natural habitats. We also wish to include shots of elephants, lions, and other wild animals in natural surroundings in our forthcoming production "A Suitable Case for Treatment", which has been written by David Mervin, and will star David Warner and Vanessa Redgrave, and be directed by Karl Reisz.

Briefly, the film is a comedy about a man who is obsessed with the notion that animals — particularly the wild animals — have a grace and vitality and gift for living which he himself has lost, and he constructs an elaborate animal mythology for himself.

None of the animal sequences will be of very long duration.

Yours sincerely,
LEON CLORE.

So if you hear that there's a dash of water-buffalo at Oya, you'll guess what's cooking, huh?

A word on the Kuching Junior Chamber of Commerce, which has been even more sympathetic than usual lately. Chairman Dr. John Fongdar's Education Commission has specially been hitting the headlines. He tells me that their recently announced scholarship scheme has been a special success. He further writes as follows:

"Since then we have given scholarships to nine students, covering their school tuition fees. The successful applicants are to meet the committee this Saturday, March 20, at 4.00 p.m.

"The Education Committee of Kuching J.C. is also organising a course of demonstrations of month to month breathing in various secondary schools. This should help to guide the students how to act to save life in the event of drowning, road accidents, electric shock or poisoning. The first series of demonstrations has commenced in St. Joseph's School, Kuching."

Yours sincerely,
JOHN FONGDAR.

Meanwhile the Kuching Rotary Club, senior body of its kind in the area, has elected dynamic Dr. Daniel Kik as 1965-6 President, so we may expect the usual Rotary Social service lectures to continue, as under energetic retiring President Dr. Robert Dickey (1964-5). No wonder there aren't enough doctors to go round in Malaysia and we're having to look for some in South Korea!

T. H.



Sarawak Section in Museum of Modern Art, Kuala Lumpur, March, 1963.



Part of Sarawak Section

Arrivals and Departures

ARRIVALS

Mr. R.J. McIlrath (newly appointed Assistant Commissioner of Police)	On first appointment on 23.1.1965.
Mrs. M. R. Hubble and son	To join Mr. M.R. Hubble on 23.6.65.
Mrs. B.V. Hale and daughter	To join Mr. F.R. Hale on 30.1.65.
Mrs. M. Simon and daughter	To join Mr. S.D. Simon on 17.1.1965.
Mr. H.A.D. Polley (newly appointed Deputy Superintendent of Police)	On first appointment on 17.1.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. D. L. Brown	Returning from leave on 26.5.1965.
Mr. M.J. Cohen (newly appointed Deputy Superintendent of Police)	On first appointment on 14.5.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. F.W. McIlrath and 2 children	Returning from leave on 1.6.1965.
Mr. T.E. Oliver	Returning from leave on 5.6.1965.
Mr. A.A. Brockhoff (newly appointed Deputy Superintendent of Police)	On first appointment on 5.6.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. R.L. Mahon and 2 children	Returning from leave on 5.6.1965.
Mr. K.O. Lodge (newly appointed Deputy Superintendent of Police)	On first appointment on 16.6.1965.

DEPARTURES

Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Smith	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave on completion of contract on 17.1.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. A. Shook and 3 children	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave on 17.1.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. J.M. Cooper and 2 children	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave on completion of contract on 19.1.1965.
Mr. H.S. Daniel	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave on completion of contract on 21.1.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. J. Laidie (Mother & daughter)	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on 14.1.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. R.J. King	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave on completion of contract on 26.1.1965.
Miss E. O'Kelly	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave on completion of appointment on 30.1.1965.
Mr. & Mrs. A.G. Mackie	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave prior to retirement on 1.6.1965.
Mrs. R.M. Parry and 3 children (7, 6 & 4 years)	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on 14.1965.
Mr. R.H. Allen	Proceeding to the United Kingdom on leave on 1.6.1965.

MAY, 1965

CALENDAR			MOON PHASES			HIGH WATER	
English	Chinese	Malay	☉ 1st New Moon	☾ 1st Full Moon	☉ 1st Last Quarter	English	Malay
Sat.	1	1	29	Intercommemorative, Labour Day, St. James van Wyck (R.C.) SS, Philip and James the Less (A.C.B.). 1st day of the 4th Moon (10 days).		0650	1710
SUN.	2	2	1	1st Sunday after Easter. 1st day of Moharram. Muslim New Year 1387.		0650	1742
Mon.	3	3	2			0650	1813
Tue.	4	4	3			0719	1830
Wed.	5	5	4			0810	1829
Th.	6	6	5			0856	1814
Fri.	7	7	6			1008	1758
Sat.	8	8	7			1107	1730
SUN.	9	9	8	1st Sunday after Easter.		—	1717
Mon.	10	10	9			—	1700
Tue.	11	11	10	Labour — Orthodox Day, commemoration of Hasan and Hussein, St. Philip and James the Less (R.C.).		0410	1611
Wed.	12	12	11			0540	1550
Th.	13	13	12			0641	1538
Fri.	14	14	13			0800	1524
Sat.	15	15	14	St. John Baptist de la Salle Teachers' Day (R.C.).		0917	1505
SUN.	16	16	15	1st Sunday after Easter.		0960	1451
Mon.	17	17	16			0944	1437
Tue.	18	18	17			0723	1427
Wed.	19	19	18			0803	1407
Th.	20	20	19			0846	1348
Fri.	21	21	20			0934	1259
Sat.	22	22	21			1024	1194
SUN.	23	23	22	1st Sunday after Easter.		1114	1078
Mon.	24	24	23	Commencement Day, English Day.		—	1057
Tue.	25	25	24	Agapan Day, Kuching Municipal Council Meeting.		—	1002
Wed.	26	26	25	Agapan Day.		0846	1008
Th.	27	27	26	Agapan Day.		0929	1000
Fri.	28	28	27			0961	0959
Sat.	29	29	28	Sarawak Turf Club Race.		0936	1004
SUN.	30	30	29	1st Sunday after Agapan.		0948	1025
Mon.	31	1	30	1st day of the 5th Moon (12 days).		0931	1041

ANALYSIS OF HISTOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1961

Division	Station	Latitude N.	Longitude E.	Mean Temperature in Degree Fahrenheit								Rainfall				Total Rainfall	Max. of Rainfall	No. of days	Height of Rainfall
				Maximum				Minimum				Date	Date	Date	Date				
				9 a.m.	12 p.m.	3 p.m.	9 p.m.	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum								
FIRST DIVISION	Coaling Airport	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
SECOND DIVISION	Coaling Airport	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
THIRD DIVISION	Coaling Airport	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
FOURTH DIVISION	Coaling Airport	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
FIFTH DIVISION	Coaling Airport	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	
	Coaling	12° 15' N	124° 15' E	79.2	80.2	81.2	78.7	78.8	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.7	79.8	

Kuching Market Price List

March 1963

Average

Rice—(per gantang)		Average	
Local, White, Government Milled	...	...	...
Local, White, Milled	...	...	...
Siam White 100%	...	...	1.20
Siam A 55%	...	...	1.80
China Rice	...	...	1.60
Siam Broken Rice A1 Super	...	...	1.30
Ranggon	...	...	...
Sugar—(per kat)		Average	
White Sugar	...	...	.25
Brown Sugar	...	...	.30
Nipah Sugar	...	...	.30
Salt—(per kat)		Average	
Coarse	...	...	.10
Fine	...	...	.10
Nipah	...	...	1.20
Flour and Bread		Average	
White Flour, per kat	...	...	.85
Bread, per small loaf	...	...	.25
Bread, per large loaf	...	...	.45
Milk—(per tin)		Average	
(a) Condensed	...	...	...
(i) Liberty Brand	...	...	.85
(ii) Tea Pot	...	...	.85
(iii) Milk Maid	...	...	.70
(b) Local Fresh Milk	...	...	.80
Eggs—(per doz)		Average	
Turtle	...	...	.30
Duck, fresh	...	...	.25
Duck, salted	...	...	.25
Pork	...	...	.25
Edible Fat—(per lb.)		Average	
Butter	...	...	2.20
Coconut Oil	...	...	1.60
Vegetable Oil	...	...	.75
Lard, No. 1	...	...	1.30
Lard, No. 2	...	...	.80
Olives	...	...	2.20
Dripping	...	...	.80
Pork—(per kat)		Average	
Lean, No. 1	...	...	1.40
Lean with Fat, No. 2	...	...	1.40
Fat	...	...	.80
Ribs	...	...	2.00
Beef—(per kat)		Average	
Beef, steak	...	...	3.20
Beef, Curry meat	...	...	1.80
Beefsteak, No. 1	...	...	.25
Beefsteak, Curry meat	...	...	1.80
Mutton, Australian	...	...	3.00
Mutton, Local	...	...	3.00
Poultry—(per kat)		Average	
Capon	...	...	2.00
Chinese Cocks	...	...	1.80
Falcons	...	...	2.00
Chinese Hens	...	...	1.60
Duck, Fresh	...	...	1.70
Ducks	...	...	1.60
Mansony	...	...	1.60
Cross-Breed	...	...	1.60
Geese	...	...	1.60
Fish—(per kat)		Average	
Fresh Fish, No. 1	...	...	1.40
Fresh Fish, No. 2	...	...	.80
Fresh Fish, No. 3	...	...	.50
Prawns, No. 1	...	...	1.60
Prawns, No. 2	...	...	.80
Crab, No. 1	...	...	1.20
Crab, No. 2	...	...	.80
Salted Fish, No. 1	...	...	2.40
Salted Fish, No. 2	...	...	1.10
Salted Fish, No. 3	...	...	.70
Vegetables—(per kat)		Average	
Bamboo Shoots, salted	...	...	.15
Bamboo (Libikaya)	...	...	.10
Banghaling	...	...	.20
Bayan	...	...	.20

Vegetables—(per kat)—Contd.

Average	
Bean Sprouts	.30
Cabbage	.60
Changkok Mame	.45
Cauliflower (Tiamay)	.30
Chilies, Red	1.05
Chilies, Green	.85
Daun Bawang	.85
Daun Peteh	.80
Daun Buar	.81
Daun Buar	.85
French Beans	.75
Garlic, fresh	1.15
Garlic	.75
Kachang Panjang	.45
Kangkong Ajoi	.35
Kangkong Roost	.45
Keladi Batwai	.15
Keladi China	.30
Keroh	.45
Kerohang	.15
Kudoh	.20
Laba	.20
Laba Duri	.45
Lada Fingon	.80
Lengas	.80
Lobak (Chinese Radish)	.80
Lobak, white	.80
Onions, Bombay	.80
Onions, small	.50
Peas, Imported	.30
Peas (Butter Beans)	.75
Sambrat, Imported	.80
Sambrat, Local	.80
Tamarind (Bak Asam)	.40
Tomatoes	.85
Trong (Brinjals)	.80
Sauco, No. 1 (per bottle)	1.00
Sauco, No. 2 (per bottle)	.80
Sauco, No. 3 (per bottle)	.50
Tea—(per lb.)	
Tea, Ceylon	4.50
Tea, Chinese	1.80
Coffee—(per kat)	
Raw, Java No. 1, Local	2.00
Raw, No. 2	1.90
Powder (1st quality)	3.00
Fruits—(per kat)	
Mang Limban (per kat)	.15
Mang Tando	15-25
Nanas	20-100
Beef Beet (per kat)	.20
Sambles	
Bean cake (per piece)	.10
Bean cake, white (per piece)	.10
Bean cake, yellow (per piece)	.25
Blackon (per kat)	.70
Charcoal (per piece)	8.90
Coconut, fresh (each)	.25
Coconut, fresh (per tin)	1.20
Dried Prawns (per kat)	2.00-3.00
Kereasa (oil) (per tin)	4.00
Kereasa (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
Strong Rider (per packet of 10)	.40
Crown "A"	.20
White Eagle	.45
State Express (per tin)	2.85
Capstan (per packet of 10)	.45
State Express 255 (per packet of 10)	.35
Lucky Strike (per packet of 20)	.85

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3 pictures per second for
30 frames continuously—
without re-winding.



Sole Agents
The JARDINE WAUGH Organisation