

Sarawak Gazette

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The Sarawak Gazette.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12th, 1951.

Roads.

The present condition of roads generally in Sarawak and the lack of roads has recently aroused considerable comment. That there should be this sudden interest in roads in a country where the principal means of communications has always been afforded by rivers and the sea, on the face of it, seems surprising. No one who knows Sarawak need be told that to travel from place to place, except for restricted areas around the larger towns, one must travel by water. Coastal craft maintain regular schedules between Kuching and the main coastal ports. In addition, numerous powered small craft carry passengers and cargo up and down various rivers and smaller boats make their way far into the interior. It is the traditional means of communications—not always quick and not always comfortable.

On closer examination, however, it will be seen that the interest now being shown in roads is not a desire to switch from water transport. While there is no extensive road system in the Colony all the

towns have had a local road system for a long time and altogether there are about 257 miles of road in the country. These are mostly around the centres of population and they are not connected with each other by any road system. In fact, most Sarawak roads appear to go nowhere! At present most of the roads are in a pretty poor state. Many during the recent wet period have been impassable and even those which have been kept open are extremely difficult to negotiate. The maintenance of roads in the Colony has always presented a problem due mainly to the heavy and frequent rainfall. Prior to the war it was possible to keep open most of the surfaced and metalled roads by means of traffic control. Since the end of the war the weight and volume of motor traffic has increased considerably and this has added to the problem.

The ability of a road to stand up to traffic is mainly dependent on the moisture content of the subgrade. If it is too wet, which is a condition usually found in Sarawak the road fails. In order to reduce the moisture content and thus maintain the maximum bearing capacity of the subgrade it is essential to provide satisfactory drainage; an impervious waterproof surface and to clear vegetation which shades the carriage way. The major cost of road construction is the provision of the wearing and all weather surface. When most of the existing roads were constructed they were obviously not intended to carry a large volume of traffic. Considerable sums have been spent on the maintenance of the few roads which exist but the maintenance work has not been able to keep up with the steady deterioration caused by heavy traffic. To continue to spend increasing sums on roads, which were never built for heavy traffic, is wasteful. It is essential, therefore, that all roads which are required to carry motor traffic should be provided with properly designed all weather surfaces.

In earlier days when these roads were constructed, the country probably could not afford to build first class roads, nor did the need exist. To convert these roads today into all weather roads will cost a lot of money. The cost of road construction, like everything else, has risen and to construct an all weather road works out now at over a \$100,000 a mile. But the need of Sarawak is not only for better roads to carry the increasing volume of traffic but for more roads. In 1928 construction of a trunk road from Kuching to Simunjung was projected and at the outbreak of war 40 miles had been completed. At the time of the liberation of the country this road was impassable and most of the Public Works Department equipment was missing.

Work on re-establishing this road has been carried out continuously and a survey to continue the road to Sintang (another 90 miles) is now almost complete. To construct this road at present day costs will be over \$12 million; to construct other roads and to improve existing roads will cost several million more. This is a very large road programme for a country with as Sarawak, with limited resources in both money and manpower, to face up to. Obviously it cannot be accomplished by a stroke of the pen. It will require a programme of construction and reconstruction spread over a period of years. Financing this programme will not be, by any means, the greatest difficulty; carrying it out will require engineering resources which we do not now possess and a labour force. While labour prefers the less arduous task of tapping rubber will we be able to maintain a labour force on projects of this nature?

There are also other development projects vital to the country's needs to be carried out. Probably the most important requirement is to become self-sufficient in our staple foodstuffs. Time, money and hard work will be required to accomplish our aim. In the meantime, restriction of traffic on our roads seems inevitable to help to plug the drain down which we might pour vast sums in maintaining the types of roads that exist today. In other countries with more highly developed road systems restriction in weight of transport is still enforced and this is something we are already used to in Sarawak.

We know that a programme for the construction of new roads exists (it appeared as a footnote in a leading article in the *Gazette* of the 7th of October, 1949) but the problem has got beyond the construction of new roads. The existing roads, except for a few, are not at the standard required to bear the increased volume of traffic which has resulted from increased trade. We must now think of the road system as a whole and plan for better roads in addition to a greater mileage of roads. It will be expensive but it will save the country in the course of time large sums of money now required to maintain unsurfaced roads.

Notes and Comments.

Last month we made a very glaring error. We stated that the Coronation in Brunei would be at the end of March. The correct date is the 30th of May.

The Fozzies community in Sibu celebrated its fiftieth anniversary of settlement in Sarawak on the 16th of March. A brief account of the celebrations and a reprint of an account of their arrival in Sarawak appear elsewhere in this issue.

Forged Malayan currency has not in past reached large proportions but now there are reports that forged notes of 500 denomination have been seized in North Borneo. Persons are warned to be on the watch out for these forged notes. The principal differences appear to be that the paper of the forged note is thinner, the green colour is paler, the purple shading in the central design on the front and the colour shading of blue, brick and yellow on the lower half front is not reproduced, and there is no water mark of a tiger's head within the circular design on the reverse.

Kuching had its first visit from jet aircraft on Tuesday, April 3rd. It was a thrilling sight to see these jets sweep over the town at terrific speed.

An exhibition of Chinese characters was held at the Kuching Chinese Chamber of Commerce on the 26th of March. The Artist Mr. Yang Chuan Hsien who is 113 years old is a native of Szechuan Province. His form of art is one that has been practised in China since ancient times.

Three unofficial members of the Council, Negeri are to visit the United Kingdom as guests of His Majesty's Government during July this year. They are the Hon. the Data Bendar, the Hon. Mr. Ong Hap Leong and the Hon. Mr. Edward Jorah. These gentlemen will have an opportunity of meeting certain of His Majesty's Ministers and of seeing the Festival of Britain.

The fourth Flower Show under the organisation of the Kuching Horticultural Improvement Society was held on the 24th and 25th of March. The proceeds went in aid of the Sarawak Branch of the British Red Cross Society. Although weather conditions had not been favourable for some weeks before the show the standard of exhibits was high.

The prize of \$50 for the best design for a War Memorial Clock Tower to the memory of all those in Sarawak who lost their lives during the last war has been won by Mr. E. C. Dying of the Public Works Department. The Clock Tower will be erected at Padungan at the east end of the bazaar opposite the new market. Mr. Dying is to be congratulated on the dignified design submitted.

Fallen Comrade.

If you were to visit the British military cemetery at Batu Gajah in Malaya you would find the military precision of the rows of graves and crosses unified by a single grace that lies at an angle from all the rest. It is a new grave, so far without cross or inscription, but soon there will be an inscription that will explain its strange angle:

JAWESO ASSA JUBAH

8th Trooper

"A" Troop

42 Commando

Royal Marines

Jaweso left his longhouse home on Ulu Ga'at, above Kapit, four months ago to take part in the war against communist bandits in Malaya. He was posted with his younger brother Salang to a crack Commando unit in Perak where he found himself quickly at home, for the Marines had already learned to value them both as jungle experts and friends.

He wore with pride the world-famous green beret of the Commandos with the globe-and-lance badge of the Royal Marines. He and his four fellow troopers shared their junglecraft with their English comrades on jungle patrols and back in camp the Marines shared their evenings and entertainment with their friends from Sarawak. Soon he was using a little tongue-tied English and the Commandos had picked up scraps of Malay and Dux.

On March 13th Jaweng, returning from a jungle patrol, was ambushed by a special constable who mistook him for a bandit and died before his friends could come to his help. Of all the Ithas who have played so valuable a part in the anti-bandit war he is the first who will never return to his Sarawak home.

All that could be claimed for him was a humble burial in some Chinese cemetery. But that was not the choice of 42 Commando. Jaweng was not a Christian, but by the kindness of the Commando and their chaplain, the Rev. Donald Young, he was buried according to the Ithas rite beside the graves of British soldiers and marines in the military cemetery.

In the coffin beside him had been placed a length of new white cloth, cigarettes and matches and several small possessions. His parang lay on his body, the blade pointing towards his feet. On March 13th his coffin, draped in a Union Jack, was carried to the grave that had been dug at an angle from all the other graves, so that he could lie with his head to the south, as Ithas also desire.

Behind the coffin followed sixteen fellow Ithas, a group of Marines from "A" Troop carrying flower wreaths and a party of officers headed by Brigadier C. F. Phillips, M.C., C.M.G., commanding 2 Commando Brigade. A frigatepiper fired a last salute over the grave and Major Wilson, who is in charge of the welfare of Ithas trackers, addressed the Ithas mourners. Jaweng, he said, had suffered a hard fate, dying in a foreign country and not in battle with the enemies he had come to seek. Now he lay in a grave far from home and country. But he did not lie alone. His last resting place was among fallen English soldiers. They, too, had died far from their homes, more than one of them in tragic accidents as Jaweng had. For four years Jaweng had slept in camp with his English comrades and now he would always sleep with them.

That was the funeral of Jaweng anak Papak, the first Ithas tracker to die in Malaya and the first of all his race to be buried with full military honours. His brother and his Ithas friends carry on his map with "A" Troop. When their work is done they will take back to Sarawak with them Jaweng's prized Commando hat and Royal Marine badge, to be handed to his little son.

(Contributed by an English Commando)

S.R.D. in the Padan and Trusan April-September, 1945.

Editorial Note:

The Services Reconnaissance Department, Austral., its equivalent of Force 121, has been the subject of comparatively little local publicity. Misunderstandings have in the past arisen as to its role and scope. Mr. Tom Harrison has therefore provided, at our request, the following notes to introduce the accompanying article by Capt. R. Edmunds, M.C.

Mr. Harrison writes:

The first S.R.D. party in Sarawak was dropped at Baram in March, 1944, as stated by Capt. Edmunds. The primary objective of this party was to assess and prepare the way for future and other operations.

We (S.R.D.) went in primarily to collect intelligence for combined forces. At that time it was not considered likely that guerrilla action against the Japs would be practicable on

any scale in this area; in fact it turned out that the people were so keen and so boldly anti-Jap that in the end this became an S.R.D. major role in Sarawak and Dutch Borneo. North Borneo was an entirely separate show, although (as Capt. Edmunds shows) a small place in the North-west corner was eventually allocated to my own command.

Once my party was established Major G. S. Carter, M.C., and Major W. L. Sooton, M.C., were dropped with six others on to us at Baram. They proceeded westward to the Miri and down into the Baram, where they received from the Kemayan the same enthusiastic welcome we had already experienced from the Kabitah and Murut. Major Sooton then continued over to Belaga in the Rajang, Major Carter remaining on the Baram.

It had originally been intended that Major Carter should command the whole Sarawak operation. But owing to the comparatively rapid success of our work, over into Dutch Borneo and on the Rajang, lines of communication and areas of control very soon became so considerable that we were reformed into three separate commands:

Segment 1, under me, for the Kabitah and Murut country and northern Dutch Borneo.

Segment 2, under Carter, the Baram and Tagoi rivers, Muluah and Mudi areas and the hinterland of Brunei.

Segment 3, under Sooton, the Rajang and southward to relay a guerrilla force of ex-Borneo and Chinese, and eventually if practicable to release the P.O.W.s and important from Kuching.

A fourth party under Major W. Jenkins, M.C., was about to start intensive operations further south of Sooton when the Japs surrendered.

The personnel of Segment 1 were subsequently dropped mostly at Pehutan (see below), and later brought in by Japuts. Segment 2 subsequently dropped at Long Miri as mine as by airplane. Segment 3 were able to cut mainly Gelandan in the Rajang.

Capt. Edmunds in this paper describes what went on in the north-west part of Segment 1. It should be explained, therefore, that Segment 1 was subdivided into two areas, necessitated by the terrain—namely all our area had navigable rivers we had to WALK:

(1) The Division (Sarawak) and upper Padan (North Borneo), under Capt. Edmunds, again dividing into Limbung, Trusan and Padan sub-divisions.

(2) North-east Dutch Borneo, including B.M.G. and airfield at Belaga (later moving east from Baram) and the Kabitah country, directly under me.

(3) Locatable parts of Dutch Borneo and up to Porehangan in North Borneo (where we landed but could not send the Japs up to the Arakutan) under Capt. F. Lamberton.

(4) The coastal plain down to the east coast, the Australian 2nd Corps did not operate off Tarakan Island in this area. Under Capt. W. Blackie, M.C.

(5) The Papang Kayan, under Lt. G. Woolley, M.C.

In all, all officers and N.C.O.s were dropped by land in Segment 1 seen by the end of the war. Capt. Edmunds' account describes rather one of the few instances of and of the three S.R.D. commands. Each had its peculiarities, and all had some brilliant times.

Capt. Edmunds' notes from this account his own valuable notes took in Long Limbung before the second party came in; he prepared the way for Carter and Sooton. Mainly he only mentions a second wave of 20 days to assess the ground and success of the Kemayan and Kabitah south on the Padan and Kemayan. There were jobs he did which contributed much to the whole later progress of S.R.D. in Sarawak and Dutch Borneo. Only after these did he take over the northern area.

Throughout he hardly indicates the physical energy and ability he himself showed. "Tom No" remains a fellow mummy wherever he went in 1944, and he is well on his way to becoming a hero of legend and song for future generations. At Baram he is the most popular character in children's games.

It should also be explained that the information he and his subordinates (notably Lt. Polkerton M.C., W.D. Margrave, M.C., and Sgt. F. Sanderson M.C.) obtained was, from the first, very valuable to the regular forces. In association with the parallel information obtained further south and west by Major Carter, Miscellaneous Intelligence was very fully informed of Japanese movements and dispositions long before the Poreh-July landings in Brunei Bay and on Labuan. Subsequently, we were able to supply day to day information

to 8th Australian Division direct on Labuan as also to 1st Div. on the east coast. Wireless was, of course, the key and Secret 1 had stations at Long Penanah, Pa Matang, Sapong, Pa Brayang and Lawas in Edinevian area, noted in Exhibit H.A. with other stations suitably disposed in other areas of the command, as already indicated.

The denial of food and other supplies to the Japs was a subsidiary job to which Edinevian's contributed a lot. Actual guerrilla fighting was not in order until after the Australian landings; before that we only took aggressive action to prevent information about us reaching the Japs. The degree of success in this was a remarkably reliable test of native integrity. By June when the Australians landed in Brunei Bay, tens of thousands of Borneans knew we were there, north and all. But the Japs though puzzled at what was going on inland, had no idea as organized and capably ganging forces existed. Thus, when D-Day came with Australian landings, Edinevian's people were able to attack and completely surprise the Japs on the coastal plain, as other groups did elsewhere too; and columns of Japs reporting badly may have overhauled in Sapong G.H.Q. got a nasty shock hour after hour, day after day and week after week—some lot of them for their number of jungle solvency.

There is plenty Capt. Edinevian has not said in his account, partly in mystery and partly because in those rather chaotic days he did not always know all that happened even in his own area! But as a brief strategic historical review by a soldier, his document deserves a worthy place in the war history of Sarawak.

I have made, at the author's request, a number of minor corrections mainly spellings of names and of dates to clarify them. Otherwise it stands as his work in its last few days in the Colony—he resigned from the Sarawak Constabulary in 1946.

It was owing to the interest taken by Mr. Major Macdonald, then District Officer, Lunas, that the account was rewritten, and thanks are due to him and to the Resident Mr. P. C. B. Fisher, (who himself played a major part in Secret 8-1) for arranging the matter and pressing on the roads.

T. H.

MR. EDMUND'S REPORT ON EVENTS IN THE TRUSAN AREA.

The first Sarawak S.R.D. party consisting of eight Army personnel under the leadership of Major Harrison, parachuted into Sarawak in the Trusan area in March, 1945. I was Second in Command of that party.

Early after the landing I was sent on a long eighteen day reconnaissance into Dutch Territory. After my return Major H. allotted me the Northern section of Sarawak in which to establish myself. This included the Lunas, Trusan, Rombe and Mempok areas. My organization also penetrated to Brunai Bay and in the latter stages to the Puluh River area in D.N.B. as far as Sapong Estate (then Japanese G.H.Q.).

In April I was instructed to proceed down the Trusan River to the coast in order to gain information of Japanese forces, strength, units, distribution and installations in the whole coastal area. I proceeded from Bawa via Belawit to Buh Keldan in the Ulu Trusan. I had with me Sengah, a soldier from the Cribbes who after being recruited in the Jap Army had escaped and come to join us in the interior. In the party also was a Sarawak Constable named Uap who on hearing of our landing in the country had accompanied some Muruts to Bawa H.Q. After careful interrogation he was allowed to join our forces. Uap at that time was working for Japs in his role as policeman and was actually stationed at Buh Keldan in order to keep a check on people in the Ulu, also to ensure that padi was sent down regularly to Lunas in accordance with the Jap orders. Another of his duties was to keep a check on

rumours and report the presence of any Europeans or anti-Jap agents. Uap did an excellent job with S.R.D. and was one of our staunchest followers. He has been decorated since the war for his efforts. (He has retired now and lives near Lunas).

After leaving Buh Keldan I proceeded as quickly as possible down the Trusan to Pa Tragus. Envy, where the Muruts gave us a wonderful welcome. They at once showed their loyalty, despite threats of execution and torture; and supplied us with food, shelter and clothes.

On arrival there I met S.C. Mui, a Jap employed policeman, who was doing similar work to Uap in the Trusan. Mui later became a very valuable man in our guerrilla forces. At Pa Tragus I also met Sings Pui and many other Muruts whose names I cannot recall. I was advised at this stage not to proceed any nearer to the coast as the people from here down were not to be trusted. I would like to point out here that the success of our whole operation and future usefulness depended on our presence in the country being kept a secret from the Japs. They always employed indigenous agents who travelled to the upriver areas in the guise of traders, etc., and these men were paid and promised large rewards if they could discover any rumours, talks, or information of an anti-Japanese nature.

Pa Tragus was constantly visited by people from the coast; therefore I returned to Pa Brayang where I stayed for three nights. Here I met two of our most faithful followers, Edue and Agong Bawak. Edue informed me that a Japanese employed clerk was due to arrive at Pa Brayang in check on padi supplies as I decided to return to Pa Brayang, a house further up the Trusan. I stayed one night and returned early the following morning to Pa Brayang where I arrested the so-called Jap padi clerk. He turned out to be Andrew Blum who was so pleased to see us that he immediately volunteered to join our forces. Having been employed by the Japs, Andrew was a veritable mine of information and gave me valuable aid in this respect, particularly as he was English speaking and at that time my Malay consisted of only a few words. Andrew has been decorated since for his efforts and is now employed in the Sarawak Customs Dept.

Now that I was in possession of more detailed information of the Jap forces and their movements, I decided to push further down the Trusan to Lunas. My party now consisted of the following: Sengah, Uap, Mui, Andrew, Saran and Parit. The last two mentioned were Muruts who had attached themselves for permanent duty. They later became very useful guerrillas and have both been decorated since.

I spent the night in Saraw Sings Pui and left the following morning to go to Lunas. Saran had been sent on earlier to contact Rigue the Native Officer in Lunas, who I was told could be trusted implicitly. I sent him a letter suggesting that he should meet me on the track into Lunas. He did so, at great risk to himself, and from then on passed us first rate information, especially of Jap movements and wireless messages.

My plans unfortunately have went slightly astray however, when Uap, who was clearing his own gun, put a bullet through his left leg. He was bleeding profusely and in great pain. So, after treating him as best as we could, I instructed that

he must be carried back to Pa Tengau. Unap at this stage was on the "wanted" list of the Japs as it was thought he had deserted from the Police Force. To leave him in the vicinity would have been very dangerous for him and for us, so the vital thing to do was to get him as far up the Trusan as possible.

Mali, Andrew and myself returned to Rumah Naga Ila where we stayed for two nights acting as a rear-guard to the carrying party. The people here were unco-operative and we had no food during our stay. The reason for this attitude, I realised later, was that being near to the coast and that being constantly visited by the Japanese and Police patrols, the people were very afraid that our presence would be discovered. We then returned to Rumah Sapakul and stayed one night there. Acting on instructions a Murut named Mura Lohai brought food from Pa Tengau.

On receiving information that Unap had arrived at Pa Tengau, his condition having improved, I decided to proceed to Lawas again. We left the following morning and stayed the first night at Rumah Korus, Korus being headman of the area. Our party consisted at this stage of Mali, Andrew and myself. Korus was very co-operative, a fine Murut leader.

Early the following morning we left for Teloh Masang and stayed one night there with a Chinese named Ah Chai who fed us exceptionally on fish. That night we did a reconnaissance on Lawas, Lawas Estate and surrounding kampongs, returning to Rumah Korus in the early hours of the morning. By this time I had gained much useful information, so decided to return up-river to Pa Tengau staying one night at Rumah Sapakul. From here I went to Long Semadoh which later was to become our Headquarters in the Trusan. The headman of this area was Pengkulu Ating Mungay who gave us shelter, food and assistance.

Soon after my arrival I received instructions from Major Harrison to proceed to Pa Masang in the Ulu Padas, North Borneo. We slept the first night in Rumah Porer Trusan and the next day crossed the border range to Long Miru where we stayed for a day and a night. Prior to our arrival we had been informed that there were two Japanese in the area but this later proved to be untrue. We returned to Long Semadoh and here got a very pleasant surprise when I met another European who turned out to be Sgt. Hayes. I instructed him to proceed to Pa Loping with Mali and wait there for me.

I stayed a day in Long Semadoh where I was to meet Major Harrison for a conference. However, found it impossible to attend, so I proceeded to Pa Loping with the remainder of my party.

The Trusan now (May) was becoming quite well organised and agents were bringing in plenty of information of the Brunei Bay area. The people of the River were magnificent in their support and loyalty. Their only fear being that some visitor from the coast would give the shore away.

Just after my arrival in Pa Loping I received information that a Japanese Police Patrol was proceeding up to arrest Mali who naturally enough had failed to reply to numerous instructions from Lawas; also no rice had been sent down by the Trusan Muruts for some weeks. There also was the queer question of the padi clerk who had seemingly vanished into thin air. The Japanese authorities in Lawas, I heard later, were getting more and more

worried and were threatening all sorts of reprisals. The Police patrol was the first of these actions—Mali, after his arrest, was to be taken to Lawas and dealt with very severely.

On the morning the patrol arrived I hid beside the track leaving Mali unattended to meet them. He was immediately surrounded and put under arrest. I then stepped out with my party and put the police patrol under arrest, which caused the Muruts great pleasure and amusement. We dismissed them and after ensuring there were no others, sent them back under escort to Belahit, Major Harrison's headquarters in Dutch Borneo.

Three days later we arrested sixteen Japanese coolies who had been sent up in the wake of the police patrol to carry the rice back to Lawas. These prisoners were brought to our Long Semadoh H.Q. and then sent on to Belahit in accordance with instructions. I accompanied them to Bah Kelahan where I stayed three nights in Rumah Pengkulu Patal. Here I met Sgt. Henderson who was on his way up Limbang. The Japanese were afterwards most useful coolies and guards.

I then returned to Long Semadoh with Mali and proceeded on to Pa Hovey where I stayed for two nights. Here I received a letter instructing me to return again to Bah Kelahan where I was to meet Lieut. Pinkerton. We both then returned to Long Semadoh together.

Here we received information that another party of twenty or more coolies had already arrived at Pa Loping to collect rice. These were arrested by Lt. Robertson and Mali.

I then sent Lt. Pinkerton, Unap, who had recovered, and Mali to Pa Tengau to look after the lower Trusan area. We were slowly building up a permanent guerrilla force now; among our staunchest soldiers being the following: Daniel Sigar, Saman, Parie, Arlong and Lohai Durong.

Soon after Robertson's arrival in Pa Tengau and only in the morning, Mura brought news of a strong patrol of Kumpetai and Japanese soldiers coming up river to locate those flagrantly disobeying Japanese orders in not sending rice as instructed. Pinkerton proposed no combat but was loathe to let the job to the Muruts themselves, who liked the Japanese on their own initiative. This was a fine effort and showed the Muruts' ability as a fighting unit. The following took part in the ambush as far as I can remember now—Daniel Sigar, Lohai (Bin), Nohi Ayong and Lomogun. The first news I had of this successful action at Long Semadoh was the arrival late the same evening of the loads in a basket. I sent them on to Major Harrison at Belahit, including some equipment, intelligence maps, documents, etc.

In the wake of this party came another two policemen and another forty coolies who were arrested at Pa Masang by Lt. Pinkerton and Mali. I accompanied the escort party to Bah Kelahan where I met Major Harrison. We had a long conference on the situation generally and I was instructed on future action to be taken in the Trusan, Limbang and Padas areas. Here I met Sgt. Woodhouse, another member of R.R.D. who had recently been parachuted into Belahit and who joined my group.

Major Harrison also informed me that the Australians were about to land at Labuan and Brunei and that our R.R.D. forces could now come out into the open and take up our role as guerrilla troops. Our main job now was to harry the Japan-

one and cut their supply lines at every opportunity in support of the 9th Australian Division. We had in my area at this stage about 300 guerrillas under arms apart from those on the Limbung and were confident of putting up a good show.

I returned to Long Semau H.Q. and passed on the instructions to Lt. Pickerton, who had been preparing for the attack in the Lorus area.

During the course of the next week to ten days our S.R.D. forces captured the following coastal points and killed all Japanese there—Lorus, Treman, Sander, Tapa, Meraok. A number of parties of Japanese moving through the area were also accounted for and eventually we established a semi-military control which carried on until the arrival of the regular forces by sea. We then handed over to them and withdrew inland to deal with Japs. moving through.

A similar organisation and guerrilla force was also operating in the Padas under the local direction of W/O MacPherson. He had proceeded as far as Sigitang on the coast and Tamen to the North. This force was composed mainly of upriver Muruts with Tagals of the area acting as irregulars.

Sgt. Sanderson had already tied up the Limbung and inflicted much damage on Japanese escaping from Brunai who passed through his area.

My duty at this time was maintaining the three Limbung, Treman, Padas rivers and a considerable amount of time was spent on the coast, particularly in North Borneo.

On the 21st June, I was informed at my Long Semau H.Q. that a large number of Japanese between 500 and 600 had escaped from Brunai and were proceeding through my area with the obvious intention of reaching Sapong Estate, the Japanese General's H.Q. for the whole of Borneo. This was a highly organised and well-armed column under the command of a very senior Japanese officer and also was believed to include the Governor of Brunai.

They were attacked and halted all the way through the Treman delta, then turned and made their way to Pa Tengau. Near Pa Tengau Sgt. Nides was ambushed and nearly killed, but escaped to return to his base. The Japanese force took up a strong defensive position in Pa Tengau, lying waste all the surrounding farms and gardens.

I received information that they intended to move via Pa Matang to Long Miao, thence down the Padas to Sapong. A strong party of guerrillas accordingly went to meet them with the intention of buying a series of ambushes as they retired back along the track. The Japanese however fooled this move by cutting their way for five days through mountainous jungle country direct to Brunai, a large banyan tree down the Padas. We made a quick detour to meet them, arriving there on the same day. During the course of the next fortnight the Japanese column was harried all the way to the southern end of Sapong Estate. Our guerrilla forces were now being strengthened by the recruiting of arrested Sarawak policemen who willingly volunteered to fight their former masters. Our force was led by W/O MacPherson, Sgt. Hayes, and myself. Sgt. Brewer moved with Headquarters as our signaler. It was reliably reported that of the original Japanese force which left Brunai only between 200 to 400 reached Sapong. S.R.D. forces on the Treman had accounted for 324 Japanese killed in addition to some prisoners since the start of the offensive operations.

Jim Singh (now R.E.M.) a Sikh from Lorus, proved a magnificent soldier during these operations. Others to distinguish themselves were Bradish, a policeman from Brunai, Uong Sochi a Dusun, and Basir, a Sarawak Dayak Constable. These soldiers also accompanied me later on a reconnaissance of Japanese General Headquarters in Sapong Estate, where I was also joined by Capt. Richter and Cpl. Griffiths.

After returning to Long Semau, I was instructed by wireless to report to Major Harrison at Belaga for another conference. Leaving W/O MacPherson in charge and Sgt. Hayes stationed at Tamen to keep an eye on Japanese movements there, I left the Padas in early August for Belaga. On arrival Major Harrison informed me the Japanese had used Pa Jeneh and we were all to remain in our positions and wait until we received further instructions.

I spent a few days in hospital at Belaga, then proceeded down the Treman en route to Labuan, arriving there on September 2nd. I regret I cannot add any more to events in the Treman and Padas areas, as I returned later to the Limbung river until withdrawn. There was still fighting on the Limbung as the Jap column would not surrender—and I believe did not do so until the end of October when Major Harrison and Major R. Hare, D.S.O., eventually got them at Sub Kuluin.

I regret that this report has been so incomplete and that so many events and names have been unobtainably left out and forgotten. I would like to emphasise however, the marvellous loyalty and assistance given by the Muruts and others. They were magnificent.

E. A. EMMERT.

Extracts from Annual Reports of Administrative Officers for the Year 1950.

FIRST DIVISION.

REUNION.

Mr. F. G. Anderson, Resident.

There are now four districts in the First Division, administered by District Officers, with one of them (the Bulungan sub-division), making a total of five administrative areas, Lunan having been gazetted as a full district on 15th October, 1950.

The present Kuching, Bua and Lunan districts comprise the original State of Sarawak; the present capital only retained the name of Kuching in 1872 having been known originally as Sarawak, a name by which it is still known and referred to by many of the more remote indigenous people.

Lunan, which is the most westerly of the districts of Sarawak, has been administered by an acting District Officer since 15th October, 1950, and is an attractive little station lying beneath Gunung Guba.

The writer was in charge of the Division during the whole of 1950, and also acted as Secretary for Native Affairs up to 1st October, when Mr. D. C. White returned from leave. Although certain other duties, not directly connected with administration, had to be carried out latterly, the greater part of 1951 should see the Resident in a position to travel more frequently and give closer attention to Districts outside Kuching.

The Sadong District (now, I think, officially named the Seruan District, though Sadong is the better and older name) was in the charge of Mr. D. C. Walker until 23rd June, when he was appointed Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor and was relieved by Datu Tanaka Taba, M.B.E., temporarily. Mr. D. F. Mungas took over the District on 4th July. This is the third largest district in the country and, when staff permits, would be better split into the upper and lower Sadong.

The lower Sadong contains some of the best agricultural land in the Division and at the 27th Mile, Kinasangang Road, is the promising Paya Mayek Agricultural Development Scheme for irrigated paddy, etc. The main agricultural station of the Colony is at Tarni, 34th Mile.

The Bau District was in the charge of Mr. A. J. S. Richards during the whole year. Progress continues slowly but in spite of repairs to bridges, the roads went from bad to worse and are now virtually unusable. The cause of this was overwhelming due to the high price of rubber and the exceptionally high rainfall. Money has been voted for improvements in 1933, but better conditions are not the best for such major works, though the essentials must be done, to ensure adequate communication with Kuching.

The Lunas bazaar having been totally destroyed by fire in December, 1930, and all the Government buildings being decrepit beyond repair, a reasonable scheme for rebuilding the entire station and bazaar has been approved for 1934.

The British Aluminium Company continued prospecting all the year and it is too early yet to say whether the bauxite is present in sufficient quantity to be worth the expense of extraction.

The agricultural potential of Lunas is high and when the rebuilding scheme matures, it will rank Lunas one of the most attractive and possibly productive changes in the Colony. Off its shores to the Turtle Islands of Teluk-Talung and Satang, like elsewhere in a turquoise sea, the turtles come up in droves, in the summer, to lay their eggs on the small sandy beaches. The industry which had an excellent, if not a record year in 1930 in the collection and sale of the eggs of the green turtle and which is protected by law, is a Government monopoly, the surplus being administered by the Turtle Trust for the benefit of Mohammedan religious and charitable objects.

The Kuching District was in the charge of Mr. W. G. Mathies until 24th February, when Mr. W. C. R. Wilson took over. Most of the native villages were adequately travelled, thanks partly to the appointment of a cadet, Mr. F. Ratcliffe, who was attached to this office from 1st June to 10th September. He was able to do a certain amount of research into the needs of the Lund Dayaks and we were about to start a Lund Dayak revival campaign when the more immediate needs of an Information Office led to Mr. Ratcliffe's appointment in that capacity.

The problem of squatters is in abeyance while rubber is high priced and considering the acute lack of Lands and Survey Staff, reasonable progress has been made in getting many Chinese squatters off native lands. A stamp would, however, cause a resuscitation of squatting and it is hoped that settlement progress can be maintained, if not accelerated.

A project which occupied much time and the building and occasionally the surmounting of many obstacles, was the approved scheme for games courts, etc., under the allocation from the Canteen Fund, at the Jubilee Hall. In brief, this scheme envisaged an 'open green' playing field to be built on the 17 acre swamp inside the race course, a number of games courts near the Hall and a football field. Work on the latter started early in the year and much remains to be done. The open green playing field project was not provided with sufficient funds and in any event a major scheme of this sort and its maintenance would be far beyond the means of this office, and so a part of the money was devoted to renovating and installing inside basketball courts and sanitary fittings in the Jubilee Hall, which still requires furniture, etc. When this is done, it will provide the local youth, who have formed a Sub-Committee under the Divisional Education Officer, with a first class club for dances, concerts, etc., and should be a revenue-producing unit of some value. It is also intended to use the Hall as an additional granary on rare days when the Turf Club are ready for this. No entrance fees would be charged, but revenue would accrue from a share in appropriately and probably tote returns. A soft drinks bar would also make money. A car park and access road have been completed except for gravel dressing, and efforts will be made to obtain tenders for the courts, although the present is hardly the time to expect reasonable figures to be quoted.

On 25th September, His Excellency the Governor officially opened the new Kuching Airfield, having landed in a special Malayan Airways Dakota from the old strip. The Royal Air Force was present with a number of Brigades and Tempests, the latter doing some very spectacular aerobatics which some, who claimed several ancient hostesses who had accepted invitations to go for "joy rides" in a more solemn Dakota later in the day. There is little doubt that this very fine airfield is one of the most valuable assets this country possesses.

Reviewing this year of 1930, at the turn of the half century, it is true to say that it has been one of the most critical and difficult years in the history of Sarawak. In spite of disturbances, undue haste and impatience in the outside world around us, Sarawak has remained comparatively happy, peaceful and prosperous. Much vital ground work has been laid down, in spite of shortage of staff. Reason prices of raw products have given the chance of relief to all save the hard-working Government servant. These things will pass, in a phase in history, and let us hope that the next one will see an increase in the well-being and happiness of the Civil Servants who have worked so well in trying conditions. It is to be hoped that their loyalty and steadfastness will soon give them their just reward.

KUCHING DISTRICT.

(Mr. W. C. R. Wilson, District Officer).

There was a very noticeable decline in serious crime during the year, due in part to an improvement in Police work and knowledge—as postwar criminal records got built up—and in part to the general prosperity of the District.

The travelling dispensaries continued their good work and the people at whose villages the dispen-

series called undoubtedly show improved health. This is most apparent in the Land Dayak kampongs along the Simanggang Road where the yaws, sores and eye afflictions, so common in inaccessible long-houses, largely disappeared.

The cost of medical treatment was relatively high. Travelling Dispensary No. 2 cost about two hundred and fifty dollars a week to keep afloat in December and averaged but three hundred patients. When drugs and headquarter staff are also taken into consideration water-borne rural medicine sometimes cost a dollar a medicine, a fact which the farmers who benefited certainly did not appreciate.

The health of the Dayaks of the Left Hand Branch continued to be very bad. Although an energetic vaccination campaign brought Hospital Assistants to nearly every house they could do little permanent good as the basic troubles are malnutrition, illth, insufficient changes of clothing and the high cost of attending dispensaries for prolonged treatment.

Many thousands of people were vaccinated during the year as a precaution against the entry of small-pox from Indonesia.

The Seluyan Dayaks were on the whole prosperous, as many of them have comfortable buildings of either concrete or rubber. Only the little village of Sungai Tanja at Muna Tahan made a startling advance. The parents of its 35 people raised \$2,400 for a new school and later a promising co-operative society was organised.

The Dayaks of the Left Hand Branch continued to struggle for existence under very difficult natural conditions. Although the area is wooded and the soil poor some villages along the banks of the river held their own. Bana, Bunggah Bala and Senak Naga, which support schools and village shops, appeared cheerful and prosperous. Others, especially Simara and Hantia, were reduced to misery by hunger, poor soil and the difficulties of marketing what little they produced. If the Permisson Road could be carried on the banks of the Left Hand Branch many villages would cease to be so isolated.

The Land Dayaks of the Simanggang Road progressed well. Although each community appeared to be so rent with squabbles that a tour of the area inclined the traveller to write the whole race off as hopelessly divided, yet in fact much was accomplished last year. Quap village and the 2 mile approach path was well kept and Sentah maintained an elaborate path and step-chess from the ground to their 800 feet high houses on Gunung Sentah, both requiring hard work. A street was made in the transfer of squatters from Dayak land onto new plots across the road at Batu Glong; the Medical Department broke the back of ill health in this area; the Agricultural Department completed a land use survey of the Sentah area and took off the Land Dayak headmen round Tera and Tera Mengak; and the Roman Catholic and Anglican Mission kept going schools at Quap, Sirak, Tiperak, Sentah, Doran, Da'aba, Periman and Sarig, some of them exceptionally good ones. These were circulated in 1941 a minute in which a writer asserted that "Roads mean much more to a Chinese than a Dayak". I wonder?

The Japet Land Dayaks of the Ulu Landa impressed the Batu Tunka Taku with the size of

their pork stocks and their desire to go in for cattle keeping.

The Selako Dayaks of Simatan area were reported by Mr. Allan of British Aluminium Company, the largest employers of Selako labour in the Colony, to have had a good year. Their pork crop was adequate, they had the benefit of some tree crops and considerable employment with the Company at good wages.

The 1940 padi crop was fairly good in swamp-areas although heavy rain in March did some damage. The hill padi harvest was poor. Planting for 1941 was very late and, because of the rubber boom, on a smaller scale than the previous year. Weather conditions were very favourable right up to the end of the year.

Smallholders, attracted by high prices, worked their rubber gardens to a capacity limited only by a shortage of labour.

Although the Land and Survey Department were sorely short of staff, a land settlement scheme, whereby 175 Chinese squatters in the interior area of Kampong Uapok and Ma'ang Glat Mile, Simanggang Road were resettled on lots at Batu Glong, was completed in June. Some progress was also made in Settlement at Senak but the decline in demand for agricultural land for foodcrops caused the assembly of former years, when the Malay and Dayak holders of customary rights based on such Simanggang land were resettled on lots at Batu Kawa that some Malays were obliged to work as labourers on their "tenants" land for lack of any of their own.

A satisfactory travelling programme was carried out. After October, office work, in particular the Registration of Births and Deaths and the demand for guns and licenses of all kinds engendered by the flow of rubber boom money, became very tedious and substantially interfered with travelling.

All Land Dayak areas were toured thoroughly and the Malay coastal linkups and Samarahan frequently, but Senak was only visited "second hand" by Native Officers conducting a census for the land settlement officer. Rural Batu Kawa also got scanty attention. Landa was regularly visited but too much time was wasted going to and from there.

Landa Local Authority ended 1940 with a surplus of \$1,878.12. Kelong anak Jungat replaced his father, who died on 26th September, 1939, on the Local Authority. The Authority could not be said to have flourished much; it spent \$7,126.66 during the year and had but one primary school to show for all this expenditure.

Contact with rural Chinese was maintained largely through the Kapitan China of rural business and school committees. The absence of any rural Chinese social centres—as opposed to shopping centres—made contact with the Chinese farmers except through the medium of shopkeepers difficult. Lack of confidence for the headmen's posts continued to give anxiety. For the second year in succession no Kapitan China could be elected at Siratan Glat Mile in spite of much hard work by the Staff of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, who made a house to house tour of the farmers in the area. The Kapitan China Beking resigned in October.

1929 was a swing back to the pre-war pattern of farming export crops in preference to those for local consumption. The high prices prevailing for rubber and pepper forced labour away from the coastal areas, where an intensive market gardening industry had grown up since the war, back to the rubber plantations and once abandoned pepper land.

The amount of money in circulation greatly increased and stimulated a building boom. The bazaar at Belaga and Tunkirai were completely rebuilt. New blocks of shop-houses began to go up in Sandak and the 10th Mile bazaar. Many new private houses were built along the Saranggong Road and at Batu Kawa mainly in rubber gardens. Land prices in Kuching increased considerably as wealthy smallholders bought up land to add away the profits from their gardens. Very little excess money found its way into the Post Office Savings Bank.

RUBBER DISTRICT.

(Mr. A. J. N. Richards, District Officer).

The renewed interest in rubber and pepper has made it hard to find labour for mines. In the District as a whole, the better conditions reported in 1929 have been further improved so that the community may now be said to prosper.

Court work was heaviest during March and October but the total number of cases heard in the year was not great.

Illegal immigration, knowing of which strictly, overlooking of laws and non-payment of tax were the subjects of the majority of cases.

There were some cases of unauthorized gardening heard after Chinese New Year, and about the same time several cases where Dayaks were found to possess unlicensed shotguns. These weapons were made of pipe and fitted with wire and elastic for trigger mechanism.

Inquiries were held into five cases of sudden death: one by drowning, two by hanging and two by shooting. There were no persons identified for trial.

No improvement is noticeable in the behaviour of litigants in Civil cases where much time is still taken in the process of writing at the facts in issue or the exact sum of money owing.

Switchboards were required in May but without making any lasting improvement to telephone communication with Kuching. The main line remains completely overhead since the fault lies mainly in a general weakness of signal and this is more interesting than a dead silence. There have been no cases of wire-stealing.

There were collections of birds nests only in February. The prices realized at auction were no better than usual and the same buyers were in attendance. It was decided to withhold permission for collecting for at least a year in order to discover whether any increase in the number of birds and nests would result. There has been no trouble over this decision because the Dayaks concerned have been better off tapping rubber.

Gumex has been collected and sold but tests show that the local variety is much inferior to the Niah gum. It was found possible to sell it at \$3.75 per

picul. Some has been obtained for pepper plantations locally and sold to them direct by the Dayaks for \$4.50.

Travellers to Sandak, as West Borneo is called, were numerous throughout the year and details of them were registered whether they carried goods or not. These travelling traders were instrumental in securing nearly 1½ million dollars worth of trade for Baa.

The imported goods which provide the bulk of the duty are strappings. With other goods, they pass through Basing and Sandak to Boring and the journey is divided into stages. Each stage is an hour or two long and ten cents is paid to each carrier for each stage.

The price of pepper was maintained and the price of rubber rose steadily until October when a temporary fall took place. With rubber fetching at least \$1.50 a tank, many labourers have returned to rubber garden work. Quit rent payments and the maintenance of gardens have much improved but labour has disappeared. Duban Rubber Estates, the mines and the F.W.D. road gang are all very short of men and Kuching Mine suspended work altogether in August.

The most obvious local effect of the boom in rubber has been the sudden signing of contracts in Baa for building 20 Class "B" shop-houses for \$2,250 each. Four Class "C" shops have been built at Kuching and others are to be erected at Kili and Taiton.

At the same time, prices of other commodities have also risen steadily so that the poorer people and those earning salaries find it as hard as ever to live comfortably.

Radi crops were damaged by ants at Singgil and by bark and other pests near the U.S.E. border. Seremba Dayaks had a poor harvest since they have to use too short a labour period and did not secure good horses. There has, however, been no starvation, for some villages had a good harvest and money has been plentiful lately for buying food.

Pepper continues to be planted in small patches among old rubber. The old "burned earth" method is used sometimes in spite of propaganda against it, but some planters make full use of guano and peat as refuse. As long as planting is not wholesale and the patches are surrounded by alienated and cultivated land there will be a limit set to the amount of burned earth that can be made.

Very few applications have been made for pepper land. So much of the land available has been spoiled by pepper in the past or mining that none will undertake the labour and expense or reclamation. Other areas are jealously guarded by the Dayaks.

Chinese Schools have continued without development. The price for rubber has enabled them to improve their finances, collect fees and pay teachers in full. There have been fewer applications for schools than usual and proposals are being made to improve buildings during 1931. One of the greatest shortcomings of the Chinese Schools is their apparent reluctance to keep any one teacher for more than six months.

The Mission has had the services of two Bata Lintang teachers. One has been stationed at Sukih (Singki) and has attracted pupils in such numbers that two teachers are required. The other has been stationed in Iba which is slowly developing as a centre school for the District. The extension to the Sanitary building was completed and the Dayaks have since not had to live in the Local Authority building. A dozen boys were housed there at one time.

Public health shows slight improvement as a result of the Director's visit to outlying hamlets. Attendance at these visits have fallen sharply. A better standard of living has assisted, of course, although increased wealth appears to be spent mostly on luxuries. Patients are too prone to cease treatment after an initial improvement in condition, sustained treatment and final cure is virtually impossible to effect.

Pulmonary infections appear to be widespread, particularly among the Singki Dayaks. This situation may be caused by improvements in house construction without a decrease in overcrowding. The District Advisory Council decided that tuberculosis should receive prior attention in any Social Welfare Scheme that may be applied to the District.

A considerable number of people have been vaccinated against smallpox as a result of the infection of Pontianak. Dayaks between Iba and the border have all been visited and vaccinated, as well as Ibanas. No cases of smallpox or any other epidemic disease have been reported. Vaccination of travellers to and from "Sarawak" continues.

The mines show little change. James closed down and Kwang Lee began operations. Kwang stopped for lack of labor in August. Iba Hin has increased output slightly since starting to the concrete rule. Selamas increased output to 15 tonnes monthly until June, when a fall of rock closed the main working. This fall took place at night and there were no casualties.

Two Chai Khei has continued driving a vessel without finding mercury ore in payable quantities.

At the conclusion of the bridging contract in March, the road from Paka to Sinsuan was in a bad state as was the Dahan Road. These were improved in the so called "dry" months but could only be made up with rough stone.

The road gang was depleted by the middle of the year so that less clearing and ditching could be done. Vehicles are more numerous and overloading is common on country stretches. A largeorry, a Bedford 8-ton tip truck, was on loan from Kuching during the last two months of the year but by that time had to work on the Iba road.

The main pipe line is beyond a jacking water. In spite of extensive repairs in 1929, the pipe leaked so badly that no water ran through to the house at all for 10 days in August. The heavy rain later in the year was insufficient to raise the level of water in the lake more than a foot or two.

The Local Authority had been in existence for two years on 3rd January. On the 8th the New Office was opened with customary celebration. This building is to be extended and improved in 1931.

The Authority decided not to impose a School rate of \$1 a year on taxpayers, but to retain the 10 cents rate in face of violent opposition from villagers that did not yet possess schools. It was not until the end of the year that the Authority decided to vary the tax and collect \$1 from taxpayers that had schools but 25 cents from those that had not.

SARAWAK DISTRICT.

(Mr. D. F. A. E. D. Morgan, District Officer).

Throughout the year it has become increasingly apparent that the Land Dayaks are beginning to show signs of self assertion. The change is subtle and difficult to define but is manifest in several ways. There is undoubtedly inquisitiveness about matters not directly concerned with themselves; they enter more sympathetically into conversation rather than sit withdrawn and surly. This self assertion applies particularly, but not exclusively, to the younger generation who no longer, as in the past, accept as almost the directions of their elders; this is proved by the increasing number of complaints from these elders that their young men will no longer obey them. This is not necessarily an unhealthy sign as the vast majority of the old men are extremely conservative and hidebound and generally opposed to any form of change.

The two most important factors which have contributed to this change and are the main vehicles of its expression are the Christian Mission and the expanding Educational programme; added to this is the period of remarkable financial prosperity and trade increase which has increased considerably the value of the Land Dayak rubber holdings and padi crops.

The third of the main reasons of the new awareness of the Land Dayaks, that of increased prosperity, needs little enlargement. It is obvious that a great deal of the profit which should accrue to them as primary producers is skimmed off by the middlemen. It is, however, noteworthy that there is little sign of a growing sense by the Dayaks which may confirm the writer's theory that they are by nature not so much thrifty as hoarders. The rash of petrol lamps, suit cases, goggles, fancy headwear, etc., which suddenly appears in an Iba house consequent upon a sudden increase in income, is nowhere apparent, though one Kwang Kaya and one Pemasaka was recently seen in Kuching in a magnificent, if gaudy, uniform of original rubber scheme. There is no doubt that the Land Dayaks have made money, and there is little sign of its expenditure, at least locally. The obvious deduction from these two facts is that they must have saved it. It may be conjectured, therefore, that the possession of this money would give them a feeling of security and self confidence.

From the above it should not be presumed that there is anything like a revolution in Land Dayak thought and life. It does seem though to the writer that there are definite manifestations of the beginnings of a more progressive outlook towards life and this is in itself a healthy sign and is, in fact, long overdue. The difficulty arises, however, in trying to predict in which direction it will turn and in trying to ensure that unscrupulous persons do not use this movement for self aggrandisement or for unconstitutional purposes. To make this a successful movement close observation and supervision and good advice and assistance are a first necessity, the key to which are increase in staff and the maximum amount of travelling by the District

(other in District Office at Sintang) would ensure both as the four or five days a month spent by the District Officer, Serian, in that district, in addition to normal travelling would provide the necessary time.)

There has been little change in the life of the Malay population since last year.

The Malays have as usual concentrated on padi farming with an occasional coconut plantation. They also work as paddlers and polers on boats transporting goods along the rivers.

A number earn their living as fishermen and have no difficulty in disposing of their catch in Sintang and other local villages.

Teams of Malay timber workers have been active particularly in the six Gelong and Sintang. There is a heavy demand for this commodity and in some instances it has been in short supply resulting in a rise in price.

The Selayans, Balans and Melakins are all subdivisions of the Iban (Siu-Dayak) race and habitually speak the Iban language with some variations. These races are, for the most part, entirely in the Sintang District and are the frontier of Iban penetration from the Second Division. Along this frontier lies, in the upper reaches of the Sadong, the Lund Dayaks, and in the lower reaches the Malaps and Engas.

These Iban peoples have recently begun to experiment with pepper plantations and, with help and guidance from the Agricultural Department, are slowly improving their crops.

The year has been one of very much increased trade in which the Chinese have played the primary role. Nearly all members of this community have benefited in one way or another from this boom and, as a whole, have no cause for and show little signs of discontent; they have, indeed, been kept extremely busy making money.

Large numbers of Chinese who used to make their living from padi farming and market gardening have turned to pepper planting; but, in spite of strong financial interests from Kuching, it is thought that the majority of planters are owners as well.

A shortage of fresh vegetables was felt in past year and it is becoming increasingly difficult for the general public to obtain these commodities, quite a large part of which comes at present from Dayak gardens.

However, it is hoped, and the writer has been assured on several occasions, that the pepper planters and rubber garden owners also, have to some extent realised the necessity for planting food crops in addition to cash crops, so that the shift from padi farming to pepper planting may not have disturbed the production of foodstuffs too seriously.

The tempo of life generally throughout the District has gathered speed as the year progressed until at its close all races are found busier probably than they have ever been since the close of the war. Consequently, there have been few high-lights or depressions. The overall picture is one of steady improvement and also of steadily rising prices. Rice prices has risen from 80 cents per gantang to

\$2.00, local milled rice from 90 cents per gantang to about \$2.20; most other foodstuffs have risen in proportion. The rise in prices is of course offset by the high prices obtained for rubber and pepper, though this latter is of little consolation to the 'white collar' worker whose salary does not adjust itself to fluctuating prices as rapidly as that of the direct participants in trade.

Starting from the middle of the year a widespread and, at times, acute shortage of labour of nearly all kinds was felt. Consequently, the wages of all classes of labour rose considerably as there was much competition to obtain their services. It is very likely, therefore, that the average earnings of this class have kept quite appreciably in front of the cost of living so that it may be presumed that their standard of living has improved. This, of course, applies particularly to Chinese and Malays though some Dayaks have been employed on carrying goods across the Indonesian border into Sarawak at comparable wages.

There is no doubt that large amounts of capital in the form of cash assets are accumulated in the hands of the most important traders, the Chinese. There seems to be very little desire on their part, apart from building an occasional new shophouse or opening a padi mill, to invest this capital in any form of development or expansion. It is quite probable that the idea behind this is the fear of a period of depression when the cash put by 'for a rainy day' will come in handy. However, if the period of boom continues to last it is likely that these funds will be to some extent alloyed and the capital will begin to emerge; when this stage is reached or before, it would be as well if some form of suggestion or opportunities for the local employment of this capital, possibly via the Chinese Chamber of Commerce or the Co-operative Department, were made.

The season, which began with ideal weather conditions and tapered well for a bumper padi harvest, did not hold and unreasonable weather at the end of the year retarded the growth of the crops by heavy and prolonged rain. In spite of this the harvest might still have been better than usual as there was little blight or insect or bird pests. However, as the padi came to fruition with heavy loads and full ears, vast numbers of rats in what amounted almost to a plague descended on the fields and devastated many acres of good padi. Some Dayak domes and Malay and Chinese houses were left with hardly as much as a hat. The lower reaches of the Sadong felt the full brunt of this plague though it was widespread throughout the District. In addition, the hill padi in the upper reaches has not come up to expectations so that once again, as so often before, a year that began with very bright agricultural prospects ended on a gloomy note.

Under a programme of steady expansion, education is gaining ground, particularly amongst the Dayaks of all races who need it so badly.

Both the local authority and the Mission opened several new schools during the year. All but one of these has proved in varying degrees successful and, apart from the usual growing pains, are making steady progress.

There is no doubt of the efficiency of the trained teachers from Batu Lintang as compared with the old untrained teachers. An example of this is the school at Simunjan where a class of ninety children is handled by one of these teachers in a most efficient manner.

Rebuildings and additions to the station at Telukang were well under way by the close of the year. They consist of a Native Officer's quarters, a Junior Service quarters, an agricultural assistant's quarters and the complete rebuilding of the Government Office which was very old, on a new and much improved plan. These, together with the dispensary and hospital assistants quarters erected recently, have improved the station and the facilities open to the public tremendously.

There were no serious outbreaks of contagious diseases during the year. Public health on the whole, apart from malnutrition through unbalanced diet and other causes and the evils resulting therefrom, has on the whole been very good.

The travelling dispensary at Simunjan and the static dispensary at Serian have done excellent work and are very much appreciated by the people. In addition to these two new services, an ambulance visits Serian and various places along the Simunjan-Bong Road once a week. This service has probably been instrumental in saving the lives of several seriously ill patients. A travelling dispensary also visits banners along the road and performs invaluable service.

SECOND DIVISION.

(Mr. W. F. N. L. Dumas, Resident).

Towards the end of the year a new building at the Simunjan hospital was completed. This contains the Dispensary, Office, and Store; a laundry was also built and arrangements made for a piped water supply by pump from a nearby well. It is hoped this will be completed early in 1951. These new Travelling Dispensaries started to operate early in this year. These are based at Simunjan, Debak and Seratok and are proving most useful.

Meetings of District and Divisional Advisory Councils took place regularly.

Chinese Advisory Boards continued to function at Simunjan, Belong, and Seratok, and one was started at Engkilil after an Officer in Charge had been appointed to the Lubok Antu District. Malay Advisory Boards also continued to function at Simunjan and Belong.

All Local Authorities concentrated most of their attention to Primary Education. A regrettable slackening of interest was noticed in all Authorities especially in the Bating Laper, which is the wealthiest and best of all in the Serian which is the least well off. This is probably due to the fact the power Authority is stimulated by its attempts to try to find other sources of revenue.

It is hoped, however, that when the proposed new system of running Local Authorities is finally decided and brought into force, that they will all take on a new lease of life.

The Bating Laper Local Authority is in even a surer financial position than last year, the Reserve Fund now being \$38,511. This Authority has agreed to collect land tax instead of door tax in 1951, but it is not certain what the result will be when tax is started to be collected as it is thought that some of the Penghulus have not explained the matter properly to their people.

Although the Serian Local Authority is the most go ahead in the Division, the Reserve Fund only stands at \$5,378, the reason for this is that the population is not large, and the commitments are greater than those of the other Local Authorities.

A Co-operative farming society has been formed at Seran of a number of families from houses upriver in the Paka. These people had not sufficient hill padi land for their requirements, so they decided to form swamp land further down river. For the farming season members of the families live as a group of temporary haphouses on the farm. All these people are owners of a considerable acreage of paddy near their permanent houses upriver. It is hoped they will be encouraged by a really good swamp paddy crop for the 1950/1951 harvest.

Pepper planting has been on the increase especially in the vicinities of Engkilil and in the Tin Lingga. Much of this planting has been done without application for the land.

About one third to one half of the gardens in the Division are situated near Engkilil and Lubok Antu. The Lingga Paka area is the next with over 100,000 vines. Planting is also taking place in the Serang, Lemauk, Belong, Debak and Telan areas. Many Dayaks, encouraged by the extremely high price, are planting as well as the Chinese.

There have been as many as 45 haps factories running in the Division, but it is now estimated that about 30 only are working, and some of them only part time. This has been caused by the shortage of logs and lack of labour owing to the high price of rubber. Most of the haps is worked in the lower reaches of the Serian and Kalaka rivers.

There was at the end of the year a total of 56 schools operating in the Division—of these 11 were Government Malay schools, including one girl's school, 4 were Local Authority Malay, and 4 private Malay, 25 were Local Authority Dayak and 1 private Dayak schools, 16 were Chinese schools and 5 were S.P.O. Mission schools which, although open to all races, cater almost entirely for Dayaks. The Local Authorities pay grants in aid to 3 of the S.P.O. Schools.

The formation of the new Co-operative Societies in the Serian and Kalaka Districts has progressed steadily. At the end of 1949 six societies had been registered and were functioning; by the end of 1950, there were 23 of these societies, 25 Dayak and 2 Malay. It is expected that other Malay societies will be formed in 1951.

The new banner at Lubok Antu was completed during the year, but the Debak banner was not completed, and work still remains to be done on the new part of Sebatyan banner. At Maludom in spite of an extension of time to build the new banner, no work had been done by the end of the year.

Trade prospered, the price of rubber being very high, rising with fluctuations to its highest peak in November.

Two new sawmills were started during the year, one at Lingga and one at Sabagan.

Trade with Western Borneo, mostly through Lohak Anta, was on the increase.

Branches of the Red Cross were started at Betong and Sempanggong.

National Registration started during the year, but was later set back by a drastic reduction in staff, but at the end of the year a full staff was again working. It is hoped that work will be completed by the end of March, 1935.

SEMPANGGONG DISTRICT.

(Mr. D. L. Brown, District Officer).

For the last three quarters of the year Court work was light compared with the last quarter. This was due to the fact that M.O. Along Mustapha, a Second Class Magistrate, was transferred from the District and this then meant that all District Court cases had to be dealt with by the District Officer. This, together with the arrival of an O.S.S., has increased court work very considerably.

No cases of serious crime were reported in the District during the year.

The "Rau Trading Company", which had voluntarily wound up its affairs, apparently with the object of escaping its many debts, was ordered for those debts and had to recognise itself to avoid civil action being taken against it. The Company has now, to all intents and purposes, ceased activity but several debts still remain outstanding. It is a great pity that this Company failed as it is now used as a stark argument against any further commercial activity on the part of the Dayaks. However, it is hoped that when the co-operating movement is started in the District the Dayaks, or a certain section of them at any rate, will regain confidence.

Much initiative has been shown by a small portion of the Dayak community in the matter of rice mills and other ventures, but the initiative in these cases has been accelerated by the wealth of the people concerned. It is doubtful if such ventures as have already been started would lead themselves to a change over to co-operatives. Arrangements are now in progress for the installation of an electricity plant in a longhouse in the Siring. Much difficulty is experienced in helping these people with their arrangements. Where arrangements concern a Co-operative Society, they can be put into effect with the minimum of trouble; arrangements are made on the spot in Kuching by the Department and the stores delivered to the people with despatch; advice is sought on technical details on the spot by the Department in Kuching and is the best that is obtainable. Whereas if the people concerned do not happen to be members of a co-operative then they turn to the administration for help and the administration has its hands tied, in so much as all advice has to be sought by letter from business firms and the whole scheme may well be a shot in the dark.

Great numbers of Dayaks left the District during the year, being recruited as trackers in Malaya and as labourers for the Oil Company. The recruitment for the latter was successfully carried out by a Company representative, and although it has meant increased work for the R. and D.O. staff such work has been thereby kept to minimum. R. and D.O. is still responsible for the recruitment of Trackers and this puts a considerable extra strain on the staff.

The Dayak labourers for the Oil Company have, in a great many cases, left before the expiration of their expected period of service. It is evident that these Dayaks do not like the type of work on which they are engaged. There are also other reasons given by the Dayaks but it is impossible to assess these reasons without an on-the-spot investigation with all the people concerned.

The Chinese population has been prosperous and contented throughout the year. The pepper gardeners at Engkilil have worked hard and well, shortly, be realising the fruits of their work. Heavy rain at the end of the year destroyed many pepper vines which have been planted on the river banks but the destruction caused no particular worry to the planters. It is thought that a large pepper crop will be harvested towards the end of 1935.

Good progress has been made with the re-building of the Sabagan and Melohuan houses. The Lohak Anta house was completed during the year and is an immense improvement on the old house. One or two of the Lohak Anta Chinese are, perhaps, the richest people in the Division. Arrangements are being made for the small Chinese community at Lohak Anta to start its own Chinese school. Very few of the Chinese community there can speak any Chinese dialect and practically none can write it. Up to the present, the Chinese community there has considered itself to be Dayak to all intents and purposes and the new school venture is pending. The Chinese School at Engkilil is now in the process of being rebuilt.

The high price of rubber during the year has prohibited work or work for all and the general paucity and contentment throughout the District is probably due to this alone.

As a result of the high price of rubber, prices of most commodities have risen very sharply. Shipping charges for freight carried from Kuching have risen above all proportions. As an indication, it is reported that the freight on a bottle of beer is 15 cents while that for one shot-gun is 83.

Dayaks have shown increasing interest in opening up small village shops and several of them have already done so. It is too early to say whether or not they will be successful. It is thought that some of these shops may accept co-operative principles.

The scarcity of sugar towards the end of the year caused the public much inconvenience. To remove this distribution a rationing system was introduced and although this interfered to a certain extent with normal trade practices, it had the desired effect. Unfortunately, the people most affected by such scarcity of essential commodities live near to the

centres of population and find themselves financially indebted to the shop-keepers and as a result of this they are reluctant to inform the authorities whenever they have been overcharged. It appears that profiteering and overcharging go hand in hand with the unscrupulously enterprising trader.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for the Administration to supervise schools and education effectively.

The Chinese schools appear to run smoothly and efficiently.

The Malay schools appear to run to accordance with the amount of interest taken in them by the Local Malay population.

The Dayak (Local Authority) Schools appear to run fairly satisfactorily, but the lack of trained teachers has been acutely felt. The one school that has been reported on favourably is the one at Panto and the teacher in charge of this school is a recent Batu Lintang graduate. The Local Authority has been insistent in its attitude that all teaching must be in the English language—the reason for this attitude seems to be that the Local Authority and also many of its teachers, consider that the aim of their educational policy is to put as many Dayaks as possible into collars and ties and sit them down at a Government desk. This unfortunate attitude is understandable when it is taken into consideration that most of the "educated" Dayaks now working with the Government and in other jobs, are not from this District and, naturally enough, the Local Dayaks infer from this that Dayaks from other areas, who have found jobs, have always kept to school and therefore they too must go to school with the object of finding paid work at the end of their studies.

Sawmills at Lingga and Selayan started operating during the year and both have shown enterprise. Both mills are somewhat handicapped by having to rely on very high water to enable them to extract their timber from the low lying forest areas.

A branch of the Red Cross organization was opened in Sinsunggang during the year, but, apart from a spell of activity in the issue of milk supplies it has made little progress and is inactive. The main reason for the inactivity is the lack of real understanding as to the voluntary aspect of the work on the part of the members. These members are all far getting something for nothing but are not ready to give something for which they see little physical return.

A successful Agricultural Show and exhibition of Arts and Crafts was held in Sinsunggang during the latter part of the year. Additional attractions during the two day period were a concert, football match and a modern Jiglet dance party. This last attraction was somewhat of a novelty and, although appreciated, it was not fully understood.

SARAWAK DISTRICT.

(Mr. R. Hennack, District Officer).

The health of the people has been generally good. At the end of the year several cases of typhoid occurred in the Mission School. A Health Inspector and two Hospital Assistants visited the school and reported adversely on the sanitary arrangements and general hygiene.

The Health Assistant visited Spang regularly each month. It was not necessary for him to visit Panto and Delak as in the year before since these two places are regularly serviced by the Travelling Dispensary. The Travelling Dispensary has done good work.

It was feared that the running of the Travelling Dispensary would have to be temporarily suspended as the driver resigned for reasons, that, working for four hours a day as a rubber tapper he could earn almost as much as a Senior Government Clerk. Fortunately, a new man was found.

The Malays of Betong have applied for registration as a Cattle Rearing Co-operative Society. I have great confidence that the Tan Kangang has enough initiative to carry the venture, and to give the lie to the story that the Malay is improvident.

The Chinese, as a community, take a lively interest in World Affairs. They are China-minded, but not partition-minded. In recent months there has been an increase in the number of applicants for Immigration Landing Permits. I think most Chinese take this as a sign that radio news must be sifted for truth.

The rubber sheet produced here has, if anything, deteriorated in quantity due to the high prices offered for rubber of any description.

The measure of the trade in the district can be judged by the cost of living index. There has been so much money in the District that an unskilled labourer can earn as much as \$12.00 per 24 hours a day, a far higher figure than his counterpart in the U.S. But as money comes easily it is spent lavishly. Chickens of the Dayak variety sell at \$2.00 a hen, and bananas at 5 cents each. People are quite ready to pay up to \$4.00 a gantang of rice and up to \$1.20 for a kat of sugar. Government Officers on fixed salary have little local prestige, and the police constable none at all.

Grounds have been maintained by daily-paid P.W.D. coolies. These persons are probably the most needy in the district. They are living on dreams of a golden time ahead when rubber falls in price. The increased daily wage and rate of cost of living allowances have done very little to benefit them.

The Lohang Road has been maintained under contract. The contractor has widened the road considerably during the year. He is reluctant to take on the contract in the next year unless for a sum nearly twice as large.

The Local Authority Schools are gathering impetus.

It is gratifying to note that there is a much better tone in the schools where there is a Batu Lintang Trained Teacher. Not all of these persons have filled the bill satisfactorily but it can be said that as a first batch they were quite a reasonable turn out.

The Co-operative Movement mentioned in the report of a year ago is progressing. Eddy, the Co-operative Department Inspector, has a pleasant personality and is hard working. His manner with the Dayaks goes a long way towards promoting the "Co-operative" spirit.

LOLOK ANTA DISTRICT.

(Mr. M. M. McSparran, Officer-in-Charge).

There has been very little crime of any consequence. Loloh Anta has had and lost two *Scaevola* Pinnacles, one obtained two crechins a *senyir* and the other forced himself through a 10" by 4" gap in the cell window here. Both made their way across the border.

Loloh Anta is now the only District without its Local Authority. The upriver Pengahus are strong conservatives and, although all have visited the Local Authority office in Simatigang and heard of its activities, none have yet suggested that Loloh Anta should follow it. The Engkilil Pengahus on the other hand see in a Local Authority an easy means of financing their school, but are prepared to do without either if Government insists upon a mixed Local Authority. This, however, is probably the inevitable initial reaction and it is likely they would agree to its formation once they become a little more accustomed to the idea.

Very few Malays are normally resident in the District, but large numbers, chiefly from Kuching, come up-river during the last quarter to collect the fallen fruits. Each boat pays a nominal fee in kind, normally *siyah* sugar, to the Tani Baram in whose area the boat is moored. It is reported that one *durian* or one *batang* of the *rub* will fetch as much as a dollar in the Kuching. All boats called home dangerously full and must have made a small fortune.

A statement made by the Kapitan China in an address of welcome to His Excellency the Governor during June, to the effect that the Chinese community had been in Engkilil for 100 years and no longer considered themselves to be subjects of China, but of Sarawak, typifies the atmosphere in Engkilil upon which recent events outside Sarawak appear to have had no effect. There is a genuine friendship for, and willingness to co-operate with Government.

A Chinese Advisory Board with representatives from the boxer and gardening community was formed during July.

Padi harvest in April and May varied from average to poor. The wheat harvests were experienced in the Engkilil where one particular house had exhausted their padi stocks by June. The coming harvest, with the exception of the Ulu Laramak and certain houses in the Engkilil, promises to be good.

Pepper is being planted in increasing quantities. It has become very popular with the Engkilil Dayaks, who are estimated to have planted 60,000 vines. The gardeners, both Chinese and Dayak watch with interest the experiments carried out by the Agricultural Department in Engkilil. The Government pepper is expected to ripen within the next four months; heavy rains have caused many of the flowers to fall before the fruit had a chance to form and yields will not be as heavy as was at first hoped. The vines planted on volcanic earth and which have been treated chiefly with guano are bearing the best pepper. The Chinese gardeners have also found that guano produces better results than burnt earth and the present planting

will not have such a devastating effect on the area as the planting of the 1890's when burnt earth only was used.

The Engkilil crop failed to materialize, but the *durian* crop has been excellent and provided the locals with as much as they could eat and the Malay boats from downriver and from Kuching with as much as they could carry away.

A little panning for gold is carried on in the Marop Hills to the South West of Engkilil. The miners, all Chinese, have decided that pepper growing is more certain of results and the workings are hardly ever used.

There is, as yet, no Dayak school functioning in the District. The Loloh Anta Dayak school was partially built at a cost of \$2,000 in 1917, but was never used because the Dayaks have stubbornly refused either to complete the building, as was originally intended, or to pay any form of fee for their children's education. The Engkilil Dayaks, either more progressive, realizing that they cannot have a school, without some effort on their own part, have drawn up a scheme under which each of the four Pengahus' areas is to supply certain of the building materials and subscriptions to be raised for the wages of skilled builders. There is every hope that the school will succeed.

Dayaks have complained of the low prices paid for their rubber by dealers in Loloh Anta and Engkilil. In many cases their grievances are justified, but not to the extent they would like to believe. Freight charges are high and Dayak rubber is unsuited and of a very poor quality. They want the cash quickly and will not take the trouble nor the extra time necessary to improve their product.

A fleet of Chinese launches has plied regularly throughout the year between Engkilil and Kuching and has never been short of cargo. Freight and passenger rates have risen considerably.

Two large Chinese outposts are based on Loloh Anta and two on Engkilil. They run between the two stations and sometimes go as far as Simatigang.

The District has been extensively travelled during the year, and very few houses remain unvisited.

Tin system records have been compiled for practically every house in the District.

KALIAN DISTRICT.

(Alang Mori, Native Officer-in-Charge).

The Travelling Dispensary was organized during January, 1930, and has visited the Ulu Rian, Kuching and Sengul Sebela areas. About 45 visits were carried out during the year, 6,318 patients were seen to and treated, of which 5 patients being sent to Kuching, and a total of 1,811 repetitions. Since the start of this Dispensary, the natives in the Ulu have found it quite easy to obtain necessary drugs and treatments. And this also saves their time in going down to Seratak Dispensary.

Salt ash Kuching was started Pengahus in Syabon area on 1st July, 1930. This is the first

time the area of Nyaboh has its own Penghulu, whereas before it has been under one Penghulu of Roban who, living very far from Nyaboh, could not administer the area efficiently.

In my last yearly report of 1928, mention was made of Penghulu Undan's request to resign by reason of old age and failing health. This Penghulu is the oldest among Penghulus in the District and, though old, he is yet capable and wise and therefore his resignation was not granted. He is now doing in good health and active.

It is interesting to report of a Dayak by name Belibet much afflicted of Labok Nibong who ate tobacco as a cure to his long miserable illness. In his report to this office he stated that he suffered from the illness for more than six months and took a variety of medicines but none of them proved effective. So it happened that one night he dreamt that he was to eat the tobacco root in order to cure his illness, but which he dared not attempt after he had the same dream repeated for the seventh time. Accordingly, he took this harmful root as big as a piece of match-stick and cut to an inch long. After eating this unusual herb he vomited very severely but thus wonderfully ended his illness once more. This thing occurred on 14th December, 1930.

Since the early quarter it was a good season for fishing in Kuching, and the Malays enjoyed a fairly good catch until towards the third quarter when the rough sea was occasional. The fishermen changed their occupation to work nipah sugar, padi planting and tapping rubber. As a result of the shortage of white sugar supply during the third quarter, the nipah sugar industry became an important occupation for many of the Kuching Malays. It is interesting to note that more than half of the Malays from Kuching left their houses for Durian harvest in Sarawang during the month of December. These people brought back with them durian-rakes which they call "Jarak" and which became a good trade with the neighbouring stations, especially Seriyok where durian was hardly seen in the market.

The Malays in Saratok and other Kampong in the upper shared the prosperity of sugar and rubber boom. They work as tappers in rubber gardens in the upper areas, most of which are not their own, and also earn their living as labourers in Chinese-owned sugar factories.

In their padi field they work industriously and are showing promising progress whilst they hope for a good yield in the forthcoming harvest.

The hill padi was fairly good and most houses had enough padi for their own consumption.

The wet padi crop was reported to be damaged by rats in some areas at the coastal wet padi cultivation. But poison has already been supplied and has successfully stopped further destruction.

The area under pepper cultivation was about 10 acres. Pepper cuttings are obtainable here and were enough for the native requirement in this district.

Trade was good throughout the year. Apart from Sage and rubber, Nipah sugar played a big part in the production of the district. Commercial native launches made very rapid trips in competition for the large shipments of both outward and inward cargoes.

The Saratok and Roban telephone line did not function efficiently and was out of order quite frequently. Minor repairs carried out during the year were often unsatisfactory. The fault was probably due to the cable in Roban area being too old and should be replaced with new wiring.

Chinese launches made 20 trips to Saratok during the year, and a number of sailing vessels also carried away cargoes both outwards and towards.

Trolling in Island Waters.

The traditional methods of trolling in Sarawak coastal waters is by means of a long stout line, 20 fathoms or so in length from a launch at maximum 6 fms, or up to 20 fathoms or so in small boats depending on weather, sea colour and speed. The line must have as long a cast (wire for heavy fish as practised, for invisibility and A.T.P. (anti tooth poisoning)). Some use a large 2' to 3' hook with a spinning cock's feather plume, or just a piece of white rag. A double set of feathers with a small 1½ inch double hook is probably best. Others prefer a silver spoon varying in size from ½ inch (if the sea is blue and clear textured), to the shoe horn variety for bigger fish.

The principal surface feeding predators to be encountered thus are the Tongpi (some misnamed Anu Anu (Harrowshank)), and the generally smaller school Bonito though these do run larger, up to 1½/20 lbs. Sarawak waters are by no means plentiful in these fish, probably due partly to the shallow coastal shelf and to a lesser extent the comparatively heavy demands of the coastal village fishermen on the small fish species, e.g., Belia, puffers, etc., for food, this depriving the big fish. But this is mere hypothesis. Lack of food for the small fish may contribute. It may, however, be of interest to record a simple experiment, recently made off Tulang-Tulang Islands.

Working on the knowledge that Bonito will go mad at the sight of a school of Belia (the current of little silver jumping fish which you see leaping on the surface of the sea), fishing round Tulang-Tulang Is., a large number 1/0 Silver Wilkinson salmon fly was trailed with two yards of stout nylon salman net, and a trout rod and line. After twenty minutes of trolling the net creased, and after a good five minutes with an arched rod and several runs, a very nice 1½ lb. Bonito was netted.

This was repeated, on three successive trials, but not more than one fish was caught each time, indicating that there were probably knee fish—not silver fish, unfortunately.

Finally the line was jerked out several yards and a strange creature leapt on the air and laid itself in knots. It looked like a large silver snake. After a struggle it was brought in within 5 yards of the boat, gave another of its contorted aerial performance and wriggled off within a few feet of the net. This was said to be as thin as Trich and it would appear to have been a snake mislabeled at about 2½ lbs. and about 3 feet long. (perhaps more so). It is a rare fish, never the pity, the only other record seen recently being the picture of the one caught by the Norfolk expedition in Pacific waters.

It would be interesting to get confirmation of the identity of this fish. At any rate it is probably the first of its kind to be hooked on a salmon fly.

The Silver Wilkinson suffered little damage after this desperate battle and the nylon net stood up well. Fortunately most of these fish are hooked well to the low part of the mouth on this light tackle is fairly safe.

A light sea trout net of about 10 feet, a medium trout line (say 150 yards including backing) and a large salmon fly or a silver lure, and if conditions are right it is usually the case that they were jolly good the day before you came or the day after! you have all the elements of first class sea fishing of a more sporting character and which will provide thrills seldom obtained with more cumbersome tackle.

There are several other stories about this particular fishing trip which the author is not prepared to publish as they do not show him up in a very favourable light.

However three heavy fish were caught by various members of the party, two Barramundi of 14 lbs. and 7½ lbs., and a 20 lbs. Bontie—all on heavy tackle.

J.G.A.

Agricultural Notes.

A new system of short term food crop cultivation for Sarawak.

(By R. W. B. MILLER).

Owing to the international situation Sarawak has once more to give serious thought to her food supplies. The population density in the country is very low and it is deplorable that with so much unused land, large imports of rice, expensive meat and other necessities are still necessary. Partly for technical reasons and partly due to the acute shortage of staff the solution of the problem is not to be found in large specialised farms operated by Government—a having and real solution can only be found by assisting the existing farming industry to produce more food and by everyone doing their best to produce more food themselves.

Rice production is generally a matter for skilled farmers working whole time on large compact blocks of suitable land where adequate water control can be achieved and it is difficult for the part time worker to give useful assistance as far as this aspect of food production is concerned. The part time worker can however do a great deal to help the situation by growing quick maturing food crops on any small patch of reasonably well drained land that is available—not only can the produce supplement available rice supplies but can also form the basis of food for poultry and small livestock that is within the capabilities of almost anyone to keep and that can produce a useful supplementary to available meat supplies.

The main obstacle in the way of increased short term food crop cultivation in Sarawak is the poverty of a large proportion of the soils; poverty that is accentuated by the frequent extremely heavy rainstorms and the unpredictable hot dry periods to which the climate is subject. However these

disadvantages are more than balanced by the fact that the climate is for considerable periods of the year extremely favourable to plant growth.

The amount of food that the skilled Chinese farmer can produce on even a small patch of poor soil in Sarawak can excite nothing but admiration from the inexperienced agriculturalist and there is no doubt that much can be done on the basis of these farmers' methods. Unfortunately their methods have obviously been evolved in a climate very different to Sarawak's and are in many ways unsuitable for conditions here, liable as they are to cause severe loss of valuable topsoil by erosion.

For a considerable time experiments have been conducted in Beili House Garden with the object of finding some system of short term cropping better suited to Sarawak's conditions. As a result of a great deal of study and practical trial the basis of a promising system has now been found. Normally the findings would not have been published yet as considerable confirmatory work is necessary before they can be regarded as established but in present circumstances it has been decided to make them available. No space is available to record the large number of trials that have been made and which have led up to the present findings; all that can be done is to indicate the system as it now stands.

The first essential to the system is a good water supply. This should present little difficulty in Sarawak and in Beili House Garden it has been provided by creating cheap simple dams across a small valley and as far as possible preserving the natural vegetation at the head of the valley as a catchment area. So far the resultant ponds have provided ample water even during dry spells.

The soil in the garden is generally very poor and exhausted and carries a mixed secondary growth containing much liana. In order to get as much light and air as possible areas have been chosen for the trials reasonably clear of large trees. The undergrowth has been slashed down to the normal size, herbaceous matter going into the compost heap and woody matter being burnt to ashes for manure. The land is not dug over but the irregularities are merely smoothed out with a chisel and the surface immobilised when necessary with a rammer. Until the land is required the natural vegetation is then kept under control by frequent close cutting the cuttings being left on the surface. Most of the woody weeds are killed by the cutting, and the close natural sward that soon develops is a most effective check on soil erosion but does not hinder the rapid removal of storm water by surface drainage. In effect one merely aims at producing a gently undulating lawn with as smooth a surface as possible.

Seed is not sown direct on to the land as seedling casualties are usually severe under Sarawak conditions. It is usually far better to germinate the seed by surface sowing in a prepared covered nursery and transplant to the field when the seedlings are strong and well developed.

To prepare the land for planting parallel rows rather more than 1 foot apart are marked out roughly along the contour. Small holes about 1 foot apart are then dug with a trowel along the rows. The size of the holes is about 4 inches diameter and 6 inches deep. The hole is filled with a mixture of river sand and whatever manure can be obtained and mounded slightly above the sur-

type. Readers familiar with modern rubber planting technique will recognise what is in effect a miniature planting hole. A type of sterilised compost that is being produced in Bedil House Garden by an original method is proving a most suitable material for filling the holes and it is hoped that details of the method of making the compost will be released in the near future.

The seedlings are transplanted into the holes and kept well watered till they strike. In the early stages a small cone shaped cover or "cloche" of wire netting is proving most useful not only for supporting light shade but also as a protection against damage from pests such as birds and snails. Provision of these covers may sound an unnecessary elaboration but when one remembers that small glass "cloches" are widely used at Home on valuable early vegetable crops the use of small wire netting "cloches" in Sarawak does not seem unreasonable.

So weeding is done, the natural volunteer vegetation between the rows is merely kept closely cut back and the cuttings left on the surface as a mulch. Garden shears are a suitable implement for the work in a small garden but on a larger area a small hand or motor mower with the grass cut off can be most useful. As a result of the cutting a close cover is maintained that definitely prevents loss of top soil by erosion and if there is a slight slope on the land excess storm water quickly runs off. During dry spells the weed keeps the soil cool and moist and far from checking the crop seems to assist its growth for this reason. So far crops under the system have remained remarkably free from pests. More important still, possibly the weed is regularly and closely cut and the cuttings left on the surface, a fairly rapid build up in fertility of the soil seems to be occurring. Cutting instead of hoeing and weeding may sound a very minor change in normal procedure but on present indications it is a minor change that if widely adopted may easily produce a major change for the better in the productivity of the large areas of poor undulating land that exist in Sarawak. Those readers who have had to study the history of British agriculture will have heard of Jethro Tall's "Horse Hoeing Husbandry"—possibly in the years to come one may talk of the "Motor Mowing Husbandry" of Sarawak!

Strange as it may seem in a district with an average annual rainfall of 200 inches, regular watering of the established plants, especially during dry spells, is often producing spectacular responses. Large areas can quickly be covered with a couple of watering cans and this regular watering need not necessarily be laborious.

It is possible that when the plants are well established small applications of artificial manures may be worthwhile under this system but this point awaits further investigation.

When a crop has been harvested the plant remains can be removed and put in the compost heap and the planting hole may then need tamping up before replanting takes place.

As far as can be seen the system will be suitable for intensive production of most of the leaf and fruit vegetables usually grown in Sarawak and can facilitate regular production of large crops. Root vegetables can probably be grown in the system but have not yet been tried and the planting holes may

need some modification for this purpose. In a simplified form the system is obviously well adapted to intensive cultivation of the type of vegetables described in a recent article in this paper. There are indications that soy beans—a crop that can be most valuable in Sarawak—can be successfully cultivated under a simplified form of the system. A great deal of work of course remains to be done as to how the methods can best be adapted to various crops.

All the operations described above may sound laborious but hard work is unavoidable if Sarawak's food supplies are to be improved. Besides, the work involved is pleasant work and has the advantage that by attention to detail it can produce most satisfying results.

What about mechanisation—could the labour expenditure involved in the system be reduced by several people co-operating together and using modern machinery? Modern clearing and earth-moving machinery could certainly assist the preliminary preparation of the land. A small water pump is already being used most successfully in Bedil House Garden to raise water from the storage pond to the initial plots and a small motor mower is proving most useful in cutting down the growth between the rows. Furthermore modern equipment is already being successfully used in the preparation of the sterilised soil and compost mixture for the planting holes. After further experience is gained on double other directions will become apparent in which machinery can be used; possibly on the more valuable vegetable crops at least, overhead irrigation as now widely used on market gardens at Home may prove worthwhile and the necessary equipment for experiments on this aspect has been ordered.

It is emphasised that the system described must still be regarded as in the experimental stages but it does suggest definite possibilities for considerable intensification of production of food crops on the large areas of poor undulating land in Sarawak—an intensification that is sorely needed at the present time.

The Stage in Britain.

A notable feature of the British theatre during recent years has been the revival of interest in Ben Jonson (1572-1637), the great Jacobean dramatist, and the performance of several of his best and most neglected plays: with at least three, *Volpone*, *The Alchemist*, and now *Bartholomew Fair*, we have become familiar. If this goes on, audiences will soon be reviving *The Silent Woman*, or even threatening at the two Roman tragedies, *Catiline* and *Sejanus*. For the moment we are happy enough with *Bartholomew Fair*. This extraordinary picture of London fair-ground life nearly three-and-a-half centuries ago was staged by the Old Vic during the Edinburgh Festival of 1950. George Devine produced it then on the platform stage of the Assembly Hall, which meant that the booths of Smithfield, the setting of the play, had to be strung out awkwardly at the back. The acting was admirable in pace and appreciation; but the

action had an unavoidable sense of remoteness, a certain lack of reality, that made against the play, especially such a piece as this—one not generally known and written in close-knit dialogue that called for the keenest concentration.

When the comedy arrived at the Old Vic Theatre recently, all, or nearly all, was well. In the more intimate surroundings of the Old Vic we had at once the right sense of being at the heart of the Fair, of being ourselves among the gingerbread-women and toy-sellers, the belled slippers and pig-women, and all the tradesmen and fairgoers, the hawes and hangers-on of crowded Southfield. Certain passages in the comedy are still very difficult to deliver. It is a piece that begins badly, ends, and then returns again in the grand style of the last act. But most of the play is thoroughly good to hear and to watch: Jonson was always a theatrical dramatist with a rich command of language, and Roger Linnery at the Old Vic made the best of the confabular systems of *Justice Tricke*, the silly fellow who seeks, in a variety of disguises, to spy out the "vices" of the Fair. Besides Mr. Linnery, there were two delightful performances by Robert Edelman as the height-eyed simpleton, Master Bartholomew, and by Alan Chum, drawing behind him as the over-grown manservant, Humphrey Wasp. A vast company joined in the fun: we noticed such people as Paul Rogers, sneering up and down with suitable single-minded idiosyncrasy as a gentle madman, and Mark Dymally as a hypocritical Puritan preacher with the name of Zeal-of-the-Land-Buy.

Besides meeting the senior company of the Old Vic, we had a chance to see the Young Vic, the students, in holiday performances of *The Merchant of Venice* and *The Taming of the Shrew*. The first of these productions, much the better, was a version by John Hinchley of Robert Louis Stevenson's medieval romance, a cut-and-thrust story of genius, escapes, disguises, and lusty fighting during England's civil wars, called the Wars of the Roses, in the latter part of the fifteenth century. The Young Vic players put down to this with an eager gravity most appropriate to the piece, and one actress, Tara Russell, as the heroine disguised as a boy, showed that we might reasonably expect much from her in the future. The second production of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, was less pleasing. Here there was a great deal of careful, self-conscious speaking, and only two or three players were more than average. Christian Eyre's Shylock, acted with a gay sense of fun; Jane Brewster's Jessica, and Duncan Ross's Duke of Venice stay in the mind. Paddy Thomas played Shylock soundly as traditional lines; but the part wants more personality and drive.

One of the outlying theatres offered the first important production of 1961, a new piece, *Celestina*, by Ashley Dukes, who throughout his long career in the theatre has never ceased to be an elegant and effective stylist. During the twenties he wrote the superb *Rain with a Lead of Minkie*. The new piece is less packed but it has the same care for words, the same skill in selection. Here the scene is eighteenth century Spain. Celestina is a marriage-broker (deriving from a traditional figure of comedy) who is herself smart enough to fall in love. It is a lesson in playwriting to see and to hear Ashley Dukes's treatment of his theme, the way in which he sustains the rhythms of

speech and movement. It can be argued that there is little urgent action, and that little in the piece can attract a playgoer in search of a good plain tale. True, it is first of all a piece for collectors and collectors have been glad to acquire it. Mary Ellis, Alan Wheatley and Marjorie Audley acted particularly well, and the sets by John Frankston had a quality that the Spanish painter Goya himself might have approved.

Another much-discussed piece in the first weeks of the New Year was the revival of *Free-Fren* at the Little New Lindey Theatre in Raymarket, London. The eight-years-old piece by Maudie and Bailey had been only a name to the present generation of playgoers. These had been told how Sarah Bernhardt and Réjane transformed the part, and they knew that in Britain, too, it was a show-piece of the late nineteenth century stage. Until the revival at the Lindey, no one had had any opportunity to see the piece in performance. In the end it came off reasonably as a well-made play typical of its time; but it was also clear that the shaggy-dog part of Free-Fren herself needed an actress of far wider range than Joan Kent, whose principal experience had been in the cinema. Miss Kent, always quick and intelligent, could give a misfitting of the part; this was not enough. Free-Fren's experiences, foolish, and at the last, tragic, made an actress in the grand manner, one able to run through the entire emotional range without obvious forcing. There were one or two capable studies: those, for example, by the diplomatist-husband (Michael Gaver), the father (Bailey Briggs), and the much-troubled maid-servant (Joan Fawcett). Elsewhere, the acting had a stiffness that did not help us in our task of getting on terms again with a famous old piece.

There was an odd contrast at the Gateway Theatre—not far from the New Lindey—where Billy Veeves had produced his own gentle domestic play *Life Sentence*. Miss Veeves had set out to tell a clear, persuasive story of a broken marriage unexpectedly mended, and she managed from the first to make her leading characters plausible. One has seldom met a play so quiet in manner but with so strong an undercurrent of emotion. The author was too happy with her secondary people, and she had met an ideal cast. Fortunately, Iris Baker and Nigel Clarke were there to give an excellent account of the wife who returns after ten years and of the husband who receives her so frigidly; and Patricia D'Arcy, as the daughter of the marriage, gave a charming, unforced performance that made one wish to see her again.

For the rest, the holiday stage offered the usual collection of children's plays and pantomimes, some good, some indifferent, but all made to match the season, and all with their enthusiastic supporters. J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan* appeared once more; there was a cascade of real water in the pantomime at the London Casino; and Anton Dolin, the dancer, acted Saint George in a revival of *When The Rainbow Ends*. Possibly the most welcome feature was the return of *The Silver Caden*, a children's fantasy by Eleanor Farjeon, with music by Clifton Parker, that has unusual grace and imagination and was remarkably well staged. Gwen Chirrell, who played Pili, the adventurous sister of the new Queen of Norfolk, is an actress of surprising versatility.

(British Council Feature Article.)

Rotary Charity Concert.

In support of Community Service Charities the Rotary Club of Kuching on March 16th staged the most ambitious concert of Western music that has been heard in Kuching for some time. Playing before H.K. the Governor and a large audience in St. Mary's Jubilee Hall, the Fookshoo Constabulary Band shouldered the main weight of a varied two-hour programme and gave an almost startling demonstration of the progress made under the vigorous baton of their Director of Music Captain A. D. Bisset. On the lighter side of their programme they did what had to be done with *Afford's* march "The Standard of St. George" and went straight on to win the confidence of the audience and to give some of the best musical moments of the evening in the Barber of Seville Overture. *Woods's* Three Dale Dances and *Strawss's* Scherzo Pittoresque, with a strong lead from the Conductor's baton, were fully disposed of and certain apprehensions about Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, which was to follow, began to wane.

The Fifth Symphony is now a popular classic. It is also interpreted by some as a musical expression of the normal aspirations and struggles of the human soul. It is common property, and to make a mess of it is an offence. In the event the Band took advantage of the Symphony's solid structure and the composer's broad and weighty use of harmony, melody and rhythm to cover inevitable instrumental deficiencies. The Conductor made much of his Band's disciplined but partially insensitive response to changes of rhythm and tempo. It would be hard to over-estimate the support he received throughout from his two leading violinists. All in all the Band captured enough of the grandeur of Beethoven's music to say that it wasn't genuine performance worth remembering and not just an exercise or a demonstration of attainment.

Three short piano compositions by Chopin played by Mylla Kennedy left the audience wanting more. She sang in many ways to the manner to a charity concert organizer's prayer. Always ready to give her services and to work up an agreeable programme she has a platform manner and style that is graceful and exuberantly devoid of fuss. Her accurate and pleasant touch suggest that she may by the passage of time have acquired some affection, as well as understanding, for the quite unromantic piano provided for her.

Alan Kellagher being stuck on the high note, his baritone voice was sadly missed. Thelma Rodda very bravely made it up by singing two groups of songs instead of one. She has a light Mesopotamian voice with a surprisingly mellow lower register which is going to give local concert goers a lot of pleasure as often as she can be persuaded to sing. With Harry Padmore accompanying, it is a good team and between them they should work up a wider repertoire.

There should of course be more frequent concerts in Kuching. At the moment there is too much local talent lying about unused. At the same time local resources need reinforcement. Instrumentally the Band is not yet balanced or large enough—the playing of whatever instrument it was that passed in a French Horn did wobble, but the fact is it was not a French Horn. The next wish is inevitably for orchestral music played by an orchestra which can carry on where the military band leaves

off, which means one job, and which should in time become a valued core possession. Is it too soon to think of making a small beginning?

(Contributed.)

Notes from Sibu.

The Fookshoo Association celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary on the 16th March, and in the morning, their new premises were officially opened by The Hon'ble the Resident. It is a fine, three-storey building and undoubtedly the best in Sibu. The opening ceremony was followed by a number of speeches after which the birthday cake was cut with due ceremony, the consumption of which was assisted by champagne. On the following evening over five hundred guests were entertained to dinner, (which will give an indication of the size of the building). There were other attractions such as Volley-ball competitions and a Dragon procession at night. Sibu certainly enjoyed itself during the week-end. With the permission of the Chairman of the Fookshoo Association (Mr. Ling Sui Ingi) I repeat below a part of his speech, dealing with the history of the Fookshoo Settlement in the Rajang as it will no doubt be of interest to many of your readers.

"Sometime in the latter part of the year 1900, a Fookshoo Scholar named Wong Nai Siang arrived at Sibu and interviewed the Resident, Third Division, in regard to selecting land for cultivation by Fookshoo at Sibu.

He was brought by the Resident to the top of Seduan Hill on which now Ouwang Ang School stands. At that time the water was high everywhere. Mr. Wong saw that the land at Seduan was higher than the other surrounding places, with a foot path to Sibu Town, so he decided to take it.

After this he proceeded to Kuching where an agreement was drawn out between the Sarawak Government and Mr. Wong Nai Siang for 1,000 Fookshoo farmers to come to Sibu within 2 years from the date of signing the agreement.

He then returned to Fookshoo and made eloquent speeches about this undertaking in many Methodist Churches in the Districts of Mentawai and Kutai for Mr. Wong was a member of the Methodist Church.

The 1st arrival of 72 ~~women~~ Sibu sometime after the 1st decade of February, 1901. Of them one named Wong Chong Chong is still living at Sibu now, and another the Revd. Andrew K. T. Chen is now a teacher of the Trinity School at Singapore.

The 2nd arrival of about 500, including females, were at Sibu on the 16th March, 1901, and they were accompanied by the Methodist Bishop Wason from Singapore to Sibu.

The 3rd arrival of about 500, including females, were at Sibu on the 7th June, 1902, by the American steamer chartered by Mr. Wong Nai Siang from Fookshoo direct to the Rajang River. Regarding these 2 arrivals a great many of them are still at Sibu.

The first settlement was at Seduan and then at Esunai, Sadit, Sengai Rajie, etc.

After over 1,000 Fookhows had settled at Sibu, their relations and friends followed their steps and came to settle here also. Thus the population of Fookhows within Batang Rajang grew up and now it is about 30,000 or more in number".

The Easter holidays followed shortly afterwards, but this year there were no organized "activities". We were able to get in some (much-needed?) bushing practice however. A party of Junior Service from Sibu went to Simunjung and we received a visit from a Kuching contingent. A football match resulted in a draw 2—2 between Kuching and Sibu.

The Regatta this year is due to take place on the 2nd and 3rd of June and plans for its success are now in full swing. Popular opinion has it that this year will see the biggest Regatta ever.

During the month a test-landing party from the Sarawak Oilfields limited set up their camp at the mouth of the Igan. Their progress is being watched with considerable interest. It is also pleasing to be able to report that towards the end of the month a consignment of mechanical equipment arrived for use in the construction of the Sibu airstrip.

Finally, the number of visitors this month was rather less than usual. Amongst others we were pleased to welcome to Sibu Mr. J. H. Ellis, M. and Mrs. Freeman and The Very Revd. McLaughlin, Superior General, Mill Hill Fathers.

A. C. W.

Fifty Years Ago.

THE SARAWAK GAZETTE, APRIL 17, 1931.

Editorial Note.

The Fookhew Association in Sibu celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary on the 16th of March. A brief account of the celebrations appears elsewhere in this issue under the heading "Notes from Sibu". The account which appeared in the Sarawak Gazette for April, 1931, of the "new settlers" is therefore of particular interest. It is also interesting to note that the history of the Methodist Mission in Sarawak begins with the story of the Fookhew colonists.

NEW SETTLERS, SIBU.

On landing at Kuching the Chinese were formed up in a line with books in their hands and kneeling over their heads. (The weather being very wet, to receive His Highness, which was done with an accompaniment of many hymns, which were chanted by these people.

The Settlers are from Foo Chow, and style their place "the new Foo Chow," and are the pioneers of a large colony of agriculturalists, which is being organized by Mr. Nai Sang, with some assistance from the Government; they are all Presbyterians belonging to the American Mission.

They are looking well and seemed to be happy and contented, and are now commencing to make gardens and to plant paddy and vegetables, and in a year or two will make a great change in the appearance of the country by cultivation on a regular and extended scale. They have artisans amongst them, and also an ordained person and a qualified doctor, both Chinese.

This new settlement will soon become one of the show places in Sarawak, which will be all so differ-

ent from everything else we have been accustomed to see in this country. The population is now five hundred men, women and children, but this number will soon be increased by new arrivals from China, and there is ample room for many tens of thousands, and every convenience around them. They have both hill and low lying land, timber of all kinds suitable for all purposes, and an abundant supply of good water, with a deep river by which vessels and boats can bring in supplies and take out produce, and, what is most important, a healthy climate, and an invigorating one for such Easterns as the Chinese.

Further these people will be at peace and out of reach of their less the Romans, expected devastation by whom, and fear of being murdered, which has of late been the fate of so many Christian converts in China, has driven these people to seek a refuge in the so called wilds of Borneo.

We may safely conjecture that this first batch of settlers in these parts are the forerunners of many thousands of Chinese who will follow before many years have passed, in fact we may say that one of the first steps of any importance has been made to colonize and develop if not the whole of this great island at least the North-West part of it, and that this influx of immigrants will steadily continue through many future years is almost a certainty, and there is probably room for five to ten millions in the island, and from three to five millions in this part of it.

No better settlers could probably be found than agricultural Chinese, but to keep such people in order a just and impartial rule, in which both rulers and ruled alike do their portion of work, is required. Like other Easterns they need a Government simply formed and tutored by experience gained in the country itself, experienced in the manners and needs of the people, devoted to their welfare and interests, an indigenous product of the country which it governs, uncontrolled by agents or officials sent from outside, who, partly owing to want of reciprocal feeling and sympathy with the people, and partly through ignorance and adherence to superstitious laws, are liable to make such fatal mistakes in their dealings with Easterns, which naturally leads to discontent and even to rebellion.

A Most Extraordinary Meeting.

An extraordinary meeting of the Bornean Athletic Committee was held in the Capital on 15.12.30.

The minutes of the meeting were read.

A vote of censure was immediately passed. (Two members were absentees and took exception); the rest took whisky. Among Aik Laike bin Hin suggested that cost of refreshments be debited to Entertainment Vote under "Athletic Committee, Floor". Thereafter a provisional programme for the Regatta Sports was discussed at some length and expense (to the Entertainment Vote).

The programme that emerged is submitted for approval and comment with respect to the District Officer.

1200. Rev. Bornean, Spiritual head, leads procession, followed by all other works present.

1400. The programme is opened when a flaming Torch is carried into the Arena after the President of the Sports Committee.

1490. Event No. 1.
Wine Vault Opened.
1445. 1.
Cutting a Capor.
1500. 1.
Ladies Race, Circular. (One stretch each way).
1515. 4.
150 yds.
1530. 1.
Quarter. Junior Sideset.
1545. 4.
150 yds. Sprint.
1600. 7.
Throwing one's Weight. (A bout for Govt. Sergeant).
1615. 9.
Losing the Ring or Breaking the Bar. (Knock out Competition).
1630. 9.
Putting the Tonghulu.
1645. 10.
FINAL ITEM.
Tally Tally (Members of Secretariat are eligible).

This is a draught copy which is submitted for comment as if you should have any valuable suggestions, there is most surely time for another one.

(Signed)

Members of Committee.

The Museum.

Lost of the Serus.

In recent months much time has been spent recording the customs of the last remaining Serus, Chala and Sojap. Tens of thousands of words of Serus and legends have been taken down and some good wire recordings made, including unrecorded discussions and talk of how the Serus degenerated, during which Chala and Sojap both turned into vipers.

For the Serus were once a good people, inhabiting the Kalaka area of the 2nd Division. There were thousands of them while there are now two men—Sojap is only half Serus. Their decline and extinction is due only partly to the great invasion of the Thans moving westward from the Saribas in the last century. Among the most fascinating features that have come out in this study are the elements within the Serus culture itself which led to their own downfall. Though they were not only and even wildly brave people,—and much praised by the second Rajah on that account,—they had a streak of viciousness and unscrupulous which led them to filicide and wickedness which made them particularly susceptible to any outside disturbance. When this material is finally presented in record form, not only will it have historic interest as a broad account of people who will no longer exist in a few years' time. It will also, we believe, be thrilling reading as a series of epic and dramas about the standard of blood-thirstiness for any boy's magazine.

Chala's Gift.

Chala himself is a fascinating study. About a week was spent by the Research Assistant, Mr. F. Mann, taking down the fabulous story of his own extraordinary life. He has been almost everything, from a dealer in old junk to a plotting operator. He is now living with his ninth wife. For many years he acted as "boy" to a series of Touns, one of whom took him to America—his descriptions of America are sometimes almost painfully penetrating. And his attitude to the States of Liberty positively possesses!

When he left Kuching to return to his home in Kalaka he very touchingly presented the Curator with his magical charms, which owing to his ancient pedigree are regarded as extraordinarily powerful. He said that there was no one to follow him and no one else to give them to.

The Serus are closely connected with the Dayaks still living around Sarik. The District Officer, 2nd Division, Mr. F. B. K. Drake, has also got to a valuable link through Alang Taul to Tunika Misher who led the opposition to the first Rajah in Saraka. He was exiled to Malaya, eventually. We found a belief still strongly held in that area that it was he who subsequently led opposition to the Dutch in the Celebes and that he is still alive and seeking further opportunities to suppress his particular type of personality.

Other Gifts.

Mr. N. K. H. Kay, has sent in some useful information about possible archaeological sites and a very interesting old Brunai gong found near Tuar. Mr. J. Benson has given three perhaps unique photographs of the visit by the Japanese navy to Kuching before the war. Mr. D. Freeman of the Socio-Economic Survey has brought down very interesting items, including a black canoe from the Balak, a stone from the site of the old Laga house in the Majing and a set of Dayak carved sticks representing the whole sequence of figures used in Irayan. From the Printing Office Mr. W. J. Chatter has forwarded the official seal of the Star of Sarawak.

The insect collection has benefited from contributions thoughtfully sent in by Mr. W. S. Duck, Mr. L. G. Wilson of Kapit, Mr. W. T. Wiles and Mr. M. Steel at the airport and Mr. D. F. Morgan of Serapi. Mrs. T. Conwell has given an interesting termites egg. Mr. B. G. Alderson has presented a number of books most of which are suitable for the Reference Library; the balance will be handed over to Mr. J. Gaulty for the British Council Reading Room. Mr. R. W. Hardless at Saraka has once more put us under an obligation to him by collecting two really fine pieces of pottery, one Celebes bowl and one brown-earred pot.

Many Bees.

May we point out to our generous friends that if and when a proper zoological garden is built here we shall be glad to accept Honey Bees. But in the meanwhile we have not the facilities to look after peoples' Bees, when they become too dangerous to live at home. By that time they are too strong to keep in the cages we have, and too dangerous to the keepers.

In general, it is a disappointing business to have a Honey Bear, Chewing as a baby, it almost invariably becomes dangerous as it grows up.

(Continued.)

Book Review.

THE WATERFALL.

There are so few novels in which the action takes place in Borneo that the appearance of one last year might not be pass unnoted. "The Waterfall" by Averi Macdonald-Grieve seems to have been published in March, 1930, but Messrs. Hutchinson and Co., of London, New York, Melbourne, etc., are one of those publishers who sometimes fail to print any date in their books and our copy bears no indication when it was produced.

The publisher's announcement referred to the 'background of Borneo with its Dyak and Malay people and its benevolently patriarchal white rule'. In fact Sarawak is not mentioned by name in the story nor do any Sarawak place-names occur. The scene is set in a part of Borneo under British rule. That the setting is intended to be Sarawak at some period not long before the last war is however quite clear. "Lantern", whose District Officer is the main character, is not identifiable with any actual place and has characteristics which seem almost deliberately to have been drawn from the first four Divisions. It has a waterfall, is in the heart of the Dayak country, is reached by a river which passes through Melanau country, and is within a few days' walking distance of "Long Kapp".

It becomes almost impossible to judge a novel like this on its own merits as a story. One is constantly assessing it for its truthfulness to the details of Sarawak life and trying to equate places and even people with possible prototypes in Sarawak. One detects oneself mentally wondering whether earlier or later there will occur something like the concluding sentence of an allegedly true story about Sarawak in a popular magazine. "Our adventures ended at Malak from which we made our way leisurely back to Kuching by bullock cart along the coast". There are no bullock carts from Malak in "The Waterfall". The details are authentic and we are not surprised to learn that Averi Macdonald-Grieve is the pen name of the wife of a former Government officer.

The action of the story for the most part takes place in Borneo but the three principal characters, who are Europeans, are also shown on the setting of their homes in England and Italy. At one point it looks as if a parallel is to be worked out between the people of a Borneo hamlet and some English village people but this theme is only lightly sketched and never developed.

Jim Bailey is the District Officer of Lantern who has to deal with a troublesome Dayak chief named Kadir. Kadir is declared an outlaw and the District Officer with a small party of Rangers pursues him into the jungle. The pursuit and its grim ending are well told and form certainly the most exciting part of the story.

Among Bailey's friends are Father Heine, a stout, bearded Tyrolean priest of the Roman Catholic Mission, dirty, philosophical and occasionally wise in his knowledge of the Dayak mind, and Father Lancelotti, a young Italian priest, tortured by a sense of guilt for an act of violence committed in the past. The circumstances of this act and the identity of the Guiltless, for whose sake it was committed are revealed gradually in the plot develops. The severity of Lancelotti's self-imposed discipline places him under a strain which reaches breaking point when Bailey arrives back from home bringing with him as a wife a

young woman named Julia, the Guiltless of Lancelotti's past.

The story is presented as a study of four people in flight. There is the District Officer "running away from the reality he is unskipped to face; the priest fleeing the love of God of which he believes himself unworthy; the woman afraid of her emotions and the outlawed Dayak defying the law of the land".

Apart from the vital coincidence of Julia's and Lancelotti's connection in the past—"if you put that in a book, no one would believe it", Bailey remarks—the plot is well constructed and the native characters, especially the children who are apparently drawn from life, are convincingly portrayed. It is difficult however to enjoy a story to the full without having some sympathy for the principal characters, and this disinterested young District Officer, moving over the pages of the Tatler and despising the life he has chosen, is almost as distasteful as the sophisticated woman with the red-lipped too-wide whom he marries.

M.G.D.

This Sarawak.

(WITH APOLOGUES TO THE NEW SCIENTIST AND NATURE.)

We all have one common aim, and that was to become teachers. Later we found that we were all common and have no distinction.

—(Letter from a student.)

I have the honour to ask for your kind permission allow me to have my transfer to Kuching as a matter of fact I want to change the weather

—(From an application for transfer.)

As soon as we went in the month of March Mayel and we are in vibrations.—(From a letter describing experience in an air-raid shelter.)

(The Editors are unable to follow the example of our illustrators contemporary and offer a prize for the best entry in this volume. Contributions from all parts for "This Sarawak" will, however, be warmly appreciated and the most favoured will be given pride of place.)

Dorothy Didn't Know.

(We print below a short line which comes from a West of England rural newspaper.)

Nineteen-year-old Margaret Hill, of Torquay, thinking a wrong might help to make her to fame as a woman, wrote to Dorothy Lansour asking how to make one.

Recently she received this reply, written by a secretary (as Dorothy Lansour herself was ill at the time):

"Miss Lansour is very sorry to have to tell you that she has no pattern for making a wrong, nor would she know how to tell you to make one. All her savings are made for her by the studio."

"However, Miss Lansour sincerely hopes that even without the wrong you will have all the success in the world with your singing career."

"Tua Kampong's Son and No One's Servant"

Re 'G' and 'I'.

(With apologies.)

He's ever fond of ladies; he's a shiek
And policeman learns to keep a watchful eye
On passing beaming husbands who may try
To stroke his throat beer-blinded.

Each river village knows his features;
Child's face give the lie to fathers' names.
Not ignorance of love, is the wine given
Of those who spy withdrawal from the dance.

They are wise far beyond the quintessence.
Though loitering may play its part
They know no messages from Mars can cause
The unwedded future that he will not share.

Your kiss becomes their cross, Blame.
Lilies are not appropriate to these brides.

He's ever fond of ladies, but one day
This fair lost liberty of his will mind;
A passing or a gun will be his loss
On wondering may himself yet be seduced
By promise of more regular affection.
Then when he is first addressed as Daddy
He'll seize his probe and paddle off upstream
To plant another crop of hill/dry padi.

archy in kuching.

well loss after a
long trip from london i found myself crowding
from a package of tinued with us
to a jolly where i met a fellow
ouch
ah says he it is clear from your complexion
that you are not one of
our autochthonous reaches stop
greybeard exclamation point i said who
or what is this place kuching he
says the drains tell you that well i
said you are a poor lot if happiness is
denoted by drains he said it is the
cost of living which leaves me justified it
is the curse of the colony well loss i
looked round this distant
relative of mine it right we walked up a
drain into the town it seems this
ouch has ancestors who came over with kalia
than those were the days he said it is a
sad history is mine i
am a counsel negri reach in fact the
president will never open a meeting without
me on his desk once he says he got
lost in the attorney generals wig and
held up the proceedings and once he fell
down the financial secretarys neck when he
was moving estimates which it seems are
very heavy and created a million dollar
surplus

and once he vetoed an agricultural pests
ordinance but he says i am getting old who
will take my place well i said none is
indispensable nonsense he says what you
say
is blasphemy where will they get a
discontent of one of kalia
kalias reaches paternalism is what
they want
well i said all it turns out all
is his name time moves on maps only
constitute flames are levis have
point and all that i know greek he
says wearing a grey whisker at me just
because hold on i said tell me do they
hold these meetings often interrogation
much twice a year he says i manage on the
cranks from the
astoria parties the governor is very
kind but it is the his inbetween i said i
cannot make the end of one whisker meet
the other
soldier soldier is the curse of the place i
cannot get out and with them
would be agreed into a floating
bottle it being the only time i ever
saw anyone put the rack
in attack that is easier attack he
says it is not such a bad life tell
my loss is not shared the curse
of good government

archy

—dryed, after don marquis.

Bowling.

THE ASSOCIATION.

Under the auspices of His Excellency the
Governor a team of Bowlers which, whilst not
officially representative of the Sarawak Club at any
rate were a stout hearted lot, sailed for Nib on
February 15th in the "Mermaid" to play a series
of Tests against the Island Club.

The Island Club was able to field an unusually
strong team and, with their local knowledge to help,
Nib most generously offered to play on handicap.
On a double roll the agreed handicap totalled the
formidable figure of 440—the Island Club, however,
were confident that this would soon be wiped out.
In so far as the first Test goes they were entitled
to their opinion!

The first roll started at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday,
February 17th, and winning the toss Nib decided
to play on the right-hand alley which, if we may
be forgiven for saying so, is a SPOCKED. The
left-hand alley is not quite so difficult, but even
it has its peculiarities. For instance to get a mile
remaining pin (and there were many such) at the
left-hand corner the ball had to be gently rolled
from the right-hand side of the alley with no bias
at all, and the ball having left the player's hand he
could walk away with the certain knowledge the
ball would eventually deal successfully with the
pin!

Kuching took a little while to settle down in the
first Test and were by no means disgraced even
though beaten by a heavy margin.

The second roll took place the same evening before a large number of interested spectators, some of whom gave the visitors much encouragement. Kocking again lost the toss, but took the field full of confidence. At the end of the first half the Kocking players more than held their own, which, with the huge handicap in hand for the Island Club, gave the team added confidence. The result was a well earned win for the Sarawak Club.

During this game something happened which many will not believe.

A Kocking player, no other than that stalwart D. C. White, in one roll played his third ball and hit a pin at the back of the alley which had already been knocked over, and that pin actually jumped back onto the alley right way up. The Island Club players took a lot of convincing, but this did actually happen, and should be recorded in the annals of Bowling.

That evening a really most enjoyable informal party was held in the Club, and was well attended. Up to then it could not be decided what should constitute the Ashes. A Bowling Pin had been hollowed out, but what to put inside it? This vexed question was answered late that evening when two players, one from each side, decided that the other's shirt should be burnt! It ended up both shirts being well scoured in Three Star Brand and suitably burnt. Then each player from both teams solemnly placed some ashes into the Pin which was then sealed.

10.30 a.m. on Sunday was tea hour for the deciding Roll. The Kocking Captain in the presence of his team mates believed in the steps of many another Test Captain by being the man for the third successive time. However, the Sarawak Club started off in grand form and the game board showed many a pretty picture—but never an "all-out". Also she began well on the right-hand alley, but by degrees were were done under the strain and harracking of their opponents. Not that the harracking was all on one side—the Island Club players had a subtle technique of their own which split many a possible score!

At the end of the first half of the final roll Kocking had amassed an overwhelming lead and we can't find winners.

All the games were played in the most friendly fashion and as the scores indicate some good rolling was the order of the day.

After presentation of the Trophy by Mrs. Mann the teams were entertained to a most excellent lunch at the Residency. The Sarawak Club team then returned to the "Mermaid" and were seen off by their late opponents, and as the launch left the Wharf the Ashes were handed to the match-head.

The Sarawak Club is to be congratulated on bringing the Ashes to Kocking and it is earnestly hoped that the Trophy will be played for annually, if not bi-annually, as such encounters as these, not only in Bowling, but in other Sports as well, do a great deal in promoting a feeling of good fellowship.

The Sarawak Club extend their thanks to the Island Club for their wonderful hospitality and the excellent arrangements which went a long way to making the visit such a success.

(Continued.)

Sarawak Club.

Rolls Averages for February, 1931.

Average.	Name.	Highest Score.	No. of Balls.
<i>Ladies.</i>			
115	Mrs. J. Lloyd Thomas	155	7
112	Mrs. E. M. Dent	150	12
109	Mrs. E. M. Whyte	118	5
85	Miss D. M. Evans	118	6
<i>Mrs.</i>			
152	A. D. Dent	225	36
142	A. T. Wedgwood	149	5
138	W. L. P. Sechen	168	10
118	H. J. S. Lee	164	6
115	G. S. Smith	180	5
107	J. A. G. Benson	118	6
105	L. A. Hephurn	105	6
66	M. Steele	118	5

Rolls Combinations for February, 1931.

		Hands		
	<i>Ladies.</i>	Scores.	avg.	Total.
	Mrs. J. Lloyd Thomas	105	49	155
	Mrs. E. M. Dent	102	51	153
<i>Mrs.</i>				
	M. Steele	271	128	391
	A. T. Wedgwood	360	57	550
	G. S. Smith	248	102	550
	W. L. P. Sechen	273	67	544
	J. A. G. Benson	215	109	525
	L. A. Hephurn	199	115	511
	A. D. Dent	225	60	285

Goals.

Men's Monthly Total—Singlehand system over 14 holes.

H. G. Adams	28 points (winner on the play-off)
D. A. Hephurn	26 "
D. E. Sewell	27 "
F. F. Wemyss	28 "
A. D. Dent	25 "
W. L. Whyte	25 "
D. C. White	21 "
G. S. Smith	20 "

Ladies Monthly Total—Baggy over 9 holes.

Mrs. D. E. Sewell	2 down (winner)
Miss G. C. Wraith	4 "
Mrs. G. S. Smith	4 "
Mrs. R. G. Adams	6 "
Miss M. O. Fowler	6 "

Island Club, Sibu.

Bowling Averages for February, 1951.

Players.	No. of Balls.	Average.
D. B. Lancelotti	30	200
A. C. Waine	32	191
G. W. Myles	32	180
L. K. Morse	32	173
G. H. B. Shephard	9	153
J. G. C. Kirby-Turner	41	166
Mrs. Waine	9	142
Mrs. Myles	13	138
N. A. Lucas	7	133
Mrs. Morse	6	129
A. Walsh	9	127
Mrs. Murray	10	123
Rev. J. H. Whelan	6	114

MONTHLY BILL FOR FEBRUARY, 1951.

Players.	Score.	Hand- cap.	Total.
J. G. C. Kirby-Turner	266	18	284
Rev. J. H. Whelan	264	58	322
G. T. Myles	260	Scratch	260
A. Walsh	260	60	320
Mrs. Murray	271	60	331
D. B. Lancelotti	212	- 30	242
Mrs. Myles	263	63	326
Mrs. Morse	248	71	319
A. C. Waine	285	- 2	283
Mrs. Waine	224	57	281

Rest House Charges.

We publish below for general information of our readers the charges for board at the Rest House at Kuching and Sibu:—

Kuching: With effect from 1st January, 1951.

Visitors	
Early tea ...	\$.20
Breakfast ...	1.39
Lunch ...	2.30
Tea ...	.30
Dinner ...	2.80
	\$5.79

Government Offices

Early tea ...	\$.10
Breakfast ...	.95
Lunch ...	1.70
Tea ...	.20
Dinner ...	1.70
	\$4.20

Sibu: With effect from 1st February, 1951.

Visitors	
Early tea ...	\$.30
Breakfast ...	1.35
Lunch ...	2.25
Tea ...	.45
Dinner ...	2.75
	\$7.00

Government Offices

Early tea ...	\$.20
Breakfast ...	1.00
Lunch ...	1.50
Tea ...	.30
Dinner ...	2.00
	\$5.00

Kuching Market Price List.

20th February, 1951, to 20th March, 1951.

RICE —(per picul)			
Local, White milling ...	...	...	\$1.50
SPICES —(per picul)			
Java, native, Govt. ...	...	...	.35
Domestically ... white ...	...	...	.38
Processed ... brown ...	...	...	.30
Singap. Sugar ...	...	...	.30
SALT —(per kati)			
Coarse ...	...	...	.15
Fine ...	...	...	.14
FLOUR AND BEANS —			
Wheat Flour, per kati ...	...	...	.30
Beans per kati ...	...	...	.21
MILK —(per tin)			
Wilmott ...	...	...	.50
Golden Wheel ...	...	...	.50
EGGS —(per doz)			
Duck, fresh ...	...	...	.35
... salted ...	...	...	.18
Fowl ...	...	...	.21
SMOKE CURE —(per kati)			
Curry No. 1 ...	...	...	1.10
Spice No. 1 ...	...	...	1.00
... " " 2 ...	...	...	1.00
POKE —(per kati)			
Lean No. 1 ...	...	...	2.20
Lean with fat " 2 ...	...	...	2.00
BEEF AND OTHER MEATS —(per kati)			
Mutton (Australian) ...	...	...	2.00
Pork, mutton ...	...	...	2.00
Beef, curry meat ...	...	...	1.50
Beef No. 1 ...	...	...	2.00
... curry meat ...	...	...	1.50
Kendong Mutton ...	...	...	2.00
POULTRY —(per kati)			
Cape ...	...	...	2.75
Fowl ...	...	...	2.00
Fowl, Chinese breed ...	...	...	2.70
Fowl, Dayak breed ...	...	...	2.00
FISH —(per kati)			
Fresh Fish No. 1 ...	...	...	2.40
" " " 2 ...	...	...	1.47
" " " 3 ...	...	...	.81
Prerna " 1 ...	...	...	1.00
" " 2 ...	...	...	1.25
Crab " 1 ...	...	...	1.20
" " 2 ...	...	...	1.00
Salted fish " 1 ...	...	...	2.40
" " " 2 ...	...	...	1.50
" " " 3 ...	...	...	.80
" " " 4 ...	...	...	2.00



Sarawak Gazette.

PRICE

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All communications intended for insertion in the Sarawak Gazette must be directed to the Editor, Kuching. They should reach the Office at least ten days before the publication of each issue.

Note.—Subscriptions and advertisement matter should be addressed to the Sarawak Gazette, C/o Superintendant, Government Printing Office.

Letters and other contributions must be authenticated by writer's name sent privately to the Editor.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications, or to give reasons for not inserting them.

Readers in the Outstations will confer an obligation by forwarding to the Office early intelligence of all matters of general interest in their respective neighbourhoods.

THE "SARAWAK GAZETTE" ALMANAC.

APRIL, 1961.

Day of the week	Date	Month	Year	Moon's Phase, Etc.	High water at Kuching.
Mo.	1	20	1961	1st New moon	1.00
Tu.	2	21	1961	1st Full moon	2.00
We.	3	22	1961	1st Full moon	3.00
Th.	4	23	1961	1st Full moon	4.00
Fr.	5	24	1961	1st Full moon	5.00
Sa.	6	25	1961	1st Full moon	6.00
Su.	7	26	1961	1st Full moon	7.00
Mo.	8	27	1961	1st Full moon	8.00
Tu.	9	28	1961	1st Full moon	9.00
We.	10	29	1961	1st Full moon	10.00
Th.	11	30	1961	1st Full moon	11.00
Fr.	12	1	1961	1st Full moon	12.00
Sa.	13	2	1961	1st Full moon	1.00
Su.	14	3	1961	1st Full moon	2.00
Mo.	15	4	1961	1st Full moon	3.00
Tu.	16	5	1961	1st Full moon	4.00
We.	17	6	1961	1st Full moon	5.00
Th.	18	7	1961	1st Full moon	6.00
Fr.	19	8	1961	1st Full moon	7.00
Sa.	20	9	1961	1st Full moon	8.00
Su.	21	10	1961	1st Full moon	9.00
Mo.	22	11	1961	1st Full moon	10.00
Tu.	23	12	1961	1st Full moon	11.00
We.	24	1	1961	1st Full moon	12.00
Th.	25	2	1961	1st Full moon	1.00
Fr.	26	3	1961	1st Full moon	2.00
Sa.	27	4	1961	1st Full moon	3.00
Su.	28	5	1961	1st Full moon	4.00
Mo.	29	6	1961	1st Full moon	5.00
Tu.	30	7	1961	1st Full moon	6.00
We.	31	8	1961	1st Full moon	7.00

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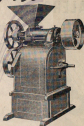
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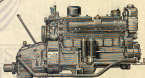
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