



THE

Sarawak Gazette.

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Local and Personal.

NOVEMBER.

His Highness the Rajah and Dayang Valerie arrived at Kuching on November 22nd, having travelled from Singapore by s.s. *Fyner Brooke*. As this vessel passed Fort Margherita at about 10.15 a.m. a salute of twenty-one guns was fired from the Fort Battery, and as soon as she dropped anchor opposite Astana the Siamese State Barge came alongside with His Highness the Tuan Muda, Mr. H. B. Crocker, Acting Government Secretary, Mr. H. M. Calvert, Acting Treasurer of Sarawak, Mr. W. F. Dick, Resident, First Division, and His Highness the Rajah's Aide-de-Camp on board. After an exchange of greetings His Highness the Rajah and Dayang Valerie were rowed in the State Barge to the Astana pengkalalan, where they were met by members of the Committee of Administration and Supreme Council.

After His Highness the Rajah had inspected the Constabulary guard of honour which was drawn up on Astana lawn under the command of the Adjutant, His Highness proceeded to Astana, where Heads of Government Departments and representatives of all communities—European, Malay, Chinese, Japanese, and Indian—were gathered. Refreshments were served, and after a short speech of welcome the healths of His Highness the Rajah and Dayang Valerie were proposed by Mr. H. B. Crocker and drunk by all present. His Highness replied in a few words and shortly afterwards the guests dispersed.

We take this opportunity of welcoming His Highness the Rajah and Dayang Valerie back to Sarawak.

The Sarawak Gazette.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1936.

A. J. M. Allan

Advice has been received by telegram that Her Highness the Rance sailed from Marseilles in the P. & O. s.s. *Rajasthan* on November 13th. Her Highness is expected to arrive in Kuching on December 7th.

On November 23rd a daughter was born to the Earl and Countess of Inchcape, to whom we tender our congratulations. On hearing the good news the Government Secretary despatched the following telegram to the Government Agent, London:—

"Please convey to Darling Leonesa and Lord Inchcape congratulations of Sarawak Government officers and all communities on birth of daughter."

and on November 28th the following letter was received from the Countess of Inchcape (Darling Leonesa):—

31, PARK SQUARE,
Mayfair, W.1,
November 28th.

"Dear Mr. Crocker,

I want to thank you and the Sarawak Government officers for your kind words of congratulations on the birth of our daughter Rosemary. Will you please convey to everyone as best you can on behalf of Lord Inchcape and myself my sincere thanks at your kind interest in our family."

Yours sincerely,
Leonesa"

His Highness the Tuan Muda and Dayang Anne, who are travelling to Europe by air, left for Singapore by s.s. *Darrel* on November 25th. Both His Highness and Dayang Anne originally intended to return to Europe via China and Siberia, but the report of disquieting news regarding the health of the Rance Margaret caused them to change their plans.

Her Highness the Rance's autobiography, which has recently been published, has been very favourably reviewed in the Press. We print one of the notices elsewhere in this issue.

The book, the title of which is "Selvin of Sarawak: an Autobiography," is published by Messrs. Hutchinson at 18/- It is, of course, of particular interest to those acquainted with Sarawak, but the subject-matter is so interesting and it is so entertainingly written that it has a general appeal, and will be appreciated, we are sure, by a very wide circle of readers.

Major W. C. Adams, Commandant of the British North Borneo Armed Constabulary, spent a week-end in Kuching on his way from Singapore to Jesselton as the guest of Mr. D. V. Murphy. Another visitor to Kuching during the month was Mr. J. A. P. Strachan, the Chairman of Directors of United Engineers, Ltd.

November was distinguished by the unusual number of Europeans who returned from furlough. These included Mr. and Mrs. E. Parnell, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. G. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Danbury, and Mr. D. MacDonald, Manager of Sengul Tengah Estate. Captain and Mrs. C. F. Lowe also arrived back in Kuching after a trip to Japan, Captain Lowe having recently been granted six week's sick leave.

Mr. E. Parnell resumed duty in the Treasury on November 23rd, and Mr. H. M. Calvert, who had been acting as Treasurer of Sarawak during Mr. Parnell's absence on furlough, took over the Trade and Customs Department from Mr. L. D. Kennedy on the 28th.

Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy left on furlough by s.s. *Darrel* on November 28th.

On Saturday, November 28th, the St. Andrew's Society of Sarawak held their annual celebration in the shape of a dinner and dance at the Sarawak Club. The guests assembled in the main hall of the Club at 8.30 p.m. for punch, and about three-quarters of an hour later no less than seventy persons sat down to an excellent dinner, complete, of course, with the traditional haggis. The traditional accompaniment, too, was not wanting, and served to bring out the best in the excellent fare provided.

The "Pious Memory of St. Andrew" and "The Rajah" were proposed by Mr. James Scott, the Chairman; Mr. Boyd proposed "The King," and Messrs. Dickson and Cordner gave us "The Guests" and "The Ladies" respectively, each toast being preceded with an admirable speech. Mr. Crocker replied on behalf of the guests, and Mrs. Calvert gave a neat and pointed reply to "The Ladies."

After dinner, rock, petronellus and other barbaric dances were performed to the strains of the pipes,—produced through the agency of a wax-disk and the Club's amplifier! With so many Scotsmen among us it seems a pity that Kuching cannot produce even one wee chanter,—particularly since so much of our musical talent comes from the Scots community. Nevertheless the sweet pipes of the amplifier produced the true hie/land atmosphere, and the festivities continued until the small hours; in some cases, indeed, it is whispered that they continued until the following day!

On the Sunday morning the Scots took on the Sassanachs at golf and beat them 8½ to 4½, thereby proving, in Kuching at any rate, that the Sassanachs are as much a match for them at their national game as they are at their national drink. But after the delightful evening the Sassanachs had enjoyed they did not grudge their hosts of the previous night their victory.

We extend a hearty welcome to Mr. D. McNiven who arrived in Kuching on November 24th in order to take over the Agency of the Chartered Bank from Mr. J. M. Allan, who sailed on home leave on November 24th. As it is unlikely that Mr. Allan will be returning to Sarawak, we take this opportunity of wishing him bon voyage and the best of luck in the future.

Mr. R. L. Darby has been appointed District Officer, Kuching, and has taken over the affairs of the Kuching District from Mr. G. F. J. Pegler, who has been appointed to act as Travelling District Officer, First Division.

The *Pagar Brooke* had an exceptionally rough passage when bringing His Highness the Rajah and Dayang Valerie from Singapore; seas were breaking over the forecasle even before the ship passed the Horsburgh light, and when she reached the open sea conditions became very much worse. The rough weather, however, did not delay her, and she dropped anchor opposite Astana punctually at 10.30 a.m. on the 23rd.

We welcome to Sarawak Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Lansdale-Rathven, who arrived at Kuching on November 24th. Mr. Rathven has been appointed Legal Adviser and Registrar, Supreme Court.

On November 12th an R.A.F. flying boat arrived at Pandan from Singapore with Squadron-Leaders L. Darvall and R. A. George and several other R.A.F. officers. She returned to Singapore the following morning.

The second anniversary of the Sylvia Cinema occurred on November 24th, and elsewhere in this issue will be found a brief review of some of the films that have been shown there during the past two years. The Sylvia Cinema has proved of immense value to all communities and has long been recognised as one of the greatest amenities of Kuching.

This year for the first time we shall be able to send Hari Raya and Christmas greeting telegrams inside Sarawak at the remarkably low cost of 25 cents for the first ten words and 3 cents for each extra word. It will be interesting to see the extent to which the public will avail itself of this new service.

On November 4th the Rev. Father J. Staal, Rector of the R.C. Mission, Sorbian, returned from European furlough by a.s. *Rarekat*, and proceeded to Sorbian a few days later.

Mr. A. F. Baughan arrived at Kuching on November 26th to take over the management of Messrs. Sims, Darby & Co., Ltd., from Mr. G. J. Dickson, who is shortly leaving to become Manager of the firm's branch at Ipoh. Mr. Baughan, of course, was Assistant Manager of Sims, Darby's local branch in 1929 and 1930, and we welcome him back to Sarawak.

STOP PRESS.

We announce with the deepest regret that on the morning of December 2nd a telegram was received commiserating the news of the death of Her Highness the Ranee Margaret. Government offices throughout the State were immediately closed as a mark of respect, and flags were half-masted, and in Kuching the Sylvia Cinema was closed on the night of December 2nd on His Highness the Rajah's personal instructions.

His Highness the Rajah has directed that mourning is to be worn by all Government officers for a period of one week, commencing from December 2nd.

We understand that the funeral of Her Highness the Ranee Margaret will take place at South Asot on Saturday, December 5th, in accordance with Her late Highness' wishes. The funeral service will be held in London on December 4th.

On behalf of all our readers we take this opportunity of extending to His Highness the Rajah and all members of His Highness' family our deepest and most sincere sympathy in their great loss.

An obituary notice appears below.

HER HIGHNESS THE RANEE MARGARET.

OBITUARY.

We announce with the most profound regret the death of Her Highness the Ranee Margaret, which occurred at her home in England on December 1st. Until only a few weeks ago Her Highness had been in the best of health and spirits, but towards the end of November she had a sudden illness, and her condition gave rise to serious anxiety. On receipt of this news His Highness the Tuan Muda, who had intended to travel to Europe via Siberia, changed his plans and decided to fly home, but the end came earlier than was expected. A telegram received on November 30th stated that although the Ranee Margaret's condition showed very little change, she was gradually being ground, and at 2 p.m. on December 1st an announcement on the Wireless News conveyed to His Highness the Rajah and the people of Sarawak the sad tidings that the Ranee Margaret had died some twelve hours earlier. This was confirmed by telegram on the following morning.

The Ranee Margaret was born in Paris on October 9th, 1848. She spent her childhood at the Chateau d'Epigny-sur-Ogny, the home of the Barons de Windt, whose name her English father subsequently took on marrying into the family. Later on the Chateau d'Epigny was sold and the Ranee Margaret and her parents came to live in Wiltshire.

In 1869 she first met Sir Charles Brooke (then Mr. Brooke) who was her mother's cousin and who two years previously had succeeded Sir James Brooke as second Rajah of Sarawak. The Rajah and she were married on October 26th, 1869, after a somewhat unconventional courtship, and a few months later they set sail for Sarawak.

The Ranees were a woman of quite exceptional courage and good nature, and it was as well that she possessed these qualities since Sarawak in 1870 was in bad odour for a girl of twenty accustomed to the life of a French Chateau and an English country house. Anxieties which we now take for granted were then non-existent, and conditions generally were primitive to the extreme; indeed, it is difficult to imagine the reactions of a young Englishwoman such as the Ranees suddenly transported from the grace and rules of the English court to the Sarawak of nearly twenty years ago. The experience must have been a terrible one, whether, to say the least of it, for any fears that the Rajah may have entertained regarding his young bride's attitude to the new and strange life to which he was bringing her were soon dispelled.

The Ranees Margaret loved Sarawak from the first moment of her arrival, and this love, which was deep-rooted and true, remained unshaken to the end. Her writings describe her feelings of wonder and delight at her first glimpse of the coast, and this sense of joyous adventure survived all the monotony that is an inevitable concomitant of life in a small settlement in the tropics, and enabled her to find fresh interest and excitement in every day that passed. It was indeed a case of love at first sight: in Sarawak and its people she found something that made a deep appeal to her warm and generous nature, something that struck responsive chords in her heart and created all the sympathy and understanding that she could bestow in such overflowing measure.

And her love was abundantly returned. The Malays, who were instantly her friends and whose confidence she gained at her first meeting with them, treasure her memory to this day. They saw in her not the wife of a European ruler, royal and remote, but a gracious lady who identified herself heart and soul with the country of her adoption, and who put the interests of the people always before her own. So greatly did she value her friendship with the Malays, and so deeply did she treasure the memory of her association with them, that in her later years she never tired of hearing news of her Malay friends, their children, and their children's children; and only a few weeks before her death she sent to the Malays of Kuching a message of greeting and affection, saying that although it was such a long time since she had seen them, and although she lived so far away, she would never forget them, and hoped that they would not forget her. She need have had no fear.

The European community of Kuching in the year of the Ranees Margaret's arrival consisted of three married couples and five or six bachelors. Communications with the outside world were irregular and uncertain, most of the comforts of civilised life were lacking, and amusements were few. The Ranees Margaret, however, instead of lapsing into boredom, made her own amusements, and found in the country and in the Malays an inexhaustible store of interest. She was adored by the Malay ladies of Kuching, who frequented the *Asans* regularly, and who delighted in her society, and did much to relieve what must otherwise have been a life of some loneliness; in those troubled days the Rajah was often absent for long periods either on expeditions, or else attending to court

station problems. The Ranees, however, did not always stay in Kuching; even in those days of rough and uncertain travel she managed to visit Malak, and indeed she was once confined in Malak last during a wave that followed Lintang's abortive attack. In her own account of this episode the Ranees tells how she and Ima, her little Malay maid, took refuge behind a piano while Sepoys and native footmen looted cannon and smashed the top-boles of the fort under the direction of Mr. Hickson, the Resident, who had successfully driven off Lintang's forces a short while before.—An unusual experience for a young married woman straight from England! The Ranees also paid visits to Malak and to Sarawagang, where she witnessed her first display of Dayak dancing, and where she was a trifle taken aback to see one of the performers comically produce a cracked head at one stage of the dance as though it were nothing more unusual than a pair of moccasins.

In April, 1879, the Ranees Margaret accompanied the Rajah on his first visit to the Baram river, which at that time was a totally unknown and unexplored river under the rule—no other example of the Sultan of French. This was such a formidable journey that it is impossible to do justice to it here, and the Ranees's own story of it is reproduced on another page. It makes fascinating reading, and is a good example of the Ranees's courage and love of adventure.

In the Ranees Margaret were united a vigorous intellect, a most vital personality, and an outstanding physical beauty. She was gifted by nature with a number of accomplishments, the chief of which was probably her skill at music, for which she had a profound love and a marked gift. At the tender age of four she first began to play the piano; at five could read music, and at seven she was launched into concerted music, and could take the piano parts of Mozart's earlier trios. Among her teachers were celebrities such as Ambrose Goddard, Charles Hallé and even Thalberg, all of whom spoke highly of her talents, and in later life she counted among her friends Edward Elgar, the composer, and W. H. Reed, the well-known critic. In 1881, at the age of 12, she was chosen with W. H. Reed to record the Kreutzer sonata for the gramophone, and a year or two later she gave an open recital at Queen's Hall. According to Montaigne, "It is the habit which sophisticated people first adopt, and other things the result"—but in the Ranees Margaret's case it was neither; until her last illness her magnificent vitality remained unimpaired. She refused to give way to advancing years, and until the end she remained what she had always been,—a very great lady such as we shall not easily see again in our time.

The Ranees Margaret lived every phase of her life to the full, and got the best from each moment of it. Now, at the close of the long day, night has come, and she has fallen asleep. But though it is night, and she sleeps, her memory lives on. In her last book she wrote that when her time came, she hoped that a recording angel with a pen dipped in love and beauty might pass by where she rested and inscribe the word "Sarawak" in great golden letters across her heart. Her wish has surely come to pass, and just as surely must she know that her own name is written indelibly in the hearts of Sarawak's people.

The Late Ranee Margaret.

As a tribute to the memory of Her Highness the late Ranee Margaret we print below her own account of her visit to the Rarum River in 1875,—surely one of the most remarkable journeys ever undertaken by an Englishwoman. The account is taken from her book "Good Morning and Good Night," published by Messrs. Constable in 1934:—

Shortly after our return the Rajah decided to visit the Rarum River, taking with him Mr. de Crespigny, the Borneo Company's Agent, my brother Mr. Harry de Windt and myself. The territory which he intended to explore was situated further north than Sarawak's most northerly possession, Bitalah, in Horro, and was still at that time ruled over by the Sultan of Brunei.

Now the tribe inhabiting the regions at the head of the Rarum River were called Kayans, and were much given to foraging about and killing deer of Dyaks and other tribes who were subjects of the Rajah. As the Sultan of Brunei appeared to be powerless to control these Kayans and the outbreaks of hostilities were becoming all too frequent, the Rajah decided to go there, get in touch with the offending tribe and try to bring about a better state of things for everybody concerned, but especially for his own people who were being so constantly harassed. I don't believe he quite knew what he would find there or what he was going to do, but he realised that the Kayans were badly governed and out of control, and would probably be glad to do so so many other tribes had done and become his subjects.

Whatever was in the Rajah's mind, we all knew better than to ask him any questions. Had one of us attempted to do so the offender would no doubt have speedily found himself for himself imprisoned in one of the dungeons of the *Martamat* long-house rapidly back to Kuching. Therefore as we sped on our journey, the sun being calm, we talked of shoes and ships and sealing-wax, of villages and flags, but none of the object of our quest. All that the Rajah vouchsafed to Mr. de Crespigny, when we were at breakfast that first day, was that he was taking me with him in order to impress upon the inhabitants of the Rarum River that their king was a powerful one, in which information we answered "Oh!" and went on eating. Funnily enough the prospect of a journey into unknown and savage country, peopled by totally unmanageable tribes, had no terror for me, as absolutely confident was I in my husband's ability to deal with blood-thirsty and unscrivelled offenders. Sometimes I almost longed for a slight spice of danger in such, to me, novel undertakings. But no? I always left perfectly safe!

When we arrived at the mouth of the hitherto unexplored Rarum, members of the crew were sent off in ship's boats to take soundings, to enable us to enter its uncharted waters. After hours of toasting, when I was at each dip the sounding pole standing high above the watermark with only a depth of two or three feet even at high tide, I began to despair, and think that we might be kept examining the shallow entrance for days or even weeks, for I knew that the Rajah's patience was infinite and that he would not be turned back from accomplishing the purpose he had in view. There he sat with his three men companions, all smoking their horrible *Mandau* cigars and staring at the unknown coast, debating about the possibilities of future trade in the fertile country inland. How little then did my

husband foresee the benefits which would be reaped in Sarawak's commerce in years to come by the discovery of the vast oil-fields on the sandy shores they gazed at from the deck of the *Heortense*.

At last, after many hours, shouts of triumph were heard from the exploring boats. The men waved their oars in the air; a channel had been found. But, alas, the yacht could not make her way in owing to her overabundance of water. However, the Borneo Company's steamer, *Sri Sarawak*, which had accompanied the *Heortense* in view of such a contingency, being able to negotiate the shoals, we all transferred into it, and slowly, very slowly, found ourselves over the bar and at last inside the river. The *Heortense* was left outside at anchor, and we crawled along with infinite caution as our way up stream. Mr. de Crespigny, pencil and paper in hand, noted himself on the bridge in order to make a chart as the quartermaster called out his soundings. Up and up we went. Now and then, beyond the first forest lands, we could get glimpses of mountains in the distance. At first the course of the river was pretty straight. Then it began to zigzag and woggle in and out of its many bends, giving Mr. de Crespigny and his pencil a good deal of work. We were making for a somewhat isolated village called Batu Gading (Grey Rock), which the Rajah had been told by some of his Kayan subjects near Kuching, stood a good way up. We passed several villages, some long houses made of palm leaves with wooden walls were propped up by posts which at high tide stood in the water. Men, women and children were moving about, some of them paddling rice on the broad verandahs, while others paddled themselves about in canoes. They betrayed no surprise at the appearance of what, to them, was a hitherto unknown object—a ship with a smoking funnel streaming up their river. The Rajah pulled out his handkerchief and waved it repeatedly as we passed each village, bidding us all to do the same. The natives waved to us in return. We were getting along nicely and my husband was enjoying himself. That evening we anchored off one of these villages, but no sign of life appeared outside. At night came on and the sky was filled with stars, the most awful wails and shrieks began to leak from the wooden walls of the one long house which constituted the village. A corpse was lying inside and they were wailing for their dead. We had to stay where we had anchored as it was too dark for us to proceed, but what a gruesome night we spent! Even when we headed up anchor at daylight the wailing was still going on. "Ah, yes," said Mr. de Crespigny cheerily, as we steamed away. "In this world of life we are in death!" The Rajah, who knew most of the customs of the different peoples of these parts, thought it likely that they belonged to a tribe called Muruts, whose custom it is on death occasions for the friends to sit on the verandah opposite the room of the departed, cover their heads with cloths, and wail and moan, while the men visit each other and drink. The heads of the new female relations of the corpse are then shaved, after which the deceased is pushed into a large jar, the top is closed down and the jar is then covered with red cloth edged with tinsel. In the case of a chief ten years may elapse before the jar is buried in their graveyard, the ceremony being accompanied by much firing of guns and many repetitions. In the interval between the death and the burial, the jar is placed on a wooden platform, erected a few yards from the house. My brother wished that he could have had a peep at the corpse, none, unknown to the people, but I thought it all very gruesome and was thankful to get away from the scene.

We continued our slow progress for three whole days, after which we began to wonder whether we should ever reach our goal. Even the Rajah showed slight signs of impatience. At last, at sunset on the fourth day, on turning a sharp bend we saw a great steep rock sticking out of the bed of the river near the shore. Along the bank by the water stood a very long house on poles, covering the bank for about a quarter of a mile. Evidently the village of a very large tribe. It was to us a welcome sight. We had evidently arrived. Many canoes, large and small, were tied up to posts, but there was a deserted look along the banks and on the terraces of the house for village. After some time we made out through our field-glasses a group of some fifty or sixty men emerging from the forest near by and making their way to the house. Splendid fellows they were, with spears and shields and warlike accoutrements. Their caps bristled with horrid plumes, their hair looked as though glued down their backs, their ears, weighted down by leaden earrings, hung down to their shoulders, while the upper part was studded with tiger-cat's teeth which looked like reversed horns. Some of their armbands were of ivory, and dozens of bangles covered their arms and legs. Their jackets were made of hide; their charaxes twisted round their waists, taking the place of dresses, ended in a drapery front and back. Their breast shields were decorated with feathers and brass; they held spears in their hands. The whole effect was warlike, formidable and very picturesque. Both my husband and Mr. de Crespigny were of the opinion that they had just returned from some head-hunting expedition in the neighbourhood. They paid no attention whatever to the steamer, but quietly passed it by and made their way up the forty-foot bamboo girring entrance to the house and disappeared inside. Silence followed. The river ran just in to the sea. Night was coming on, and there we were in a wilderness of wood and water—not a sound to be heard. "What do you think of it, de Crespigny?" said my husband at dinner. "I think, Rajah, there must be British influence at work, and, with your permission, I will call on the Chief of the house to-morrow and ask him that you wish to see him on board." The Rajah approved of this suggestion and Mr. de Crespigny was accordingly rowed ashore next morning. He was about to climb the pole to the house when three Kayas appeared at the top of it and waved to him to proceed no further. The three Kayas then came down the ladder, fully armed with spears and shields, and as they reached the ground Mr. de Crespigny took hold of each in turn and pulled him into the boat. They made no resistance and stood fronted themselves in the presence of the Rajah on the deck of the *Sri Sarawak*. They were fine-looking men, taller and stouter than the Dyaks, all in full war-paint, and quiet and dignified in their greetings to the Rajah and myself when we touched the tips of each other's fingers. The conversation, interpreted by Mr. de Crespigny, was something like this, the Chief of the village being the spokesman. "Rajah Sarawak be very big man. Why he come here?" "I have come to pay you a visit," said the Rajah. "When can I go to your house?" "Oh, Rajah—very well," was the reply. "Rajah cannot come in just now. House is poor!" under a canopy. "No one from outside can come in for days." "Then I will wait until days pass," said the Rajah in a quiet and determined way. The Chief said nothing, but looked down and scratched himself. The Rajah then said, "Have you any strangers staying with you now?" The Chief looked uncomfortable and

then replied, "Yes, there are two Malays, sent from the Sultan, but they are poor too. They are shut up—they must not leave the house." "Very well," said my husband. "Now you may go." The trio then took their departure after once more touching the tips of our fingers. They went down the companion, were rowed ashore in the boat, went up the bamboo ladder into the house and disappeared. "The Sultan of Brunei must have been told of my intended visit here," said the Rajah. "But here I remain until I get into the village and have a talk with the people." What rather puzzled my husband and Mr. de Crespigny, however, was the fact of the inhabitants having resorted to the pangs, so that no strangers should be allowed to enter the walls of the house.

I rather forget how many days we remained at anchor in the river below the long house at Batu Galing. It may have been three, or possibly four. Even the *Kayans* themselves, I imagine, were aware that despite the two Brunei emissaries and their row of protecting the pangs, nothing they could see or do would induce the Rajah to leave the district until his purpose—that of visiting the village—had been accomplished. Then it happened that one evening the Rajah, tired of waiting, determined to send the pangs and all its measures to the devil. He ordered Mr. de Crespigny and my brother to land forthwith, make their way up the pole to the house, and enter it with or without permission. Now it must be remembered that, in their heart of hearts, the *Kayans* knew the Rajah to be friendly to their tribe, and were only held back from welcoming him by the presence of the canoes from the Sultan of Brunei. I wish I could have seen the famous meeting! Mr. de Crespigny, urbane, dignified, very quiet in gesture and able to speak the *Kayan* language. My brother, young, lively, full of mischief and fun as he smiled and winked and showed signs of friendliness to the young *Kayan* warriors. My brother had a map with him which in all his journeys among the natives of Sarawak evoked friendly response in their hearts. It must have been apparent to the *Kayans* themselves fully armed with spears and shields that they were in the presence of two brave men, for neither Mr. de Crespigny nor my brother had thought it necessary to protect themselves even with walking-sticks. "Now, you men of Batu Galing," said Mr. de Crespigny, addressing the Chief and his followers and the two Pangrams, who hovered in the background. "The Rajah of Sarawak has come to pay you a friendly visit and, as you are aware, he is not accustomed to be kept waiting. Therefore, to-day, at the hour before the sun begins to set, his Honor and himself intend to pay you a visit. He expects you—person or no—to be in readiness to receive him at that time." At the conclusion of this speech Mr. de Crespigny and my brother took their departure, escorted to the entrance of the house by the Chief and some of his men, descended the rattled bamboo, and returned to the ship. They had not failed to note that their announcement of the Rajah's visit was received by the Sultan's Pangrams with evidence of the utmost discontent.

As night fell, scudded from the deck of the *Sri Sarawak* that afternoon, the ship's boat, with crew reinforced by four of the Rajah's guard with loaded muskets, was awaiting us at the companion; my husband and I, accompanied by Mr. de Crespigny and my brother, got in and were rowed ashore. Lo and behold! the landing-stage was filled with *Kayan* warriors, the Chief and his men ranged along the bank on either side of the climbing-pole. And

how picturesque they did look, bristling with swords, spears, feathered caps, tiger's teeth; tattooed on legs and arms, be-bangled and beang with beads. I thought them beautiful and loved them all. As we stepped on shore the Rajah, with an impressive wave of the arm, ordered the boat, its entire crew, also the armed guard, back to the *dei Sarawak*. "No guard whatever, Rajah?" inquired Mr. de Crespigny, as the boat receded from the shore. "A sign that we treat them absolutely," said my husband, as the rifle were borne off on the steamer. After they had saluted each other, the Chief led the way up the bank, followed by the Rajah. Then my turn came. Oh dear, another such a going upstairs! Seeing my painful expression, two beautiful young Kayan warriors came forward and offered me a hand. They were so graceful and charming I did my very best. They smiled sweetly at each effort I made to turn out my toes to the required position. They reminded me of Pan and other sylphs gods I had read about in fairy tales. When we reached the top each one deposited my hand back by my side with a courtly gesture. So many years gone by since then, and I can see them now! How I enjoyed it all, so strange, novel and fascinating was the scene I had been pulled into!

The Rajah, well escorted by the Chief and the most important members of the tribe, went the first to enter the long house (habitable, and Mr. de Crespigny, of holding some five hundred people). There was a platform in front, open to the air, and the verandah along which we were escorted was made-in the whole length of the house. As I followed my husband, Mr. de Crespigny and my brother on either side of me, I was, all ranged against the wooden wall dividing the verandah from the dwelling-rooms beyond. Kayan warriors, spears in hand, standing straight and immovable. No one spoke. There was no sound but our footfalls as we were being led . . . where? At last we found ourselves in a large room the floor of which was covered with beautiful mats but having no furniture of any kind except two large blocks of wood about three feet high, covered with some yellow cotton material. These were placed in readiness for the Rajah and myself to sit on, with our backs to the light. I was afterwards told by Mr. de Crespigny that the seat occupied by the Rajah was a large slab cut out of the Taping tree, these seats being heir-looms in Kayan families and descending, black with age, from fathers to sons for many generations. Mine was no doubt an afterthought of no great consequence. Mr. de Crespigny and my brother seated themselves on the floor. For a long time we all sat on in silence, the only sounds to be heard being a cough or two now and then—the son of coughs to be heard frequently at gatherings where constraint is felt and people are ill at ease. The behaviour of the two Europeans from Brunei was somewhat discourteous. They kept prowling about among the Kayans, making signs to them and looking sidelong at us, until they finally turned their way over to where we were and seated themselves on the floor behind us. Most uncomfortable! I remember wondering if they intended jolting us unprepared ones in the back with a kick! Admirable as usual on such occasions, my husband sat on, apparently as unconcerned as though he was seated on a chair in his study at home. He pulled his monocle, looked round at the assembly and then said, "I have come to see you all as a friend. I want to open up trade on this river between my people and yours." The Malay orangs hated it all, because restless and kept on shewing sick, but the Chief and his

followers were evidently pleased. The shy coughings ceased and gave place to contented wriggles of their bodies as they sat on the floor. After a little, the Chief rose to his feet and gave tongue. Being ignorant of the Kayan language, the sounds he produced seemed to me like the croakings of a dejected frog, but I have told that what he said was: "Rajah Sarawak, big man, friend of Kayans all over the country. Rajah wish make friends. We wish too!" "Back!" (Back) replied my husband, and everyone, except the two emissaries of the Sultan, seemed to feel they were getting along very well. Smiles and greetings were exchanged, and a comfortable feeling came over us all. Then even poor me had a brain-wave! I turned to Mr. de Crespigny. "Ask the Chief where all the women are. I have come here with the Rajah, and as yet not one woman have I seen." "Not a bad idea," said the Rajah. "Tell the Chief to send for the women." A young Kayan went off hurriedly, opened a door leading from the hall where we were sitting, went within and closed the door. Presently it was flung open, and a charming procession of females made their way into the hall, headed by the Chief's wife, one of the most picturesque figures I have ever beheld. Small of stature, exquisitely formed, with a pale yellow complexion and large dark eyes of a somewhat Mongolian shape, the wonderful creature made her way slowly and with dignity to where we were sitting. Her black hair hung down over her shoulders and was bound round with a gleaming fillet of straw, her petticoat of white cotton was draped round her waist and reached her ankles, being slit up on one side to allow freedom of movement. At first I thought that her leg, which was revealed as she walked, was stained in dark blue velvet, but when she came nearer me I saw that what I had taken to be velvet was a tattoo pattern covering her feet and legs. Behind her walked with equal dignity about thirty women, old and young. They appeared to me like Greek goddesses about to perform some sacred rite. The Chief's wife came up to me, took possession of my hand which I placed in both of hers; we smiled at each other and it seemed as though mutual liking and trust were at once established between us. I was wearing a thin gold chain on which hung a coral charm someone had once brought me from Naples. I pulled it off and slipped it over her head. More smiles, interchange of good-will flashed from each other's eyes—these true indices to inward feelings. She sat on the floor at my feet, affectionately putting my knee with one hand while with the other she lovingly fondled the little charm I had hung round her neck. "A good idea of yours, Hanes," said Mr. de Crespigny. The Rajah, too, seemed pleased, but of course he said nothing. I loved approbation, for I got so very little, and I felt important with a modest place in the picture. My brother was too much occupied on his own account to pay any attention to me. He was always at home in any company—induced or no—and was then busily engaged with a young Kayan, a son of the Chief, inserting skeletons into each other's arms and mixing their blood, thus producing to all and sundry that they had become brothers and were cementing their new relationship in this manner. "Quite the right thing to do," said Mr. de Crespigny, who, however, did not show the slightest eagerness to join in the wrackings by skeleton.

When the Rajah gave the signal for us to depart, the women all escorted me to the entrance path. The problem of descending was even worse than that of ascending, but helped by my graceful Kayan

careless I accomplished it safely. The people all took leave of us with great affection, imploring us to come again, and we were rowed out to the Sri Sarawak, followed by the most welcoming farewell from the entire village gathered at the landing-stage. By that time the British agents were no more to be seen!

"We must weigh anchor and move off at day-break," said the Rajah, "or else the people will imagine that they must keep on sending us tokens of their goodwill and affection." So, at the first streak of dawn, we steamed our way back down the Barua, all in the best of tempers.

It was morning when we found ourselves at the mouth of the Barua. A gale of wind was blowing from the north-west and Mr. de Crespigny seemed rather perturbed about our chances of getting out to the Mentanians in such weather, but the Rajah appeared quite calm. I sometimes think that my husband's wonderful success as ruler, lawbreaker, orator and so forth may have been partly due to his never allowing "he" and "might be's" to interfere with his plans. On this particular occasion he was probably perfectly well aware, as a Naval man, that the caprices of the strong wind might delay our boarding the parda for a day, or even two or three days, but he never allowed anyone to assume that there was any anxiety in his mind on the subject. So we loaded and packed according to his orders. On arriving at the last reach of the river and coming into full view of the sea, the gale increased in force and great walls of white surf breaking on the shallow sandy shores threatened annihilation to any ship reckless enough to attempt to cross the bar. The Rajah, holding glass in hand, examined the position and ordered the parda to be dropped. "Well, de Crespigny, we are stuck here for to-night," he said, and relaxed into affable friendliness. Presently, from where I had gone to bask of the wind, I heard the captain, the stewardess, I think, the cook expressing their anxiety about the depleted state of the larder. They had provisioned the Sri Sarawak amply for the trip but had got reckoned on the extra days of waiting up at Batu Galing owing to the parda's, which had strained her resources, and we had had just enough to last us till that morning, by which time we had expected to be aboard the Mentanians. From what I could make out, there appeared to be nothing to fall back upon but dozens of tins of biscuits and dozens of pots of strawberry jam. On looking around us as we stood on deck, we had seen several wild cattle roaming about near the sandy shores of the river. The sight of these hairy creatures filled two or three of our party on board with the happy idea of providing some solid meals while at the same time satisfying their sporting instincts. Rifles were pulled out, ammunition procured, and off the men set in a dinghy for the shore, watched with interest by Mr. de Crespigny and myself through our field-glasses, he expatiating on the satisfying meal which we doubt we should be enjoying before long. About half an hour after the barriers had disappeared round some green shrubs near the shore, we suddenly saw them emerge, running for their lives, pursued by an infuriated animal that looked like a great bull. The excitement was intense, and they just managed to reach the boat and push off in time, returning very much quicker than they had set out! Four doors, they looked very discomfited as they slowly came on board. "Yes," said the Rajah, "I thought that might happen: the cattle on these beaches are known to be savage and dangerous." So there we were! For two whole days while we were waiting

for the wind to die down, our meals consisted of biscuits and strawberry jam, sliced out by smaller and smaller portions of white bread made from the last of the flour. The men comforted themselves with cold potatoes of beer and brandy-and-coke and I drank tea, of which we luckily still had plenty.

Yet, through it all, good temper reigned supreme. Such silly jokes we indulged in! I pinned up Mr. de Crespigny's waistcoat with a safety-pin, which pin, he gallantly assured me, he would treasure for ever! We weighed each other on the weighing machine, pretending that we became lighter and lighter on the biscuits and jam diet. All very innocent, very silly, but such good fun! When at last the storm died down and we reached the Mentanians to begin our journey back to Kuching, I, for one, felt sorry to think that our happy adventures had come to an end.

Her Highness the Ranees's Autobiography.

We print below one of the many notices of Her Highness the Ranees's autobiography which have recently appeared in the Press. It is taken from London *Sunday Times*:—

STYLIA OF SARAWAK: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

By H. H. THE RANEE OF SARAWAK.

(Illustrations, 16s.)

By H. E. WOODMAN.

The Ranees of Sarawak begins by informing—or should I say warning?—us that this is not an ordinary autobiography. She keeps her word. It is not an ordinary autobiography. But one cannot except her reason for being an autobiographer extraordinary, which is mostly that she hates facts and facts alone. Facts indeed! As if the whole autobiographical tribe were not jostling Platon in respect of this more confounding of truth. And what need for dates has anyone who, like the Ranees, has mastered the art of being modern which, put less pretentiously, is conjugating the verb "to live" in the present tense?

London, for all her chronological phobia, she sets her story in a framework of time. As an awkward girl she used to take dancing lessons with Queen Victoria's granddaughters at Windsor Castle. The Queen herself, she tells us, would watch the class, nodding encouragingly at their fancy steps, only to thump the floor furiously with her stick when little Prince Leopold of Battemberg failed to keep step in the final march past. The Ranees's dancing pages describe her "Night" from Sarawak, and the last photograph of her shows her being greeted at Croydon by her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Roy. An epoch and a world lie between—a world uniting East and West, Sarawak and England. It is pictured in a pattern, vivid, highly coloured, sometimes garish. But whatever the tone it possesses the underlying unity of temperament and personality. It is this that places her autobiography apart from the normal examples of its kind.

FATHER AND DAUGHTER

For her present purpose the Raman chose her father well. The daughter of the second Lord Kaser, Sylvia Rost inherited her share of the talents which made that residence گیر of the Edwardian court one of the most charming and at the same time congenial places of the period. Even his children felt something of this air of mystery which surrounded him. Our author, while admiring in the charm, experienced a measure of paternal severity which at times quenched that affection in reticence—either overt or covert. It is consequently the Raman's natural diffidence turned to an introspection which she denuded as modest, if only banded down her native fire. As she grew up and folded her wings she made her own friends among the "politicians, priests, artists, and musicians"—the list is here, but it is by no means exhaustive—who were familiar visitors at her father's house. Meanwhile she listened to their talk and learnt to discern a faculty which serves her in this book. How well the reader must judge. Whatever the distinction of her father, this young Edwardian had quite enough quality to be able to command as many legions of friendship. After her marriage Mr. Bernard Shaw writes:—

Ride a cock horse
To Sarawak cross
To see a young Raman consumed with remorse,
She'll have bells on her fingers
And rings through her toes,
And won't be permitted to wear any shoes.

and then asks her to bring "the loveliest gentleman" to lunch. Sir James Harris thought she would be "dressed at Sarawak." And another friend who says he will always have her dear "in spite of your cruel criticisms," signs himself "J.F. (The King of Moohi)." He was Sir John French—"an absolute, thoroughly, terrible man whose memory will be for ever vivid and very near," is the Raman's description of him whom of all her friends she knew best.

"THE RAMAN OF MISS"

The hero of this autobiography—though I have heard it argued that to be modern an autobiography should have none—is the Rajah of Sarawak. Like her father, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke also appears as a man of mystery. But with it goes a boyishness, irresponsible, humorous, petulant, that is the clock to the grave Englishman who labours for the good of his subjects. Here is her first summary:—

Questions have been raised as to what kind of man this Rajah of mine is. I have tried to answer these questions through the pages of this intimate and detailed book—I have tried to convey what sort of a part my husband has played in this country, so remote and unexplored. I have tried to show that there are no poor, there are no unemployed, there is no enormous growth that lies in the bosom of almost every country. . . . I have tried to explain the simple Brooke tradition. "Sarawak belongs to the Malays, and not had Dyaks, Kayans, Krayans, Melanans, Muruts, Kalyans, Banyans, and other tribes, and not to us. It is for them we labour, not ourselves."

No wife could pay her husband a finer tribute.

Notes and Comments.

"There is, however, a danger inherent in the very nature of Indirect Rule which needs considering—the danger of making too much of a good thing, of making fetish instead of a stepping-stone. If I may coin my shorthand of existing native institutions. It can never be our aim, nor perhaps with a few out-of-the-way peoples whose life is unrestricted contact with Western ideas would be simply to wilt, degenerate and disappear . . . merely to preserve a human zoo, an Anthropological Garden. It cannot be our aim, for it would not work. Our mere presence in Africa makes it in the long run impossible; the fact that we are encouraging native production and native education, permitting the entry of white capital, missionaries, and workers into Africa, makes it doubly impossible."

These remarks occur in *Africa First*, that admirable writing by Professor Julian Huxley of present-day social and political problems in Tropical Africa. The author is discussing the advantages and disadvantages of 'Indirect Rule,' a system which, with certain safeguards and limitations, is as daily operation in the country; and it is at once apparent that his comments concern not only Africa but also Sarawak. They apply with singular aptness to an attitude of mind which is all too prevalent to-day among those who come into close contact with native races,—an attitude which will not admit that backward people have a right to their share of the benefits (such as they are) of the civilisation to which we have introduced them, and one which refuses to recognise the fact that primitive people are human beings who can no longer be treated as exhibits in a sort of zoo controlled by benevolent and understanding keepers. That the general public has until now been excluded to a great extent from these races, and that the exhibits have thereby been saved from the grosser manifestations of bad taste to which they might otherwise have been exposed does not alter the essential position, which is that they should not be in a zoo at all.

The problem of the responsibility of civilised nations towards the more primitive races under their charge is not one that can profitably be discussed in an hour or a day, least of all in a couple of columns of print, but we are at any rate on safe ground when we say that the trusteeship implied in that extended phrase 'The White Man's Burden' has in the past been all too often interpreted merely as a licence to exploit backward peoples without any thought of their rights and of their eventual place in the structure of humanity.

Now, however, the wheel has turned full circle; it was started on its ponderous revolution by the realisation of just what was meant by certain methods of 'civilising' native tribes—"Pai Beligian" in the Ganges, for instance,—and the sudden swing of public opinion gave it such an impetus that there is now a real danger that it will turn too far. At the moment, unexploited communities are at a premium; wherever there are found the tendency is to put them into a sort of moral game reserve, to build a fence round them which will protect them, so to speak, from the vulgar attentions of the Back Holiday crowd. This procedure, it is true, prevents them from being trampled; but it also prevents them from escaping from the reserve

should they wish to do so, and causes for them a disastrous period of backsliding and frustration when (as inevitably happens) the fence has to be taken down.

There is, unfortunately, a type of European administrator who allows his sympathy for backward tribes and his enthusiasm for their institutions to run away with him, and to blind him to the real interests of the people he serves. It is the old story of choking the cat with coconuts; as the long run his unthinking solicitude and lack of foresight work just as much mischief as did the crude methods of the earlier administrators, and the people concerned have as little reason to be grateful to him as they had towards the advance guard of the old Imperials. For he does not look upon them as adult human beings at all, but as children whom it is his duty to keep in a state of perpetual childhood; and although for the time being all may appear well on the surface, this policy causes all kinds of trouble in the years ahead, and so does the natives a real disservice.

This is what Professor Huxley has to say on this subject:—

"Let me take a parallel from family life. There are plenty of parents who treat their children as pets. They find them delightful so long as they remain children—playthings which have the unique advantage of being alive and able to talk. But they have forgotten that the little darlings are real human beings like their sisters and brothers; and when the children grow up, show signs of thinking for themselves, and demand to be dealt with on the adult plane—why, then there is trouble. The trouble comes from two sides at once. For one thing, the parents want to keep their pets as long as possible, and unconsciously resent any move in the direction of independence; and for another, the boys and girls are, of course, very young and inexperienced, they do make mistakes, they are crude and callous and unbalanced, and irritate both by their awkward diffidence and their unbecomable obstinacy.

"But the children will grow up—that is how they are made, that is why they were brought into the world, and it is therefore very irrational of parents to feel aggrieved at it. But aggrieved they often feel, and will do so unless they discount the change beforehand with the aid of a little reason and a little imagination.

"It is much the same with the contact between a high civilisation and the more primitive peoples under its charge. As long as natives can be treated as children, aggravating and yet charming creatures who need just be told what to do and what not to do, and attempts at argument can be cut short by some authoritative gesture, they will inevitably be popular with their white guardians. But when they begin to develop and to demand a share in the same world of thought and life in which we white people live, natives are different. The black children are growing up. They are no longer children. But the adolescence of a people is more prolonged and more difficult than the adolescence of an individual; its half-consciousness and crudity will be more pronounced. And an adolescent people is bound often to irritate those who have stood in love parental to it, and set their teeth on edge.

"It is indeed remarkable to see how widespread (though by no means universal) and deep-rooted (though often unconscious) is the feeling of white men against the Europeanised, educated, or even progressive native. And the feeling is often strongest in those who have a whole-hearted liking for the unsophisticated native. It is remarkable, because, after all, the white man's very existence is the country involves change and introduces new standards; the assumption underlying government of black by white is that white ideas and methods are superior to black; and the aim of the control and the education we thrust upon them is to give them Western ideas, skill, and individual self-reliance, and, in the case of mission education, Western religious beliefs and ideals as well. Yet if they really begin to put these ideas into practice and try to live up to the new standards, the first reaction of Europe, in the persons of the local Europeans, is hostile.

"Europe cannot have it both ways. If we rule by virtue of some white superiority, we must expect the natives to take over our ideas and methods as worthy of imitation; if we educate them to think for themselves about their agriculture and their trades and their local administration, we must remember that the different parts and activities of mind are by no means thought-tight, and must expect them to use their brains on other and more general topics; when you have encouraged the child to grow up, you must not expect him to remain a child."

Every word in the last two paragraphs should be collected with the keenest red pencil possible, for red is the traditional colour of danger signals, and even the most superficial survey of present-day conditions in Sarawak will convince all who have eyes to see that these signals, or something very like them, are flying in Sarawak at this moment, and that if we choose to ignore them, we shall do so at the risk of laying up serious trouble for ourselves in the years ahead. The extract we have quoted gives the opinion of an expert who combines an admirably balanced judgment with one of the most penetrating intellects of our times. In view of this, it is probable that even the most definite supporters of the 'humanise' policy will concede that there is something in what he says; and anyone who cares to devote a little thought to the question will realise that there is a very great deal in it indeed.

At the present moment, Sarawak stands at the cross roads. For better or worse, conditions have changed and are rapidly changing, and the 'no' idea is now an anachronism which can no longer be tolerated if the natives are to get the square deal to which they are entitled. Sarawak has ceased to be an oasis of peace in an age of bustling materialism; no longer can it be regarded as a kind of sanctuary where natives can live a life of idyllic simplicity untrodden by wolves from the outside world. To take only one instance, if it is a commonplace to say that the aeroplane has abolished distance, it is none the less true. Although the development of air communications in the Far East is still in its infancy, it is making great strides every year, and is opening up prospects that in their different way are just as dazzling as those which followed the first voyages of discovery in the Orient. By abolishing distance, the aeroplane has not only

action and has thereby accelerated immensely the process of adjustment that is always going on between one level of culture and another. The results of this process are not as yet all future; we can only say with safety that in a very short time, as these things go, there will no longer be any such thing as genuine isolation.

It is our duty to face this fact, and to endeavour to fit the nations for the struggle that lies before them,—the struggle to adapt themselves to the new world which is being opened up to them. It may be a long time before the impact of what we call 'civilization' becomes a serious problem, but that is no reason why we should not start now to prepare for the future.

If one discusses Professor Huxley's views in the light of their application to Sarawak, it may be argued that they do not apply to all, since we are not 'encouraging the child to grow up'. In reply we can put the old, unanswerable question: if not, why not? What are we here for? What account of our stewardship will our successors be able to render in fifty, a hundred years' time? If our main object is not to promote the welfare of the people and improve their condition generally, what chance is there for our continued presence in their country? If we admit this, so surely we must, we must also admit that what we are trying to do means 'progress', and that whether we like it or not, in the long run 'progress' inevitably means 'civilization'.

The solution of the problem—that of the gradual adaptation of primitive natives to modern civilization—lies in the one word 'education'. Some years ago this Gazette expressed high hopes of the educational policy that was then being started with the construction of Madrasah Melayu, Kuching's Malay College; unfortunately the depression intervened, and those hopes were not fulfilled. It is a regrettable, if perhaps an inevitable, fact that during the past few years Sarawak's educational policy has been one of drift. This, though admittedly due in a large measure to financial difficulties, is simply not good enough, for it is growing more and more apparent that education—the right sort of education, that is,—is not a luxury but a vital necessity. No one in his senses wishes to produce a class of 'half B.A.'s, and Sarawak's educational policy must be shaped to avoid the mistakes that have been made in India and other Eastern countries. But if we are to fulfil our duty to the people of the State we must put our educational house in order, and without further delay. It is gratifying to note that there are indications that the dangers of the 'drift' policy are fully realized, and that this most important question is now to receive the attention which it deserves.

Rubber Regulation.

Reports of rubber during the month of November, 1936, were:—1,353 tons (subject to revision.)

Excess over Estimable Exportable Amount at 30th November, 1936:—2,195 tons (subject to revision.)

Stocks as at 31st October, 1936, were as follows:—

Division I	...	...	434 tons.
Division II	...	...	182 ..
Division III	...	...	138 ..
Division IV	...	...	129 ..
			—
Total	...	...	903 tons.
			—

The Borneo Company, Limited.

143RD ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

The One Hundred and Forty-third Ordinary General Meeting of the Company was held on the 14th October, 1936, at the Registered Office of the Company, 143-145, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 3.

Sir Adam R. Ritchie (Chairman of the Company) presided.

The notice convening the meeting and the Auditors' Report having been read by the Secretary, the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, and also the Directors' Report and Accounts were taken as read.

The Chairman then apologized for the absence through illness of Mr. H. A. Treloar, one of the Directors, and proceeded:—

The past year has proved one of varying fortunes, in which our hopes in some directions have been more than justified, and in others have ended in disappointment. Regarding our operations generally, there has during the past financial year a distinct improvement, in spite of the continuance of the disadvantages resulting from exchange difficulties, export duties, quotas, prohibitions, and all the other restrictions which are so strangling to the interchange of trade between different countries.

The recent International Agreement on exchange rates for the principal currencies in the world will be of immediate benefit to our Borneo Tea Company in Sumatra, and if, as I hope, this Government's Agreement proves to be a prelude to the proving down of those restrictions which I have just referred to, the improvement which will result in International trade must be reflected in our business. It is early yet, however, to be able to gauge the extent of this improvement, which can only be judged.

From the printed copy of the Profit and Loss Account before you, it will be seen that the profit for the year was £9,999, 18s. 4d.—an increase of £4,611, 17s. 16d. over the previous year. The improvement in our business which I have referred to is reflected in this small increase in profits as these have been arrived at after making an exceptional charge for depreciation of our tea and rubber estates of £23,768, 18s. 16d., as against £7,591, 8s. 6d. in the previous year. I will explain the reasons for this increase shortly.

Again, the amount taken from the special Trade Reserve to meet losses on tea trading is £18,489, the less than it was in the previous year. The improvement in our business, therefore, is more marked than would appear from the figures of profits which are shown.

To pass now to the particular departments of our business. In tea, which, as you are aware, has dominated our fortunes in the recent past, there was during last year a very appreciable improvement, both in output and in price, which, however, was more noticeable in those markets giving preference to teas of British origin. In the markets where we now have to look for the bulk of our output, prices have not risen correspondingly. I refer particularly to China, where business continues to be depressed in consequence of political uncertainties and exchange difficulties, and which, so far as tea is concerned, has become little more than a dumping ground for inferior qualities.

It is interesting to compare some figures of the exports of tea from Sum. in 1931 and last year. The volume of exports to India, and to the United Kingdom, which are now largely closed to us through Imperial Preference, fell by 44.4 per cent.

and 42.12 per cent., and prices by 14.5 per cent. and 29 per cent. respectively. Similarly exports to China fell by 50.5 per cent. and prices by 26 per cent. Such figures clearly indicate the difficulties which the teak industry in Sarawak has had to face during the past few years. In order to offset the unsatisfactory state of these markets, we are endeavouring to extend our connections in other territories which still remain open to us, and we are meeting with some success, although competition is very keen.

When I addressed you last year, I expressed the hope that, with the help of certain economies in our costs of extraction of teak from the forests, we should be able to avoid another loss this year. Our extraction costs were actually reduced by about 16 per cent., but this proved insufficient to counterbalance the low prices prevailing in several of our markets, and accordingly our operations resulted in the loss of \$74,909, 3s. 4d., which compares with the loss of £28,086, 15s. 4d. in our accounts for the previous year.

During the last few months we have installed new and more up-to-date machinery for converting the timber in our saw mill in Serapiak with a view to increasing our output of timber and reducing costs. We shall, therefore, during the latter part of the current year secure the benefit of a further reduction in costs, but I cannot say yet whether or not the returns we may obtain for our timber will result in a profit. All I can say with certainty is that demand and prices are being maintained, and that we are now down to rock bottom in the matter of costs.

Unfortunately I can give you no further information as to what is going to happen after the expiry of our existing forest leases in four years' time, as we are still waiting to learn what the policy of the Chinese Government is to be. The delay in this instruction by the authorities is causing uneasiness and other producers are little inconvenienced at present.

Our tea gardens in Sarawak, operating under the name of the Hulsea Tea Company, Limited, exported the full quantity allowed under the Restriction Scheme, although climatic conditions were less favourable than during the previous year. Cost of production remained steady, but selling prices were lower than during 1934/1935. Since the end of our financial year there has been a considerable improvement in prices which I have hope may be maintained, and now that we have a more favourable exchange rate for the quilibre I anticipate that, excluding the present heavy charges for depreciation of buildings and plant, we shall secure a profit from our tea in the current year.

The area of the estate under rubber is developing satisfactorily, and the tapping work which was continued during the year proved encouraging. The erection of a factory capable of handling the production of rubber within the limits prescribed by the Restriction Scheme was completed during the year, and manufacture commenced early in May last. The danger of heavy grass spreading over the estate has been successfully overcome, and the reports of our local Managers and Visiting Agents show the cultivation of the Estate to be in capable hands.

Whilst no sales of rubber were made last year, we were able to dispose of our quota rights under the Restriction Scheme at substantial prices. The revenue which we received from this source has been utilized to write down the values of the

original buildings, for which no depreciation has been provided in the past. This is the explanation of the exceptional figure for depreciation which is noted in the Profit and Loss Account. I look forward to the time when the rubber estate will prove to be one of the most important sources of income for our Company.

Turning now to the merchandise side of our business, this continues to expand, especially in Malaya and Sarawak, in both of which countries we made profits. In Sarawak, as I told you last year after my visit to that country, there are not the same opportunities for expansion, we are conducting a moderate business out of which the revenue is proportionately small.

Our shipping and produce businesses in Sarawak both resulted in a loss last year. In consequence of competition in freights by tramp steamers, and of the very large reduction in the quantities of timber now being shipped from Sarawak to India, we have decided to close down our business as chartered between Sarawak and India, which we have successfully carried on for a period of 40 to 50 years. Our produce business, which is mainly in rice, suffered losses which were common to all shippers last year in consequence of intense competition in a limited market. Rice is a commodity which is becoming more and more speculative to handle, but in which there are still opportunities for making good profits, provided that the restrictions in foreign countries against Sarawak rice are not increased.

Our subsidiary companies in Malaya, Alexandra Brickworks, Limited, and Borneo Motors, Limited, both experienced better years, especially the latter, which was able to pay a dividend of 75% per cent. I hope that it may be possible for this Company to continue to pay substantial dividends to us, but I doubt whether its earnings can be maintained on so high a scale as last year.

The Alexandra Brickworks made a small profit, but not sufficient to enable redemption of the payment of dividends on its Preference capital, which are now four years in arrears. During the current year there has been a considerable increase both in the output and in the prices of the Company's products and in time I have little doubt that we shall again earn some revenue from this investment.

Turning to the balance sheet for a minute, there are only one or two comments which I have to make. There is a small increase in the amount of the Reserve Account, resulting from the recovery of a sum not made some years ago to meet a contingent loss. The withdrawals from the Reserve Account represent the amounts taken for bad and doubtful debt provision and for depreciation of stocks of merchandise, amounts due by the Company, including bank overdrafts, show a considerable increase, reflecting the expansion in our merchandise and produce businesses, and corresponding to increases in amounts due to the Company and stock of produce on the assets side.

There are no other points I need draw your attention to, but if any shareholder would like additional information about any of the items, I shall be pleased to give it at the close of my remarks.

On behalf of my Board, I must again express to you our regret that it has been impossible to recommend any dividend for the Preference Shareholders. The Preference dividend is now in arrears for four years, and under the Reconstruction

Scheme, which, as mentioned in our Report, will shortly be placed before you, provision will be made for dealing with those arrears. I had hoped to be able to present this scheme to you now, so that it could be considered in conjunction with the Accounts which are before you, but unfortunately it could not be completed in time to permit of all the preliminary procedure which is necessary in the formulation of such a scheme.

It must be apparent to everyone that the earning power of these assets on which we were previously accustomed to rely for so large a proportion of our revenue has been seriously reduced owing to the changed conditions for the particular businesses in which we are interested. The outlook is certainly brighter than it has been for some time, but even so, your Board can see no probability of the Company, constituted as it is at present, earning sufficient revenue to pay the Preference dividends and at the same time provide something in the shape of dividends for the Ordinary Shareholders. We consider, therefore, that the time has come when we should put forward a scheme of such a nature that the Company may get rid of its outstanding arrears of Preference dividend and be placed in a position to resume payment of dividends on the reduced amount of its capital.

It is difficult to calculate for the future in a business comprising so many varied interests, such as ours. I must take some risk, however, and I do not think that I am taking altogether wild in estimating that, provided the scheme is adopted, the future earnings of the Company will be sufficient to permit of the payment of moderate dividends.

Lastly, it remains for me to commend to you the loyal work of your Managers and Staff. Both here in London and in the East, alike, and all are striving to improve the fortunes of your Company. I may say that during the past year your Board had much satisfaction in being able to remove the special cut in all staff salaries, which had remained in force for a period of last year and which has now been abolished, with the exception of the remuneration of the members of your Board.

It is always a pleasure to me to have this opportunity of expressing to you the appreciation of your Board of the work which your staff is doing, and if anyone present would care to add a few words on behalf of the Shareholders I shall have much pleasure in passing on his remarks.

After moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts, which was seconded by Mr. B. A. Jamieson, the Chairman invited questions from Members present. Most of them related to the proposed Reconstruction Scheme, but the Chairman pointed out that it was impossible to give any details of the scheme at this meeting, and said that ample opportunity would be given for discussion of the scheme by all Shareholders after it had been placed before them.

The Report and Accounts, as submitted, were unanimously adopted, and the retiring Directors, Messrs. A. Whitworth and H. A. Trester, were re-elected. Messrs. Torsgaard, Youngs & Co., the Auditors of the Company, were re-appointed for the current year.

Mr. R. S. Robertson then said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, for several years past we have had to possess our souls in patience, but if I have interpreted the remarks of the Chairman correctly, our patience is at last to be rewarded, as there are better prospects for the future.

We do not, of course, know just what will be the nature of the proposals which will shortly be presented to us, but for the circumstances which have made the reconstruction necessary our staff are in no way responsible, and in the meantime I am sure you will all join with me in thanking our Managers and staff at home and abroad for having successfully brought our Company through the difficulties of the past few years.

In concluding, Mr. W. J. Webster said that in their thanks he wished to add their congratulations to the Managers and staff.

After thanking Messrs. Robertson and Webster for their kind remarks, which he said would be very gratifying to the staff, the Chairman then declared the meeting closed.

Mr. Fisher then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and expressed the confidence of the Shareholders in the Board. The proceedings then terminated.

AGRICULTURE.

INTERESTING EXPERIMENT WITH SARAWAK PINEAPPLES.

The following is an extract from a report by Mr. G. St. F. Dare, Senior Agricultural Officer, Sarawak:—

"A trial shipment of thirty Sarawak pine was made to the Government Canning Office, at Kuala Lumpur. The pine were picked and packed and were despatched to Kuala Lumpur on August 15th. The Canning Office reported that they arrived in excellent condition, and were canned on August 15th and 20th; his report appears below, and from his remarks it would appear that canning Sarawak pine is a commercial proposition, although in my opinion more care in picking and handling would be necessary than in the case of the similar variety now raised in Johore. Further trials will be carried out by this Department."

Report on canning trials carried out by the Department of Agriculture, S.S. and F.M.S., Kuala Lumpur, on samples of Sarawak pineapples sent over by the Senior Agricultural Officer, Sarawak, on August 17th, 1925.

Results.—Thirty Sarawak pineapples were picked on August 14th, 1925, in Kuching, and sent to the Department of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur, where they were canned on August 15th and 20th. The pine were carefully packed complete with crown sections and arrived in excellent condition. The weights of the individual fruits with crown sections removed varied from 5.1 to 10.3 lbs., the average weight of a single fruit being 8.33 lbs.

From a total weight of fresh fruit, less crown sections, of 248 lbs. 24 cans of cubes, segments and juice were packed, the cans used being the 1½ lb. tall size and consisted of the following:—

22 cans of juice.

32 cans of segments.

41 cans of cubes.

This represents a total recovery of cut fruit and juice of 41 per cent. of the fresh fruit, which is about 10 per cent. greater than the average recovery obtained from Singapore canning plants, owing to the greater size of the Sarawak pine. It must be remembered that this figure was taken over thirty "selected" plants and may not be a true representation of the recoverable fruit.

The fruit was prepared for canning in the way usually employed in Malaya, that is, it was peeled and cut by hand, washed and filled into the cans.

Owing to the size of the cores of the pine it was impossible to cut the fruit into slices, the cores being two inches and more in diameter, also the fruits were so large that in order to cut slices to fill the standard size of cans, the waste would have been prohibitive, so in order to get over this difficulty some of the pines were cut into segments and the rest into cubes. In this way a minimum of waste was obtained.

The cut fruits were divided up into batches of ten cans each and each batch was given a different treatment, in order to find out which process was the most suitable, for this variety of pineapple. The actual processes are described on the table attached to each can, each batch being given a serial number from 10 to 18.

The following are the results of examination after the cans had been incubated for three weeks:—

No. 10.—Vacuum 10–12 inches of mercury. Hydrometer reading of syrup 14° Brix 6 c.c., 10% by weight of sugar; very pale yellow colour and white patches; syrup clear and flavour quite good. Not cooked enough. This pack would be equivalent to the Malaya "Good Average Quality" grade.

(There are three grades in Malaya, namely "Golden," "Good Average Quality" and "Second.")

No. 11.—Vacuum 14–16" Hg. 16° Brix syrup. Pale yellow colour with few white patches; clear syrup. Flavour good. A little more cooking needed.

No. 12.—Vacuum 13" Hg. Syrup 16° Brix. Straw yellow colour, no white patches, fair flavour. Would pass as "G.A.Q."

No. 13.—Vacuum 12" Hg. Syrup 16° Brix. Fair golden colour a little white; good appearance and flavour. This pack would definitely be classed as "Golden" grade.

No. 14.—Vacuum 8.5" Hg. Appearance good but rather stale cooked flavour. Not good. The wrong process was used.

No. 15.—Vacuum 2" Hg. Cooked stale flavour and too sweet. Pale colour.

(Total acidity of juice, estimated at citric acid .502%. Malayan pines have acidity 1–2%. With both the juices the wrong process was used; since canning these I have worked out a process which retains the natural flavour better and I propose to try again with some locally procured Sarawak pines.)

No. 16.—Vacuum 16" Hg. Syrup 22° Brix. Very good appearance no white; good flavour, good golden colour. This seems to be a very suitable process for this variety. This pack would beat most Malayan packs for quality.

No. 17.—Vacuum 18" Hg. Syrup 22° Brix. Washed out appearance, dull flavour; obviously an unsuitable process.

No. 18.—Vacuum 18" Hg. Syrup 22° Brix. Good colour; some white. Good flavour, would pass as "Golden."

CONCLUSIONS.

From these results it is quite apparent that Sarawak pineapples can be canned successfully, but that they require very much more care in handling and processing than the Malayan pines. Batches No. 13 and 16 both indicate that a steam exhaust of from 6–10 minutes coupled with about 12 minutes cooking at 30 lbs. per square inch steam pressure (220° F.) is a suitable process and that canned pineapple can be produced of a standard equal to the best quality by this method. As the flesh of Sarawak pineapples is naturally white, greater care would have to be taken to see that the fruit was just ripe when it was picked; unripe flesh will never attain the golden yellow colour which is considered desirable in canned pineapple. The flesh of a ripe Sarawak pineapple although comparatively white when fresh, will turn a good golden colour when canned, using a suitable process; unripe pine remains perfectly white. The percentage recovery of cut fruit appears to be appreciably higher than for the Malayan pine on account of the large size of the Sarawak pine; for the same reason the cutting expenses would be considerably reduced. A cutter would probably be able to cut 50 per cent. more cut fruit per hour than with the smaller pine. It is impossible to cut slices from pines of this size but the yield in cubes and segments is high. Segments have been packed by Hawaiian canneries as a fancy pack, but there seems no reason why this should not become one of the popular packs.

The Sarawak pine when canned has a very pleasant flavour closely resembling the flavour of the Smooth Cayenne variety which is canned in Hawaii. The flavour is altogether stronger than the Malayan pine, and I think much more palatable.

The Sarawak pine seems to be admirably suitable for the preservation of juice; the yield of juice from the waste is very high and owing to the high acidity, about 50 per cent. higher than Malayan pineapple juice, the flavour is excellent. It now remains to find a process to retain this good flavour as it is in its fresh condition. The necessary canning plant for handling 50 cans per minute, or working a 16 hour day during the rush season, to turn out 1,500 cans per day of 55 cans each would cost approximately \$12,000 exclusive of the building; some of this machinery could be obtained locally at much less cost, but the main items such as the exhaustor, cooler and roller would have to be brought from England.

I feel quite sure that, if someone were to start up a factory on the right lines for canning Sarawak pines and grow his own pines too, it would be successful; with care a pack superior to the Malayan certainly in flavour and perhaps quality could be produced for which there would be a ready market if the price could be kept on the level of the Malayan canned pine.

Dayak Myths and Legends.

It is a long time now since I first began to realize how rich in myth and legend the Dayak language is. These myths are of an interest which a casual acquaintance with the people would not lead one to suspect, and of course, to the sceptical Europeans may even be found amusing.

From that time, I have felt an increasing regret that no one has made a proper study of this lore. It may be that apart from the time necessary to devote to it, the position of the Government Officer as the ruler, expounder of the law, and distributor of punishment is not one to give that personal intimacy with the people, and that sympathy with their domestic joys and sorrows, hopes and misgivings, which are so essential in the mythological student in order to draw from the people those folk stories of which they are half proud and half ashamed, and about which they are at the same time both desirous and fearful.

While I hesitate to venture upon so broad a field of study with my comparatively short experience, I must at the least feel that as long as nothing is put on record, none is likely to appear, and in that regard alone I venture to offer the following in the hope that those many others who have heard, and probably better understood, other myths and legends, will also contribute. In doing so they may rest assured that they are helping to a better understanding of a unique and progressive people and at the same time working in the cause of science.

Legend I.—The Spirit of the Mountains.

Many many generations ago, when the great river still flowed through the Dutch hills down the Uluap and Batang Lapor to join the great river of China, the whole of Ninang mountain belonged to a powerful prince named Batang Anyon. He was more than a mortal, being as his mother's side descended from the Spirits. He was possessed of a famous sword named Bang, and the time of his exploits with this sword were spoken of in the Courts of the Emperors of China, and such was his prowess that three long homes, each bigger than all the houses in Borneo put together and in end, would hardly hold the deeds he had taken in his fight (he never once was he known to strike his man without giving him was always at the same time, and one stroke was always enough).

His temper was fiery, and fiercer than that of a wounded bear at bay, and this, combined with his sword Bang and his skill in archery, explains his wealth in battle.

With him, on the hill, lived his sister Dook, a specialist in sewing, with her two sons. There were no others in the whole country side.

When the two sons were of sufficient age, their uncle Anyon decided to share out the hill Ninang, a piece for him and a piece each for the two sons, who in return would have to support their mother, as he was now getting too old to supply her with the needles she desired. You may, of course, be sure that he retained a large part of the hill for himself.

All went well for a short time, but then one of the sons decided that his path was being eaten each night. The matter became so serious that he decided at last to sit up all night and catch the intruder.

After many hesitations, he chose a night, unfortunately for him a moonless one, and went up the hill to keep his vigil. Very soon, before he had had time to get properly asleep, he heard rustlings, heard even as of a great beast in the distance, but rapidly approaching. His loneliness, the darkness, and the approach of the unknown foe, rooted him to the ground, powerless to flee. Suddenly, on a diadem of fury of crashing branches and splintering trunks, there reared up before him a fearsome great level spirit, tall as the highest trees, broad as a river, distorted and hunched, his eyes as big as two moons, and glowing with a pale green light. At last the limbs of the terrified mortal found their power to function, and with a scream of horror he fell down the hillside with the ghastly laughter of the spirit piercing his ear-drums, and the fumes of its breath smothering the hair on the back of his head. (This is why the Ninang people now wear their hair cut short.)

In the end he pushed into his house and straight into his trough, where he immediately faint, and did not move for three days. When he awoke, it was to a noise of trampling so acute that the beating of his heart on the ground seemed as earthquake. It was at this earthquake that Dook's brother first appeared and divided the great river into the village that have now descended to the Batang Lapor and the Rajang.

After many months his full faculties returned to him, and he began to wonder how he was to explain his having with such a monster abroad on his land. So he decided to go to China, where in those days lived many men learned in the arts of dealing with spirits. He went with some misgiving for he doubted if any man could effectively deal with so terrible a spirit.

However, after many wanderings he came upon an old man who said that he himself had had contact with even such a spirit and knew of a method of moving him along, and gave him a powerful charm which he called that did to spread all over his farm.

Unfortunately, when he said "moving him along" he was speaking literally, for all that his charm did was to move the evil spirit along on to his brother's farm.

The brother, being aware of the first son's experience, decided immediately to visit the same haunted man, and see if he could get rid of his terrible visitor. So taking a pile of beads from his uncle's store the only currency they had, in those days he also went off to China and procured some of the talisman charms.

Once again the evil spirit moved on, but this time he had nowhere to go but to the uncle's land. The uncle not being aware of what had been going on in his sister's and nephew's house was at a loss to account for the damage in his paddy. However, after some deliberation he came to the following conclusion. His nephews, having been given a share of his land were now getting ripe-ripe, and wanted the whole lot. He decided therefore to end the trouble in his characteristic fashion, by taking his sword Bang to them. Disguised with rage, he tore along the path for his message, but luckily met his sister, who seeing him so red hot as close to home, reproved him for making noise after hours, and made him calm down a bit. She, being of the same descent as Uncle himself, also knew a thing or two, and had some power over him.

When he had so far recovered himself as to be cool enough to argue with a woman, he explained about the losses in his farm, giving full details, with a ready appendix on overhead costs.

Then of course his sister was able to explain the business of the wicked spirit, and how her sons had got rid of it. This made Uncle take another dive for friend Heng, and rebuke his threats against the hapless nephews. However, Uck had a wrinkle or two up her sleeve, and jinxing half a dozen spells, she fetched Uncle a smack on the back of the head with a log of wood which happened to be lying about, and laid him out. When he came to she said now would he listen to reason or would he like another chip off the same block. (Much that heads that had threatened so many a fine neckle should be forced to such blocksome methods at the crossroads!)

However, she must have wielded a pretty log of wood, for Uncle, though not in the mood for reasoning at all, did not want any more chips off that or any other block. He would rather keep what he still had.

In the end then, Uncle was packed off to China to see if he could raise a better brand of character than that which they had had so far. He was bringing many respectable vengeance against nephews who spent their time between dips to China in dumping ill-fated spirits on other people's land and pinching people's heads when they weren't looking.

Well, taken all round, it was lucky that he went, for the advice which he got was good, as good that it is used by all Dayaks to the present day.

And the good advice was this,—(they never first make sure that the evil spirit was on the mountain floor, was not mentioned,) then fell a lot of jungle all round the mountain, for it was felt that the spirit was sure to be a jungle dweller and would not cross the cleared land. Having surrounded the hill all round the hill, all they had to do was to continue the falling upwards and drive the evil one up to the top. They must never let the jungle right on the top, or he would have nowhere to retreat, and the whole tribe of spirits would risk their wrath on them, which would be better for all. They must also be careful not to make the remaining topsoil of jungle too small, or maybe the spirit would be annoyed and occasionally come down and visit to annoyance on them.

This was done, and the scheme was a success. That is why you will always see that the Dayaks never fell all the jungle of a hill on which there is a spirit, and always leave his jungle sanctuary right on the top. Furthermore, you will find that the only people who use this particular kind of evil spirit are those who have failed to reach the top, and who have therefore forced the spirit into quarters that are too cramped for him.

On Njrong itself, the origin of the scheme and the site of the first experiment, the spirit settled down and made himself a lake on top for his drinking water, and the sign by which we know that the lake was the work of the spirit is that though it is surrounded by trees, no leaf has yet fallen upon it or into it.

It is of interest that this lake was still in existence five years ago, to my own personal knowledge. Unfortunately, about that time ago, some criss falling ran down near the top of the hill and must have greatly displeased the spirit, for one day the lake suddenly sank into the ground and has never since been seen. Also, that very day one of the men who did the falling slipped on the mountain and fell to his death, and of the people who were concerned in that falling, not a single one is left today to tell of it.

Race-Course Development Fund.

GENERAL MEETING.

Minutes of a General Meeting of the Race Course Development Fund held at the Court House, Kuching, on Sunday, November 25th, at 9.30 a.m.

The Chairman of the Collection Committee opened the proceedings by saying that the receipts to date amounted to a little over \$11,000 which was not sufficient to justify a start being made on developing the area.

Dr. Wang Cheong Way said that a large number of the public did not understand the objects of the Fund, and asked what would be Government's attitude if the Fund could be increased to \$50,000 by further subscriptions, and suggested a Gynghama Meeting at the race-course. He suggested that if such a Meeting were held for one or two days at Chinese New Year and all proceeds, including proceeds of amusements, were to go to the Fund, some \$5,000 or \$6,000 could be raised.

Mr. Ch'ng Keng said that the name was unfortunate and probably caused misunderstandings regarding the objects of the Fund, and suggested a change of name.

Mr. Le Goo Clark suggested changing the name of the Fund to "Century Fund."

Mr. Boyd suggested "Jubilee Fund."

The Chairman said that he agreed with a change of name but this should be decided after a decision had been arrived at with regard to the future of the Fund.

Mr. Le Goo Clark asked how the figure of \$50,000, which was the sum originally asked for, was arrived at.

The Chairman said that this figure was quite arbitrary.

Mr. Le Goo Clark suggested that the rest of the scheme should be worked out before proceeding further with the scheme.

The Chairman said that there was no use in doing this, besides which there never was any intention of doing all development at once.

Mr. Le Goo Clark asked whether the original figure of \$50,000 made allowance for sinking, and the Chairman replied that it was intended that a certain amount of the money collected should be put aside, and the interest used for purposes of sinking.

Mr. Le Goo Clark then put a motion to the Meeting that the scheme be abandoned and contributions refunded; this was put to the Meeting and rejected unanimously.

Dr. Wang's suggestion of a Gynghama Meeting was put forward and carried unanimously, and it was agreed that the Turf Club be asked whether they would support a Gynghama Meeting in February.

Mr. Poyler suggested that development be started now.

The Chairman pointed out that the money available was insufficient and it was also in view of the possibility of getting Chan Keng Sang's land development should be deferred as the bill on Chan Keng Sang's land would reduce any costs of filling very appreciably.

The Date Pender said that in any case development should wait until the fine weather.

Mr. Calvert's suggestion that the name of the Fund be changed was then put to the Meeting and passed unanimously. Wang Dain seconded Mr. Boyd's proposal to change the name to "Jubilee Fund"—No vote.

Smith was. Of the female stars we can include Myrna Loy (twice), and Jessie Matthews and Marie O'Brien—both British—once each. A significant fact is that in no less than eight of the films mentioned there is no real love interest, which seems to indicate that producers are at last realising that glycerine tears and sob-stuff are not essential features of a popular film, and that their absence does not necessarily spell disaster from the box-office end. This is a development which shows that Hollywood is at last becoming civilised. Apart from Charlie Chaplin and Charles Laughton, the finest individual performances were those of Elizabeth Bergner in "George Me Never," a film that purposely is not included in my selection; Spencer Tracy in "Wildfire," George Arliss in "The House of Rothschild," and Edward G. Robinson in "The Man with Two Faces,"—also a film that also does not appear in the list. In a rather different category comes Jessie Matthews, and we can at least congratulate ourselves that if British films are outshone by ten to two, we have in Jessie Matthews an artist who has no rival in her own field on either side of the Atlantic. This fact is now recognised, incidentally, in America.

No survey of the Sylvia Cinema's films would be complete without some mention of Walt Disney's Silly Symphonies. This team of genius is incapable of producing a mediocre picture, and out of a number of cartoons that were uniformly good I select "The Grasshopper and the Ant," "The Tortoise and the Hare," and "Mickey's Hard Concert" as the three winners.

In conclusion, we will all readily admit that during the past two years we have had the most essential on which to base a selection,—plenty of good material.

—N.E.H.

Films of the Month.

October and November.

The films shown at the Sylvia Cinema during the past two months have been both unusually varied and unusually good. We have had every conceivable type of picture,—comedies, tragedies, crack plays, musical plays, light operas, and leg-slams, and the names of famous stars have flashed before us in such abundance that we have found ourselves a little dizzy amid such a galaxy of the great. Every week there has been at least one first-class film, and sometimes two or even three; and by the expression "first-class" I mean a film that holds your attention all the time, and that makes you feel that you have had real value for money out of the price of your seat,—no much so, in fact, that you are prepared to pay to see it a second time.

Among these first-class films was one work of genius and four films of quite outstanding merit. These are, respectively, *Modern Times*, *Japanese*, *Dangerous*, *Captain Blood*, and *Now or Never*. Let us take the work of genius first.

When *Modern Times* appeared in London, some critics said that the film was a disappointment, and that Charlie Chaplin was losing his old mastery. It is not easy to understand this view, since apart from the fact that the strict convention unobtrusively 'dates,' and so makes the production seem a trifle forced and artificial in places, the film is well nigh perfect. "Charlie" is there again with his bowler hooter hat, his shaven morning coat, his concealing trousers, and his shabby boots, and from the moment of his first appearance he leaves us in no doubt he has lost no single spark of his old fire. Charlie is a genius, a prodigy, and evidence of this fact is stamped all over every foot of the film: each situation is perfectly contrived and perfectly exploited, each point is made at once, but never overdone. Our laughter is loud and spontaneous, and the close of each episode leaves us wishing that it had been longer; surely no higher praise than this can be given.

In this picture Charlie again typifies the "little man," the victim, the painted plaything of forces he cannot control and does not understand. In a way *Modern Times* is propaganda,—propaganda against the machine age with its tyranny, its blind worship of speed and efficiency, its ruthless suppression of all individuality. It is also a picture of the "Eternal Struggle," that pathetic rebel against machine conventions who is beaten, starved and hurried from pillar to post, but who is spite of all this possesses something that is denied to the people who despise, reject and imprison him,—freedom. Freedom of spirit such as the slaves of the machine can never know.

To do justice to *Modern Times* one would have to recount every episode in *detail*, which is impossible. We can only outline a few of the brighter moments in a film that was bright all the way through.

Charlie the night watchman, for instance, roller-skating round a large and luxurious department store and juggling the time-dials with an airy nonchalance; Charlie in prison, unobtrusively selling his dinner with cocaine and thereby achieving an unusual freedom; Charlie in the patent factory machine designed to eliminate touch hours for factory hands, and so reduce working costs; Charlie having a nervous breakdown in the factory and gallily squirting the pompous boss of the Directors with lubricating oil; Charlie retrieving a red flag accidentally dropped by a passing lord, and so all unwittingly becoming the leader of a communist procession,—each of these episodes is a work of art in itself, a jewel flashing out of the main setting of the picture, and the one occasion upon which Charlie becomes vocal,—when having lost the words of the French song he is to sing in a café, he manages to convey all the fire and verve of the original by means of unceasingly noises and more than 600 gestures—is unforgettable. It is enough to say that at the close of the performance we realised why the film had taken two years to make; we realised, also, that it was well worth all the care and money that had been expended on it. The incidental music, which was composed by Chaplin himself, is not the least of the attractions of this memorable entertainment. It fits in deliciously with the film, and lends it an added significance.

In Paulette Goddard Chaplin has found an admirable leading lady,—may to look at, intelligent, and what is much more important (though this is counted heavy in Hollywood), a finished actress. Even without the Madeline of sound to assist her, she caught to perfection the spirit of her part of a little sweet arch who finds her ideal in the tramp.

Whipcrack was banned in Singapore,—why, goodness knows. It is admittedly a crack play, since it deals with the successful pursuit of a gang of international jewel thieves by a G-Man, but it ends with the complete triumph of the law and includes only one scene of violence,—a piece of thrilling gun-play which lasts only a few seconds, and which surely could not have the slightest psychological effect on even the most ferocious of potential criminals. Whipcrack was superb entertainment in the style of *The Thin Man*—a style which the American handle with such incomparable efficiency. There was no dragging, and never an idle moment in the whole film; the story, which was exciting all the way through, and which worked up to a breath-taking climax, was admirably acted by a cast which was helped by first rate production. And when we say that in addition to all these advantages the G-Man was played by Spencer Tracy, and his quarry, the jewel thieves' woman accomplice with whom he falls in love, by Myrna Loy (a woman!) Lay, it will be apparent that this was a picture well out of the ordinary run.

In *Dangerous*, a rather improbable plot, was redeemed not only by the splendid acting of Bette Davis and Franklyn Tane, but by polished production, which took one's mind off the improbability of the story, and which lifted this picture into the first-class grade.

Captain Blood was another of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's superlatively historical productions which came off, as these ambitious film societies seem to have, a knack of doing when properly directed. It was very nearly as good, in fact, as *Drating On The Runway*; all the scenes were well staged, and due respect was paid to the recreative of the settings and costume. Ralph Sabin's well-known story was followed fairly closely, and the result was an exciting and impressive film well worth watching. Some of the photography was splendid.

Rose Marie, although it took several liberties with the original story, gave us such good photography and staging of such unusual excellence that we forgive the various departures from the Drury Lane plot, and instead entrusted to Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in their glorious rendering of the old favorites,—“Rose Marie” and “Indian Love Call.” To those who remember the Drury Lane shows, the “Dance-Ton-Ton” song was disappointing, which is difficult to understand in view of the opportunities afforded by such a spectacular number.

Other films worthy of mention are *Show Them No Mercy*, a kidnapping story, also banned in Singapore for no discernable reason, *The Game And The Gamble*, a comedy of modern America with Kay Francis and George Brent in the leading parts, and *While Parents Sleep*, a competent British production above the usual level.

Sylvia Cinema.

Provisional Schedule of Programme.

December, 1936.

Date 1936.	Day.	Film Title.
2nd & 3rd	Tuesday & Wednesday	Entered for Chinese Film
3rd & 4th	Thursday & Friday	The Story Of Lancelot Feature
5th & 6th	Saturday & Sunday	Wells Mr Fish Feature
6th & 7th	Tuesday & Wednesday	The Merry Way
7th & 8th	Thursday & Friday	The Church Mouse
8th & 9th	Saturday & Sunday	The Counting House
9th & 10th	Monday & Tuesday	The White Angel
10th & 11th	Wednesday & Thursday	Kelley The Second
11th & 12th	Friday & Saturday	Eight Fells
12th & 13th	Sunday & Monday	A Night At The Opera
13th & 14th	Tuesday & Wednesday	Barney Weather
14th & 15th	Thursday & Friday	Charlie Chan In Shanghai
15th & 16th	Saturday & Sunday	Midnight Woman
16th & 17th	Monday & Tuesday	This Is The Life
17th & 18th	Wednesday & Thursday	The Unholy Night
18th & 19th	Friday & Saturday	Entered for Chinese Film
19th & 20th	Sunday & Monday	La Vie Parisienne
20th & 21st	Tuesday & Wednesday	Prisoner Of Shark Island

Sarawak Library.

November, 1936.

The following books have been added to the Library:—

Halfpenny Classics ..	Chris Maudslayi	P.m.	12s
Harlow's Film ..	Alexander C. Brown	T.S.	487
Designs for Blackmail ..	J. L. Mervin	P.m.	38/6
Spectator ..	John Lamberton	P.L.	12
Memoirs of a Royal Detective ..	Harbert T. Fish	P.L.	228
Friend and Butler ..	Donalduh Roberts	P.r	55/6
Murder (in) Story ..	Richard Hall	P.h	502 (4)
Marquise ..	John Dugan	P.m	458
Barry England ..	Verocly Hartley	T.L	18
Back Again ..	Doris Stoddard	P.m	2p (4)
A Night in the City ..	Cherry Keaton	P.L	108
Love on the Edge ..	Walter Greenwood	P.g	417s
The Roadside Cakes of America ..	Freda Stark	T.S	482s (2)

First Division News.

October.

The following are extracts from a report by Mr. W. P. Dick, Resident First Division:—

“I left at 6 a.m., on October 12th on a visit to Selangor, stopping at Selangor, Jua and Pandan on the way. The Selangor Malays have made a road through their kampong and also a bridge over a stream which separated the upper kampong from the lower; many new houses have been built and applications for more sites received, this all goes to show that the Malays in remote kampongs can be induced to take an interest in improving their kampongs when they are under the control of an energetic Native Officer.

"Caterpillars which have been reported to have done so much damage to padi crops at 21st mile, Periwani Road, and 25th mile, Sintang Road, appear to have also done a lot of damage in the old Saling and it is feared that there may be a shortage of padi in these districts next year: it is hoped, however, that the second crops sown may in many cases turn out well in spite of the late sowing."

Along Semorid, Probationary Native Officer, who arrived in Kuching on 13th October on transfer from Lunan, visited the following Land Dyak villages from the 21st mile, Periwani Road, to the 15th mile, Sintang Road:—Baga, Simpoh, Beting, Petak, Bhek, Maribong, Sentak, Dama, Srek and Quap.

It would appear that these villages have been visited once only by a Resident Administrative Officer during the past twelve years, and the report of Along Semorid's tour makes it increasingly obvious that these villages should receive regular visits in the future.

On October 21st, a verdict of death from drowning was recorded at an inquiry into the death of an unknown Chinese whose body was found lying on the river bank in the vicinity of the Government Store, Kuching.

Preparations towards Land Settlement in the Kuching District commenced during the month.

All Tua-Tua Kampong have been informed of the advantages of, and reasons for, this Settlement of rights being undertaken.

Further progress was made in connection with the banner scheme at the 15th mile, Periwani Road.

Notions of seigniorage have been served upon people who have failed to fulfil the conditions under which they received grants of land in 1917, and as a result of this action several Chinese have submitted applications for shop-lots.

Since all maintenance has ceased on the Sintang-gang Road, a large hole approximately 8 feet x 12 feet x 12 feet has appeared at the 12th mile. It is now impossible for motor traffic to proceed to and from Seling.

Unless this damage is repaired shortly, gardeners and traders along the road will experience great difficulty in obtaining supplies and in the transport of their produce.

Two serious crimes appear in the records for this District for the month: the first was a gang robbery at the 36th mile, Batu Kiting Road, where the Manager of Bukit Young Gold Mine was held up by a party of armed men and gold and cash to the value of about \$4,000 taken.

The crime was reported to the Sintang police about 1.20 p.m. on the 23rd. The District Officer, Inspector Sirt and Police from Bau were on the spot some thirty minutes later.

By 3.15 p.m. a strong force of Constabulary was operating between the Bau District and Batu Kanding, investigations on the spot having indicated that this was the line of search. The Officer-in-Charge of the Sector, Mr. Kelley, took charge of the investigations that afternoon, and full details have already appeared in the Sarawak Gazette. The gold has been recovered and several arrests have been made. The Constabulary are to be congratulated on their prompt response to the S.O.S. from Bau, and for the subsequent recovery of the gold.

The gold miners themselves deserve little sympathy since theirs were stolen some time ago, and refused; the gold is never insured, and the date of despatch is not always kept secret.

It is only a matter of weeks since the District Officer expressed his surprise to the Manager of Bukit Young that no robberies had taken place in the past, giving as his opinion that the folk would not last.

On the night of October 28th the Kim Lee Mine was broken into and gold dug to the value of \$100 taken. The thief was caught and the gold recovered.

The District Officer, Bau, mentions that the existing state of affairs in the Left-Hand Branch is far from satisfactory.

The Orang Kaya and Tua Kampong appear to be at odds with each other, while the big police appear to be at odds with their Chiefs. If a Chief makes a case in his kampong, the losing party invariably opens a fresh case with some other Chief, and so it goes on. Government has endeavored to break this deplorable habit by forbidding Chiefs to open cases from kampongs other than their own, or if one of the parties is from another kampong, then the Chiefs must co-operate. Chiefs have been instructed to give the litigants two or three weeks, in every month, in which to proceed to Bau and appeal, while the people have been informed that if they fail to comply with the ruling, or to open an appeal within a reasonable time, they may be dealt with by Government for failing to follow the order of the Chief, irrespective of any other case they may have attempted to open elsewhere.

Complaints were received against Orang Kaya Batak of Sentak Negeri at Brang Hantak, Senara, Pawan and Sarawak, interference and improper fines being amongst the charges. The complaining Chiefs were promptly ordered to accompany the party to Sentak Negeri and thrust the matter out; they at once climbed down and did a single case came to Sentak Negeri.

The truth of the matter is that the fact is very much on the other foot. Orang Kaya Batak is the only Chief who attempts to follow out Government rules, and who keeps his kampong in order. Being able to write he keeps records and reports of a sort, which are invaluable, and moreover he resents, and prevents, interference. This attitude does not suit the other Chiefs at the moment, hence the complaints which there is every reason to believe are but a case of law. Previously, Orang Kaya Batak's advice and opinions were sought by all the Sentak and Brang Chiefs; now, however, an objectionable man named Orang Kaya Japar has taken his place.

Dalam Rubber Estates harvested 24,000 lbs. of dry rubber during October. Rainfall at Bau totalled 5.50 inches and at Dalam 13.00 inches.

A number of padi fields were inspected during a visit to the Left-Hand Branch and appeared quite healthy; complaints of pests were, however, common.

The Land Dyaks generally in the Bau District are against planting padi twice a year, the chief reason being a shortage of swamp land. They also say that planting would be doubled and that they would therefore have little or no time for other pursuits.

The average price of gold during September was \$59.81 per fine ounce, the total production being 1930/260 ounces.

The Oriental Company obtained their first gold during September, processing some 60 fine ounces from 1540 tons of ore.

The following table gives the individual output of gold from the various mines for September, 1936:—

	Oz.
The Kuching Gold Mining Syndicate, Ltd.	321.750
" Tai Tok Mining Syndicate	271.25
" Sarawak Mining Syndicate, Ltd.	228.50
" Kuching Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	149.50
" Bonting Gold Mining Syndicate	129.507
" Bukit Tunggul Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	101.15
" Borneo Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	71.15
" Borneo Gold Mining Company	59.15
" Kim Lee Gold Mining Syndicate	50.00
" Ben Gold Mining Syndicate	71.250
" Kim Sang Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	44.87
" Kwang Lee Gold Mining Syndicate	44.507
" Sarawak Gold Mining Company	43.00
" Oriental Gold Mining Ltd.	40.15
" Poon Ann Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	39.84
" Wing Lee Gold Mining Syndicate	34.50
" Ben Lee Gold Mining Company	31.50
" Nam Hin Gold Mining Company	30.507
" Nam Loong Gold Mining Company	27.400
" Nam Loong Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	25.150
" Nam Yee Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	24.500
Total	1,999.500

St. Thomas' School.

JUBILEE MEMORIAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged	\$5,726.50
Proceeds from cheque 228 from The Right Hon. Bishop of Melbourne	426.07
Archbishop and Mrs. Small	15.00
Mr. Tan Chuan Huan	100.00
Proceeds from cheque from Malaya	10.00
Woodward	15.00
Mr. F. A. Moore of England	15.00
Proceeds from cheque 21.4.4. from Mr. B. Wood	5.00
Mr. Matthews, Paid	4.00
49.00 from gifts of the following:—	
Mr. K. Shoon Lai (Malay), Taka Yin Hap	
Dada, Rev. Father D. Corvelli (Cebu)	5.00

This total of \$5,916.58 is still fifteen hundred dollars short of what we hope to collect before the end of this year, for the Jubilee Bursary Fund.

St. Michael's Catholic Club, Kuching.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-MEMBERS.

At the General Meeting held on the 1st November, 1936, the undermentioned gentlemen were elected Officers of the Club for the ensuing year:—

President, Right Revd. Mgr. A. Hapington
Vice-President, Mr. Augustine Chong
Hon. Secretary, Mr. William Tan
Hon. Asst. Secretary, Mr. Polyony Sim
Hon. Treasurer, Mr. L. K. L. Chan
Hon. Auditor, Mr. A. P. Morrell
Committee, Messrs. Chon Soon Ching, Lim Tek Soon, Matthew Chong, Ng Khin Sang, Iloe Khin Joon, Stephen Harry.

Sarawak Regatta 1937.

PROGRAMME OF BOAT RACES TO BE HELD ON
SATURDAY, 10th JANUARY, 1937.

Race No. 1.

Time 9 a.m.—For boats with crews limited to 5 men and any type of boat. First prize \$15, Second \$7, Third \$1. From Sungai Singa to Pangkalan Batu.

Race No. 2.

Time 9.30 a.m.—Race for Perahu Kajang Boat. Crew limited to 3 men, 2 rowing and 1 steering. From Sungai Singa to Pangkalan Batu. First \$5, Second \$1, Third \$1.50.

Race No. 3.

Time 10 a.m.—Any boat but with crews limited to 15 men. First prize \$20, Second \$10, Third \$10. From Klu Tanjong, Patingin to Pangkalan Batu.

Race No. 4.

Time 10.30 a.m.—Race for Perahu Bandong Peranakan. Crew limited to 15 men paddling; from Sungai Lagan to Pangkalan Batu. First prize \$20, Second \$10, Third \$7.50.

Race No. 5.

Time 11 a.m.—Any boat but with crews limited to 30 men. First prize \$70, Second \$40, Third \$20. From Ulu Tanjong Patingin to Pangkalan Batu.

Race No. 6.

Time 11.30 a.m.—For employees in Government and Malayan. Officers who are bona fide employees of such offices during December, 1936. Crews limited to 6 paddlers in each boat. First prize \$15, Second \$7, Third \$3. From Sungai Singa to Pangkalan Batu.

Race No. 7.

Time 2 p.m.—Race for Ships' gigs from Sungai Brook to Pangkalan Batu. Crew limited to 5 men. First prize \$7.50, Second \$4, Third \$1.

Race No. 8.

Time 2.30 p.m.—Any boat but with crews limited to 15 men. First prize \$35, Second \$20, Third \$10. From Ben Sang Sago Factory to Pangkalan Batu.

Race No. 9.

Time 3 p.m.—Race for Perahu Bandong Peranakan. Crew limited to 5 men, 4 rowing and one steering; from Sungai Patingin to Pangkalan Batu. First prize \$7.50, Second \$4, Third \$1.

Race No. 10.

Time 3.30 p.m.—Any boat but with crews limited to 30 men. First prize \$70, Second \$40, Third \$20. From Batu Belong to Pangkalan Batu.

Race No. 11.

Time 4 a.m.—Race for Perahu Balok limited to crew of 5. From Sungai Patingin to Pangkalan Batu. First prize \$7.50, Second \$3, Third \$1.

Race No. 12.

Time 4.30 p.m.—Any boat but with crews limited to 15 men, which have not finished first in Races Nos. 3 and 8. First prize \$35, Second \$20, Third \$10. From Ben Sang Sago Factory to Pangkalan Batu.

There will be an entrance fee of \$1 per boat for the 15 men crews and \$2 per boat for the 30 men crews. Applications for entries of boats in each race should be forwarded to the District Office, Kuching, so as to arrive not later than 24th December, 1936. Entries received after this date will not be accepted. Those boats whose entries have not been accepted by the above, will not be allowed to take part in the race.

W. F. DICK,

Chairman,

Sarawak Regatta, 1937.

Kuching's New Theatre.

LILIAN THEATRE'S OPENING NIGHT.

An audience of nearly 900 was present at the opening night of the Lilian Theatre, the palatial new building which has been constructed on the site of the former Globe Theatre. The proprietors generously allowed their first performance to take the form of a concert in aid of the Race-course Development Fund, and we understand that as a result of their public-spirited action more than \$1,000 was collected towards this deserving cause.

The concert party itself was staged by the Sarawak Constabulary Bangsawan Party, assisted by their "Good Companions," a party of Europeans distinguished for their musical accomplishments—and great credit is due both to the organizers and performers for a thoroughly enjoyable entertainment.

The show started at 8.30 p.m., and a packed house, which included Their Highnesses the Rajah and Tunku Mahkota, the Deyang (Glorie and Deyang Anne, and leading members of all communities, sat down to enjoy a bangsawan that was well up to professional standard. The company were fortunate enough to have secured the services of Miss Rose, late of the Maidsa Sarawak River Company, a charming and attractive actress whose talents were employed to very good purpose not only in the play itself, but also in the numerous variety turns with which it was interspersed. The Hawaiian Melody Makers, under the leadership of Inspector Along Jolai, played some striking knowledge, and G. Soloma and His Band fired up to their reputation and provided some capital dance music and numerous musical accompaniments.

The Sarawak Constabulary Bangsawan Party again proved their worth as all-rounder entertainers, all performers bringing to their parts a host that ensured a successful evening. Inspectors Along Haji Mustapha and Gregory Soloma were convincing as a Javanese and a Malay diamond merchant respectively, and Mr. Lim Ah Ann was first rate in the rôle of a Chinese goldsmith. Other members of the cast were uniformly good, but Mr. Lichai must be singled out for special praise: this actor is a born comedian if ever there was one, and his every speech and gesture elicited a real sense of the theatre. He took the part of an Indian cloth merchant with outstanding success, and his entrance was invariably (and deservedly) greeted with laughter and applause. Some of the other actors, incidentally, would do well to take lessons from him in the art of voice production, since each syllable he spoke was audible at the far end of the hall, which unfortunately was not always the case with some of the other performers.

The Bangsawan was divided into two acts separated by a musical interlude which was filled in by "The Good Companions." Mr. F. Harding rendered a tender solo which was much appreciated, and the performance of the Harmonica Quintet consisting of Messrs. Kelley, Reid, Sinclair, Chester and Dr. Nicholson produced thunderous applause and repeated demands for encores. Unfortunately, Mrs. Kelley, who was to have given an exhibition of dancing, was prevented from appearing by a last minute indisposition, but her place was very ably taken by Mrs. Kennedy.

Amongst the variety turns must be mentioned the "Drolleries" of Miss Rose and Mr. Lichai, in the course of which Miss Rose distinguished herself by playing a number of musical instruments, including a saxophone and a ukulele. This lady was also excellent in a song and dance scene.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. The Bureau Co., Ltd., Stone, Durré & Co., Ltd., Cheong Kim

Eng and the proprietors of the Lilian Theatre, through whose generosity free refreshments were offered which naturally did much to contribute to the success of the evening. Remarks have reached us, incidentally, that after the audience had departed a further contemporary bangsawan was staged which continued until the small hours, and which eventually concluded on Pengkalas Batu where a few sleepy bangsawan men were agreeably surprised to hear the strains of Malay music, and to see Miss Rose give a special song-and-dance turn.

The following extract from the programme gives some account of the Lilian Theatre itself:—

"The present is an excellent opportunity to congratulate the Proprietors now that after many months of hard work and planning, this magnificent building has arisen in Kuching's 'West End'."

No expense or labour has been spared in introducing into this building almost every modern device and improvement in the interest of the comfort and safety of the audience. The interior, with its tasteful decoration, lighting effects, coloured flooring and arrangement of balconies, is spacious and airy. The number of windows is adequate and several ceiling fans are installed to keep the air fresh and cool.

Built at an approximate cost of \$40,000 to accommodate more than 900 persons, the Lilian Theatre combines the functions of a Cinema with that of a Theatre or Concert Hall and has the latest type of film projection and sound apparatus, and a large fully equipped stage with dressing rooms and orchestra pit. It is the largest place of entertainment in the town and its stage and stage-accessories fill a much needed want. The audience will be accommodated in comfortable seats affording ample leg room, and an excellent and unobstructed view of the stage or screen is obtainable from the balconies and gallery. The sanitary arrangements also have been carefully planned and are kept up-to-date. Two very spacious bars are provided within the building, and all manner of liquor will be on sale. Outside, a large car-park is in course of construction and a popular innovation is the allocation of space for small stalls from which ice-cream, fruits, chocolate, lemonade and native delicacies may be purchased.

The building of this theatre has given employment to many, all chairs and seats have been made in Kuching and the timber is, of course, all Sarawak grown. The material used in the construction and furnishing is almost entirely British, and we are particularly glad to notice the large number of rubber trees used in the entrance and on the stairs.

Every facility has been provided for an emergency, fire-extinguishers are placed at strategic points and sufficient exits to enable the entire Theatre to be emptied in one or two minutes.

We wish the Proprietors every success in the future of their Theatre."

Below is a list of those responsible for the production and organization of the concert:—

General Manager	Inspector Haji Mustapha
Business Manager & Publicity	Messrs. E. L. White and O. F. J. Pagar
Stage Manager	Sergeant Major Mohamed
Musical Director	Inspector Soloma and Jolai
Stage Effects	Messrs. T. A. Reid and T. W. Russell
Dressmakers	The Bata Store
Electrical Effects	Mr. Corbridge and Staff
	Director

Club News.

Sarawak Club.

Bowling Average for November, 1936.

Name.	No. of Inns.	Average.
T. A. Reid	25	154.4
C. B. Norgel	14	153.4
N. A. Middlemass	4	152.4
G. T. M. Marshall	11	151.9
J. L. Nookes	3	149.1
A. L. Malabar	15	145.9
A. F. Langham	8	140.6
K. Gargill	8	139
A. G. Taylor	11	135.9
D. McDonald	5	135.8
P. H. Pollard	94	134.7
J. A. G. Benson	8	130.4
K. L. Whittle	8	130.4
O. T. Bates	3	115.9
W. G. Tait	9	115
R. W. H. Jacques	21	114.1
J. A. Chisham	8	107.8

Mrs. W. H. Kelley	5	96
Mrs. F. H. Pollard	8	88
H. M. the Deyang Ance	1	88
Mrs. J. L. Nookes	3	88.3

HARRISON RUBBER COMPETITION.

October, 1936.

Name.	Score.	Misses.	Total.
C. B. Norgel (Winner)	259	98	357
R. W. H. Jacques	234	143	377
W. F. Bridges	198	119	317
N. A. Middlemass	214	23	237
T. A. Reid	247	89	336
J. L. Nookes	247	29	276
K. L. Whittle	223	27	250
A. G. Taylor	224	18	242
P. H. Pollard	171	124	295

Third Division News.

OCTOBER.

On October 25th a Dayak named Jelatang anak Raghulan was sentenced at Sibu to three years' imprisonment for harbouring an offender, the offence being punishable with death, with the intention of screening him from punishment. This is a similar case to that of the two Dayaks Malua and Biru, who were tried only in the year for helping the rebels Kandang and Kayan after the attack on the Kayan boat near the Pelagus rapids.

Two coroners' inquests were held at Sibu during the month, one on the body of a Chinese child which died on a motor launch between Sarikei and Sibu, and the other on the body of a Malay who died in a landing between Malu and Sibu.

Findings of death from natural causes were returned in each case.

Mr. D. Dudgeon arrived at Sibu on October 6th and took over his duties as Assistant Superintendent of Rubber Restriction on the M. The Rubber Restriction Department is now housed in the Public Works Office.

The Assistant Superintendent has made visits to all Checkers-Supervisors and the experimental plots at Kuching, Sengai Pruhun, Rungang and Sarikei, and has found the work proceeding satisfactorily.

The Lee Hoo Sawmill was visited by the Divisional Forest Officer on October 18th. The mill was cutting lapor, of which the mill has a large stock, and small down-cutter processing. As a result of the prolonged drought this year the mill has no stock of hill softwoods. It is in the course of being extended to accommodate two extra benches for saving below stages and the post-holes cross cut which has been purchased from the Kuching Mill.

H. H. M. T. Malinau arrived at Sibu on October 24th with the Deyang Ance, Mr. A. W. D. Brooks, the Resident and Mrs. Adams, and Miss Putnam. Mr. A. W. D. Brooks left later for Malua, where he is to be stationed, accompanied by the District Officer, Malua, Mr. A. Macpherson.

Deyang Ance, accompanied by Mrs. Sackon, left for Kuching in the Malua on the 18th.

During the last few days of October considerable floods were experienced on Sibu Island. These were due to the heavy fresh from up river, which brought down large quantities of driftwood, the accumulation of the months of comparatively dry weather.

The District Officer, Lower Rejang, reports that very few Dayaks were seen during the month until the start of the tapping holiday, when as usual they came down in numbers.

There are a considerable number of Kamper Dayaks from Kuching, Seng, and Kapit tapping rubber in this district. They are causing no trouble, however, and in most cases are heartily welcomed by the local Dayaks, who find they have not enough time to combine rubber tapping with successful pelt-planting.

Shortly after the departure of the Chinese Circus from Sarikei, a young unmarried Malay girl was found to be missing from the hampson. She was discovered the same evening in Rungang, disguised as a boy, and with her hair cut short. The attention of the superintendent for of one of the performers in it, had apparently proved stronger than filial affection.

Dayaks and Malays are all showing keen interest in the coming regatta at Sibu, but it is not expected that many boats will be entered from the Lower Rejang district. The knowledge that the Malua were still be racing has discouraged nearly all but the export paddlers of Pengkalu Kana's district.

Pelt-planting is now complete throughout the Lower Rejang district, and applications are already being received for cut-poles.

Leaflets concerning pygopon for the protection of sugar gardens were received from the Agricultural Department, and were distributed to planters in the Malu and Dava area. An effort is being made to induce the Malua to use more up-to-date methods in protecting their gardens from animal pests.

The following table gives the Sarikei and Rungang trade figures for the month:—

	Sarikei District.	1936.	1935.
Foreign imports for October	\$	41,291	\$ 57,173
— exports for October		182,418	197,117
— imports to date		428,264	416,758
— exports to date		1,192,844	916,541
	Rungang District.	1936.	1935.
Foreign imports for October	\$	38,431	\$ 41,386
— exports for October		164,894	92,692
— imports to date		326,447	324,192
— exports to date		1,804,415	773,338

It is interesting to note that with the low price of pepper and the rising price of rubber Hinang has now surpassed Sarikel in value of exports, having nearly doubled the figures for last year.

Just over 1,200 pikuls of pepper were exported from Sarikel. Big stocks are still being held for a rise in price.

The Court Writer's quarters, Sarikel, were duly completed, and were occupied by Mr. T. B. Parker, Settlements Officer, who will remain in this building until the completion of the new European bungalow.

Tenders were invited for the construction of a third European bungalow at Sarikel, and negotiations were opened for the acquisition of a suitable site.

Many new cracks have independently appeared in the piling of Sarikel wharf, being discovered during the exceptionally low tides early in the month. It is very difficult to discover and repair such cracks as they are normally under water at low tide. Full details of this damage have been reported to the Public Works Department.

The cracks in Hinang galleys are much worse, and the addition of further earth filling outside the walls has not, as the contractor expected, had the effect of springing the concrete beams back into place.

The following is an extract from a report by Mr. F. L. Crowley, Acting District Officer, Labuan Bazaar:—

"Accompanied by Ahang Orian, S.O., I visited the Dayaks of Ponghda Kana's district, in the Lower Delta, from October 18th to the 24th, visiting ten houses in the Stakih, Mipang, Sema and Pulu. The farming land in this area is excellent, and has in the past given rise to bitter disputes between the Malays and Dayaks. Kana's people now seem to be living amicably with the Malays, but very bitter complaints were made by both Malays and Dayaks concerning the activities of Ponghda Kana's people. During the last five years these Dayaks, from the Labuan and elsewhere, have been gradually drifting down into the Stakih and Mipang and farming there without getting permission from the local inhabitants. The position is now so bad that Ponghda Kana himself, who I understand has at present no long-house in his own district, spends most of his time in a small dwelling-house of 100 doots right in the middle of Kana's district, while others among Kana's menfolk have practically deserted their own long-houses and are living in similar ramshackle long-house farming beds in the Stakih, Mipang, and even as far down as Pulu and Pulu. I recommended that Kana be ordered back to his own district and stopped from farming in Kana's territory, and that his menfolk be given the option of either building proper houses and coming under Kana's authority, or of clearing out. It will be recollected that it was Kana and his menfolk who were responsible for the fishing in Kana's district last May, and that these people acted at the authority of Kana, whom I sent to stop the fishing."

H.H.M.Y. Mawson, with the Deyang Anne, Mr. A. W. D. Brooke, the Resident and Mrs. Adams, Miss P. Putnam, and Rev. Fr. Epping arrived in Sarikel from Kuching on October 24th and left for Kila on the 26th. The Mawson party, together with the Sarikel European Officers, attended a performance of the Chinese Circus on the evening of the 26th.

The District Officer, Melana, states that there has been a good response to His Highness the Rajah's wish that Dayaks should plant crops other than padi. It is not expected that there will be any application for Government assistance from those houses whose padi suffered from rats and pigs as it is hoped that the large areas of swamps, etc., planted will be sufficient to tide the people over.

In the District Officer's opinion, the enthusiasm shown is quite genuine and will be sustained.

Inquiries for coffee seed are continually being received, and the Senior Agricultural Officer has been communicated with. If any particular variety of lupul is recommended, it is suggested that supplies of this seed could also be distributed.

As much of the panto has been worked out in recent years, the planting of sago is also being encouraged, both as a substitute for rice if padi fails, and also for pig feed.

The number of pigs fattened by Dayaks for sale to Chinese is increasing, and this should prove a valuable source of income for them.

As regards the Kanowit padi-farming experiment, the Deyang Anne finished demonstrating in Bunan and Tunk, and have completed their irrigation systems for the farms which will be brought into cultivation next year.

The Rev. Father Clark expressed his gratification at the industry displayed by Engman's house in the Uluas, where he told the District Officer the native population has been turning out daily to see their communal farms to assist the ploughing buffaloes which are still too young to do much hard work.

It is to be hoped that the Agricultural Department will be able to start the demonstration farms and plantations as soon as possible, in order that every encouragement and assistance may be given to ensure the success of this, for Dayaks, entirely new departure in padi farming. It is surely not too much to hope that the answer to the whole Dayak problem lies here.

The Rubber Improvement work continues, showing good results. The combination of badly situated rubber is quickly having effect on Dayak plantations and small-house owners.

The District Officer, Melana, states that it is to be hoped that the Poi Dayaks have learnt their lesson as regards lake fishing, as a great deal of ill-feeling against T.B. Nyanggas has been expressed.

Other rivers report a marked increase in "band song" catches already as a result of the prohibition, and there seems to be general feeling of satisfaction about which is quite surprising.

During the month a boat was bought for the new 9 h.p. motor at Melana, with resulting increase in speed and economy.

The boat with the engine in it got ashore during a spate. Both boat and engine were recovered, the former was unharmed but it is feared the engine suffered considerable damage through its six-day immersion.

On October 27th a Dayak youth aged only about 9 years was charged at Kapit under section C-8 of the Forest Ordinance for causing the death of another youth aged about 12 years. Apparently annoyed, dejected and several other small boys on hearing a pig hunt taking place near the house, seized upon and reached the pig, which was being lured, before the hunters; the pig on seeing them charged, and all fled for the nearest tree, but unfortunately the accused dropped his spear in the

path of deceased, and the point being held up by branchwood entered deceased's groin killing him almost instantly; the accused youth was severely wounded and his father was ordered to pay \$500 pek upon to the parents of deceased.

Kapit Pengkalas have been informed that at the forthcoming Nihon Hagata an am will probably be held to consider the present taxen fengpa, and a considerable number of suggestions have already been received requesting changes in the present rates which they wish to bring forward.

Engkawang in Kapit district is reported to have suffered from the heaviest heavy rain at the end of the month, the fruit in many cases not having formed before the rains came. In the Kuching flowering was not good as it was in the Tobiak.

As a result of high water a considerable number of logs have been brought down from above Kapit especially from the Oyas district. Chap Lee Hwa (41 parties) rafted 437 logs to Nihon, and Chap Hwa Beng (7 parties) rafted 30 logs.

The following are extracts from a report on a trip to the Ulu by Mr. D. B. Lancelotti, Acting District Officer Kapit :-

"On October 5th I left Bong for Kuching in the outboard, accompanied by Native Officer Ahong Indeh and Pengkalas Batebabe. As the water was beginning to fall we decided to make land while the sun shone and proceeded straight up to the house of Pengkalas Batebabe and Batebabe for the night, arriving 4 p.m., after a short call at Ramah Engkapa, Bangai Mene. Heavy rain occurred and the river began to rise again with the result that on 6th we were able to continue using the outboard and calling at Ramah Malak, Ramah Noronggan and Ramah Kengpa, we spent the night at Ramah Belaja. The day before we arrived a large crocodile had pulled an old woman out of a boat; she was injured but died almost immediately from her extensive injuries. This crocodile has inhabited the particular pool for many years but apparently this is the first time anyone has been attacked. Trust Ramah Belaja is probably Government's most trusted ally in the Kuching, and I would place him before the Pengkalas in that respect.

"On 8th we reached the Pala Mene Ramah Ahong for the night after calling at Ramah Baring.

"Proceeding downstream on 11th we caught a glimpse of the quite comely below Ramah Belaya but had no chance of a shot."

The District Officer, Mukah, reports that a further case of grave robbery occurred at Kumpung Tega, and although very thorough investigations have been and are being made, and a reward of \$50 has been offered for information, no arrests have been made so far.

A tour of the old Malak by Native Officer Ahong Montaga reveals the fact that Dyaks have not little, if any, of this year's padi left, and that floods have already partially destroyed their newly-planted crops.

It is hoped that activity in this district on the part of the Sarawak Oilfields, Ltd., may lead to a demand for their labour, which will relieve the situation.

Messrs. Caruther and Lilley, of Sarawak Oilfields, Ltd., Miri, arrived in the Malak district during the month and requested permission to start access roads, i.e., wharves, roads, bridges, etc., from Malak to the S.O.L. Camp at Bangai Batebabe. Permission for them to do this has been obtained.

The Company has also obtained a concession for prospecting for oil along the coast, and inland from Bangai Batebabe.

There has been a certain amount of tube fishing in the Ulu Oya. A serious view is taken of this as Pengkalas United is concerned, together with three local Trust Tena Pengpa. A separate report has been submitted.

The following items extract from the report of Mr. J. C. B. Fisher, Acting District Officer, Oya :-

"On October 5th Wan Hussein, Native Officer, proceeded to the Ulu Oya by outboard motor fairly and travelled all districts. The object of the visit were to collect outstanding tax and fines, hear cases, and give the usual routine orders. On 8th I left Dula for Kumpu Pabek to meet Wan Hussein and Pengkalas United and Chongah and discuss Ulu affairs with them on the spot.

"Matters of importance to be attended to included the following :-

- (a) the rebuilding of various houses;
- (b) the area of jurisdiction of the Pengkalas, which has got confused by houses moving from one river to another; and
- (c) a report concerning a tube fishing held by United in August.

"All these matters were attended to as the 11th at Kumpu Pabek. In connection with the latter it appears that Pengkalas United and Trust Batebabe Mukah, Nyman and Lunlok had all been tube fishing during August. A serious view is taken of these cases as very definite orders had been given to these people personally by myself last April. A separate report has been submitted to the Resident, Third Division.

"Dyaks in the Ulu are feeling the effects of their last bad harvest and are badly off for rice. Reports of this year's planting are very favourable, however.

"All outstanding tax for past years is now paid to date with the exception of some 20 tons for the current year. All outstanding fines have been paid."

Melanan fishing was at a standstill at Oya during the month owing to very rough seas.

Reports received last month about the engkawang area flowering in the Ulu Oya again this year, were confirmed. Judging by the amount of blossoms there should be a large crop this year.

The price of rice again increased again on the figures for last month, the price at Dulat being 90 cents per pusa, and at the Kut 90 cents. This is the highest price recorded for two years.

The amount of rice exported from the District showed a decrease compared with the figures for last month, the amount being—

By Sea	180 kayans.
By Kut	50
Total	230 kayans.

Total decrease: 175 kayans.

The Sarawak Mandala Revue, a banquet which arrived from Malak, played at Dulat to crowded houses during the month.

Fourth Division News.

October.

A month's celebration entirely free from serious crime at Miri was marred by two events; on October 11st Mok Tin Kiam-ping Dayang, was convicted on a charge of converting public money to his own use, and was sentenced for one year's rigorous imprisonment. On the 11st a man and a woman were found killed in a building house in Jeraga Ra Serag. The inquiry had not yet been held at the end of the month.

Dayaks and Malays in the Niah, Sibak and Sarai rivers are busy on their farms, and the bird-nests races at Niah have just been opened. The nests are rather poor this year.

The following table gives the Miri trade figures for October:—

	1935.	1936.
Imports for October	£ 553,168	£ 499,731
Exports for October	791,045	728,325
Total imports to date	4,437,011	4,819,733
Total exports to date	4,300,245	4,838,264

The new pig slaughter-house at Sempang Kudat. Sari, was put into use on October 15th, the old one being immediately pulled down. Several ponds were repaired, and the road behind the European bungalows on Tanjung Lotung was completed. Minor repairs to Government buildings at Niah and Sibak were carried out.

A case of suicide, reported by Pengulu Wau, was investigated at Limbang. An old Tagai woman had taken tea apparently in a fit of melancholia at not being able to return to North Borneo to see her equally aged sister.

The reported epidemic of pneumonia in the ulu Limbang was confirmed by the Limbang doctor, who made a visit up river. About thirty deaths had occurred, and it is understood that this epidemic is annually recurrent owing to local climatic conditions.

Quite a number of Muruts and Dayaks came down from the ulu to Limbang during the month, including Pengulu Wau, Dayak, and Pengulu Nohok and Temuch Oyo (Tuban/Maruti). Several matters were discussed and it appears that the poll planting has been satisfactorily completed everywhere.

There were many applications from Dayaks for passes to work planting in other districts.

Since the wireless caging at Limbang required the attention of a special mechanic from Kuching, the opportunity was taken to get all the telephone installations overhauled, and the local police were instructed in the rational manipulation of the Radio switch-board.

The Government monopoly of sales of ammunition has brought to light a few ancient unregistered weapons in the hands of the ulu Kelahin and Marut. They have been confiscated.

At a meeting of Tusi Kuchak which was convened at Sibak, Bintulu District, on October 25th, the inhabitants of the Puchas River were informed that Jara anak Ump had been appointed their Pengulu, as the district had grown too large to be managed conveniently by one man. Only one dissentient voice was raised and that was by a relation of the new Pengulu, who complained that it was difficult to get a road to the Pengulu's house owing to the meanness of his wife.

The new police supplied by the Agricultural Department for getting rid of pests in the rice crops was distributed to all communities in the Bintulu district, but results are not yet to hand.

Mr. Bernard of the Sarawak Electricity Supply, Ltd., Sibak, arrived at Bantulu on the 15th in order to investigate the prospects of installing electricity at this station. He returned to Sibak by 11.15. Margaret.

The Rev. G. V. Summers of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, Sibak, arrived at Bantulu by the Margaret on October 25th on a visit to the Puchas colony, Sibak.

Towards the end of last month there was an outbreak of whooping cough in the Tagaran Kampungs and houses. Almost every child below the age of ten years was infected, and two deaths were said to have occurred from this cause.

The Curator of the Sarawak Museum arrived at Bantulu on October 25th, and, accompanied by Native Officer Tunka Mohamed, started for Long Akah on the 26th. He intended visiting the Pains and returning to Maruti from Long Akah by way of the Tigai before proceeding up the Trich and Apoh. Since he left the river has been steadily rising—the bungalows and the house are already flooded,—and it is doubtful whether he will be able to go much further than Long Kuchan. He has been commissioned to investigate the causes of the rice shortage and to make provision against a recurrence, and against the various pests, also to determine which villages are still in need of relief. The original vote of £5,000 was finished on October 15th, and a further £5,000 has been voted for emergencies, but to be used only at the discretion of the Resident; after, are necessary, the result of the Curator's investigations are known. The Tigai natives, who have managed to last so far without relief, are now applying. They have been sent home to await the Curator's arrival in their villages.

From the latest news it seems that many villages above Long Akah will be able to last on rice substitutes planted until the harvest, and possibly another £1,000 in addition to that already granted should suffice for this year.

Certain Kanyahs from the Alak returning home with rice obtained by Government assistance sank during the high water in rapids below Long Alak. Much of their rice and other provisions were lost.

Mohamad Bin Galas returned from up-river on the 30th, and with his family narrowly escaped drowning near the mouth of the Tutoh. His boat struck a submerged log and filled with water. Fortunately a drifting tree trunk was nearby, and they all managed to cling to this until the boat was righted.

Wan Savor, accompanied by Wan Haji Mohamad, left for the Bakang river on October 30th to arrange about the timber for Tiharu Fort, and to obtain the opinions of the inhabitants concerning a successor to Pengahala Hira. The latter is very old and wishes to retire.

After several days and nights of exceptionally heavy and continuous rain, a landslide occurred opposite Baruan Port and a portion of the bank has disappeared into the river, exposing the rock beneath.

The Lawas Courts were completely idle during the month, only one very small civil suit arising for decision. The Officer-in-Charge remarks that this possibly constitutes a record.

There was, however, yet another inquest, bringing the number of sudden deaths requiring investigation during the year to a total of five, all cases having occurred in the past two months,—again possibly a record for Lawas. This last inquest was on the body of a Brunai Malay who was taken from his guba by a crocodile one early morning at Kania Lawas. Medical examination revealed that the cause of death was drowning, the only injuries to the body being the crocodile's teeth marked on deceased's head. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

The following is an extract from a report by Mr. A. R. Sadun, Officer-in-Charge, Lawas and Tenua, on a visit to the site.

"I spent a couple of days upriver visiting the Muruts in the old Lawas Damit and the lower reaches of the old Tenua. Farms appeared to be prospering and good crops are indicated. All was very quiet and there were no cases to be noted nor complaints of any nature. I was surprised at the number of Muruts living in tiny pell-mell shacks. Long houses are gradually disappearing altogether, it seems, for the death rate is so high that when after two years it is necessary to build a house of four doors, there are probably only two families left alive. These two families then build two separate shacks and live apart rather than join another long house.

"Several Poi Dayaks arrived in Lawas at the beginning of the month to look for work, having travelled by Kuching. They spent about ten days in the old Lawas and brought down some deer, but the price they obtained for it was so poor that they decided it had not been worth the trouble."

The Lawas (Sakauk) Estates, Ltd., exported 25,599 lbs. of dry rubber during the month.

Visitors to Lawas were numerous during October. The District Officer, Sipping, B.N.B., and his eldest assistant spent the week-end of the 19th-22nd at Lawas, bringing with them their local football team, who debated the weak Lawas side after a vigorous contest in which four Europeans participated.

On the 17th the Resident of Labuan and the Settlement Engineer arrived from Labuan in the Lady Clement, departing again on the 19th.

The District Officer, Limbang, arrived on duty on 23rd. He was followed by the Senior Forest Officer, also on duty, who arrived on the 30th and was still at Lawas at the end of the month.

Badminton Tournament.

DOUBLES

Inspired by the very interesting and successful tournaments held by the Sporting Badminton Association a few months ago, a number of members of the Junior Service stationed at Miri decided to put their heads together in an endeavour to promote badminton locally, and as a result a tournament on the knock-out system was arranged and concluded on 11th November, 1934.

Judging from the keenness of competitors and number of enthusiastically spectators present during the matches, it is anticipated that before long many more will take to this game, which is perhaps the only suitable outdoor recreation available here during the wet season.

The results of the tournament are tabulated below:—

First round.	Second round.	Third round.	Final.	Winners.
Janting & Ah Chuan vs. Fahs & Muan	Helm & Muan 11-9, 11-11-0	Ahmad & Saidell 11-11, 11-7	Ahmad & Saidell 7-11, 11-8, 11-17	Ahmad and Saidell 11-11, 11-10.
Ahmad & Saidell vs. Jelle & Topy	Ahmad & Saidell 11-11, 11-8			
Daw & Poo vs. John & Siew Sang	John & Siew Sang 11-11, 11-11	John & Siew Sang 11-11, 11-11		
	Wahne & J. Aoi			
Janting & Kipi vs. A. Sarhani & Suman		A. Sarhani & Suman 7-11, 11-8, 11-17		
	Wong & Matsumaki vs. Matsum & Noriaki	Matsum & Noriaki 11-8, 11-11, 11-4	Matsum & Noriaki 11-7, 11-11	

Ranching Market Price List

1997-1998

Article		per	Quantity	Amount
			Average per month	
Meat				
Beef round	..	..	100 lb	10.00
Do heavy round	..	..	100 lb	11.00
Butter, salt	..	..	100 lb	12.00
Do heavy round	..	..	100 lb	13.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	14.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	15.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	16.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	17.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	18.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	19.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	20.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	21.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	22.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	23.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	24.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	25.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	26.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	27.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	28.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	29.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	30.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	31.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	32.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	33.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	34.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	35.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	36.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	37.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	38.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	39.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	40.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	41.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	42.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	43.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	44.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	45.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	46.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	47.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	48.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	49.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	50.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	51.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	52.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	53.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	54.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	55.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	56.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	57.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	58.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	59.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	60.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	61.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	62.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	63.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	64.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	65.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	66.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	67.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	68.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	69.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	70.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	71.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	72.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	73.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	74.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	75.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	76.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	77.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	78.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	79.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	80.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	81.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	82.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	83.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	84.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	85.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	86.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	87.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	88.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	89.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	90.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	91.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	92.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	93.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	94.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	95.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	96.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	97.00
Do round	..	..	100 lb	98.00
Do heavy	..	..	100 lb	99.00
Do lamb	..	..	100 lb	100.00
Vegetables				
Asparagus	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Beetroot	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Carrots	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Cauliflower	..	..	100 lb	1.00
French Beans	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Garlic	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Onions (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Peas (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Spinach	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Tomatoes (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Turnips	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Vegetables (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Yams	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Asparagus	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Beetroot	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Carrots	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Cauliflower	..	..	100 lb	1.00
French Beans	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Garlic	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Onions (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Peas (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Spinach	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Tomatoes (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Turnips	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Vegetables (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Yams	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Asparagus	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Beetroot	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Carrots	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Cauliflower	..	..	100 lb	1.00
French Beans	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Garlic	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Onions (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Peas (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Spinach	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Tomatoes (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Turnips	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Vegetables (French)	..	..	100 lb	1.00
Yams	..	..	100 lb	1.00

REACHING MARKET PRICE LIST.—(Contd.)

Article	per	Kilograms	
			Average for month
Produce			
Onions	10	10	10
Carrots	10	10	10
Beets	10	10	10
Turnips	10	10	10
Radishes	10	10	10
Brussels Sprouts	10	10	10
Broccoli	10	10	10
Asparagus	10	10	10
Green Beans	10	10	10
Peas	10	10	10
Edam Beans	10	10	10
Black Beans	10	10	10
White Beans	10	10	10
Red Beans	10	10	10
Black-eyed Peas	10	10	10
Chickpeas	10	10	10
Lentils	10	10	10
Mung Beans	10	10	10
Soybeans	10	10	10
Peanut Oil	10	10	10
Sesame Oil	10	10	10
Mustard Oil	10	10	10
Coconut Oil	10	10	10
Vegetable Oil	10	10	10
Flaxseed Oil	10	10	10
Almond Oil	10	10	10
Walnut Oil	10	10	10
Olive Oil	10	10	10
Canola Oil	10	10	10
Sunflower Oil	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
Sesame Seeds	10	10	10
Mustard Seeds	10	10	10
Coconut	10	10	10
Almonds	10	10	10
Walnuts	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
Almond	10	10	10
Walnut	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
Almond	10	10	10
Walnut	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
Almond	10	10	10
Walnut	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
Almond	10	10	10
Walnut	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
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Walnut	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
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Walnut	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
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Sunflower	10	10	10
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Sunflower	10	10	10
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Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
Almond	10	10	10
Walnut	10	10	10
Olive	10	10	10
Canola	10	10	10
Sunflower	10	10	10
Flaxseed	10	10	10
Almond	10	10	10
Walnut	10	10	10