

# Sarawak Gazette

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## The Sarawak Gazette

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28th, 1965

### "Culture" with a Big U

In the midst of Confrontation, a sort of war, it is mildly impressive that Sarawak has refused to make this an easy alibi to put aside little things or big ideas. So often, in such situations, governments concentrate at the expense of the intellectual and individual leaders' positions at the expense of long term ideas.

Elsewhere in this issue, Datu Yusongcong Japah, Minister for Sarawak Affairs in the Federal Cabinet, suggests the need for a Zoo in Sarawak. This is a fair example of the refuse-to-flap thinking in our midst. There may be argument on the pros and cons of a Zoo here. The Museum ran a small one for years, but gave it up for lack of public support about 1957. The public has changed its ideas in the years since, and there has been a marked upsurge in interest in Sarawak's wild life, nature resources, history, prehistory and culture as a whole. The success of the Arts Council Craftshop in the Aurora Hotel, with steadily climbing quality of native crafts and weekly sales turnover, is another illustration of this point.

Those who live in or have lately come to Kuching will also have been charmed at the long overdone but now nicely arranged stumping up and re-painting of the metal conservatory in the Museum gardens. Here the Municipality are planning, in the near future, to start Horner's first Aquarium. At first on a modest scale, this will nevertheless be another cultural gem in the midst of these contested times.

Alongside the new Aquarium the Museum is developing a branch, an Outdoor Museum. This month a very finely carved (but "soyjak") burial house, has been added, and paths laid on. In the near future the roof of the open will be tiled, to make an attractive all-weather set of the sorts of exhibit which do not go—or cannot get into—an enclosed building. The very fine effigy and shell put down by Shell at Miri is one of the forthcoming attractions, already in Kuching ready for installation.

By the same cultural token, in the December Gazette we published a letter from the Hon. Abang Othman, our leading Malay Member of Parliament. He suggested the formation of a Sarawak Historical Society. The idea has since been followed up in the press, and we here will give the proposal all the fair wind we can.

Welcome, also, is press correspondence on the Sarawak Library, and the decision of the Librarian to extend its scope—including the inclusion of more books in Thai. In our humble opinion, however, the whole library system in this state deserves to have its financial support strengthened very considerably. Doubtful at best, it is not enough to say that no sustained state has anything half as good. This may be so. But Sarawak has unique problems of communication on the one check and accelerating adult and adolescent literacy on the other.

These are parallel step-ups in social organisations, Adult Education, Women's Institutes (see January Gazette), Youth organisations (especially Malay youth), and positive policies from the Majlis Islam (including brochures on pre-marital pregnancy and the Armed Forces during early February).

### Letters to the Editor

FROM THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR SARAWAK AFFAIRS

Kuching  
9th January, 1965.

To the Editor,  
Sarawak Gazette,  
Kuching.

Sir,

I would like to suggest that Sarawak should have a zoo. Although we have a very fine and well-known Museum where it is possible to see stuffed animals of all kinds it is still not possible for the people, especially the children, of Sarawak, to see the numerous animals in the country in living form.

I suggest that if government could provide the funds the zoo should in the first place be run as part of the Sarawak Museum which would no doubt be the most capable organisation to take care of it.

On my recent visit to Kuala Lumpur, I visited the zoo there and noted that an admission charge was made. If this could be done here, perhaps, it would help to pay for the cost of upkeep.

I am sure that the zoo, which of course would have to be in Kuching, the capital, would be much appreciated not only by the people of Sarawak, but by visitors and tourists in particular.

Perhaps to further this cause a zoological society of Sarawak might be formed.

I hope that those interested will show their interest by letters to the press and thereby encourage others.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID TEMPLETON-JONES ARAB BARBERS

1, Silver Street,  
Cambridge.

17th January, 1965.

The Editor,  
Sarawak Gazette,  
Sri.

I should like to draw your attention to the insertions in the "Arrivals" and "Departures" column in your October/December (1964) issue of the Sarawak Gazette, which I have received.

1. Whatever be the intentions behind the announcements exclusively in respect of the expatriate officers, I would but stress the need for some clear indication in the headings, in order to avoid creating the somewhat mistaken impression that there are no Asian officers in Sarawak! In my enclosed article entitled "THINGS—as I see them in England", I have cited an instance of such a misapprehension.

2. I should be very grateful if you would kindly consider publication of the above article.

Yours faithfully,

PETER HUNSON

[We agree with Mr. Hunson. Before the receipt of this letter we had asked that this item be extended just to cover all to and fro movements, including students, scholarships, seminars and outside journeys by local officers. Ed.]

## Hyde Park Corner in England, 1965

By

PETER HUNSON

Were a new-comer to England to stroll to Hyde Park Corner in London, he would listen with great interest to some people standing on soap-boxes shouting at the tops of their voices and condemning politicians, capitalists, communists, whites or blacks. He might wonder what is happening. In this Corner people with mental frustrations, false illusions, a sense of injustice or what-not can speak their minds freely without fear of court action. On one occasion, I heard one African trying out his lungs: "Listen, historians, you see . . . this is an ignominious, injustice and affrontment. But this has happened. Would you care to remember this for your future poster?" I did not think there was any historian around. After all, the historians might not bother to write what he wanted it to be, perhaps. Ah, behold, there, then? I used to hold strongly the view that critics will stimulate thought and provide impetus.

### Democracy

Theories of "free" can be freely and openly discussed (and studied) on T.V., radio, University

and school forums — anywhere people like. At Cambridge, for example, which is one of the two biggest and oldest university centres (Oxford being the other) there are some 10,000 research students and under-graduates each year, and politics is a "must" subject for everybody in order to prepare themselves for future careers in politicians, scientists, journalists and so on. There are numerous Cambridge University associations such as C.U.U.A. (United Nations Assoc.) and an association for each political party, including the communists. At all general elections, British undergraduates go out in full force to give support to their party candidates. Discussions or debates are organised practically every week, sometimes attended by M.P.s and politicians. Recently, a well-known M.P., Deputy High Commissioner for Canada in London and some University lecturers of Cambridge and Oxford were invited by C.U.U.A. to form a forum on "The Immorality of the United Nations" which was attended by students and cross sections of people. The language used, the sentiments expressed, the apologetic arguments, the meaningful criticisms, the good-natured banter, the brilliant debating, and the joie de vivre apparent in the hearts, and the beard, were indeed most refreshing. There has been a survey of the reasons "why young people, particularly the University students, turned against the Conservatives in the last elections?". This new Conservative study group called FUST (Forum for Economic and Social Turnout) was allegedly formed by University students in 1963, whose primary object is supposedly to create a new image in the Conservative Party in keeping with the changing times.

Although there is only one Communist Daily catering for 12-million people here, the paper encounters financial crises from time to time for lack of support. While the socialist paper "Daily Mirror" has a world-record circulation of 15 million issues which could be read by some 25 million people daily. This bespeaks the basic, social and economic pattern of this country. Great Britain can rightly feel proud of the fact that she has been almost everywhere taken as a model of modern constitutional democracy, no country in history being thus so widely imitated. So much has been said about the democracy and freedom of speech. One might wonder why some Governments have to impose certain restrictions on certain ideologies, for example. The answer is simple. There has been ample prima facie evidence to show that to most "immature" politicians and some ignorant students, in particular "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing" indeed. There were even quite a few political leaders in Africa and the Middle-East, for instance, who have gone home from here with a load of socialist ideas they learned in the universities, but soon took the sticks by their wrong ends and became either dictators or rebel leaders!

### Indonesian Communism

"British Troops sent to Malaysia to protect Malays . . ." and "Malays ask Raiders' raised . . .", quite accurately rather than surprisingly, start two from the headlines in two issues of an evening paper recently. Some days ago, I told a shop-keeper about the country I come from. Quite incredulously, he remarked, "Oh, there are Chinese too in Malaysia? I have occasions

to feel surprised that in this politics conscious country, I am often confronted with these questions: Could Malaysia alone stand up to Indonesian attacks? Was Sarawak not part of Indonesian Borneo at one time? Why must the British Government commit itself to defending newly independent Malaysia? One left-wing paper even suggested that the British Government should stop wasting money on protecting Malaysia and the Singapore base. Their ignorance of our emerging nation may be partly because of its smallness and it is not quite "on the map" to them. A lot of people seem to be rather indifferent as to what is going on in that part of the world and many are, of course, unaware

of the existing Dehans Agreement signed between the three Malayan and British Governments upon the former achieving its  *Merdeka*  in 1957 — the said agreement having been extended to cover the Federal States subsequently. In its *Weekend Magazine*, one fairly big paper is an article (contributed by someone from Malaysia) touched on the racial composition of Malaysia and somewhat boldly forecast that once the British personnel pull out of Malaysia, there will immediately follow racial conflicts and chaos. I should perhaps refrain, . . . from quoting here any similar comments reflecting the views of some leading papers on the future of our new nation, . . . in the interests of national unity and solidarity, . . . although whatever constructive comments or criticisms, or otherwise, will give us something to think about.

But news for all daily newspapers has followed Sukarno's reiterated determination to crush Malaysia. All politicians, be they in Government or in opposition, expressed their firm determination to defend Malaysia against attacks from any quarter. I hope, however, I have convinced a few somewhat ignorant British friends why Malaysia and Great Britain should not be fair-weather friends in the face of growing hostility between the two ideological power blocs. I might add that arrangements were sometime ago made to give documentary film shows (by courtesy of the Malaysian High Commission in London to a small section of interested people in Cambridge on two separate occasions.

#### London Police

London police have no doubt lived up to their highest reputation and expectations. Properly speaking, London police are only those within the jurisdiction of the ancient London City which has only the tiny area of 1 sq. mile. The police outside the City is, in the Greater London Area covering some 750 sq. miles and known as the Metropolitan Police, whose famous headquarters, of course, are at Scotland Yard. To speak the truth, until I first came here in 1957, I had the impression that the Scotland Yard was in Scotland! I understood that it derived its name from an old palace used by Kings and Queens of Scotland which used to stand there.

Any new-comer to London will soon appreciate, or will soon realize that the police in this country, on the whole, are efficient, courteous and polite. This certainly increases one's feelings of security and safety while walking around the city of nearly 8-million people. For example, when one loses his direction in any part of London, the policeman he meets will be able to advise immediately: "straight on, and after passing the fifth set of traffic lights, take the third street on your right and you will see a tall clock-tower in your left. . . ." This may mean waiting half a mile or

Unlike the police in Hong Kong, Taipei, Paris, Colombo and most other big towns and cities (in Paris I saw the police were armed with machine guns, etc., in 1955), the police here are completely unarmed. This appears rather surprising in this cosmopolitan London. And yet they are expected in the course of their duties to disarm the gun thugs or the shooting maniacs.

In recent weeks (since Christmas) there have been numerous shooting incidents and armed robberies. At least three policemen were shot and wounded. Any adult person here can buy a shotgun and take out a license in the same manner as he buys a radio set or a car. Responsible people are beginning to wonder what is behind the recent shootings and violence. Are they "testing" the Government's determination to abolish capital punishment (the bill has yet to be passed in the House of Lords)? Is it the indication of the gradual break-down of this long, well established, secure and stable society? This social disorder and rather unusual violence are giving the Home Office a headache in the discharge of its bounden duties of maintaining law and order. Should the police go on unarmed? I believe all these questions are being seriously con-

sidered. I understand the policemen themselves do not like the idea of their being armed, but they feel that if capital punishment ends it will mean a risk to their lives and that they feel wanting the lethal weapons. It was seen to go to the West End Street corners in London to see big crowds of teenagers, boys and girls, loitering about here and there or hanging around the "beat" clubs, etc., all the early hours of the morning, one could see the potential danger posed by them in the next decade or so.

#### Rising Cost of Living

Paradoxically, the standard of living and the cost of living are not wholly inter-related. The "*Weekend*" of the recent *Daily Telegraph* commented that the average per capita income of the people of Malaysia "thrice as rich as the Indians, four times as rich as the Indonesians today, twice as rich as the Philippines and twice as rich as the neighbouring Thailand." I wonder how many of our people at home realize this. The smooth implementation of our Development Plans in all States of Malaysia augurs well a more prosperous nation and its happier people in the next five to ten years.

In Great Britain, the standard of living seems higher than it was when I was here in 1955. This high standard of living is confirmed by a Russian woman whom I met recently. But the cost of living here has undoubtedly been rising by leaps and bounds. This indeed constitutes a main headache and a very embarrassing problem for the Labour Government which has pledged to promote a social equality and justice and raise the standard of living of the middle and lower income groups. For instance, I could have a hair-cut (just hair-cut without shampoo, etc.) for \$1.50 in 1958, but at present I need pay \$1.70 for the same service. I shall not be surprised if this will increase further, so as much as \$2.00 before long, in view of recent increases of wages, rail fares, petrol, imported goods (as the result of the 15 per cent surcharge), etc., etc.

The cause of the rising cost of living is easy to understand but it is difficult to find its solution. The unfavorable balance of payments, i.e. imports exceeding exports in this highly industrialized country, has caused a financial crisis. The pound sterling has been under serious pressure now and then. The Government has introduced measures among others, to stabilize the pound sterling by increasing the bank rate and making ways and means of boosting exports. Some "hardtop" students somewhat critically attributed the cause of the financial crisis to the heavy-duty of colonies from the Empire. To be realistic, I personally think the heavy military expenditure and the financial aid given to the emerging states by the British Government are the main cause. I should like to mention that sometime in the 1920s, some politicians advocated the abandonment of the colonies in order to relieve Britain of its burden and responsibilities. Whoever would have thought that, somewhat ironically, although most colonies were not granted their independence until as late as after the Second World War, Britain has still been unable to shake off its burden as hoped by these politicians over 100 years ago! This is simply because Britain is morally, or by agreement, responsible for their integrity and security, such as in the cases of Malaysia, Cyprus and even a nation as big and populous as India, etc.

No one can deny that Great Britain has earned a great deal by exporting cars, radio sets, refrigerators and all sorts of both capital and consumer goods. It would perhaps be unfair for me to hazard a conjecture at this stage as to whether the governments of some highly industrialized countries including Japan, Holland, France, etc., for instance, will have the same difficulties, or even more, in maintaining their balance of payments in the next 15 to 20 years in view of the inevitable fact that the emerging states in the East and Africa are moving gradually towards industrialization

themselves, which will mean that these countries will eventually have fewer imports and fewer raw materials for export as at present. Willy-nilly, I tend to think that the rising of the pendulum is a matter of course.

#### The Epilogue

All I have written here so far, represents my own views. Although, frankly speaking, Great Britain is not quite a super-power, its policy and the way of life of its people have played, and are still playing, an important role in this turbulent and chaotic world. They are the world experts on the problems of the backward people, because they have governed so many of them and they know their difficulties. Same as other world powers, Great Britain does not take lightly of the importance of maintaining the equilibrium of power, where possible, although most Labour M.P.s have quite rightly (in my opinion) urged the "giving-up" of the nuclear deterrent to the United States, while a few other big nations are somewhat ready in their hot pursuit of arms race with a view to constantly creating the balance of terror rather than the balance of power. The saying "everybody wants to go to heaven, but nobody wants to die!" even is accepted by our unkind neighbour, the ambitious Suluana!

The British people have their sterling qualities as well as their shortcomings, to have all human beings imaginative of race or beliefs. There were 20,000 overseas students in Great Britain, who have benefited the excellent services of the British Council, will not be inappreciative of the arrangements for matters affecting their welfare. Its varied programmes of sight-seeing, visits, tours and other social activities, will no doubt make one feel at home. I, for one, was quite fortunate in attending a Christmas Vacation Course for a week by arrangement of the British Council in London when I met and stayed with 53 others from some 25 countries all over the world — some of whom I would not have otherwise expected to meet in my life.

The British Government is reputed for its "flexibility" and well-seasoned diplomacy which many peoples in this world have yet to learn in order to foster better human understandings and good relations for the sake of world peace. I do not for a moment consider myself capable of writing about this nation with complete accuracy. I give my personal view: "Two men looking through the window, one sees the stars and the other sees the mud". In case, any expert in Sarawak feels like challenging any point I have raised, I would only be too willing to admit him, whenever possible, to go to Hyde Park Corner to air views where he can have full protection of the law!

#### Self-introduction

Am doing the Cambridge Overseas Service Course with the International Relations and the Politics Economics as my main subjects for one academic year year till June, 1965.

### Dato Mustapha—A Related Appreciation

by

ADRIAN BILAL SATIM

It is indeed embarrassing of us here in this country to so rudically forget the memory of one who, in his lifetime, had dominated the Sarawak scene in such a grand and controversial way; who was, until the last general elections unopposed leader and spokesman of the Malays and whose life from beginning to end had been devoted entirely to the service of this country.

I do not know if the late Dato was a "great" man. He did make mistakes and big mistakes they were. In the last general elections he was not able to rally the support of all the Malays and perhaps his political

career in the last years of his life might have proved a failure in the light of the high standards that he had set himself to achieve. But now that he is dead we can never look upon his like again.

For here was a man who knew this land Sarawak in a unique way. He served this country the way he did not only because he obviously loved this country but also because it is in his blood and in his family's blood to be of distinguished service to this country. Coming as he did from a great and illustrious family of Datus and Rukunias his whole life was shaped in such a way that when he comes into his own he might easily on the family tradition of distinguished service to this country.

But the late Dato did more than any member of his family. In the long line he was the first to realise that the old times — when the name-prefix "Abang" was enough to secure anyone a well-paid and dignified job — were never to be had again in the light of what the War had done for many peoples. Sarawak after the War, was, for all intents and purposes simply blank. The Datus must go because in the circumstances they could not be of any more use to the country. The British, colonialists as they were, must take over because Sarawak frankly needed them to fit herself into the new society of nations.

If it is the usual practice to think of the future at a time like this it is also prudent to look back through the inevitable pages of history because the lessons are always there. The Dato is new history but the legacy of his life remains behind. It is in keeping with greatness that great men leave their greatness behind.

For the late Dato was greatly misunderstood. He was thought of as ultra-conservative, a Malay-righter, racialist and apologist of peasant ignorance. PANAS was to all intents and purposes a Malay party dedicated to Malay rights. The rural Malays in the last general elections were caused to abhor one another and it would seem that all over the countryside this fair land Sarawak was experiencing the kind of feeling we had never felt before in the hour of common-sense.

But it is far from the truth that the late Dato was an extremist. Election time in a country seemed to it will inevitably result in turned, much silly behaviour and pure fanaticism. No matter how much we dislike the thought we must admit that we in this country are still immature politically speaking.

Everybody is agreed that the tactics and conduct of the last elections in this country left much to be desired. Extremism was preached in the streets; there were many among our number who even preached physical violence towards their opponents. There was trouble in the land. But here and there, among the bubble of voices crying to be heard were those advocating quietly the wisdom of moderation. And among these was the late Dato.

His was the voice of mild compromise in a polarised society, a voice calm and quiet because it was weighed by the heavy load of experience.

The late Dato was not a brilliant personality. He had little academic record to back him up. His personal appearance inspired none of confidence that enthusiasm. He speaks very slowly and at times even painfully. But he was a man whom everybody trusted and whom everybody respected, including his most ardent opponents.

If PANAS looked at time to be fanatic it was not because its Chairman wanted it to be so but because he was sometimes quite unable to restrain some of his more rabidous followers. He realised the dangers and pitfalls of fanaticism in politics. Religion to him was not a major factor in winning votes. A close associate told me that in the many years he had been with the Dato he had never heard him utter one word to cause animosity or even misunderstanding among the races. If indeed he spoke on the racial theme





It was only to appeal to some members of the Chinese community to be more accommodating to their Native brethren and for the Native brethren to be more accommodating to their Chinese brethren. When he spoke or made promises, nobody doubted his integrity or good faith. He was among the very few who really knew Sarawak; what she needs, how it must move into the future and what are the precautions to take. He knew the 'spirit' of Sarawak from the very bottom of his heart. This was the Dato who spoke very slowly and calmly to many a hushed-up audience in the late evenings.

Born into a rich and influential family — his grandfather Abang Haji Abdul Rahman was the first Sarawakian to be appointed Dato Hakis in the time of the First Rajah — Dato Mustapha nevertheless started from scratch. Much like everyone else destined for administrative service he was educated at St. Thomas's School when he was about ten. Then he

left for St. Joseph's, leaving which he was sent by his father to Malacca to study Arabic and Islamic texts — on Muhammadan Law. After four years sojourn, during which time he travelled widely, passing through the middle-east and India, he came back when he was about nineteen.

In 1925 he took up a clerical post in no other place than Limbung when he proved to be most popular with all the residents there. It was here in this close community that he learned at the tender age of nineteen the real meaning of racial co-operation. When age caught up with him many years later he always referred to his fruitful and pleasant days in Limbung. Old residents there, of Chinese and Native descent, can still vividly recall the time when a nervous but dignified young man came into their midst sitting in the same house with them, playing on the same field and talking in much the same way that they talked. Old conversables can also recall a sad farewell



when the late Dato eventually left Limbang for Kuching.

In 1939 the Dato was transferred to the Sarawak Constabulary which was then only a small company of dedicated 'main-mains', looking bored because there was not much to do beyond protecting the person of the Rajah. (Overlookers in those times were not exactly crime-addicts.) In the Constabulary the Dato became one of the first Natives to be commissioned as officers. In 1940, mainly because of distinguished service in this field, he was appointed Dato Padiliran which carries the title 'Dato'. In 1946, immediately after the Japanese surrender, he was created 'Dato Bandar'.

From Condon onwards he had served on many commissions and government appointments. As Adviser to the Colonial Government on Malay affairs and the spokesman of the Malays the Dato was liked and trusted by all. He soon established himself as the 'man of the country'. The prominent personality, the 'profound' adviser, by travelling up and down the country almost everyday.

But Condon had marred much of his good reputation. He was accused of 'selling' Sarawak to the British and of sacrificing Malay predominance on the altar of material and economic progress. He came to be most unpopular in the land. But he remained adamant. Brooke rule, he said, was unrealistic and deceiving. Sarawak under the Brookes is much of a backwater paradise. To move forward with the new society of nations Sarawak must accept British imperialism though this inevitably entails the loss of freedom and even dignity. The Dato was prepared to swallow his pride if only Sarawak, the land that he loved, would move forward and be a modern nation like any other, away from the narrowing and 'play-pon' influence of Brooke rule. If we are a colony of Britain, he said

at that time, we can ASK for independence when we think we are ready for it. But if we are under the Rajahs from whom are we going to ASK for independence when we are supposed to be 'independent' already?

The British came, the British saw, and the British 'conquered' but the British also proved lenient and we are independent now principally because there is someone to ask it from! The Dato's foresight came true. History, it would seem, had proved him right.

But he would have died in happier circumstances if it were not for the next issue which awaited all at the end of his life and which, it would seem, many people have looked upon as the only measure of his greatness or infamy. This was the formation of PANAS itself and the ensuing SUPP-PANAS coalition.

The news of all eyes for the fateful year of grace 1960 was the formation of that coalition. How could it be possible for a 'Malay' party to join forces with a predominantly Chinese party? The Dato was promptly accused of betraying PANAS's policies and of sacrificing Malay representation in Council Negri. But he saw further than most. Only his closest associates knew at that time the real implications of the case.

SUPP was anti-Malayish. The British Administration was committed that it be implemented because Macfarlane and Tunku had agreed to it in London. Sarawak at the time of the London Agreement was still a British Colony. But the SUPP as a single party won the largest number of local council seats. Through the three-tier system however, there might even be a possibility that it might not win a single seat in Council Negri, the three-tier system being so devised, said many a SUPP supporter, so as to leave them out of Council Negri even though they might have won all the seats contested.

In the event of this really happening there is little doubt that in the light of much controversy and rampant feelings during the elections, the more ardent and fanatical of MUPP members would break the peace and even resort to violence. Such was the frustration of the moment. A party winning the largest number of local council seats having to face the stark and terrifying possibility of not obtaining a single seat in the case, council that really matters.

But the late Date largely saved the situation. The real purpose of the coalition was to tone down those more ardent and volatile elements in the SUPP. Through the coalition the SUPP might be able at least to obtain five seats in Council Negri. This arrangement leaves much to be desired but in the circumstances it was a truly patriotic move on the part of the late Date.

This was the kind of deed that only a few would have done. And in this case only the Dato could have done it. This was his legacy. On this his name will stand.

If we look to the future at a time like this we must also look to the past for a man like him. For he was somewhere different from everybody else.

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Naya tidak dapat membentarkan satu-satunya alasan. Dany itu seorang "benci". Beliau telah melihat beberapa perubahan yang besar dan kecil. Dalam pilihan naya yang lain beliau telah tidak percaya menurut informasi dari seluruh orang2 Melayu. Masalah perubahan politik beliau di-waktu yang terakhir hidup-nya itu telah menyebabkan keluarga mencapai puncak kejayaan yang tinggi di-waktu-nya. Sekarang beliau telah meninggalkan kita dan anak-anak masih berduka di-dalam suasana sedih beliau ini.

Karena beliau adalah seorang yang sangat berkeadilan, beliau pun Saruwak akan-lah, dan sesudah itu berkeadilan untuk Saruwak bahwa bahwa karena rasa cinta tanah air, beliau juga merasa senang dalam dunia bahwa dan keluarga-nya yang dia terima, menjadi perantara juga berkeadilan untuk Saruwak. Beliau adalah dari beberapa keluarga datuk yang berkeadilan dan keluarganya-nya berkeadilan. Dan itu beliau telah menguji jika langkah keluarga-nya yang berkeadilan dalam dunia berkeadilan kepada tanah air.

Tetapi alangkah Dulu itu menunjukkan tindakan yang lebih dari kalanya-nya yang lain. Ia panjang masa yang lalu, bahwa-lah yang masih mempunyai in-  
-te-nya masa yang lalu — apabila masa gelaran "Abang"  
untuk menang untuk memilih jemaah bagi ia-nya  
untuk mendapat potongan yang baik dan gaji yang  
memastikan untuk tidak akan berlaku lagi se-  
-tiba-tiba perubahan besar terjadi yang di-  
-akibatkan oleh peperangan dunia yang ke-2. Sekarang sudah  
-tidak kelihatan dari manusia perubahan itu.  
Pemerintah Belanda masih berlaku karena tindakan  
-dan perubahan yang berlaku tidak menunjukkan mer-  
-nah. Kerana Pejabat British masih mengambil alih

Sarawak kerana Sarawak ada-lah memberikan mereka untuk membolehkan diri kita untuk masuk dalam dunia baharu dalam perjalanan antara bangsa.

Kalau lah itulah menjadi kebalikan kita untuk mendiklarkan produk yang akan datang pada masa datang, maka adalah juga satu kebalikannya untuk membuat se-jumlah kebalikannya sebagai yang akan karena di-lalu untuk terwujud beberapa pelajaran dan tradisi. Alasannya ialah untuk menjadi seperti yang terwujud dalam dan bentuknya yang terwujud karena kita untuk menjadi kebalikan yang akan akan ada baik atau ada, tidak ada.

Kerana ancaman Data itu telah banyak menimbulkan takut-makut — ia di-rakib sebagai terbitan hitam, perancang orang? Malaysia, mengantar rasa perkenalan dan mengantar kemungkinan dalam mempergarib orang? Ibarat bandar yang burang dalam pelajaran serbawati buai politik, Parti PASAS di-angap parti Melayu untuk menepahkan buai? dan berprestasi orang? Melayu tabah. Pembubuh Melayu Ibarat bandar telah diadhi deribahan ancaman ada sama lain. Perpelehan yang baru telah timbul yang bukan pernah ada dalam sejarah Melayu masa sebelum 1963.

Tetapi adalah jauh dari kebenaran untuk memodelkan paku airmanis. Cara ini mengorbankan polinasi. Dalam pikiran saya, pada pertama diungkap kita adalah untuk berpikir berbagai hal yang tidak diinginkan, umpama saja, apakah memelihara, pertukaran dan lain lagi yang saya tidak akan sebatikan. Baiklah diakhir dengan kata terane bahwa kita adalah masih bahwa dan untuk itu dalam dan untuk dan celakak! ma.

Selain itu bersejaja bahwa langkah2 yang kita lakukan dalam pilihan raya yang kita atahai akan hal yang amat disorotkan. Selain daripada itu2 yang harus baik, bahkan kita akan yang kurang seoran pada di-lakukan terhadap kaum politik asing2. Pendidikan kita akan terjadi pemerintahan yang benar. Bangsa pun diberikan terhadap juga orang2 yang dapat memperkembangkan diri mereka dan dapat yang berkesan di antara manusia. Dan seorang di antara mereka ini ialah orang-orang Duta Besar.

Dalam hal yang selalu merupakan pikiran telah  
menjadi kenyataan telah di-sampaikan dengan tenang dan  
santai yang perlahan-lahan akan menjadi di-sampaikan oleh  
remaja-mu yang akan di-biduk sebagai manusia.

Bukan itu belumlah masalah yang terlalu sederhana. Isinya adalah bagaimana membangun sikap yang benar terhadap orang-orang yang telah menyalahgunakan kekuasaan. Perilaku ini akan menimbulkan konsekuensi yang harus dihadapi oleh para pemimpin. Tetapi tidak demikian halnya dengan orang-orang yang telah menyalahgunakan kekuasaan. Mereka harus menghadapi konsekuensi yang harus mereka tanggung.

Hasil belajar2 tersebut PANAS belahan apa? Yesss!! apapun ts' jawab, maka hal itu bukan-lah dengan kemauan pengerti-nya, tetapi menjadi karena belian tidak lagi dapat mengendalikan ts' orang dari pada pengikat-nya yang terkubur. Selain menyadari benar atau bahwa dan akibat-nya berlaku sesuai dalam pikiran. Pengaruh utama adalah menjadi satu faktor besar untuk memahami and2 pikiran nya. Dari hasil2 belian yang tepat juga mengindikasikan bahwa belian tidak pernah mengalah apabila lagi mengontrol dan permasalah dan perpeubahan di-antara kamu2.

Almarhum adalah sa-sung anak Surwadi yang kita tidak dapat jumpai masa sekarang karena beliau meninggal pada 'akhir' bulan Surwadi yang telah lampu Surwadi yang kita ketahui lama dahulu.

## From the Young

In October we published a piece of Adnan Senu, of St. Joseph's School, extracted from the school magazine. This has brought a healthy reaction from some other schools, asking, primarily, "and what about us?" One or two school magazines are evidently dominated by the teaching staff or school policy or the wish to please the Education Department or something. Anyway, they published a healthy run-of-the-mill, conventional stuff. Others are full of original contributions, of lively thoughts and writers. Below we offer some examples from the very lively Kanowit School mag, Third Division, in addition to one from three last month. In following issues we have other lively schools in view. If we miss any, good ones, it is up to those interested to let us know.—Ed.]

### Note on "The Students' Outlook" Magazine

Kanowit Secondary School began its magazine in 1961, with the first *Students' Outlook*. In 1962 no magazine was produced and in 1963, with Mr. G. H. Morris as adviser and Hilary Nyamdam as editor, the magazine was revived, though under a different name. In 1964, editor Warren Saling, Form IV, succeeded in having the name, *The Students' Outlook*, made "law" by the first Students' Council.

A fairly strict editorial policy has been adopted and a quantity of work was rejected or modified this year. It is felt that although some will be disappointed, the improved quality will act as an incentive to aspiring writers. A representative, but small quantity of vernacular works is included; however as English is the lingua franca at K.S.S., and as the magazine is an adjunct to our English teaching programme, we have used the latter primarily.

Finance is a problem because advertising rates are not feasible in a small community as Kanowit, and we could not possibly charge our students high prices for the magazine. We have compensated by selling the magazine to all students for fifty cents, and subsidising from school funds.

A brief note on the three authors represented here:

Alexander Tinba (Batu), has just finished Form V and is undecided about his career. He enjoys "war stories" and the piece reproduced here is the product of his imagination. It begins as a class composition.

Gumpong Juna (Batu), has also just finished his Form V, and has been accepted by Tunjung Lohang for Form VI arts. He enjoys writing and has been at K.S.S. since its inception as a Government Secondary School seven years ago.

Mohd. Ali Jusaidi (Melanau), came to K.S.S. from Malikah this year. He has finished Form IV and will return as a vice captain in one of our school houses next year.

ALLAN SMITHSON,  
*Acting Headmaster.*

### (1) The Autobiography of a Fighting Cock

Dawn is breaking while the moon is vanishing high in the sky. It is time for me to do my duty—crowing in the silence of the dawn, greeting the approaching day and waking the community for its day's work.

With the first streak of grey over the horizon, the shadowy figures of the people begin to appear. The ladies are preparing the morning meal, while the men are having their bath in the cool river-water, or chatting to each other on the verandah. My friend and I crow until the glory of the morning sun taints everything to silver.

It is a fine morning. The sky is blue and cloudless. Everything looks very cheerful and fresh with the coming of the new day. Even I, who am an old cock, feel very comfortable and fresh. I am about six years



old, and have lived through thick and thin. But now, in my old age, I am considered unimportant and my master cares little about me. Despite that, I am trying my best to serve him and others in the community by crowing every morning to welcome a new day. Yet, my service is not appreciated as it should be. But now, I always think of the old good days when I was young and when my master treated me as his valuable treasure.

I was born in a place up the river and when I was one year old my master brought me to the longhouse where I lived. When I was young I had a pure white coat which is turning grey now. My master admired me then, and treated me well. He trained me to fight from the time when I was very small. It encouraged him even more when he saw that I could beat all the other cocks in our community.

There is one glorious event in my life, which I will never forget until the end of my days. It is the day when I first entered a fighting pit. Although I had fought often before, it was not with arms. So, when I learned that I was going to challenge another cock, I shook all over. The thought of the sharp, acidic knife, made my flesh creep with fear. However, the fight was inevitable.

Early on the day before the fight starts my master sharpened a small, curved knife to be fastened to my left foot. He especially arranged to me to see that I was in a good condition for the fight.

When the time came for that memorable event to start, my master proudly brought me to the open pit. There was a crowd of people there and I could see the other fighting cocks among them. The people were a noisy lot, shouting, betting and cheering the lucky cock. As my master fastened the spur to my foot and put a band on it to make it acidic, I felt very nervous.

When I came face to face with my opponent, who was a black, majestic looking cock, I felt like running away. Nevertheless, I told myself not to be a coward. For I was fighting for my life as well as my reputation.

Just then, without a warning my opponent attacked me, but I was quick enough to avoid his mad rush. Again he rushed and again he missed me. We fought like this for about twenty seconds. The dust and feathers flew all over the pit until we could scarcely see each other. In this confusion, my opponent again attacked me and I felt his knife cut deep through my side. The pain was unbearable but I was determined to have a revenge. With all the strength left in me, I assaulted him and stabbed my spur right into his heart. So quick was my rush that he could not stem it and he fell to the ground without uttering a cry.

My master took me victoriously and waved me in the air. The betters who had chosen me clapped and shouted with joy, but I was unable to appreciate their praise, for the acid of my enemy's knife had gone deep and burnt in my body. Thus, I became unconscious.

When I regained consciousness, I realized that I was back at the longhouse. I felt very weak and miserable. My wound was still bleeding. However, due to the tender care my master gave me, my condition improved day by day, until I was completely recovered. But since then, I have never felt like fighting any more. Thus, when my master noticed this change in me, he began to neglect me and never treated me as before.

However, I do not worry much about that, for I like to live on my own, to do things as I wish and not to be forced by others. But, sometimes I often wonder, why people, like my master, are fond of cock-fighting. It is a bloody and cruel game and yet, they say it is fun. They do not think of how we suffer for their enjoyment. Anyway, being of an inferior class we can not reject their whims but must merely follow their orders.

MOSES, Ali JONGDA.



#### (2) Nine Silver Pieces

Perhaps all of us are familiar with something often known as legendary tales. A legend is an old story passed down by word of mouth. As a very young boy, I was extremely interested in ancient stories, and I always listened to old people telling them. 'Nine Silver Pieces' is one of the tales which I was once told.

Once upon a time, there lived a man named Bading and his wife called Sayong in a dilapidated hut built in the midst of the houses of their neighbours. They were very poor. They worked laboriously, but they never ever became rich. The man and his wife possessed almost nothing, except a small piece of land which they treasured very much because they could grow some crops on it.

Among other crops which Bading and Sayong planted was tobacco. This they sold repeatedly, failure to sell the tobacco would simply mean starvation or death to them, because there were no other means for them to get money for buying food. One day Bading went to sell his tobacco. He wandered to the village and waited patiently for the people to come and buy it. Suddenly in the distance, he saw a very old man with a long beard coming towards him. Bading would have stopped if the old man had not stopped him instantly. The old man told Bading that no harm would be caused if he could offer him some of the tobacco. Without further hesitation, Bading gave him some tobacco and the old man threw nine silver pieces into the basket which contained the tobacco. Subsequently and spontaneously, the old man disappeared and Bading was left feeling very curious.

He walked home hurriedly, anxious to relate to his wife what had actually happened. Miraculously, the nine silver pieces multiplied and each time Bading lifted his basket he felt it grow heavier and heavier as the silver coins increased. He was now very happy and naturally began to think that he would become

wealthy. When Bading arrived at his poor hut, his wife was intoxicated with joy so me so much money. The nine silver pieces had by now multiplied so greatly that the man and his wife could not find any suitable place in the house where the money could be kept. They decided to build a new house and they purchased whatever things they wanted. Consequently the couple grew very rich and they were proud and began to look down upon other people.

It happened one day that the same old man who had given Bading the nine silver pieces came in the guise of a miserable and poor person and begged for money and food from him and his wife. Sayong and her husband had completely forgotten the kindness of the old man. They refused to offer him anything and instead the old man was cursed. For receiving such treatment he took back the nine silver pieces and Bading and Sayong became poor again. Their life was hard and they could hardly live. The new house had disappeared and they lived in the old dilapidated hut again. Their money and property had all gone.

So we see that the nine silver pieces could make Bading and his wife wealthy at the words of the mysterious old man. Had not the old man been cursed for begging for money and food, they would have remained very rich. However, from the story we can reach the conclusion that kindness must not be paid for by unkindness and rudeness. The old man had tried to be kind and generous, but Bading in his turn created hatred by his selfishness.

OSWALD JIVA  
Form 1.

#### (3) Three Songs

##### (a) "MUDA YANG MELANG"

Ramai orang pergi keawabang,  
Hendak membeli agam kandi,  
Ka-mua ka-mua kumbang terbang,  
Kerana mencari bunga yang cantik.  
Banyak buah beranti-lai,  
Kerana melihat kapal terbang,  
Bunga yang cantik hendak di-chari,  
Mahu di-hias lila terbang.  
Pakai selipa putih terbang,  
Dua-nya pula melantai-kantai,  
Mahu di-hias lila terbang,  
Gugur-lah bunga beranti-dari  
Kerana tuai ka-budi China,  
Peli-tua juga ka-budi budi,  
Melayu rangkap mudi di-bunga,  
Ditanggal kumbang yang pergi,  
Ambil pingat di-batu chas,  
Lalu di-makan berdagang di-bes,  
Kumbang terbang dengan gemina,  
Tinggal-lah bunga cinta dia selai.

NOORUL ANWAR  
Form 1A.

##### (b) MELAYUS

Tengku Abdul Rahman Menteri Malaysia,  
Mencantaukan kan agam Melayu (Pn.  
Sarawak, Sabah, Singapore dan Malaya,  
Negara di-kemul sebagai Malaysia.  
Rampas agam di-kandung mui,  
Di perantak oleh Raja Melayu;  
Sultan Melayu bernas pada,  
Selah Malaysia agam juga.  
Malaysia di-chantun tidak di-sed,  
Di selah Asia sultan reform;  
Ba'gait aya hidup aman dan berai,  
Kerana Malaysia anal-nya tinggal.

Wahai pemuda serta pemudi,  
Mari lah kita bersama bert:  
Jaguh lah kita menyuruh kan diri,  
Supaya Malaysia kekal abadi.

Berjuang lah kita bersama rela,  
Berkorban lah jika benar Malaysia,  
Jaguh lah takut menentang Goryla,  
Membebaskan kan diri dari Indonesia.

SARAWAK  
Form 1A.

(RE "SAMPAN POKOKUT")

(Untuk Kawan' ku-jung dijaga)

Wahai kawan' ku.....  
Sekali belajar,  
Teras belajar,  
Supaya membekali kan kaja'ian.  
Biar penuh labuh segala tulang.  
Ya..... kawan ku,  
Ira tinda pelajar kan ada.  
Untuk membela kemegahan keluarga.  
Genggam bera api biar sampai jadi utang.  
Di-taklakan menyedikitkan ilam pengorbanan.  
Biar lah penuh tulang.  
Berjuang! Berjuang di-medan pelajaran.  
Supaya dapat kabalaja'ian di-tadi kemegahan.  
Meninggu ku sampai pematang.  
Sampai pematang sebelum terlambat.  
Wahai api tinggi menjulang-mengulang.  
Sa-lagi nyawa di-kandung badan.  
Sa-lagi darah tetap mengalir.  
Berkorban lah hingga ke-akhir.  
Untuk mendapat kejaya'ian kan chenderang.  
Belajar lah.....! serta belajar.

MUHAMMAD WADE SWALL  
Form V.

### Sarawak's Coverage in new "Life" Book

Sarawak gets outstanding coverage in a new 280-page book in the Life Nature Library. The book, by Dillon Ripley, a famous American naturalist, is entitled "Wild Life of Tropical Asia", and the text acknowledges particular indebtedness to Mr. Tom Harrison, Curator of Sarawak Museum, who also writes an introduction.

Partly as a result of the friendship between author and Curator, partly by merit, Sarawak gets an outstanding good coverage in this book about South East Asia as a whole.

Some 40 of all the photographs and drawings either come from Sarawak or are about Sarawak subjects. Among the local photographers represented are K.F. Wong, R. Brown, Nicola Morrison, Michael Tweedie (as Niall) and R.L. Smythies.

There are superb double page spreads of colour photos taken by Time-Life's own staff at Bako, Sarawak and elsewhere, including a magnificent panorama from the top of Sarawak Mountain and a hilarious snap-stun (maius) sequence of 12 pictures in the National Park.

Of special interest, too, are picture and story treatments of Flying Sucker and Flying Frog here, of the Giant-Flower (Puffbird) especially found around Limau, of Sarawak delta mangrove swamps and their crabs, hornbill ivory, Proboscis Monkey, the world Niah Cave swamps cutting a Naked Bat, Rajah Brooke's Rindang (one of the world's finest butterfly), Rhinoceros Gaps, Dan fishing, a Murut bird story and bird's nest ovens.

There is also a full account in the text of the Niah Cave researches.

This is the first comprehensive popular attempt to cover the whole of South East Asia wild life, and it is triumphantly successful. It can be read and enjoyed by school boy or scientist, and the illustrations are so rich that a second Pusan can revel in them — as some from the old Rajang have just been doing.

The fact that incidentally Sarawak gets special mention is widely one up and represents the status of research and nature interest shown in this state by many individuals and the State Government itself.

SARAWAK INFORMATION SERVICE, 1/63.

### Four Hours from the Swiss Press Review Service, Bern

BERNESE AND PIRENO

Paradoxically, President Soekarno's decision to outlaw the extreme leftwing Marha Pary in Indonesia and remove its ministers from his coalition cabinet is a step nearer to complete alignment with Communist China.

For, as is often the case, the chief enemy of the Peking-aligned Communist Party of Indonesia has not so far been from the right but from fellow-Communists supporting a moderate line internationally. Evidence of this is that Soekarno has been personally thanked by the pro-Chinese Communist leader, Aidi; and a by-product of the decision is that one of the main elements in the Government which might have stopped Indonesia's aggressive policy toward Malaysia has now been put out of action.

It is in fact uncertain whether the banning of the Marha Pary was Soekarno's own decision or the beginning of a palace revolution organised by the Communists because of his illness and consequent loosening of grip. There has been increasing evidence lately that in spite of Communist membership in the government and full support for the anti-Malaysia campaign, co-operation with the authorities on a local level has been practically non-existent. The Communists have been leading demonstrations against rising prices and the government's agricultural policy in many parts of the archipelago; and it is still very doubtful whether the riots which culminated in the burning of two United States Information Service libraries a few weeks ago were in fact Government-backed—though they were obviously highly organised. At all events police action was more than a token, and the most likely reason is that Communist agitators were acting without government support in an attempt to force Soekarno's hand—which they have since succeeded in doing.

Indonesia's departure from the United Nations has been welcomed nowhere but in China, and there is some likelihood that her delegates will receive a bitter reception at the Afro-Asian Conference to be held in Algiers in spring. There have already been skirmishes between Indonesia on the one hand and India and the United Arab Republic on the other about the continued utility of a foreign policy of non-alignment — and Soekarno has certainly not enough influence to pull any more Afro-Asian countries with him into the Communist Chinese orbit.

Already a personal explanatory letter has been sent by Soekarno to all African heads-of-state, and diplomatic activity suggests that he has started preparing his positions for Algiers. If his arguments are not treated with respect he will probably have little compensation in leaving the Afro-Asian group as well and endeavouring to form a new one—in which case Tunku Abdul Rahman will have more success than hitherto in impressing the third world with the justice of Malaysia's cause.

The internal power conflict in Djakarta is dangerous for peace because only the Communists can benefit from the instability it causes.

#### PLANNING IN INDIA

Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri has always held decided views about India's future, and these have not in every case been identical with those of his predecessor, Jawaharlal Nehru. The trouble has been these last few months that he has not had enough power in the ruling Congress Party to put them into action.

The surprising unanimity which brought Shastri to the top after Nehru's death was largely due to the Congress President, Mr. Kanungo, who had for several years been the leading expert in skilful manipulation of Congress internal politics. Shastri as Prime Minister was not as unassuming as he looked; however, and Kanungo was soon provoked into showing that if he could not rule Shastri, Shastri would not be able to rule without him. This is a highly simplified account of the political instability of the last few months.

Now, however, the Shastri-Kanungo alliance, which to outsiders has seemed indispensable if anything, is at last in being; and one of its first fruits, as expounded at the Congress Party's annual conference by both statements, is to be a radical transformation of Nehru's economic planning.

Emphasis on heavy industry in the last decade has been successful, and its very success has produced wealth which cannot be spent on consumer goods because the consumer goods do not exist. This, rather than the much-publicised existence of hoarders and profiteers, is the fundamental reason for rising food prices and the acute shortages which drive them up.

For Shastri and Kanungo the answer to this is the moving emphasis from large industrialisation projects to smaller ones which will lead more directly to increased food and consumer goods production in India. These will in their turn be able to absorb the last wave of financial abundance which has been created by the last three national plans.

To bring this political compromise and change of economic policy about, rising prices have had to reach crisis proportions in the last few weeks. (Huge though the Congress Party's majority in India's democratic institutions may be, it cannot resist indefinitely pressures from the political right and from the Communists if it does not find an answer to inflation and shortages.)

It is significant that Mr. Shastri, whose political reputation has been coming straight to the heart of every problem, has always preached that the plight of the suffering poor must be remedied before India's revolution can be called successful at any level.

#### POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BURMA

In the last year the Burmese Government has been moving further to the left in internal politics even though it has been holding its own against Chinese infiltration efforts and the Communist-aided Karen rebels. While there seems little indication of an aggressive foreign policy on the Sukarno model, wholesale nationalisation edicts with only token compensation to owners and the unopposed expropriation of Indian enterprises have stained the record of General Ne Win's administration.

An attempt to retrieve its reputation has now been made with the release of 300 political prisoners to celebrate Independence Day. These are officially described as "workers and peasants"—a phrase which, though innocent in itself, has disturbing Marxist overtones. But one thing is certain: that the released prisoners do not include the late Prime Minister, U Nu, and his departed Cabinet colleagues. There can be little confidence abroad in the Burmese Government's democratic intentions until these men have been released, for the only approach which can be made

against U Nu is failing to run the country properly, and even that is questionable.

General Ne Win ought to make a comprehensive statement about how many political prisoners there still are in Burma and when he intends to set them free. Then perhaps his claim to be improving the country can be taken seriously.

#### BUDDHISM PERSECUTION IN THIBET

After the Dalai Lama, the Panchen Lama has been deposed by the Chinese Communists. His crime according to Peking Radio: "Plotting the restoration of integration of politics and religion" amounting to "anti-people, anti-state and anti-socialist activities".

It has been Chinese policy in Tibet to give Buddhism a small and controlled role in the country's life. This was considered more conducive to keeping the country Communist than stamping out religion altogether. Obviously, however, Buddhism cannot long be content to play a subservient part in a regime totally opposed to all religion in such. The diatribe of the Panchen Lama shows that Buddhism in Tibet can only be accepted by the Communists in a limited capacity and for a limited length of time, and that when it asserts its true character it has to be suppressed.

Buddhist leaders in South Vietnam should be warned by the Panchen Lama's fate. If their intrigues against the civil government in Saigon allow the Communists to take over power they will find not only that they can no longer intervene in politics but that they will have scarcely any role in the country's future life. Religion for the Communists is no good if it cannot be used as a weapon with which to extend their rule. Failing this, it is to be ground away.

#### Pieces from the Brooke Past—X

SELECTED FROM THE STATE ARCHIVES

by

LOUI CHAN YIN

(Archivist)

#### Sir Charles Brooke and the Postal Dispute

Many stories have been told of Sir Charles Brooke, 2nd Rajah of Sarawak; mostly amusing, in their way. In my opinion he was the most shrewd, exact systematic and sure of the three White Rajahs. He ran the country like a Chinese treasury his shop, exercising control over the minutest affairs, such as a two-dollar yearly instrument for one constable.

From his European staff, he expected the best of everything, whether on or off duty. It was not uncommon for an officer to receive a can notice of instant dismissal, if spotted drunk in public. Such action came, of course, out of necessity. It was important for the Rajah to keep up the prestige of his government, in order to gain the respect of his Asian subjects.

Towards the end of his reign he became quite deaf; and it was said that he would make use of his lack of hearing to avoid awkward discussions with his officers. The 3rd Rajah, in her "Three White Rajahs", relates the following amusing incident:

"Another time, when the Rajah was stepping the night with one of the residents of an plantation and they were walking in the garden that surrounded the bungalow, the resident thought to himself that it would be an excellent opportunity to ask for a rise of salary. He did so. He did so several times. After a while the Rajah stopped and, pointing with his stick to some of the flowers, said, "Beautiful flowers there. I have some just like them in the Istana garden."

Severe as he was, he did not lack humour, and was never a hypocrite in matters of morality. The Rajah writes again of the following incident:

"There was a very famous case of a couple who had been caught misbehaving among some blacks. When the case was tried, the Raja was called into court to pronounce judgment. It was explained to him the extent of the immorality, what an extremely bad example it was, and would be likely to be to others. The Raja appeared to listen most attentively, and then at the end he said, 'I don't care a damn about that, what I want to know is, what damage did they do to the wood?'"

Sir Charles Brooke treated his staff fairly and was thorough in his investigation of my complaint, however trivial it might seem.

One day in May 1901, Mr. D. Bailey, the well-known Resident of Simanggang, lodged a complaint against the Post Master General, A. K. Lays. Mr. Bailey alleged that his private correspondence had been tampered with in the Post Office.

The Rajah took action at once:

Kuching,  
23 May, 1901

"A. K. Lays Esq.,  
Post Master General.

Dear Sir,

As Mr. Bailey has sent me an official complaint that his private correspondence has been tampered with in the Post Office of which he writes you, would you be good enough to send me in a report of the matter in question from first to last.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
(Sd.) C. Brooke."

He also asked the advice of the Resident, First Division, Mr. C. A. Ramplide, and of Mr. H. Dallas, Acting Treasurer.

23 May, 1901  
Kuching.

"Dear Sir,

I shall be much obliged if you will at your convenience consult with the Actg. Treasurer or any other Officers that you may like to call in, to give me an opinion on the correspondence of the Resident Bailey of Simanggang and Mr. Lays, Post Master General, Kuching. The question may be reduced to one point, whether Mr. Lays was justified in opening the envelope which it seems was in the shape of a private letter and stamped as one, and in taking out and destroying the card. Was this in proper accordance with the rules laid down by the Postal guide to bear Mr. Lays out in what he did in opening the envelope? The card was destroyed in my presence but not with or without my approval. I asked what he was going to do with it and it was immediately torn up by the P.M.G. This however is only a secondary matter, the primary one being, had he the right to take the card out of the envelope sent as a letter?

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
(Sd.) C. Brooke.

The Hon'ble  
the Resident

Three days later, the Rajah gave his verdict.

26 May, 1901  
Kuching.

"D. Bailey Esq.,  
Simanggang.

Dear Sir,

In the case against Mr. Lays the Post Master General that you have referred to me, I thought it best to obtain the opinion also of two others, the Hon'ble Resident Ramplide, and H. Dallas, Acting Treasurer, and now endorse them to you, and regret that the matter has occurred. There is no doubt that the rules of the Postal Union are strictly to be carried out, and this the Post Master General has more than on one occasion pointed out to me and he took himself the responsible person to see this done. In the opinion of the gentlemen mentioned above in which I coincide I was now the matter may be finally settled and that you will not think that any thing was done out of malice or ill feeling or important interference.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
(Sd.) C. Brooke."

Mr. Lays' action was in accordance with the rules of the Postal Union. Thus the dispute was settled. But what was on that card?

## Ninety Years Ago

FROM THE SARAWAK GAZETTE  
No. 95 Monday, February 1st, 1875. Price 5 cents.  
FEBRUARY 1875

We live in an age of travel. During the last half century our knowledge of nearly every portion of the globe has been considerably extended. Europe, Central Asia, Africa, America and Australia, have all been won by the indomitable Anglo-Saxon explorer. Much energy has been displayed, great difficulties have been encountered, and many a brave failure has been offered up on the shrine of Australian and African research.

During the past year we have gained considerably knowledge of New Guinea by the trip of H.M.S. *Thetis*, the explorations of Italian and German naturalists and the work of missionaries connected with the London Missionary Society. The results of the cruise of the man-of-war were, the correction of geographical errors in the coast line of New Guinea, the discovery of new straits, and that the western coast was inhabited by a race possessed of all the best features of the Melanesian type, instead of the woolly-headed Papuans, with which the island was supposed to be peopled.

The difficulty now seems to be, to get away from beaten tracks, to find unexplored regions. Is it not therefore surprising that Borneo, the second largest island in the world, should remain to a certain extent an unknown land? Much has been done, however, for Borneo since Sir Stamford Raffles called it a blank space on the map of the world. Dutch officials, naturalists, and surveyors have explored and published their knowledge concerning the western and southern portion; a few English traders have settled on the east coast; one or two naturalists and travellers have visited the northern part; Sarawak has been established and a thorough knowledge of the N.W. division obtained as far inland as the rivers are navigable; but the interior of the island is still a *terra incognita*, and the strongest



stories are told and believed by the natives of the mountains to be found there, remarkably high mountains, lakes, wild tribes, men with tails, &c.

Here then is a field for an ambitious explorer, to penetrate into the centre of the country and to obtain precise data concerning the extent of the principal rivers, and a perfect knowledge of the tribes by which it is peopled.

Authentic information being thus obtained by personal observation, would not only do away with hearsay and exaggerated reports, but add to our knowledge respecting the nature of the country, its productions and capabilities, and the character of the inhabitants.

### East Malaysian Caves

The latest publication of the Geological Survey *The Geology of Sarawak and Sabah caves*\* is a record of information collected by the writer and colleagues since the survey was started in 1949. Maps of all the larger Sarawak caveing regions are given together with plans and brief descriptions of 69 caves. Probably the best known cave areas are between Batu and Serian in the First Division, and in Gasing Sabu in Fourth Division, but caves are also known at Bukit Serang and in the headwaters of the Kalis in the Tutut Valley, and at Batu Gasing and above Long Atiah in the Baram Valley. The last explored and probably the largest cave region lies between the Tutut and Limbang Rivers where rugged mountains of limestone reach heights of over 5,000 feet. Here one of the most interesting problems to be solved is the underground course of the Trekan River. The Trekan emerges from the northern end of Gasing Mountain as a strongly flowing stream 30 to 40 feet wide. Except possibly at extremely low water, it is doubtful whether the stream can be joined without diving beneath the low arched roof. Fortunately, however, access to the underground river in the mountain can be gained by following line at several small tributary streams which flow through caves to the east of the mouth of the Trekan and join it inside the mountain. A boat (light or preferably inflatable) would probably be necessary for exploration as the stream is deep and fast flowing, but its size suggests that many miles of underground passages await exploration beneath the mountain.

Gold ore has been mined from Batu caves for many years. Extraction of both primary ore veins in the walls of the caves and secondary surface clays has resulted in some caves being considerably enlarged, as for instance at Ramoh Gold Mine near Bidi. Genuine gold is harder to find but some can be panned from stream gravel in a cave behind Paka Quarry on the way to Batu. Filings of gold one sixth of an inch across were found in the Keladon system in Klip Cave about one mile from Pokin near Trehang during a survey some years ago. In attempting to find the source of the gold the stream was followed twice through caves in limestone ridges until its source was located in the foot of Gasing Kech where it emerged from a 6-inch fissure, still with gold-bearing gravel in its bed.

G. E. WILFORD

\*Chapter 4, *The Geology of Sarawak and Sabah caves*. Sarawak Press Limited, 1964. Available to the Geological Survey Office in Kuching and London. Price 100s.00.

(Editorial Note: The Limbang cave discoveries underground higher up, above Mt. Ram Lert, in one place for half a mile, an explored with Pengkah Lawa and a party of Kribulu in 1946—T.R.).

### Archaeology and Antiquities

by  
Lau Chan Yee

In most Asian countries a great proportion of the local heritage of ancient objects has been taken out of the country for private profit and is lost for ever to local knowledge and pride. Equally ancient temples and prehistorical sites have been looted and robbed, for the same reasons. This has been a major loss to Malaya proper, for instance — as an article in the magazine *Petra* for December well shows. In Laos there is practically nothing left, the French and others have taken away so much that is ancient and beautiful.

In Sarawak this has not happened to nearly such a degree as, say, in Sabah or Brunei — where you can no longer find even good examples of Brunei's own unique craft of bronze-casting. This is largely because the second white Rajah had the foresight to start a Museum back in the last century, and Sarawakians realize that the best place for such things is right there. However, the Japanese losses and communications and commerce after World War II produced a new race of thieves, traders and short-time outside visitors (e.g. Europeans on contract with fewer local loyalties or respect for tradition). Therefore in 1954 a new ordinance was introduced to control a developing situation in advance. This has worked well, but is again under pressure with Malaysia and new ideas of immigration, work and development. Dr. Wilford's valuable survey of caves discussed earlier in this issue raises the problem afresh. In a forward, the value to Archaeologists is mentioned. That is no bad move, but more harm than good can be done if anyone thought Dr. Wilford's information amounted to a blue print for private treasure hunts. This is not lawful, and will be rigorously prosecuted. To assist readers of the Gazette, I have briefly summarized the law below. If it seems a little dryish, this is only because experience has shown that such laws in this field must be so. Other states are now seeking new and stronger legislation along these lines, for that reason. In practice, it is possible, with a strong law on the books, to exercise the rights given with discretion and common sense. In the few years since the law has been in force, it has only twice been necessary to threaten prosecution, and neither or persons have frequently been given as asked for. Also the Museum has always paid more than the market value in people reporting antiquities or bringing in such. For their value to Sarawak is certain to be higher than their cost value outside the context of the antiquity itself.

Here, very briefly, are the main points likely to affect the ordinary citizen.

#### SARAWAK ANTIQUITIES ORDINANCE, 1954

The Antiquities Ordinance consists of seven parts and twenty four sections of which sections 5 to 15 concern with the discovery, excavation and exportation of antiquities.

"Antiquity" is defined in the Ordinance as any object made, built or imported in or into Sarawak before 1830 A.D.

#### Excavation and Discovery

No person shall dig or otherwise search for antiquities, whether on his own land or elsewhere, unless he is in possession of a valid licence or certificate issued by the Curator, who will then assist the licensee to conduct the excavation in the proper manner.

Any person who discovers an antiquity shall give notice of his discovery to the Curator or his deputy and shall take notice to protect it. If the Curator considers it desirable he will retain the antiquity and pay compensation to the finder or he may return it to the finder, who shall receive a certificate of discovery. No compensation will be paid if the Curator decides that the antiquity should be preserved in the place where it was found.

**Possession and Sale**

Any non-native in possession of any antiquity on or after the 1st day of October, 1954, shall, within a period of six months thereafter, register such antiquity with the Curator.

Any person wishing to sell an antiquity at any time must notify the Curator thirty days in advance and it is lawful for the Curator to purchase such antiquity at a reasonable price notwithstanding any agreement which the owner may already have entered into with another person.

The Curator may authorize the sale of any antiquity which in his opinion is not required for the Sarawak Museum.

**Exportation**

No person shall export from Sarawak an antiquity unless he has obtained from the Curator an export licence. The Curator may, with the approval of the Governor in Council, prohibit the exportation of any antiquity the retention of which in Sarawak he considers to be necessary or desirable in the public interest.

**Right to Inspect Antiquities**

The Curator or his authorized officer has the right to inspect any antiquity in possession of any person, and the owner shall provide the Curator all reasonable facilities to make drawings, photographs or reproductions thereof.

**Penalties**

Penalties for the various offences connected with this Ordinance include:

| Offences                                                                                                                              | Penalties                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| (1) Failing to report the discovery of an antiquity or to take action to protect it.                                                  | Imprisonment: 1 year.<br>Fine: \$2,000.   |
| (2) Failing to give reasonable facilities to the Curator or any person or officer authorized by the Curator to inspect his antiquity. | Fine: \$200.                              |
| (3) To excavate without a licence.                                                                                                    | Imprisonment: 3 months.<br>Fine: \$500.   |
| (4) To export an antiquity without licence.                                                                                           | Imprisonment: 3 months.<br>Fine: \$200.   |
| (5) To export or attempt to export an antiquity prohibited by the Curator.                                                            | Imprisonment: 1 year.<br>Fine: \$2,000.   |
| (6) Failing to notify Curator of sale of antiquity.                                                                                   | Imprisonment: 4 months.<br>Fine: \$1,000. |

**NOTE:** In every case where a person is found guilty of an offence against this Ordinance, any antiquity in respect of which such offence is committed may, by order of the court, be forfeited to Government.

**Borneo on Maps**

of the

**16th and 17th Centuries**

by

PROFESSOR LAN O. M. BROWN  
(University of Minnesota, U.S.A.)

Among the voluminous literature on European exploration of the Malay Archipelago very few treatises focus on the progress of geographic knowledge concerning a specific island. There are, of course, numerous bits of information on where this bay was discovered or that it was visited, but these fragments rarely have been arranged to form a comprehensive picture. Yet, only by bringing together all the relevant data for, say, the Moluccas, Sumatra, or in this case Borneo, can one reconstruct the geographic image as it evolved from dim Ptolemaic notions to the well-defined and filled-in map of today.

Maps, from the early 16th century onward, provide a continuous record of comparable data which, as a series, is often more exact and illuminating than the surviving written material. True, there is a difference, and often a time lag, between "the known and the shown", especially in the early colonial days of intense rivalry when geographic knowledge was treated as secret intelligence. The result, of course, consults the textual sources as a check on the map study. Properly employed, the map is an effective research tool. It is surprising that its methodical use has been so rare in historical-geographic studies of the archipelago. The basic material, rare old maps, are scattered all over the world in archives and libraries.<sup>1</sup> For this study of Borneo I examined the collections in western Europe and in the United States. It is a pleasure to present the main results of this investigation in this Journal. For a fuller treatment the reader may refer to my more comprehensive paper, published elsewhere.<sup>2</sup>

It appears that Lufwico di Varthema was the first to acquaint Europe with the existence of the island of Borneo, although he told little about his visit, circa 1585. Tomé Pires (c. 1513) described Borneo in considerable detail but included no maps.<sup>3</sup> He thought that it consisted of several islands: Borey (Brunei), Sumpu (Sampit), Guedandoum (Kudat), Care (Kutai), Pomeru (Pondian), Lase and Tadjempura. We will return to the last two names. Francisco Rodriguez, who accompanied Antonio d'Abrun on the first Portuguese voyage from Malacca to the Moluccas (1511-12) made some maps of the archipelago. One of these shows *A grande ilha de Maguacer* (or Maguacer), a large squarish island with a few names: on its broad north side — which must be the distorted northwest coast — are from left to right Borey, Laseore or Laseore, and C. Tadjahouquon. The first name obviously refers to Brunei, to be visited by Pigafetta ten years later and shown on all subsequent maps. The last one is a cape, probably the north tip with the islands of Bulabangan and Sangay. The middle one can not be explained satisfactorily. On the eastern part of the north coast appears Tadjempura, on which more will be said later. Off the northeast point of his Maguacer Rodriguez shows an island Pampou or Pampou, in the location of Pulau Laut; as suggested by Cortesio it may correspond to Pinar' Pampara.<sup>4</sup>

Neither Pires nor Rodriguez had visited Borneo, and the information they gathered was thus hearsay. Rodriguez' use of Maguacer suggests that he gathered some reports of local informants regarding Borneo and Celebes. Pires' notion of "several" islands was wrong as a physical fact, but it was an apt picture of isolated regions, each in its distinct coastal environment. And Pires' report on the local people and resources gave a personality to each place. Since he quite explicitly told about the presence of gold and diamonds on Borneo's west coast, it is surprising that the Portuguese did not rush across the South China Sea. It appears that the first Portuguese ship to sail around the island on its way to the Moluccas did so in 1523, and that the first visit to Borneo occurred only in 1526. In the meantime the Spanish *Viceroi* of Malacca's expedition had stopped at Brunei in 1521, and Pigafetta had made a sketch of the northwestern part of the island, depicting quite prominently Brunei Bay.

All this information was, of course, to be kept secret, but it leaked out sooner or later. The earliest map to contain that uses the term Borey to indicate an island is the Carta Marina of the German Waldseemüller (1516); it is shown as a small island off the northeast of Java. A next blend of Pires' and Rodriguez' concepts appears on the Lopez Homem (or Reinel?) map (1556 or '70), preserved in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, where a cluster of small islands carries the name Maguacer. From the late 1530's we know several maps,

either representing Borneo as a squarish lump in the Rodriguez manner (e.g. Veranusius, 1578) or as a small triangle with a big bay, as shown by Pigafetta (e.g. Malacca 1577, Diego Ribeiro 1589). Other cartographers were loath to abandon the cherished names of Java major and Java minor, and linked them with newly discovered islands. In this way Borneo was sometimes labelled Java major, but more often Java minor (the latter by Mercator in 1594, Alonso de Santa Cruz c. 1540, Gastaldi 1546 and '48). None of these maps recoded the series of names which Pires and Rodriguez had mentioned; in fact, few gave as much as Pigafetta had told.

In the meantime the Portuguese had gained considerable knowledge of Borneo's west and north coasts, resulting from visits to these parts as well as voyages to the Moluccas around the north and of the island. There must have been sailing directions (cosas) for these routes, but none have been recovered so far. Fortunately, several world maps have been preserved which, in a general way, reflect the gains in geographic knowledge. Some are Portuguese, such as those of the late 1530's attributed to Diogo Viegas. But the finest ones were made in the middle of the 16th century in Diogo, on the Channel coast of French Flanders, then a suitable breeding place of merchant-adventurers and cartographers. Among them were Nicolas Desliens and Pierre Desliens; the British Museum in London has some fine products of their craftsmanship. On these world maps the position of Borneo on the equator is well presented. The stay is about right in relation to surrounding islands, the shape is triangular. The west coast, although somewhat flattened out, is all there, with many names. Viegas finally admits ignorance of the east and north coasts by cutting them, but the Diogo cartographers depict them in wavy lines and give one name on the north coast. The table below provides a comparison for two of these maps, with names listed from north to south.

| Diogo Viegas, 1537<br>c. 1537  | Pierre Desliens<br>1559      | Identification                                |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Mindado                        | Perian Mindado               | Paluan Bay<br>Mindulu                         |
| Tanara                         | Lanara                       | Tanair                                        |
| Chinabala<br>m. de S. Joao     | Chinabala<br>m. de S. Thomas | Kinabalu<br>?                                 |
| Biaia                          | Biaia                        | Biaian (Biaian or<br>Klan-petunala<br>Biaian) |
| Pauia de Borneo                | Bornei                       | Tg. Borneo                                    |
| Ombura                         | Ombura                       | Tg. Borneo                                    |
| Is. Jatoe                      | Melano                       | Melano (Sulawesi<br>Mela)                     |
| Tanai                          | Tanai                        | Tg. Sarai                                     |
| Corras                         | Corras                       | Sarawak                                       |
| Tajonara<br>Lancuata           | Tajonara                     | Tg. Dato<br>P. Luncuata                       |
| (Diogo)                        |                              |                                               |
| Lara (or large<br>country)     |                              | see text                                      |
| Tajonara (or<br>small country) |                              | see text                                      |

Some of these identifications may seem far-fetched, but they are fully supported by comparative study of a number of maps and other data. The most fascinating bit of topographic intelligence is the appearance of Chinabala. Pigafetta's name of Mt. S. Paulo had been replaced on Portuguese maps by S. Paulo, and the latter term remained the standard reference to this landmark until the end of the 18th century. Yet here we have, on a few maps, the correct local name. Curiously, some Dutch maps (Mercator 1569 and '70;

Ortelius 1570 and '73; mention at this spot *Monte de Ajan*, meaning mountain of the spirits, another Bering glosser of local lore which European mariners must have picked up, but which soon was brushed aside by the official cartographers at home who preferred more stately names.

Barth Gould and Bamfield have suggested that *Tanarawa* (as spelled by D. Blomert, 1590) stood for *Tanah rata*, or "land of many people". However, there can be no doubt that it refers to the cape at the west end of Borneo. More puzzling is the absence from the so-called Viegas maps of two famous places, which appear on several other maps: *Lava*, *Lava* or *Lava*, and *Tanjongpura*. Pires tells us quite a bit about these two places, both rich in diamonds and gold, but is very vague on their location. The 16th century cartographers are not much help either. On some maps there appear two *Tanjongpura*, or some such name: one on the west side and one on the south side. The latter refers almost certainly to Tg. Burong, the point on the east side of the Barito mouth. After much searching and checking I have come to a conclusion different from that of Dutch and Portuguese historians: the city of *Tanjongpura* Pires and others talk about must be the old name for the later Sulu-dava, just south of the Kapuas delta. As to *Lava*, or *Lava* or *Lava*, all evidence points to its location in the Kapuas delta, probably along the Mendawai channel at its confluence with either the Lawa or the Labai river.<sup>1</sup>

There are beautiful maps of Diogo Blomert and Bartolomeo Velasco for the third quarter of the 16th century, but they present little additional information. It is of some interest to note that Borneo appears for the first time on a map of 1558 by Blomert under the name of *R. de Borneo*. These maps also show the clusters of isles in the Java Sea off Borneo's northeast point, which must have been sighted on voyages to or from the Moluccas. In the southeast corner of the island are a few names, but not Banjarmasin.

The first Dutch map that incorporates information gathered in the Indies is that of Lodewijk (1595). He did not visit Borneo, but supplied some names not shown before on Portuguese maps, or at least on those that have been preserved. Thus we meet *Banawaenai* (Banjarmasin), even though grossly misplaced. *Coarbaros* (Kotawaringin river, on the western south coast), *Alto Sarawaka*, *Adamawara* (later River Sulu-dava, where there are diamonds), and *Borneata*. The latter name — on the west coast, just north of the equator — presents one of those cartographic mysteries that make the study of old maps so fascinating. After Lodewijk, *Borneata*, or *Borneata*, appears on many maps, usually as a city, sometimes also as a "kingdom", right through the 18th century and even beyond. Yet, so sailor or merchant ever claimed to have visited the place. The fact that the name does not appear on any authoritative map, such as the nautical charts of the Dutch East India Company, virtually rules out its reality. What is the solution? Several Malay languages — as already noted in Pigafetta's Malay vocabulary — have the word *perano*, or *perano* (of Sanskrit origin), meaning precious stones. It seems a fairly good guess to conclude that a Malay informant's statement about diamonds in that area was misunderstood as referring to a city.

Although the Dutch established contact with Banjarmasin in 1601, with Sulu-dava in 1604 and with Samar in 1608, there are no known maps that depict what the early Dutch visitors may have learned of the lay of the land. Hessel Gerritsz' chart of the South China Sea (c. 1620) and his map of East Asia (1610), followed by maps of J. Janszoon (c. 1613) and W. J. Blaeu (1634) provide us with an overview of the information gathered in the first thirty years of Dutch activity in this realm. The old names *Tajonara*, *Tanjongpura* and such have now disappeared. Gerritsz adds the *Sedang* (Sedong) and the *Cabur* (Kaduna) or

Krian) rivers, both in southern Sarawak, and names the great cape *Tanjong Batu*. He also labels properly the cape at the southwest corner of *Borneo* as *Tanjong Sandiger* (Tj. Nether). Trailing on the Kapuas since 1608 brought direct or indirect knowledge of *Mura* (*Maur*) *Landa* and, in the interior, of *Jamunga* (*Samung*), *Sarawak* (*Seladak*), *Jamung* (*Sontung*) and even, far away in the lake region of the Upper Kapuas, of *Selambak* (*Selambak*). *Samung* also puts *Jambak* on his map. Apparently the Dutch did not explore the northern part of the west coast, apart from Oliver van Noort's brief visit to *Bruas* in 1681. Here Pierre Bertholet, a French navigator in Portuguese service, left his mark on the maps after he had sailed around the island in 1636-37.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately only a few of his names can be readily identified, among them *Giamaia* (*Kimanis*) and *Labuan* (*Labuan* island). His *Api-Api*, an *Alfama* (*Alfama*) Bay recalls the traditional local name for the area where *London* is now located. Bertholet's *A. Cilar* (*Chilar*) must refer to one of the wide estuaries of the Rajang.

In the course of the 17th century the cartographic image of the south coast gained almost modern likeness compared to the sketchy outlines of the previous era. The main capes became known by the names they still bear. *Brakman* is in the right place and so are *Samar* and *Matangas*. Pierre Bertholet also added some new data, although they may have been known to the Dutch. He calls the Bay — or *Linda*! — *Dapak* river the *R. Marjo* (Blanc later writes *Rejo*!), a reference to the old name for the interior tribes. Close to the southern point he places, quite correctly, *Gono Ratus* (during *Ratus*), the low mountain range east and northeast of *Basjerment*. He, too, is the first to name *Lau Felo* (*Pala Lant*), separated from *Batu* by a strait, at which he proudly notes: "Estreito de los sucesos descubiertos por P. Bertholet en Ayas de 1628." The unknown *Bario* country remained unknown territory until Jacob Janz. de Rooy's "Perilous Journey" in 1941. His reliability has been questioned, but the story of his trip up the *Batu* river sounds authentic. The many place names he mentioned appeared on most 18th century maps.

As pointed out before, the east coast of *Borneo*, except for its northern and southern extremities, remained a *terra incognita* in the 16th century. Only one map — attributed to R. Velho, c. 1568 — places a reference here: *A. de J. Super de capulcoris*; so far I have not been able to trace this. If the Dutch made any voyages in the first half of the 17th century along the east coast, there is no map record to show it. Thus the palm goes again to Bertholet, who provides us with many names here, resulting from his 1626 voyage. A few of them deserve mention. The *Kinabatangan* was already known to the Portuguese a century earlier — witness *Chibutanaga* on an anonymous map of c. 1540 in the Haring August, library in Wollfratthal, Germany — but strangely enough had disappeared from all subsequent maps. Bertholet brings it back, and shows north of it a large bay with an anchor and the notation *Estreito de capura* (Bay or harbor of error; where one goes wrong). This must be *Santakan* Harbour. It is curious that the Dutch (*Janszoon* 1657) applied a name with the same meaning — *Groot Raa* — to a more southern gulf, now called *Durul* Bay. *Pina* had already mentioned the region of ancient Hindu colonization, *Rasi*, but it never appeared on any map till Bertholet depicted Carey.

Dutch maps of the 1650's (*Groot Janszoon* and *Nicolaas Vischer*) added some other places to the east coast, including *Pagar* and *Athapaga* (*Balikpapan*) on the stretch of coast which Bertholet had missed,

and added Dutch names — honoring governors of *Ambon* to mark the adjacent capes of *Mangkalihat* (*Ayer Ghendy* beach) and *Labuan Bini* (*Pontreney* beach). Most intriguing is, near *Balikpapan*, *Samung-zerakelish* (literally, *Snake eaters' graveyard*), a name that has defied all attempts at explanation.

Although Bertholet has certainly made important contributions to our knowledge of the east coast, there must have been other Iberian explorers, probably before him, whose records are now lost. The evidence is in the maps of *Janszoon* and *Vischer*. Here we find *S. Arua* (*Labak*) Bay, *Punta de Sula* (Hog Point?), *Ceyras*, (at the south side of *Durul* Bay), *S. Lario* (*Chibak*) Bay and *Estreito de Lario* (probably *Muan* *Lading*). To what voyages we owe these names is not known. Another clue is *Casta Bona*, the red and rock strewn coastal waters off the northeastern shore, still feared for their navigational hazards.

By 1700 the general shape of *Borneo's* coast and the location of its towns and villages were fairly well established. More exact mapping came towards the end of the 18th century with the hydrographic surveys of *Alexander Dalrymple*. The interior remained virtually unknown until the 19th century. But these topics lie beyond the scope of this paper. I believe that some puzzles have been solved, but enough questions remain to engage the mind. I invite others to pursue this subject further.<sup>2</sup>

## NOTES

(1) Most of the maps referred to in this paper have been reproduced in various publications. The Portuguese ones are found in *Portuguese Monuments Cartographicas*, edited by *Amande Castro* and *A. Teixeira de Mota*, 4 vols (Lisbon, 1925). Other outstanding works of this kind, containing many of the Dutch maps, are: *F. C. Winder, Monuments Cartographicas*, 5 vols (The Hague, 1922-33), and *Frederik Muller, Remarkable maps of the XV, XVI, and XVII centuries*, 5 parts (Amsterdam, 1894-97). For a variety of map reproductions, see *Adolf E. Nockenschild, Preloja* (Stockholm, 1897); *Robert Aberg, Monuments Cartographicas Portugas*, 4 vols (Rome, 1944-45); *Edme F. Jouard, Les Monuments de la géographie* (Paris, 1862-67).

(2) Jan, G.M. Broek, *Place Names in 16th and 17th Century Borneo*, *Imago Mundi*, vol XXVI (1962), pp. 129-148.

(3) A. Cortesao, (ed.), *The East Oriental of Tome First and the Book of Francisco Rodriguez*, 2 vols. Hakluyt Society, 2d series, vols 59, 60 (London, 1944).

(4) Reproduced in Cortesao, 1944 vol I, plates XXIV and XXVI.

(5) S. Barling Gould and C.A. Rumbold, *A History of Sarawak under its Two British Rulers* (London, 1899), p. 43, n. 2.

(6) For a review of the various opinions of modern scholars, and my arguments, see my article in *Imago Mundi*, cited in note<sup>2</sup> of this paper.

(7) P. Bertholet's map, or a signed copy, is in the British Museum. For a reproduction see *Portuguese Monuments Cartographicas*.

(8) See also J. Carroll on *Borneo-Philippine* maps of *Wuyas*, *Sarawak Museum Journal* 13: 1960, 13.

(9) Note: *Paga*, should have visited *Sarawak* and contributed this of the *Alfama's* spelled in *Chapman*.

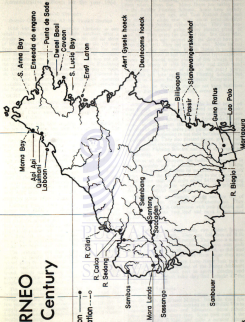
# BORNEO 16th Century



# BORNEO

## 17th Century

Certain Identification —●—  
 Probable Identification - - - - -



J.O.M. Breck

H.S.

## Extracts from Annual Reports of Administrative Officers for the year 1964

### LIMBANG DISTRICT

District Officer—Wan Ali bin Tuanku Ibrahim

1964 was not a quiet year for Limbang as one would normally expect this bright sunshine after a cloudy day. The year saw the great fire and the move of inhabitants of Kampong Ranggas to the Oil rich State of Brunei. In the fire ten lives were lost and nine shopkeepers completely destroyed. The estimated cost was about one million dollars. That was not all, the community was full of activities. His Excellency the Governor, and the Ministers came to pay a visit, the Malaysia Day Celebration and lately followed by the National Solidarity Week. With local resources available, the community took every part in promoting the National interests.

### COURT

The number of criminal cases heard during the year was 123, a comparatively much lower than last year. The Civil Cases were eight and they were all for recovery of debts.

An inquiry was held recently into the deaths of the ten persons who lost their lives in the fire. The verdict was returned—misadventure.

No case against smuggling came to light during the year though it was always felt that the traffic was heavy. The geographical position of this part of the country with Brunei is such that to stamp the business out with such number of Customs Officer was not possible.

There has been no land dispute among the Iban though minor ones existed among the Belayah. Several cases on theft of buffaloes were heard, nearly all ended in conviction of accused to prison. Other cases involved of good number of road traffic officers as a result of hard work done by the Constabulary.

### PRISON AND PRISONERS

Limbang Prison remained busy with returned prisoners from Kuching to work and participate in the Penderasan Scheme, a scheme just established to assist the prisoners so that they would be able to stand on their own feet and making them fit to join the Society. They have planted vast land on the Penderasan Road with padi. A site has been chosen on the road and major works started. Road construction leading to a village has begun and village site levelled.

The prisoners will form their own Co-operative Society to handle a store and rice mill. They also received grants on a community basis. Land suitable for rubber and coconut was being sought for and, when found, would start taking part in the Government approved schemes. The new village will have a water supply, electricity, a school and other amenities.

The Agricultural Department has advised that the prisoners now plant ordinary rambutan around their village and when big enough the harvested. Only to wait few years later we may expect this new village able to supply the type of rambutan we now easily enjoy in Limbang. We may also expect steady supply of coconut locally and cheap.

The prisoners were housed in the old prison building and a reserved Padi Godown. They will remain there until released or until such time as the proposed new prison can take some of them in. The new site has been chosen. Here it was hoped that place could be had for vegetable gardening, and site for businesses or other approved games.

### NATIVE AFFAIRS

#### Iban

The whole Iban in the district came under the control of Pengulu Ngang, a very able and respected

leader. He lives near Nanga Medania. He administers that part of the Limbang, Lubai, Penderasan, Medania river where Iban live. Many Iban are taking part in the Rubber Planting Scheme. Some have already joined many years ago, and Tani Ramah Gani and his associates alone now have about three hundred acres of high yielding rubber capable. They are progressive and forward going. They planted plenty of padi too. They never ran short of rice. But those who, about ten years ago, moved into the district have not been doing well. They did not plan well. Some looked as poor as they were then. Ramah Duman in particular always complained of bad harvest. These types expected Iban here should mean plenty of fish always in the river and plenty of wild life nearby and fertile land to produce and harvest of padi to last many years. They did not take up Rubber Planting Scheme but worked as loggers for nearby Timber Companies.

Not like the Belayah, they do not keep buffaloes because they are trading in fully grown.

#### Belayah

Ahar the great flood the Belayah looked better off than before. Most now have moved into new plantations buildings and left the bamboo ones. They have also welcomed the advances of the Agriculture Department. In some cases the developments have taken the form of duties to assist padi planting, in others the Belayah were beginning to use their buffaloes to plough their padi land. They also planted maize, ground rice, etc., in a most encouraging manner. Some have joined the Rubber Planting Scheme and more applicants are forthcoming.

Almost all the Belayah are buffalo owners and in the community one is assessed rich or poor by the number of heads of buffaloes he possesses. The animals thrive well on the fat land belonging to the community. A full grown male cow costs about \$450.00. Reading from all records in the writer's office, the price was only about \$40.00 thirty years ago.

The Belayah are friendly people and are full of fun like the Iban. They often have ceremonies. They have them always in connection with padi planting and harvest. They own vast land and most is now used as buffalo grazing.

#### Kelabit

We have in the district only two Kelabit houses far up at Long Napie. They are followers of B.I.L. Mission and are cheerful people. They have a school. They plant high yielding rubber and even vast padi farms. Long Napie is alone and isolated, so fish and wild life are still handy to keep them fit as they are.

The school children from Long Napie took part to celebrate the official opening of the Nanga Medania Sub-station. They took part in sports, dancing and presented the handloom band they had brought all the down from far up.

#### Malays and Kelipang

The inhabitants of coastal villages and kampongs near the town are Brunei Malays. Near the town few work in the offices, some worked in the Public Works Department as drivers and labourers. Some fished. Many planted padi every year. Some took part in the Rubber Planting Scheme and quite a number joined the Coconut Planting Scheme. Kampong Ranggas a coastal village is now almost empty. The inhabitants ran away to Brunei to escape responsibility and to work or stay in a place where there had been favourable free services, cheap cigarettes and matches, petrol, etc. These people worked fish mainly and some worked mangroves for firewood and house buildings.

The people at Kampong Lingapua Pising and Tetaya took part in the Coconut Planting Scheme as well as Assistance to Padi Planting Scheme. They were different people, soft spoken and polite. They

solid grass to Brunei for surfacing road sides and new building compounds. This job gives them about four months in one year.

These two kampongs keep a lot of buffaloes. They help supply Brunei with meat.

The Kodagians live in the interior. Most male Kodagians took part in the rebellion but not all Kodagians were rebels. Most are padi planters. Some keep buffaloes and some joined the Kudat Planning Scheme. Quite a number took part in the Kudat Planning Scheme. They are religious people and most male Wajis came to town every Friday to join the mass prayer in the Limbang Mosque. The females and children also came to see pictures and doing shopping. When the Kodagians come to town they bring down vegetables, yams, bananas and sometimes fish. This helps the town a great deal.

#### LIMBANG DISTRICT COUNCIL

During the year the Committee and Council Meetings were as follows:—

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| (a) Council Meetings | 7 |
| (b) General Purposes | 7 |
| (c) Education        | 3 |
| (d) Finance          | 4 |

The number of children attended school was 1,867 as compared with 1,126 in the previous year. The school at Kampong Rangkau was almost closed when children joined their parents on the move to Brunei. The School Building Programme went along well as planned, though some difficulties were experienced over building sites. Early during the year two teachers' quarters were completed, one boarding house and a school building were completed fully. The Council also completed a new Resthouse at Limbang and was ready for occupation by September. The Council bought a new fire engine and this looked very smart. The maintenance of road was carried out quite satisfactorily. To quite many of this service was free, a principal contrary to any Local Council in the country. The writer put much effort and held discussions to levy a Road Maintenance Rate but was to no avail. When a pity most Councillors failed to remedy the defect for fear of being unpopular.

The Health Inspector did hard job but had no backing from the Council. Market shops and houses surroundings looked cleaner than when the last report was made. The Bazaar back-lane changed greatly in look. New bicycles and hand carts could pass through easily. The two Council midwives did their work well. Whenever possible they travelled far. No matter how good they were, they being two in number could never meet the demand. The district needed a trained midwife almost in every river. More midwives would more things could be done, meaning more healthy Malaysian citizens for the future. Some Councils in the country, in the past, adopted a policy of paying a retention money to trained midwives returning from course. This was most unwise and the writer lost one of the best midwives adopting the policy when he was Secretary to the Saribas District Council five years back. It has been, therefore, felt that such policy should no longer exist.

The present Secretary took office from Inche Zakaria Ismail who then moved to the Saribas District Council, Beting. They have also a Treasurer, a Health Inspector, an acting School Affairs Officer, a Counter clerk and an office boy. The writer had suggested that the Secretary should have a clerk in 1965 so that he would be able to leave the office and travel more. Unfortunately the Council turned it down, without fully examining genuine need for an additional staff.

The relationship among the Councillors has been quite good. The best known pro-Brunei Councillors seemed to need the Council to give free services without considering the Council's own local resources. Besides

the Hon'ble Mr. James Wang, no member had the courage strong enough to stand up to divide and make unpopular decision benefiting the Council.

#### FOREST

The Limbang Trading Company, the Chai Hin Sawmill Company Limited, the Hong Sang Chan Sawmill Company, Limited and Nya Keng Kow Tinian Company Limited operated timber business in the District. They provided employment and many depended on them for their livelihood. About £150,000.00 was collected from royalty on timber and other forest produce. Both round logs and sawn timber were exported to Brunei, Labuan and Japan. They amounted to about 7,924 tons. Malayanagat, luges, meranti, jump-long and about 400 tons of jet Sawanah (Biding) were also exported. It was said that Biding found in abundance in the Ulu Modiam and the nearest, according to a logger was only able with use of elephants.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

The department carried out their work vigorously. The roads under their charge were maintained highly. The Limbang Airfield was scheduled to be improved with the proposed Civil Air Service Brunei-Limbang-Larut-Long Semado. Steps have been taken to improve it. Water main extension to Pekan School (4<sup>th</sup> A.C. unit) which was about 4,700 feet long was completed. This was to provide pure treated water to the ablatiments along the Kabong Road up to the School. The Limbang water treatment plant was capable of treating water at 10,000 gallons per hour. The service Reservoir has a capacity of 75,000 gallons. With the completion of the plant no shortage of water was anticipated in the foreseeable future and it was declared open by the Minister of Communications and Works, the Hon'ble Inche Tahir bin Mahmud. The Water Hyacinth Reservoir was improved by increasing its height to 2'. It supplied water to the Treatment Plant by gravity and, therefore, no pumping was required. The increased height of the dam would yield four days supply during dry season.

The Drainage and Irrigation survey took place in the Pandaruan Scheme. Two plots of paddy land had been surveyed and designed. Preliminary survey of Reservoir—No. 12—Malam Road (approximately 22 miles long) of which eleven miles have been completed. The final survey and design of six miles was completed. It was hoped that the works would commence towards the end of the year.

Works on service quarters went well, some completed and some not due to unavoidable circumstances and they were due to be completed by the middle of next year. This would include other buildings such as Dental Clinic, Extension to Limbang Hospital, New Government Office, a Resthouse and a Dispensary at Nanga Modiam. Some other buildings also went up at the Secondary School. This has been reported under Head "Education".

Limbang experienced shortage of skilled labour, caused by labourers running away to Brunei in search of better income. This also held works up.

#### DEVELOPMENT

The Divisional Development Officer, Mr. Hong Kia Hien arrived at Limbang in June. Proposals/Estimates on Development Scheme for 1965 were submitted to the State Development Planning Committee in view as the Officer arrived. These include:—

- (a) Ulu Treman Scheme;
- (b) Sualai Development Scheme; and
- (c) Labai Rubber Planting Scheme "B".

The Pandaruan Scheme which was launched late during the year went ahead well and as reported under the heading of "Prison and Prisoners".



A sum of \$80,000.00 was allocated for the implementation of Minor Rural Water Supplies during the year. Out of this the following were implemented in the district—

- (a) 3 Wells at Kampong Tentaya;
- (b) 3 Wells at Kampong Lingsai Pising;
- (c) 3 Wells at Kampong Pindaban;
- (d) 2 Wells at Kampong Marutan; and
- (e) One Simple Water Supply at Dayak Long House, Ramah Guni.

A further sum of \$128,400.00 was received late in the year, an allocation approved under Minor Rural Development Projects. This enabled the Divisional Development Officer to construct jetties, landing stages, walkways, to clear small rivers and to purchase fire extinguishers for longhouses.

## CHINESE AFFAIRS

The Chinese in Limbang who are mainly Hokkien and Fuchowese concentrate in usual in the bazaar and sub-bazaar areas of any shopping centre. Because of the proximity of Limbang to Brunei coupled with the regular and easy communications between them, Limbang has not been able to develop a good shopping centre as expected, though the trend now is a steady raising demand for more shops. It is not quite clear whether the demand for more shops is due to an increase of business or not, or whether it was a demand to substitute them for dwelling houses.

Throughout the year the relationship of the Chinese with other races has been excellent. Relationship between the different Chinese dialectal groups have been good, though inevitably if they are at larger hands with each other it is always *vis-a-vis* Fuchowese themselves or Fuchowese with other groups. The Fuchowese were most sympathetic to Limbang and many of them were interested in the Rubber Planting Scheme. As a matter of fact most of the existing rubber planted under the scheme in the district belonged to the Fuchowese, though it was thought that some of the applicants were to some extent thinking more in terms of land speculation rather than because of a genuine desire to plant rubber.

Parents continued to send their children to Kuching, Miri or Sibu for higher education, either Chinese or English. Fuchowese parents prefer the latter place.

Politically the Limbang Chinese were for Malaysia, though it would be quite impossible to draw their trend of political thinking or type of politics because there is none.

These shopkeepers who had suffered the tragic fire in June have now moved to temporary shophouses constructed with the aid of the Fire Relief Fund. \$18,400.00 was given away to assist the shopkeepers to complete their buildings. These buildings looked smart and would last more than five to six years or perhaps ten depending on maintenance.

## AGRICULTURE

A new site for Agriculture Station was chosen at the Kabong Road and compensations to land and fruit tree owners were made. This new area was about 100 acres and part of it has been cleared.

The number of applications for Rubber Planting Scheme was 1,519 acres against Lower 527 acres. It was estimated that about 50 per cent have been planted up. Most of the people already had Rubber Planting Scheme gardens. About 300 acres of coconuts have been planted, a great achievement over last year. Tentaya and Lingsai Pising showed particular interest in this crop. A.P.P.S. expanded considerably and about 300 acres were added. Good progress in this was shown among the Biayala. There in Lubai have also planted wet padi.

Seven buffaloes have been trained and distributed to padi farmers at subsidised price.

Padi Fertiliser subsidy was so popular that the stock was exhausted overnight and free distribution to hill padi farmers.

Progress in fresh water fishery was slow.

Farmers courses for men and women were very popular and well attended. Women courses were held and were attended by 150 people. The centre was the Bangkita Station.

A Home Demonstrator gave courses at Pandaruan Road and did home visit.

## TRADES AND SHIPPING

A regular and weekly shipping service was maintained at Limbang by the Straits Steamship vessels to and from Labuan. They were feeder vessels to load transshipment cargo for Singapore when returning. River transport to and from Brunei by passenger launches and outboards were made regularly. The launches when returning from Brunei carried in import cargoes for Limbang.

The principal imports from Limbang were rubber and timber. The rubber was also shipped to Sibu by Chinese coastal vessels, former captured in Singapore. Export duties for 1964 was approximately \$89,518.72, compared with \$78,519.76 in 1963. Import duties were approximately \$178,810.61 compared with \$242,524.25. The decrease in the import duties may have been caused by less import on petroleum and cigarettes.

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

The Institutes expanded tremendously during the year and was full of activities. Group visits were made to Brunei Museum and to Miri. Sales of works were held. Members always helped raise fund for social purposes. When the fire broke in June the Institutes raised fund. They made thousands of paper flowers for sales throughout the country to help the fire victims, as well as distributed food and clothing to them.

During the National Solidarity Week members put up stall to sell entry and race to help build up the National Defence Fund.

The Divisional Organiser, an active woman, was Patricia Jumbi, wife of the Divisional Superintendent of Constabulary, Limbang and to whom appreciation should go.

## YOUTH CLUB

One VSO Mr. John Krachal helped organise Youth Club here. Members held concert to raise their own fund. During the National Solidarity Week they held concert for many nights and was very successful.

## CO-OPERATIVES

There were four Financial Co-operative Societies in the district, three were registered during the year. The ultimate aim of forming the Society was to set up a Multi-purpose Co-operation Society in the near future when they would have enough fund to start the business.

As a result of mass exodus from Kampong Ranganu to Brunei which included the majority of the members, the situation of the Kampong Ranganu Society was critical and almost on the verge of liquidation. The Registrar gave a grace till the end of the year to decide the fate of the Society and to see if any chance of survival before issuing any order of cancellation of registration.

A Rubber Savings Society formed at Sengul Samling (Bumut Guni) is worth mentioning as it is the first of its kind ever registered in Sarawak. Since the inception of the Society in August, the members have deposited a total of 56 packs of dry-smoked sheet which was equivalent to \$2,376.33. Like other primary Societies, one of its main objects was to accumulate funds through monthly deposits in rubber at twenty-

five kotties per annum for the purpose of establishing a Multi-Purpose Co-operative in Iraman. It had an initial membership of twenty-four.

The Department also intended to introduce Co-operative ideas among prisoners at Pendarasan Scheme at the Pendarasan. The preliminary planning of the Co-operative establishment was in progress. If successful, the prisoners would have their own Co-operative Store and Rice Mill. The prisoners, released prisoners and those who agreed to take part, paid their shares from the money they have had from compensation of pelt land sold to the Government.

The Co-operative Officer-in-Charge, Indra Adnan bin Haji Satom, travelled throughout the district widely to foster the gospel of co-operation. He was joined at Limbang by a Probationary Assistant Co-operative Officer from Kuching.

#### INFORMATION SERVICE (SIS)

Like Co-operative Department, the Sarawak Information Service establishment at Limbang was very welcome. For a very long time the Division share the Unit with Miri and not much service could then be rendered here. The Field Officer, Indra Paul Satom assisted by one Misra bin Haji Burnat travelled widely throughout the district. They also travelled to Lawas and Long Seridan. They always showed films when there was school sports.

Supply of films was always received from Kuching by Air to Brunei. The collections at Airways Office were done whenever a signal is received to take delivery. To do so from Limbang was expensive sometimes and it was felt that whenever possible they should be sent by Government launches direct.

#### POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

A new Post Office building was completed during the year and occupied. This is a beneficial building. Law in the year Limbang began to have automatic telephones.

The Posts and Telegraphs staff helped the Administration install radio telephones at Nanga Melambit, Ulong, Batu Danau and the Pendarasan Scheme. Radio Calls service was set on scheduled hours and messages sent.

Up to November the Postage stamps sold valued at \$11,138.91 while C.O.D. parcels \$23,865.76.

#### EDUCATION

##### SECONDARY EDUCATION

Limbang District has one Government Secondary School and its total enrolment has increased from 132 pupils in 1963 to 214 this year.

The school has, beside local teachers, two Colombo Plan Canadian teachers, one student volunteer from England, another student volunteer from New Zealand and an American Peace Corp volunteer.

Extensions to the school buildings are being carried out during the year and they are expected to be completed early next year. The extensions consist of one block of classrooms, two dormitories, three teachers' quarters, one barack and one Science laboratory and one ablution block. These were originally meant to provide facilities for Senior Secondary Classes in 1965, but because of the shortage of qualified staff and other reasons, it has been decided to send Form IV pupils to Tanjung Lobang School in Miri in 1965.

For the first time in the history of Limbang 53 candidates from the school sat for the Sarawak Local Junior Examination in November this year and the examination was conducted under public examination regulations at the school hall by staff of the Education Office, Limbang. Subjects taken ranged from English and Arithmetic to woodwork and needlework.

It was unfortunate that Mr. C. Bingham who had been recruited from England to be Headmaster of the school had to leave the school on medical grounds after a few months service only. Another member of the school staff, a Colombo Plan teacher, Mr. W. Lavery was appointed to take his place.

##### PRIMARY EDUCATION

Four new Limbang District Council Schools were opened in 1964. The numbers of schools managed by other agencies remained as they were in 1963 (R. C. Mission, 2 schools, Chinese committee 1 school).

In addition to three schools which were already receiving boarding subsidies, two schools came under the School Master Boarding Scheme this year.

#### LAWAS DISTRICT

District Officer—Liang Kim Bang

#### COURT

There was a sharp increase of court cases heard during the year. Compared with 65 cases for last year the number of 83 for this year was a record high. Most of the cases, however, was serious and practically all the civil cases, of which there were 17, were on non-payment of one kind or another; either between the shopkeeper and customer or between the contractor and his worker. Of the 68 criminal cases eight were convictions on people who deliberately failed to register for National Service and one on an "expatriate" Chinese from Miri for offences under the Preservation of Public Security Ordinance, 1962.

#### CRIME

There was no serious crime occurring in the district for the year under review. The increase in court cases does not reflect on the criminality of the place. In fact Lawas in 1964 is just as peaceful and quiet as in many previous years. The sharp increase in cases heard this year was due partly to last year's backlog brought forward for trial and partly due to the police being more vigilant to track down many more minor offences under the Road Traffic Ordinance. Very few cases were from the interior areas; most of the cases were from the coastal and Lawas-Trengganu border area.

#### NATIVE AFFAIRS

The major Native groups in the district are Muruts and Malays—the former are essentially interior people while the latter are principally coastal and riverine people. Much smaller groups of Kadayans are to be found in the intermediary areas while the Tagals are mainly concentrated on the Ulu Mampok and Long Tongos areas. Many of the Muruts of the Batu Krianan and the Long Tongos/Trengganu areas are of Indonesian origin while many of the Malays are of Brunei descent. There is a substantial Javanese population of well over 100 families working as immigrant rubber tappers in the Lawas rubber estate.

The relationship between these people have been on the most cordial terms—all were equally enthusiastic to participate in the activities of such festive occasions as Berjaya Week and the Malaysia Celebration which Lawas celebrated with spirit and colour. If all races in Sarawak intermingle in these people do there is nothing to fear from the emotionalism of racism. The administration maintained the closest contact with these people; each and every major Kampong and longhouse was visited during the year, including the Ulu Mampok, Tagal longhouses and Kampong Pa Pet which used to be left out of the travelling coverage.

The occupations of these people are pelt cultivation and fishing. The Malays in Arat Arat, Puanang and Kuala Lawas continued with their traditional occupation—fishing. Kuala Lawas and Puanang did continue faithfully to supply Lawas with their catch while people

from Awat Awat prefer for good economic reasons to sell their catch to Brunei where they could be exchanged for cheaper provisions. Reports of Brunei and Japanese fishing vessels in Awat Awat waters were received but as soon as any alert is put on, they quickly retreated into international waters. The absence of any marine police patrolling left the coast clear for their maneuvers. Catches have been poor and many of these people resorted to outside work. Many of the able-bodied men in Kuala Lawa prefer to work in timber camps where wages are high, while many from Sundar and Awat Awat went to cut Bakau wood for sale or went as far as Brunei to seek employment where labour is in great demand.

Fortunately, people in the coastal kampungs have not all been so obstinate as those in Awat Awat. Many of them have either permanently or temporarily moved inland to plant padi. About 57 families from Kuala Lawa have planted excellent padi in Merapok area under the Assistance to Padi Planting Scheme. Similarly families from Panang have moved inland to plant padi in the 4th mile area of the Lawas/Trusan Road, also under the same scheme. The whole kampung of 18 families from Belipon have all moved to plant padi along the newly constructed Lawas/Panang Road. A new village will soon be established there.

In Merapok similar new schemes were also started by the Kadayan, Maratus and Tagals. With the Maratus there is little change in the place of habitation. All have enough land for padi and their wealth especially in the interior areas of Bah Kelalan and Long Semaboh are second to none in the country. It is most encouraging to note that the Maratus are quick to realize the wastage of hill padi cultivation and people from Long Loping and Long Betan have requested to open up land for wet padi cultivation.

It is to be noted that during the year two Marat longhouses in the Bah Kelalan areas were burnt to the ground. There are Patawing and Pusan Kelalan. Circumstances for them to move were forced on them. But in Awat Awat people moved to Brunei to escape National registration. Very wisely not all moved, only about 40 families from Awat Awat moved away to stay with relatives in Brunei during the night and return during the day to fish. As a result there is now a change of feelings of resentment between the families who chose to stay and those who chose to emigrate.

During the early part of the year T.E. Fongshan Shabudin of Kuala Lawa passed away and T.E. Manarudin bin Husain was elected the new Tan Kampong. A new post for Waid Fongshala for the Tagals and Maratus of the Merapok and the Merapok area was created and T.E. Sochi Thait was elected.

The Malay and Kadayan population of Awat Awat, Sundar, Panang, Kuala Lawa and Merapok were badly affected by the rebellion. While some are still despondent of attaining a utopia by force of arms efforts, especially those from Kuala Lawa have very wisely settled down to devote their time to more useful purpose. There is increased demand from these people to take part in various agricultural schemes. The Maratus are also becoming more aware of these schemes. During the year two more co-operatives were established solely with native participation and management while the Maratus of Long Truan have pooled their funds together to get a new taxi running. These ventures are minute enterprises but they nevertheless are practical ventures for the natives to leave the hard facts of business and the sure way to acquire business acumen. There is encouraging reaction of native parents, especially Kadayan and Tagals who are more keen to send their children to school. A native resthouse was constructed and opened during the year for all people visiting Lawas bazaar.

## CHINESE AFFAIRS

The Chinese in Lawas who are mainly Hokkien with the clan name of Lian and with smaller groups of Fookshew, Hailan and Teochew concentrate as usual in the bazaar area and its periphery of Lawas bazaar, Trusan, Sundar, Merapok and Kuala Lawa. Trusan is an old Chinese settlement and was a prosperous place in years gone by. Lawas is the main shopping centre of the district though each of the smaller bazaar stands out distinctly on its own. Merapok looks to Sindumin and Sabah and Sundar to Brunei more than Lawas. Lawas is more oriented towards Brunei, Labuan and Jesselton than towards Limbung or Kuching.

Due to confrontation and the stoppage of border-migration, trade in Lawas has slackened but their activities in other fields have not slackened. Two new school buildings, costing a total of well over \$100,000 were constructed and both are now sites for the existing Primary and Junior Secondary Schools. The Primary school building was opened by the Hon'ble the Minister for Local Government amidst glowing celebration.

Relationship between the Chinese and the native races have been on the best of terms and their knowledge on education reflects on their maintaining of a school in every corner of Chinese population, however small. The Junior Secondary School, while it has its problems, was conceived to provide secondary education for uneducated Chinese Primary School leavers. In Kuala Lawa the eight families of Chinese there maintain a private school with two teachers from Sibu.

Politically the Chinese belong to no parties, they are fond to label themselves as independents but at heart many of them can be said to be more sympathetic to M.L.P.P. than to any other party.

## CONFRONTATION AND RESETTLEMENT

Being a border district with Indonesia and having a substantial native population of Indonesian origin coupled with the fact that another substantial section of the population who are not particularly sympathetic to our cause, confrontation has always been of some concern to the district. However, the people especially in the border areas have stood solidly behind us. Fortunately for the year there was no serious setback suffered as a result of confrontation, neither it is surprising here that only the two border kampungs, namely Patawing and Pusan Kelalan with a total of 14 families were moved with government help to join the main group of longhouses further inland. Each subsidy of \$250.00 were paid to each family and the Army helped to fix in steel shafts for new houses from Limbung. These families have settled down and are being peacefully assimilated into the new environment. A temporary disruption due to fear of border terrorism caused the Nidang Iqbal Basmah's religious school at Buhak Am to be deserted and closed but since last month the school has resumed teaching again and everything is now back to normal.

The early stage of confrontation did cause concern to the border people in Bah Kelalan but it is a pleasure to report that the morale of these people is now extremely high.

While unusual confrontation perforce two kampungs to be moved further away from the border, another trend of "confrontation" which people from Awat Awat did obviously view National Service registration as such decided to seek sanctuary in relative homes in Brunei. It is my belief that it is a matter of time these "refugees" will return.

The second money awarded to the people of Long Loping and Long Tingga for loyal support were put to most useful purpose. In Long Loping the people spent it on zinc sheets to give their houses a better roof while those in Long Lingga invested it as part capital to start a co-operative society.

## DISTRICT RELIEF AND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The old district relief committee which has had a large membership was ineffective and was reorganised and the new committee is now functioning very satisfactorily. It paid out handsome cash contribution and material relief to help the Limbung five victims.

While the relief committee was being reorganised another organisation the Women's Institute was started in Lawas which proved more popular with the Malays, Kadajans and Muruts. Today it has a membership of well over 100 members. Another branch was recently established in Long Tuma, an important Murut long-house. The Institute is conducting classes in handicraft, sewing and cookery, besides running two streams of literacy classes, one for beginners (old members) and the other for more advanced younger students. The Institute has been most active.

## EDUCATION

The more conventional type of education in Lawas is provided by the local district council and the Chinese community through the school committee. A second type of education aimed at providing mass literacy is given by the Roman Evangelical Mission where age is no barrier to education. A very large number of older Muruts who did not have the chance to attend school benefited from these literacy classes.

For the year under review the Council ran 19 schools with a total enrolment of 1,381 students and a teaching staff of 55. Of the 55 teachers only 24 were trained and of these 24 only one was a grade IIIA teacher who has since left the district. Well over 50 per cent of the teachers were untrained and of this, not a few of them were only of Primary VI qualification. While the Council does maintain a few decent school buildings some of them could be said to be properly equipped or furnished. Some of the school buildings were more snug shacks while the furniture in many of them badly need repair. Also some of the boarding schools has proper boarding houses. All the so-called boarding houses are small simple bamboo straps built by the kampung people themselves. Similarly, with teacher quarters, which are poor and few and many a teacher has to seek accommodation in the kampung.

With this state of affairs and with the poor resources of the Council, no improvement in standard either in teaching or building could be expected. Leaving the Council to solicit its own teachers in the open market would mean the Council getting all the poor teaching staff for better qualified teachers would be hard away by richer and bigger Councils in areas with better basic amenities. Education in the hands of poor Council means an educational service of low standard handled by unqualified or under qualified staff and totally lacking in basic requirement in building, accommodation and furniture.

In the case of the Chinese schools there are five in the district, four Primary and one Junior Secondary. In terms of staff, building and equipment they are relatively better off than the Council schools. The Chinese in Lawas is extremely keen on education. The Junior Secondary school was opened this year and it was conceived to provide unselected students with post-primary education.

There is no government secondary school in the district; the building for one is scheduled for next year and classes are expected to begin in 1966. At present selected students go for their secondary education in either Miri or Limbung Government Secondary Schools.

## LOCAL AUTHORITY

The Lawas District Council like many other small Councils in the country is struggling to keep itself solvent. It is a poor Council and the only major service that it cares for is primary education. The public as

a whole has been slow in paying rates and are very anti-rate increase. And the greatest weakness of the Council is its reluctance to enforce its by-laws.

During the year the Council is full or is sub-committee met frequently but the results have never been very concrete. While Councillors are eager to request for aid and for better amenities as a group they are most unwilling to shoulder more responsibility for better services. As a result people of unrelenting persuasion to increase its rates the effort has been fruitless.

The weakness on the legislative side is at times matched by the weakness on the executive side. The appointment of a treasurer to the Council did help but the executive team show greater initiative in its deliberations. The sharing of the services of one Health Inspector with the Limbung District Council has not proved very helpful or effective. The administration has to help police the backbones for the Council. On the whole the harvest areas are kept in a much sicker state. Poultry are no longer allowed to roam along the fence and diseased dogs are conscientiously disposed of by the blow pipe.

The Council has drawn up a five-year development plan but unless its present financial position is improved the plan will never go beyond the blue-print stage. The opening of more roads in the district has meant an increase in bicycles licensed. The year reported a 40 per cent increase. Muruts along the Lawas-Dumut road are particularly becoming very bicycle conscious.

## MEDICAL AND HEALTH

There is no hospital in Lawas and patients in the district continued to go to Limbung, Brunei or Labuan for treatment. This is not satisfactory as it involves expenses which many of the patients could ill-afford and to offset this the government launches makes regular trips to Limbung bringing patients for treatment and mail from Brunei and Limbung. The situation will remain essentially the same next year. A 15-bed hospital is only scheduled to be built in 1966.

During the first half of the year the district was better off with two hospital assistants and one trained nurse. The nurse remained stationary in the dispensary thus releasing one hospital assistant to do travelling in the kampungs which means saving the state folk a lot of time and expenses. This arrangement proved only too temporary with the departure of the nurse and the hospital assistant was once again tied down to dispensary work. The people in Mirapoh continued to receive medical treatment from the dispensary in Sindamin, Sabah, while the doctor stationed in Buxar continued to make weekly trip to Tross.

Another service which Lawas badly needs is mid-wifery. While the birth-rate among all races is rising the midwife service, which is in the hands of Council, could never be expected to annihilate snuck. The Council has only one midwife in the district and she due to some physical debility cannot travel.

As primary education, child welfare and anti-mal care should have never been entrusted to small Councils. They neither have the finance nor the personnel to run it. During the year two pupil mid-wives were sponsored by the Council for training in Kuching. With their coming back next year the district should be better off.

The number of blinds in the district especially among the Tagals and Muruts in Long Tengon and Siang Siang is high; only one was sent to the blind centre in Kuching for training during the year.

## LABOUR

Lawas has six sawmills and they were the main employers in the district. Wages paid were generally high; the minimum was \$4.00 per day. Compared

with last year there is a drop of five accidents. 17 cases were reported for workmen compensation during the year. There was no fatal accidents and payment of workmen compensation has improved but still not prompt. Most of the workmen compensation has been settled except for a few that have to wait for the submission of the medical report first.

The administration spent a lot of time dealing with labour and workmen compensation in the district. With constant reminders labour actions were submitted more regularly. During the year not even an officer from labour department visited the district which is an unsatisfactory state of affairs. Regular visits by a labour officer to these establishments would help alleviate many problems which are left unattended.

## FORESTRY

Forest produce remains the foremost export of the district. There is a decrease of timber exported during the year. A total of 18,851 tons of round timber and a total of 4,124 tons of sawn timber were exported to either Labuan or Sibu for transshipment while some 72,480 planks of firewood was also exported to Hong Kong. Royalty collected amounted to about \$164,000 for the year. Timber supply in Lawas is abundant, most of it, however, is hill timber which as they are worked further inland increases the cost of production.

## TRADE

Lawas is a good shipping centre and is an important trading centre. While Limbang looks towards Brunei for trade, Lawas looks towards Labuan where goods ordered from Singapore is transhipped for Lawas. Its export trade centres mainly on forest produce in the shape of sawn timber, firewood and logs. Besides to the extent of 8,597 planks were exported during the year. Besides this there is little cash crop export for export. The district continues to import large quantities of eggs from Singapore for local consumption.

The only important livestock exported is buffalo of which 61 heads were exported to either Brunei or Miri for meat.

The advent of automation has completely stopped all border trade. And Lawas is probably the district with the most customs stations, five in all.

## CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Lawas started off the year with one Co-operative with a membership of 58. This is the Co-operative at Long Semadoh and most of the initial members are from this place. The monthly turnover that averaged about \$2,000.00. By the end of the year this Co-operative has 168 members and the monthly turnover has risen to \$4,000.00 and people from Bah Kulan and Long Perais (Sabah) have joined in. This Co-operative has become the most important trading centre in the Ulu Trusan. Its business ranged from the exporting of pigs by air to the selling of ordinary necessities and alcohol sheets and cartridges. It is completely under Miri management and the Co-operative is the Borneo Airways agent in Long Semadoh. A new building was built for the Co-operative this year and it has since two of its members for members training in Limbang during the year.

Two new Co-operatives were opened during the year. One was at Mirapok which has a membership of 94 and manages the milling of padi for its members. The padi mill was presented by the government and the maintenance and running of it is now completely in the hands of two of the padi farmers trained for the purpose. It has meant easy padi milling for the people for the mill is installed in the padi growing areas.

While the Muruts are running their Co-operative in Long Semadoh and the Malays and Kadazans with

Gulais in Mirapok, the Tagals in Long Tengen also joined in with theirs. A Co-operative with 59 members and an initial capital of \$2,800.00 was formed last month. The other Co-operative at Long Semadoh provided training for the secretary cum manager of this new Co-operative.

Co-operative development has had a fruitful year. More Co-operatives are expected to be established in Kampong Sabaqas, Long Tikon, Kampong Linding Bura and Kuala Lintang next year.

A Co-operative office in Lawas was only opened this year.

## WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Lawas bazaar repair tank was at last completed and the old pit-lantern behind or in front of the shop-houses were demolished. The Long Semadoh air terminal building, the Trusan wharf and the Kuala Lawas plank railway were also completed. More important projects are under construction and these include the water treatment plant, the Customs godown, the landing ramp, and the customs wharf costing a total of about \$291,000. These projects should be completed early next year.

The nine mile Lawas-Damit road was completed and was opened to traffic in August, 1964. Work on the seven mile Pansang Road started off in March and the first formation for the whole length is already completed. It will be opened to traffic early next year. Besides providing supervision and carrying out construction on the other projects the Public Works Department did splendid work in keeping the roads in the district in top condition.

While roads are being built and facilities for water transport are being built, the air service into the district was also improved. The twice weekly air service from Brunei to Lawas saw an increase in both freight and passengers carried. The Lawas/Long Semadoh link started off with a once-weekly service. Inland freight and passengers still cannot be all carried by the B.A.L. plane. Several chartered flights were made. While the inward flight cannot cope with the freight and passengers, the outward flight poses a problem that still has to be solved. Although outward freight and passengers carried has increased, there is just no cash crop planted in the interior that could be economically airlifted. There is now a twice weekly flight to Long Semadoh.

Three radio call sets were installed at Mirapok, Kuala Lawas and Trusan, and the Long Semadoh airport wireless set was also installed during the year.

## AGRICULTURE

On the agricultural front 1964 was a good year for Lawas. There was no flood neither was there any major crop failure or outbreak of disease on livestock. Harvests from both wet and hill padi have been good and the average yields was generally high. The average yield per acre wet padi was 250 gantang compared with the previous year's average of 200 gantang. Hill padi yield averaged 90 to 100 gantang per acre. Planting started early during the year in Mirapok, Trusan, Long Semadoh and Bah Kulan.

The Irrigation and Drainage section of the Public Works Department have surveyed in Pansang Trusan, Long Loping and Kampong Gipsy for wet padi while the success of the Mirapok padi farmers in the A.P.F.S. was rewarded with the gift of a paddy-mill from the government. The Mirapok farmers are running it on a co-operative basis now. A further 21 families from Kuala Lawas joined the A.P.F.S. there and during the year the Tagals, Muruts and Kadazans in the middle Mirapok area have started a new scheme.

Under the R.P.S. the year has yielded poor results. The total acreage under R.P.S. in the district now is 4,166 acres. A total of 348 acres was approved for the year but only 142 acres were planted. These are all new planting, not an acre of replanting took place for the whole year. Many Poonbans in Slang Siang could not plant up because they could not get the land.

The other two cash crops planted in the district are pepper and coconuts, but the acreage is at present too negligible to have any impact.

Rubber continues to thrive well in the district. For the year a total of 64 heads were reported in Miri and Brunei and another 39 were diagnosed in Lawas. Cards is also doing well in the district. Five heads were reported to Sabah for raising purposes. Latex is self-sufficient in pigs. No outbreak of disease was reported. The district supplies its own chickens but has to import some 115,360 eggs from Singapore.

During the year 14 farmers from Lawas attended the farmers course held in Limbang and in Miri. 108 acres of land was being cleared for a bullock farm.

#### DEVELOPMENT

An annual report on the district on completion of the first year of Malaysia would be incomplete without allusion to development in general and rural development in particular. So much has been said; it is time to recapitulate as to how much has been achieved.

The 1964-65 Development Plan can be said to have started well in Lawas with the construction of the Pongau Road and the titration plant and wheat atom cyclotron gardens together with any other smaller projects already commenced. Boulder schemes have been planned for the district but as yet none has, for various reasons, got off the ground. The Sualu Scheme is one and the Ulu Trems scheme is another. Attention is now focussed on the Miriok scheme. These are big projects that will require detailed scrutiny.

On the opposite scale the minor rural projects have got off fairly well. All the jetties, plank walkways and drains put down for drainage have been completed. The rural water-supply for the Long Trems has been completed and the improvement on the Lawas palling with subsoil drainage has also been completed. Work on another two rural water-supplies and on the Trems playing field is progressing. A stretch is being fixed for Long Samadok and two Murats have already been trained to operate it.

Mistakes have been made, experience has been gained, the new year should bring in more confidence for greater progress in development.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS

1964 has been a year of steady progress with some concern for the district. In many ways Lawas is unique. It shares boundaries with more foreign states than any district in the country. Its population is a melting pot of affiliations for if the Malays and Kadayans look to Brunei, the Chinese look towards Labuan and Jesselton while the Murats project their kinship ties across the border. And if Limbang failed to appeal as the divisional head, to Kuching has also failed in the appeal as the state capital. This is more an accident of history and geographical location than because of political ties. Malaysia with the help of confrontation should transcend above all.

But even the remotest has not escaped the attention of those in higher positions—the Executive the Governor and all the Ministers with the exception of one, visited the district during the year.

#### Confrontation, etc.

By G. P. BLAIR  
(Green Aspects)

Usually it's coffee after luncheon. This time it was a rumour that was so rampant, and of course it was a Sunday — things always seem to happen on a Sunday! Sunday luncheon in Penang, with 90 per cent of the Regiment out of barracks, with their families, with their friends, with themselves; most on the beach or in Georgetown, some on leave, a few simply in bed. And gradually and inevitably, like the sun drawing into a steady morning, the rumour spread.

We had all read about the Borneo rebellion in the newspapers at breakfast, but it had all seemed rather far away; even the news that the Gurkhas had flown in from Singapore had failed to click more than a twinge of jealousy. Perhaps our eyes had been turned westward towards India. Perhaps it was just a variation on the theme of "It can't happen to us." But it did happen, and at eight o'clock that night a fleet of buses, three-ton and quarter-ton trucks rolled down the hill and out of the barracks carrying the Regiment to war. The six hours between the arrival of the signal and the departure of the Regiment had been a period of hectic frantic activity, distinguished by an enthusiasm and an excitement seldom seen when an army unit is preparing for more peacetime manoeuvres — for this was the real thing, and if anyone was depressed that night as our ferry sailed across Penang harbour to Butterworth, it was by the thought that it would probably be our job to garrison Singapore in place of that city's defenders who had been rushed off to the fight.

It was a memorable drive south. One party was due to enter as far as Kuala Lumpur in coaches, and continue from there by train; the other party was to keep going in vehicles and it reached Singapore itself. One could not help thinking that other people had probably done that same drive almost exactly 21 years before, only they were fleeing from the enemy, we were driving towards them. Perhaps they too had experienced the same difficulty in keeping their eyes open and their trucks on the road by five o'clock in the morning. Scrubland for a shower and breakfast — and an exhilaration reinforced by the first feelings of fear as we were told that the whole Regiment was being moved without delay across to Brunei where fighting was in progress. We spent the rest of the day together in the troop train after all, sleeping and sweating until Johore Bahru where it rained and we got out. A procession of three-ton trucks took us to Neg Eon transit camp from the station. ("Whose 2-inch mortar is this?" said a native boy from an empty carriage — perhaps it wasn't so different from an exercise after all!) Organisation, reorganisation, food, apprehension and nervous excitement. At last we were driven to the docks where H.M.S. *Fiver* the Royal Navy's cruiser in the Far East, lay waiting for us. We had been her guests some five months before on a combined cruise when the Regiment had embarked in a rapid 20 minutes, sailed round the Malay Peninsula, and carried out an assault landing over the beaches of Trengganu. In three days we had come to know her and feel at home in those strange Taruman labyrinth below deck, so now when the emergency came and a huge piece of staff work had confirmed that the should clatter in into battle, we knew what to expect and what was expected of us, and were able to face the confusion with competent understanding. Kit was hustled aboard with ceremony and without dignity: the next day was spent in loading it all, several units in odd numbers and scattered hidey-holes all over the upper decks of the great ship — a quartermaster's headache and an accountant's night-

start, but when we went, where 26 hours later it was all sorted out and in order — more or less! We sailed 1500 hours: I believe we were due to sail at midnight, but an hour before that every cubic inch of cargo space — and every other bit of space as well — had been filled and Piper steamed away into the darkness, with the optimism on shore outcropping in the last to embark more stones, and elderly shore-bound members of the Regiment — proven survivors of those post-independence days — shouting "Good luck 41st" or "All the best 41st" in friendly rivalry, and in unison (and perhaps hypocrisy) "Wish we were going with you!" And then Marples took over the command, and every efficient skip in his appointed place; some in air-conditioned operations rooms, some near steering bellers; some in passageways; under tarpaulins on the quarterdeck, sharing space with pieces of equipment, nesting up against the wheels of lashed-down Land-Rovers and Porter scout cars. No one slept in a lifeboat because there wasn't any: all sacrificed to the paramount need that every possible piece of military equipment and every possible soldier should be carried to Borneo.

The next day was an idyll. Kit was found, lost and found again: the relaxed half "D" groups and men were briefed; orders of battle established and equipments checked. But most of the day was given to sleep and procrastination, gentle contemplation and the ecstasy of soft, salt spray from the sea. Towards evening the ammunition was hoisted out: 180 rounds to each man and 20 for the flame-throwers. This was the moment when the combined scepter realized that after all this was not an exercise thought up by the Regiment in view of the imminent annual administrative inspection! Late that night trash orders came through. We had been prepared to disembark the following morning on Labuan Island, but now the Regiment was told to land two companies and a technical headquarters at dawn at Miri, the oil town on the Sarawak coast. As the commanding officer gave his orders out in the cool of the air-conditioned day's operations room, we peered at our maps, with Miri town and outskirts looking vaguely conventional and thus a monstrous and unrelieved canvas of gross ignorance. I thought of the problem of trying to measure range and line for my mortars and realised, only the grin was a sickly one and somewhat faded. At dawn we paraded on deck and gazed thoughtfully, curiously at the long low coastline. Then the disembarkation began. The two remaining ship's boats took us ashore, keeping about sixty feet from the beach by the laws of nature, so loaded were they, and we advanced down the long pier wondering rather apprehensively what sort of reception we should encounter on land. Miri was still loyal. Aggressive propositions by the local police force had discouraged the rebellious, and we motored uneventfully in delays in a ramshackle bus to the local Chinese school, presumably considered under the emergency regulations.

Here we reorganised and remained waiting quietly while commanders took stock of the situation, deliberated and made plans. There was, it appeared, a Kampong and seat of local government called Belaga, some 20 miles away, which was in rebel hands. Our company was given the task of reminding it of its allegiance to the State. No other launches we saw sail again, but this time on board a landing-craft lent by the Shell Company and still laden with large oil pipes which no one had had time to remove. It was an unusual situation, cruising pleasantly down the coast on a sunny afternoon, on board a civilian ship with the red ensign fluttering over the stern and the launch — the *Lorna Doone* — bobbing obediently in our wake. People sunbathing, asleep, reading a book, or chatting quietly; it was difficult to realize that this was a rifle company on active service going to do battle. At five o'clock that evening the L.C.T. dumped us un-

ceremoniously into five feet of water, suddenly revealing a latent inability to approach any nearer to the sandy beach, and we began to rock.

Belaga lies on the north bank of the Sibuti River at a river, westward to the sea some ten miles downstream, but only five miles away in a direct line through the mangrove swamp to the north. The plan was that two platoons, company headquarters and a section of the local Field Force should approach the village from this nearest point, while the third platoon should sail further down the coast to the mouth of the Sibuti on the launch, and then cruise up river so as to be able to provide fire support from a flank and frustrate the attempt of any rebels to escape by means of the river. It was an appealing notion. Led by a native guide from the Field Force we journeyed through the jungle, through park, through cultivation, but always through swamp, sometimes ankle-deep, sometimes with mud and water rising well above the knees. By eight o'clock we reached a little native shop, bounding mysteriously out of the darkness in company with one or two other dwellings, and here the company rested thankfully for four hours until the moon should rise to lighten our path a little. Then came information — tentative, warning. The only bridge (believed a suspension for some fallen tree trunk) across a river that lay in our path was guarded by rebel sentries, armed and alert. We must make a detour. Our guide knew an alternative longer track.

So on we go: slipping, stumbling, sliding, but always onwards. Surely we passed that particular piece of undergrowth two hours ago — are we going round in circles? At dawn we reach the river. Two native dug-out boats are pressed into service, and the company is carried across, five men at a time, in a ghostly early twilight, each man wondering anxiously when the silence would dissolve into a sudden explosion of painted lethal bullets. The silence continued, and the company reorganised safely on the far bank by a little native house where overjoyed inhabitants cooked that the rebels are still unresponsive in Belaga. Apparently they hold a drill parade each morning at nine ("The R.A.M.'s for us," said a corporal, "I've always wanted to shoot an R.A.M."). Then more swamp, and that last swamp was the most of all. One and a half hours through thick jungle whose floor was on perpetual pond, two or three feet deep everywhere.

At last the final obstacle: a track through the jungle a mile long, only this track consists of numerous tree trunks laid end to end. Memories of grassy poles at tug-regattas in England; only regretful offer a prize at the end of their poles — no one was sure that we wouldn't meet a machine-gun at the end of ours, for accurate information of our opposition was a rarity, and his strength and armament simply a matter of conjecture. It was with relief that the company assembled behind a plantation of pepper trees on the outskirts of the kampong and shook out into formation for the attack. The time was 0945 hours: nearly 17 hours after we had waded ashore from the L.C.T. five miles away. Wordless contact was made with the *Lorna Doone*, waiting round a bend in the river just downstream, with flashing placards on board, and then we moved into the assault up over the brow of the little hill and down the slopes towards the village. There it was in front of us — amazingly innocuous and attractive, the government offices and the police station on top of a mound on the far side of a deep gully. A normal scene, confounded only by the red-white-green flag of rebellion flying where the Union Jack should have been. Then the shooting started: ball-loaded 12-bore shotguns on one side, .303-inch and 1.57-mm. rifles, stonings and blow guns on the other. It was no ineffective, and really rather shameful, demonstration of company fire power; it was also not without effect in demonstrating the principle of crack-and-thump, though many of the bullets whistling over-

head seemed to emanate, if not from the company's weapons then from those of the native Field Force, stationed somewhat uncertainly in reserve!

It was interesting and often gratifying, to notice the reactions of the young riflemen, nearly all of whom were experiencing being under fire for the first time. For oneself: one was far too busy to think adequately of fear (perhaps this is the prerogative of commandant?) endeavouring desperately to keep the sections in formation and ensure that enthusiasm did not take the place of prudence. Bullets are meant for the enemy and not for the friend in front. But fear was there, in mine and in most people's heads; the real victory lay in the way most people ignored it. I was interested to find myself thinking of undergraduate discussions, theoretical and academic several thousand miles away, on the sanctity of human life and the right to kill, and wondering how a reserved and respected pacifist friend of mine would have reviewed the situation.

It must have been a rude shock to the rebels, secure in their little world of fantasy, to look out of the office window and see a company of British troops advancing towards them. Their weapons were single-barrelled 12-bore shotguns (we had feared light machine-guns as well), but they lay lowed off against us for an interval before turning and running to the river in an effort to escape in an outboard-powered boat. They did not expect our gunboat which appeared from downstream and indulged in a short period of handily.

When the battle was over five rebels lay dead before us, one more had floated away downstream, six were captured — four killed, the others merely wounded — and ten or so more had managed to make their escape into the jungle. "How many will there be for lunch, Sir?" enquired a government official, released from captivity, and the company enjoyed a very lunch that day, provided and cooked for us by the local inhabitants who seemed delighted with our unannounced advent. Later we were able to inspect the damage: why a water-tank 15 feet above the ground should be leaking copiously from a bullet hole, and how Loren Gosse came to have two mysterious holes in her roof was never revealed. After that it was mostly a case of sending a few patches up and down the river in boats over a period of the next three or four days to search kampungs and bring in prisoners, very many of whom came to give themselves up as they realised the hopelessness of their cause.

This was our introduction to a campaign which was as intriguing in its anachronisms as it was exciting in its experience. For 200 years or more Great Britain has been putting down firmly and equitably native uprisings in her many colonies, but such forays belong to the past. These are the days of hydrogen bombs and guided weapons, of space travel and the equality of races. Surely this is the very last time the British troops will go into action in a gunboat to defend an outpost of Empire, as their forebears have done so many times in days gone by; and fight side by side with native irregulars who, armed with shotguns and blow-pipes, had assumed the role and came down-river in their longboats from the primeval interior to fight for the rajah for the last time. This must surely be the end of an era, a page of history that someone has forgotten to turn over, and an experience never to be forgotten.

\*See also in *Shanty* for January, 1964. The red flag takes here to be now in the Museum.

## George Medal for Sarawak Officer

The courage of Derrick Reddish of the Borneo Company was recorded in the *January Gazette*, in connection with his tragic end, along with other brave men on active service, in a helicopter crash of May, 1963. There have, also, been some other air disasters in the hard battle of the past two years. Happily one in April, 1964, had a happier ending of heroes, only just announced. The story is told by a FARELF Press Release from Singapore, and should be put on the permanent state record. Incidentally though this is the first George Medal worn in Sarawak, there have been several M.C.s and M.M.s for security forces, while the Medical Department until recently had one officer with the George Cross and there is another here with the G.M., both won elsewhere. Here, then, is the story:

**A GEORGE MEDAL FOR DOCTOR WHO AMPUTATED ARM AFTER CRASH**

**SINGAPORE.**—A British Army medical officer has been awarded the George Medal for gallantry while serving in Sarawak. He is Capt. Ian Crawford of the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Capt. Crawford is now in Britain and receives the medal for his bravery and work after a helicopter in which he was travelling crash-landed in April, 1964.

Struggling then with the 1/7 Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, Capt. Crawford remained in the crashed helicopter and amputated a fellow officer's arm—using only a clasp knife—despite his own personal injuries, and discomfort and without thought for his own safety.

### BOUNCES

An Army statement said:

"With a Maj. E. D. Smith, a doctor was in a helicopter flying to visit a forward company position in dense jungle when the machine's engine stalled short of the landing platform.

"The aircraft crashed, turned on to its back and bounced down a hill for about 60 feet.

"A tree stump, which finally brought the helicopter to a stop, pierced the cabin between Maj. Smith and Capt. Crawford, trapping the major's arm.

"Badly bruised, shaken and suffering from shock, Capt. Crawford first saw that Gurkha troops, also on the flight, scrambled to safety.

"Seeing that Maj. Smith was trapped and hanging and his smashed arm, Capt. Crawford got under him and supported him until the pilot and others came to his aid. Then, for nearly an hour, in appalling conditions brought about by leaking fuel fumes and the heat, Capt. Crawford worked on the injured major.

### CLASP KNIFE

"Using a clasp knife, hastily sharpened by a Gurkha soldier, he amputated Maj. Smith's arm.

"When this was completed, there was no level space on which Maj. Smith could lie, so Capt. Crawford supported most of his weight himself while he completed the dressing of the wound and awaited a stretcher party.

"Almost completely exhausted by now, Capt. Crawford still refused to leave the major. He walked up the hill beside the stretcher to the landing site to a relief helicopter which flew them to Simanggang and Kuching.

"At both places he personally assisted the doctors who operated on the major.

"Capt. Crawford has returned to Britain and is now on the staff of the Military Hospital in Catterick, Yorkshire."



## New Year Honours

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has been pleased to bestow the following honours:

Mr. G. A. T. Shaw, Sarawak State Secretary, Commander of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.).

Dr. Martin Reid, Acting Deputy Director of Medical Services, Sarawak. Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.).

Mr. George Preeth, Director of Music (see Gazette, December, 1964, page 705). Member of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.).

## A Malay Village Kitchen

by

BARBARA HARRISON

Cooking in a Malay village kitchen is often unsatisfactory and frustrating from a Western housewife's point of view as long as efforts are made to prepare any other than simple Malay fare. Such village kitchens are mainly geared to cooking of rice, steaming of fish and vegetables, and the preparation of spices (used in addition to the main substance of ready-made imported "ketchup" and sauce). I have just spent ten days in a high standard Malay home down in the delta, where they know more than average about other places, peoples and methods.

Their source of fuel is wood—self collected and cut—which burns on a flat surface of logs and stones, with the pots and pans supported on iron rods (often "disarded" or found, relics of tools and machinery) placed on stones or cement, elevating the pots about 6 inches above the fire. A stack of cut timber is usually supported in a rack above this hearth for drying and instant use. Some timber is drift wood, but most is cut from local scrub and sometimes mangrove. Theoretically, this is the husband's work, in fact even younger daughters may do it.

The open fireplace is often placed so low over the floor of the kitchen that the cook has to squat while working. If elevated to a height to allow for standing, her efforts to see what she is doing inside the pots are frustrated by the rack of drying wood, made so that you cannot bend over but you bang your head. But Malay girls seldom work at their mother's elbow—except they cook almost "blind". There is not much to see anyway, for the dapor is dark, especially the cooking corner—as it is protected against drafts by enclosing plank, also or wattle thatch walls. There is, too, the smearing of eyes or singeing of hair from smoke and burning timbers with any effort to get too close.\*

The most important tool is the only pot of lasting quality: the pot in daily use for the cooking of rice. Such pots are expensive (imported from China, as are all others), of heavy thick-walled metal alloy, have a firing lid and an awkward, basket-type revolving handle which burns fingers on touch as long as the rice is hot in the pot. Some people also have a heavy cast-iron, concave-bottom frying pan with two handles of Chinese design for the frying of fish. But in most households, as in this one, a thin, cheap aluminium variety is in use, this has the same short life-span as the wattle-bank, which is never elaborate (top of lid coming off soon with steam escaping through the breakage, which makes it almost impossible to handle; some have separately made, jointed handles with a bakelite or other non-conductor grip, standard elsewhere).

A type of cooking pot unknown to the western housewife is used for the preparation of vegetables, soups and stews. These are very thin, round cylindrical vessels of aluminium with the lid, without handles on either pot or lid. The bottom bulges on sharp, narrow firewood heat, burning any dish if left for a moment too long. The pots can only be handled with a rag

(not readily available at a "constant" place; they always seem to have to be "basted for"), but Malay housewives shift burning legs to others rather than the pot itself. All agree that these pots are bad; and that the only justification for their overwhelming domination in Malay kitchens is their cheapness. You can buy three for one the same size of better quality (thicker walls, and handles present). This is really the crux of the matter. These housewives depend on third rate cooking equipment, for economic reasons, even when they know better. And it would need a lot of "rehabilitation" or finance to get them to buy good pots at high cost, other than for the traditionally semi-sacred rice pot.

Apart from these pots, a cement or stone pounder for the crushing of spices and a wooden board for cutting up fish, there are seldom any "kitchen utensils". There is no array of ladles, sieves, wooden spoons, knives and choppers as is usual in the better financed western kitchens. There are no facilities for keeping dishes and plates warm before meal-time. There is indeed no need for this elaboration, as most families prefer to take their food fairly cold. Perhaps this is because hot food is awkward to take up by hand, as is still the rule in coastal Malay households. In the home where I have been lately, three adults and eight children, no one used a fork (or chopsticks) but two of the little kids have cheap aluminium spoons—their hands are not yet pitted. A single pocket knife is used for all food preparation (e.g. fish and veg.) and also by the husband outdoors.

In the mind of the western housewife there is thus ample need and opportunity for improvement of these village kitchens with comparatively "little" capital outlay, if only at the same time, an incentive could be given for the improvement of the daily fare prepared in these kitchens which remain within the family budget. On the other hand, these families and others like to eat fully of rice—and little else—and were in good health and spirit, no child morose or cried.

Whatever suggestions are made from outside, they must remain tentative, as long as a family of, say, ten must survive on \$170 monthly. No good housewife can really operate this budget except on an improvisation basis. She cannot improve on the daily fare of rice and "ketchup" with occasional vegetable and fish—unless she scrapes out improvements by her own industry and labour; by working a garden plot for vegetables (as my friend does) collecting wild fruits, keeping chickens and goats (he has a cow). But all these "improvements" are at the expense of something else—usually of small growing children. Here, the advent of primary education has helped the Malay housewife above all else. Most of the family are at school much of the week. But this leaves all the more small jobs around the house to do herself, an especial effort when she is pregnant—in this case, thirteen times in the past fifteen years (and again now). Also, no medical services and maternal education are greatly reducing child mortality and ill-health. In the "old days" perhaps half these kids would be dead or sickly. Husband meanwhile is paying \$29.00 a month in school fees, including secondary in Kuching. Five years ago we got her to have a baby in hospital after a struggle. Yet the idea of birth-control is greeted with horror, still.

A point is reached when reward incentives are too low and the balance tips in favour of the growing family, the simplest possible food and the simplest kitchen facilities. Certainly, outside trading has not touched 90 per cent of the coastal and delta Malays. And so often those who are touched have to give up again—as the family grows, finances worsen, time for the three points is lost.

\* Nearly all western dishes, other than very simple fare, need constant rearrange attention of the cook—especially when using an erratic source of heat like firewood on an open hearth.

## Sarawak Steamship History

### INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Professor Ken Tregonning of the University of Singapore, who already contributed to this Gazette last year, recently sent us a draft of part of a history of the Straits Steamship Co. and related organisations which he is officially preparing on their behalf. He sought further information on several points. We suggested to him, in the letter printed below, that perhaps the best way to get his questions answered was to print his draft, as received, in this Gazette. The letter to the Professor, dated 28th December, 1964, read as follows:

Dear Professor Tregonning,

Thank you for the draft piece about Sarawak Steamships and your enquiries.

I think we could probably get more information for you, but it will almost all be in the older generation Malays who are not too easy to contact direct. What I suggest is that we print your draft, with an explanatory introduction and request for help by you, in the Sarawak Gazette.

The material is of local interest nowadays, and publishing this in the Gazette is likely to stimulate study. The Gazette is read in all the outstations, and many of the outstation officers are Malays of just the age group whose fathers, grandfathers and uncles might be useful informants.

Professor Tregonning replied with you, etc. enthusiastic approval. We now solicit the help of our readers — and especially our Malay and other readers in the Marine Department, Customs, or themselves in any way connected with the sea — to see if they can provide any information or seek any from their older relatives to assist Professor Tregonning in his work. All information or clues to information will be warmly received and duly acknowledged. They can either be sent to the Gazette or direct to Professor Tregonning, c/o Department of History, University of Singapore.

## A History of the Straits Steamship Company

### SARAWAK

In Sarawak James Brooke suffered from none of the doubts that had prevented the Chartered Company from entering into the shipping business. From the outset in 1841 he ran his own ship, the *Rosalia*, (142 tons) on the Kuching-Singapore run, together with the 80 ton *Swift* formerly the *Zephyr* of the East India Co.; the main cargo then being antimony ore and some gold and jungle produce. Although Rajah Brooke gradually extended his influence and control along the coast and up the rivers, he did little to actively encourage the migration of Chinese or Europeans. The shipping trade to Singapore was controlled by his Government. Occasionally Malay craft captured by a *Ninkoda* also cruised, but not that many, as is illustrated by the fact that the very word *Ninkoda* as understood by the natives of Sarawak means "people who sail to the right", that is, on leaving the river mouths of Sarawak they turn right, to sail north to Brunei, Labuan and Sabah; not left to cross an open sea to Singapore.

Nevertheless the attractions of Sarawak gradually were recognised in Singapore, and in London. In 1856 The Borneo Company was formed, with the Rajah's encouragement and support, to exploit the government controlled monopolies such as antimony and coal, to organize the opio and gatta percha trade and to finance further governmental commercial schemes. It was the sole public company permitted to operate in Sarawak, and it brought in another manner, diplomatically named Sir James Brooke, to ply between Sarawak and Singapore.

This vessel played a major part in the Chinese rising the following year. Kuching was attacked by a Chinese secret society from Bua, the gold centre, and the Rajah was forced to flee. The vessel arriving from Singapore found the Europeans survivors twenty miles downstream at the river mouth desperately searching for a vessel to evacuate them. She took them, and the Rajah, back upstream and with her 18 pounders drove the Chinese to flight.

With law and order re-established, year after year a considerable development took place. Sir James died in 1868 to be succeeded by the second Rajah, Charles. By the end of 1871, after thirty years of Brooke rule, the import and export trade of Sarawak had reached \$1,680,000. During the previous decade it had increased annually by \$300,000. Charles Brooke announced in the following year that because of this steady increase in trade there was need for some form of multi-racial body to advise the Government on commercial matters. Thus was formed, in May 1873, the Sarawak Chamber of Commerce.

The first major problem this Council faced was shipping. The Government steamer had become again the sole link with Singapore. The Rajah urged them to form their own shipping company to cope with the increasing trade. In a snap the first Rajah would not have supported, he offered to sell them his *Royalist*. His offer was accepted, and in August 1873 the Singapore and Sarawak Steamship Co. was inaugurated.

The shareholders were predominantly Chinese merchants, the Sago flour exporters being the hard core, with The Borneo Company also participating, and acting as managers. The new concern purchased the *Royalist*, and in 1877 ordered and had built in Great Britain the *Rajah Brooke*. The company engaged in trade as far north as Labuan. The Sarawak Gazette of 31 December 1881 reported that "the S.S. *Royalist*, from Singapore to Labuan, put in here (Kuching) on the 18th, on account of the heavy north-east gale. She was very deeply laden, with all the plant and machinery of a large steam sawmill, for the British North Borneo Chartered Company, in Sabah". Captain Curle who had sold *The Far East* was named the Master.

The Company made immediate profits, with shareholders receiving between 40-50 per cent dividends each year. The line had a monopoly of the opio carrying trade, and was quite indifferent to maintaining a regular service. The Sarawak Gazette began in the 1880's to draw repeated attention to the long gaps in arrivals, in one instance twenty six days. Nothing was done however.

In 1885 the Company suffered the complete loss of *Rajah Brooke*. At 10.30 p.m. on 31 July, she ran onto the Acatina Rock, between Singapore (which she had left that morning) and Sarawak. The ship's boats worked all night collecting passengers and provisions onto nearby Victory Island (Pulau Tinggit). On August 2 a lifeboat set sail for Singapore, to be picked up at Horeburgh light thirty six hours later. The passengers left on the island were rescued soon after, by the S.S. *Amos*. The 110 ton *Rajah Brooke* however was a complete loss.

The Company made no effort to replace her, and in January 1887 the Rajah chaired a protest meeting, opposed to the monopoly of the Singapore and Sarawak Steamship Co., and urging some competition. It was not forthcoming. If you can't beat them, join them, is an old business adage. The Government then in 1895 transferred its two small steamers *Aliah* and *Koko* to it, and from that time on the Company had to "turn right" on leaving Kuching, and trade with the Rajah, Labang and Baram River ports. There was "every chance of the Company running the steamers successfully, and to the advantage of the public," said the Government.

In 1919 the Chinese interests, headed by Mr. Ong Tiang Seng, leader of one of the great families of Sarawak, and a Captain Chien after his father, Ong Ewe Hui, bought out The Borneo Company and liquidated the old Company. It was reformed as The Sarawak Steamship Co. Mr. Ong Tiang Seng who had been a director since 1897 (then aged 24) became chairman. He remained associated with the Company until his death in 1939.

A Government officer, Mr. E. Farnell, a nephew of Charles Stuart Farnell, the Irish nationalist, was loaned by Ralph Brooke to manage this re-organized line. He was a great personal friend of the third Ralph Vyner (who had succeeded Charles in 1917) but he ran into trouble with the uncommercial coastal and river trades. He had to borrow £300,000 from the Government to meet the building costs of the *Pyner Brooke* which was launched at Laird in late 1917. As a prototype vessel, she had a royal suite, and accommodation for 50 first class passengers. Captain Beaufield, a most experienced Master, was placed in command.

The Straits Steamship Co., which as I have narrated earlier had covered the Sabah run in 1914, underwent after the war from 1919 onwards to come to some agreement with the new Sarawak Co. It was not at all satisfactory to have a possibly unfriendly or antagonistic rival on its flank, and attempts were made to establish friendly relations with Farnell, but these fell through.

Straits Steamship Co. then decided it would have to acquire control. When the Depression hit Sarawak the shipping line was running at a loss and the State was pressed for money. The Straits Steamship Co. offered to buy from it all the £300,000 worth of debentures it held of the Sarawak S.S. Co., provided they were converted into ordinary shares. The Treasurer of Sarawak agreed. Together with the £300,000 worth of converted debentures, £444,000 managed to buy sufficient of the ordinary shares (72 per cent) to secure control in July 1921. Farnell was spokesman of the take-over until it had been achieved. Others, more alive to developments, bought Sarawak shares at \$25— to sell at £300—. He remained manager until early 1924, when he returned to the Sarawak Government, rather surprisingly as Treasurer, later to become Chief Secretary.

The Sarawak Steamship Co. as a subsidiary of the Straits S.S. Co. had its head office in Kuching, with two branches, at Sibu and Bintulu. Sibu, populated by Foulah Chinese, had become the second largest town in the State, the main port for the mighty Rajang River which stretched for several hundred miles into the interior. Bintulu was of less importance, at the mouth of the Lufang River. In addition to these branch offices, the Company had Agents at nearly all the small river and coastal ports of the 5th Division of Sarawak.

Until the Pacific War, the Company controlled a fleet of six small cargo and passenger vessels. All had been built for this river trade, with shallow drafts to enable them to cross the inevitable bar at the river mouths, short enough to run in the Rajang, and with derricks which in the absence of any port facilities were necessary to handle all the cargo work. These ships were the *Margaret* (245 tons) and *Pekong* (258 tons), two motor vessels, and the *Glebe* (376 tons) *Amb* (334 tons) *Angly* (785 tons) and the *Pyner Brooke* (1679 tons).

The *Pyner Brooke* sailed from Kuching to Singapore every two days, on Thursday and the Monday week, at a time dependent upon the tide. It was necessary to have a high tide at the river mouth, in order to cross the shallow bar. The other five ships ran regular scheduled services mainly in Sarawak waters,

performing a service comparable to that of the Sabah Steamship Co.

The Rajang River was handled by the *Angly* and the *Amb* which between them ran a weekly service. Every Saturday one of them would sail from Singapore, to the Rajang, calling at Serikin and Binning, and reaching Sibu on the Tuesday morning. She would visit then the small settlements up the winding river, calling at Kasepet, Song and Kapit. Sibu would be left on the Saturday, to arrive at Singapore on the Tuesday.

This river basin provided vastland cargoes for the *Angly*. The policy of the Brooke was never to encourage European agricultural endeavours, and there was not one rubber estate; but from 1910 onwards rubber grown by natives and other small holders was playing an ever more important part in the economy of Sarawak. Sago palm was widespread, and the export of its flour from Sibu had been one of the main reasons for the formation of the shipping line. Pepper also was a crop which, although grown exclusively by Chinese, was a Sarawakian export of some antiquity. In addition the produce of the jungle itself, collectively known for several hundred years as "Bratin Produce" also was exported. In return nearly all the essentials of civilization, it was life itself, from rice and clothing to machinery and equipment of all kinds was imported.

The two small motor vessels *Rajang* and *Margaret* were based at Kuching. They ran a regular service along the Rajang weekly to Serikin, Binning and Sibu, and *Margaret* fortnightly to Bintulu, Miri and Sibu.

Miri had the worst bar of the coast, but also the only oil field, and although gradually the Shell Co. who had secured a concession there in 1915 moved their wells further and further from Miri, it had become a town dependent for its existence almost entirely on its imports.

The northern-most area of Sarawak, the 8th Division and the Baram River as well as Brunei in-between, was handled by two small vessels of the Straits S.S. Co. based on Labuan. The *M.V. Baram* and *Sabak* ran a fairly regular service across from the island to Brunei towns, to the Limbang River, Tutoog and Belait. These latter two were open roadsheads which were exposed to the northern monsoons, and could make cargo handling difficult. Along the whole coastline there was not one harbour, in contrast to Sabah, and the river trade called for considerable local knowledge and skill. To fit the ship profitably with the small cargoes from many sources required good Agents, and efficient ship handling. This appears to have been achieved, for shortly before the Pacific War began, the 1940 Straits S.S. Annual Report reads "During the year the *Pyner Brooke* maintained the Singapore-Kuching run, *Angly* has done the Singapore-Kuching-Sibu service and *Kasepet* and *Angly* have maintained the Singapore-Rajang River run. A certain amount of help has been necessary on the Kuching run and all vessels have occasionally shut out. Financial returns have been satisfactory".

Then the war came to South-East Asia.

## O and E

Only for the second time, a Malay officer has been appointed as an Editor of this Gazette. Welcome to Isahak Rajang bin Mohamed Noe, Principal Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Natural Resources. It is hoped that he will lend his wide talents (including an Hon. B.A.) to increasing the Malay and other language content of these columns.

The new delta Cockle-harvest has been very disappointing, owing largely to heavy rains and floods, but also to competitive land — mud — pressure; and to small boats which could probably be corrected by good advice.

\*Sarawak Gazette, February, 1959.

There seems to be no mechanism in government to help people on small, self-help, projects of this sort. Yet they could be invaluable as "cash crops" in the Malay rural economy especially in areas where there really is no more land left to develop upon. Few groups in Malaysia are more neglected in these aspects than the Malays of the coastal plains from Landis to the south west through to Miri 300 miles up the coast. There are all sorts of funds and aids for big plans, massive measures, things that usually involve physical movement, new land, often new homes. A coconut scheme at Seranua is attracting people from elsewhere to that declining economy town — in at least two cases to our knowledge people who are leaving good jobs and land-rights attracted by the money and new ground offered to start with.

This is not to belittle such schemes when well planned — in sociological as well as economic terms. But the need remains to operate at a humbler level, also. For women, there are some home aid services. Even so, the potential for the increasingly self-conscious, critical and restless younger Malay women in the township is very low. Surely they could make valuable pocket money with a little organisation of (for instance) their skills in making mats, bracons, baskets, biscuits, cakes, durian preserves, kebabs; growing water-melons, pineapples, such leaf, etc.

For the men, there is still almost NIL help on fishing, which requires overall organisation under new conditions (there for the Chinese, not Malays or Mirians) from end to end — fishhook, bait and slaker through to nylon net, shore sale, weightscale, river transport, cold storage and equitable marketing (compare Alang Lapi's article in *Gazette* for September, 1964, p. 225). The skills are superb, after that all is malleable. Indeed a major operation all this, worthy of full Federal aid. But Cockles — and a lot of other things — can be probably put on a simple paying basis (at least enough to cover all school fees!) at a local level, for a few cents per person.

Sarawak Huma and Pony Racing is an interesting — and healthy — survival of earlier days. Even when I first knew it (I owned, with Mr. Lawrence Ho, a famous pony called "The Mohr") — famous because it was usually left at the post; every now and then took off like a bomb; and won? the sport was dominated largely by owners who, like the animals they owned, were expatriates. Today, it is overwhelmingly a Sarawak Chinese ran affair. Some \$75,000.00 of the 1964 prize money went to Chinese owners headed by Mr. and Mrs. Wee Hood Teck (\$35,548). Top of the non-Chinese owners list came Mr. J. K. Dumasore (Agriculture Department) and Miss Sook Huiun (Batu Lintang College, arts) with a joint \$2,941.

Not that this is a racial affair, at all. The jockeys have remained firmly Malay, Kanan beating Takson with 20 wins to 19 (plus 9 seconds and 17 thirds to 11 and 10 by Takson) as Jockey of the year. In Sabah, however, were the poorer rate as indigenous, many of the owners and nearly all the jockeys are Kadazans or Dusuns. And where did these people, now to be found in the remotest Kampong behind Kinabalu, come from? They were brought by the secretary of party and restaurant owner Mr. Voon Ah

Loke (\$3,183 in 1964: at the time of course, not his Putangan money-spinner) from China. By the way, Ah Loke tells me he's been trying to sell his stable, can't find a buyer. But there's no payroll tax on four-faces — yet.

One who has held his horses well is Mr. Ong Slay Looing, a leading turf man back into Brooker days, and number 7 owner in 1964. (\$4,677).

It's interesting that if you had bet by jockeys in 1964, and backed every mount of Kanan's, you'd have broken exactly even on the Toté. Done with Takson. Only six jockeys would have won you a profit, from Ali Sontor (\$165 for \$134). Kanan (\$184 for \$108), through to the other four all with only a few rides (newcomers, strict). The highest ratio of all would have been for one of the five Chinese riders, Tan Ean: \$51.40 for \$30.00 bet, 3 to 1. It is a man's game? Well, I do ride that old Mohr.

Two books came to hand within a few days, both of which recall thirty-year old fragments from another world. One is "The Mystery of Moral Rearmament" — a Study of Frank Buchman and his Movement by Tom Deberg (Secton and Warburg \$14). The other "All Things Made New", edited by John Haskins (Aldine and Unwin, \$12). Both authors shared — though not in the Buchman sense — part of my life in the thirties; and both write about religious groups who have penetrated Sarawak and Malaysia generally in recent years. Haskins even played a significant negative part in that of the "Breuer Rebellion" which spread down to Sibuti-Niah.

Tom Deberg, who I first knew as the first and best "Hickey" columnist of the *Daily Express* (London) has been Chairman of the British Labour Party and is an avowed M.P. His elder brother was a pioneer anthropologist of African studies, and taught at Cambridge back when I was an undergraduate there. Deberg has always been a devout Anglican — and a severe critic of M.R.A., also known in the past as the Oxford Group is title they "wote", having no real Oxford status and Buchmanism (F.R. an American Lutheran, born in 1878, died 1961). This book is well documented, yet leaves much still unclear. Why does M.R.A. appeal through to some, and intelligent people, at that. Some years ago there was quite an M.R.A. push in Sarawak. I remember a really moral social film, shown by the late Dan Rauder when he lived in what is now the Sultan of Brunei's house at the bottom of Pig Lane.

In Kuching General Hospital the other day I noticed a wall chart of blood donors. For 1964 Europeans lead the chart, with just under 300 pints. Malays gave 210, Chinese 120. Malays used only 120, as were in credit. But the Chinese used over 400, a heavy debit. Europeans used 130 only — a 4-1 generosity. God forbid socialism ever enters into blood giving, or receiving. Never want let it be decided to give transfusions on a race rate and all that horrid stuff. Still it is worth a mention, for the record, in kindly mood, that if it had not been for expatriates, there would have been a worse than 200 per cent deficit in the blood bank last year. Or, put more briefly, Murder.

T. H.





## ABSTRACT OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1964

| Division        | Station         | Latitude N. | Longitude E. | AIR TEMPERATURE IN DEGREE FAHREHIT |        |        |        |         |         |        |        |        |         | RAINFALL     |            |             |                       |      | Bright Sunshine hours |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|
|                 |                 |             |              | Max Temperature                    |        |        |        |         | Minimum |        |        |        |         | Total inches | Moist days | No. of days | Bright Sunshine hours |      |                       |
|                 |                 |             |              | 4 a.m.                             | 7 p.m. | 9 p.m. | 5 p.m. | Minimum | 4 a.m.  | 7 p.m. | 9 p.m. | 5 p.m. | Minimum |              |            |             |                       |      |                       |
| FIRST DIVISION  | Kuching Airport | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
| SECOND DIVISION | Kuching Airport | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
| THIRD DIVISION  | Kuching Airport | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
| FOURTH DIVISION | Kuching Airport | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
| FIFTH DIVISION  | Kuching Airport | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Belaga          | 4° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |
|                 | Marudi          | 3° 45' N    | 113° 50' E   | 84.0                               | 81.4   | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2    | 80.2    | 79.2   | 80.2   | 79.2   | 80.2    | 79.2         | 80.2       | 79.2        | 80.2                  | 79.2 | 80.2                  |

## Kuching Market Price List

January, 1963

|                                 |     | Average |      | Average                             |           |
|---------------------------------|-----|---------|------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Rice—(per gantang)</b>       |     |         |      | <b>Vegetables—(per kat)—Contd.</b>  |           |
| Local, White, Government Milled | ... | ...     | ...  | Bean Sprouts                        | 30        |
| Local, White, Milled            | ... | ...     | ...  | Cabbage                             | 60        |
| Siam White 100%                 | ... | ...     | 2.25 | Changkat Mian                       | 40        |
| Siam 50%                        | ... | ...     | 1.90 | Cucumber (Tianan)                   | 30        |
| China Rice                      | ... | ...     | 1.60 | Chilies, Red                        | 70        |
| Siam Broken Rice                | ... | ...     | 1.50 | Chilies, Green                      | 60        |
| Rangoon                         | ... | ...     | ...  | Dan Berang                          | 50        |
| <b>Sugar—(per kat)</b>          |     |         |      | Enshi Patch                         | 40        |
| White Sugar                     | ... | ...     | 25   | Enshi Bean                          | 40        |
| Brown Sugar                     | ... | ...     | 31   | Enshi Beans                         | 40        |
| Nipah Sugar                     | ... | ...     | 34   | French Beans                        | 30        |
| <b>Salt—(per kat)</b>           |     |         |      | Garlic, fresh                       | 145       |
| Coarse                          | ... | ...     | 30   | Ginger                              | 25        |
| Fine                            | ... | ...     | 30   | Kuching Panjang                     | 40        |
| Nipah                           | ... | ...     | 1.50 | Kangkong Ayr                        | 30        |
| <b>Flour and Bread</b>          |     |         |      | Kangkong Roots                      | 40        |
| White Flour, per kat            | ... | ...     | 25   | Keladi Natural                      | 15        |
| Bread, per small loaf           | ... | ...     | 25   | Keladi China                        | 30        |
| Bread, per large loaf           | ... | ...     | 45   | Katula                              | 40        |
| <b>Milk—(per tin)</b>           |     |         |      | Kuching                             | 15        |
| (a) Condensed                   | ... | ...     | ...  | Kondor                              | 20        |
| (i) Liberty Brand               | ... | ...     | 45   | Laba                                | 20        |
| (ii) Tea Pot                    | ... | ...     | 45   | Laba Duri                           | 40        |
| (iii) Milk Maid                 | ... | ...     | 50   | Ladies Fingers                      | 50        |
| (b) Local Fresh Milk            | ... | ...     | 30   | Lettuce                             | 30        |
| <b>Eggs—(each)</b>              |     |         |      | Lobak (Chinese Radish)              | 30        |
| Turtle                          | ... | ...     | 30   | Lobak, salad                        | 30        |
| Druck, fresh                    | ... | ...     | 34   | Onions, Bombay                      | 30        |
| Druck, salted                   | ... | ...     | 35   | Onions, small                       | 30        |
| Fowl                            | ... | ...     | 35   | Potatoes, Imported                  | 30        |
| <b>Edible Fish—(per lb.)</b>    |     |         |      | Prick (Bitter Ground)               | 25        |
| Butter                          | ... | ...     | 2.20 | Sauerkraut, Imported                | 30        |
| Coconut Oil                     | ... | ...     | 1.60 | Sauerkraut, Local                   | 30        |
| Vegetable Oil                   | ... | ...     | 75   | Tamarind (Bath Assam)               | 40        |
| Lard, No. 1                     | ... | ...     | 1.50 | Tomatoes                            | 1.00      |
| Lard, No. 2                     | ... | ...     | 80   | Trong (Kintale)                     | 40        |
| Ghee                            | ... | ...     | 2.20 | Sweet, No. 1 (per bottle)           | 1.10      |
| Dripping                        | ... | ...     | 80   | Sweet, No. 2 (per bottle)           | 30        |
| <b>Pork—(per kat)</b>           |     |         |      | Sweet, No. 3 (per bottle)           | 50        |
| Lean, No. 1                     | ... | ...     | 1.40 | <b>Tea—(per lb.)</b>                |           |
| Lean with Fat, No. 2            | ... | ...     | 1.40 | Tea, Ceylon                         | 4.50      |
| Fat                             | ... | ...     | 80   | Tea, Chinese                        | 1.00      |
| Ribs                            | ... | ...     | 1.60 | <b>Coffee—(per kat)</b>             |           |
| <b>Beef—(per kat)</b>           |     |         |      | Raw, Java No. 1, Local              | 1.00      |
| Beef, steak                     | ... | ...     | 3.20 | Raw, No. 2                          | 1.40      |
| Beef, Curry meat                | ... | ...     | 1.80 | Powder (1st quality)                | 1.20      |
| Buffalo, No. 1                  | ... | ...     | 2.20 | <b>Fruits—(each)</b>                |           |
| Buffalo, Curry meat             | ... | ...     | 1.80 | Pineapple (per kat)                 | 15        |
| Mutton, Australian              | ... | ...     | 3.00 | Pineapple (per tin)                 | 15-25     |
| Mutton, Local                   | ... | ...     | 3.00 | Nanas                               | 20-1.00   |
| <b>Poultry—(per kat)</b>        |     |         |      | Brack Netek (per kat)               | 20        |
| Capons                          | ... | ...     | 2.20 | <b>Snaffles</b>                     |           |
| Chinese Cock                    | ... | ...     | 1.80 | Bean curd (per piece)               | 10        |
| Falcons                         | ... | ...     | 2.00 | Bean curd, white (per piece)        | 10        |
| Chinese Hen                     | ... | ...     | 1.60 | Bean curd, yellow (per piece)       | 25        |
| Dryak Fowl                      | ... | ...     | 1.70 | Birds (per kat)                     | 70        |
| Ducks                           | ... | ...     | 1.80 | Charcoal (per piece)                | 8.00      |
| Muscovy                         | ... | ...     | 1.60 | Coconut, fresh (each)               | 25        |
| Cross-Breed                     | ... | ...     | 1.80 | Canned Beef (per tin)               | 1.20      |
| Geese                           | ... | ...     | 1.60 | Dried Prawns (per kat)              | 1.00-1.50 |
| <b>Fish—(per kat)</b>           |     |         |      | Eucosme Oil (per tin)               | 4.00      |
| Fresh Fish, No. 1               | ... | ...     | 1.40 | Eucosme Oil (per bottle)            | 20        |
| Fresh Fish, No. 2               | ... | ...     | 80   | Minches, Local (per box)            | 30        |
| Fresh Fish, No. 3               | ... | ...     | 50   | Minches, Imported (per box)         | 10        |
| Prawns, No. 1                   | ... | ...     | 1.60 | Soap, washing, local (per bar)      | 30        |
| Prawns, No. 2                   | ... | ...     | 80   | Soap, washing, imported (per bar)   | 35        |
| Crab, No. 1                     | ... | ...     | 1.20 | Salmon (per tin)                    | 1.60      |
| Crab, No. 2                     | ... | ...     | 80   | Snaffles (per tin)                  | 70        |
| Salted Fish, No. 1              | ... | ...     | 2.40 | Baku Wood (per gantang)             | 25.00     |
| Salted Fish, No. 2              | ... | ...     | 1.10 | <b>Cigarettes</b>                   |           |
| Salted Fish, No. 3              | ... | ...     | 70   | Flamen (per packet of 10)           | 90        |
| <b>Vegetables—(per kat)</b>     |     |         |      | Rough Rider (per packet of 10)      | 40        |
| Bamboo Shoots, salted           | ... | ...     | 30   | Craven "A"                          | 90        |
| Bamboo (Mikaya)                 | ... | ...     | 10   | White Eagle                         | 45        |
| Banghawang                      | ... | ...     | 20   | Sale Express (per tin)              | 1.85      |
| Bayan                           | ... | ...     | 40   | Capstan (per packet of 10)          | 45        |
|                                 |     |         |      | Sale Express 355 (per packet of 10) | 15        |
|                                 |     |         |      | Lucky Strike (per packet of 20)     | 95        |



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