

“Sarawak Historical Events” 1946-1960

— Compiled By HO AH CHON —

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NASKAH PEMELIHARAAN
PERPUSTAKAAN NEGARA MALAYSIA

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Preface

As far as 1952 was concerned, it was an eventful year in the history of Sarawak, unquestionably the most eventful since the cession of the territory to the crown.

One of the last honours bestowed by His Late Majesty King George XI before his death was the conferment of knighthood upon His Excellency the Governor, an honour which was received with pride and satisfaction by people throughout Sarawak. His Excellency was absent from the country on furlough for five months in the middle of the year and during that period the Chief Secretary, Mr. R.G. Aikman, was Officer Administering the Government.

Probably the most important event of the year — at any rate to the citizens of Kuching and Sibü — was the visit in October of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, accompanied by her son the Duke of Kent. This was the first visit of a member of the Royal family to Sarawak. Her Royal Highness arrived in Kuching on the 14th of October from Singapore and with three day's stay she attended many a interesting functions. The Duchess spent most of Thursday, 16th October, at Sibü, flying to and from that town in the Sunderland flying boat which had brought her to Sarawak. The Duchess was welcomed both in Sibü and in Kuching with wholehearted and sincere demonstration of affection and loyalty, and the drive through the brilliantly decorated streets of these towns was a most moving experience for all those who took part in it. In the words of His Excellency the Governor, Her Royal Highness left behind Sarawak a gay and happy memory and a great example of unselfish public service which we will always remember and treasure."

1953 was in Sarawak, most emphatically Coronation Year; a number of other important events occurred but none of these are likely to be as well remembered as the joyful and spontaneous manifestations loyalty throughout the whole country on the occasion of Her Majesty's Coronation. In addition to the services held in churches of all denominations, there were celebrations in towns and villages everywhere, regattas, processions, sports, dancing, dinners and presentations of addresses and sentiments of loyalty to Her Majesty from all classes and races of the community. Some of the gatherings to celebrate the Coronation are shown in photographs in this issue; special mention of any particular event is, perhaps, invidious but those who saw them will long remember the decorations and the great evening procession in Kuching.



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Acknowledgement

The compilation of this No. 6 Pictorial Book is the third volume in the series of Kuching during the Third Governor of Sarawak, Sir Anthony Foster Abell.

The illustrations and descriptions of the various events had been reported through the Sarawak Gazette issued by the Sarawak Government 'Sarawak By the Week' issued by the Sarawak Information Service, Sarawak Tribune issued by the Sarawak Press Sdn. Bhd.

I wish to put on record my sincere thanks to Mr. Au Young Nang Gan A.R.P.S. for his kind permission in using many of his pictures for the publication of this Pictorial Book.



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ADMINISTRATION

Sarawak is divided for administrative purposes into five Divisions, each in charge of a Resident.

These Divisions are the First Division, with headquarters at Kuching; the Second Division, with headquarters at Simanggang; the Third Division, with headquarters at Sibu; the Fourth Division, with headquarters at Miri; the Fifth Division, with headquarters at Limbang.

Each Division is sub-divided into a number of Districts, administered by District Officers, and most of the Districts into smaller areas or sub-districts each in charge of a member of the Native Officers Service. The District Officers are advised by District Advisory Councils and sometimes Chinese Advisory Boards set up in each District, whilst Residents have the benefit of the advice of Divisional Advisory Councils which meet at frequent intervals at Divisional Headquarters. As far as is practicable, Government attempts to free Residents and District Officers from as much office work as is possible in order that they may tour their areas and maintain the close contact with the people which has always been the keynote of administration.

Progress in local government continued in 1957. Before the war the Native Administration Order was published as an enabling Ordinance to allow the gradual introduction of the people themselves into the administration of their own affairs. This Order contemplated the setting up of village committees to replace the individual chiefs, but the first experiment on these lines did not get very far owing to the outbreak of war and the impossibility of providing adequate supervision. In 1947 a scheme was drawn up for the development of Local Government through local authorities with their own treasuries. The Local Authority Ordinance, 1948, forms the basis for the powers of these Authorities, and their revenues are made up of direct taxes, fines, and fees, supplemented by a grant from the central Government calculated according to the number of tax-payers.

Most of the authorities first constituted were established on a racial basis, but this proved to be an unsound foundation, and the pattern on which they are now organised is the Mixed, or Inter-racial, Authority, with jurisdiction over people of all races in the area.

As from the beginning of the year 1957 the whole population of the country, about 600,000, were under the jurisdiction of local authorities except for an area, on the north-east coast between Miri and the Brunei border containing about 15,000 people, the inclusion of whom in an area administered by a local authority has so far not been possible. All local authorities have a dual function: local government within the limits defined in the Local Authority Ordinance and, as electoral colleges, the election of representatives to Divisional Advisory Councils, which in turn elect members of the Council Negeri. In this electoral function three urban councils also elect one representative each direct to the Council Negeri. Local authorities are themselves constituted by election.

In 1941, to commemorate the centenary of Brooke rule, His Highness the Rajah granted a Constitution, and in 1946, when Sarawak became a Crown Colony, the Supreme Council and the Council Negeri retained the authority granted to them in that Constitution. This gave legislative and financial jurisdiction to the Council Negeri, a body of twenty members of whom fourteen were official members appointed from the Sarawak Civil Service and eleven unofficial, representative of the several peoples of the country and their interests. In addition, there were certain Standing Members — natives of Sarawak who had been members of the Council Negeri immediately before the enactment of the new Constitution Ordinance. The Council had the power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the country, and no public money could be expended or any charge made upon the revenues of the country without the Council's consent. The Constitution also provided for a Supreme Council of not less than five members, of whom a majority should be members of Sarawak Civil Service and of the Council Negeri.

All powers conferred upon the Rajah or the Rajah-in-Council by any written law enacted before the date of operation of the Cession of Sarawak to His Majesty were vested in the Governor-in-Council. In the exercise of his powers and duties the Governor consulted with the Supreme Council, except in making appointments to the Supreme Council and in cases

- (a) of such nature that, in the Governor judgement, Her Majesty would sustain material prejudice by consulting the Supreme Council thereon; or
- (b) of matters in his judgement too unimportant to require their advice; or
- (c) of matters in his judgement too urgent to admit of their advice being given by the time action might be necessary.

In August 1956 an Order-in-Council was made and Letters Patent and Royal Instructions were promulgated which between them contained a new Constitution for Sarawak. It provides for a new legislative body consisting of forty-five members of whom twenty-four are elected unofficials, fourteen are *ex-officio*, four nominated to represent interests which the Governor considers inadequately represented, and the remaining three are standing members. The new Supreme or Executive Council consists of three *ex-officio* members,

namely the Chief Secretary, the Financial Secretary and the Attorney-General, two nominated members and five elected members who are elected, nominated or standing members of the Legislative Council. Councils representing the five Administrative Divisions of Sarawak, or Divisional Advisory Councils, as they are designated, elect twenty-one of the twenty-four unofficial members, and the remaining three members are elected by the Kuching Municipal Council, the Sibuan Urban District Council and the Miri Urban District Council. To qualify for election as an unofficial member a person must be, amongst other things, over twenty-one years of age and a British subject or a British protected person, and must, with certain exceptions, have resided for at least seven out of the last ten years in Sarawak. This Constitution came into force on 1st April, 1957, the day appointed by His Excellency the Governor for this purpose.

Pre-war Sarawak, the effects of the war and the events leading up to Cession

At the outbreak of the war Sarawak had fought its way back from the doldrums of the great slump to a state of comparative affluence for so small a country. Though it was not until 1941 that revenue was restored to the 1929 level, nevertheless revenue was regularly exceeding expenditure, sums were being placed in reserve to meet future contingencies and social services were being gradually improved, though they still fell far below the country's needs.

From the very beginning of the war the State gave all the assistance possible to the Allied War effort. Donations and loans were made by the Government to the Imperial Exchequer totalling £312,000. Local bodies and members of the public contributed generously to various funds. Local defence forces were raised, river patrols and coast watchers were organised and, at the request of the British Government, an aerodrome was constructed, the cost of which was borne by the State.

Some time before the entry of Japan into the war almost all the European women and children were sent to Australia for safety.

It had long been apparent that the oilfields at Miri might be one of the enemy's objectives and during the two months immediately preceding the outbreak of war with Japan much important machinery was dismantled and removed to Singapore in accordance with a pre-arranged plan.

During the week succeeding the declaration of war by Japan the wells and such installations as had not had their machinery removed were blown up by members of the Sarawak Oilfields staff assisted by a small party of Royal Engineers. These persons were evacuated from Miri in S/S "Lipis" and reached Kuching on 14th December, 1941.

The European Government Officers and General Manager of the oilfields remained behind to help and advise the population and the former surrendered when the Japanese landed early in the morning of 16th December, 1941.

On 19th December, Kuching was raided at about mid-day by seventeen Japanese planes. On the night of 23rd December, 1941, in consequence of information received to the effect

that a Japanese fleet was in passage from Miri towards Kuching, the airfield was blown up and parts of various ships and launches were removed in order to deny their use to the enemy. The 2/15 Punjabi Regiment together with units of the Sarawak Constabulary and Sarawak Rangers were concentrated near the airfield but, on it becoming apparent that the Japanese were landing large forces at Kuching, these troops comprising the Kuching garrison retired on Bau and the Dutch border. A Company was left behind at the seventh mile and fought a delaying action with the Japanese until surrounded on 25th December.

The first Japanese troops arrived in Kuching at about 4 p.m. on 24th December and by noon on Christmas Day several thousand men had been landed and, for all practical purposes, the conquest of Sarawak was complete.

From then on until the liberation in September, 1945 conditions throughout the country deteriorated with gathering momentum.

In the matter of devastation Sarawak may perhaps be considered lucky in comparison with her neighbour North Borneo. Extensive damage was done in the north during the re-occupation by the Australian forces and by air attack. In the Third Division, particularly in the areas bordering the Rejang river, damage was caused during the guerilla fighting, but in the First and Second Divisions property suffered little damage.

As is usually the case the hardships suffered in the towns during the long period of occupation were generally much more severe than in the village areas. This applied particularly to Kuching where there was a large Japanese garrison, with Military Police playing the role that has brought Japanese occupation forces into contempt and hatred everywhere. It was not until September, 1945, that the Australian Forces landed in Kuching and purged the town. The administration was handed over by them to the "British Military Administration" in November.

The difficulties that faced the Military Administration were serious, lack of trained officers being not the least important, but Sarawak was fortunate in that a few experienced officers of the Sarawak Civil Service were serving in the unit. This gave confidence to the people who were not unnaturally in a state of mind which was ready to be suspicious of anything new. Good progress was made

during the short period of Military Administration towards the restoration of normal conditions and the re-establishment of health and other essential services.

In April, 1946, H.H. The Rajah returned and resumed the Government of the country. He was accompanied by a few more of the pre-war European Civil Service, but the serious loss of European personnel by internment, murder and war casualties was a handicap which could not be entirely overcome and which will, in fact, be felt for some time to come.

The rest of the year 1946 brought steady improvement in the life of the country in all its aspects. The foundations of the future were laid and reconstruction, though handicapped by shortage of staff and material, was begun. Health and morale immediately began to improve but the mental and physical deterioration caused by the long enemy occupation was such that some time must elapse before it can be completely overcome. A serious wave of crime, mainly theft and robbery, marked the beginning of the year 1946 but was slowly but surely quelled.

Until November, 1941, relations between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and Sarawak were governed by the Agreement concluded with Rajah Brooke in 1888, which placed Sarawak under the protection of the United Kingdom. This Agreement vested in the British Government the power of decision in any question arising in respect of the right of succession to the Raj, and control of Sarawak's foreign relations. It accorded most-favoured-nation treatment to British subjects, commerce and shipping, and provided that the Rajah and his successors should not make any cession or other alienation of any part of Sarawak territory to any foreign State or subjects without the consent of the British Government. Under this Agreement, His Majesty possessed no jurisdiction in Sarawak, and the formal powers and rights of control of His Majesty's Government were strictly limited.

In the years between the two World Wars it became increasingly apparent that the Agreement of 1888 was inconsistent with His Majesty's Government's responsibilities for Sarawak, and on several occasions His Majesty's Government proposed inviting the Sarawak Government to consider a revision of the existing Agreement, but in the event on each occasion circumstances necessitated the

postponement of a formal approach to the Sarawak authorities.

After the outbreak of the late war the late Lord Moyne, at the time Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed an official despatch in March, 1941 to the British Agent for Sarawak on this subject. Lord Moyne stated that, after considering his position as the person charged with the responsibility of representing the Protecting Power in regard to Sarawak, he had come to the conclusion that the limits imposed by the Agreement of 1888 were unduly restrictive in present times, and that they prevented the Secretary of State for the Colonies from providing himself either with the requisite information about affairs in Sarawak, or with the necessary authority and influence to help and direct the State administration towards the higher standards which were being achieved in Colonies and Protectorates elsewhere. The British Agent was therefore instructed to seek the consent of the Rajah to the conclusion of a supplementary formal Agreement with His Majesty's Government, providing for the acceptance of a British Resident Adviser. The British Agent for Sarawak accordingly entered into negotiations with the Government of that territory to this end.

In September 1941, whilst these negotiations were in progress, the Rajah enacted a Constitution to mark the Centenary of the rule of the White Rajahs. Previously the internal constitution of the State had been in theory an absolute monarchy (the Constitution Order refers to "Our will and intention to commemorate this centenary year by terminating forever the era of autocratic rule which has so far characterised our government"). In practice there had come to be associated with the Rajah, as the Supreme Head of the State and the sole legislative and financial authority, various bodies with more or less loosely defined functions. Amongst these were the Supreme Council, established in 1855, and the Council Negri, established in 1867. The Supreme Council had ceased to hold formal meetings since 1927, and the practice of the Council Negri had been to meet every two or three years to hear an address from the Rajah on the progress of the State since the last meeting. The Constitution of 1941 however vested in the Supreme Council and Council Negri powers approximately equivalent, respectively, to those of the Executive and Legislative Councils of normal colonial constitutions. Generally speaking, the prerogatives of the

Rajah were thenceforth to be exercised by the Rajah acting with the advice and consent of the Supreme Council, whilst all legislative and budgetary power was vested in the Rajah acting with the advice and consent of the Council Negri.

The negotiations between the Sarawak Government and the British Agent for Sarawak in 1941 resulted in the conclusion in November of that year of a Supplementary Agreement between His Majesty's Government and the Government of Sarawak. This Agreement provided for the appointment of a British Representative whose advice had to be sought and acted upon on all matters affecting Sarawak's foreign relations or the rights and status of foreign nationals, and on all matters of defence. His services were to be available for consultation and he was to be entitled to offer his opinion on matters touching the general administration of the State. He was to have access to state documents and records concerning matters in respect of which his advice was sought, and to have the right to attend, but not to vote, at meetings of the Supreme Council when such matters were being discussed. He was to have the right to attend, but not to vote, at all meetings of the Council Negri. But in the event there was no time to appoint a British Representative under this Agreement before Sarawak was overrun by the Japanese.

When Sarawak was invaded the Rajah was in Australia. His original intention was to continue the administration of Sarawak affairs from Australia, but in April of 1942, with the concurrence of His Majesty's Government, he appointed instead a Sarawak Commission in London, under the Chairmanship of his brother, the Tuan Muda, to be responsible to the Rajah for the control and administration of Sarawak funds, and to safeguard Sarawak's interests. The Commissioners were selected by the Rajah and held their appointments at his pleasure.

In 1943 and 1944 His Majesty's Government again reviewed the question of Anglo-Sarawak relations, as part of their general survey of the future of the British territories in South East Asia for which the Secretary of State for the Colonies is responsible. In the case of Sarawak they concluded that a fresh Agreement was desirable in order that His Majesty's Government should be in a position to discharge its responsibilities in respect of the territory.

In the summer of 1944 the Secretary of State for the Colonies communicated to the Rajah His Majesty's Government's view that the existing Agreements did not sufficiently provide them with the means of discharging to the full their responsibilities for the policies to be followed in Sarawak's future political, social and economic development, and proposed that discussions should be opened with a view to clarifying the lines on which Anglo-Sarawak relations should develop in the post-war period. At the Rajah's suggestion a preliminary discussion was held at the Colonial Office in October, 1944 at which the Rajah was represented by his brother the Tuan Muda.

Later the Rajah informed the Secretary of State that his brother had for reasons of health asked to be relieved of his office as Chairman of the Sarawak Government Commission, and that after consulting his brother and the Commission he had decided to appoint his nephew, the Rajah Muda, to administer the Government with the advice of the Commission, thus constituting a "Provisional Government of Sarawak" with full powers. His Majesty's Government were advised that they should not accord formal recognition to this body, and did not in fact do so. Its members were therefore regarded merely as the Rajah's representatives for the purpose of continuing the discussions already opened with Captain Bertram Brooke.

Discussions were eventually opened with members of the "Provisional Government of Sarawak" during the first half of 1945. It was made clear that it was not the intention of His Majesty's Government to ask the Government of Sarawak to enter into a binding agreement at that stage, but that they wished to undertake the necessary preparatory work to seek a formula which would be acceptable to both sides and could be embodied in a further Agreement to be negotiated with the Sarawak Government after its restoration in the territory.

The talks had not progressed very far when the Rajah announced that, consequent upon the conclusion of hostilities in the Far East and the liberation of Sarawak, he had decided to re-assume his powers and prerogatives under the 1941 Constitution, thus terminating the appointment of his nephew as "Officer Administering the Government" and also the functions of the "Provisional Government" itself, which the Rajah dismissed.

The Rajah did not in fact form a new "government," but soon after informed the Secretary of State that, having given further study to the proposals, he had come to the conclusion that they did not go far enough. He expressed the view that the continuance of the White Raj was no longer wise or expedient, and stated that he had in mind the cession of the territory to His Majesty in the interests of the native inhabitants themselves.

The Rajah expressed the wish to consult certain of his principal native counsellors in regard to his proposal for the future of his territory, through the intermediary of his personal private secretary, before making any definite proposal to His Majesty's Government. Arrangements were accordingly made for his personal private secretary to visit Sarawak, which was then being administered by the Australian military authorities, accompanied by a senior official of the Colonial Service acting as the Secretary of State's observer. These consultations took place in January, 1946. Although they took the form of meetings of the Sarawak State Councils, the Rajah decided that they should nevertheless be regarded only as exploratory discussions. The resolutions passed at those meetings were not therefore gazetted, and were not regarded as constituting in any sense formal or final agreement of the Councils to the Rajah's proposal. With these and other indications of local opinion, however, the Rajah felt able to make a definite proposal for the cession of his territory to the British Crown. His Majesty's Government informed the Rajah that this proposal would be acceptable to themselves, provided it was agreed to by the Sarawak State Councils upon the Rajah's return to the territory, and subject to the necessary legal and constitutional measures being taken.

Subsequently doubts were expressed in the House of Commons as to whether the Sarawak State Councils, as constituted, were sufficiently representative to ensure that the views of the inhabitants of the territory would be properly reflected in their decisions on this important question. In agreement with the Rajah, therefore, arrangements were made for Lt. Col. D.R. Rees Williams, M.P. (Labour) and Capt. L.D. Gammans, M.P. (Unionist) to visit Sarawak, to undertake an informal but independent enquiry on behalf of His Majesty's Government for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the Rajah's proposal was broadly acceptable to the native communities

as a whole. The Rajah, accompanied by a Senior official of the Colonial Service who had been appointed to act as the British Representative under the 1941 Agreement, and by a Colonial Office Legal Adviser, arrived in the territory to resume his administration from the military authorities on the 15th April, 1946. The two Members of Parliament arrived in Sarawak on the 2nd May. After an initial public meeting in Kuching with representatives of all communities on the 3rd May, the two Members of Parliament set out on tour. Public meetings were held with representatives of the various communities in several centres.

The two Members reported to His Majesty's Government their conclusion that there was sufficient acquiescent or favourable opinion in the country as a whole to justify the question of cession being brought before the Council Negri of Sarawak, and they strongly urged that there should be no postponement of that action. After considering this report His Majesty's Government informed the Rajah that, in view of the conclusion reached by the two Members of Parliament, His Majesty's Government were able to confirm that the cession would be acceptable to them provided the Sarawak Councils passed the necessary legal and constitutional measures.

The Cession Bill was accordingly submitted to the Council Negri on the 15th May, and on the 17th May was passed by 19 votes to 16. The Instrument of Cession was executed by the Rajah and the Supreme Council, and by the British Representative on behalf of His Majesty, in Kuching on the 21st May. His Majesty's Order in Council bringing that Instrument into force as from the 1st July was made on the 26th June. Sarawak thus became a Colony on the 1st July, 1946.

On the 9th May, previous to the Council Negri Meeting in response to a request from the native communities in Sarawak for a statement of His Majesty's Government's policy in the event of the cession of the territory, supported by a recommendation from the two Members of Parliament that such a statement should be issued, His Majesty's Government authorised the Rajah to make the following official statement on their behalf:-

"In the event of cession Sarawak would become a Colony and would be administered generally on the same lines as other Colonies within the British Empire. It would not form part of the

Malayan Union. Sarawak subjects would become British subjects. The cardinal principles set out in the 1941 Constitution are in general in accord with those which govern the administration of other parts of the Colonial Empire. The Constitution of 1941 would be continued in the first place subject to such amendments as are necessitated by cession. But it would be necessary quite soon to introduce other changes (in particular to provide for the Royal Assent to legislation and for His Majesty's power of disallowance) in order to adapt the Constitution to the new status of Sarawak as part of His Majesty's dominions. As a preliminary to that the Governor of Sarawak would be asked too into the whole constitutional question with the representatives of the communities and other persons concerned on the spot, with a view to recommending what steps should be taken, at the time when these changes are made, to associate the people of Sarawak with its government and administration on a basis as broadly representative as conditions permit. It is hoped in this way to secure the maximum progressive constitutional development. In all legislative and administrative measures the fullest regard would be paid to the religions and existing rights and customs of the various communities. There is no intention of exploiting the people of the country or its resources, and among the most important objectives would be rehabilitation, improvement of social services and communications, and controlled development of trade and resources with a view to raising the standard of living of the inhabitants."

On 1st July, 1946, His Excellency the Governor-General of Malaya, Mr Malcolm MacDonald, installed Mr C.W. Dawson as Acting Governor of Sarawak. In his inaugural address Mr Dawson made it clear that the change of Government would not, as had been rumoured, be the signal for drastic changes in the customs of the people at large. This statement and the subsequent conduct of public affairs did much to restore confidence.

Sir Chales Noble Arden Clarke, Kt., C.M.G., was installed as Governor and Commander-in-Chief in October, 1946, and on December 2nd addressed a meeting of the Council Negri. This was the first meeting of

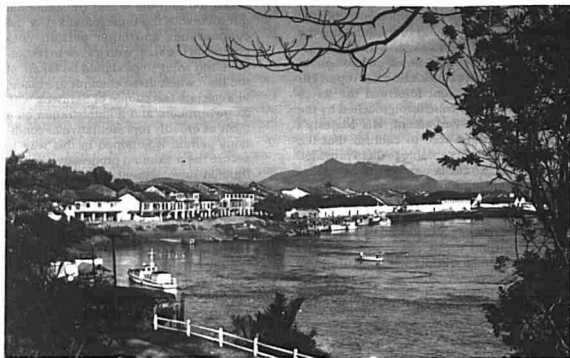
the Council to be held since Sarawak became a Crown Colony.

After touching on the past history of the Council, the Governor pointed out that the eventual aim of Colonial policy was self-government and that this would be achieved all the sooner by mutual trust and co-operation between the various races and between the people and their Government. The basis of representation in the Council would be broadened, but changes would only be introduced after full consultation with the people and with the advice and consent of the Council. His Excellency pointed out how timely was the grant of \$5,000,000 from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund, which would serve to start the task of development.

The supply position showed steady improvement, but the need to grow more food, particularly rice, was still paramount.

Mr C.W. Dawson, as Acting Governor, had visited many of the outstations and the Governor at once started on an extensive programme of tours covering the whole country.

As the whole basis of Brooke Administration had been unceasing personal contact with the people by the Rajah himself and all his administrative officers the reassurance provided by this proof of the intention of the Government to keep in touch with the people had an excellent effect and allayed the fears that the new administration would be impersonal and remote.



Kuching town as seen from Thompson Road in 1952.

1946

1946, the first year of peace, has departed to its fathers. Its birth found Sarawak still in the throes of the military administration, and it is difficult for those of us who were not in the country at the time to assess fairly the duty that was done and the work that was accomplished. "The evil that men do lives after them; the good is oft interr'd with their bones." So let it be with the B.M.A. The difficulties of that first attempt at recovery and

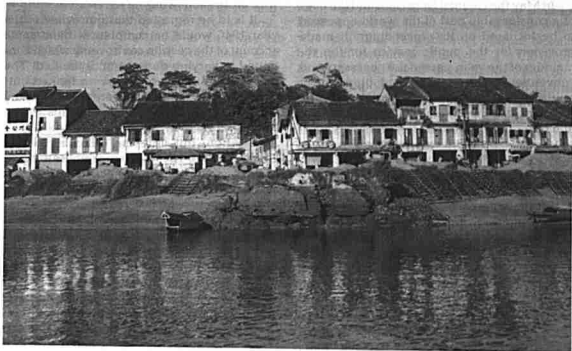
rehabilitation must have been enormous, and the civil government owes a great debt of gratitude to its predecessor for the conditions of comparative calm under which it resumed the helm. Sarawak is a difficult enough country to understand and administer even to those who have spent years on the job, and to complete newcomers, to whom the people were strange and the language incomprehensible, it must indeed have seemed a formidable under-

taking. Some of the officers were of course members of the Civil Service; a few, who were not, have since been given appointments; and, while it is impossible to regret the disappearance of certain names now only too familiar, the majority carried out a difficult task with determination, and on the whole carried it out well.

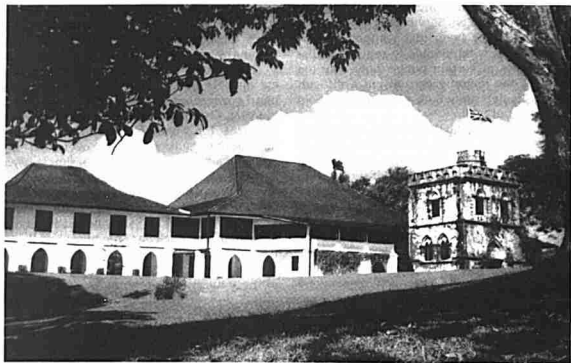
One event during the military regime must not be allowed to pass unrecorded. Early in December, 1945, an application was received in the Legal Office, Kuching, for registration of a birth which had occurred some twelve months previously. In these circumstances it has been the practice to require an affidavit and within a few days several applicants appeared. By the new year there were forty women in the office every day, each carrying a baby and generally accompanied by several other children. To cope with the work it became necessary to print urgently one thousand affidavit forms. These were rapidly exhausted and another thousand were obtained. To cope with the noise a special office had to be opened. It soon came to light that with the aid of a birth certificate milk could be obtained at the Supply Depot. A rush of work was caused at the Depot and great concern as to the adequacy of the supply. In several instances the father collected the milk and sold it on the black-market. In the end it was

necessary to stop the distribution of milk in such cases and the demand for birth certificates closed down as suddenly as it had begun.

This story lifts only one small corner of the curtain. No other information has come to hand concerning the hectic early months of the year. On April 15th His Highness the Rajah arrived in Kuching and on the following day the civil authorities took over from the military administration. His Highness was accompanied by a few officers who thus joined their colleagues, now released from the control of senior army officers who inevitably knew less, both about Sarawak and about the government of backward peoples, than these trained subordinates. Little by little other members of the service trickled back, some after demobilisation from the forces and others after recuperating from a long period of internment. Familiar figures arrived on practically every boat and plane, but as they came back the gaps that the war has left became more apparent. The proportion of officers of the Sarawak Civil Service, who in one way or another lost their lives since the day the Japanese landed in Kuching, is probably almost as high as that of any similar body of men in the world. It is believed that one-third is not a very inaccurate estimate. Those who returned did not find Kuching very different.



Main Bazaar along the Sarawak River as appeared in 1950.



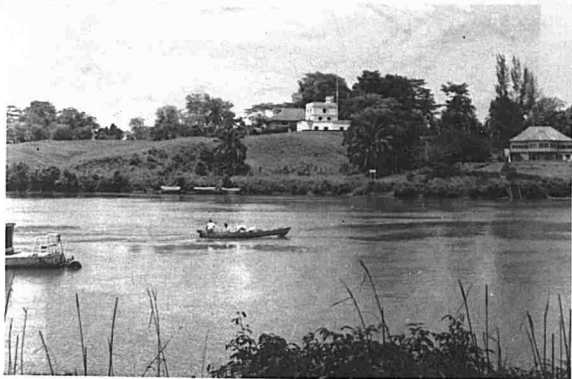
Astana, Kuching: the residence of His Excellency the Governor, an formerly of His Highness the Rajah.

One of the most important innovations was a daily paper in English, the *Sarawak Tribune*, which represents a definite improvement in local amenities.

In May the Council Negri met and the eyes of a considerable part of the world appeared to be focussed on its proceedings. It made provision for the public service for the remainder of the year; passed the necessary and conventional indemnity law; adopted certain military proclamations; and authorised the payment of money to dependants of the Rajah and other persons; but all this work was overshadowed by the Bill empowering His Highness to cede Sarawak to the British Crown. This Bill was passed by a narrow majority, and His Highness, together with His Majesty's accredited representative, forthwith signed an instrument of cession. On July 1st Sarawak became a Crown Colony by Order-in-Council implementing that agreement, and an impressive ceremony attended by His Excellency the Governor-General, Mr Malcolm MacDonald, took place in Kuching on that day. The former British Representative appointed under the 1941 treaty, Mr C.W. Dawson, became Chief Secretary, and, by virtue of a dormant commission, assumed the administration of the government pending

the appointment of a Governor. On October 28th Sir Charles Noble Arden Clarke, C.M.G., arrived in Kuching and took the oaths as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak on the following day.

It is to be regretted that no review of the year 1946 would be complete without some account of the cession controversy which continued in varying degrees until the end. The fire was lit and the flames were fanned outside Sarawak. Repeated reference is made by Mr Anthony Brooke and his friends in the Malay National Union and the Dayak Association, but only the following would contend that the former represents the Malays and only the ignorant can believe that the latter represents the Dayaks. If Mr. Brooke's object had been to retard rehabilitation in this country, and to waste the time and energies of a depleted staff of Government servants, his agitation might have been understood. It is thought however that he himself is sincere, although the same cannot be said of some of his supporters, spokesmen, and satellites, who had hitherto refrained from revealing their deep concern for the liberty of dependent peoples, and whose motives are apparent to the least discerning. One is equally astonished at the reasoning which



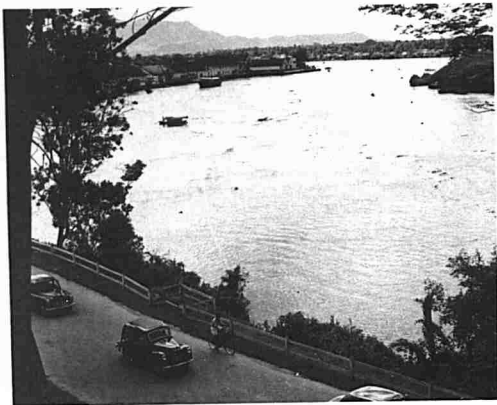
The Fort Margaria

equates "independence" to the personal rule of a British subject, at the shameless chatter of editors and politicians, who have never been in the country and would not know how to conduct themselves if they arrived here, and at the self-complacency of Mr Brooke, who appears to think that most of Sarawak is nightly drinking a toast, in orangeade and *tuak*, to the rajah let across the water. This heir presumptuous is in danger of confusing the divine will of the heavenly father with the "political will" of an earthly grandsire. Many Sarawak officers served for some years as colleagues of Mr Brooke. They know him as a likeable fellow, but they also know the country well enough to recognise his claims and his pretensions for the twaddle that they are. On December 13th the Chief Secretary issued an order prohibiting the entry of this effervescent emancipator into the Colony. There the matter rested at the end of the year.

It is with relief that we turn from these Bonnie Prince Charlie futilities to the really important matters of the latter half of the year. The position with regard to essential commodities gradually improved and there was a slight reduction in the cost of living in most Districts. The hardest hit Division was probably the Fourth where rather more physical

destruction had been occasioned by the war than elsewhere in the Colony. Disease, particularly malaria, was rampant; natives, especially in the Ulu Baram, were short of food; the numerous bomb craters in Bintulu District were not filled in; and to these woes was added the destruction of Marudi bazaar by fire in the middle of the year. On the other hand, as far as prices and supplies were concerned, Bintulu appeared to be well in the vanguard of recovery. Bad health and malnutrition were common all over the Colony and District Officers continually complained of the shortage of medicines. Other commodities, the absence of which, was severely felt, were guns and cartridges; the depredations of monkeys and pigs causing great damage to padi crops.

Agriculture indeed loomed large in the economy of the Colony. The pre-war schemes were pushed on as far as financial stringency permitted and the Agricultural Department increased in stature as the year progressed. Its activities were divided between the development of the large-scale projects, the distribution of propaganda designed to expand productivity and encourage everyone to plant food, and the rendering of practical help to farmers and amateur cultivators. It is not only

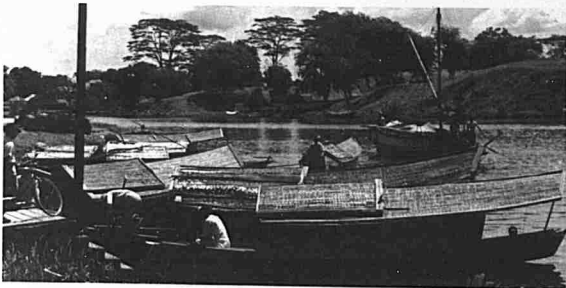


Thompson Road along Sarawak River.

the exinternees who are now more competent at swinging a *changkol* than they were in 1941. The work of this important department culminated in the Kuching Show in December which is dealt with elsewhere. *Engkabang* flowered and fruited profusely, but until towards the end of the year it appeared that the uncertainties of the market would once again render this crop less profitable than it ought to be. Arrangements were, however, then made for purchase by the agents of the British Ministry of Food at the price of \$16.20 per *pical* ex-ship's side, Singapore, for minimum quantities of twenty tons. It remained to be seen how far the Sarawak producers and dealers would take advantage of this good fortune.

Crime cannot be said to have been non-existent, but Sarawak can congratulate herself that it was less serious than might reasonably have been expected. Armed robbery was extremely rare but once Chinese fired at the Sibu police, who were attempting to arrest him, in November, and was shot dead in return. Bau District was in an unsettled condition, but this neighbourhood has always sheltered more than its fair proportion of anti-social elements. Until about October bur-

glaries in Kuching were frequent, but they almost ceased in the last two months of the year. This was possibly due to the arrest of a Labuan Malay who admitted to being concerned in two cases. He was placed on probation, and this leniency does not appear to have been attended with untoward consequences. After the Kuching burglaries ceased a similar outbreak began in Mukah, but this seemed to have been terminated by the arrest of a Malay woman. A distressing feature of the "crime wave", if it can be properly so called, was the high proportion of youthful offenders. It is difficult to deal with these in the absence of any reformatory or industrial school, but a convenient expedient has been found by sending those convicted on serious charges to work on agricultural stations. The success of this experiment depends on the maximum amount of co-operation between the department and the boy. The assistance of the former is never failing, but in some instances the attitude of the culprit has resulted in his being sent to prison after all. In Kuching children have been prominent amongst the principal perpetrators of minor nuisances, notably in conducting small-scale black-market activi-



ties and in gambling on the five-foot way.

There was no Dayak "trouble" in the familiar sense during the year although various unfounded rumours caused minor stirs from time to time, and feeling between the natives and the Chinese in the upper Rejang appeared to be getting more and more exacerbated. It is to be hoped that the recent visit of the Chinese Consul-General has helped to restore harmony in that area. The Colony was little disturbed by labour disputes but a serious strike occurred in Miri in August and September. A particularly noticeable feature of the year was the number of new societies that were registered, and it is probable that a proportion of these will have to transfer to the register of trade unions when the appropriate legislation is passed.

The Chinese and the up-river races seem to be recovering from the comatosity induced by the years of occupation rather quicker than the Malays. Particularly in the field of education the latter were being left behind. The proportion of Chinese children attending school is far above that of any other race, but the most backward peoples have recently evinced an urgent desire for the education of their children and schools have been started amongst the Kenyahs, Kayans, and Kelabits. The Sea Dayaks have of course always been well to the front in such matters, and their bent for trading, which was becoming obvious before the war, is now expanding more abundantly than ever. There seems to be a wide field, amongst the Malays as well as the other races, for the development of producers' co-operative societies, and it is to be hoped

that facilities will be available for the encouragement and guidance of this movement. It is not entirely to be regretted that a Malay shop will probably always be a rarity, but many members of that race are as eager as other indigenous peoples to reap the fruits of modern learning and culture, and to take their part in the progress of the nations. The reluctance of some to look ahead instead of over their shoulders can be understood but it must be allowed to retard the advance of others.

The interest that the new authorities take in the welfare of all races, their repeated assurances that there will be no drastic innovations without prior consultation with the representatives of the people, and their obvious desire to listen to suggestions and requests and render every assistance in their power, have made a deep impression. His Excellency the Governor-General has visited Kuching on several occasions and in August he made a most successful and popular tour of the outstations. The Officer Administering the Government, Mr C.W. Dawson, also visited other parts of the Colony in October, and in November His Excellency the Governor who had only just arrived in the country, visited Miri, Sibul and Simanggang. The age-old complaint that Kuching got all the attention and nearly all the money looks as if it is going to lose its substance. At the turn of the year the Colony squared its shoulders, brushed away the irritating gnats, took up the burdens which are so much lighter than they were twelve months ago, and strode out hopefully and confidently along the path leading to the future.

MESSAGE FROM HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH TO THE PEOPLE OF SARAWAK

CESSION DAY 1ST JULY, 1947

On this day July 1st, I send warm greetings to all my friends in Sarawak. A year has passed since Sarawak was ceded to His Majesty the King.

I gave deep thought to his proposal for cession before making it to the British Government and placing it before the Councils in Kuching. I knew that it meant the end of Brooke rule, an event which, I was proud to realise, would be a matter of sorrow to very many of you. Nevertheless I took the decision because I knew that it was the best interests of the people of Sarawak and that in the turmoil of the modern world they would benefit greatly from the experience, strength and wisdom of British Rule.

I have followed very closely the events of the last year and I am more than ever convinced that the decision taken was the right one. The assurances given at the time of cession that there would be no interference with your ancient customs are being scrupulously observed. At the same time large schemes for the welfare and betterment of the people have been worked out and will be put into force with the aid of funds provided by the King's Government in Britain. I am glad that all these plans adhere to the main principles of the policy of the three Rajahs in the past, that the interests of the local population shall be paramount and that development shall be undertaken by the people and for the benefit of the people of Sarawak.

I know that there are still some in Sarawak, encouraged by persons living outside the country, who maintain their opposition to what has been done. Their cry is that they have lost their "independence" and wish to recover it. What in fact is the position? You have transferred your loyalty from the Rajah who was like your father to a greater father, the King, who has for so long been our Protector. Your feet are firmly set on the road which leads to true independence. Your local institutions are being developed, your power to express your views on laws and forms of Government is being increased, and your will gradually approach that goal, already reached by so many peoples who have had the privilege of Britain's guidance, where you will be completely self-governing.

The length of time which must elapse before you arrive at that goal will depend largely on the willingness with which you grasp the hand of friendship and support held out to you by His Majesty's Government. This is the greatest opportunity for progress that Sarawak has ever had. With unaltered devotion for your interests and well-being I say, "Long Live the people of Sarawak. Long Live the King."

C. V. Brooke.

**SABDA SERI PADUKA DULI YANG
MAHA MULIA TUAN RAJA
KAPADA RA'AYAT SARAWAK BAGI HARI PENYERAHAN
1 HARIBULAN JULY, 1947**

Pada hari ini ia-itu 1 haribulan July, saya memberi tahni'ah kepada sekalian kawan2 saya di-Sarawak. Bahawa genap-lah sa-tahun sudah Negeri Sarawak ini terserah kepada Seri Baginda King.

Bahawa saya sudah chukup timbangkan dengan halus-nya terhadap cadangan saya bagi serahan ini tadi, sebelum saya hadapkan ia kepada Kerajaan British, juga sebelum saya bentangkan ia kepada kedua2 Majlis Council di-Kuching. Saya ketahu bahawa langkah ini ialah berma'ana hapus-nya Pemerintahan Brooke, ia-itu suatu peristewo yang saya telah berbesar hati mengatahui-nya ada-lah ia menyedekkan hati banyak di-antara kamu. Sunggoh pun demikian saya juga laksanakan terus kerana saya ketahu ada-lah ia untuk faedah yang baik ka-atas ra'ayat Sarawak jelata, bahawa dengan kekusutan dunia di-zaman sekarang, mereka pula akan dapat beberapa faedah yang baik dari kepandai-an, kekuatan dan kebijaksanaan-nya Kerajaan British.

Saya sudah tatapkan betul2 segala kejadian2 pada tahun yang lalu, dan saya dapati lebeh dari awal-nya tadi bahawa langkah yang telah di-jalankan itu ada-lah perkara yang sebaik2-nya. Bahkan saperti yang telah di-janjikan pada masa awal serahan-nya tadi bahawa segala adat2 lama itu ada-lah maseh di-jaga dengan chermat-nya. Begitu juga chadangan2 yang mustahak ada di-atorkan dengan perbelanja-an Kerajaan Baginda King dari Negara British bagi memperbaiki kehidupan dan kemajuan ra'ayat Sarawak jelata. Saya bersukachita bahawa segala chadangan2 itu sunggoh bersetuju dengan segala tujuan muslihat ka-tiga2 Raja yang telah lalu, ya'ni segala keperluan2 bagi ra'ayat hendak lah di-utamakan, juga segala kemajuan pula maulah di-usaha oleh ra'ayat sendiri untuk faedah ra'ayat Sarawak jua, adanya.

Saya juga mengatahui bahawa ada sedikit orang2 dalam Sarawak yang suka mengekal bantahan mereka ka-atas apa yang telah di-jalankan, dengan galakkan orang2 dari luar negeri. Mereka berseru bahawa mereka telah kehilangan "kemerdeheka-an" mereka, dan bermaksud supaya mendapatkan ia balek semula. Apakah sebenar keada-an-nya tentang ini? Kamu sudah memindahkan ta'at setia mahu terhadap Raja yang sebagai bapa itu kepada seorang bapa yang lebeh besar lagi tinggi ia-itu Seri Baginda King, siapa yang telah beberapa lama itu tadi menjadi Penaong kita. Bahkan kaki kamu sekarang sedang berdiri dengan tegap-nya arah jalan yang menuju kepada kemerdekaan yang sebenar-nya. Bahawa adat lembaga kamu sedang diatorkan, kebebasan kamu bagi bersuara tentang hal Undang-undang kamu serta pula tentang chorak perintah kamu ada-lah di-perlebeh-jua, maka kamu akan berunsor hampir kepada taraf saperti yang telah di-perolehi oleh beberapa bangsa yang telah berpeluang mendapat penduan dari Negara British, bahawa di-sini-lah kamu kelak akan berperintahan sendiri dengan sepenoh2-nya.

Bahawa tentang masa yang harus di-gunakan pula, sebelum kamu menchapai kepada taraf itu, ada-lah bergantung kepada keredza-an bagi kamu sendiri pada menyambutkan jabatan persehabatan dan sukongan yang di-unjok oleh Kerajaan Seri Baginda. Ini-lah sabesar2 peluang bagi kemajuan Sarawak yang belom pernah terbuka. Bahawa dengan hati yang tiada berubah walau sedikit pun kerana muslihat serta keselamatan kamu sekalian, maka saya berseru "Berkekalan-lah ra'ayat jelata Sarawak. Berkekalan-lah Seri Baginda King."

C. V. Brooke.

LEKA PESAN TUAN RAJA SOH AMBA RAYAT DALAM MENOA SARAWAK HARI CESSION SARI BULAN JULY, 1947

Hari tu sari bulan July, aku ngirum tabe ka samoa pangan-pangan aku di menoa Sarawak. Sa taun udah genap menoa Sarawak di serah ka Iya Ke Mulia Raja King.

Aku udah bepikir enggau pengambis ia apin aku nyerah menoa tu ka Prentah Britis lalu ngengkah pekara nya di moa Konsil Konsil di Kuching. Aku tau ka reti ia ke pia ngapus ka pegai Raja Brooke, ia ke ni, aku udah tau mega enggau ati ke sumbong, ngenyinu ka ati kita maioh. Entang aku udah netap ka ati laban aku nemu ari jalai ke pia tau mri pengelantang ka orang dalam menoa Sarawak lalu ulih laban penusah dalam dunia ke baru diatu sida ia tau bulih untong dalam penemu, pengering enggau akal ari pegai Britis.

Aku udah mrati bendar pengawa dalam taun ke udah lalu aku puas amat ati ulih ke diator aku nya jalai ke betol. Janji-janji ia ke di semaia leboh beserah (Cession) baka ia ke enda ngachau adat lama udah mega di pegai rat. Serta pengawa besai udah di adang awak ka ngemansang enggau ngelantang ka orang samoa udah mega di perunding lalu di pejalai enggau ari tulong wang ke kluar ari Prentah King dalam menoa Britis (Britain).

Aku andal ati samoa perunding ke pia nitih ka asal adat ke di pegai tiga Raja ke udah, baka ke nguntung ka amba rayat di pejalai brat lalu pemansang pengawa di pejalai amba rayat empu lalu mri untong ka sida ia empu di Sarawak.

Aku nemu agi bisi skeda dalam Sarawak, di pransang orang bukai ari luar menoa, sapa ke agi ngidup bantah-bantah ka penyadi ke udah. Sida ia besru ka kuasa-diri empu (independence) nyau lenyau lalu deka ngambi ia pulai baru. Nama pemendar ia reti ke pia? Kita udah mindah pengelurus ati ari Raja sapa ke baka apai kita ngagai ke besai agi, ia-nya Raja King, ia ke udah lama nyadi peninding nyaga kitai. Kaki kita trengkah tegot ba jalai ngiring kita nuju penguasa diri empu ke bendar. Adat-adat kita udah di pansang manah, kita be-empu kuasa bejako mandang ka pikir ke dikedeka kita dalam adat kita empu lalu dalam jalai mrentah pun ditambah mega, lalu beserunjut mansang nyapai ka peneka kita, baka ke udah di japai maioh mensia mana ke udah betuah di iring ka Prentah Britis (British guidance), ari ni kita legi tau mrentah kita empu.

Pengelama ia maia ngelebus apin kita nuntong ka adan ke pia bepanggai bendar ari bepagut bajari ke di unjor soh kita ari Prentah Raja King. Tu meh tuah ke pemadu besai nuju pengelantang ia ke baru ditemu menoa Sarawak.

Enggau ati ke enda berubah kaseh sayang aku ngemata ka pengelantang enggau pemansang kita lalu aku nelah, "Selamat kekal amba rayat di Sarawak. Selamat kekal Raja King."

C. V. Brooke.

一九四七年七月一日讓渡紀念日
越王殿下致砂勝越民衆

今日（七月一日）余致意砂勝越諸友人砂勝越之讓渡與英皇陛下倏忽又一年矣

未讓渡與英政府之前余對於讓渡之建議極力考慮又曾將該建議通過古晉委員會余深知布律克之統治亦由此而終矣致使君等惋惜情深而此誠使余感受無限光榮事雖如此然為越國民衆之福利起見余決意為之當現時混亂情勢下砂勝越之民衆定能在英政府英明之統治下而獲得無限利益和幸福

余專心研究過去一年中之各種情況愈感覺得余此舉實屬上策於讓渡進行之際所聲明保證砂勝越之傳統故有風俗不加干涉現已一一實現同得到英政府曾提出為人民謀福利及改良提高人民幸福之助各種大規模之計劃已在籌劃中將能實現矣論該各種之計劃循然依照往昔三越王固有之宗旨以人民利益為對象共同担負建設以謀越地人士之福利誠余所喜之事也

查越地尚有少數人民以受外地人士之煽動與鼓動而仍反對讓渡彼等之口號為欲恢復失去之獨立然事實究竟何耶君等以往昔忠於越王之誠而忠心與英王越王者若父也英王者較父更增一級蓋英王乃吾等昔今之保護者也君等之足現已踐於實際獨立之入道中越地之各部機關亦已實際改良發展而關於法律政治所與人民之權利統已增加在英政府領導下多少民族已成爲自治政府如此者君等亦漸能達此境地也成功所需之時期全賴君等對英政府之友誼及扶助虔誠接受與否此仍砂勝越空前未有之惟一發展機會余對君等之幸福與利益之誠懇關心仍無更改余以致誠

祝砂勝越人民萬歲英王萬萬歲

C. V. Burke.

Installation of the Governor CEREMONY IN KUCHING



At 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 29th, 1946 Sir Charles Noble Arden Clarke, K.T., C.M.G., was formally installed as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak. His Excellency had arrived with Lady Clarke in the previous evening on H.M.S. "Black Swan". He came ashore at Pangkalan Batu shortly before half-past eight and was received by a guard of honour consisting of men from H.M.S. "Black Swan," a detachment of the Sarawak Constabulary, and a large contingent of boy scouts and girl guides. The national anthem was played by the Constabulary Band. Kuching was gay with flags; Union Jacks and Sarawak flags being most prominent in the streets and Chinese national flags hanging out from the upper storeys of shophouses. Two American flags also seemed to have secured a favourable position. His Excellency proceeded to the main Court where His Excellency the Governor-members who had not seats on the executive council, at a special meeting of such members. It was added that once the Government's policy was decided it was important that official members should present a united front. On the other hand it was expressly recognised that

official members should be permitted to vote freely in cases in which, in the judgement of the Governor, the public interest does not forbid. In the opinion of Mr Wight: "The discipline imposed upon official members by a liberal governor today is no greater than that imposed in the House of Commons by party whips." It will be remembered that the cession bill at the last Council Negri was left to a free vote.

The subject has been dealt with at length because the Council Negri is still in the first flush of experience as a legislative body, and it is important that it should develop into a useful instrument of Government, if it is decided to persist with the present constitutional framework. It may well be that the typical Colonial model is not suited to the conditions of Sarawak, and that it would be better to develop institutions with firmer roots in the soil of the land. Whatever the final decision on that point the fact remains that it is the declared policy of the British Government to train up Colonial peoples to rule themselves. The process may have to be long and gradual, but with the present Council Negri a start has at any rate been made. That is the machinery we are using at moment although better training schools will perhaps be produced in the future. The officials may look upon their lot as tedious; and the unofficials may regard themselves as impotent; but, if both will realise that they are playing an essential part in the political development of the Colony, the constitutional reforms of 1941 will not have been enacted in vain.

The Governor General was already present, Mr MacDonald had arrived in Kuching three days previously, and had spent the first night of his visit with the Land Dayaks in Kampong Singgeh in Bau District. After Sir Charles Clarke had entered the Court the oath of allegiance and the oath of office were administered by the Chief Justice of Sarawak, the Hon. Mr R.Y. Hedges, and the Chief Secretary, the Hon. Mr C.W. Dawson, officially welcome His Excellency. Addresses were then presented by the Malay representative, the Hon. the Datu Bandar in Malay, the Chinese representative Mr Lim Chong Chiew in Mandarin, and the Indian representative

All the various races of Sarawak look to Your Excellency for guidance towards the goal of living in harmony, freedom and prosperity.

We take this opportunity to request Your Excellency to convey to His Majesty the King our loyalty to the Crown.

Mr S.M. Deen: Your Excellency, we, the Indian Community in Sarawak, take this opportunity to express our congratulation upon Your Excellency's installation as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak and further express our great pleasure to welcome Your Excellency and Lady Clarke to Sarawak.

Your Excellency's meritorious administration in Africa and the goodness to the various types of the natives in Africa is all known to us and at present we are hopeful that Your Excellency's benevolent administration would be extended to us to bring peace and prosperity to this country.

After a long peaceful and happy period during Brooke rule we suffered a good lot, as Your Excellency knows well, during Jap's occupation, and now it is our hope that Your Excellency's broad-minded policy and administration will continue to bring back to us freedom, justice and prosperity.

In conclusion we have to give our assurance to Your Excellency to be obedient, aiding and assisting in full-cooperation as loyal British Subjects.

His Excellency the Governor: Your Excellency, Members of the Councils — Ladies and Gentlemen.

I thank you for the welcome you have accorded me and for the addresses you have made to me on my installation as the representative of His Majesty the King and the first Governor and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Crown Colony of Sarawak.

It is too early yet for me to have formed personal impressions about Sarawak and its peoples or for you to have made up your minds about me. Our first task will be to get to know each other better and with better knowledge I hope and believe will come mutual trust, respect and liking.

In the short time at my disposal since I left Africa I have done what I can to learn about this country and its peoples, and in London I twice had the pleasure of meeting and talking with His Highness the Rajah. I have heard much about the friendliness which all communities in Sarawak bear towards each other

in spite of differences of race and religion. I appreciate what an asset this is to the country and will spare no effort to maintain and foster this spirit. Without mutual trust, confidence and goodwill between the various peoples and between the peoples and their government there can be no progress.

I am told that some of the people are under the impression, a false impression, that the change which Sarawak has recently undergone from the rule of the Rajah to that of the King will mean sudden and abrupt changes in the ancient customs and the life of the people. I can assure you, and through you the people at large, as you have already been assured by the Secretary of State and by His Excellency the Governor-General that there is no intention to the part of Government to introduce any abrupt or sudden change contrary to the wish of the people. Rather it is our aim to preserve all that is good in the ancient customs. Some changes there must inevitably be in course of time; for no man and no country can remain static and unchanged in a progressive and changing world. It would be absurd and wrong to guarantee that Sarawak should stay immobilized for all times at the stage of development it had reached on July 1st, 1946. Changes, when the time for them is come, will only be introduced after consultation with the people and with the consent of their representatives in Council.

I have studied the "Nine Cardinal Points" set out in the Constitution Order. I find them to be in accord with the principles which govern the administration of other parts of the British Empire. There is, therefore, no reason whatsoever to apprehend that I shall attempt to change or disregard them. In the constitutional sphere the aim of the Government will be to associate the people more and more with the management of their own and their country's affairs and, as a first step towards this end, to broaden the basis of representation as rapidly and as far as conditions permit.

In the material sphere I appreciate that there is much to be done in the way of rehabilitation before the country can recover its pre-war prosperity. But when that prosperity is recovered, we must not be content with the pre-war standards. We must aim higher. Our objective must be to survey and plan the controlled development by and for the people of this country of its trade, its communications and its agricultural and mineral resources and at the same time to improve the health and the

educational services.

I have no doubt that these aims can be achieved provided that the peoples of Sarawak co-operate with each other and with the government in the future as they have done in the past.

Tuan Yang Terutama — Ahli2 Majlis2 Mashuarat-Nona2 dan Tuan2.

Saya mengucapkan terima kasih diatas persembutan yang indah ini juga pada ucapan2 tahni'ah terhadap perlantikan diri saya sebagai Wakil Baginda King dan Governor yang pertama dan Penglima Agong bagi Jajahan Baginda King di Sarawak.

Belom tiba masa-nya bagi diri saya buat menghuraikan perkara yang berkena'an dengan Sarawak serta penduduk2-nya atau bagi kamu untuk mangetahui ke-ada'an saya. Terlebih awal hendaklah kita pada kali yang pertama berkenal-kenalan, dan dengan pangetahuan yang sempurna saya harap dan yakin kamudian itu akan mendatangkan pertukaran kaperchaya'an, kahormatan serta kasuka'an antara kita.

Pada sadikit masa sahaya setelah saya berangkat dari Africa saya telah berusaha saberepa dapat buat mangetahui ke-ada'an negeri ini serta penduduk2-nya, juga di London saya telah berpeluang dua kali berjumpa serta beramah2 dengan Duli Yang Maha Mulia Tuan Rajah. Saya dapat ketahui di-atas perikatan mahebah di-antara sekalian bangsa di-dalam Sarawak sunggohpun berlainan bangsa dan Ugama. Keada'an yang serupa ini saya sangat megahkan dan semangat yang semacham itu tidak shak lagi akan mendatangkan fa'edah yang besar bagi negeri ini. Dengan tidak-nya pertukaran kaperchaya'an, dan 'azam di-antara sekalian bangsa 'am-nya dan penduduk2 khas-nya serta pamerintah-nya neschaya tidak beroleh kemajuan.

Saya dapat ketahui sabahagian dari orang awam ada menaruh perasa'an, ia-lah perasa'an yang karut, terbitnya dari pertukaran pemerintah Brooke kepada Baginda King bereti akan mengubahkan adat-isti'adat dan chara penghidupan penduduk2 dengan tidak semana. Saya berani berkata pada kamu sekalian penduduk2 'am-nya, sebagaimana yang telah di-kata oleh Setia Usaha Jajahan dan Tuan Yang Terutama Governor Agong, iaitu

pehak pamerintah tidak berniat sekali2 mendatangkan perubahan yang tidak semana di-atas kemahuan ra'ayat. Bahkan tujuan kita mameliharakan segala 'adat-isiti'adat asli yang sampurna. Sadikit perubahan mesti di-adakan mengikut masa, kerana tiada suatu manusia atau sabuah negeri akan berdiri tegak dengan tidak berubah di-dalam peridaran di-'alam kemajuan. Bahkan tidak berarti dan tidak patut menjamin iaitu Sarawak tidak akan berubah untuk selama2-nya. Kalau ia dapat melangkah kaneracha kemajuan sebagaimana yang telah di-dapatinya pada satu haribulan 7 tahun 1946. Pertukaran bila tiba masa-nya untuk mereka akan datang, hanya akan di-kenalkan satelah dirondengkan dengan ra'ayat dan mendapat persetujuan daripada Wakil2 mereka didalam Majlis mashuarat.

Saya telah berpaham di-atas 9 sharat2 yang terutama yang-mana telah di-siarkan didalam rang Undang2. Saya dapati kasemua-nya ia-lah puncha pentadbiran yang di-jalankan didalam bahagian Jajahan Maha Britain. Oleh kerana itu tidak-lah ada jalan sakali2 bagi saya buat membatalkan atau mehapuskannya. Didalam rang Undang2 tujuan perentah akan mempersatukan ra'ayat terlebih2 supaya dapat berdaya kadiri juga berkena'an dengan hal-ehwal tanah air-nya, dan bagi langkah yang pertama terhadap natijah ini, hendaklah menambahkan wakil2 dengan sabefapa segera-nya sebagaimana di-kahendaki.

Berkena'an dengan benda2 saya yakin bahwasanya banyak perkara akan di-buat untuk memulangka semula negeri ini kepada kema'muran-nya sebelum pechah peperangan. Tetapi manakala kema'muran itu balek semula, hendaklah kita tidak berpuas hati dengan keada'an sabelum pechah peperangan. Kita hendaklah berchita2 tinggi, tujuan kita mesti disukat dan menchadang perbina'an yang tersekat oleh dan untuk ra'ayat negeri ini bagi perniaga'an-nya, perhubungan-nya dan tanam-tanaman dan mahsul tanah, ketika itu jua akan memper-baiki kasehatan dan pelajaran.

Saya tidak shak lagi chita2 ini tidak akan didapati melainkan manakala ra'ayat Sarawak bakerja-sama diantara satu dengan lain serta dengan pamerintah-nya pada kamudian hari sebagaimana yang telah di-buat oleh mereka dahulunya tadi.

Installation of His Excellency the Governor



His Excellency Mr D.G. Stewart, C.M.G., arrived in Kuching in the *Rajah Brooke* at about 8.15 a.m. on the 14th November 1949, and went straight to the Astana.

At 10.55 a.m. he landed at the Pangkalan Batu, accompanied by the Private Secretary (Mr T. St. J. Dilks), and inspected the Constabulary Guard of Honour. He was then met by the Hon'ble the Chief Secretary (Mr C.W. Dawson, C.M.G.), and conducted through welcoming lines of Sea Scouts and Boy Scouts to the Main Court House, where a large gathering of representatives of the various communities, Government officers and their wives, had assembled. On the platform, with His Excellency, the Chief Secretary and the Private Secretary, were the Hon'ble the Chief Justice (Dr R.Y. Hedges), the Members of the Supreme Council, and the Acting Commissioner of Sarawak Constabulary (Mr R.W.

Large, M.C.).

The Chief Secretary read the Royal Commission and the Chief Justice administered the Oaths.

The Chief Secretary then rose and read the following address:-

"Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Councils and of all branches of the Government Service of Sarawak, I congratulate you on your appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief, and have great pleasure in welcoming you to this country.

Sarawak is a pleasant and beautiful country and one with a character of its own. It is inhabited by people of many different races and religions, who, however, seem to have the happy knack of getting on well with one another. This is one of our chief assets in the

combined effort which is now being made by all towards the rebuilding of the prosperity of the country.

The feeling that some sections of the population once had, that the change from the rule of the Rajah to that of the British Crown might mean interference with the way of life of the people and with their ancient customs, has now almost entirely disappeared; and I have no doubt, Sir, that you will see to it that, except in so far as changes may be clearly beneficial and agreed to by the people at large, the customs of the people will be preserved.

I am sure that members of the Councils and of all branches of the Government Service will work with you towards the general prosperity and happiness of this country, which lies very near to the heart of so many of us, in the same spirit of loyal co-operation that they have extended towards me during the past year."

The Hon'ble Abang Haji Mustapha, O.B.E., Datu Bandar of Sarawak, next welcomed His Excellency on behalf of the Malay Community, as follows:-

"Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Malay Community I take this opportunity of extending to Your Excellency our heartiest congratulation on Your Excellency's installation as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak; I take this opportunity of further welcoming Your Excellency to our country.

We have learnt of Your Excellency's brilliant career and meritorious services in various parts of the British Empire and of Your Excellency's wise and benevolent administration. It is, therefore, most fitting that the choice to this high office should fall upon Your Excellency. It may be said with truth that the natives of this country will greatly benefit under Your Excellency's illustrious guidance.

Your Excellency is undoubtedly aware that this country has not yet fully recovered from the ravages of war, and is the youngest but one of the Colonies. For this reason much effort and patient understanding will be needed to keep Sarawak prosperous and content. However, we have every confidence in Your Excellency's wise guidance and in the traditional fairness of the British rule which ensures that all our rights will be respected.

In conclusion, I have no hesitation in giving Your Excellency our assurance that we

shall spare no effort on our part to co-operate with the Sarawak Government in order to create a better country for the peoples of Sarawak and to achieve their high ideals of freedom and justice."

Speaking for the Dayaks, Mr Edward Jerah said:-

"Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Dayak Community, I take this opportunity of extending our congratulation on Your Excellency's installation as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak; and to bid welcome to Your Excellency.

The news of Your Excellency's brilliant and extensive career in many parts of the British Empire has preceded Your Excellency's arrival in Sarawak and the choice to this high office is a most fitting tribute of Your Excellency's meritorious services.

The Dayaks are proud to have gained a great name for themselves through their energy, courage and their loyalty to the Government since the earliest days in the history of Sarawak, and it will be our constant aim that this high tradition shall be maintained.

In recent years much has been accomplished in order to implant the ideal of local government among our people who are now learning to conduct their own affairs, and their own Schools, so that we may advance in close harmony with the other races in Sarawak.

But much remains to be done and we are happy to go forward under Your Excellency's wise and illustrious guidance in these important matters.

Before I conclude I can assure Your Excellency that our people will exert every effort in co-operating with the Government and to foster and create an atmosphere of friendliness and mutual confidence between the Government and its people."

Mr Tan Kui Choon spoke for the Sarawak Chinese:-

"Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Chinese Community, I have the honour to express our warm welcome and hearty congratulations to Your Excellency upon your appointment to the post of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak.

We, the Chinese of Sarawak, have always prided ourselves on the harmonious relations

which have existed and which still do exist between ourselves and the Government and between ourselves and the various other races of this Colony. Our earnest wish is that this harmony may be maintained throughout the years to come.

We, therefore, assure Your Excellency of our loyalty to you personally and to your Government and we affirm our earnest desire to do all that we can to co-operate in ensuring the peace, happiness and prosperity of Sarawak.

May we again present to Your Excellency our sincere felicitations and good wishes."

And finally Mr Abdul Hamid welcomed His Excellency on behalf of the Sarawak Indian Community:-

"Your Excellency,

We, the Indian Community of Sarawak, take this opportunity to express our congratulations upon Your Excellency's installation as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Sarawak and further express our great pleasure in welcoming Your Excellency to Sarawak.

We understand that Your Excellency possesses great experience by the opportunities afforded you as a District Officer, Nigeria, as Colonial Secretary in the Bahamas, as Financial Secretary, Palestine, and as Secretary to the West African Governors' Conference.

It is an undeniable fact that each and every citizen of this country is enjoying his full rights and privileges under our present Government.

We have no doubt that Your Excellency will study the interests of all sections of the peoples of this country and will direct them wisely in their paths of life as your predecessor has done.

In conclusion we give our assurance to your Excellency that we shall be obedient, abiding and assisting and give our full co-operation as loyal British Subjects.

His Excellency replied as follows:-

"Mr Chief Secretary, Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen:-

I thank you all sincerely for the honour which you have done me by assembling here this morning, and I thank you, and through you the communities whom you represent, for the welcome extended to me and for the words which have been addressed to me.

Coming, indeed, as a stranger to a strange land, I am not ashamed to admit that I stand in real need of that warmth of welcome, as, indeed, I shall stand in need of your co-operation in the tasks which still lie ahead of us. The tasks of Government never end, indeed they never should end, because, whatever stage of development a country has reached, there must always be some advances which can profitably be made. It is because of this that I was very glad to hear, and indeed I have heard it also in other quarters, that there exists, between the races of Sarawak this happy understanding and mutual goodwill. It is a priceless asset, and one which forms a sure foundation, perhaps the only sure foundation, upon which to build a contented, industrious and prosperous State. It is also because of this spirit of goodwill that I look forward all the more sincerely to what will be my first duty in this country, namely, to get to know as soon as I can, and as well as I can, the various peoples, their customs, their pursuits, and their aspirations. In this happy task, I know that my wife is looking forward to joining me in the near future.

Now, you will not expect me to speak at great length on this occasion, much less will you expect me to attempt to deal with matters of political or economic importance, but there is one matter to which it is very appropriate that I should refer on this occasion. The arrival and installation of a new Governor does not, in any way, herald a change in the policies of Government, nor will it result in any break in the continuity of administration. The Governor is, as you know, first and foremost, the personal representative of His Majesty the King; and it is because the countries which form the British Commonwealth are so far spread over the globe that it is only through such personal representatives that the King is able as it were to keep in touch with and be accessible to the many peoples who give him their allegiance. A change of Governor is, therefore, no more than a change in the identity of one of the King's many representatives. The administration, that is to say the Government, goes on just the same, and its policy remains founded on that stable and continuing basis which is provided by the advice tendered by councillors and official advisers. The advice which they will give to one Governor will not normally vary from that which they have given to his predecessor, nor, in due course, is it likely to vary from that

which they will give to his successor. Even were it not so, I can assure you that I myself have no inclination whatsoever to diverge from the sound policies which have been laid down by my predecessor Sir Charles Arden-Clarke, with the help of his advisers and with the co-operation of the community.

In spite of the fact that I know I can rely upon so much goodwill and co-operation, there is one cause for regret which I would like to refer to today. It is that so soon after my arrival I shall be deprived of the services of one who has for the last three or four years — years of great importance, of rehabilitation and reconstruction — been the principal adviser and the lynch-pin of the administration. I refer, of course, to the Chief Secretary, Mr Dawson, who I understand is leaving shortly on the eve of his retirement. As you know, Mr Dawson has, moreover, borne the whole weight and responsibility of administration almost without a break since the end of January last, and I know that there will be many of you besides myself who will, in the months to come, very much miss his help and guiding hand, and I know therefore that I am speaking for you if I say here how deep is the debt of gratitude which Sarawak owes to him. That debt can only be paid, and I know it will be paid, in the abundance of goodwill and good wishes which he and Mrs Dawson will carry with them when the day comes for them to leave these shores.

Lastly, I would like to take advantage of this occasion to read out to you a letter which I have recently received from the Princess Elizabeth. As you will remember, a wedding gift

from the people of Sarawak to Her Royal Highness comprised a set of gold and silver brooches, the work of Sarawak craftsmen. It acknowledging this gift the Princess writes:-

"I am delighted with the Wedding Present which the Government and People of Sarawak have had the kindness to send me. The two sets of brooches, made from gold and silver mined locally, are perfectly charming, and I know that they bring with them the good wishes of the People of Sarawak for my happiness and that they represent much loyalty and affection on their part.

Would you please tell all concerned how grateful I am for this most acceptable present."

The signature, of-course, is that of Her Royal Highness. Steps will be taken during the course of the next few days to give publicity to this gracious acknowledgement of Sarawak's gift.

And now, in conclusion, it only remains for me to assure you that in matters of administration during my tenure of office my single purpose will be to serve the People of Sarawak to the best of my ability. Where any actions for decisions which are my responsibility come to be regarded as right or come to be regarded as wrong, I can at least promise you that I shall have been guided only by that which I honestly believe to be in the best interests of the country. I look forward, ladies and gentlemen, to making your acquaintance personally during the next few days and weeks."

Installation of His Excellency the Governor



His Excellency Mr A.F. Abell, C.M.G., who had arrived in Kuching in the *Rajah Brooke* on the 3rd April, 1950 was installed as Governor and Commander in Chief of Sarawak at a ceremony on the following morning. His Excellency landed at Pangkalan Batu from the Astana at 8.55 a.m. He was accompanied by the Private Secretary (Mr J.D. Dorrity) and the Honorary A.D.C. (Abang Othman) and was met at the Pangkalan by the Honourable the Chief Secretary (Mr R.G. Aikman), who conducted him to the steps of the Secretariat building and there introduced to him the members of the Supreme Council and the Honourable the Chief Justice of North Borneo (Mr I.L. Brace). As the main clock struck the hour of nine the members of the Supreme Council filed into the Main Court House, in which was assembled a large gathering of representatives of various local

communities, Government officers and their wives and the Kuching Municipal Board. His Excellency, accompanied by the Private Secretary, the A.D.C. and the Commissioner of Sarawak Constabulary (Mr P.J. Shannon) entered shortly afterwards and took his place on the dais.

The Chief Secretary then read the Royal Commission and the Oaths were administered by the Chief Justice.

When His Excellency had signed the Oath the Chief Secretary rose and delivered the following speech of welcome:-

"Your Excellency, on behalf of the members of the Supreme Council and Council Negri and of all branches of the Government Service of Sarawak, I congratulate you on your appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief, and have great pleasure in welcoming you to this country.

Sarawak, although a small territory in comparison with that in which you have recently served, in full of interest and its hospitality and the friendliness of its peoples are well known.

Much progress has been made both in the political and in the economic sphere since the resumption of Civil Government in 1946 and it can be truthfully stated that this advance has been made with little or no interference with the way of life of the people and with their ancient customs.

But much has still to be done.

Your guidance and leadership, your training and experience in administration will enable this further progress to be made without affecting the customs of the country except in so far as changes may be beneficial and agreed to by the people at large.

The members of the Councils are drawn from many walks of life and their experience and advice will always be available to you and you may be assured of their co-operation.

The Government Service, of whose loyalty and painstaking work I have had much experience, will work wholeheartedly with you in administering the Government of Sarawak and as you travel round this country I believe that you will receive a great and growing measure of goodwill and respect from all communities. It will be our privilege to serve

under you, Sir, and with you to work for the benefit and welfare of the people of Sarawak."

The Datu Bandar of Sarawak (The Honorable Abang Haji Mustapha, O.B.E.) addressed His Excellency on behalf of the Malay Community in the following words:-

"Your Excellency, on behalf of the Malay Community I take this opportunity in expressing our sincerest and heartiest congratulation on Your Excellency's installation as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak. I also take this opportunity of welcoming Your Excellency to our country.

We have learnt that Your Excellency has been specially selected to this appointment in view of the fact that Your Excellency has achieved particular success in making personal contact with the people which among other things has always been characteristic of the Brooke regime in the past and through which the people will find solace and satisfaction in the future.

The administration in Sarawak has been founded and still rests on this principle of personal contact between the people and the Government, from the highest to the lowest.

We have every hope in Your Excellency who, possessing this quality and with your wide experience of democratic and economic progress in other territories, will guide us skilfully in our plans for social, economic and political progress in the years to come.

In conclusion, I am giving Your Excellency our assurance that we shall spare no effort on our part to co-operate with the Government and we are confident in the traditional fairness of British rule which ensures that the preservation of all our rights may be maintained always."

This address was followed by one from Mr Edward Jerah, who spoke as follows on behalf of the Dayak Community:-

"Your Excellency, on behalf of the Dayak Community, I feel greatly honoured this day to be able to extend our warmest congratulation on the installation of Your Excellency as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak, and to welcome Your Excellency with great joy.

The news of Your Excellency's brilliant and extensive career in other parts of the British Empire and the success which Your Excellency has accomplished especially of Your Excellency's devotion to the welfare of the people and to personal enquiry into their pro-

blems has given us sufficient encouragement to face the future with a happy and unshakable spirit.

We are proud to have gained a man of Your Excellency's calibre and we have a good cause to be grateful to the British Government in its excellent choice to this high office, and it will be our constant aim to implant the ideal of local government among our people who are now learning to conduct their own Schools, so that we may advance in close harmony with the other races in Sarawak. But much remains to be done and we are happy to forward under Your Excellency's skilful guidance in these very important matters.

We have explicit faith in the traditional fairness and justice of the British rule and are happy in the knowledge that our rights and privileges will be respected at all times.

Before I conclude I can assure Your Excellency that our people will be ready to co-operate with the Government in the interests of this country and its people, and to foster and create an atmosphere of friendliness and mutual confidence which now, as in the past, is one of the traits of the peoples of this country."

On behalf of the Chinese Community in Sarawak Mr Tan Kui Choon said:-

"Your Excellency, as a delegate of the Chinese Community, I have the honour to express our very warm welcome to Your Excellency and I also take this opportunity to convey our hearty congratulations on Your Excellency's installation as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak.

We, the Chinese of Sarawak, have always shown our loyalty to Government and have lived harmoniously with the various other races in the country, and I assure Your Excellency that we will continue to do so and I have every confidence that this policy of the past will be pursued successfully during Your Excellency's tenure of office. I have the assurance of the leaders of my community that this very happy state of affairs will be our sole object.

The Chinese community in this country have been pioneers in the agricultural development and in the conduct of trade with other countries. The advancement of agriculture and other industries which have been the foundation of peace and prosperity in this country will be the aim of the Chinese community in the future and this cannot be achieved without the help of the Government.

Before concluding this address I can assure Your Excellency of the full co-operation of the Chinese community and I now again convey to Your Excellency our sincere felicitations and the best wishes of the community I represent."

The final address of welcome to His Excellency was that from the Indian Community, which Mr Abdul Hamid presented in the following terms:-

"Your Excellency, we, the Indian Community of Sarawak, take this opportunity to express our sincere congratulations upon your Excellency's installation as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Sarawak and further express our great pleasure in welcoming your Excellency to Sarawak.

We understand that Your Excellency possesses great experience and has won the hearts of the peoples of Nigeria, by Your Excellency's benevolent, exalted, and meritorious service.

It is an accepted principle of Colonial Administration throughout the British Commonwealth that the welfare of the indigenous inhabitants must be the first object of Colonial Administration. In accordance with that cardinal fact, our present Government is by all means, looking after the welfare of the peoples concerned and is devoted to the cause of peace and progress.

We hope that Your Excellency will take a genuine interest in promoting good-feeling, confidence, and peace among the people of diverse nationalities in Sarawak and thus lay Your Excellency's fame in the History of this Country, by giving a lead in the right direction.

In conclusion, we give our assurance to Your Excellency that we shall be obedient, law abiding and active in co-operation with your Government and we pledge our unhesitating support in every way.

His Excellency replied to these addresses, saying:-

"Mr Chief Secretary, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you most sincerely for the honour you have done me by assembling in this Hall to meet me this morning, and I thank you and the communities you represent for the addresses of welcome which you have presented to me.

As you are aware I am a stranger to the East and I have everything therefore to learn and you have started my education in the kin-

dest and most pleasant way. I shall always remember with gratitude the very cordial and friendly welcome I have received today. I shall make it my first duty, by travelling extensively, to get to know the country, the various peoples who inhabit it, their customs and aspirations.

While in London recently I had the pleasure of meeting His Highness the Rajah and we had a most interesting and useful discussion concerning your affairs. I can assure you that the orderly progress and the happiness and welfare of this country is always uppermost in the Rajah's mind. I also went by aeroplane to Accra on the West Coast of Africa to pay short visit to an old friend of yours Sir Charles Arden Clarke. We talked far into the night about Sarawak and your problems and I left Accra convinced that the far-sighted policy initiated by Sir Charles should be followed and would be followed by me with your assent and co-operation. There will therefore be no break in the continuity of the policy of the administration.

My aim will be to continue the policy of associating the people of the country with the administration by the creation of Local Authorities as fully representative of all races and conditions of men as is practicable and acceptable at the present time. By this means we can advance the education of the people in political responsibility and build up a tradition of service in their local Governments which will provide in the future the main supports on which our system of democracy will rest. But our rate of progress in the political field and the social services we can provide are conditioned by and dependent upon the state of your finances. I will therefore do my best to ensure that the economic development of the country is achieved on sound lines and by properly coordinated plans with that sense of urgency which your present position demands.

Your ambitions and my aims cannot however be fulfilled nor can this country make any economic or political advance unless law and order are maintained. We have seen here in Sarawak and we see many examples around us of the misery and tragedy and interruption to progress which indiscipline and contempt for the laws of the land bring to a community. This country has long enjoyed an enviable reputation among the countries of the Commonwealth for the spirit of co-operation and mutual goodwill which exist be-

tween the races of Sarawak. This happy understanding has, I believe, been based on a regard for one another's customs and modé of life and respect for law and order. I know that recent events here do not indicate any deterioration in the basic soundness and loyalty of the people of this country but I am aware that there is still some opposition on the part of a section of the people to the Cession of Sarawak to the Crown. This opposition led to the senseless and criminal murder of my predecessor who was the innocent victim of a cruel and cowardly conspiracy and who was struck down in the course of duty. This outrage profoundly shocked your fellow members of the British Commonwealth and in particular your friends and admirers who know your country. Four men have paid the extreme penalty for a despicable and degrading crime.

I intend to carry on the tradition of personal accessibility established by the Rajahs of Sarawak. This tradition has been a notable feature of the administration of this territory for over one hundred years and is, I believe, a privilege much valued by most of the people of this country. I will always be ready to give a hearing to anyone who presents his case in a straight-forward honest and law-abiding fashion but I am not prepared to parley with those who feel bound to support their cause by indulging in conspiracy and political assassination. I now hope that better counsel will prevail and that these people will decide that their interests and their interests of their country will best be served by loyal cooperation with Government in its plans for the economic and political advance of the peoples of Sarawak.

Just over a month ago I had the great honour of being received by the King in audience. For a quarter of an hour His Majesty talked about Sarawak and its problems. I can assure you of the very great interest he takes in your progress and welfare. He was however deeply shocked that so soon after becoming a Crown Colony this tragedy should have occurred. I am sure that it is the wish of all men of goodwill in this Colony to prove to His Majesty and the rest of the world that our heart is sound and that this great tradition of mutual respect among races which this country has built up over one hundred years is no empty boast but will lead in time to the disappearance of racial difference in a common desire to promote the welfare of Sarawak.

In conclusion I thank you again most sincerely for your welcome today and for the offer of co-operation you have made to me in your addresses, and I know that I can count on you. For myself I can promise you that I will work wholeheartedly and to the best of my ability for peace, happiness and prosperity of the people of this Colony. Confident in your cooperation and sustained by your goodwill and with God's grace I should be guided only by that which I honestly believe to be in the best interests of the country. Before closing I should like to say how much I appreciate the kind gesture of the Governor of our neighbours and friends in North Borneo in sending the Chief Justice of that Colony to represent him this morning.

Ladies and gentlemen, I look forward to being of service to you in the future and of making your personal acquaintance in the course of the next few days and weeks."

Installation of His Excellency the Governor



Sir Alexander Nicol Anton Waddell, K.C.M.G., D.S.C., was installed as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak in a ceremony held in the afternoon of the 23rd February, 1960 in the Council Negri Chamber in Kuching. Sir Alexander and Lady Waddell, accompanied by the Private Secretary, Mr. G.T. Barnes, disembarked from the *Bentong* into the *Astana* barge and landed at Pangkalan Batu at 4.00 p.m. Waiting to receive them were the Chief Secretary and Mrs. Jake-way, the Commissioner of Sarawak Constabulary, Mr. P.E. Turnbull, and the A.D.C., Abang Marzuki. Sir Alexander, in ceremonial dress, then inspected the Guard of Honour mounted in front of the Brooke Memorial, after

which the Chief Secretary presented to Sir Alexander and Lady Waddell, the Chief Justice and Lady Ainley; Bishop Vos; Mr. G.L. Gray, Acting Chief Secretary of North Borneo; members of the Supreme Council and their wives, and the Puisne Judge, Mr. Justice G. G. Briggs.

In the Council Chamber the Commission appointing Sir Alexander Waddell, K.C.M.G., D.S.C., was read by the Chief Secretary and the Oath of Office was administered by the Chief Justice. The loyal address was then read by Abang Haji Mustapha bin Abang Haji Moasli, the Datu Bandar, on behalf of the peoples of Sarawak, to which a reply was made by His Excellency the Governor.

Loyal Address by the Datu Bandar, Abang Haji Mustapha Your Excellency,

On behalf of all the peoples of Sarawak, I feel greatly honoured this day to be able to extend our warmest congratulations on the installation of Your Excellency as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak, and to welcome Your Excellency with great joy to our country.

It is our earnest hope that Your Excellency and Lady Waddell will find the climate of our country hospitable and its peoples friendly and law abiding.

We have learned that Your Excellency has served for many years in the Western Pacific and South-East Asia and has seen constitutional changes in West Africa and has therefore vast knowledge and experience of the problems and aspirations of the people in those territories.

Sarawak is but a small country and is possibly the youngest among Her Majesty's dependent territories. It is very much behind those territories which Your Excellency has just served in its economic and constitutional development. We have every hope that Your Excellency's wide experience of democratic and economic progress in those territories will guide us in our plans for social, economic and political progress in the years to come.

In conclusion, I am giving Your Excellency our assurance that we shall spare no effort on our part to co-operate with the Government and we are confident in Her Majesty's declared policy to guide us by stages to ultimate self-government.

Reply by His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak, Sir Alexander Waddell

The Honourable Datu Bandar, My Lord Bishop, the Honourable Chief Justice, honourable and distinguished guests from neighbouring territories, ladies and gentlemen.

You will, I know, Datu Bandar, forgive me if on this occasion I cannot as yet repay the compliments you've done me in addressing

me in my language by addressing you in Malay, but my Malay is too unsure for me to address you in that language today. I thank you Datuk Bandar for the very kindly welcome which you have given me not only in the address which you have just presented to me, but one senses behind the official proceedings a warmth of welcome which I have long anticipated and which in the event much exceeds the pleasure which we have had in anticipation. My wife and I have for a long time been looking forward to the time when we might come back to this part of the world. We never thought we would but in the years between that when we left North Borneo and today we have always hoped that it might be our fortune though we never hoped that we would come to serve you in this capacity.

I wish to thank you the Honourable Chief Justice for administering to me the oath on this the most solemn day of my life. You too are a newcomer and if one newcomer may say to another how glad I am to meet you, you will know it is true and I hope that you will have many happy days in our midst.

The thoughts of many of you indeed of all of you must today be turning back to my distinguished predecessor, Sir Anthony Abell, who, I know, is held in the highest esteem and affection by you all. His fame has spread far beyond the shores of this country and he has made known the ways of pleasantness and the paths of peace which the people of this country have trod for so many years. I know from him how much he loved Sarawak and I know that he will follow with interest the fortunes of this country in the future. He is a part of a great tradition and it was only the other day that I had the privilege and pleasure of meeting His Highness the Rajah and from him I learnt much of earlier days in this country.

It is right today to think of the past so that we may set our course for the future taking advantage of the favourable winds that have blown over this country for so long. Let us make a firm resolve to guard the spirit of harmony, let us treasure the inheritance of goodwill and understanding which is ours. Let us preserve the friendly relations and the mutual respect on which this country has been built. Let us in fact all regard Sarawak as our true home. It is in the furtherance of such a policy of unity and trust that I pledge myself today for that is the only true, the only firm basis of lasting progress whether it be economic, political or social. Let us be united in this.

As I take up my high office today I have in mind the Cardinal Principles which were set down as long ago as 1941 and I will daily remind myself of the duty laid upon me by Her Majesty the Queen in the Royal Instructions and these instructions bear repeating to me daily and to you from time to time and one of the most important of these is "the Governor is to the utmost of his power to ensure that the fullest regard is paid to the religious and existing rights and customs to the inhabitants of Sarawak, to promote religion and education among them, and, by all lawful means, to protect them in the free enjoyment of their possessions and to prevent all violence and injustice against them."

I come to this country with some knowledge of how you suffered in war, with a great admiration for the valour and stout hearts with which you withstood the enemy and cast him out, writing by your actions and by your bravery against overwhelming odds, unique and illustrious pages in the annals of war. The war is long over but those qualities remain and have been demonstrated in equal measure by the Sarawak Rangers whose prowess overseas in the cause of freedom is already legendary.

The resources of the country lie not primarily, in fact they lie not in its products or its material worth but in the character, steadfastness and the courage of its people. Knowing something as I do of the quality of the people in Sarawak in peace and in war I

am confident that there is no limit to what can be achieved. It is a great privilege for me now to be associated with the civil service of Sarawak, a service whose reputation is second to none. The service in Sarawak is well known for its devotion to the interests of the people, for its skill and humanity and all progress depends very largely on an active, strong and able civil service, such as we have.

I have today propounded no new policies, nor will you expect me to. But I hope I may have shown by what principles I shall be guided and I hope I have expressed my conviction and faith in the future of Sarawak. May I say that it is my intention to maintain the tradition of accessibility which has been long a happy feature of this country for to govern is to serve and one cannot serve without meeting and understanding those whom one would seek to serve.

Sir Alexander then spoke in Malay. He said: "I am sorry for not being able to speak Malay well. Although today I am giving my good wishes to you in my own language, I do hope that when I go out travelling in all parts of Sarawak I will be able to learn the language.

My intention in Sarawak is to make a visit to all parts of the country which will enable me to meet the people either in their houses, in the *kampongs*, in their gardens, in the shops and in their offices in order to acquaint myself with their traditions, aspirations and their hopes.

Thank you."



Anti-Cession demonstration in Sibul of members of the Pergerakan Pemuda Melayu (P.P.M.).

The Cession of Sarawak to the British Crown

Soon after the liberation of the whole of Sarawak on February 8, 1946, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke made known his intention to give up Sarawak to the British Crown. The reason given for this was that, as a Colony, the people of Sarawak could enjoy, with financial and technical help from Britain, "an era of widening enlightenment, stability and social progress such as they have never had before". The feelings and reactions were mixed. The initial sense of bewilderment soon crystallised either for or against the move. But Sir Charles airily dismissed any idea that any one should question his decision on the matter, declaring, "I am spokesman of the people's will. No one other than myself has the right to speak on your behalf. Not one of you will question whatever I do in his high interests. There will be no Rajah of Sarawak after me. My people will become subjects of the King. This is for your good. By Royal Command."

Such a remark reflected the authoritative and arrogant attitude of the Brooke rulers towards the people of Sarawak. However, on this occasion, many did disagree. The people of Sarawak were, for the first time, reluctant to have their future arranged in so arbitrary a manner, and a major protest was organised by the Malay National Union saying that the

people had not been consulted on the matter.

Eventually it was decided that two members of the British Parliament would visit Sarawak to ascertain public opinion upon the matter of cession. Their recommendation was that there was sufficient approval for the matter to come up before the Council Negri.

In May 1946, a debate took place and the Cession Bill was passed with a slender majority — by the votes of the European members who were not citizens of Sarawak.

The Anti-Cession Movement

The passing of the Cession Bill caused bitterness and dissatisfaction among many Natives. They joined forces with members of the Malay National Union to form a strong and vocal movement against Cession which grew until eventually it claimed to have no less than 35,000 members throughout the State. These members, who were mostly Native Government servants and teachers, denounced cession as being illegal and demanded a restoration of the independent status. It was claimed that an anti-cession rally at the Central Padang in Kuching was attended by about 15,000 people. Acutely embarrassed by the anti-cessionists, who were mostly Government servants, the new colonial government issued a notorious Secretariat circular — "Circular No. 9" to curb their activities, which was signed by the Chief Secretary to the Government, Mr C.W. Dawson.



Anti Cessionists in Sibü

Secretariat Circular No. 9/1946

"In view of the political change in the Status of Sarawak by which on 1st July, 1946, it became a Crown Colony, His Excellency the Governor has directed that this circular should be sent to all Government officers on the Establishment.

- (a) Government expects and requires absolute loyalty from all servants.
- (b) Since there is no question of any change in the present regime or any reversion to Brooke Rule, Government will not permit or tolerate any association by its servants with any activities designed to keep alive the question of cession.
- (c) There will be no victimisation for any speech or act of any Government servant in the past relating to the question of cession, but each Government servant must now make up his mind whether he wishes to serve the present Government loyally and faithfully or not.
- (d) If you do not feel that you wish to continue in the Government Service under these conditions, you should inform your Resident, District Officer, or Head of Department, as the case may be, before 31st December, 1946 and he will advise you as to the course you should pursue.
- (e) Any Government servant in future who associates himself with any activity designed to keep open the question of cession or commits any act of deliberate disloyalty to Government will render himself liable to instant dismissal."



Wanita members of P.P.M. demonstrating against cession in Sibul.

If the circular was designed to instil fear among those public servants who were active in the anti-cession movement, it misfired miserably. A total of 338 teachers and Government servants, mostly Malays, representing about 13% of the Civil Service, resigned. This episode of mass resignation now known in the history of the State's struggle for Independence simply as "338". The climax of the anti-cession activities was murder of the Second Governor of the Colony of Sarawak, Duncan Stewart, by two members of the Sibul-based Gerakan Pemuda Melayu on December 3, 1949. The Government's reaction to the attack was swift and thorough when four young Malays involved in the assassination, Rosli bin Dhoby, Morshidi bin Sidek, Bujang bin Suntong and Awang Ramli bin Haji Matsaruddin, were convicted and sentenced to death. Fifteen—

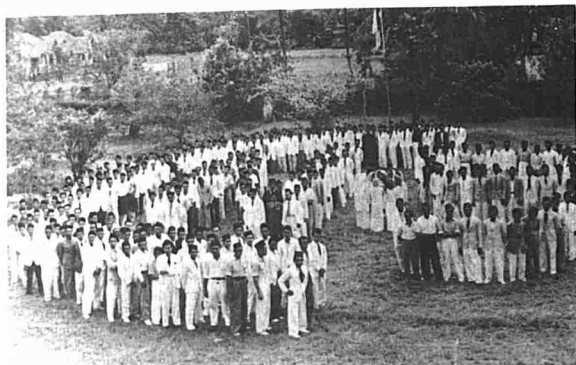
others were imprisoned and detained from three weeks to 12 years. However, this anti-cession movement clearly showed the British that the people of Sarawak were concerned about their future. It also served as an awakening of the political consciousness of the people of Sarawak.

A number of the anti-cessionists continued their involvement in politics and won for the State its "second independence" by supporting the formation of the Nation of Malaysia mooted by Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, then the Chief Minister of independent Malaya. Among them were Datuk Haji Noor Tahir, the late Datuk Ajibah Abol, the late Datuk Amar Abang Ikhwan Zaini and the late Tan Sri Mohd Su'ut Tahir.

In 1963 Sarawak achieved independence



The Malay National Union members protesting against the cession



Anti-Cessionists in the grounds of the Datu Patinggi's house. Darul Kernia 2nd April 1947. They are grouped to represent the Malay National union's slogan "No Circular No. 9."

The Visit of His Excellency the Governor to sibu from 5th May to 9th May 1948.



This photograph shows the recipients with his Excellency (5th from the left)

In a very crowded five days in Sibü, His Excellency managed to combine a great deal of business with, apparently, a great deal of pleasure.

The "La Follette" with His Excellency on board, accompanied by his Private secretary and Mr. Paul Arden Clarke arrived at Sibü at 12 noon on Wednesday 5th May from Brunei. The party was met at Kubu Wharf by the Honourable the Resident and the Divisional Datu. While His Excellency was inspecting the Sarawak Constabulary Guard of Honour and meeting the dignitaries from every district in Third Division, the youngest "Mermaid" arrived from Kuching bearing Mrs Middleton and Miss Jennifer Arden Clarke. Lady Arden Clarke had most unfortunately been detained in Kuching to look after her daughter who was indisposed.

Sibü was full to capacity before the arrival of His Excellency, but it was surprising how many more people of every race race arrived from all over the Division and then the Colony on every subsequent day and were somehow absorbed and managed to get a home. Bungalows bulged with guests, dapors were full, visitors were underneath and on top of houses, and even a bicycle shed was transformed overnight into a miniature Kayan longhouse, with gay sarongs and beautifully beaded hats hanging out to air. On such a festive occasion the residents of Sibü did not bear the slightest grudge as a result of the overcrowded conditions and the local discomfort. The town was

gaily decorated and presented a pretty picture.

At 9 a.m. on the 6th, His Excellency presented medals and ribbons outside the Government buildings. A Guard of Honour was present. The following gentlemen are to be congratulated on their awards:-

BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL

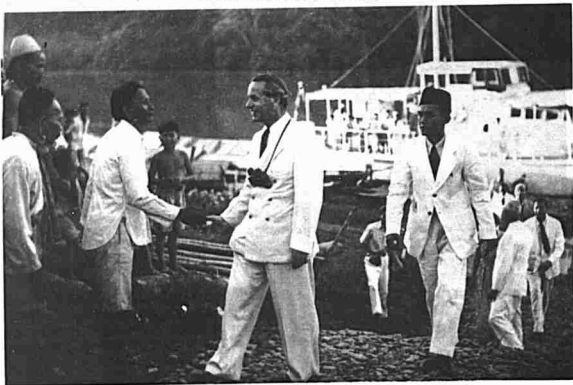
1. Mr. Yu Sut Moi, Sibü.
2. Penghulu Jugah anak Lapek, Song.
3. Mr. Peter Liew Shong Meng of the Lands and Surveys Department, Sibü.
4. Sergeant Embah of the Sarawak Constabulary, Sibü.
5. Mr. Chong Ah Onn of the Medical Department, Sibü.

KING'S MEDALS FOR COURAGE, ETC.

1. Mr. Thomas Nyandau, Kanowit.
2. Mr. Teo Ah Chong, Belaga.
3. Mr. John C. Liu, Sibü.
4. Penghulu Jugah anak Barieng of Merirai, Kapit.
5. Penghulu Sibat anak Semada of Melinau, Kapit.
6. Mr. Helbourne Semigaat of the Posts and Telegraphs Department, Kanowit.

When this was over, His Excellency presented *suratkuasa* and flags to Tua Kampongs and Penghulus. Practically all the chiefs of Third Division were here.

**Tour of the Third Division by Their Excellencies the
Commissioner-General and the Officer Administering the
Government, 1949.**





Their Excellencies the Commissioner-General and the Officer Administering the Government and Mrs. Dawson, accompanied by Major M.J. Gilliat, M.B.E. Comptroller of the Commissioner-General's household, and the Private Secretary, embarked at Pending on M.L. "La Follette" at 10.15 p.m. on the 4th April en route to the Third Division. The journey began in a slight drizzle of rain and the party retired almost immediately, hopeful of an undisturbed night crossing the bay.

All was well until 5 a.m. on the 5th when "La Follette" ran into rough weather and would-be sleepers had difficulty in staying in their bunks.

Sarikei was reached at 11 a.m. and an unofficial call paid upon the District Officer, Mr. A.R. Snelus, and Mrs. Snelus.

A visit was made to the Pepper Gardens at the Third Mile Repok Road and the party was then entertained to lunch at the District Officer's Bungalow.

Leaving Sarikei at 1.30 p.m., Sibu was sighted at 5.30 p.m., and the approach of Their Excellencies was heralded by a 17 gun salute.

Their Excellencies were met at the Government Wharf by the Hon'ble the Resident, Third Division, Mr. J.C.H. Barcroft, and Datu Abang Yan, and, after inspecting a smart Guard of Honour under the command of Mr. K.S. Leeston-Smith, were introduced to Senior Government officials and leading members of all communities.

The Resident kindly had put the Residency at the disposal of Their Excellencies and in view of a rather long journey to come, the evening was spent quietly.

The following morning at 7 a.m. the party, joined by the Resident, set out for Kapit. The first part of the journey was made in heavy mist but was without incident. Kanowit was passed at 10.45 a.m. and Song at 2.15 p.m. Heavy rains had swollen the Rejang and progress became slower. After a few inevitable calls of "Satu Tanjong lagi", Kapit was reached at 5.15 p.m. There Their Excellencies were welcomed by the Native Officer Abang Indi, in the absence of the District Officer, Mr. I.A.N. Urquhart who, unfortunately, was ill in Sibu Hospital.

A Welcoming Arch had been erected over the path from the jetty to the office and the path was lined by leading members of all communities and by school children carrying flags.

After inspecting the Guard of Honour Their Excellencies talked for some time with the welcoming party before walking up to the District Officer's Bungalow.

A short tour of the bazaar before dinner concluded the events of the day.

At 9 a.m. the next day His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government head requests in Court and this was followed by a tour of the Station and a visit to the Methodist Mission. After lunch the party divided to proceed up the Balleh in four perahus driven by outboard engines. Competition between perahus was keen and the "Admiral-driver" had difficulty in keeping his fleet in formation.

Although the river was high the journey was uneventful and the noise of 4 engines meant that not a single bird or animal was seen on the banks.



Rumah Penghulu Jinggut was reached at 5 p.m. where the party was given a traditional welcome by the Dayaks. During the firing of salutes a small brass cannon exploded, injuring a woman in the leg. The Dresser who accompanied the party treated the injury and pronounced it to be superficial, so that the welcome was not marred by any bad omen.

In the evening, offerings of ritual food (bedarah) were made either in each "bilek" or on the "ruai" of the house. The party split up in order to carry out the ceremonial, which ensured reasonable abstinence and an early night.

At 7.30 a.m. the following morning the party once more embarked en route to Temonggong Koh's house. A brief halt was made at a house close to the confluence of the Balleh and the Ga'at in order to have a picnic lunch.

The inmates of the house were a little bewildered at so many Europeans descending upon them unannounced and in such a hurry, and one old man who remembered the Krakatau eruption felt that this new upheaval was no less impressive.

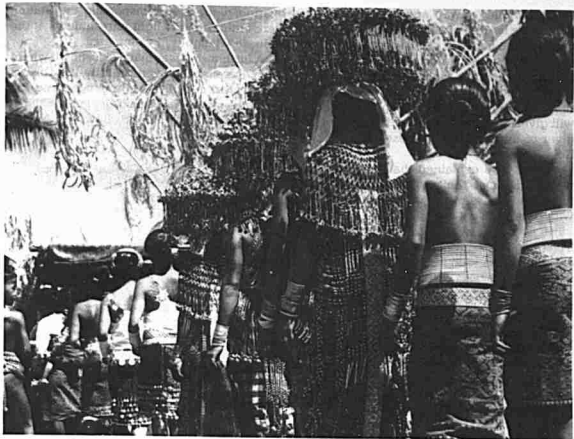
Temonggong Koh's house was reached at 4.15 p.m. and after a welcome at the jetty

Their Excellencies mounted to the house through lines of assembled Penghulus and other notables and girls in traditional costume dispensing "tuak".

Once inside the house, a "bedarah" was performed on the "ruai" and a "pantun" sung to each of the guests. A welcome pause then followed and later the party assembled in Temonggong Koh's room where Penghulu Gerinang acted as Master of Ceremonies with startling efficiency.

After dinner the real business of the evening began:- a "bedarah" in each room or on the "ruai" followed by dancing in which the visitors joined. During the performance of these "bedarah" Mrs. Dawson was in great demand, and all the male "pantun" singers vied with each other in singing her praises.

The next morning a "Gawai", stated to be "Gawai Nanga Rumah", one of the "Ranyai Gawai", was performed. Their Excellencies went down to the jetty and made a ceremonial entry into the house, in which the killing of a pig figured. A "piring" (dish of ritual food) was prepared which included, to the momentary discomfort of the guests, cups of fowls blood. This was described as a "Piring Pengalu", the normal offering made to the gods in honour of



the arrival of distinguished visitors. His Excellency the Commissioner-General then undertook the ceremony of "Nanam".

On this occasion all the preparation had been made beforehand. A small house (Rumah Meniga) symbolic of the dwelling of the gods in heaven, had been constructed on the ridge of the roof of the long house. A ladder led up to "Rumah Meniga" from the "ruai" of the house and a further ladder from outside on the verandah. A long piece of cloth, signifying continuity between earth and heaven and promising long life and good luck, was hung from "Rumah Meniga" to the "ruai". A fence made of a rotan mat and a Dayak blanket was then constructed around the ladder leading from the "ruai", the whole being called "Ranyai" a symbolic tree and long house.

At the same time His Excellency the Commissioner-General was performing a further "bedarah" (Piring Nanam) the planting of placing of the offering to be made to the gods).

The "bedarah" concluded, His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government bore the "piring", by way of the outside ladder, to "Rumah Meniga." There another

"bedarah" took place and a fowl was slaughtered during the performance and its blood offered to the gods. This "piring" was placed on a pole set up in "Rumah Meniga".

This ceremony concluded, each of the guests in turn, attired with hat, sword, shield and monkey skin, proceeded with "Nepas Ranyai" (the sweeping of the "Ranyai") using a circular mop of grass. They were accompanied by a sponsor who led them in sweeping each main post of the house as well as the "ranyai" and in uttering loud shrieks opposite each door where the inhabitant offered a glass of "tuak". The strength of the shriek seemed to depend entirely on the quality of "tuak" offered or perhaps it was that as the libations increased the vocal effort became easier. "Nepas Ranyai" was followed by "Nimang", the recitation of traditional myths connected with the deities, performed by four persons. A final "bedarah" was performed before the party left the house and the "piring" given to His Excellency the Commissioner-General, with the injunction that it should not be disposed of for three days. The "piring" was ceremoniously consigned to the Sarawak river three days later.

This whole "gawai" appeared to be a portion of the larger "Ijok Pumpang" ceremony, in which the gods are persuaded to come and stay in the house especially constructed for them, when, after a night of festivity in which the gods have shared, a pig will be offered to the God Singalang Burong, who in gratitude will give an omen and enter the room of the giver of the feast, in this case Temonggong Koh.

It was also explained that the ceremony was symbolic of Temonggong Koh's ascending to the house of the gods and consorting with them.

It was a very reluctant party who left Temonggong Koh's house, amid many sincere and often fond farewells, for Kapit. The following day the "La Follette" was boarded once more and, on the way to Sibul, the newly built Song Station was visited. Their Excellencies were given a rousing welcome and after

hearing requests and inspecting the Station were entertained to light refreshments at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

A further stop was made at Kanowit where Their Excellencies were met by the District Officer, Mr. J. F. Drake-Brockman, and the Principal of the Rural Improvement School, Mr. R.A. Bewsher, and Mrs. Bewsher. A most instructive hour was spent in touring the School with Mr. Bewsher who explained its activities.

Sibul was reached at 4.30 p.m., and in the evening the Resident gave a party at the Island Club in honour of Their Excellencies' visit.

An enjoyable evening was spent with Government officials and leading citizens of Sibul, to bring to a close a most memorable tour.

The journey back to Kuching was accomplished on the 11th. - *(Contributed)*.

His Excellency The Governor, Mr Duncan George Stewart Visit to Sibü on 3/12/49



Attack on H.E. The Governor

The newly appointed governor of Sarawak, while paying his first visit to Sibü on Saturday last 3/12/49 was suddenly attacked by two Malays while on his way from the wharf to the Government offices. He received a stab wound in the abdomen. The assailants have been arrested and investigations are proceeding. They are members of an associa-

tion, a small core of which has, since the arrival of the Governor, continued to show opposition to the Cession of Sarawak to the Crown. An immediate operation was performed and further surgical help was quickly sent by R.A.F. flying boat from Singapore at the request of the Sarawak Government. The Governor's condition is serious.

H.E. The Governor flown to Singapore

There are more details of the attack on His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak, Mr Duncan George Stewart, while he was making his first official visit to the town of Sibü in the Third Division. His Excellency was walking up the road to be present at an investiture to present medals to some persons in the town and was in uniform. He had passed rows of school children who had lined up to welcome him, holding flags and cheering him, when a Malay rushed out from the crowd and stabbed Mr Stewart in the stomach. The assailant fell when he had done this and was immediately held by the police. Although he was wounded, His Excellency proceeded to the place for the investiture and acknowledged the greetings of the crowd. Soon after the first attack another Malay tried to stab His Excellency but he was caught by Mr T. St. J. Dilks who was immediately His Excellency. Mr Dilks frustrated his attempt and held him until he was arrested by the police. The Malay who wielded the knife is stated to be a youth of sixteen years of age.

His Excellency's condition was found to be serious as the stab wound had perforated the intestine and an emergency operation was performed on him by the surgeon in Sibü, Dr E.H. Wallace. A message for help was sent to Singapore. At three o'clock in the morning of Sunday, Professor Mekie a well-known

Singapore surgeon took off in a Sunderland and arrived in Sibü four hours later. Professor Mekie made his examination and decided that another operation was necessary and His Excellency should be flown to Singapore the same day for this purpose. He paid tribute to the work of Dr Wallace in the emergency operation. The plane carrying His Excellency arrived in Seletar where the Commissioner General, Mr Malcolm MacDonald, and the Officer Administering the Government of Singapore, Mr P.A.B. McKerron, were waiting. His Excellency was rushed to the Hospital. It is stated that during the flight to Singapore blood transfusion was given to Mr Stewart.

A bulletin issued by the General Hospital at nine o'clock yesterday morning stated that his Excellency had passed a calm night on Sunday and had got over the danger of the attack but his condition was still serious. The Officer Administering the Government of Singapore, Mr P.A.B. McKerron, received a message from the Officer Administering the Government of Sarawak, Mr C.W. Dawson, who said that he was glad that His Excellency was doing well and added that a public meeting was held in Sibü of all communities in which they expressed horror at the crime and their sympathy for the Governor.

Arrests In Sibü

In connection with the attack made upon the Governor of Sarawak at Sibü on Saturday last, in addition to the two assailants, nine other persons have been arrested. It is probable that two further arrests will be made in the near future.

The two assailants, whose names are Rosli bin Dobie and Morshidi bin Sidek, have been produced before a Magistrate and a preliminary inquiry will shortly be held at which it is understood that the prosecution will ask for committal for trial on charges of attempted murder.

The other arrested persons have been remanded in custody and enquiries are proceeding.

A public meeting was held at Sibü on Monday, at which the Governor's Deputy, Mr C.W. Dawson, was present. It was attended by large numbers of representatives of the Malay, Dayak and Chinese Communities, and a solution was unanimously passed condemning the outrage and expressing their support of the Government.

Messages of sympathy and loyalty have been received from all communities throughout Sarawak. It is satisfactory to note the incident has not been accompanied by any disturbances.

The latest news of His Excellency's condition is that he passed a fair night on Monday and his condition is satisfactory.

Attack on the Governor — Preliminary Inquiry at Sibü

The preliminary inquiry into the death of the Governor of Sarawak opened on the afternoon of the 15th December before Mr F.B.K. Drake in the Court Room of the Government Offices, Sibü, and was concluded the following morning. The two men, Roslie bin Dobie, aged 19, and Morshidi bin Sidek, aged 25, who were originally arrested on a charge of attempted murder, were in Court throughout the proceedings, and were able to question witnesses who were called by the prosecuting officer, Mr A.C. Eattell, Assistant Commissioner of Constabulary.

Sgt. Kiker Singh explained that he was in charge of traffic outside the Government Offices when the Governor arrived at Sibü. Just after the Governor had passed in front of him, he noticed someone came out and then saw blood on the Governor's left side. He saw a youth holding a knife, and this youth slipped down in front of him. He quickly caught hold of the youth's right hand, in which he still held a knife. A constable came to his assistance and together they took the youth to the Police Station. He recognised the youth whom he arrested as Roslie bin Dobie. He also identified the knife which the youth had in his hand at the time. He said that at the first attempt the

youth stabbed the Governor and that he tried to do so again, but fell and was caught.

Dr E.H. Wallace, Medical Officer, Third Division, described seeing a man holding a dagger in his hand and making an attempt to stab the Governor. He was then called over to the Governor, whom he helped to the nearest taxi, a distance of about twenty yards. He assisted him into the taxi and they immediately drove to the hospital, where the Governor was taken to the operating table. Dr Wallace added that he found out that an immediate operation was necessary, and then described the nature of the Governor's wounds.

Professor D.E.C. Meikie, Professor of Clinical Surgery, Singapore, said that on arrival in Sibü he examined the Governor with Dr Wallace and decided that he should be transferred to Singapore General Hospital, because the nature of his injuries demanded greater facilities than were available in Sibü.

Mr J.C.H. Barcroft, Resident, Third Division, described the arrival of the Governor and his progress down the road between lines of school children. He continued: "I pointed out to His Excellency the various schools and explained the initials of their badges as we came abreast the entrance to the Offices. I

said to His Excellency:- "Here we wheel right. Suddenly from the left from the ranks of the Methodist School someone collapsed at the feet of His Excellency and myself. I thought a school boy had fainted. Immediately there was a commotion. I saw another man advancing upon us with a knife in his hand. I stepped towards him, but he seized from be-

hind by Mr Dilks, the Private Secretary." Mr Barcroft added that he also grabbed the man by the wrist with which he held the dagger. He then turned round to see a Sikh policeman with a Malay youth, whom he had seized round the throat. Only after that did he realised for the first time that the Governor was wounded.

Obituary

HIS EXCELLENCY MR. DUNCAN GEORGE STEWART, C.M.G.

Duncan George Stewart was born in the Transvaal in 1904. Educated at Winchester and Oriel College, Oxford, he was appointed to the Colonial Administrative Service in 1928 and posted to Nigeria. After sixteen years in West Africa, he became successively Colonial Secretary of the Bahamas and Financial Secretary, Palestine. He was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak in September, 1949, in succession to Sir Charles Arden-Clarke, and he arrived in Kuching and was formally installed on the 14th November.

He was detained in Kuching for a little over a fortnight owing to the meeting of the Council Negri and the accompanying social activities, but he had intended as soon as he could to visit every Division in Sarawak and the State of Brunei. He left for his first tour, to the Third Division, on the 2nd December, and it was after landing the following day at Sibu and inspecting the guard of honour that he received the stroke from a dagger which finally proved fatal to him.

He was moving from the guard to the government office between the customary rows of school children, when a young Malay, who had been standing among the children, rushed forward and stabbed him in the abdomen. Another Malay, who was standing in the front of the crowd, pretending to take photographs, also made as if to attack him, but was prevented by the Private Secretary, who handed him over to the police.

The Governor walked the remaining few yards to the office, a nearby car was summoned and he was taken to the hospital, where an operation was performed. News of the incident was at once passed to Kuching, and arrangements were made for the Royal

Air Force to send a flying boat to Sibu the next morning with a surgeon and nurse. It left Singapore at 4 a.m. After consultation the doctors decided that the patient could be flown to Singapore, and this was done the same day.

First reports of Mr. Stewart's condition from the Singapore General Hospital were encouraging, but it was later learned that a further operation had been found necessary. This was not successful, and his condition deteriorated rapidly till at 11.10 a.m. on the 10th December, exactly a week after the attack, he died.

The funeral took place with full military honours in Singapore on the 11th December. The pall-bearers were the Commissioner-General (Mr. Malcolm MacDonald), the High Commissioner for the Federation of Malaya (Sir Henry Gurney) and the Officers Administering the Governments of Singapore (Mr. P.A.B. McKerron) and Sarawak (Mr. C. W. Dawson). The Commissioner-General was also present as the personal representative of His Majesty the King. The funeral service was broadcast over Radio Malaya and many in Sarawak were able to hear it.

Mr. Stewart was in Sarawak for so short a time that we were hardly able to assess his qualities as a Governor. Those, however, who were privileged to meet him were impressed by his youthfulness, his keenness and his unassuming manner. We could not doubt that he would have made a worthy successor to Sir Charles Arden-Clarke, and that Sarawak is the poorer for his untimely death.

We cannot do better than reproduce the words spoken over Radio Malaya by the Commissioner-General on the 10th December:-

"We have listened helpless to the heart-breaking news that this morning Duncan Stewart, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Sarawak, died of his wounds. Of the blow which struck him down I shall say nothing. On that we must withhold opinion until the processes of justice reveal their sorry tale and pronounce their solemn judgement. But this I must say. I know the peoples of Sarawak. This crime does not represent them. They are the salt of the earth; they are the most friendly, most peaceable and the most kindly people whom one could wish to meet. They detest this deed. It is a blow, not for them, but against them. It leaves them bewildered and stricken, mourning the loss of a noble Governor and friend.

"Duncan Stewart was a man of great and attractive qualities. In several lands his work marked him out for early and high promotion in the service of his fellow men. He was modest and simple, energetic and fearless, charming and friendly, able and wise. At the comparatively youthful age of forty-five he was chosen for his new post, because His Majesty the King wished to give Sarawak the finest and best that was in his gift in the way of Governors.

"Stewart himself was a man incapable of unkindness or cruelty. He could bear no malice. With all his distinctions and brilliance and success, he retained a young and gay heart.

"When he landed at Seletar from Borneo the other day, carried ashore on a stretcher, Pat McKerron and I talked with him for a few minutes. In the course of the brief conversation he spoke only two sentences about the deadly attack made upon him. With a smile, he said: "You know, in some ways it was really rather funny. I must tell you about it when I have got the time."

"Alas, he was not to have the time for that, nor to fulfil the splendid destiny which awaited him amongst us.

"At Sibn and Singapore he received devoted medical care. Skilful doctors and nurses did everything that was possible to save his life. They found a magnificent ally in his own stout heart. By sheer healthiness of body and staunchness of spirit, he kept himself alive a day or two longer than in the end the effect of his wounds seemed to make possible.

"But this morning he lost his gallant fight and passes to where beyond all earthly

strivings there is peace. Such a blow falls heavily upon the dead, but even more heavily upon the living.

"Mrs. Stewart has been at her husband's bedside, facing the grim chances of life and death with superlative courage. That young and gracious and lovely lady was to have been the ideal partner for a Governor of Sarawak.

"With bowed heads we express to her our unspeakable grief and our most respectful and profound sympathies.

"May God in his infinite mercy and kindness sustain and comfort her and her children and us all."

Telegrams of condolence have been sent to Mrs. Stewart and to the Officer Administering the Government from many parts of the world and from many communities, associations and commercial firms in Sarawak. We are unable to print all of them, but we give below a few that are of especial interest:-

From His Majesty the King:-

"The Queen and I are grieved to hear the news of your husband's death and send you our sincere sympathy in your sad loss."

From His Royal Highness the Duke of Windsor:-

"The Duchess and I send you all our sympathy and are thinking of you at this sad time.

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies:-

"It is with the greatest sorrow and regret that I have heard the news of Mr. Duncan Stewart's death. His brave demeanour after the foul attack made upon him last Saturday and his splendid struggle for life were typical of the fine qualities of one whose loss will be deeply felt not only among his family and friends and colleagues but also among the people of Sarawak whom he had so recently gone to serve. The cowardly murder of a man so devoted to the welfare of the Colonial peoples and with so much to give to their service is abhorrent to all men of good will. The deepest sympathy of myself and of His Majesty's Government goes out to his wife and children and to all those who knew and loved him."

Also from the Secretary of State for the Colonies:-

"I should be grateful if you would convey my profound sympathy in the loss sustained

by the death of the Governor in such tragic circumstances to all members of Councils, Public Services and People of Sarawak."

From Sir Charles Arden-Clarke, Governor of the Gold Coast:-

"The peoples and Government Service of Sarawak must be as deeply shocked as we are by this insane outrage against the Governor, so utterly at variance with its tradition of friendliness and hospitality. My wife and I send the Colony our deepest sympathy."

From His Highness the Rajah:-

"Ranee and I deeply shocked at news of Sarawak outrage. At first suitable opportunity shall be grateful if you will convey to Governor our sincere wishes for a speedy recovery and early return to duty."

From the Officer Administering the Government of North Borneo:-

"Deeply regret to hear sad news, of Mr. Stewart's death. Members of Advisory Council now in session and people of North Borneo send their deepest sympathy to widow and children in their sad bereavement."

From the High Commissioner for the Federation of Malaya:-

"I have been deeply shocked to learn of the death of Mr. Duncan Stewart and offer you and the Government and people of Sarawak sincere sympathy in your great loss."

From the Governor of Hong Kong:-

"Please convey my deepest condolences to Mrs. Stewart."

From the Governor of the Gambia:-

"Please accept my sincere sympathy and that of all communities in the Gambia in the great loss your Colony has sustained."

From the Acting Governor of the Bahamas:-

"Tragic news of your bereavement has been received by all who knew your husband

in Bahamas with feelings of deep shock and personal concern. Expressions I have heard indicate deep-seated regard with which both he and you were held in this Colony. On behalf Executive Council and Colony of Bahamas generally I wish to express sincere condolence and sympathy.

From the Acting Governor of St. Helena:-

"Grateful if you will convey to Mrs. Stewart deepest sympathy from members of Colonial Service here and the people of St. Helena Colony."

From the Australian Commissioner, Singapore:-

"Please accept deepest sympathy of my Government and this Australian Commission in your tragic loss."

From the Swiss Consul, Singapore:-

"Please accept my sincere condolences and the expression of my heartfelt sympathy for the untimely loss of His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak."

From His Highness the Sultan of Brunei:-

"Beta dukacita kematian Tuan governor D.G. Stewart sampaikan kepada isteri dan ahlinya."

From the British Resident, Brunei:-

"I and all people in Brunei deeply distressed at tragic news and send our sincere sympathy to you and government of Sarawak."

From His Highness the Sultan of Selangor:-

"It is with the greatest sorrow that my wife and I heard of the death of Mr. Stewart. Please convey our heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Stewart in her hour of bereavement."

From His Highness the Regent of Johore:-

"Please convey to Mrs. Stewart my deepest sympathy and condolence in her very sad bereavement and the great loss."

Funeral Of His Excellency The Governor

The following account of the funeral of His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak has been received from Singapore.

Crowds began to gather outside St. Andrew's Cathedral two hours before the funeral service was due to begin. Close by the Scots Guards were waiting as escort and with them were the bank of the Seaforth Highlanders whose drums were draped in black, the buglers of the Scots Guards and a detachment of the Singapore police. At 4 p.m. the hearse with its police escort arrived outside the Supreme Court (which is four hundred yards from the Cathedral) where the coffin was transferred by the military bearer party of eight Scots guardsmen to a gun-carriage. The coffin was draped with the union Jack and on top were two personal wreaths and the white plumed dress helmet of the late Governor. His insignia were carried on a red insignia cushion.

The official pall-bearers were the Commissioner General, Mr. Malcom MacDonal, the Officer Administering the Government, Sarawak, Mr. Christopher Dawson, the High Commissioner of the Federation of Malaya, Sir Henry Gurney and the Officer Administering the Government, Singapore, Mr. P.A.B. McKerron. As the cortege moved off the gun-carriage was pulled by a party of fourteen Singapore Police. Behind the carriage walked representatives of the British Services and the representatives of the people of Sarawak who had accompanied Mr. Dawson to Singapore in the morning.

It was most moving scene as the cortege, headed by the band, which was playing Chopin's Funeral March, moved at the slow march into the Cathedral grounds. The road was lined four and five deep all the way and the lawn in front of the main door of the Cathedral was carpeted with wreaths. At the Cathedral porch the Venerable Archdeacon

Gregory, who was officiating in the absence of the Bishop of Singapore in Bangkok, met the procession and preceded it into the church. While the 23rd Psalm was sung the draped coffin was carried up the aisle to its place in the Cathedral Choir. Mrs. Stewart sat with Mrs. McKerron and Mr. T. St. J. Dilks, who had been Private Secretary to her husband. At the conclusion of the service a party of eight buglers from the Scots guards sounded the Reveille and the Last Post while the congregation stood in final respect. The coffin was then carried down the aisle by the bearer party, and the official mourners followed. It was placed on a hearse which moved off while the Singapore Artillery Regiment fired a seventeen-gun salute. The burial at Bidadari Cemetery was, at the request of Mrs. Stewart, private.

In addition to the wreaths from Sarawak mentioned in yesterday

The secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Commissioner General.

The Governor of Singapore, Sir Franklin Gimson and Lady Gimson.

The Officer Administering the Government, Singapore and Mrs. McKerron.

His Highness the Rajah.

The newly appointed Governor of North Borneo, Sir Ralph Hone and Lady Hone.

The Government of Singapore.

The High Commissioner for the Federation of Malaya, Sir Henry Gurney and Lady Gurney.

The Government of the Federation of Malaya.

The Sultan and Government of Brunei.

The British Resident of Brunei, Mr. Pretty and Mrs. Pretty.

The Government and people of the Bahamas, where the late Governor was formerly Colonial Secretary.

The Sibü Murder Trial

The trial of Rosli bin Dobi and Morshidi bin Sidek for the murder of the late Governor Mr. Duncan Stewart opened in the Second Circuit Court, Sibü, on the 5th January. His Honour Judge D.R. Lascelles sat with five assessors, of whom three were Malays, one Dayak and one Chinese. Both accused were defended by Mr. J. Pike, Assistant District Officer, Binatang. The public benches of the Court Room, which had been almost empty for the preliminary inquiry three weeks earlier, were filled with spectators, many of them Ibans.

Both Rosli and Morshidi pleaded guilty, though at the preliminary inquiry the latter had pleaded not guilty. The pleas were accepted, but it was decided to hear evidence.

The case was opened by the Attorney-General, Mr. A.J. Grattan-Bellew, who prosecuted. He explained how the late Governor had come to Sibü on the 3rd December, and how he was attacked by Rosli, who came out from the side and stabbed him in the abdomen, being immediately caught by two policemen. Morshidi had meanwhile pretended to take a photograph of the Governor, in order to check him; after the first accused had made his attack he (Morshidi) came forward with a dagger upraised in his hand, but was immediately overcome by Mr. Barcroft, Resident, Third Division, and Mr. Dilks, Private Secretary to the Governor. The two accused were then taken to the Police Station with their weapons. The Attorney-General produced in Court a small camera, which he said was found on Morshidi, but which could not have been used for taking pictures as it was broken. The Governor was straightway rushed to hospital and an operation was performed; the wound, which was one and a third inches in breadth, had penetrated three inches. Next morning he was taken, on medical advice, to Singapore, where he died on 10th December. On 5th December both accused made confessions. The Attorney-General said that, as far as the first accused, Rosli, was concerned, he had been caught in the act of murdering the Governor and that was all it was necessary to say. As to Morshidi, the evidence would show, Mr. Grattan-Bellew submitted, that the two accused were acting on an agreement having the common intention of killing the Governor and that Morshidi assisted in carrying out the

murder. He then explained the law of common intention. If two people agree to commit murder and one attracts the attention of the victim or does something to halt his progress, in order to enable the other to deliver a fatal blow, and the other does deliver that blow, according to the law both are equally guilty of murder.

The rest of the morning session was occupied with the evidence of witnesses, including Mr. Barcroft, Mr. Dilks and a number of policemen. They gave substantially the same evidence as they had given at the preliminary inquiry.

When the Court reassembled in the afternoon, statements made by the two accused were read out, which alleged that there had been in existence for more than a year an organisation called the "Thirteen essential ingredients", whose object was to assassinate the Governor and other British officials.

In his statement Rosli bin Dobi said that three or four months previously he was walking in Sibü when he was hailed by a man named Bujang bin Sunotong, who asked him if he knew of a party called the "Thirteen essential ingredients", which was headed by Awang Rambli, who was Secretary-General of the Pergerakan Pemuda Melayu. Rosli said he had never heard of it, and Bujang explained that the party's first object was to sacrifice themselves, if necessity arose, because they had been resisting for three years without gaining anything. It was essential to get liberation restored as soon as possible. They must take action because the justice they had awaited from the British Government had not materialised. Secondly, they must await a future occasion when they could take precise action and assassinate the Governor and other British officials. Bujang added that there were about thirteen members of the society and gave their names.

Later, Rosli went on, he was hailed by Rambli, who asked him to come to his house, where he was told about the Governor's impending visit. Rosli suggested that they should put up posters as they had done in the past, but Rambli replied: "It is useless to carry on the old style of opposition; it is like awaiting rain of gold from heaven. We must remember that freedom is certainly in our hands if we are

ready to sacrifice ourselves." Rambli said there was no better person to sacrifice than the Governor. When Rosli expostulated that this was a difficult affair, Rambli answered:- "On the contrary, it is a very easy one. If we kill the Governor, our country will quickly regain freedom, and we will certainly receive an honourable name which will be known by all within and without the country." He added that Rosli was the best person to do the deed because he was young and still in school and because of this Government would have no suspicion. Rambli added that, if Rosli got into trouble and was imprisoned, he (Rambli) would definitely assist him. On this occasion Rosli would not agree to act.

A week later Rambli came to his house, and, after cigarettes had been handed round, he repeated what he had said before. Rosli said that they should have another meeting, and Rambli said no more. They eventually parted, but at 5 p.m. that evening, when Rosli went on his bicycle to the mosque, he was called by Rambli, who was in nearby house. There was further conversation and, after five minutes' thought, Rosli said that he was preparing himself for the deed.

Rosli's statement then described other meetings which took place in the three days prior to the arrival of the Governor in Sibul.

At 6 a.m. on the 3rd December, Rosli went to Morshidi's house and discussed arrangements. The statement continued:- "I returned home and took a bath and refreshment. I then dressed and took with me one camera and one knife. I went to the Methodist School, fell in with them and marched to the Offices, where we were drawn up in front of the main office. Morshidi was standing close by and I called him over and gave him the camera." Rosli then described the attack thus:- "When the Governor came abreast of me, I took the knife from my pocket and dived at the Governor. Morshidi advanced with me. When I first tried to stab the Governor, I did not hit him. I saw the police were about to seize me and I threw my knife at the Governor. I was straightway seized and I do not know whether the knife got the Governor or not."

Morshidi bin Sidek's statement started by describing a meeting which took place "over a year ago". He was taken by Rambli to a house where he saw "a great number of friends". The statement described how, after a passage from the Koran had been read, Rambli told

them that they would take an oath in the form of drinking water; what was said at the meeting must not be repeated to anybody, and whoever related what was said would commit a mortal sin and would be cursed. Rambli then said, according to the statement. "We have been fighting for three years and have not yet recovered our country, Sarawak. Now the time has come when we must assassinate the Governor and the Resident, but the exact time we do not know. There must be this assassination that our country may revert to the status quo ante." He (Morshidi) was very frightened at hearing this statement and remained silent, as did the others. Rambli said that the meeting would be named the "Thirteen essential ingredients". The statement went on to say that on the last visit of the Governor, Sir Charles Arden-Clarke, they did not decide to do anything.

Morshidi's statement then referred to a meeting which took place in a public school at Sibul on the Thursday before the Governor's arrival. He was called to the meeting by a circular which was sent by Rosli, who opened the meeting by saying that he and Rambli had agreed to the step which they intended to take to kill the Governor. He wished to select two friends to join him. He chose Morshidi. Morshidi protested that the affair must be carefully thought out, but Rosli assured him that Rambli approved the proposal and would be responsible for Court proceedings, were they arrested.

The statement later described a meeting at the P.P.M. Club on the evening of 2nd December. At the end Rambli called to Morshidi to go with him to the bazaar, and there Rambli said to him and Rosli:- "This is your opportunity. You kill the Governor on his arrival." Rambli added that, if the two did not do the deed, he himself must do it. On his way home Morshidi called for a short while at a house where a dance was going on. Morshidi's statement concluded with a description of his part in the attack.

After the two statements, each of which totalled about 2,000 words, had been read in Court, Rosli went into the witness box and confirmed in a firm, unemotional voice that his statement was all correct. He added, in reply to a question by Mr. Pike, defending, that he was sorry for what he had done; he had been pushed into doing it by Rambli, but he was now really sorry for himself and put himself at the mercy of the Court. Morshidi, who followed him into the box, nodded when he was

asked if his statement was correct. He also said that he was sorry for what he had done and said that he had been pestered by Rosli and Rambli. He asked the Court to have pity on him.

In his speech for the defence, Mr. Pike asked the Court to take into consideration the youth and impressionability of the accused and suggested that they had been talked into their action by Rambli. He spoke of the background of the Japanese occupation, "when a true appreciation of values and a proper appreciation of law and order" was lacking; the accused, who were children when the Japanese came, had very little chance of growing up. Mr. Pike finally asked the Court to take into consideration the way the accused had helped the Crown and that they had been driven to do what they had by a "discredited Government servant who has not the courage to act for himself and drives small innocent people to do his dirty work for him."

The day's proceeding closed with a short summing-up by the Attorney-General.

When the Court resumed on the following morning, Judge Lascelles summed up for the five assessors sitting with him. He said it was almost certain that never before in the history of Sarawak had there been a case in Court which had aroused the interest that this had done. He advised the assessors that, although they might have heard much discussion about the killing of the Governor, they must view the case with open minds and must now allow outside opinion to affect their judgement, as they had been asked to serve as assessors so that he (the Judge) might have the benefit of their considered opinion. He then made certain legal explanations and, after reviewing briefly the proceedings of the trial, made this point. Mr. Pike, for the defence, had stressed, he said, that the event would not have taken place without the instigation of Awang Rambli, that it was entirely due to that man's influence that the deed was carried out. He must direct them that the fact that the accused might have acted under the influence of someone else was no legal defence to a murder charge. He added that, if they found the ac-

cused guilty, they could make such recommendations for clemency as they deemed fit. But they must bear in mind that an innocent man was done to death and that either of the accused could have reported the matter to Government and saved the deceased's life. It had appeared in evidence that at one stage in the plotting Rambli said that, if the accused would not do the deed, then he would do it himself. "You may ask yourselves why they did not leave it to Rambli", the Judge concluded.

The assessors were out of Court for barely ten minutes and, on returning, they each told Judge Lascelles in turn that they found both the accused guilty. There were no recommendations to mercy. The accused were then found guilty by the Judge.

Rosli then made a statement standing in the dock. His voice was firm and strong, but he was obviously labouring under strong emotion. He said he realised he had done wrong, admitted his guilt and asked for clemency. If it had not been for Rambli, he would have done nothing. He added that, if the Court would not give him clemency, he would ask for the matter to be considered by the Supreme Council in Kuching.

Morshidi then spoke in similar vein, but said that both Rambli and Rosli had instigated him and that he was afraid and gave in.

Finally Judge Lascelles passed sentence. He said to the two accused:- "You may have hoped to achieve names for yourselves and you have done so. Your names will go down in the history of Sarawak as the two men who cowardly murdered an innocent man, a man who a few weeks earlier at his inauguration in Kuching as Governor had dedicated himself to the furtherance of the interests of the country and the people. The Malay people in Sarawak have a fine record of service and loyalty, and I am sure all decent Malays will regard this deed as a blot on that record, and that your names will be regarded by future generations with abhorrence." After saying that the law provided but one penalty for the offence of which they had been convicted, the Judge sentenced both accused to death by hanging.

The Sibü Conspiracy Case — Preliminary Inquiry

Ten Malays, all of them members of the Pergerakan Pemuda Melayu (P.P.M.), who were arrested on a charge of conspiracy to murder, following the attack on the late Governor at Sibü on the 3rd December, appeared in Court on the afternoon of the 6th January, when the preliminary inquiry began before Mr F.B.K. Drake at Sibü. The accused persons were:-

1. Awang Rambli bin Mohammed Deli, aged about 38. General Secretary of the P.P.M. Born in Brooketon (Brunei), joined the Sarawak Customs Department in July, 1929, and resigned in 1946.
2. Abang Han bin Abang Ahmat, aged 25. Employed in Sarawak Oilfields Limited laboratory at Lutong.
3. Bujang bin Suntong, aged 58. Casual labourer.
4. Awang Osman bin Awang Mat, aged 48. Rubber tapper.
5. Osman bin Abdullah, aged 40. Rubber tapper and formerly syce.
6. Morni bin Jurit, aged 30. Rubber tapper.
7. Chee (alias Osman) bin Mohammed, aged 28. Formerly electrician.
8. Abang Ahmat bin Abang Haji Abu Bakar, aged 23. Rubber gardener.
9. Wan Zen bin Wan Abdullah, aged 20. Rubber tapper.
10. Jack bin Haji Usop, aged 17. Temporary clerk in National Registration Office, Sibü.

The inquiry opened four hours after Rosli and Morshidi had been sentenced to death in the same room for the murder of the Governor, in order that Professor D.E.C. Mekie, Professor of Clinical Surgery, Singapore, might give his evidence relating to the Governor's death and then return to Singapore.

The case for the prosecution was conducted by the Attorney-General (Mr A.J. Grattan-Bellew). In his opening statement he said that evidence would be called to show that in August, 1948, a conspiracy took place. Fourteen people, including the ten in the dock, met in a house in Sibü and there conspired to murder the Governor and other officials. They were all members of the P.P.M., which was a purely political society whose

object was to promote anti-cession feeling in Sarawak. Among the fourteen were the President and the General Secretary of the society. A few months before the Governor was murdered, another man was brought into the conspiracy by Rambli and Bujang; this was Rosli, who had that morning been convicted of the murder of the Governor. After briefly narrating the events that had led up to the attack on the Governor, the Attorney-General said that the date of the meeting and the names of those present were known because one of the conspirators had recorded them in his diary.

After Professor Mekie's evidence had been taken, the Court adjourned till Monday, the 9th January, when the inquiry was resumed and lasted till mid-day on Thursday, the 12th. The most important evidence was that given by the two men convicted of the Governor's murder, Rosli and Morshidi, each of whom spent a whole morning in the witness box. The chain of events revealed by the prosecution witnesses was as follows:-

In August, 1948, one Tambek bin Adon was employed by Mr Marjoribanks to move into his empty house, "Journey's End" in Telephone Road, and to act as caretaker. A few days later he was approached by the accused Awang Rambli, Bujang and Abang Han and by Mohammed Sirat, President of the P.P.M., and asked to lend the house for a *makán ulap*. This duly took place on the 20th August. Those present included all ten accused and Mohammed Sirat, Morshidi, Amin bin Jenal and Tambek himself, and a radio was brought from the P.P.M. Club.

All these persons went into a room, where Awang Rambli addressed them. He said that they were the leaders of the anti-cession movement in Sibü. They had fought against the cession for a long time, but with no result. The Rajah Muda Anthony Brooke was refused admittance to Sarawak because the Governor continued to advise London that his return would cause trouble. It was therefore necessary to take action in order that the British Government might know their wishes, and this action must take the form of killing the Governor, the Resident, other British officials and the elderly Malays who supported the

British Government. He himself, said Awang Rambli, would take the Governor. The meeting agreed on the action proposed, and various members accepted responsibility for killing the Resident, the Datu and others.

Awang Rambli impressed on those present the need for extreme secrecy and said that anyone who gave information of what had been discussed would be accursed. It was decided to take an oath (the *ayer yasin*). Water was sent for, the accused Wan Zen read the *yasin* and all present took a sip of the water. It was decided to call the party "*Rukun tiga-belas*," as there were thirteen members in addition to Awang Rambli, the leader. (*Rukun tiga-belas* are the thirteen essentials which must be included in a prayer, according to Moslem practice, if the prayer is to be effective). The objects of the party were stated to be (1) to kill the Governor and the other persons mentioned above and (2) to spread propaganda among the Malay youth to persuade them to join in the killing. If any member designated to perform a killing refused to do so or withdrew, he was to be killed before the persons listed.

Notebooks found in the possession of the accused Abang Han contained a list of the persons present at the meeting of 20th August, 1948. There was also a list of persons to be killed, which appeared to have been written at an earlier date. These latter were:-

"Datuk Abang Yan	Tuan Large
Abang Razak	Willie Geikie
Abang Mentrang	Abang Kiprawi, N.O.
Abang Ibrahim	Abang Mustapha, N.O.
Inspector Dahlan	Abang Morshidi, N.O. Sarikei."

There was also a smaller list of persons to be attacked (*di-pukul*). These entries were confirmed by Abang Han in a statement which he made before the District Court Magistrate, Mr A.C. Waine. Mr Waine proved the statement in Court.

No immediate action was taken. Some of the witnesses stated that this was due to the opposition of Mohammed Sirat, President of the P.P.M., to the taking of blood.

Some four months before the murder Rosli bin Dobi, Assistant Secretary of the P.P.M., was informed by the accused Bujang bin Suntong of the existence of the *Rukun tiga-belas* and its objects, and the need for secrecy was impressed on him.

On the 26th November, 1949, according to Rosli's statement, he was cycling past Awang Rambli's house, when the latter called him up, and told him that the Governor would be visiting Sibu on the 3rd December. He said that, in spite of posters to the effect that a Governor was not wanted, the British Government had sent out a new Governor, and means must be found to wipe him out or Sarawak's fight for independence would seem useless in the eyes of the world. "We know," said Awang Rambli, "that the Government is collecting taxes from us, and the money is being used for building bungalows and houses for white men, but our kampong roads have not been repaired. A final settlement must be made by killing the Governor, and after this I fully believe that the complete independence at which we have been aiming will become effective. If we do not carry this out, our good way of living will be endangered. We have waited four years for our independence and it is just like waiting for golden rain to fall from the sky (*hujan mas turun dari langit*). I ask you, the Malay youth, to play your part in the killing of the Governor. If a youth undertakes this, the Government will have no suspicion." Rosli demurred and Awang Rambli told him that now was the chance for him to make a name for himself. The next day, however, Awang Rambli came to the Sekolah Ra'ayat, where Rosli was teaching, and again urged him to undertake the deed. Eventually Rosli agreed and Awang Rambli thanked him and suggested that he should ask the accused Bujang or Morshidi or Moss bin Takip to assist him.

Rosli called a meeting at the Sekolah Ra'ayat on the 1st December, at which Morshidi, Moss and certain other witnesses were present. Rosli said that Awang Rambli had asked him to kill the Governor on his arrival in Sibu, and had said that he (Awang Rambli) would support him in any Court proceedings that might result. He called for volunteers, but only Morshidi was willing. After leaving the meeting he went with Morshidi to Bujang's house and asked him to assist; Bujang, however, advised waiting for four or five days, when the Governor could be killed in the kampong, where there would be many of the British officials and elderly Malays also present. But Rosli said he could not wait.

On two occasions on the following day, said Rosli, Awang Rambli met him, to confirm him in his resolve and to assure him of his

support in any Court proceedings. A meeting was held in the P.P.M. Club that evening, and when it was over Awang Rambli went off with Rosli, Morshidi and some others. Awang Rambli finally obtained Morshidi's agreement to take part in the murder, telling him that this was an order from the *Rukun tiga-belas* and that, if he refused to obey, Awang Rambli must take action against him. The following morning the attack on the Governor took place.

The Attorney-General, closing his case on the 12th January, submitted that the evidence showed that a conspiracy had taken place on the 20th August, 1948, to which the ten accused and others were parties — a conspiracy to murder, if opportunity allowed, the Governor and other officials. A year later Rosli, by his agreement, joined the conspiracy and became one of the conspirators. As a result of this conspiracy, the late Governor was murdered. When there is a conspiracy, said the Attorney-General, each conspirator is liable for acts done by the other conspirators in pursuance of the common ends of the conspiracy, and it is immaterial whether he was at the place where the murder was committed or whether he had any knowledge of when the particular murder was going to be; his liability continues until he dissociates himself from the conspiracy.

The Magistrate said that evidence had been adduced tending to show that all the accused were present at a meeting held in Telephone Road on the 20th August, 1948, at which it was agreed to murder the Governor of Sarawak and others. One of the parties to this meeting, according to the evidence, had been convicted in the Second Circuit Court of the murder of the Governor. In the present proceedings a great deal of evidence had also been brought to show that another party, Awang Rambli, was active in promoting the murder. The Magistrate explained section 120A of the penal Code, which states that, when two or more persons agree to do, or cause to be done, an illegal act, such an agreement is designated a criminal conspiracy. He accordingly framed the following charge against all the accused:-

"That you on or about the 20th August, 1948, did at a house in Telephone Road, Sibul, known as "Journey's End," conspire with other persons to murder His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak and others, and that as a result of the conspiracy His Excellency the Governor was in fact murdered on the 3rd December, 1949."

All ten accused elected to reserve their defence, and were committed for trial before the Circuit Court.



Rasly bin Dhoobie under arrest in Sibul, December 1949, after totally stabbing Governor Duncan Stewart in an anti-cession protest.

L/C Natu Laid To Rest With Military Honours DETERMINATION TO RID LAWLESS ELEMENTS STRENGTHEN



Lance Corporal Natu of the Sarawak Constabulary who was cold-bloodedly killed while on duty in the early hours of Wednesday morning at the 27th Milestone, Kuching/Serian Road, was yesterday laid to rest in the Malay Community cemetery with full military honours.

The coffin of the deceased was brought over from Across River shortly after 9.30 a.m. draped with a Union Jack and carried by a group of his brother officers and followed by his widow, and relatives. A guard of honour was mounted at the Pangkalan Batu and as the coffin was carried past the men stood at attention.

The Sarawak Constabulary Band marked the commencement of the solemn procession when it marched forward playing the solemn funeral march. Immediately behind the Band walked the Acting Chief Secretary Mr J.H. Ellis, the Resident First Division, Mr W.P.L.N. Ditmas, the Acting Attorney General, Mr R.H. Hickling, The Datu Bandar, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, Mr T.P. Cromwell, Mr Ong Hap Leong, Mr C.O. Adams, Mr H. Bompfrey and Abang Mustapha. Then came the coffin carried by 10 policemen in Mosque Parade uniform, followed by the widow and relatives of the deceased and behind them marched 11 inspectors and more than 240 members of the Sarawak Constabulary.

The cortege arrived at the cemetery at 10.20 a.m. and





last rites were performed by Haji Bol, Belal of the Malay Mosque.

Speaking at the graveside, the Commissioner of Police, Mr P.J. Shannon said "Today the members of the Sarawak Constabulary, Government and the law abiding people of this country mourn the loss of a loyal and brave member of the Sarawak Constabulary, Lance Corporal Natu was murdered in cold ways be proud. I wish to express with his wife and family the sincere sympathy of every member of the Sarawak Constabulary.

A two-minute silence was observed when the bugle called the "Last Post" and "Rouse". Wreaths were sent by the Commissioner and Officers of the Sarawak Constabulary; the Commissioner, Inspectors and members of the Sarawak Constabulary; Squad No. 1, Police Training School; and the Fire Brigade Staff.

Lance Corporal Natu, who leaves behind a widow and four children, was 33 years of age. He joined the Sarawak Constabulary in 1937 giving him a record of more than fifteen years service.



Visits of His Excellency the Governor to SibU and Brunei



His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by his Hon. A.D.C., Abang Othman, and the Private Secretary, left Kuching for SibU on Tuesday, 18th April by "La Follette" and, after a smooth voyage, arrived at SibU at 9.00 a.m. the following day. The Honourable the Resident, Third Division, (Mr J.C.H. Barcroft) met His Excellency at Bukit Lau which is about an hour's journey from SibU. His Excellency was received by a Guard of Honour and was met at the jetty by Mr A.C. Waine (District Officer SibU), Mr K.S. Leeston-Smith (O.S.S., SibU), Mr J. Pike (Acting District Officer Binatang), Mr J.F. Drake-Brockman (District Officer Kanowit), Mr I.A.N. Urquhart (Acting District Officer Kapit) and by the Hon. Mr L.K. Morse, Resident-Designate Third Division. After walking through lines of welcoming school children, His Excellency went to the Government Offices, where he heard requests in court and where addresses of welcome were presented. His Excellency also received the leading members of the Malay, Dayak and Chinese communities, speaking personally to everyone who came. He presented Mr Geok Lin with the insignia of the M.B.E. conferred on the latter for service as an outstanding member of the SibU community — a long citation was read before the presentation was made. In the evening, His Excellency was entertained at a drinks party, to which members of all communities were invited, and afterwards he dined at the Residency.

On Thursday, the 20th, His Excellency attended the Divisional Council meeting during its morning session and said good-bye to all members before his departure for Brunei at midday.



Visit of His Excellency the Governor to Coastal Districts 1953

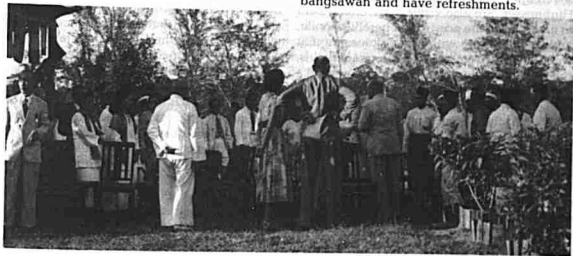


His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the Private Secretary, embarked in the *Mermaid* at Pending at 2.00 p.m. on 12th July and after a short stop to visit Kidurong arrived at dawn on the 14th July off Kuala Sibuti where he was met by the Honourable the Acting Resident, Fourth Division (Mr A.F.R. Griffin), the Acting District Officer, Miri (Mr E.G. White) and the Assistant Superintendent of Police (Mr R.W. Gambrill).

Off Kuala Bintulu, His Excellency transferred once more to the *Lorna Doone* and reached Bintulu about 3.00 p.m. in a driving rainstorm. He was met by the Acting District Officer (Mr P. Scanlon) and his wife, and by Senior Native Officer (Abang Zainudin) and Native Officer (Abang Adenan), and after inspecting a smart Guard of Honour and the school children and being introduced to the local dignitaries, he went to the District Officer's bungalow.

With much trepidation Mr and Mrs Scanlon decided to have the scheduled garden party in their garden and not in the house, and mercifully the weather played up and His Excellency was able to meet representatives of all communities at a most successful party which well repaid the hard work that had obviously been put into it. Throughout the party a new but promising local band was performing.

His Excellency had a well-cooked dinner with the Kapitan China and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and then went to the new and very fine Malay School to watch a bangsawan and have refreshments.



Governor's Broadcast On The Royal Visit To Sarawak

A few days ago His Excellency the Governor recorded an address at the Astana on the occasion of the visit to Sarawak and Brunei of Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the Duke. An official of Radio Malaya flew over from Singapore specially for this purpose. The text of the address which follows was scheduled to be broadcast last night over Radio Malaya at 7.15 local time.

"Tomorrow morning the Sunderland flying boat bearing Their royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the Duke of Kent will touch down at a small place called Pending, on a wide stretch of the Sarawak River a few miles downstream from Kuching, the capital of this country. Pending is where sea-going vessels bound for Kuching wait for the tide.

"Sarawak, was for more than a hundred years, under the beneficent personal rule of the Brooke Rajahs, but after the liberation from Japanese occupation it was ceded by the Rajah to the British Crown.

"In the six years that have passed since then, communications and transport, and all the advantages they bring, have developed fast, both within Sarawak and with the outside world, and now opportunities are being given to the country. When the Rajahs ruled, they and their officers were concerned above all to keep in close personal touch with the people and their needs. Since July 1946, when the last Rajah left Sarawak, it has been the policy of the Government to continue this long and wise tradition.

"Both Sarawak and her neighbour, the sovereign State of Brunei, which Their Royal Highnesses, are also visiting, have long held in high regard the principle of hereditary rule, and it is therefore with unique pleasure that we in these two countries look forward to this, the first visit in our history, of a Princess and a Prince of the Royal House of Britain and the Commonwealth.

"When the Duchess of Kent and her son, the Duke, come to Sarawak, they will be received with flags and music, with the traditional dances of the Dayaks and the Chinese, the Malays, the Kayans and the Kenyahs, and with many other, manifestations of the warmth of our welcome. But they will not leave us without also seeing concrete evidence of the progress this country is making.

"At Batu Lintang, in Kuching, they will visit the Teachers' Training College. During the war, Batu Lintang was a Japanese internment camp. Now, in the same building but in a very, very different atmosphere, nearly two hundred students from all the races of Sarawak, are learning to be teachers. The College is a remarkable, perhaps unique, example of human and spiritual co-operation. The Principal has a distinguished record of service in the Royal Air force during the war. His two assistant Principals are a Minister of the Church of England and a Father of the Catholic Church, and there is a Muslim Kathi also on the staff.

"At Sibn, the second town of Sarawak, Her Royal Highness will open the new Out Patient Department of the Lau Kheng Howe Hospital, and in Kuching, she will lay the Foundation Stone of the new Anglican Cathedral there. The new Cathedral is being built to celebrate, in 1955, the centenary of the first installation, at the invitation of the first Rajah, of an Anglican bishop in Sarawak.

"When Their Royal Highnesses leave Sarawak they will fly to Brunei Town, the capital of the ancient State of Brunei, and there they will be received and entertained by His Highness the Sultan of Brunei. During their stay in this country the Royal visitors will also go to Seria on the coast of Brunei to inspect the great oilfields, there. They will see the tremendous developments which have taken place since the end of the war. Their oilfield is the largest oil producing centre in the British Commonwealth, and in the town of Seria men, perhaps of as many different races as are collected together anywhere in the world, work together in harmony and in an excellently designed modern town.

"From Kuala Belait, near Seria, the Duke and Duchess and their party will fly back to Singapore and it is my hope, shared, I am sure, by all the people of Sarawak and Brunei that the deep pleasure and great benefit their visit will confer upon us will also, in a large measure, be felt in their hearts, and have made this part of their long and arduous journey well worth while."

History was made in Sarawak yesterday morning when at 12.05 p.m. the Royal Air Force Sunderland touched down at Pending



Her Royal Highness about to enter the Astana Barge yesterday morning after her arrival at Kuching, amongst the expectant crowd.

and Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the young Duke of Kent set foot on Sarawak soil. This is the first time in the history of Sarawak that any member of the Royal Family has visited the country.

The population of Kuching turned out early to prepare themselves for the Royal welcome. Finishing touches to the decorations in the town were completed the day before and as dawn broke over the town yesterday morning there was distinctly an air of festivity everywhere.

Vessels in port were dressed; Union Jacks and Sarawak flags and coloured bunting fluttered gaily in the morning breeze, evergreens and palms contributed a colour of freshness to the gaily decorated arches in the bazaar, shophouses and institutions. The weather was exceptionally fine and there was thankfulness in the hearts of many especially after the 'wet' experience in the past few days.

As the time drew nearer to be expected arrival of the Royal Party crowds began to gather behind the police cordon drawn up round the Secretariat building. The crowds, numbering thousands, comprising a really cosmopolitan gathering, were mainly formed of the town's population but at one corner of the Secretariat compound could be seen a group of outstation representatives in their colourful and novel attires and head-dresses.

The Guard of Honour mounted by the Sarawak Constabulary and the Sarawak Constabulary Band took up position in front of the Brooke Memorial and when they were called to attention at 12.30 p.m., a sudden hush fell

amongst the expectant crowd.

At 12.35 p.m. sharp the Royal Party from Pending arrived and turned into Pangkalan Batu. Heads craned forward to catch a glimpse of Their Royal Highnesses who were in the first car. As the cars came to a stop His Excellency the Governor, attended by his A.D.C. stepped out of the car. His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent then stepped out and finally Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent. Her Royal Highness wore a pale pink dress with a hat of the same colour, pearl earrings and of three ropes of pearls.

The Bishop of Borneo, the Rt. Rev Nigel Cornwall, the Chief Secretary, Mr R.G. Aikman, C.M.G., and the Commission of Police, Mr P.J. Shannon were then presented to Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess and the Duke.

The National Anthem was played and then Her Royal Highness inspected the Guard of Honour. Her Royal Highness then joined His Excellency and the party at the steps of the Pangkalan Batu. Before leaving for the Astana, Her Royal Highness graciously paused at the steps of the Pangkalan Batu while press photographers took pictures.

Their Royal Highnesses and His Excellency then left the Pangkalan Batu in the Astana barge followed by the other members of the Royal Party, Lady Rachel Davidson, Lord Althorp, Mr Philip hay and Major Buckle.

As Her Royal Highness stepped into the Astana barge the native representatives from the outstations who were among the spectators, chanted a native welcome song.



The prize winning 'Pompous and Noble' arch at Padungan Road, being inspected by Her Highness during her tour round Kuching town.

Thousands of people from the town, kampongs, rural areas and from the remote villages of Sarawak lined up behind the Police cordon in the gaily decorated streets in the town and the kampongs areas when Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Kent toured Kuching town yesterday morning during the second day of the Royal visit to Sarawak.

Thousands of school children from almost every school in Kuching waved Union Jacks as the Royal cars passed by. Union Jacks, some Sarawak flags and brightly coloured banners fluttered in the tropical morning breeze and everywhere along the route of the Royal tour there was an atmosphere of festivity.

Strict measures were also being carried out and Policemen and Auxiliary Policemen lined up in front of the crowded spectators in almost every ten feet along the route of the Royal tour right up to Batu Lintang Teachers Training College where the tour ended.

The Royal Party passed by gaily decorated arches at the main streets of the town and on many sections of the roads in the kampong areas along Datu's Road, Green Road and Satok Road and as Her Royal Highness stopped to see some of the impressive arches, press correspondents, photographers and the Malayan Film Unit camera men who were travelling behind the Royal Party rushed to

take pictures of the Duchess shaking hands and speaking to some of the leaders of the community as they stood under the arches.

Long before the Royal Party ferried across the Sarawak River from the Astana to the Pangkalan Batu crowds of spectators took their places round the Sectariat building. The Royal Party accompanied by the Governor, Sir Anthony Abell arrived at the Pangkalan Batu just after nine o'clock. Her Royal Highness's Standard fluttered on the bonnet of the car as Her Royal Highness began her tour of the town from the Pangkalan Batu into Gambier Road where she passed under the first arch, and all along the streets school children waved flags as the Royal Party passed by.

The first person to shake hand with Her Royal Highness was Lembong bin Bujang when the Duchess made her first stop to have a good view of an arch at Kampong No. 3, Datu's Road. The others were Abg. Amin bin Abg. Hj. Drahim and Abang Kushairi bin Abg. Dawi. The attractive appearance of the decorations at Kampong No. 4, Datu's Road attracted Her Royal Highness and here also she stopped. Brightly clad Malay girls, boys, men and women lined up the road from the junction of Mosque Road and Datu's Road right up to the junction of Satok Road and Green Road and they waved as the Royal Party passed by.



HRH Inspects Training College Personal of Youth Bodies and Social Service Presented.

Her Royal Highness also stopped at the attractive arch at Padungan Road and shook hands with Mr Quek Siak Hong who was in traditional Chinese apparel. Before Her Royal Highness proceeded to Batu Lintang she stopped awhile at the arch at the cross roads of Rock Road and Carpenter Street.

Lovely weather and the clean and neat environments at the Batu Lintang Teachers Training College presented a perfect setting for the visit of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent yesterday morning.

The Sarawak Constabulary Band, under the baton of Mr A.D. Bisset, played the National Anthem immediately after Her Royal Highness in a grey and white striped cotton dress and a large white straw hat stepped out of the car on arrival at the College grounds at 10.15 a.m. Her Royal Highness was accompanied by His Excellency the Governor and attended by Lady Rachel Davidson, and Major Buckle.

Contingents of the Girl Guides, the Lifeguards, the Boy Scouts, the British Red Cross Society (Sarawak Branch) and the Police Service Corps stood information in the grounds of the College and Her Royal Highness then made an inspection of parade of these organisations.

The following people were presented to Her Royal Highness: Girl Guides: Mrs Ella Leach (Commissioner), Miss Mary Ong, Che Nyachi binte Ali, Miss W. Diken-Lennett, Miss Melly Carroll; Lifeguards: Major E.C. Willis of the Salvation Army; Boy Scouts: Mr R.H. Hickling (Chief Commissioner), Mr Yeo Cheng Hoe, Mr Lee Part, Mr Raymond Reggie Adai, Mr Zainuddin bin Mat; Red Cross: Mrs Phyllis Kennedy (Colony President), Mr A.P. Charles, Miss Zena Zehnder, Mrs Margery

James, Mr Chew Oui Cheng. Her Highness also inspected the British Red Cross Ambulance and paused to talk to Mrs Barbara Bay.

Her Royal Highness then carried out an inspection of the Training College, visiting first the Reception Room where tea was served, and then later inspected the recreation hut, the sick bay, the carpentry hut, the dormitories, concert room and a class room before calling in the Office where Her Royal Highness signed her name in a specially prepared page of the College Log book, to commemorate the visit.

During the inspection tour her Royal Highness was given a special entertainment of Malay dancing and sea-Dayak dancing by the students of the Centre. The Principal, Mr J.K. Wilson, conducted Her Royal Highness on the inspection tour and he said afterwards that Her Royal Highness was very much impressed with the principle of the Centre in preserving traditional art of the country and also with the various native designs and handicraft. Mr Wilson told the Tribune that Her Royal Highness is 'most charming and puts one immediately at ease.'

The following gentlemen were presented to Her Royal Highness: Mr H. Earnshaw, Director of Education, Mr J.K. Wilson, Rev. Fr. A.D. Galvin, Rev. Fr. D.R. Rawlins, Chegu Abang bin Said, Mr Wong Syn Ted, Mr John Timban, Chegu Wan Zain.

Her Royal Highness and party left the Training Centre at 11.00 a.m. amidst the cheers of the members of the Voluntary organisations, the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides and the students of the school who sang their school song.



Photograph by Atlas & Son

The Duchess inspecting the Girl Guides at Batu Lintang with the Colony Commissioner Mrs D.L. Leach.



Photograph by Anna' Studio

The Duchess at Batu Lintang with Chief Commissioner Mr R.H. Hickling inspecting the Boy Scouts.

Duchess Performs Laying Of Foundation Stone Ceremony



Her Royal Highness laying the foundation stone of the new Cathedral Kuching.

Photograph by Anna Studio

The foundation Stone of the new Cathedral of St. Thomas was yesterday afternoon laid in a ceremony graciously performed by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent; watched in fascination by a large number of spectators numbering nearly a thousand.

The weather was ideal and though there was a slight drizzle later it was well past the performance of the ceremony, thereby proving the old Chinese saying that "the star of Royalty is always bright".

By 3.40 p.m. yesterday afternoon everybody was in position and five minutes before the arrival of Her Royal Highness and His Excellency, the procession of Clergy, headed by the Choir (in their new uniform) left the "People's Clinic" to take up position on the matted raised dais.

Her Royal Highness, in a frock of light blue and a small hat of the same colour to match, arrived with His Excellency the Governor and was received by the Lord Bishop of Borneo who presented the Vicar, the Rev. S.J.E. Peach to Her Royal Highness.

The National Anthem was followed by the singing of the first hymn and prayers were then said by the Vicar. The Lesson was read by the Ven. A.W. Stonton, Archdeacon of Sarawak. This was followed by the Dedication of the Stone by the Bishop and a hymn followed.

His Lordship, in his address said "It is in a

spirit of humble thanksgiving and burning faith that we are gathered here this afternoon for this ceremony. This is the first act which truly inaugurates the celebration of the Centenary of the Diocese, and we look back over the past 100 years with humble thanksgiving. Next Saturday Oct. 18 is the 79th anniversary, and our act today ignites the fuse which leads directly to what we hope will be a great celebration in 1955.

We look with affection and wonder at the achievement of the first Bishop before he became a Bishop, in the building of our old St. Thomas's Church in 1849. We remember with deep admiration the faith with which he then built before there was any Christian in the land. We remember with gratitude the labours of those who have served here in succeeding generations, extending and beautifying the old Church, and filling it with prayer and love.

"Others before us have aimed at a new Cathedral but have had to postpone the day. We, in our generation, are driven to the work: firstly any really adequate repair to the old structure after its war-time damage would cost so large a sum as to be uneconomical. Secondly we have now outgrown the old building and there is no further room on that site for extension; we need more room for the growing family which gathers here to worship God.

It was in faith that Mac-Dougall in 1849 set his hand to the building of St. Thomas's

Church.

It is in faith we today set our hands to the task of building a new Cathedral; this must be large enough for the second hundred years, and it must keep step with the other developments in this town of Kuching and Diocese of Borneo. We are not ignorant of the magnitude of the task; but we rejoice that we have the great privilege of playing our part, not in patching something old and somewhat of a Museum piece, but in the building of a beautiful Cathedral, suitable for our needs and at the same time proclaiming to all who look upon it that this God is our God for ever and ever, that in Him resides all Truth, all goodness; and that in the Cross, which in due course will surmount the whole edifice is our glory and our victory.

"To Her Royal Highness we shall ever be grateful for the signal honour which she has been graciously pleased to bestow upon us. It was the first Rajah who called for the Christian Church to come to his land, who gave to the Church this site, and who encouraged MacDougall in the formidable task of building a Church wherein at first only a tiny handful gathered to worship. It seems wholly fitting that on the first visit of a member of the Royal Family to Sarawak your Royal Highness should be here today to give us in our generation the encouragement that we need as we face our great task. With that encouragement, strong in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, we will build humbly, bravely, confidently and well upon the stone which I now ask your Royal Highness to lay."

On the conclusion of his address the Bishop then invited Her Royal Highness to lay the Stone. The Contractor, Mr William Tan then handed over to Her Royal Highness the trowel with which she laid the mortar and the representative of the Architect, Mr Angell then handed to Her Royal Highness the mallet with which she laid the Stone.

The foundation Stone is engraved: "To the Glory of God. This Stone Was Laid by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., on the fifteenth day of October, 1952. Architects: Nelson, Garton & Co."

Her Royal Highness then graciously addressed the people.

"To lay the foundation stone of a new Cathedral is a great privilege," Her Highness said. "I regard it as an act of faith, and a symbol

of new birth, and of hope, at a period in the world's history when to look forward with courage is of tremendous importance to us all; and it is with the greatest pleasure that my short visit to your beautiful country gives me the opportunity of undertaking this ceremony today.

"During the last fifty years we have witnessed the spread of mistrust between peoples of all nations, culminating in two wars with all their dreadful consequences, and at this very moment the growth of materialism, and the forces of evil, threaten man's existence.

"With all their strength men of goodwill are working to prevent the recurrence of yet another tragedy of this kind; but there is, I am certain, only one sure way out of our difficulties, and that is a return to the humble way of faith, which is the only foundation for our lives.

"In England we are fortunate in possessing a splendid legacy of Cathedrals and Churches bequeathed to us by our forefathers; buildings of great age and supreme beauty, they are the work of many hands who have adorned and added to them as generation has succeeded generation. Their beauty symbolises the faith in which our fathers lived and worked; here too, your first Bishop worked with the same spirit of devotion, building not for himself, but for the glory of God, and the well-being of his people.

"I rejoice therefore that I am able to be with you this afternoon, and to witness the first stage in the construction of this great building; it is my earnest hope that all Christians in this diocese, and Christians throughout the world, will unite in their support of the work which we have inaugurated today, and by their faith and generous giving will bring it to a triumphant conclusion."

When Her Royal Highness concluded her address the representative of the Architect, Mr Angell presented the silver trowel and the mallet to Her Royal Highness.

At the close of the ceremony the following were presented to Her Royal Highness: The Archdeacon of Sarawak, the Ven. A.W. Stonton; the Architect's representative, Mr F. Angell; the Contractor, Mr William Tan; the members of the New Cathedral Committee; Messrs. Edward Brandah, H.M. Cockle, Ngui Ah Shin, Chai Ah Japp, Kueh Choo Seng, Lee Khi Chung, W.G. Morison, Dennis Law, Yeo Cheng Hoe and Dr. Tan Sim Poh.

Sibu Turns Out Thousands To Welcome royal Visitor. Natives From Rural Areas Join In Loyalty Demonstration.

Not for a long time had Sibu been so gay and happy as yesterday morning when the population of the Third Division including many from the Rural areas, the Lower and Upper Rejang and the Coastal District turned up to demonstrate their devotion and loyalty to the Crown when Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent paid a flying visit there.

The Sunderland aircraft, carrying foreign correspondents and photographers arrived at Sibu earlier in the morning and found the large crowds of officials, representatives of communities, school children and the public ready and expectantly waiting for the Royal arrival.

The Government Wharf was decorated with flags, plants and evergreens and school children lined the path that led to the Royal car.

At 10.40 a.m. the plane carrying the Royal party made a perfect and graceful landing on the river. Soon a speedboat conveyed the party to the pontoon and His Excellency the Governor stepped out, followed by Her Royal Highness and the rest of the party. Her Royal Highness in a pink dress and hatless, proceeded to the wharf and the Resident, Third Division, Mr. D.C. White was presented to her by the Governor. The Royal entourage walked along the matted path to the Residency. Her Royal Highness paused at the entrance to the path leading up to the Residency, to look at the native maidens in all their

finery and the Penghulus in their war dress and headgears who were lined up to greet her.

After a brief rest in the Residency Her Royal Highness, in a mustard coloured silk dress with black spots and small hat of the same colour graciously shook hands with fifty leading representatives of government, commerce and community who were presented to her by the Resident.

Her Royal Highness had a brief conversation with Temonggong Koh who told her that he had come a long way to welcome her. Her Royal Highness said that she would like to visit the Temonggong's house at Kapit but unfortunately she had not the time to do so. She told him also that she had witnessed Iban dancing at the Astana. Others who were honoured with short conversation with Her Royal Highness were Mr. Teo Chong Loh, Haji Zawie, Abang Ahmad, Mr. Sirdram, Mr. and Mrs. H.P.K. Jacks, Mr. and Mrs. A.J.N. Richards, Mr. Ling Chee Ming, Datu and Datin Abang Yan, Mr. and Mrs. Dickie, Dr. and Mrs. Xavier, Mr. Bumford and Mr. and Mrs. Igantius Klumai.

The tour of the Kampongs and the Bazaar took place after the presentation. Union Jacks, bunting, palms, evergreens could be seen everywhere while a number of arches were also erected. Smiling and happy faces greeted the Royal Party along the route which they passed.



Her Royal Highness, wearing the 'tjapo' presented to her by the Melanau people in Sibu, is seen with the Penghulus and men of the Third Division taken on the lawn of the Residency, Sibu yesterday afternoon.

H.R.H. Opens New Clinic At SibU Witness To Stubborn And Courageous Spirit



Photograph by Anna Studio

Her Royal Highness at the ceremony of opening the new wing of the Lau Kheng Howe Hospital, SibU.

The stubborn and courageous spirit of the people of SibU in their determination to forge forward in spite of trials and tribulations was expressed by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent when she declared open the new clinic of the Lau Kheng Howe Hospital in SibU yesterday noon.

The opening ceremony was performed by Her Royal Highness immediately after a tour of the kampongs and bazaar was made by Her Royal Highness, in the presence of the leading citizens of the Division. On arrival Her Royal Highness was presented with a bouquet of orchids by a young Malay boy in traditional costume, the son of Abang Ali Kaseno.

Before the opening ceremony, His Excellency the Governor said in his address that he would like, on behalf of the people of SibU and the Third Division, ask Her Royal Highness to convey to Her Majesty the Queen the expression of pride and gratitude of the

people for being honoured with a visit by a member of the Royal Family.

His Excellency said that this was the first visit made by a member of the Royal Family and therefore it was a memorable day in the history of the town. His Excellency touched on the many changes of fortunes which SibU had undergone and quoted the fire, the slump and depression and the Japanese occupation which the people had to face. He spoke also of the courage and confidence of the people in the future of the town and of such evidence as could be seen in the bigger and better projects undertaken. His Excellency spoke of the hospital as part of the general plan which Government was having in helping the people in the building of the future of the town and of the encouragement which the visit of Her Royal Highness would contribute by graciously consenting to open the new clinic.



Photograph by Hedda Morrison

Her Royal Highness at Sibü with (from left to right) son of Abang Thairani, Malay Native Officer; son of Mr. Chew Geok Lim, M. B. E. Chairman Chinese Chamber of Commerce; and grandson of Penghulu Nanta (Sea Dayak) from Bawang Assan Lebsa'u'n. The boys are in traditional costumes.

Your kind welcome, on behalf of the peoples of Sibü and the Third Division, has greatly touched me.

You may be sure that I shall not fail to deliver to The Queen your messages of loyalty and affection, for Her Majesty is deeply interested in the well-being of her peoples overseas, and is always anxious to learn anything affecting them.

There is, I am sure, no better witness to the stubborn and courageous spirit of the citizens of Sibü than their conduct during the events of the last twenty-five years.

In that time, as I have heard, you have been assailed by a succession of disasters that would have daunted the stoutest hearts, but you have not been dismayed, and have faced each new trial, and each fresh blow, with splendid resolution.

I know something of the sufferings which the peoples of Sibü, and indeed of all Sarawak had to bear during the war but my short visit has already shown me that you have put all that behind you, and that you have set about the work of rebuilding your country with a will.

This hospital, and its development, is, I understand, one of the schemes to which much thought and money have been devoted and I can think of no more fitting object.

For, after all, good health the preservation of it, and, above all, the restoration of it, is something of such importance in all our lives that no community can afford to neglect its medical services and facilities.

I would like therefore to congratulate all those who have been concerned with the planning and design of this new building, and to give my best wishes to all who will work here.

Her Royal Highness then graciously addressed the people. She said: I hope that the citizens of Sibü will continue to give all possible support to their hospital, and that it will flourish and develop as the years go by.

I now have very much pleasure in declaring open this new out-patient department.

On the conclusion of the address Her Royal Highness was presented with a golden pair of scissors on a silver plate by a young Iban lad in war dress, Malang anak Liang on behalf of the contractor of the building Mr. Cheng Ek Kim. With the pair of scissors Her Royal Highness cut the ribbon and declared the building open. A scroll containing an address of loyalty and welcome was presented by a young Chinese boy also in traditional dress, Chew Peng Chong.

Her Royal Highness was then conducted round the new Clinic by the Medical Officer, Dr. Rozalla. The new clinic was built at a cost of \$72,000.

After the ceremony luncheon was served at the Residency.

Sarawak Representatives Off For The Crowning Big Send-Off At The Airport



The picture above shows from left to right, Datu Abang Openg, Mr R.G. Aikman, Mr Chew Geok Lin and Penghulu Jugah at the Airport yesterday.

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr R.G. Aikman, Mr Chew Geok Lin from Sibu, Penghulu Jugah from Balleh, Kapit and Datu Abang Openg, District Officer, Kuching left Kuching Airport by Malayan Airways aircraft for Singapore yesterday afternoon on their way to the United Kingdom to represent Sarawak during the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

His Excellency the Governor arrived at the Airport from Kuching just in time to say farewell to the four representatives before the plane took off.

Among the many people who were there at

the Airport to see the four representatives off were Government Officials and members of the Council Negri and friends.

The party will leave Singapore by BOAC for the United Kingdom on Saturday, 16th May. While they are in Great Britain they will be the guests of Her Majesty the Queen.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr L.K. Morse, Resident, to act temporarily as Chief Secretary, and Mr D.L. Bruen, Principal Assistant Secretary, Secretariat, to act temporarily as Deputy Chief Secretary.

England at Coronation Time

by DATU ABANG OPENG BIN ABANG SAPI'EE

Before I begin this note, I should like to express my sincere thanks to His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak for nominating me as one of Sarawak's Representatives to attend the Coronation of Her Majesty the Queen in London.

I left Kuching on 14th May, 1953 by Malayan Airways together with the Honourable the Chief Secretary of Sarawak, Mr R.G. Aikman, C.M.G., Penghulu Jugah and Mr Chew Geok Lin, M.B.E. We stayed in Singapore for three nights, as the schedule for the Comet to fly on the 16th May, 1953, was amended until 17th May, 1953, owing to some repairs on the wire service of the aeroplane having to be carried out. We put in His Excellency the Commissioner General's house where a nice room and other good things were provided. We should like to express our sincere thanks to His Excellency for this. We left Changi airport at 8.30 a.m. on 17th May, 1953 in the Comet and flew up 38,000 feet high, at an average speed of about 480 miles an hour. On our way to London we called at Bangkok, Rangoon and Calcutta. At Calcutta we were delayed for seventeen hours as we were advised from Delhi not to fly owing to dust storms near Delhi. At Calcutta we put in the Great Eastern Hotel. It was very hot at the time. On the night of the 17th we could not sleep. We took a bath five times and even then we still could not sleep until 3 a.m. On 18th May, 1953, we were asked to go down to Dum Dum airport. At 6.30 a.m. advice was received from Delhi that the weather was good and the Comet then flew to Delhi, Karachi, Bahrain and Rome and we arrived at London Airport at 1 a.m. on 19th May, 1953. There we were met by Sir Gerald Whiteley, who took us to the South Kensington Hotel. At 9 a.m. we went to the Chartered Bank in London to have our travelling cheques changed. There we met Mr Martine, the former Manager of the Borneo Company Limited in Kuching and had lunch at Veeraswamy's Restaurant in Regent Street. Mr Aikman then told us to take the opportunity of seeing the country and some interesting places in it, because there might not be a chance later. We should not stay in London or in our hotel.

In the afternoon, Mr Martine was very kind and took us all three, Penghulu Jugah, Mr Chew Geok Lin and myself to Whitehall Court, where he introduced us to friends of his and we went round the city. Later we had dinner at the Trocadero Restaurant.

On the 20th May, 1953, Mr Aikman very kindly took us to the Chelsea Flower Show where we watched thousands of people attending the Show. It was really very interesting to see a great many kinds of flowers which we never saw in Sarawak. After this we went to Harrods Restaurant for lunch where we found a very good choice of food. There we also went shopping. The shop is a very fine building and very large.

On May 21st the Chief Secretary took us to the Colonial Office where we met Senior Officers and had a talk with them about our visit to London. One of the Information Office staff took our photograph in front of No. 10, Downing Street, and then we had our lunch in a Chinese restaurant.

On 22nd May, Mr Martine took us to see Pascalls' Sweet Factory where we were introduced to the people working there. We saw about fifteen hundred people working. It was really very interesting to see this and we were told that this factory exports sweets and chocolates to many countries all over the world.

The following day Mr M.G. Dickson of the Education Department very kindly took us to visit the Tower of London where we had an opportunity of seeing many very old war instruments, and buildings and rooms. We were told that the Tower is a thousand years old. In the afternoon, Penghulu Jugah and I went with Mr Aikman to see the cricket match at Lords cricket ground in which Middlesex played against Sussex. Mr Aikman went with us on May 24th to Petersfield, about 70 miles from London. There we met Mr Spurway, the former Conservator of Forests in Sarawak. He took us to Alton village where we had lunch at the Swan hotel, and we went on to Mount Wood to see the Forest Reserve. There we saw many people spending a day's pleasure trip. Mr Spurway took us on to his cousin, Mr Wayer who has a thousand acres of grazing land at Lanham. We saw a large number of cattle and

poultry on this estate and Mr Wayter took us round the estate in his car and we saw about twenty people who work with him. We visited the mill in his garden and were taken to his house and had tea in the garden which is really very fine. His wife is a very nice woman and she seemed to be very pleased to meet us men from Sarawak. After tea we returned to Stoner Hill to meet Mr Aikman at his sister's house, and there we were introduced to his sister and brother-in-law. Here again is a very nice place. We had drinks in the garden until nearly 7 p.m. and then we returned to London by train.

On the next day we had a tour of London in the Underground train.

On May 26th after breakfast we went to John Barker & Company, and in the afternoon we accepted an invitation from the Imperial Institute, where we met Sir George Beresford Stooke who left Sarawak nearly thirty years ago. We were taken round to see the Sarawak Court, etc. In the evening, Mr Aikman took us to see the Ice Revue which was very interesting to us and something we never saw in our life in Sarawak.

On 27th May we attended the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association lunch in Westminster Hall. We met Members of Parliament and Members of the Legislative Councils of the Commonwealth. Mr D.C. White, Resident, Third Division was also with us. Her Majesty the Queen was present at the party. In the afternoon we were invited to a tea party at Mr Dawson's house — the former Chief Secretary of Sarawak. Later Mr Dawson took us to see Derry & Toms' Garden on the top floor of the building. This was very strange to us because not only is the garden on the top of the building, but there is also a fish pond and a stream similar to up-river streams in Sarawak, with rocks and sand.

On the following day we went round the town in the morning and in the afternoon attended the Buckingham Palace garden party with Mr Dennis White and Mr Wee Kheng Chiang and Mr Ong Kee Hui, and there we met Mr and Mrs Cromwell, Mr and Mrs Hickling and many other people. We understood about five thousand people were there in all.

On May 29th we went to the Houses of Parliament and in the afternoon to the Secretary of State's cocktail party at Claridges hotel. At this party we met the Sultans of the Malay States, the Sultans of Bahrain and Lahej and

many other representatives from all over the world.

For May 30th the programme for our visit to the country had been fixed, and it was very unfortunate that our friend Mr Chew Geok Lin was not well and unable to accompany us. He was left behind in the hotel. Penghulu Jugah was taken by Mr Freeman to Cambridge and I was taken by Mr Dickson to Oxford. Mr Dickson and I left Paddington Station by train and changed into an upriver launch at Abingdon. It was very strange to me when the launch was about to reach the rapids. I heard the noise of a waterfall and I asked Mr Dickson: "When we reach the rapids do we have to use other transport?" Mr Dickson said: "No, there will be a lock." When we reached the bottom of the rapids, I saw there were two gates. As soon as the launch was inside the gate, the water came in from the other gate until it was level and then the launch moved out and went straight upriver. We passed three locks altogether before we reached Oxford. In Oxford, I was taken by Mr Dickson to the colleges and he pointed out to me the place where he stayed while he was a student. This was very interesting to me. I was lucky to be with Mr Dickson and it was very kind of him to take me to this place.

On Sunday, 31st May, Mr Chew Geok Lin and I went with Mr Aikman to see the London Zoo. This again was very interesting to us and we were very much impressed, because we saw a large number of living animals of many kinds. In the afternoon we attended a party at Hatfield House where Her Majesty the Queen Mother was present.

On June 1st, Mr Aikman, Mr White, Penghulu Jugah, Mr Chew Geok Lin and I went to see H.H. the Rajah and H.H. the Ranees both of whom are well and seemed very pleased to see us.

June 2nd was Coronation day. At about 5.30 a.m. we got up and after our early breakfast we left the South Kensington hotel and reached Westminster Abbey at 6.40 a.m. We were really very lucky, because our admission card was at Entrance No. 10 and we were able to see Her Majesty the Queen at her Crowning from the beginning to the end. At about 10.30 a.m. the Royal family arrived in the Abbey and at 11.20 a.m. Her Majesty came. She is very handsome and young queen and she wore a large number of diamonds. The ceremony went on until 3 p.m. We got out at 3.30 p.m. and had our buffet in Westminster Hall. Then

we went out and saw the Procession passing Westminster Hall on the way to Buckingham Palace. We saw a large number of soldiers who took part in the Procession, and some these are able to play as a brass band on horseback, blowing trumpets and beating drums. It also impressed us very much that there were so many hundreds of thousands of people and so many thousands of cars and yet the police on duty did not have even a piece of wood in their hands, let alone a pistol or a gun. There were no accidents and no trouble at all. The policemen are really very good and kind to the people. Whenever they saw we were losing our way, they came to us at once to find out from us whether we had lost our way or our friends. If we said that we were lost they pointed out to us the proper road to go. It was also very interesting to see such wonderful fireworks on the night of the coronation as we never saw in our life.

After the Coronation, we also visited the sea-side at Brighton where we met Mr Smith, the father of Mr P.B. Smith, District Officer, Lundu. Mr Smith was very kind and took us to his house near the beach, where there was a

very lovely view. We had lunch at the Albion Hotel and after lunch we were taken by Mr Smith on a tour.

Later on in London we were taken to see the London *Times* by Mr Aikman's brother-in-law. This was most interesting and we were informed that their press can produce 35,000 newspapers in one hour. There are about 2,000 people working there.

We also went to Lambeth Palace and to the Sarawak Association cocktail party where we met old Sarawak officers who seemed very pleased to see us. While in London we met several students notably Sarawak students Mr Ahmed Zaidi, Mr Teo Choon Huat, Mr Lee Hun Hoe son of Mr Lee Swee Hock, Abang Kiprawi and Mr Ngui Chong Jin.

We left London Airport on the 7th June at 9.30 a.m. on our return to Kuching and called at Rome, Cairo, Basra, Karachi, Bombay and Colombo. Singapore was reached at 9.20 p.m. on the 9th and we stayed at His Excellency the Commissioner General's house until the morning of June 11th when we left Kallang Airport at 6.30 a.m. and arrived in Kuching at 9.30 a.m.

Grand Coronation Tuba Fishing



Craft of all types swarm the Sarawak River 12/7/53 morning to join the fun of the Coronation Tuba Fishing.

One of the latest events seldom seen here, the Grand Coronation Tuba Fishing, as it was called, took place on Sunday, 12th July, in the main Sarawak River. This was considered by many to be a superb finale to the long series of joyous celebrations of a revered monarch, whose coronation happened the previous month.

The last tuba fishing ever allowed in the Sarawak River happened about 23 years ago, during the reign of H.H. the Rajah, and it was an occasion still remembered by old Malays and domiciled people here. But during the Japanese occupation period sporadic tuba fishing, with or without permission, were held mainly in the ulus of the various rivers and streams in this Colony. It was also learnt that sometime the Japs even tried to fish by using hand-gre-

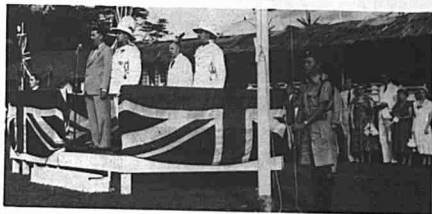
nades and bombs, both methods quite dangerous to use to the uninitiated.

Early before dawn yesterday over a thousand boats, ranging from fast, streamlined speed-boats to the flimsy, shallow prahus (dugouts), conglomerated at the river, mainly at the lower end of Pasir Paroh stretching for about a mile from there to the Matang suspension bridge. Each boat had a coloured flag stuck on its bow and it carried from two to 15 occupants, depending on the size of the craft. It was the greatest gathering of fishermen ever seen here, thousands of spectators lined both banks of the river to catch glimpses of the fish and to watch the boats making the attempt to catch all sorts of fish. Some even brought nets tied to long poles to swoop up small fish that might float near the banks.

When asked, a young Malay amateur fisherman of the local kampongs said: 'I had a successful morning. I was about half a mile away from the official starter of the fishing and when the two-gun signal was given and crackers fired I was ready with three kinds of fishing equipment — a long pole net (cheledok), a long spear (tamburin) and a three-prong spear (srampang). According to 'adat' the headmen and officials of the fishing were the first to catch any fish that might come up 20 to 30 minutes after the tuba extracted juice was thrown into the water. The fish of many kinds the majority of which were Ikan Bulu, Sharks, Ikan Sembilang, Ikan Telang, Kitang (Sting Rays), Ikan Yu, Ikan Parang and so on. I got about 30 to 40 catties of the mixed varieties. But some of my friends and relatives speared or caught big fish weighing from 10 to a picul in weight. The fish, large and small floated up to the surface at continuous intervals in all parts of the river. Most of these were still wriggling when speared or caught in the nets as they appeared to be stupefied rather than dead. When there was a good catch the spectators on the banks or in the boats roared and shouted in approval.

Some of the participants in the fishing used ingenious methods of catching and paddling their boats simultaneously. They tied the nets to the paddles and when there was no fish they used the paddles instead. In the early morning two small outboats collided when they attempted to get into the nets the same fish seen by both. Two persons were thrown into the water but they were none the worse for the soaking. The weather was fine throughout the day and it was a glorious event seen for the first time by many of the local people.

MASS PARADE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

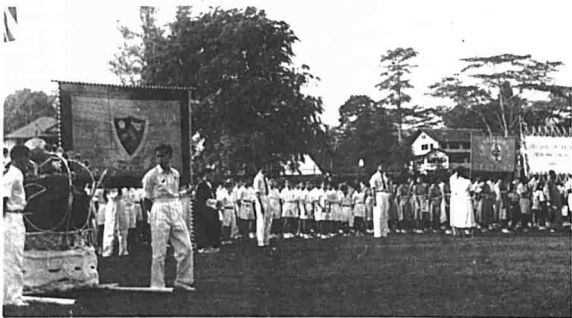
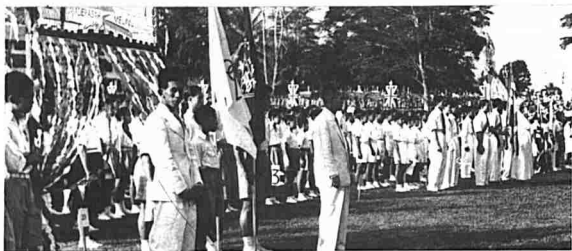


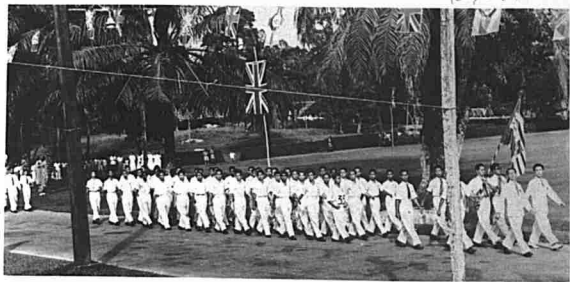
Coronation Day began with a Mass Parade of school children; and some five thousand strong, representing twenty-one schools and under the charge of ninety teachers, took part in a march past which was over three miles long.

After 7.00 p.m. children for participating schools began to assemble on the St. Thomas's School *padang*. Each contingent grouped itself under a distinctive banner. Pinned on the breast of each child in school

uniform was a Coronation medallion specially made for the occasion.

Promptly at 8 a.m., His Excellency the Governor arrived at the *padang*. While the Constabulary Band played the Royal Salute, the school children joined in the mass singing of three verses of the National Anthem in English, Chinese, Malay and Dayak. His Excellency then inspected the different contingents and called for three cheers for the Queen.





The St. Joseph School

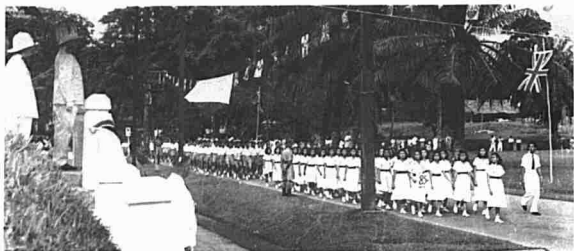


*His Excellency the Governor, Sir Anthony Abell, K.C.M.G. was at the Saluting Base on 2nd June 1953.
The school children Mass Parade took about fifty minutes to pass through the Saluting Base.*

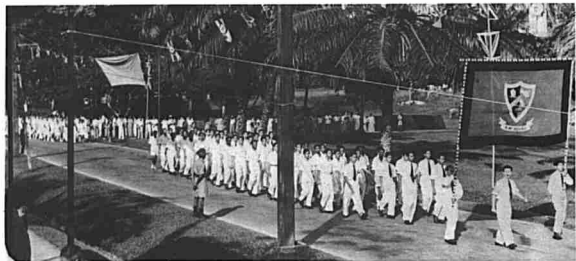
At 8.30 a.m., His Excellency left for the Saluting Base at the head of the steps facing the Municipal *padang*, Rock Road, and took the salute as group after group of children marched past, led by the Constabulary Band and the Batu Lintang Training Centre and

School contingent.

The school children then returned to the Museum grounds where they participated in an open-air non-denominational prayer service.



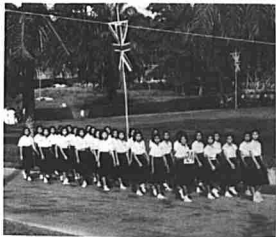
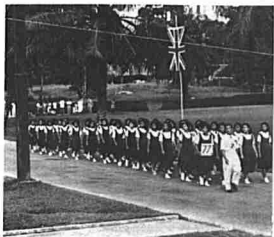
St. Mary's School



St. Thomas's School



Chinese School



The various schools march past the Saluting Base.

The Open Air Non Denominational Prayer — Meeting



Arrival of His Excellency at the Museum Ground.



The National Anthem 'God Save The Queen'.





The "mixed congregation" of school children who attended the open air non denomination prayer meeting on the Museum Ground after the Mass Parade on Coronation Day.

Children on arrival at the Museum Ground were directed by the Steward to their place accordingly. All their banners and flags had been carried and placed against the walls of the museum building.

The Coronation open air service started at 9.30 am, 2nd June 1953, in cool weather on the museum ground. Immediately after the arrival of His Excellency the Governor a hymn was sung by the Christians followed up by Christian prayer and later prayer in Islam and Buddhism then followed. The singing of the Anthem 'God Save the Queen' was held

before His Excellency departed with the officiating priest.

The occasion was befitting, concluded with a speech by Mr Earnshaw who gave his thanks to all teachers and children for the excellent 'March Past'. He said that it turned out to be better than he had thought, more over, he hoped that they will think of the great event — the crowning of Her Majesty the Queen which took place at 7.30 pm last night. Mr Earnshaw said that he would like everyone to be of good cheers and think of the happy occasion.



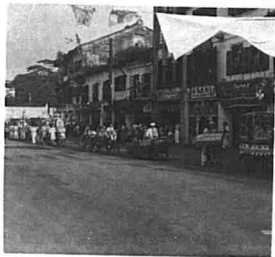
Part of St. Teresa's School contingent for Fancy Dress Competition.

The judging of the school children's Fancy Dress and Decorated Vehicles Competition, which was postponed from 3rd to 5th June, owing to bad weather, was carried out at 5 p.m. on St. Thomas' School *padang*. The First Prize was awarded to the Chung Hwa Middle School for exhibiting the best in fancy dress (Senior section), while St. Joseph's and St. Teresa's School each won a Second Prize. The children of the Chung Hwa School team wore silk costumes and were made up to represent the mythical Chinese figures of the "Eight Fairies Crossing the Sea"; and supporting characters were provided by a quintette to resemble a queen and her maids. The boys of St. Joseph's became mediaeval knights in armour, representing a scene from Shakespeare's "Henry V". St. Teresa's girls

were a king with his beautiful queen and her retinue.

In the decorated bicycles and tricycles section the First Prize was awarded to St. Joseph's and two Second Prizes were respectively to St. Thomas' School and Batu Lintang Training Centre and School. Chung Hwa School No. 1 won First Prize for the lanterns while the First Prize for the best banners went to St. Teresa's.

When the judging was over, the school children, still in fancy dress and carrying lanterns, marched in procession through the main streets. Huge crowds turned out to watch the pageant, and as the evening deepened into night and the lanterns were lit, the moving sea of lights presented a most memorable spectacle.



The Fancy Dress and Decorated Vehicles Competition walk in procession through Kuching town.

The School Children Fancy Dress Competition



The various school children in a procession whom are all conststants in the Fancy Dress Competition.



The King and Queen and their page boys together with the Queen's maids of St. Teresa's School.



The Fancy Dress Parade of the St. Mary's School.



The St. Joseph's School contingent of their Fancy Dress Competition.



A Most Colourful Pageant

The Lantern and Fancy Dress Procession of the Kuching schools last Friday evening, which started at about 6 p.m. and went round the town twice, was a veritable cavalcade of colours and presented a pageant seldom seen in this town. It resembled in some respects the endless varieties and surprises of a miniature Mardi Gras procession, and must have been taken some weeks of careful planning and preparations to make it such a success.

The crowds which jammed the main streets of the town must have been impressed by the creditable displays put up by some of the Kuching schools, the most noteworthy of which were a party of St. Teresa's school girls dressed as a queen who was accompanied by two Page Boys and six beautiful girls as Maids of Honour; this was immediately followed by a party of girls dressed as Scottish maids in traditional kilts; then right behind this party was another one from the St Joseph's School, who were dressed as Knights in Armour representing a scene from Shakespeare's "Henry

V"; behind which came a party of grotesque black masked figures believed to be executioners who even carried two heads; this "item" was followed by another from St. Thomas's School in which a troupe of children wore costumes of many races led by a small boy on a black horse; then followed a large conglomeration of gaudily-dressed figures in the national dresses of all races in the world; the Malay schools even put up two small tanks; and finally the last and the winner of the Fancy Dress Competition - a party of Chung Hwa Middle School children dressed in ancient silk costumes from a Chinese historical play which is entitled "Eight Fairies Crossing The Sea" (these fairies are supposed to live in the utmost happiness in paradise) and at the rear of these was a quintette of beautiful girls dressed to resemble a queen with her maids.

Before the start of the Lantern Procession, the Fancy Dress and Decorated Bicycles were lined up in the St. Thomas's School and St. Mary's School respectively for judging.



The lantern procession as seen along Carpenter Street



Representing the mythical Chinese figures of the "Eight Fairies Crossing the Sea" and supporting characters were provided by a quintette to resemble a queen and her maids by the children of the Chung Hwa Middle School.



Chung Hwa School No. 1 won First Prize for the lanterns competition.

Coronation Celebrations in Kuching



The Lorry Decoration by the Kuching Chinese General Chamber of Commerce.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S MESSAGE.

Coronation Week commenced on 30th May with a stirring message from His Excellency the Governor. It reads: "The week from 30th May to 6th June, 1953, will be a memorable week in our lives; a week of rejoicing and thanksgiving. Elizabeth our Queen is to be crowned in Westminster Abbey in the heart of our great Community of Nations, before a great Assembly of the most distinguished figures in the world of today.

Among the Royalty and Nobility and among the celebrities of many lands will sit the President and two members of our Council Negri. They have been invited to represent the people of Sarawak and to

affirm our loyalty and humble duty in this solemn and ancient ceremony at which our young and beautiful Queen will dedicate her life to the service of her people.

I hope that everyone in Sarawak will be able to take an active and enjoyable part in our local celebrations. But I want you all to regard this great occasion as belonging particularly to the youth of the country. We want them to look back upon these June days of 1953 with excitement, wonder and enchantment. Let it be a landmark in their lives as it will be in history.

There are others too who deserve special consideration - the visitors to the towns of Sarawak - people who have travelled long distances to join our happy throng and give to our celebrations the character of a great family



gathering. Some may not be used to our sophisticated urban ways. Let us make them welcome and show them hospitality and kindness so that they will return to their distant homes with a deep feeling of kinship and the happiest memories of this great occasion.

And amid all the excitement and merriment, the display and the glitter let us all

find time to remember what the Queen said in her Christmas broadcast to us - "You will be keeping it as a holiday; but I want to ask you all, whatever your religion may be, to pray for me on that day - to pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life."

ALL-COMMUNITY PROCESSION

The most colourful of the celebration pageantry and the culmination of the united efforts and preparations for many weeks past of all communities, the procession of lanterns and decorated floats drew a record crowd of fifteen thousand. Not since the Centenary Celebrations in Kuching have the inhabitants and visitors witnessed such splendour. It was a glorious show of loyalty and affection for Her Majesty the Queen.

Long before the appointed time (7.30 p.m.) for the procession, huge crowds lined the streets and packs all available space along the route. In addition to the townsfolk, there were visitors of all races who came from distant parts to see the procession. Their variegated dresses and costumes stood out in bold relief against the drab background of buildings and formed an effective decorative scheme. For a short spell it was feared that rain would ruin the show, but apparently the gods were condescending, for the sky cleared at 8.30 p.m., allowing the procession to begin.

Altogether some fifty organisations representing



A Symbol of the Coronation of Her Majesty with a Malay girl representing the Queen sitting on her throne and beside whom also sat a Malay man who was said to represent the Duke of Edinburgh. Standing by the raised dais were two figures dressed in the fashion of the Queen's Yeoman of the Guard.

the Malay, Dayak, Chinese, European, Indian and Javanese communities took part in the procession, with about fifty decorated floats, vehicles and mobile tableaux. Outstanding among the tableaux may be mentioned the Malay boy and girl dressed as the Queen and her Consort, with two members of the Queen's Yeomen of the Guard, the gleaming Chinese Unicorn and the wriggling yellow dragon chasing a fireball. A young and smiling girl mahout on a white elephant, who waved her goad as she passed His Excellency's stand, the Indian marionette players and the snowy white dove with electrically lit orbs for eyes to represent Peace, were other noteworthy attractions.

JOINT MUSEUM AND BRITISH COUNCIL SPECIAL CORONATION EXHIBITION AND FILM SHOW.

A Joint Museum and British Council Special Coronation Exhibition in the Sarawak Museum was informally opened by His Excellency the Governor at 11 a.m., on 30th May. Some extremely interesting old Brooke documents from the Museum archives were on display together with fine portraits and photographs of the Royal Family. The Exhibition was open from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. each day during Coronation Week and proved very popular. In addition there was a special film show each day at 10.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. for organised parties of visitors to the Exhibition. The films selected for the occasion included "British Monarchy" and a coloured film of the Brunei Coronation, together with a recorded filmstrip talk on the meaning of the Coronation ceremony given by the Archbishop of Canterbury.



This enterprising model of the Royalist links Sarawak's past history with the present.

The celebrations in honour of Her Majesty, Elizabeth II, during Coronation Week in Kuching, were perhaps the most stupendous that this country has ever witnessed. Both the extent and variety of the

programme, well-planned and evenly spaced throughout the week, and the enthusiasm and spontaneity with which all communities, churches, schools, public organisations and private individuals celebrated this

great occasion point to the fact that Her Majesty is our "undoubted Queen", as much as she is the Head of the Commonwealth of Nations of which we are a part.

AGRI-HORTICULTURAL SHOW

The Coronation Agri-Horticultural Show held under the joint auspices of the Floricultural Improvement Society and the Departments of Agriculture and Forestry, on 30th May at the Maderasah Melayu, was an unqualified success.

The Maderasah Melayu was gaily decorated with flags and bunting, while multi-coloured lights lent an added air of festivity to the occasion.

The Show was one of the most spectacular to be organised since the War. It was estimated that nearly four thousand spectators passed through the portals of the school to relish the kaleidoscopic array of rare plants and exhibits housed in the building.

In the Floricultural Group there were hundreds of flowers of the herbaceous group, shrubs and ferns, orchids in profusion, both local and exotic, and aquatic plants in their little aquaria. In the Agricultural Group there were nearly one hundred exhibits of food crops, products for the market and home preserves. The Livestock Section contained exhibits of white pigs, a Hereford bull with some Scindhi cattle and Saanen goats. The most striking of the Agriculture Department's entries were models on display illustrating padi irrigation, anti-soil erosion and models of smoke-houses and a copper kiln.

The splendid collection of the best timbers produced in our forests, exhibited by the Forest Department for the first time since the War, ex-



The Lorry Decoration depicting the Coronation Crown contributed by the Foochow Association. Her Majesty the Queen's portrait by the Kuching Chinese General Chamber of Commerce.

cited much favourable comment.

Among the highlights of the Show should be mentioned the paintings of local orchids by Mr C.J.H. Blake of Kuching, which were much admired by the spectators. Perhaps the most unusual entries were those of cardinal creepers (*ipomoea quamoclit*) submitted by Mr Kho Leng Guan who trained them to grow around metal framework to represent a floral Crown, two dragons and a rotary wheel. Mr Kho's exhibits attracted a large crowd and he is to be congratulated for his patience and ingenuity in producing such extraordinary yet very lovely specimens.

HIS EXCELLENCY VISITS THE LEPER SETTLEMENT

Accompanied by the Director of Medical Services, Dr. W. Glyn Evans, and the Private Secretary, Mr I.A.N. Urquhart, His Excellency visited the Leper Settlement at 13th Mile Rock Road, to take part in the settlement's coronation celebrations.

His Excellency spoke to a number of inmates who had gathered to welcome him; then the party moved on to a platform where addresses of loyalty to the Queen were presented by the staff and inmates.

In a moving reply His Excellency spoke of a great



This wavy yellow dragon carried by sixteen persons chasing after the fireball.



A thrilling performance of two green lions from the Kwong Wui Siu association.

brotherhood of the British Commonwealth of Nations and explained the significance of the Coronation ceremony. He next paid a warm tribute to the Supt. Mr H. MacGregor who had had much experience of work among lepers in West Africa. His Excellency ended by presenting certificates of discharge to a number of inmates and by going on a tour of inspection of the settlement.

CHINESE COMMUNITY'S CORONATION DINNER

A dinner to commemorate the Coronation was given by the Chinese Community at

the Chinese Chamber of Commerce on Friday, 5th June, at which His Excellency the Governor was the guest of honour. Speaking on behalf of the Chinese community, Mr Tan Bak Lim, O.B.E., said that in Sarawak, as indeed in all countries of the British Commonwealth, the Chinese, in common with other races, enjoyed a form of government distinguished for its benevolence, and also for the strict maintenance of law and order. Under British Rule, education was encouraged, the principles of liberty and freedom were cherished, and justice was administered with an impartiality unknown in many foreign lands. Referring to the inestimable benefits

the Chinese enjoyed, he warned that they were apt to take for granted these advantages and think nothing of them. It was good, therefore, that they should sometimes remind themselves of them, on great occasions like the present, with thankfulness and gratitude. He then said that in Sarawak the Chinese community would always play its part in the progress of the country side by side with all other races for the common good, and that this was, more than anything else, the best way in which the Chinese could express their devotion and love to Her Majesty the Queen and their loyalty to the Crown. Replying on behalf of himself and all the guests, His

Excellency said in part: "As representative of the Queen I would like to thank you most sincerely for your gracious expression of loyalty to the Crown and for your support for the ideals for which our family of nations stand; loyalties, Mr Chairman, of which you and the Community you represent have given abundant proof over the years. We

have all, I think, felt an uplifting of the spirit and a great and moving sense of unity under the inspiring leadership of Her Majesty. During the course of this week throughout Sarawak we have seen many and deeply sincere expressions of loyalty from persons for every rank and degree, of every race and religion. These are privileges

which become a part of our lives. The Queen dedicated herself to the service of her people ... w, too, take our oath to be faithful and true and to uphold the young Queen throughout her reign and do our best to make of this country and the world a kindlier and happier place in which to dwell ..."

The Coronation Of Queen Elizabeth Trumpets And Guns To Signal Crowning

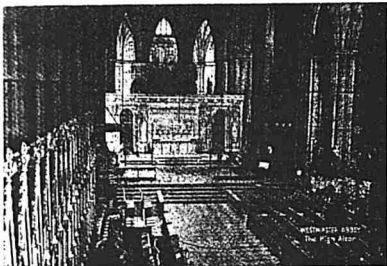
2nd June, 1953.

By Randal Macklurkin

(Note: All times in this story are BST (one hour ahead of GMT as times are part of the story.)

London:-(Reuter)-Trumpets in England's historic Westminster Abbey and guns fired from the Tower of London will signal the crowning to-day of Queen Elizabeth II.

When the trumpets sound and the guns fire, those in the Abbey and the millions outside who will be listening to the ceremony by radio and seeing it on television will know that the crown of St. Edward has been placed on the head of the Queen. They will know, too, that she is then halfway through a long ceremony which from start to finish will last two and a half hours, and that she is henceforth "Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of her other Realms and Territories Queens, Head of the Commonwealth, Defence of the Faith," the forty first



The Westminster Abbey, the place where the Coronation Ceremony will take place today.

Sovereign to ascend the Throne since the Norman, William the Conqueror.

It will be the supreme moment of the Coronation, which will be followed during the afternoon by a Coronation procession through London two miles long, in which thousands of troops from every part of the Commonwealth will take part, in which will ride the Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth, State

officials, visiting Kings and Queens, native rulers from the Queen's overseas realms, and which will be watched by millions of people.

Throughout the early morning hours of June 2, people from all part of Britain and abroad will begin to line the route from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey to see the Queen leave the Palace in the golden Coach of State. They

will have come through the darkness and the dawn by underground trains, steam trains, coaches, omnibuses and on foot, many of them with tickets for seats on the route, the majority of them ready to stand for hours packed shoulder to shoulder see the procession.

Thousands of the women spectators who will line the route will be wearing special dresses with a patriotic motif of red, white and blue.

They will have a long wait, for not until 0840 will the first cars, carrying some members of the British Royal Family, leave Buckingham Palace for the Abbey.

Ten minutes later, a long procession of more than 70 limousines will drive out of the palace gates bearing foreign Royalty and other foreign representatives.

The first glamorous touch of the day's spectacles will come at 0915 when the first procession appears from the Palace courtyard. In it will ride rulers from Britain's tropical colonies and protectorates in native dress. Among them will be 6th tall Queen Salote of the Tonga Islands, in the Pacific, who has been the guest of Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace since she arrived in Britain and the Sultan of Zanzibar, Johore, Selangor, Kelantan, Perak, Brunei and Lahej.

Then, in fairly quick succession, will come some of the leading personalities in the day's pageantry.

A new procession of nine carriages from the Palace will carry to the Abbey the prime Ministers of the Commonwealth, including Sir Winston Churchill.

Next will come carriages

containing the Princes and Princesses of the Blood Royal, among them the Queen's aunts and cousins, followed by Queen Mother, with Princess Margaret, the Queen's sister, seated at her side in a carriage which will drive to the Abbey from Clarence House, the Queen Mother's residence.

By 1020 the crowds packed around Buckingham Palace and the long wide drive of The Mall will hear the roll of drums and the blare of brass as bands of the Guards strike up to lead Queens Elizabeth's own procession from Palace to Abbey.

One single officer, Colonel B.J.O. Burrows, Inspector of Trooping at the War Office, will lead this procession on horseback. Behind him will follow four mounted troopers of the Household Cavalry, and following this simple beginning, 1000 Guardsmen and a cavalcade of Admirals, Field Marshals, Generals and Air Marshals, some on horse-back, some walking, some in landaus.

Behind them, drawn by eight Windsor Greys from the Royal Stables will come the Queen in her 192 years-old coach, with its figures of gilded palm trees and seagods rising from each corner of the swinging undercarriage.

The Queen will wear a robe of crimson velvet, a diadem on her head, and by her side will sit her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, wearing the gold-braided, blue uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet.

Down the broad, gaily decorated Mall, the wide avenue which leads to the

very heart of London, the procession will pass under four spectacular arches of tubular steel, surmounted by dancing lions and unicorns. Huge coronets will hang from the 65-foot arches, looking as though they were hanging in air without support.

Behind will ride more horsemen—the Lord High Constable, Field Marshal Viscount Alanbrooke; the Queen's Master of the Horse, the Duke of Beaufort; The Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard; and others.

Then will follow the Royal Standard and, riding immediately behind it as personal aides-de-camp to the Queen, her uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, and Earl Mountbatten of Burma. At the end of the glittering parade will follow equerries to the Queen and two more divisions of the Sovereign's Escort.

The procession will pass from The Mall into Trafalgar Square, dominated by the column and statue of Admiral Lord Nelson, where even the high rooftops will be crammed with spectators, down Northumberland Avenue to the Embankment along the River Thames.

There, along the waterfront, ships will be flying almost every flag ever seen on the oceans of the world.

Then just as Big Ben, the clock on Houses of Parliament, is striking 11 o'clock, the golden coach will halt outside Westminster Abbey.

From early morning, 7,000 guests will have been arriving at the Abbey, where English monarchs have been crowned for 900 years.

Statesmen, poets, peers and peeresses will have stepped from the constant flow of cars; men and women in striking native garb from every part of the Commonwealth will have mingled with thousands of Britons in their Court Dress of silk velvet breeches with buckled shoes, silken hose and their ladies in silks and ermine.

Queen Elizabeth will step from her coach on to a blue carpet running from the Nave of the Abbey to the entrance of a £50,000 annexe of white timber and pillars of tubular steel specially built for the Coronation.

Flowers flown from all parts of the Commonwealth will be banked in the Annexe, where a line of sculptured mythical and heraldic animals look on the scene of pageantry. The "Queen Beasts," as they are called, include fabulous monsters such as the Griffin, with the head of an eagle, the body of a lion and the tail of a serpent.

The Duke of Norfolk, England's Premier Duke who, as Earl Marshal, has been the chief planner of the coronation, will meet the Queen at the entrance to the Annexe.

And in the entrance hall, flooded with rainbow light from the coloured glass of the windows, the Queen will be received by high ceremonial officers, the Lords who will carry the Regalia, and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

The Queen, with the Duke of Edinburgh, will pass between a guard of honour of the Queen's Company, Grenadier Guards, every man in it over six feet three

inches in height, and will go on to a robing room in the Annexe, its floor covered her in gold carpet, to complete her robing for the big ceremony still to come.

In the vestibule, at 1115, she will join the procession which has meanwhile been forming. Six Maids of honour, daughters of British Dukes and Peers, will arrange themselves, three on each side, to carry the long train which flows from the Queen's robe.

And from this point begins the Crowning Ceremony from which the Queen, two and a half hours later, will emerge as a crowned monarch.

Slowly and solemnly the Procession moves into the Abbey through the West Door.

At its head are the Royal Chaplains followed by the representatives of the Free Churches and religious dignitaries of Westminster. Behind them, like figures on a pack of playing cards in their gold and velvet tabards (tunics) come the Heralds and the Kings of Arms, ceremonial officers in attendance on the Sovereign.

Standard Bearers carry the flags of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. The Union Standard is borne by Captain J.L.H. Dymoke, the Queen's Champion, whose ancestors used to appear fully armed on horse-back at the Coronation Banquet and challenge to fight anyone who disputed the Monarch's right to the Crown. This custom has now died out and the right to carry a Standard has been given to the Dymoke family as a compensation.

Carrying the Royal Standard is one of Britain's out-

standing soldiers, Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamin.

In another section of the Grand Procession walk the Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth nations, preceded by their High Commissioners carrying the flags of their countries.

Fifteen trumpeters in mediaeval uniform, gold and crimson bannerets hanging from their instruments, sound a fanfare as the Queen herself is due to enter the Abbey.

As the brassy notes break off, the choir of 202 men, 20 women and 178 boys sing the anthem from Psalm 122:

Through the body of the Church walks the Queen, into and through the Choir, where she is acclaimed by 40 Queen's Scholars of Westminster School chanting "Vivat Regina Elizabetha, Vivat! Vivat! Vivat!", on to a raised platform called the Coronation Theatre, carpeted in gold, past her Throne to her Chair of Estate to the right of the Altar, in which, after short prayers, she sits.

The Bible is placed upon the Altar.

One by one, the objects of the Regalia are brought by the Lords, who carry them in procession, to the Dean of Westminster, Dr Alan Don. He places them on the Altar.

Then, as the last bars of the anthem die away, the Queen moves to the oak Coronation Chair in which all monarchs of England have been crowned since 1308

Standing beside it, a slim figure under the arching roof of the old Abbey, she waits while the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Very Rev-

verend Geoffrey Fisher, Primate of the Church of England, goes slowly and gravely in turn to each of the corners of the Theatre.

After the Recognition Ceremony the Bible is then presented to the Queen by the Right Rev. George Jeffrey, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. It is the first time the Scotland Church, which is Presbyterian and differs in its ritual from the Church of England, has had its place in this ceremony.

As the Queen receives the Bible, the Archbishop of Canterbury speaks:

"Our Gracious Queen, to keep Your Majesty ever mindful of the Law and the Gospel of God as the rule for the whole life and Government of Christian princes we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing that this world affords."

The atmosphere, amid the blue and gold fabrics draping the Coronation Theatre, changes to one of devotion and deep religious feeling as the Communion Service begins.

The voice or the great choir, with an orchestra of 60 of Britain's best instrumentalists and the famous organ of the Abbey sonorously in the background, soar in a psalm: "Behold, O God our defender; and look up on the face of thine Anointed."

The Queen and her people kneel as the Archbishop prays.

And as the mass voices rise in a great "Hallelujah," Elizabeth rises from her knees. The Lord Chamberlain and the Mistress of the Robes gently draw from her

shoulders the heavy robe she was worn till now.

The young Queen walks slowly to the plain, 650-year-old Coronation Chair with its high back and the Stone of Destiny tucked under the seat.

As she seats herself above the rough block of red sandstone, on which the old kings of Scotland were crowned, four Knights of the Garter, England's highest Order of chivalry, hold over her a canopy of Cloth of Gold.

Clad in mantles of blue velvet with surcoats of crimson they screen the Queen from the on-lookers while the Archbishop of Canterbury anoints her in form of a cross with holy oil.

The Dean of Westminster, Dr Alan Don, stands beside the Archbishop pouring the scented amber oil from the Ampulla, a golden receptacle in the form of an eagle with outstretched wings, into the Spoon, also of gold, with four pearls set in the handle, 700 years old and the most ancient vessel used during the ceremony.

The Archbishop dips his fingers into the oil which is made from a 17th Century formula and contains oils of orange flower, roses, cinnamon, jasmine, sesame and flowers of benzoin.

In the deep silence his voice intones as he anoints both the Queen's palms.

Next, the Sceptre with the Cross, emblem of regal power and justice, is put into the Queen's right hand as she sits erect. It is three feet long, of gold, with the lower end richly jewelled. From the upper end, among a cluster of stones, gleams the great, twinkling Star of Afri-

ca cut from the world's biggest diamond, the Cullinan, found in South Africa near the beginning of the Century.

Into the Queen's left hand the Archbishop places the Rod with the Dove, symbol of equity and mercy.

This is also of gold, surmounted by a cross on which stands a dove with outstretched wings. It was made in 1661 for the Coronation of King Charles II.

"Be so merciful that you be not too remiss; so execute justice that you forget not mercy. Punish the wicked, protect and cherish the just, and lead your people in the way wherein they should go", the Archbishop adjures the Queen, as he places it in her hand.

It is nearing 1330. The ceremony has gone on for nearly 90 minutes, and the atmosphere is tense as the supreme moment of the crowning approaches.

There is a rumble and the clatter of feet against woodwork as the Abbey guests rise.

The Archbishop, standing before the Altar, takes up St. Edward's Crown from the Altar, then lays it down again, saying:

"O God the Crown of the faithful: Bless we beech thee this Crown, and so sanctify thy servant Elizabeth upon whose bead this day thou dust place it for a sign of royal majesty, that she may be filled by thine abundant grace with all pricely virtues."

Slowly the Archbishop, with his Bishops behind him, walks over the gold carpet, the Dean of Westminster beside him holding the Crown, a circlet of gold studded with

diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires and pearls, and two gold arches holding an orb and a cross rising from the rim.

Carefully, reverently, the Archbishop takes the crown.

There is a moment of almost breathless silence as he places it on Elizabeth's head.

Then the stillness is shattered, suddenly, by the cry from 7,000 voices echoing to the high roof of the ancient shrine:

"God save the Queen."

Again and again the cry, fervent and emotional, rings out from the princes, from the dukes, the peers and their wives, the great statesmen of the Commonwealth, the commoners:

"God save the Queen."

Outside the Abbey, at the very second the Crown touches the head of the young Queen, guns roar from the open spaces of Hyde Park and from the Towers of London and the air shakes with the cheers of the patiently waiting crowds.

Inside the Abbey the trumpets blow a triumphant fanfare. Hundreds of white-gloved hands suddenly rise as the princes and princesses, peers and pesses put on their coronets and caps.

And then the cries in the Abbey die away as the Archbishop's calm, solemn voice is heard:

"God crown you with a crown of glory and righteousness, that having a right faith and manifold fruit of good works, you may obtain the crown of an everlasting kingdom by the gift of him whose kingdom endureth for ever. Amen."

The choir sings: "Be strong and of a good cour-

age: Keep the commandment of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways.

The Queen has been anointed and crowned, and now the Archbishop blesses her, with the Abbey guests loudly intoning "Amen" at intervals as he does so.

Up to this point the Queen has for the most part had her back to the congregation. Now she rises from the Coronation Chair and, followed by the Archbishop, the Great Officers of State, and the Lords who have borne the Begalils, she walks to a raised Throne in the centre of the Theatre.

The churchmen and the peers around her lift her into the Throne as the Archbishop exhorts her:

"Stands firm, and hold fast from henceforth the seat and state of royal and imperial dignity, which is this day delivered unto you..."

Now follows another great moment of the drama-packed ceremony as the newly crowned Queen receives the Homage of the princes and peers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the other Bishops first kneel round the Throne swearing to be "faithful and true." The Queen holds out her right hand and the Archbishop kisses it.

Then the Duke of Edinburgh, Elizabeth's husband, with a robe of red velvet "polvered" with four bars of ermine, comes from his seat at the side of the throne.

He takes of his coronet and kneels before the woman who is his wife but also his Queen. Placing his hands between those of Elizabeth he pledges clearly that.

"I Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, do become your liege man of life and limb, and of earthly worship; and faith and truth I will bear unto you, to live and die, against all manner of folks. So help me God."

Rising from his knees he touches the Crown, then, bending, kisses the Queen's left cheek.

It is a breath-taking moment.

The Duke of Gloucester, the Queen's uncle, and the young Duke of Kent, her cousin, come to the Throne, to pledge themselves similarly. Then the seni- or peer of each degree, a duke first followed by a marquess, an earl, a viscount and a baron, to the Queen's feet one by one to promise that they will be "her liege men".

Each touches the Crown as a symbol that he and all of his rank will be ever ready to support it. And each kisses the Queen's right hand, while the choir sings anthems.

As the last nobleman pays his homage, drums beat, the trumpets blare and the congregation shouts.

"God save Queen Elizabeth.

"May the Queen live forever."

The giant organ plays and the greatest choir the world has ever known - a choir numbered in millions and spread throughout every city, town and village of the nation - sings.

"All people that on earth do dwell, "Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;

"Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell;

"Come ye before Him and rejoice."

For it is not only those in the Abbey who will sing this hymn. At the suggestion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, people watching the ceremony on their television sets will be standing in their homes and singing the old hymn.

As the great chorus resounds through the Abbey, the Queen descends from her Throne to the steps of the Altar where, laying aside her Crown, the Sceptre and the Rod, she kneels to offer the Bread and Wine for the Communion.

She then makes her oblation an offering - received from her by the Archbishop of Canterbury. This takes the form, traditionally, of "an ingot or wedge of gold of a pound weight," and an Alter Cloth.

The Queen kneels again. Now, on his knees beside her, is the Duke of Edinburgh, for whom the Archbishop of Canterbury says a prayer:

"... multiply thy blessing upon this thy servant Philip who with all humble devotion offers himself for thy service in the dignity to which thou has called him.

"Defend him from all dangers, ghostly and bodily, make him a great example of virtue and godliness, and a blessing to the Queen and to her Peoples ..."

The Communion service marks the end of the Coronation rites. The Queen receives back her Crown, takes the Sceptre and the Rod and returns to her Throne, while the Duke of Edinburgh, wearing his coronet, returns to his place.

While the choir sings the "Te Deum" - the Queen, crowned, still holding the

Sceptre and the Rod, leaves her Throne and, with the four Swords carried before her, passes through the Theatre out of sight to a part of the Abbey called the Recess.

There the Robe Royal is taken off and in its place she is arrayed in a robe of pure silk purple velvet richly embroidered with the national emblems of the United Kingdom - the English rose and oak-leaves, the Scottish thistle, the Welsh leek and the Irish shamrock.

Now she wears the Imperial state Crown, much lighter and more comfortable than the Crown of St. Edward, which weighs seven pounds.

The Grand procession is marshalled again, and the Queen, holding the Sceptre in her right hand and the Orb in her left, passes from the Abbey while the assembly sings the National Anthem.

After the Queen has had a short rest and has lunched will come the moment for which the hundreds of people thronging the gay streets of London have been waiting so patiently ever since early morning.

Still crowned and carrying the Sceptre and the Orb, the Queen will later enter again her golden coach for her procession through the streets of London.

While she is lunching a great procession will be lining up to move off almost as soon as the Crowning Ceremony ends. Carriages which will carry the important guests who have seen the Abbey Service will begin to pick them up and take their places in the procession from 1415 onwards.

At 1450 comes the golden splash of colour when the Coach of State, carrying the

Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, draws away from the Abbey to take up its place in the two miles long procession.

It is to be gay, thrilling parade, full of music from 2,000 bandmen in 47 marching bands, full of colour in the startling crimson tunics of the soldiers, excitement in the prancing of the horses.

At its head will again be the solitary figure of Colonel Bert Burrows, who earlier had led the Queen's procession to the Abbey.

On a grey charger, this Englishman who joined the New Zealand Army as a gunner, and whose family lived in New Zealand during 1914-1918, will again be followed by four State Troopers, behind them this time will come a long winding array of troops, carriages and bands which will take 45 minutes to pass a given point.

For bands will follow behind Colonel Burrows and his troopers and then the procession proper headed by contingents of police, airmen, soldiers and sailors from Britain's Colonies - from the Solomon Islands, from Malaya, from the West Indies, from the sub-tropics of West Africa.

Then the might of the Commonwealth will follow, led by detachments from Southern Rhodesia. One by one they will march past to the cheers and the flags of the spectators - the men and women of Ceylon, Pakistan, South Africa, New Zealand.

Australia will follow, led by Brigadier D.A. Whitehead, with policemen from Papua and New Guinea among her contingents. Then Canada, with her romantic Mounted Police

riding in front of marching men who have fought in Korea.

Led by four more bands, the sailors, soldiers and air-men of Britain herself will come into view, the Royal Air Force leading.

The wild skirl of the bag-pipes will herald the approach of the Scottish regiments, with kilts swinging as they march.

Oddly - but yet not incongruous in this great cavalcade of an Empire and Commonwealth on the day of its Queen's crowning - there is a pipe band from Pakistan among the Scots, and one formed from the Brigade of Gurkhas, the fierce, loyal fighters from the Indian sub-continent.

And after the servicemen follow the carriages of the Sultans.

Then an escort of mounted military police and more carriages - this time bearing the Commonwealth prime Ministers.

Each Prime Minister, except Mr Nehru, has a mounted escort from his own country behind his carriage.

Last of the Prime Ministers is Britain's own Sir Win-

ston Churchill with Lady Churchill beside him and an escort of Husars riding behind.

Cavalry, carriages carrying members of the Royal Family - the Earl and Countess of Athlone, Princess Marie Louise, The Duchess of Kent with the Duke and her other son and daughter, the Princess Royal, aunt of the Queen; Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, with Princess Margaret beside her, riding in the Irish State Coach, one of the famous Royal carriages;

A long parade of mounted officers;

Marshals of the Royals Air Force and Admirals go past - some in carriages, some on horse-back.

So the procession will go on.

Four heroes of the last war will come riding four abreast - Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, Field Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis, Field Marshal Lord Ironsie, and Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein.

Then the Queen's coach at last draws into view, preceded by escorts of Colonial

and Commonwealth officers and colourful Yeomen of Guard.

Following is the Royal Standard, the Queen's officials and aides-de-camp, and, last of all the jingling divisions of the Sovereign's Escort.

The Huge procession will wind on a circular route round the centre of London.

About 10,000 service men and women in the parade; including 2,500 from the Colonies and Commonwealth will be in it.

It will take one hour and 40 minutes for the Queen's coach to travel the five miles of the route.

The great parade will end at Buckingham Palace at 1630, when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will come out on to the Palace balcony to wave to the cheering crowds outside and to watch a fly-past of the Royal Air Force.

The ceremony and Pageantry of an historic day is over - but the rejoicing goes on as Londoners dance in the streets and make merry until the small hours of the morning.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in her Coronation Gown, which was designed by Norman Hartnell.



Her Majesty the Queen and members of the Royal Family. The photograph was taken in the Throne Room at Buckingham Palace. In this delightful group are: left to right (front row) H.R.H. Princess Alexandar of Kent, H.R.H. Prince Michael of Kent, H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent, H.R.H. Prince Margaret, Her Majesty the Queen, wearing the Imperial State Crown, H.M. Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, H.R.H. the Princess Royal, H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester and her two sons Prince William and Prince Richard. Behind Her Majesty are the three Royal Dukes, left to right, H.R.H. Duke of Gloucester, H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince Consort, and H.R.H. the Duke of Kent.



Part of the Commonwealth and Colonial contingents taking part in the Coronation procession en route from Westminster Abbey to Buckingham Palace.

Perayaan2 Hari Kemahkotaan Di-Kuching

Perayaan2 bagi meraikan upacara Hari Kemahkotaan Seri Baginda Queen Elizabeth Yang Kedua itu telah di-lansungkan buat Bandar Kuching sa-lama satu minggu penuh, mulai dengan rasmi-nya daripada 30 May sehingga 6 June, dan tamat-nya pun berbetolan pula dengan Sambutan Harijadi Seri Baginda sendiri.

Di-kampong2 pada sa-minggu dua terdahulu daripada minggu perayaan itu dapat-lah di-lihat murid2 sekolah telah mula gagau dengan persediaan mereka. Dapat-lah di-perhatikan betapa giat dan gembira kanak2 itu memenong bagaimana hendak membentok tanglong2 daripada kertas warna dan batang2 buloh yang telah di-bahagi kepada mereka itu — mau berupa bintang-kah, atau ikan atau kapalterbang? — supaya dapat mengalahkan buatan2 rakan mereka yang lain. Ibu bapa juga tidak khali daripada rusing kerana anak2 mereka itu telah menuntutkan supaya dapat pakaian uniform baharu ganti yang telah luruh warna kerana mereka telah khayal akan mengambil bahagian dalam temasha2 yang di-untok utama-nya buat Pemuda dan Pemudi bagi meraikan pertabalan Baginda Queen yang juga muda julita yang menjadi Ratu pada zaman mereka. Sambil menantikan ketibaan Hari Kemahkotaan itu budak2 itu juga meng-hafalkan lagu kebangsaan yang akan dinyanyi beramai-ramai pada hari yang bersejarah itu. Permainan mereka yang biasa itu tertinggal lansong; kadang2 mereka berduyun pergi ka-sekolah masing2 kerana bermacam letehan yang perlu atau bersiar2 kapasir dan di-kampong kerana melihat aneka persediaan itu. Ah! dapat-lah di-perhatikan ayer muka mereka yang penuh dengan gembira dan kesukaan waktu melalui pintu gerbang atau melimpas bangunan yang ter-hias.

Walau pun pada mula-nya chadangan2 tentang persediaan di-kampong2 itu tidak berkehendakkan tenaga terus dari anak2 kampong salain daripada dengan jalan kutipan, tetapi di-belakang dari itu pula Tua2 Kampong serta anak2 kampong sakalian telah di-kerah juga mendirikan pintu2 gerbang dan perhiasan dalam kampong masing2.

Apabila sampai 30 May maka musta'id-lah segala persediaan dan perhiasan menyambut

Hari Kemahkotaan. Di-tepi jeraya2 dalam kawasan pasar telah di-gantong dengan lampo electric yang berwarna warni dan bendera2 lambang diraja dan tanglong2 kemahkotaan yang berlukis dengan gambar Baginda Queen dan Duke of Edinburgh. Dapat-lah pula di-saksikan pemandangan2 yang indah dengan aneka warna dan suloh-sulohan pada bangunan2 Kerajaan, gudang2 kompeni, rumah2 persekutuan, kedai2 dalam pasar, dan tidak pula ketinggalan masjid2 dan gereja2, serta di-tambah pula dengan pintu2 gerbang yang elok berpasang dengan lampo electric di-sagenap kampong itu. Maka Bandar Kuching pada malam2 perayaan tersebut ada-lah terang benderang saluruh-nya. Dari jaoh diluar bandar dapat-lah di-lihat kawasan bandar itu bersinar-sinaran sa-olah2 padang terbakar, entah demikian-kah gerangan-nya pemandangan yang di-saksi oleh Wan Umpok dan Wan Malini kutika anak Raja Suran itu turun di-Bukit Saguntang saperti di-cherita dalam Sejarah Melayu itu.

Pada tiap2 malam pula dalam minggu terma'alum itu terdengar-lah rih rendah bunyi kaki orang2 lalu lalang di-jeraya2 dalam pasar dan kampong, tetapi di-kawasan pasar-lah tempat orang2 bergumpul penuh sesak di-sagenap jeraya dan lorong, sahingga gerak perjalanan pun menjadi berlambatan.

Di-sapanjang minggu itu telah di-adakan bermacam permainan, pertunjukan, isti'adat rasmi dan layanan. Pertunjukan sarempak bagi Bunga2, Tanaman dan Kehutanan telah di-adakan di-Medarasah Melayu; Lomba Kuda di-Padang Sarawak Turf Club; Pertunjuk-kan Surat2 bersejarah di-rumah Museum; satu majlis Dancing berupa international di-Sarawak Club; Pertandingan chontoh2 kapalterbang di-Padang Matamata; Pertandingan Basketball di-gelanggang permainan Happy World. Jamuan dan hiburan bagi orang2 sakit kusta di-Batu Tiga Belas dan orang2 dza'if pun tiada juga di-lupa, dan mereka telah di-layan dengan jamuan teh dan pertunjukan wayang gambar dan kumpulan orang2 sakit kusta pun dapat mendengar lagu2 merdu dari Pencharagam Sarawak Constabulary. Murid2 dari sakalian sekolah pula bergilir pada tiap2 hari dalam saminggu itu di-hibor dengan pertunjukan wayang gambar pada tiga buah panggong ia-itu Rex, Sylvia dan Lilian.

Kemudian-nya tiba-lah 2 June ia-itu Hari Keemasan, Hari Bertuah dan bersempena, Hari terchatit-nya lagi Sejarah British dengan peredaran zaman baharu — Zaman Elizabeth yang di-perchaya akan memuleh samula kuasa dan kema'amoran British di-alam ini. Dinihari lagi, adek2 atau anak 2 sekalian telah bangun dan mandi — dingin pun di-tahan juga — berhias dan memasoKkan pakaian uniform mereka. Ada yang tiada berselira lagi hendak makan atau minum pada pagi itu kerana fikiran-nya telah tertumpu atau melayang nun di-Padang Sekolah St. Thomas. Terpaksalah kakak atau mak itu memujuk mereka makan supaya jangan kena kebuluran dan, kepeningan dalam temasha yang akan di-hadziri mereka ia-itu upacara pereksaan murid2 dari semua sekolah oleh Yang Terutama Tuan Governor dan di-iringi kemudian itu dengan baris kehormatan melimpas Tuan Governor di-hadapan Gudangbat Peoples Clinic. Wahl bukan kepalang ramai peninjau bergumpul di-situ kerana hendak menyaksikan upacara itu. Dengan suara yang gemuruh sempurna dengan bahasa masing2 dan di-temani pula oleh pencharagam, murid2 itu menyanyi-kan lagu kebangsaan. Satelah kena panas pagi itu waktu pereksaan, wajah murid2 itu pun jadi kemerahan dan bersinar dengan rincek2 peloh dan dengan keadaan demikian-lah mereka berbaris melimpas sambil menghal muka kerana memberi hormat kepada Tuan Governor yang sedang membalas pula dengan tabek kepada mereka. Langkah2 mereka itu tetap chergas mengikot bunyi pencharagam yang membawa jalan mereka itu. Kemudian daripada itu sakalian mereka bergumpul pula di-Padang Museum sama2 berdo'a atas keselamatan Baginda Queen.

Pada sabelah malam itu pula, telah di-adakan perarakan lampo dan usongan2 berhias dari sakalian bangsa. Sakali lagi orang2 berduyun menuju kapasar. Sunggoh pun chuacha gelap bahkan memang hujan rintek2 pada malam itu, tetapi kawasan pasar terutama jeraya2 yang di-lalui' oleh perarakan itu telah penoh tumpat dengan manusia yang tidak menghiraukan ugutan kuyup dan demam. Kereta2 tertahan. Pasokan Matamata pula tiada alpa dari berjaga kerana mengelak langgaran dan kechedaraan di-atas orang ramai. Perarakan itu bergumpul dan mula bergerak dari Padang Football Padangan, tetapi orang2 telah sedia menantikan-nya di-sapanjang jeraya2 yang dilintas-nya. Kemudian datang-lah kereta Pasokan Matamata yang membuka jalan. Sabentar lagi sampai-

lah usongan2 yang di-hias dengan macham2 ragam. Lepas sabuah, sabuah lagi melimpas, dan tiap2 sabuah ada sahaja menerbitkan kekelokan bersendiri dari tenaga tiap2 bangsa itu dan pada tiap2 usongan itu ada-lah terbentang lafaz "Allah Selamatkan Queen" ia-itu lafaz yang suchi morni terbit dari senubari tiap2 bangsa yang mempersembahkan usongan2 itu untuk menzahirkan ta'at setia mereka ka-bawah Seri Baginda. Perjalanan bagi perarakan itu termasuk juga sabahagian kawasan kampung, jadi mana2 orang yang tiada berpeluang hendak pergi ka-pasar pun dapat-lah juga peluang menyaksi perarakan yang indah itu.

Lain2 keramaian ia-lah satu jempunan Garden Party di-Astana pada petang hari itu. Astana juga di-bebas buat lawatan orang ramai pada 3 June. Temasha yang juga menarek perhatian ia-lah Perhimpunan Pemuda2 dan permainan2 dari mereka yang telah di-adakan di-Padang Sekolah St. Thomas. Pada malam di-adakan perhimpunan itu dapat-lah di-lihat di-situ kanak2 dari semua sekolah dengan tanglong bergumpul dan ada juga yang mengambil bahagian di-atas pentas menunjok bermacham lakunan. Sapatutnya perhimpunan itu di-lansong pada sabelah petang 6 June tetapi malang-nya hujan telah menggendala dan terpaksa di-tukar pada malam yang lain. Banyak lagi permainan yang lain seperti majlis Dancing di-Sarawak Union Hall, Sukan bagi sakalian sekolah, Bunga api, Pertandingan Football di-Padang Padangan, Pertandingan Badminton di-antara daerah, majlis Tarian Kemahkotaan di-Astana dan pada 6 June di-adakan Baris Kehormatan di-Padang Sekolah St. Thomas kerana menyambutkan Harijadi Baginda Queen. Lomba Perahu juga akan di-adakan pada 1 July dan Temasha Menuba lepas itu kelak, dan semua keramaian ini ada-lah atas nama Kemahkotaan.

Buat penutup renchana ini, penulis suka menerang perasaan bangga terhadap tenaga yang telah di-tunjak oleh pehak Melayu dalam masa perayaan2 itu. Walau pun perediaan dan perhiasan itu di-jalan dalam bulan Puasa, tetapi sakalian muafakatan dan ikhtiar itu berjalan dengan memberi puashati dan menerbitkan bekerjasama dan bersatu padu pada melansongkan perayaan2 yang akan menjadi ingatan khas-nya kepada adek2 atau anak2 mereka dan kepada sa-genap lapisan ra'ayat am-nya, ada-nya.

T.A.

The Coronation through Chinese Eyes.

The Coronation is over. Not only in the British Isles but throughout the Commonwealth we have acclaimed Her Majesty Elizabeth II, as our rightful Queen. The pomp and pageantry, on a scale unrivalled heretofore, with which her peoples of all races, faiths and creeds everywhere in the Commonwealth celebrated this occasion were the sincere outpourings of loyal hearts who take pride not only in their young and radiant Queen now gloriously reigning, but also in the Coronation as reaffirming the faith of those men and women who regard the Crown as a symbol of the unity and free association of peoples of the same ideals and hopes, around the leadership of a noble Queen who has so early dedicated her life to this purpose.

This realization by Her Majesty's peoples of different races has been, above all else, the mainspring of the widely spread and spontaneous rejoicings which characterized the Coronation celebrations, and is undoubtedly an encouraging sign that augurs well for the harmonious relations between Her Majesty's Government and the Commonwealth of Nations in these times of storm and stress.

No less encouraging is the fact that this realization is equally understood and treasured by the Chinese Community Overseas in her far-flung territories. This is evident from the recent mammoth efforts on the part of the Chinese Community in Hong Kong, the Federation of Malaya and Singapore, in our own Sarawak and the North Borneo territories, to celebrate Coronation week in such fitting manner as has won unstinted praise from the local press that Her Majesty the Queen would have been proud of the homage paid to her.

Her Majesty would truly be proud when she reflects on the knowledge that she can count on millions of Chinese in her overseas realms whose hearts throb and thrill with pleasure at the thought that, she is, no less than to her other peoples, their Queen, and that if among these vast throngs there is a minority who think and act otherwise, she will appreciate that this fact is as much deprecated by their own community.

The overseas Chinese is often described as an enigma. He is regarded as indispensable to

a colony's progress owing to his industry and his control over local finances, and he is presented as a potential source of trouble especially if he fails to recognize that his first duty is to the land of his adoption. He is the inveterate, proud upholder of his own culture and tradition, in the belief that he is helping to preserve something ancient and noble; and he may resist attempts to initiate him into modern ways, yet he readily aligns himself with progressive thought and sends his children to English schools. Thus the ordinary overseas Chinese may find himself in the unusual position of trying to keep up a link with his fatherland on the one hand, while on the other he strives to conform with the requirements of the country in which he lives. Yet in spite of this situation, which is at once puzzling to others and embarrassing to himself, he belongs essentially to a race of peaceloving people whose interests overseas are perhaps entirely financial, actuated by the time-worn principle of providing adequately for his dependants. The subject of politics does not appeal to the majority of them who neither seek to unravel its mysteries nor care to be engulfed in its meshes, because they are heirs to a race that had always attached greater significance to proceeding nonchalantly with the business of their farms and livelihood than to the subtleties and machinations of succeeding regimes. And where they live under colonial rule they have, since early days, shown their willingness to co-operate with the authorities and manifest their loyalty, either unobtrusively as in the grim days of the Occupation or with the colourful pageantry, of which the best Chinese minds can conceive, as the recent Coronation processions bear witness.

A year ago, the despicable behaviour of a minority group who attempted to introduce chaos and anarchy into Sarawak and to foist ideologies, foreign and detrimental to her interests, on her peoples particularly her youth, had necessitated the coming into force of the Emergency Regulations. The Chinese community in Sarawak rose to the occasion as one man and were at one with Government in its determination to enforce law and order, realizing, as they have always done, that it is through peace, goodwill and friendship that

progress is made possible and that force and disorder would reap only destruction. They realized, too, that the firm measures imposed by the Government did not in any way reflect on the loyalty of Chinese community. Today, thanks to the vigilance of the authorities and the active co-operation of all communities, peace and prosperity have returned to the land.

And so while all races living in Her Majesty's realms widely rejoiced at her Coronation, the Chinese community in Sarawak, like their brothers in Malaya, have had an added reason for celebrating. They rejoiced that a new Queen was crowned and

with her Coronation the ushering in of a new Elizabethan age of prosperity. The love and esteem in which she is held by her subjects, as head of a wondrous family of peoples and nations of every clime, is likewise held in their hearts. But they also rejoiced because they know that the worst is now over and that henceforward they can go forth with a new confidence, and a new trust that they can work together again with other races on the road to nationhood and fulfilment on the basis of mutual respect and goodwill which had been conspicuous of their relations with others in the past.

Hari Elizabeth II Di-Pasok Nyadi Queen.

Nama enggau brita nya utai ti di ka-angkun lalu di ka-rindu ka mensia maioh. Nya alai dalam bulan enam taun 1953 tu kamari, nama enggau brita ti pepadu iya di dinga kitai pansut ari England. Laban 2 hari bulan 6 tu kamari nya maia Elizabeth II dipasok ka nyadi Queen di menoa England. Nyadi laban leka timang enggau sampi enggau mimpi indai iya ti beranak ka iya udah tepantup, nya alai semoa dunya datai ka kitai di Sarawak tu pen enggau orang gaga ngerami hari nya enggau naka olih.

Nya alai ninga gerah Perintah hari nya ka di rami enggau pengaga enggau pengerindu, semoa bansa di Sarawak sedia magang-nge-reja pengawa diri leboh hari nya. Kitai Dayak pen kiroh diri ga enggau bansa China, bansa Melayu, bansa Tambi enggau bansa orang Putih ti di menoa itu. Lalu gaga bendar bansa kitai meda Penghulu Jugah pen kena pilih ga nyadi pengari bansa Dayak lalu di kirum enggau bansa bukai meda pengerami hari nya di England. Ditu meh kitai meda bansa kitai enda ditinggal ka orang ga dalam peng-gawa besai tu.

Kena ngerami hari nya Perintah ngasoh sida ti tuai-tuai mai nemiak diri, baum. Tuan China pen baum enggau nemiak diri, Tuai Melayu pen baka-nya mega, lalu Tuai kitai Dayak pen ngerah nemiak diri mai baum, ngadu ka jalai gaga lalu ngerami pengerindu enggau pengandal Queen ti dipasok nyadi besai.

Nya alai di Kuching Tuai China ngadu ka aum sida ba club China, Melayu ba club Melayu, Tambi ba club Tambi, tang kitai Dayak deh, laban nadai club puas mimit ngadu ka aum, tang seninjak enggai malu, nyadirga pengawa laban pemanah iring sida ti tuai. Uдах baum dua tiga kali nya baru temu pengawa ti ka di sanggup di kerja sida ti Tuai-Tuai Kampong ti semak Kuching. Bisi ti nyanggup ngada ka prengka gendang, bisi ti nyanggup mai orang ti endang landik ngajat, skeda nyanggup mai indu dara ti bajik-bajik awak ka bengepan Dayak di iring bejalai leboh rami nya. Nya alai kena ngaul pengawa nengri, berunding ga sida ti tuai nyukai motor-lorry dua buah lalu di lagu enggau mendira, di-umba enggau ngepan kena ngenulu ka bala Dayak leboh bejalai musin nengri Kuching. Laban nya enang udah putus dalam aum besai, semoa bansa dalam Sarawak, enggau indu enggau nemiak bejalai berintai bulih empat batu. Angkat ari Pasar Padungan lalu musin nengri Kuching.

Hari besai pen yau semak ka semak semua ati mensia maioh, dipeda pen, mangsang besak ka besak lalu betambah enggau ati gagit enggau ati rindu ngesesai ka hari nya.

Hari Besai pen nyau datai, semoa bansa bela pen udah tembu magang sedia ka nemiak diri di bai bejalai.

Uдах nyau bejalai semoa bansa bela nyukai motor-lorry magang kena ngenulu ka bala. Lalu semoa lorry tu tadi di lagu maioh

macham. Orang ti nepan dia pen nadai enda ngepan, lalu nadai enda main. Bisi ti ngajat, bisi ti ngelulu ka diri ngena ngepan Queen, bisi ti ngelulu ka diri ngena pekayan soldadu — enggau maioh jalai bukai mega, jalai ti mudah ka pengaga enggau pengabis basa ka pengawa Queen di England. Bisi lorry ti di gaga baka gamal gajah, baka gamal burong ti besai, baka gamal kapal perang, tang enggi kitai Dayak di lagu enggau mendira lalu ngundan orang ti betaboh lalu ngajat. Lalu lorry kitai ti dulu bendar, disangking ka ba tiang perabong — gambar Queen ti besai, lalu iya ti dudi agi di dudok ka sida Kenyalang rakong ba tiang luan. Nadai tuai ngemanah nya gamal di peda.

Dalam pejalai tu tadi semoa bansa ti meda, begulai, bechampor-gaul, manjong, ketawa sama ngelantang ka diri. Semoa orang ti besai-besai enggau semoa orang, nadai bepilih bansa, nadai bepilih gamal, ngerami hari tu semoa enggau jalai diri empu magang. Ukai semina nya ga jalai orang ngintu hari besai tu tadi, lalu bisi ga lumba di padang, bisi ga pengerami ti endang di bagi ka sida ti nemiak agi, awak ka pengerami ka Queen tu tadi nyadi ka pengingat lebih agi ka sida ti nemiak, awak ka brita enggau nama tu bisi dikenang sida ngagai serak di dudi.

Nambah ka semoa pengerami tu tadi, sida nemiak skula endang bisi diberi alai mantup ka pengagit ati laban semoa panggong-

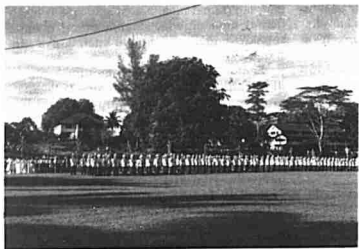
panggong besilih berari muka gambar ka sida, lalu semoa utai tu nadai bebayar. Nyadi sekumbang pengerami nya, semoa mensia ti enggau bepansa endang brupai rindu magang gamal moa. Nadai siko sida ti susah gamal moa dipeda, semina orang ti enda sabaka pengerindu enggau kitai, ia-nya sida ti gila.

Semoa pasar-pasar enggau rumah-rumah di Kuching, naka penmanah dipeda laban di lagu magang-magang enggau mendira enggau semoa utai ti ngasoh mata tau rindu. Api pen maioh ga dipasang. Malam siti jam pukul 8 bisi main bunga api ba padang Kubu di sebrai pasar lalu maioh bendar mensia ti nengkila. Nya alai lepas semoa jalai pengerami tu tadi, kena semoa bansa dalam Sarawak ngaku Elizabeth ka Queen sida nya sambayang. Tang dalam Sarawak maioh bansa, lalu pengarap pen maioh, lalu maioh ga jalai sida mantup ka ati ti bendar ka betuai ka Elizabeth.

Naka ti dipeda tak rindu, tak gaga magang bansa dalam Sarawak, lebih agi jako kenang sida ka indu, tu meh baru ka pransang be-sekula lalu ngemansang ka anak indu kena ngelai ketungkah indu nyadi Queen dunya baru, lalu hari nya besai bendar kai pransang sida ti indu.

Pesan ari semoa bansa Dayak, kami ngajih ka Queen gayu guru gerai nyamai nguan menoa.

The Queen's Birthday Parade



The new look of the Sarawak Constabulary.



The National Anthem was played.

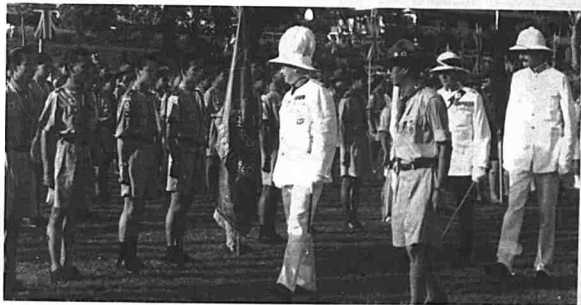
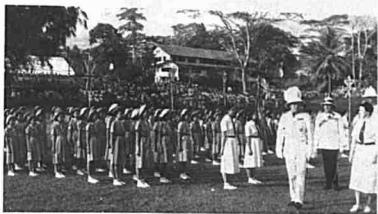


Three cheers to Her Majesty the Queen leading by His Excellency the Governor.

The official birthday of the Queen was celebrated in Kuching on 8/6/1953, when units of the Sarawak Constabulary (in their new black and white uniform for other Ranks), the Field Force, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, the Red Cross Society and the Sarawak Constabulary Bank took part in the grand parade at the St. Thomas's school

playing ground.

A record crowd of spectators comprising of various races surrounded the decorated playing ground to witness the Governor of Sarawak taking the salute and the beating of the Royal Standard after inspecting the units on parade. His Excellency took the Salute at the March Past.



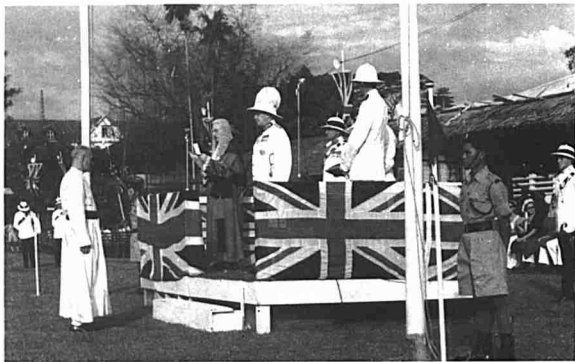
His Excellency the Governor Sir Anthony Abell in uniform inspecting the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides from the different schools and the Red Cross Society during the Queen's Birthday.



Mr Ling Siew Ing



A receipts received his Coronation Medals.

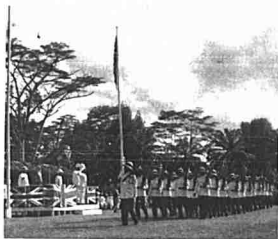


The reading of the honour of Rev. Fr. A.W. Stonton

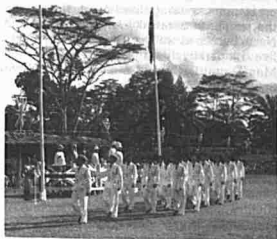
Earlier during the ceremony His Excellency presented the insignia of M.B.E. to Mr Ling Siew Ing of Sibiu and Rev. Fr. A.W.

Stonton of the S.P.G. Mission. He also presented Coronation Medals to a number of recipients.

The March Past



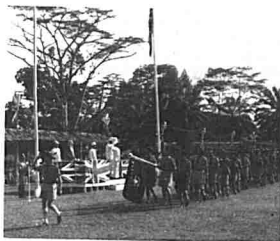
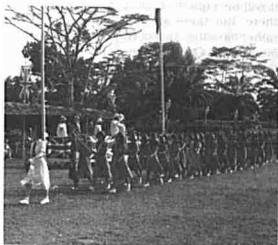
The Sarawak Constabulary



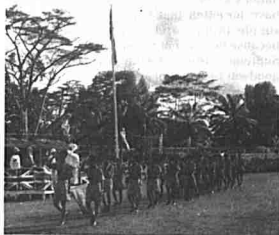
The Red Cross Society (Men)



The Girl Guides



The Boys Scouts



Happiness Springs From Simple Things - 1955

Happiness springs from simple things, and the people in Sarawak - and in Brunei and North Borneo as well, still have the wisdom to live comparatively simple lives, Mr Malcolm Mac-Donald, Commissioner General for South East Asia, said in a recorded farewell broadcast over Radio Sarawak.

He said:

I first came to Sarawak on July 1st, 1946, on the historic day when, as Governor General, I accepted on behalf of His Majesty King George VI the deed of Cession made by His Highness the Rajah. I then fell in love with this country and its people, and I have remained a faithful friend ever since. Now I am leaving South East Asia to go to India. India is one of the most important countries in the world, and it will be a great experience to live and work there. But there are two jobs that I would rather have than that of High Commissioner in New Delhi. One is District Officer, Kapit and the other is District Officer, Marudi. I should dearly like to stay amongst my Iban friends on the Rejang and my Kenyah and Kayan friends on the Baram, and to make occasional jaunts also to the busy, populous capital, Kuching to meet my Malay and Chinese and British friends there.

Many nations in the modern world have gone crazy. In their pursuit of material progress and power their governments have got involved in political rivalries, quarrels and ambitions which cause their people a lot of frustration and misery and danger. Those nations know not contentment, because they have forgotten that happiness springs from simple things; and they know not peace because they do not remember that one of the Supreme Virtues is mutual tolerance and goodwill between neighbours.

In Sarawak - and in Brunei and North Borneo as well - people still have the wisdom to live comparatively simple lives. Un-corrupted by vast, soaring, stupid unattainable ambitions, most of them are content so long as they have enough food to eat, a roof over their heads to protect them from the tropical wind and rain and sun, interesting work to do, and the affection of their families and friends to make life sweet. So in a troubled world Sarawak and its next door neighbours remain peaceful lands inhabited by happy populations.

That does not mean that Sarawak is backward. Far from it. During the nine years since I first came here you and I have seen tremendous changes in this country. There has been steady, even rapid, progress. Up the rivers for example, there has been an almost revolutionary advance from rather primitive to more modern conditions. In Iban, Kayan, Kenyah and other native districts many schools have sprung up where none existed before; mobile dispensaries have brought public health provisions to hitherto un-doctored regions; up-to-date agricultural training has greatly improved methods of husbandry, and a widespread system of local self-government is teaching the people to manage all their own affairs. As for the latest scientific amenities of mid-Twentieth Century society, wireless sets are now installed in many long-houses in Borneo's remote interior, and revered Dayak chieftains give talks and enchanting Dayak girls "pantuns" in the programmes of Radio Sarawak. That is a dramatic example of the progress which has occurred in the last nine years.

Similar developments in economic, social and political affairs have taken place everywhere throughout Sarawak, amongst all communities. People who left Kuching or Sibul, Simanggang or Miri and their hinterlands a decade ago, and who have been absent ever since, would find it hard to recognise many features in their ways of life, if they suddenly returned now. No violent upheaval has caused the transformation. There has been no revolt, no clash, no fighting here, as there have been in some other places. By gradual, peaceful, constitutional processes something like a revolution is occurring in Sarawak.

That is partly because it is Britain's policy here, as elsewhere, to give the local people all the benefits of modern living, to encourage them to develop their own capacities to the utmost, and to train them to assume over greater responsibilities in managing their own affairs in public affairs, placing less importance on their differences of colour and creed and culture and more importance on their common interests as citizens of the same land. They find themselves united in their loyalty to Sarawak and so a united nation is gradually being formed.

In some countries in South East Asia the picture has been very different during the last nine years. In them violent strife has been stirred up, fighting and bloodshed and misery have been constant features of their national life. Race has been turned against race, creed against creed and class against class. It has been largely the work of Communists, who preach the doctrine of jealousy and hate. Do not ever listen to Communists in Sarawak. They would soon break the peace and friendship, the progress and prosperity to which you are accustomed.

Remember that not only in national affairs, but also in international affairs all men are brothers. Just as you give a fine, practical, example of that in your own small scattered in territories across all the five continents and on islands in all the seven seas, live in perfect peace and permanent concord together. War between any member of the British Commonwealth is unthinkable. They are for ever friends. They have attained the ideal towards which all humanity is striving.

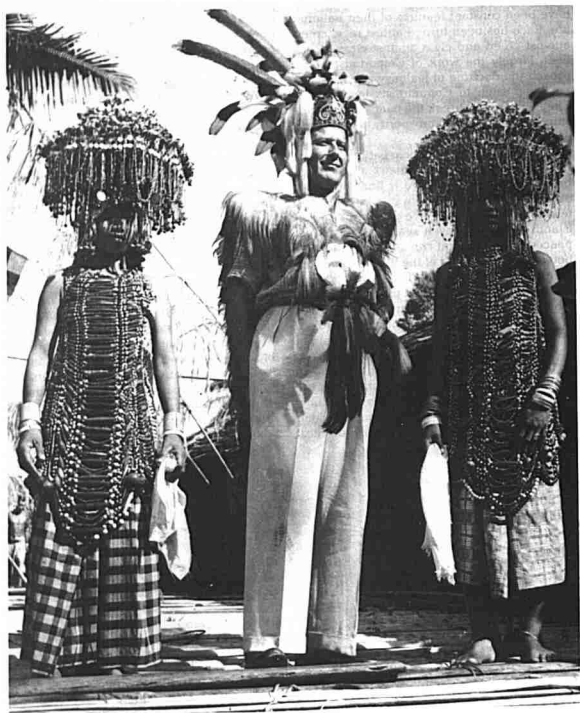
Those are some of the thoughts provoked in my mind as I look back on many years of most pleasant association with Sarawak. And in bidding you "farewell" I thank you for a million kindnesses, I thank you for some of the best and most abiding friendships that I know and I express the prayer that you may long maintain your reputation as one of the most

peaceful and happiest people on earth.

The progress is partly due, too, to the facts that the various races who compose Sarawak's population are all gifted; they can take full advantage of new ideas and methods; and they wish to advance with the times, and to create here a modern, liberal society. So progress in Sarawak has been the result of a continuous act of co-operation between the government and the governed, between the British authorities and the local Bornean people.

Another reason why changes have come here peacefully is that there are no suspicions, no rivalries between the different racial groups in Sarawak. The Malays, the Chinese, the Dayaks, the Melanaus and others are all tolerant, friendly people, who recognise each other's good qualities, who regard each other as fellow citizen of their common homeland, and who work naturally as partners together to promote its prosperity.

This co-operation between the different races is essential. It is the secret of continuing peace and well-being in Sarawak. That is why the recently formed local government bodies like District Councils and Divisional Councils are so significant. On them, in centers like Sibuan and Mukah and Limbang, the leaders of all the communities are learning to work cordially together.



His Excellency the Commissioner General for South East Asia Mr Malcolm Mac-Donald

ROYAL VISIT

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE PHILIP CAME TO SARAWAK AND IN A THRILLING 41-HOUR VISIT CONQUERED THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE WITH HIS MAGIC-LIKE CHARM

His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was born at Corfu on 10th June, 1921, son of Prince Andrew of Greece. On his father's side he is of Danish descent; Prince Andrew was a younger son of King George I of the Hellenes, son of King Christian IX of Denmark; however, when Prince Philip, renouncing this royal title, became a British subject, it was under his mother's family name Mountbatten, because his father's family have no family name.

His mother was Princess Alice of Battenberg, eldest daughter of Prince Louis of Battenberg, who was naturalised in 1868 and during the first world war took the name of Mountbatten, renounced his royal title, and became the first Marquess of Milford Haven. Prince Louis wife was Princess Victoria of Hesse, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, so that the Duke of Edinburgh, like Queen Elizabeth II, is one of Queen Victoria's great-great grandchildren.

The young Prince came to Britain at an early age to be educated making his home during his holidays with his grandmother the Dowager Marchioness of Milford Haven or with his sister in Germany. From a preparatory school, Cheam, he went to Mr Kurt Hahn's school at Salem, Germany, and after the Nazis' rise to power moved with him to Gordonstoun, near Elgin in Scotland. He was popular with his school-fellows and known as a good sportsman; he was an enthusiast for games and swimming, and was captain of the school's cricket and hockey teams. Mr Hahn was a progressive schoolmaster, one of whose educational theories was that his boys should take part in the local life of the town and neighbourhood. Prince Philip, as he was then, was well-known to the towns-people of Elgin and made friends among the local boys, whom he met on the cricket field and on fishing and sailing expeditions: he kept up many of these friendships, and during the war would renew old contacts when on leave in the north.

His love of the sea showed itself early. He was a keen oarsman and qualified as a Sea

Scout. He and his schoolmates built a cutter, and he took part in several sailing trips to Shetlands, the Hebrides and Norway. He was so expert a sailor that he was allowed - a privilege granted to few - to be in charge of an adult on board.

Prince Philip was head of his school when he left to become, in May, 1939, a Naval cadet. In choosing a naval career he was following the tradition of the Mountbatten side of his family. Prince Louis of Battenberg was an Admiral of the Fleet and First Sea Lord; his son the second Marquess served in the Royal Navy, like Prince Philip's cousin the third Marquess and his uncle Admiral Lord Mountbatten of Burma, the present First Sea Lord.

He was still at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, when war broke out. At Dartmouth he was awarded the King's Dirk as the best all-round cadet of his term, and the Eardley-Howard-Crockett prize as the best cadet. Later when taking his sub-lieutenant's examination he gained four firsts and one second, winning nine months' seniority out of a possible ten.

In January 1940 he went to sea as a midshipman in the battleship *Ramillies*, and after serving in the cruisers *Kent* and *Shropshire* he was appointed at the end of the year to the battleship *Valiant* in the Mediterranean Fleet. A few months later came the battle of Cape Matapan, when he was in charge of a section of searchlight control in the *Valiant*; for his work during the action he received a mention in dispatches from Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham (Now Admiral of the Fleet Lord Cunningham of Hyndhope).

After returning home to qualify as sub-lieutenant Prince Philip was appointed to the destroyer *Wallace*. Promoted lieutenant in June 1942, he became the *Wallace's* First Lieutenant in the following October, being one of the youngest officers in the Navy to be second-in command of a large destroyer. In July 1943 he took part in the Sicily landings, when *Wallace* covered the Canadian beach-head.

In 1944 he was appointed First Lieutenant in H.M.S. *Whelp*, one of Britain's newest destroyers, just nearing completion. He sailed in her for the Far East, took part in the war against Japan, and served for a time as A.D.C. to his uncle Lord Mountbatten, then Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia. He was present at the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay.

After the end of the war he served in two training establishments, at Pwllheli in North Wales, and at Corsham in Wiltshire; at the latter he was one of the two officers responsible for the training of petty officers. Only officers with a high record for leadership are selected for these duties.

In July 1947 the engagement of Lieutenant Mountbatten - he had renounced his royal title on becoming a British subject in February 1947 - to Princess Elizabeth was announced. The marriage took place in Westminster Abbey on 20th November. On its eve King George VI created the bridegroom Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich and a Knight of the Garter, and authorised his use of the prefix "His Royal Highness".

In the years immediately following his marriage, the Duke of Edinburgh continued his naval career. In October 1949 he went to Malta as First Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Chequers*, leader of the First Destroyer Flotilla, Mediterranean Fleet. In July 1950 he was promoted Lieutenant-Commander, and shortly afterwards took over his first command, H.M.S. *Maggie*, a frigate based on Malta. He commanded her until July 1951, when he went on indefinite leave, it being announced that he would take up no more naval appointments until after the return of the King and Queen from their proposed Commonwealth tour. When King George's health made this exertion impossible, Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh undertook the proposed tour and began the journey which would have taken them to Australia and New Zealand had it not been interrupted by the sudden death of King George VI.

Since the accession of Queen Elizabeth II, the Duke of Edinburgh has played an increasingly important part in the nation's life, and has interested himself in many of its aspects, particularly those associated with scientific and industrial development, and with sport.

He had been sworn of the Privy Council in December 1951. In 1953 he was Chairman of the Coronation Commission. As President of the Royal Mint Advisory Committee he was concerned with the choice of the coinage for the new reign.

His interest in science is outstanding. The British Association for the Advancement of Science invited him to be its President in 1951, the year of the Festival of Britain. He made a great impression with his presidential address, which dealt with Britain's contribution to the development of science and technology during the past hundred years, and which was described by Sir Harold Hartley, the previous President, as "a most discerning survey". In the course of the address he dwelt on an aspect of the subject which particularly interests him, the practical application of scientific discoveries, saying that the concrete measurement and indirect effect of all scientific effort was the general improvement of health, in the expectation of life and standards of living. A nation's wealth and prosperity, he said, were governed by the application of science to its industries and commerce.

The Duke gives further evidence of his interest in the application of scientific discoveries by his eagerness to study scientific work at first hand, and he has visited research stations and laboratories all over the country.

He is interested not only in the industrial applications of scientific research, but in industry as a whole, and many of his visits have been made with the object of getting to know the industrial life of Britain at first hand. He has been down coal-mines, and has toured factories, engineering works and industrial plants. When in December 1955 he paid a visit to the Austin motor works at Birmingham, the occasion was made a private one, at his own request. The Chairman of the British Motor Corporation told the workers: "There will be no flags, no reception committees, no guards of honour, no formal presentations, and no red carpets. The Duke wants to see a factory as it is every normal working day, a thing he can never do on formal occasions."

The Duke of Edinburgh succeeded the late King George VI as patron of the Industrial Welfare Society. It was not, however, as a patron of this Society but on his own initiative that he caused arrangements to be made for a conference at Oxford in July 1956, H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh's Study Conference,

attended by men and women from all the Commonwealth, conducted a practical study of the human aspects of industrialisation and, in particularly, those factors which make for satisfaction, efficiency and understanding, both inside industrial organizations and in the everyday relations between industry and the community around it.

His Royal Highness was promoted Commander in the Royal Naval in June 1952. In the following December it was announced that the Queen had approved his appointment as Admiral of the Sea Cadet Corps, Colonel-in-Chief of the Air Training Corps - appointments previously held by the late King George VI. In January 1953 came the announcement that the Queen had approved his promotion to Admiral of the Fleet and his appointment as Field Marshal and Marshal of the Royal Naval Air Force. He is also Colonel-in-Chief or Colonel of a number of Regiments, including that which is called after the earlier holder of his title, The Wiltshire Regiment (The Duke of Edinburgh's).

He takes a keen interest in the three Services. He has attended Fleet exercise, and has visited Royal Air Force and Army units in Germany on many occasions.

The Duke of Edinburgh has consented to be Patron or President of a large number of bodies. He is President of the English-Speaking Union, a position held by Her Majesty the Queen before her accession. An organization in which he takes great interest is the National Playing Fields Association, in whose presidency he succeeded Lord Mountbatten in 1948. This voluntary body, which has affiliated country and city branches in Scotland and Northern Ireland, was founded in 1592 with the object of securing adequate playing fields and playgrounds for children and young people, either directly or in co-operation with local authorities and societies.

The Duke is President also of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, which is composed of nearly two hundred national organizations, including governing bodies of games, sports and outdoor activities, the national voluntary youth organizations, many social services bodies, and of the principal organizations concerned with physical education and health education.

He is still a lover of many kinds of sports, plays polo, races at Cowes Regatta, and is Admiral of the Royal Yacht Squadron. He was from 1949 to 1950 President of the M.C.C., the

famous Marylebone Cricket Club.

A few years ago he took up flying, received a course of instruction from the Royal Air Force and qualified as a pilot, and later learned to fly a helicopter. He is Grand Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators of the British Empire.

The Duke of Edinburgh holds several foreign decorations and has received honorary degrees from a number of universities. He is Chancellor of the Universities of Wales and Edinburgh, and a Life Governor of King's College in the University of London. In July 1955 he was patron of the Conference of European Rectors and Vice-Chancellors of Universities held at Cambridge, when he delivered the opening address.

In April 1952 the Queen created him a Knight of the Thistle, and the following September she declared by Royal Warrant that he has "place, pre-eminence and precedence" next to herself "on all occasions and in all meetings, except where otherwise provided by Act of Parliament." In February 1957 it was announced that Her Majesty had granted to the Duke of Edinburgh the style and dignity of a Prince of the United Kingdom, and that he should in future be known as "The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh."

The Duke has made many visits abroad with the Queen since her accession as well as tours and visits to all parts of the United Kingdom. During their Commonwealth tour of 1953/54 they visited Bermuda, Jamaica, Fiji, Tonga, New Zealand, Australia, Ceylon, Uganda, Malta and Gibraltar. Early in 1956 they visited Nigeria, and in 1957 made a tour of Canada (which they had earlier toured together in the autumn of 1951) followed by a visit to the U.S.A. On this trip the Duke was made a Privy Councillor of Canada. A further visit to Canada is planned for the summer of 1959 when the Queen will open the new St. Lawrence Seaway. The Duke has also accompanied Her Majesty on her State visits to Norway (1955), Sweden (1956), Portugal, France, and Denmark (1957) and the Netherlands (1958).

On his account the Duke has visited a number of overseas countries. When serving in the Mediterranean he paid courtesy visits to rulers of Middle Eastern countries and to the President of Turkey. In November, 1950, he took part in an important constitutional occasion, when he opened Gibraltar's new legislative

council. In the summer of 1952, with the young Duke of Kent, he attended the Olympic Games at Helsinki, and on his journey paid informal visits to Norway and Sweden. He made a second tour of Canada in the summer of 1954, and in October, 1955, visited Denmark in the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, when he attended the British Trade Fair at Copenhagen and was entertained by the King of Denmark. In the following November he opened the 1956 Olympic Games at Melbourne, and made his visit to Australia the occasion of an extended tour of that country and New Zealand and of island territories of the Commonwealth. He visited the Brussels International Exhibition in the summer of 1958 on the occasion of the British National Days. In October, 1958, he again visited Canada to attend, as President, the World Conference of the English-Speaking Union of the Commonwealth.

Early this year His Royal Highness represented the British Association for the Advancement of Science at scientific meetings in India and Pakistan - the first visit by a

member of the Royal Family to either of those countries since they became independent. Now he is continuing with an extensive tour of the Far East and the Pacific.



*His Royal Highness the Prince Philip,
Duke of Edinburgh*

The Suite of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh

The Private Secretary

Mr James Orr is of Australian extraction; an old school fellow of H.R.H. he was appointed Private Secretary in 1957.

The Equerry

Squadron Leader John de Mill Severne, A.F.C., is an airman of note; his decoration commemorates a peculiarly hazardous experiment which he carried out with Venom jet fighter in 1955.

Sir Alexander Fleck, K.C.B., D.S.C., LL.D., F.R.S.

Sir Alexander Fleck's career is one of the most remarkable of the times. A Glasgow boy he was compelled by poverty to leave school at the age of fourteen. He secured employment as a laboratory attendant, but worked assiduously at night classes until he attained the standard requisite for university entrance. Meanwhile he saved sufficient to pay his expenses to the University of Glasgow. He graduated in chemistry and quickly achieved fame as a research worker in the field of radioactivity. Later he was engaged in management and organization, and in 1953 was elected Chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries. He has maintained a lively interest in research and was elected President of British Association in 1958.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape, G.C.B., K.B.E.

Admiral Fraser was a cadet on the old training ship *Britannia*, and early distinguished himself as a mathematician. His interest was in gunnery, and he was later responsible for the development of the fourteen-inch naval gun, which many at the time thought excessive. During the last war he was in charge of the Murmansk convoy, in the course of which he had many stirring encounters; in one of them he sank the *Scharnhorst*. For his services he was awarded the Soviet Order of Suvorov. At the end of the war on behalf of Great Britain he endorsed the Japanese deed of surrender at the memorable scene in Tokyo Bay.

Sir Alexander Grantham, G.C.M.G.

Sir Alexander Grantham spent much of his youth in China and in 1922 entered the Colonial Service in Hong Kong, where he served for thirteen years. He was then sent to the West Indies, but returned to Hong Kong, this time as a Governor, in 1947. His knowledge of China in general and of Hong Kong in particular enabled him to discharge his new duties in a time of peculiar difficulty to the satisfaction of all. The affection which he commanded was shown by the extensions of his term of office at popular demand. In 1955 he visited Peking, and the same year his term of office was again extended. He retired in 1957 amidst universal regret.

I-KUCHING

Preparations began early for the visit and one of the first ostensible signs was the demolition of the row of wooden garages at Pangkalan Batu, housing the Governor's cars and those of a few cross-river residents. This was replaced by an expanse of asphalt, making the approach to Pangkalan Batu more open and forming a convenient marshalling ground for Constabulary guards.

Arches then began to blossom forth in various parts of the town, the Municipality put up their colourful heraldic shields and strings of bunting criss-crossed the streets above the traffic. Policemen, in large numbers, marched hither and thither. Crush barriers went up around the garden at Pangkalan Batu. Cleaning and painting went on and floodlights were produced. The Courthouse, in the floodlighting, looked remarkably fine — as did the *Kubu* at Pangkalan Batu — and justified its claim to be regarded as the most pleasing architecture in Kuching.

On the day itself, the 26th February, Kuching was crowded with country visitors from near and far. The neighbouring towns of Bau and Serian were reported to be deserted and a great concourse of *sampans* clustered round the wharves indicated the arrival of many by water. Accommodation was a problem and parts of the *kaki lima* were strewn with sleepers on the night.

H.M.Y. *Britannia* was met at Tanjong Po in a choppy sea by the Director of Marine in M.V.

Pergam. He went aboard at 3.40 p.m. and brought *Britannia* to Kampong Sejingkat just after 5 p.m. Admiral Dawnay much regretted that he had not been able to agree to bring *Britannia* to Pending but had the weather been unfavourable, this might have involved some risk and no chances could be taken which might prejudice the Royal Tour.

At Sejingkat were the Government launches *Zahora*, filled with Scouts, *Kenyalang*, *Menaul* and *Adeh* with two hundred school children, *Tembadau* with Marine and Customs staff and their relations and many other launches and speedboats. There were also *sampans*, with *gongs* beating, from the village schools. His Royal Highness boarded the Royal Barge at 5.25 p.m. and left *Britannia*, escorted by two launches, for Sungei Biawak. Before leaving, in the first of many thoughtful gestures, he went round the waiting launches waving to the passengers. A group of water-skiers from the Kuching Boat Club appeared, seemingly from nowhere and passed and repassed the Royal Barge, bearing banners of welcome and miraculously preserving their balance in the commingling washes.

Radio Sarawak had an airplane over the river and broadcast a vivid commentary on the progress of the Royal Barge. This commentary was subsequently matched by outside commentaries from all the principal points of the Tour.

At 5.40 p.m. the Duke landed at Sungei Biawak and was greeted by His Excellency the Governor accompanied by the Commissioner of Constabulary. Members of Supreme Council and their wives were then presented to him. The Chief Justice had the ill-luck to be indisposed and was unable to be present then on subsequently. After the presentations, the Duke entered a white, open car, accompanied by the Governor and the Honorary A.D.C. and drove into the town, waving to the groups of people and school children along the route. From Padungan on there were crowds along the road and a barrage of fire crackers began as the royal car came into Main Bazaar. Here, at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, a special welcome was given to the Duke by a committee headed by Mr Tan Kui Choon.

The Astana *sampan*, fresh in white and yellow, was waiting, manned by six paddlers and a helmsman at Pangkalan Batu. The Duke waved gaily to the cherring throng surrounding the Pangkalan before boarding the *sampan* and stood up in it all the way to Pangkalan Astana waving cheerfully back to the crowd.

After a private dinner at the Astana, a Reception was held, attended by five hundred guests of all races from all parts of the country, many of them in national dress. The guests were presented to the Duke in the drawing-room and he frequently stopped them for a few words of conversation. On the lawns behind the Astana the Constabulary Band was playing and, when the presentations were over, the Duke came down and mingled informally with the guests before crossing the river again to the Union Club where various Malay, Dayak, Chinese and Javanese entertainments took place on a stage erected on Saint Thomas's playing-field. Chinese dragons challenged the Duke's entry to the Club but were appeased by an *ang pow*. The Duke was presented on the stage with gifts from the people of Sarawak. For himself and for the Prince of Wales he received gold cuff-links, and for the Princess Anne he received a pair of gold bangles. The cuff-link bore the Sarawak

crest and the monogram of the Princes, with the date of the royal visit inside. They and the bangles were made from Bau gold and were handed to the Duke by two Scouts and a Guide. The Governor expressed the hope that the gifts would remind His Royal Highness of the prayer of the people that one day he would return to Sarawak together with Her Majesty the Queen.

A presentation of a different nature was made by three Dayak girls who, after singing a *pantun* in honour of the Duke, gave him a glass of *tuak* which in keeping with tradition, he drank at one go. The Duke expressed his thanks for the gifts and said that he hoped to come back one day and have some more *tuak* and that the gifts would remind him of this.

A display of fireworks from the river-bank below Fort Margherita began as the Duke left the Club to return to the Astana at midnight.

The weather, on the afternoon of the 26th, looked ominous but the rain kept away and it was a fine night. Next morning, the sky was dark again and it began to rain as the Duke, accompanied by the Governor, began to cross the river from the Astana at 8.15 a.m. to the reverberations of a twenty-one gun salute from the signal guns of the Police Training School. Crowds lined the river and surrounded Pangkalan Batu and the approach to the Courthouse where a Special Meeting of the Council Negri was to take place. The National Anthem was played by the Constabulary Band and the Duke, in the tropical uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet, with the Garter Star glittering at his breast, inspected a hundred-man Guard of Honour in pouring rain. On the conclusion of the inspection, damp but undaunted, the Duke was received by the President of the Council Negri and Mr Justice Briggs at the Courthouse.

Inside the Chamber, batteries of lights, put up for the cameras, cast a brilliance over the array of Council Negri Members in traditional dress and uniform. Loyal Addresses were made by the President in English, Datu Bandar in Malay, Temenggong Jugah in Iban and Mr Khoo Peng Loong in Mandarin.

Address in Council Negri delivered by the THE LOYAL ADDRESSES 1946 E.

From the President of Council Negri, Mr A.R. Snelus.

May it please Your Royal Highness:

On behalf of the members of this Council, I welcome Your Royal Highness to Sarawak, and wish to make it clear how greatly we appreciate the honour of Your Royal Highness' presence in this Chamber today. It is the first time that a Member of the Royal Family has taken part in our deliberations. That the Council's first Royal visitor should be no less a person than Your Royal Highness gives to the Members of Council, and to all the people of Sarawak, the greatest satisfaction and pride.

This Council consists of the elected and nominated representatives of the principal races of the country. Like many of the best and most enduring institutions of Sarawak, it originally came into being under the regime of the Brooke Rajahs.

It may not be unfitting on this Royal and historic occasion to pay tribute to the great work of the Brookes, who laid in this land the foundations of a viable State.

Since the cession of Sarawak to the Crown, the Government has inherited, and has sought to maintain and extend, a great tradition of administration, based on close personal contacts and understanding between individual civil servants and the people with whose welfare and progress they have been entrusted.

The Nine Cardinal Principles enunciated by the Third Rajah in 1941, when, but for the Japanese invasion, Sarawak would have taken its first step towards internal self-government, have been enshrined, with the Queen's consent, in the present Constitution, and are the basis upon which, under the guidance of Her Majesty's Government, the present development of Sarawak is proceeding.

This development has proceeded surely, and, in view of the country's difficulty, geography and diversity of language and race, with a rapidity which is the more surprising the more deeply one examines the problems involved.

The past ten years have witnessed a steady increase in medical services, reaching out into the most remote areas. The foundations of a nationwide education system have been laid, affecting every race, no matter how ill-favoured by geography or by historical background. Roads have been built through swamp and jungle in country presenting unusual and difficulty engineering problems, and airfields constructed. Quiet riverside bazaars have grown into flourishing towns.

Meanwhile, under the new Constitution, a substantial measure of self-government has already been introduced, through urban and district councils; and it is intended that this process shall continue.

It is, however, felt that constitutional progress will be fruitless if it fails to maintain and take account of the present friendly relations which subsist between all of Sarawak's diverse races.

This characteristic respect for the aspirations, the traditions, and also for even the foibles, of neighbours of differing religion, language and culture is Sarawak's greatest legacy from the past. It is not a dry legacy, a faded parchment, but a reality vital and full of meaning to every one of us in our daily lives.

I trust that, even on this all-too-short visit, Your Royal Highness will perceive the truth of this, and the importance of it. It is within this framework that, with God's blessing, Sarawak will develop into a modern state, with a population happy and proud to live here, and with the British and Commonwealth connexion a valued asset, enriching the lives of all who have the good fortune to be born within its dispensation.

On behalf of the Members of this Council, I would humbly request Your Royal Highness to convey to Her Majesty the Queen our deepest expressions of loyalty and respect and an assurance of the great pleasure which Your Royal Highness visit his occasioned us.

Translation of the Address of Welcome by the Honourable the Datu Bandar, C.B.E.

May it please Your Royal Highness, to give me the honour and the privilege, on behalf of the Malay people of Sarawak, to express our delight and pleasure on the occasion of Your Royal Highness's first visit to our country. Short as must be the time Your Royal Highness can spend among us on this occasion I believe that the warmth of our welcome will be memorable and that the sincerity of our feelings manifest to all.

The extensive travels which Your Royal Highness is constantly making in the service of our Sovereign and our Commonwealth are a formidable contribution in promoting our common unity and welfare. The strengthening of these ties which unite us in a common sense of purpose and in devotion to those high ideals for which the Commonwealth stands, has ever been Your Royal Highness's greatest endeavour and this is an impressive service to us all.

We Malays are well known for our loyalty towards, and love of, our country, and in our blood lies a deep devotion to the tradition of monarchy. We know well the constant con-

cern of Her Majesty and of Your Royal Highness for our well-being, for our prosperity, and for our progress towards nationhood. In fraternal association with the United Kingdom and with other Commonwealth countries we look forward to the development of Sarawak in peace and tranquility. We are well aware of Your Royal Highness's interest in, and promotion of, scientific and technical progress. We believe that such will increasingly be placed at the service of Sarawak in the years which lie ahead.

In formally bidding Your Royal Highness a more cordial welcome to our shores, I request that you will convey to Her Majesty the Queen the sentiments of loyalty and devotion which the Malays of Sarawak feel towards her personally as well as in her august capacity as Head of the Commonwealth. I wish Your Royal Highness the greatest possible pleasure during your stay in Sarawak and it is our greatest hope that in the reasonably near future we may look forward to a further visit from you, on that occasion accompanied by Her Majesty the Queen.

Translation of the Address of Welcome by the Honourable Temenggong Jugah

Your Royal Highness,

On behalf of the Dayaks and other races in Sarawak, I have the greatest pleasure in welcoming Your Royal Highness to this country and in extending to you the good wishes of our people. We are indeed honoured by this first visit to our land by Your Royal Highness.

Ever since we have come under the wise rule of Her Majesty the Queen we have enjoyed peace and happiness. This country is free from any trouble, and peace and progress

are evident everywhere. This is so because we have no racial distinction among us. The local authorities in the various parts of the country are composed of people from many races. Likewise the Council Negri and the Supreme Council which are functioning in good harmony under the wise guidance of our leaders and His Excellency the Governor.

We hereby extend our best wishes and grateful thanks to Her Majesty the Queen and to Your Royal Highness.

Translation of the Address of Welcome by the Honourable Mr Khoo Peng Loong, O.B.E.

We are greatly honoured and happy on this occasion of His Royal Highness' visit to Sarawak, a visit that enables all people to see His Royal Highness personally.

We Chinese have been settled here for a long time, and we have long regarded this as our own country, after finding the climate mild and the friendship sincere among the races who have ever lived with us in harmony. Besides that, a good Government has wisely maintained peace. There still exists a certain prejudice among some people who think that the Chinese are people from a foreign country. But in fact, it is admitted by all that the Chinese have done no less than any other race for the development of Sarawak. And it may be expected that we shall continue to give the country our wholehearted loyalty and make even greater efforts for its prosperity, because we have accepted Sarawak as our country. We sincerely hope that the friendship among the various races will be further strengthened, in order that we may live as a big family, like brothers and sisters, helping and loving each other, never apart.

After the new Constitution received the approval of Her Majesty the Queen, the majority of the Council Negri members were

elected by the people in accordance with the Constitution. The elected members of various races are devoted to their duties, as provided in the Constitution, with the intention of serving the country and its people. Although we are still in the period of learning, we believe that in the very near future we will be able to show our ability and fulfil Her Majesty the Queen's wishes.

Today, we are living a happy and prosperous life. This achievement is on one hand derived from the unity and co-operation of all races and on the other hand depends on the aid of the British Government, and the wisdom of Her Majesty the Queen who has successfully appointed good Governors to lead us.

His Royal Highness cares not of the great distance, but renders us a visit today showing the Queen's and his own love and care for us, and giving us great honour and happiness.

With pure loyalty, we welcome His Royal Highness and offer him our greatest respect.

We sincerely hope that His Royal Highness will convey our deepest appreciation and highest respect to Her Majesty the Queen when His Royal Highness returns to England. Again we offer them both our ever best wishes.

A bound volume of the Addresses was presented to His Royal Highness

PRINCE PHILIP'S REPLY

Mr President, Honourable Members:

I have always enjoyed travelling especially when it brings me to such a charming and friendly place as Sarawak. I have often heard of your hospitality but even so I was not prepared for the kind and generous welcome I have received from so many people.

It was particularly thoughtful of you to invite me to attend this meeting of the Council Negri to present these four Addresses of Welcome. As you have kindly provided me with translations of what has been said in Malay, Iban and Mandarin I can truthfully say that I greatly appreciate your expressions of loyalty and affection to the Queen. I will see to it that she receives a copy of what has been said as I know it will give her very great pleasure.

The Queen takes a close and personal interest in the well being of all the people of the Commonwealth and Empire but I know that she has a special place in her heart for all those people who suffered loss and damage during the last war. We have been following the progress of your reconstruction with admiration and sympathy.

I hope and believe that this progress will be maintained in peace and growing prosperity but it would be idle to suppose that there are no problems. The four Addresses heard this morning illustrate the problems of a multi-racial society, the difficulties arising every day when people of different race and customs live side by side. Only commonsense in deciding what is in the best practical interests of the State and tolerance of the cultural traditions of all will produce a happy and progressive community.

Take the Commonwealth for example. British Administration from the earliest times has fostered and encouraged local language and culture, but for practical purposes of administration, law, commerce, engineering and science, education is in English. The practical result is that the leaders in every sphere of human activity can understand each other. This ability to exchange ideas in a common tongue is both a link binding the countries together as well as a very practical advantage in trade, commerce and science.

There is another characteristic of the Commonwealth which I would like to mention. There is an automatic sympathy and interest in the progress and problems of other Commonwealth countries. On the national level there is the Colombo Plan and other similar co-operative schemes but this also applies to individuals. All the Universities of the Commonwealth are willing and anxious to be of service and I am delighted to hear that so many men and women from this country are taking advantage of this.

I am also interested to hear that there are several boys from British schools performing useful voluntary service here in the Government's Community Development projects.

The Commonwealth exists to make this sort of exchange possible and I hope that they will be continued and expanded to the benefit of the countries concerned as well as an example to all the world that the Commonwealth is a brotherhood of nations and a brotherhood of people.

The Queen, as Head of the Commonwealth, sends you and all the people of Sarawak her best wishes for a happy and successful future.



Here the Royal Duke alights under a yellow umbrella—a sign of royalty. This arch of modern design was erected by the Malay Community.

Four people each bearing an item of Malay Royal Regalia (sireh box, betel nut box, candle and spittoon) came up to the Prince who touches each article in turn.

The Datu Temenggong then throws yellow rice over the Duke and touches his hands with "Tepong Tawar" applied with a gold spatula.

The Duke, accompanied by the President of the Kuching Municipal Council, then left the Courthouse in an open car, heading a procession of cars, to begin his tour of the town. The people of Sarawak are not given to public demonstrations and it is not their custom to wave or cheer but the numbers waiting in the rain and lining the streets testified to their enthusiasm. The procession went along Gambier Road through decorated arches put up by the Chinese community and the Indian Muslim League, past the Open Market where, appropriately, the rain, which had dwindled into a light drizzle, stopped and on to Datu's Road.

Here was the first of the Malay arches and a dais, draped in the royal yellow, with an assembly of leading Malays waiting for the Duke. The car stopped just short of the dais and the Duke, followed by the Datu Bandar, dignified in black and gold, was led, under a yellow umbrella, by the President of the Malay National Union to a seat on the dais. There he was welcomed with *beras kuning* and *tepong tawar*, and a *sireh* box, *pinang* box, candle and spittoon, the regalia of royalty, were presented to him, touched by him and returned. He received a gift of an illustrated album of photographs of the six Malay arches, all depicting aspects of Malay culture, which he would pass through on his tour of the Malay *Kampongs*.



The procession, on arrival at Satok Road, went along to the junction with Rock Road and turned up it to the round about at Badrudin Road where it stopped. A Land Dayak-cum-Sea Dayak arch had been erected at this point and the Duke was welcomed by a *pan-tun* from a Dayak girl and given a glass of

tuak, part of which he drank and part of which, in Dayak fashion, he returned to the girl for her to drink.

At the hospital, the procession made an unscheduled stop so that the Duke could visit the Chief Justice and Mr Justice Lascelles, both of whom were patients.

The procession continued along Crookshank Road, Central Road and Ban Hock Road where the Duke visited one of the new flats and had tea with the tenant. The procession then returned to Pangkalan Batu via Wayang Street, Carpenter Street, dense with crowds and bunting, and Rock Road and crossed to the Astana.

By this time the sky was clearing - clearing up for Sibul, everybody said — and by the time the Duke returned from the Astana it was a brilliant morning. The time was 11.40 a.m. as he got, once again, into the car and was driven off to the airport. Here he said goodbye to Kuching and to those members of Supreme Council not going to Sibul, entered the waiting Heron aircraft with the Governor and reappeared at the cockpit window where he waved a final goodbye before taking-off, piloting the plane himself, for Sibul.

It was a whirlwind, crowded visit. One can only hope that the Duke enjoyed it as much as the people did.

This account should not close without a description of the orderliness of the crowds. There was no pushing or breaking ranks and the royal progress and the task of the police was made easy.



II - SIBU

Before the Duke's arrival some people were heard to say "It is really worth his coming for such a short while?" Admittedly we would all have liked his visit to be longer, and no doubt Sibu seems the centre of the world to us and we are surprised H.R.H. did not insist on staying here longer, but when the fullness of the Duke's programme in British Borneo is carefully studied and it is remembered that British Borneo is but just a short episode in a very tiring and strenuous world tour and Sibu is only a tiny place compared with Karachi, Delhi or Hong Kong, it is remarkable that he found time to come here at all and certainly the people in Sibu showed in no unmistakable manner that they considered his visit worthwhile, even if it was only a short one.

Grown ups and their children in crowds here have now seen the Duke and will often recall this occasion in future and those who have seen him will always feel far superior to those that haven't, even if at the time they were only babes in arms. Furthermore the Duke's visit made Sibu realise it was not satisfied with its appearance, which in places was unnecessarily dowdy and unkempt, and all concerned (the public, the S.U.D.C. and the Government) made a great effort so that the Duke and his entourage and the press would take away pleasant memories of Sibu. Roads were hurriedly made up, buildings which had long needed a coat of paint, but in normal circumstances would have gone on waiting for it, are now resplendent in many coloured hues. Eyesores, to which we had got attuned, such as broken-down cars or piles of old drums off the road-side have been removed or at any rate concealed. An attempt (which proved successful on the day) was even made to control the pigs, goats, fowls and dogs that normally wander unconcernedly about Sibu's roads and airstrip.

The Duke's visit was an overwhelming success, and so far as I know everything went off according to plan! Amongst the many who devoted a great deal of time and trouble to achieve this state of affairs, the credit must largely go to the Public Works Department for the hard work they put in for weeks beforehand in what was mostly real *landas* weather at its worst; to the encouragement and example of the Chairman of the S.U.D.C.; and to the



Temenggong Jugah anak Barieng greeting H.R.H. Prince Philip of Edinburgh, at Sibu Airport February 1959.

minute attention to organization and detail of the Police, which enabled them amongst their achievements, to surprise the Duke by seeing the same faces lining the route several times over.

Rehearsals sometimes in pouring rain or very hot sun took place, and finally the great day arrived. The weather was overcast (and cool) with big rain clouds circling Sibu. Rumours came in from Kuching that it was raining there, and the more pessimistic of us foresaw a miserable visit for H.R.H. Nevertheless Sibu put on a festive appearance with its arches, banners, loyal greetings and masses of flags. Before the roads were closed at 12.30, people in their best clothes were going round

in a holiday mood on tours of photography and inspection of the decorations. The Ibans in all their finery created a stir as they went out to the airport, where they were much photographed and interviewed by the press. School children from within and without Sibü assembled alongside the roads until it looked as though Sibü was 90 per cent composed of children. As guests to the reception in the Residency began to arrive in their smartest clothes the heavens became ever more threatening and overcharged with rain, and people recalled to one another how on the previous day it had been about 1 p.m. that the rain had arrived and it hadn't stopped until nearly 5!

The rain held off while H.R.H. piloting his own plane, landed and he and H.E. the Governor were greeted by the Resident. The press, radio and television which had arrived earlier went into action. The Duke inspected a very smart guard of Iban ex-Sarawak Rangers now in the Field Force Reserve, many of whom had given up collecting *engkabang* to come to Sibü. He then went on and walked close past the shed with the assembled *penghulus* and their close relations, and got into his car (ex-No. 1 car from Kuching) and drove off down Queensway, while the air-crew were hospital-ity entertained in the airport.

The Duke led the procession down Queensway past the very smart-looking staff and students of the Teachers Training Centre, under the very attractive arch at Sungei Merah, past the Methodist School area and Government officers in uniform (Forest, Nurses, Marine, Customs, Agriculture, Warders, Court Peons), who were lining Bridge Road and swept into the Residency garden exactly on time and his personal standard was hoisted. Here he surprised people by refusing to take time off to refresh himself but immediately called for the guests to be presented to him and the time saved thereby was spent in chatting to many of them. The party at the Residency was a success though I cannot agree with the Singapore newspaper correspondent who considered it was the biggest party in living memory in Sibü. Incidentally those who were close enough could see the Duke was wearing his Sarawak cuff links presented to him in Kuching.

H.R.H. (with Mr Ting Lik Hung in attendance) now insisted on going in an open Land Rover, as the weather momentarily looked less threatening, and the procession set off down Island Road past cheering school children

under the magnificent Sibü Chinese community arch (decorated with paintings by a Sarikei boy) to Channel Road where the Roman Catholic School children were on one side, while on the other near the S.U.D.C. offices the firemen and their engine were on parade. Sibü's population has never been a demonstrative one and are unused to cheering and waving, and some strangers to Sibü may have thought the welcome of the public lining the streets lacked cordially, but to those who know the locals of all races it was clear that the public was delighted with what they saw and with the Duke and I hope he himself was not abashed when he waved at people and they were too shy and awkward to wave back.

The procession carried on to Central Road, where one of Sibü's most unpleasant looking swamps had been transformed by P.W.D. into a most unpromising looking morass of filling from near the airport. On this occasion however two grandstands and a *bansal* had been erected and in the middle was a dais for the Duke. The grandstands were filled with S.U.D.C. and Government's guests, while the *bansal* was crowded with the *penghulus* and their families who had been whisked there from the airport by a fleet of buses. The Duke walked to the dais through a corridor of Chinese, Iban and Melanau boys and girls in national costume. He was shown plans showing how it was proposed to transform this messy looking area into a pleasant square for pedestrians with the future town hall on the side and the post office on the other. At Mr Ting's request he agreed that his area be named "Edinburgh Place". An Iban boy and girl now present H.R.H. with a fine suit of traditional Iban clothes for H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and a Malay girl and Melanau girl present him with a beautiful Melanau Islam set of clothes for Princess Anne. These gifts were from the people of Sarawak. The sun very nearly shone at this stage!

The Duke, with Mr Ting still beside him, went on up Ramin Way and past the Chung Hua School children and turned left along Kampong Pulau Road, where the procession halted. H.R.H. got out and inspected the Girl Guides lining the street on one side and walked on to the unusual but most attractive entrance to the King George VI Memorial Ground. This is another case of the transformation of a swamp. Some years back Sibü's garbage was deposited in this area and co-

vered over with earth. More garbage had to find a home and Kampong Pulau was moved to a new and better laid out area, and recently working at top speed and under very adverse weather conditions, the P.W.D. has converted this unpleasant two acres into a three quarters finished 440 yards race track with a football field in the centre. The Duke cut a ribbon declaring the Memorial Ground open and went through the arch with its lifesize Kayan portraits of humans on one side, and spoke to the representatives of the SibU Sports Council and the teams representing various sports from all over the Division assembled there. He then went back under the arch and talked to the Boy Scouts and once more got into the Land Rover, this time accompanied by Datu Tuanku Bujang and the Resident. There was now no hint of sunshine and we were all wondering how much longer the rain would hold off.

The procession slowed down to very nearly a stand-still at Kampong Nyabor arch, which unfortunately the Duke could not see at night, when it is beautifully lit up, and then went on past the mosque and along Kampong Datu Road. The crowd was much thinner here (nearly all the Malays had gone into town), but even so there were plenty of colourful spectators and the Duke could see how many compounds had been brightened up for his visit. The procession speeded up again near Green Road so that the Duke could see the children of the Abang Ali School and the arch erected at the entrance to Kampong Hilir Road. After this the procession speeded up again as it went along Kampong Hilir and Kampong Nangka Roads to nearly the end of Kampong Nangka where there was another arch and a crowd of people. The Duke stopped his car and watched Melanau children doing their traditional and rather dangerous swinging (*fitot*) near the remains of an old burnt-out Melanau longhouse. By now a faint drizzle could be felt so speed was increased until Sungei Merah was reached when the procession came nearly to a

standstill while it passed under the local people's very attractive arch.

And so back to the airport, a little ahead of time, and it seemed likely the Duke would beat the heavy rain. He said goodbye to the Resident, the Supreme Councillors, Mr Ting Lik Hung and Temenggong Jugah and went to his plane waving at the Guard which gave him three rousing Iban cheers. Once again piloting his own plane, and with the Governor aboard, the Duke took off for Lutong; he had beaten the rain, which gave up the struggle and left SibU alone for the rest of the day, and there was no doubt in the minds of everybody concerned, that though the Duke's visit had been short (less than two hours) it had been well worth while.

To tidy up the story it should be mentioned that local and outstation *tua2 kampong* had been clustered round the *kampong* arches. On the previous day a selection committee had followed the royal route through the *kampongs* and had decided that the prize for the best kept *kampong* should go to Kampong Datu/Hilir with 34 points and the second prize to Kampong Nangka with 29 points.

All the arches were very fine but in my opinion the two that were outstanding were the ones raised by the communities at Sungei Merah and Kampong Nangka, for they were in traditional styles and in the case of Kampong Nangka were made out of traditional local materials.

That night fireworks were let off from the Memorial Ground and though a few appeared damp and some of the most appreciated were those that landed in the crowd emitting flame and sparks, the show went off very satisfactorily.

Finally to show how lucky we had been with the weather, the next day from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. (the time of the Duke's visit) SibU was experiencing a tropical downpour which in U.K. would have been called a cloudburst.

I.A.N.U.

III - MIRI

"The Fourth Division of Sarawak welcomes H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh". This was the inscription on the arch that greeted the Duke at Lutong Airport when the *Heron* touched down at 4.20 p.m. - and a wonderful welcome it proved to be.

The Duke's personal standard was broken at the Airport flat-staff. His Royal Highness alighted and the Honourable the Resident, Mr J.C.B. Fisher, O.B.E., moved forward to be introduced by H.E. the Governor. Thereafter the Resident introduced the Division Manager, Sarawak Shell Oilfields Limited, Captain D.R. Gribble and the Paramount Chief of the Baram, the Honourable Temenggong Oyong Lawai Jau, M.B.E., G.M.C. and then

The Hon'ble Mr Chia Chin Shin

The Hon'ble Mr Chan Yong Kw

The Honourable Mr Atahar Khan

The Hon'ble Tua Kampong Muip

As the royal car, a Humber Super Snipe, set out on its journey, the Datu, in charge of the Royal Salute gunners, gave the order to fire and the guns spoke out their salute. Malay gunners were in national costume and the Sea Dayaks in traditional regalia.

Under the archway "Lutong welcomes H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh", through the oil-town of Lutong, gay with decorated dwellings and banners, past the Anglican church nestling in a clump of casuarinas and the new high-roofed Catholic church, the royal procession swung sharply right-handed to the Pangkalan Bridge. There, at the far end, was the Castle gateway. The bridge spanning the River Miri had been conceived as a draw-bridge over a Miri moat, and the Castle gateway at the end was a baronial keep, surmounted by a single standard bearing the Union Jack. Over the draw-bridge and off on the six-mile drive to Miri, slowing down only at the gay gateway of the little Chinese School at Pujut where the pupils were aligned and waved a road-side welcome. The grazing buffalo safely tethered by the road-side, the clanking wheels of the oil-wells, the church spire on the horizon, and Miri was in sight. Here was the magnificent Royal Crown gateway, light and graceful, piping welded locally into the very image of the Royal Crown. Under

the gateway, and then the procession halted. It had reached the Town boundary and here the Chairman of the Urban District Council (Mr J. Woods) and members of the Council were assembled. The Resident introduced the Chairman to His Royal Highness, and the Chairman introduced the Council.

Within the Royal Crown gateway, Miri waited on the tip-toe of expectation. Holiday crowds had assembled in warm sunshine tempered by a cool sea breeze, a breeze strong enough to billow the banners of the processional route. Thousands of upturned faces had scanned the skies for the royal plane and just before ten minutes past four the *Heron* had passed directly over the Kingsway, its marking clearly visible.

The Duke now entered an open Hillman Minx car and the tour of the town began. The crests of the Mission School saints, Saint Columba to the left and Saint Joseph to the right, to bless His Royal Highness. A little knot of English school children from Piasau, the Urban District Council Chinese school in front of the Council offices, and then the one-thousand strong Public School bowed its greetings. Past the Union Jacks of Sungei Krokop School, and Prince Philip, seated on the back of the royal car, waved a cheery acknowledgement to the banners of Riam Road and the Middle School. At the junction with Brooke Road a smart team of Bintulu Sea Scouts, and behind them, just peeping over their shoulders, the welcome gateway of Miri's youngest school — the Chinese Kindergarten. Into the straight, and there was the welcome arch by Community Hall. Anchi School scouts, very smart in their *songkoks*, pointed the way to Merbau Road and a colourful *kampong* welcome by the Mosque, newly painted in green and white. Under the Malay arch, the pillars depicting oil-well Number One (1910) and oil-well Number Seven Hundred (1958) and a welcome from groups of Malays beating the "tar". On to River Road, and the High Street where the well-proportioned traditional temple-style arch-way, supported by four red pillars and two green dragons, with lanterns swinging from the red roofs, brought greetings from the Chinese community. The Government offices decorated native style, a rippling wave of seven hundred souvenir handkerchiefs, and the pro-

cession was back by the S.E.S.Co. offices. The Duke now set out on the journey to the Residency, a journey of well-kept *padangs* and flower gardens. A greeting to the nurses assembled at Ferry Corner, a glance to the left at the spacious grounds of the Middle School, a welcome banner surmounting its entrance hall, a glance to the right through the parklane to the sea, and up the steep hill to the Residency. Here the Duke graciously consented to plant a tree, the Flame of the Forest, at a place near the cliff edge where it will look out across the bay to Lutong. Nearby the bougainvilleae were a riot of colour — never more lovely, the most delicate shades of crimson, orange, pink and purple.

Dinner privately at the Residency, and then the drive to the Community Hall, Miri's newest building, a credit to both architect and builder. By now the town was a miracle of light and colour, the Crown glittering with gems, and a triumphal lane of fairy lights criss-crossing the route to the Reception.

Some three hundred guests moved around from the Library wing, up the steps, and so to the red carpet and His Royal Highness. To his right, and slightly behind him, stood the Resident to help with introductions which lasted for forty minutes. The Duke then entered the Hall and mingled with the guests for a memorable fifteen minutes, circling the Hall clockwise, picking up the threads of the loom of life in Miri and weaving for himself a happy pattern of Miri's churches and oilfields, her schools and hospitals, and her romantic up-river races. At the appointed hour His Royal Highness departed for the Gymkhana Club escorted by the Senior Chiefs of the Baram.

The briefest of rests, and then the District Officer, of Miri, Baram and Bintulu presented members of the Asian races of their districts, a ceremony performed on the steps of the Club. The Duke and members of the Royal party then passed through the imposing Bintulu gateway and took their seats in the Bintulu grandstand. Stands and dancing platform were adorned with painted panels of native design. Before the dancing, Temenggong Oyong Lawai Jau came forward, supported by his Baram chiefs, sung a *pantun* in honour of Prince Philip and offered *borak* in a silver tankard.

His Royal Highness then graciously accepted gifts

for himself, from the hands of the Temenggong, twelve wooden bottle stoppers carved by Tama Berasap of Long Jigan, and a wooden fruit bowl carved by Tama Sidi, also of Long Jigan.

for H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, from the hands of Anye Kebing, a set of dancing regalia, a *tapong* (Hat), a *sunong* (leopard skin covered with hornbill feathers), a *parang* and a shield.

for H.R.H. The Princess Anne, from the hands of Liggio Ibuh (a Kelabit girl), a *labong* (head-dress).

Then followed the royal dancing programme — Iban dancers, Kayan dancers, the Chinese orchestra and the Lily Dance, Kenyah dancers, a Malay *zeplin* and *mencha*, Kelabit dancers and a farewell dance by ladies from the Baram. The Royal Party rose and departed from the dancing arena, having witnessed a fine exhibition by experts of six different races.

The Royal fireworks. Launching frames were set up at the base of the derrick overlooking the G.C.M. *padang*. At midnight, the dancing over, a startling Aerial Maroon announced the Royal fireworks, and then a bouquet of Commonwealth and Gloria rockets lit the sky. From prepared positions the pyrotechnists exploded a mine of Jewelled Serpents and a mine of Scorpions. Rainbow and Radio shells and a barrage of Thunderbolts. The admiring crowds below, who had thronged the *padang* for the dancing, gasped in sheer delight as the fireworks climbed the sky and cascaded down in a rain of red and white and blue. Here a dazzling *feu de joie*, there a sideshow of Roman candles and finally a cannonade that spoke the epilogue for a royal day and rang down the curtain on the day's events.

On Saturday, 28th February, Prince Philip left the Residency at 8.20 a.m. and departed informally to Lutong airstrip to embark in the royal aircraft for Brunei State.

Speech by His Excellency the Governor at the opening of the Council Negri, 21st May, 1951.

Mr President, Members of the Council Negri:

I opened my address to you when we last met in November with a reference to the shadow which had fallen upon Asia—the dark shadow of a communist-inspired war. Since that date the fortunes of war in Korea have swung to and for with advantage now to the aggressors, now to the defenders; perhaps the most important lesson we can to-day draw from the present state of this war is that the force of peace, and the organisation — the United Nations — pledged to support peace, have shown both the determination and the ability to resist aggression. Southern Korea, the victim of sudden and brutal attack nearly a year ago, is still substantially in the hands of its original masters. It has suffered great sorrow and loss; hundreds of thousands of its people have lost lives, relatives, friends and homes, but the greater danger—the danger that its independence and the integrity of its people would be swallowed up by Russia and the misguided agents of Russian plans for conquest, has been avoided. It is a lesson which should strengthen us and support our own soul and of our will to do everything in preservation of our own traditions. Here we do not face an immediate military threat such as the people of Korea faced nor, indeed, have we so far been subject to the particular form of blackmail whereby the agents of Communism have attempted to ruin the peace of other neighbouring territories with the weapons of intimidation and banditry. I hope, however, that all members of Council realise that this should not lull us into any sense of false security. We know, unfortunately, that even here in Sarawak there are individuals and forces pledged to achieve the first stages of a process which can only lead to internecine war and misery—pledged to create among the peoples of Sarawak suspicion and dislike of each other, dislike for the Government, inter racial feeling and discord and a general atmosphere of social unrest and uncertainty which would be a fertile field for the more active operations of

our enemies. Banditry and violence and civil war can never become established in a country in which the great bulk of the population has the determination to make a positive effort to avoid these things. If we here maintain our determination to live our own lives in peace and amity and prosperity, and if we — all the peoples of Sarawak of whatever race — can show clearly and without possibility of misunderstanding our determination to resist the forces of discord introduced from the outside world. I have no doubt in my own mind that we will succeed in doing so.

But first of all it is essential that we should build up a strong and efficient civil police force. Without such a force we cannot protect ourselves from those who contrive and plot to disrupt our way of life nor can we enforce the laws which you make in this Council. There are at the present moment 183 vacancies in the established force and 122 rank and file left the force for various reasons during 1950. The material coming forward as recruits is not of the best, in fact it is not up to the standard which we expect and consider adequate in these difficult days. Government is doing what it can to improve the position by making the conditions of service more attractive, by increasing the officer strength, and by modernising the training and equipment. But it is up to the country to produce the raw material and I ask again that you should consider this vital and urgent matter with your district and divisional councils when you return to your homes. I might add that at the present time only 2% of the force are Chinese.

I am sure you all welcomed, as I did, the wise action taken in February last by Mr Brooke in withdrawing from the anti-Cession controversy of which he had been, during the past five years, the central figure. Mr Brooke's appeal to his followers and sympathisers in this country to disassociate themselves further from all opposition towards Government upon this issue, has received a general response. Many valued Government servants who elected to resign from the service following the Act of Cession in 1946 have recently

requested to be re-employed, and thus far over 70 have resumed their duties. They have all been welcomed back by their colleagues in the public service and it is gratifying to us all to see their energy and ability once again profitably employed to constructive purpose.

Finally, on this point, I think it is worth my while to restate here what the Prime Minister said in his telegraphic reply to the former anti-Cession Associations in Sarawak. The Prime Minister took the opportunity to reaffirm "the unqualified determination of His Majesty's Government to guide and assist the peoples of Sarawak in their progress towards self-government within the Commonwealth". The Prime Minister then went on to make the following important statement over which we should all do well to ponder most carefully. In the future, as in the past, it will be freely open to all in Sarawak to express, in a constitutional manner, their views regarding ways in which progress towards self-government is to be realized, and any views expressed by bodies substantially representative of the people of Sarawak would receive the fullest consideration of His Majesty's Government. The constitutional form which progress towards self-government in the British Commonwealth should take could only be settled in the circumstances at the time".

I hope and pray that through the good sense, the patriotism, and the inborn friendliness of the people of this country we have emerged finally from a gloomy and unnatural phase in the life-history of Sarawak, a period which brought suffering and distress to many people; one of these times of trial and tribulation which, if faced with fortitude, helps to build and strengthen the character of a young and vigorous nation.

We are, at the moment, passing through what is for Sarawak an unprecedented period of material prosperity. The price and volume of our exports has never reached such heights as it has during the period since we last met; there is more money in circulation, more goods are being purchased and a higher degree of general prosperity has been attained than any which anyone of us would have thought possible a year ago. To-day, a large proportion of the population of Sarawak enjoys a prosperity greater than it has enjoyed before; this, in itself, has created a strong barrier against discord and disturbance, but I should like you to remember that this wave of prosperity has not brought advantage to all.

As you are all aware, in conditions such as those in which we live in Sarawak to-day, the greatest sufferer is inevitably and invariably the person whose income is not directly related to commercial conditions and whose emoluments do not rise or fall with the variations in the value of a particular commercial product or a particular industrial process. The sufferer is inevitably the fixed wage earner employed in some non-commercial activity. The Government servant represent in Sarawak the largest group of such persons and I wish to make public reference to the loyalty and co-operation with which this class has continued to serve Government in circumstances in which the economic advantages over their fellow men, once enjoyed by the Government servants, have almost entirely disappeared. The Government has done what it can to relieve its servants of the difficulties which rising prices, and the increased cost of commodities essential to a decent standard of living, have brought upon them. Since we last met there has been an upward revision of the cost of living allowance which has brought some benefit, albeit only a small benefit in some cases, to all employees of this Government. Since then the Government has sought the assistance of the Commissioner-General's Economic Adviser to undertake a survey of the cost of living and the related problem of the emoluments of Government servants, and his report, and this Government's recommendations thereon, are even now before the Secretary of State.

Government has been much criticised for its slowness in dealing with this problem. I do not propose to reply to such critics in any detail, but I must remind you of one thing and that is that the money paid to the servants of Government comes from the public purse; that Government's advisers have a much greater responsibility as regards the distribution of public funds than have, for example, the owners of a commercial business or the management of an industrial concern for theirs. All questions of Government expenditure have to be very carefully weighed in relation to the whole picture of what services the people require their Government to undertake on their behalf, and it is therefore inevitable that a Government should not be able to make decisions involving the increased expenditure of very large sums against one or other of the many conflicting claims always before them, without careful and frequently

lengthy, thought on the subject. There are times like the present when this factor operates to the disadvantage of members of the Public Service, but you will, I have no doubt, realise that there are other times when it operates very distinctly to their advantage. No responsible Government, when faced with the problems which arise in times of financial difficulty, reduces the emoluments or numbers of its servants without an equally long and careful consideration of the necessity and desirability of such a step.

You can judge the extent of the increase in wealth by the fact that about \$19 million worth of new currency went into circulation in 1950 and by the increase in the Colony's revenue, which turned an estimated deficit of \$2¼ million for the year into an actual surplus of over \$13¼ million. The free surplus balance has thus come to exceed \$18 million, apart from the \$6 million—odd transferred to the Development Welfare and Reconstruction Fund.

The revenue received was nearly \$29½ million and this was \$13 million more than the estimate. A great part of this increase was due, of course, to the rubber export-duty. The price of rubber went to unprecedented heights and with it the duty collected on every picul exported. The swiftness of the increase caused some hardship, and to mitigate this we temporarily placed "ceilings" on the duty in the last four months of the year; that is to say, it was not allowed to rise with the price. After the price steadied, the ceilings were removed, and the rate of revenue collection in 1951 has until the last few weeks been even higher.

The export duties have a considerable effect on the cost of living in slowing down inflation by removing surplus wealth: that is to say, if they had not been levied in their present form it is certain that prices and wages would have risen higher than they actually have. Another measure was instituted with the same object, but on a smaller scale. This was an effort to persuade the smaller owners of new-found wealth to save as much of it as possible for the future in the Savings Bank. We increased the rate of interest in the Bank permanently by one-half percent, and gave a special temporary increase of interest to five percent for new deposits in accounts which are not drawn upon 12 months. The immediate effect of this was an increase of about \$450,000 in deposits in the first quarter of the year. This is looked upon as

a satisfactory result and, as the concession lasts until the end of June, it might be expected to draw off nearly a million dollars for the time being.

The expenditure in 1950 was only about \$16 million, which is nearly \$2¼ million less than the estimate and over \$5¼ million less than the provision made. It is important to remember that a great part of this under-expenditure is not saved at all. The main reason why the money has not been pent is that the men or the materials on which to spend it could not be obtained, but it has got to be spent in future, and mostly at a time when the schemes it represents will cost a great deal more. This means that the surplus balances I have mentioned are somewhat less valuable than they appear at first sight to be.

The revenue and expenditure figures I have given you do not include receipts of Colonial Development and Welfare Assistance or expenditure on Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes, because although these ought in theory to balance each other, in practice they never do so over a financial year, and bringing them in would distort the picture. What I have said, however, about under-spending applies equally to them and to all the Development programme.

The fact that increased prosperity and the increased Government revenues which have followed therefrom should, in any way, make it difficult for Government to implement its declared policy of social and economic improvement may, at first sight, be a little difficult to understand, but I can assure you that the benefits of increased revenue have brought with them material handicaps and disadvantages, the immediate effect of which is perhaps more obvious than the long-term benefits which we may expect from our increased wealth. You will appreciate that the rapid and violent change in the levels of wages and in the cost of commodities has created problems in estimating for all our plans. Twelve months ago we laid before the Secretary of State a Development Plan which was based upon contemporary figures — later last year, your Select Committee approved the financial provision required of this Government therefore, and also approved the present year's Estimates. In so far as the latter figures — the 1951 Estimates — are concerned we had, of course, at the time these Estimates were being prepared received some warning

of the trend in costs and made some adjustment to cover this, but we had not been able to revise the estimates of the Development Plan nor, indeed, were our Estimates for this year's expenditure adequate in the event to implement a programme much of which was drawn up 8 or 9 months ago. These, of course, are minor executive difficulties. The main difficulty, however, is much more serious and that is the problem of staff and labour for the money projects which this Government had in mind at the time these plans were drawn up last year. The rise in prices of our export crops, especially the very great increase in rubber prices, has diverted labour, which would otherwise have been available to Government, to these fields. All Departments of Government have, to some extent, been affected by this, but unfortunately the most immediate and serious reaction has occurred in some of the Departments whose projects represent the most substantial and important contributions towards Sarawak's progress. The Director of Public Works' whole construction programme has suffered a severe setback and great difficulties have also been encountered by the Director of Agriculture. The Departments most concerned, and the Government generally, hope to overcome these problems. All I wish to emphasise today is that this change in our economic circumstances has brought with it such problems, and that the immediate effect of this change upon this Government's policy and programme has not been entirely beneficial.

On the other hand, these frustrations serve to emphasise the need for planning further in advance than we have formerly been able to do, and there are directions in which we can usefully lay out more money this year than we planned for at the time when the 1951 Estimates were prepared and when we had to remove from our minds any schemes which we could not afford with the future revenue that could be forecast at that time. The prospect are now better, and it will be possible to make arrangements for increasing staff, stepping up the house-building programme and ordering materials and plant for works. A supplementary budget will be prepared and presented to the Finance Committee as soon as possible, so that these activities may not be delayed for lack of financial authorisation. Expenditure in this supplementary budget will include some \$350,000 for new Public Works Department transport and road

machinery; \$200,000 for addition Junior Service Quarters and funds for an additional block of Senior Service flats in Kuching. Provision for Sibu will include \$120,000 for expenditure upon the Hospital, including the construction of a new Outpatients Department; and \$100,000 for land acquisition with a view to clearing Sinu slum areas. A similar sum will be provided for the acquisition of present slums areas in Miri, and for such part of the construction of the Miri Hospital as can be undertaken this year. There will be supplementary expenditure upon the Simanggang Hospital. Another large single item is a new Native Resthouse for Kuching.

I wish now to let you have a brief summary of the more important activities of the various Departments of Government during the past six months.

The progress of Public Works during this period has, as I have said, suffered greatly from present economic conditions, scarcity of labour and materials and the rapid rise in costs of construction of all kinds. Progress has, however, been made in the erection of quarters for Police and Junior and Senior Government officers and Government office accommodation, which includes the construction of a new Printing Office in Kuching and the new Government Offices at Miri. 54 Junior Service bungalows have been completed during the last 12 months. Work on the survey of the new trunk road from Serian to Simanggang has been seriously delayed, but the present position is that plans for the first section, from Serian to the river crossing below the junction of the Kedup and Sadong Rivers, have now been completed. It is hoped that with the assistance of heavy machinery already received from America under the Marshall Aid programme we shall be able to push ahead with the construction of this sector without undue delay. There has been an unfortunate and serious deterioration of the existing road system of the Colony which was not planned and constructed to carry modern traffic. It is quite clear that special measures must be taken to remedy this situation, expensive as the process undoubtedly will be, and it has been decided to seek your approval for the provision of another very large sum of money to be devoted to this purpose; the Director of Public Works is preparing a programme for the reconstruction, and provision of all weather surfacing of all the Colony roads, work on which will begin as soon as funds have been

voted to this purpose. The Colony water supplies have received attention during the period — the laying of the new main pipe line for Kuching is progressing and the foundations for the new 1½ million gallon storage tank have been completed. At Mukah everything is now ready for the installation of the main pipes, pumps and motors when these arrive. Work has also begun upon the construction of a 1200 yard by 50 yard aircraft runway at Sibul, financed from fund granted under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act for this purpose.

The Medical Department has continued to have serious difficulties on account of shortage of staff but in spite of this its activities have continued to expand.

Nevertheless during 1950 nursing recruits did not suffice to make good wastage and this had the serious effect of leading to the closure of a ward in the Kuching General Hospital. In an endeavour to meet the situation, and following precedent in other countries, recruitment of assistant nurses was resorted to and the approved initial establishment of fourteen for the General Hospital, Kuching, was rapidly filled. These girls of lower educational standard than that of the professional nurse, will be trained in practical nursing procedures only and will relieve the professional nurses of many ward duties not requiring a high degree of technical training and skill. Should they prove a success assistant nurses will be recruited for the other hospitals in the Colony.

In January, in spite of limited resources a Chest Clinic Service was initiated in Kuching as a first step to combat tuberculosis. More than a thousand persons have been examined and a number of unsuspected cases have been found and brought under treatment. Supervision of contacts was commenced and in suitable instances protection with B.C.G. vaccination was offered.

In March a restricted domiciliary midwifery service was started in Kuching as an extension of the activities of the Maternity Ward of the General Hospital. This organisation has the dual function of providing the town with a better service and of providing better training for the midwife trainees who will later work in other parts of the Colony. The domiciliary midwifery service and the training of the midwives is under the charge of the Midwife Tutor lent by United Nations International Childrens' Emergency Fund which has kindly agreed to an extension of this

officer's period of service in the Colony to initiate this work.

Extensions to the Lau King Howe Hospital, Sibul, are being undertaken and arrangements have been completed for the erection of an additional ward at Simanggang Hospital. Again, plans have been prepared and preliminary steps have been taken for the development of hospital facilities at Miri.

The most interesting development in the Colony's agriculture over the past six months has been the confirmation, with this year's padi crop, of the effectiveness of the simple technique which has been developed in the Paya Megok Scheme for regenerating derelict lalang-infested land and bringing it into heavy rice production. We can now confidently say that the Paya Megok scheme, where a great proportion of the land is now worked by members of the local Land Dayak community with a minimum of supervision from Government, is not only going to be success in itself, but the model for a wide-spread extension of such schemes which should in time very greatly increase the Colony's production of its most important foodstuff. Results in the Bijat scheme in the Second Division and the smaller water control schemes in the Stapang area near Kanowit have also been very satisfactory. Activities in connection with export crops have been concentrated upon rubber — increasing quantities of high-yielding planting material, both clonal seed and budwood, have been distributed to smallholders and the Kuap Rubber factory which is financed from the Rubber Fund is now operating successfully and with increasing turnover. There can be little doubt that centralised factories of this type can and will contribute much to improving the present low quality of Sarawak's rubber exports. As far as the Department's own domestic affairs are concerned, the most important progress to report is the start made in the permanent buildings for the Department's staff training school at Batu Lintang, financed with Colonial Development and Welfare fund assistance.

The Director of Education reports to me that the number of children attending school continues to increase. The figures at the end of 1950 showed an increase of 3½ thousand over those at the end of 1949. I am advised by him that, parallel with an increase in the school population which has now doubled since 1941, there has been a steady improvement in the standard of staffing in all types of

schools. The results of the activities of the Batu Lintang Training Centre are now beginning to be felt; this institution, in its second year, has sent out 48 certificated teachers to Government, Local Authority, Mission and private schools. A vacation course for teachers of English in Chinese schools was arranged and held in January; two women teachers from Chinese schools are now taking a short teaching course in England. It has been possible, as a result of the improvement of the staff position in the urban Mission schools, to make a beginning at least, in the teaching of General Science. Twenty-one of the 28 candidates who sat the Cambridge School Certificate Examination from Kuching schools in December were successful, while 91 candidates, including 12 from Sibü were successful in the Junior Cambridge Certificate. During the last six months, 2 scholarships (one to Australia and one to the United Kingdom) have been awarded for Overseas Education.

Since November last year the Forestry Department has constituted an additional 145 square miles of reserve, including a large and productive area in the Tinjar. The timber export trade continues to expand and the final figures for 1950, totalling 45,846 tons, show an increase of 15% on the 1949 figures. An interesting feature of these exports is the great increase in the quantity of timber exported direct to the United Kingdom. It has been necessary, to ensure that supplies are available for local building, to place an embargo on the export of Belian timber.

The Land and Surveys Department, which has also suffered by difficulty of recruitment to its junior field staff, has, however, maintained good progress and I wish to make particular reference to the progress made with the Rejang Delta Settlement Scheme, one of the biggest schemes of its kind ever undertaken in Sarawak.

The Department of Trade and Customs has weathered successfully a period in which it has suddenly been called upon to deal with export trade of a value far in excess of that which it handled in 1949 and the first of 1950. The figures for 1950 show a favourable trade balance of no less than \$54,026,410, exclusive of oil, as compared with a figure of only \$2,672,340 in 1949. At the beginning of this year the Excise Ordinance administered by the Department of Trade and Customs came into force; there are two arrack distilleries

operating in the Kuching district and a third proposed for Sibü. The excise revenue for the first three months of this year amounted to \$255,040 as compared with the total of \$374,520 collected during the whole of 1950 under the old arrack farm system. You will readily appreciate gentlemen the additional burden of work which these figures have laid upon the stalwart shoulders of the Commissioner and his willing staff.

I would like to refer to a subject which I touched on in my last Council Negri address which is, I am certain, of great interest to all members of Council, and that is the progress of local Government both urban dan rural. As you are all aware, it has long been in our minds to grant to the Municipality of Kuching a much higher degree of self determination in the management of its own affairs than has so far been possible, and to constitute it as a fully-fledged municipality collecting the bulk of its own revenues and controlling to a great degree its own expenditure. A number of difficulties, including the almost inevitable difficulty of finding the staff necessary to such an organisation, have made it impossible to begin the changes proposed before this date, but we have at last been able to solve at least some of the major problems of finance and organisation. There is still a great deal of work to be done before the change can be effected and it will be necessary for this legislature, probably at its next session, to approve the essential legislative and financial changes, but I can at least assure you with some confidence that it may be possible to grant Kuching the status of a Municipality some time in 1952.

As regards Rural Authorities, Members are aware that one of our greatest difficulties in planning the expansion of such authorities and the assumption by them of services which they cannot at present accept has been the problem of deciding how they can finance such services. It was obviously undesirable that they should continue merely to be the Agents of the central Government, expending funds the bulk of which were granted to them by the central Government. A committee established early this year to examine the whole problem of the financing of these authorities and of the services which they might undertake has recently completed its deliberations, and made recommendations which are substantially acceptable to myself and will, I hope, prove acceptable to Council

when these are laid before them. They provide for the collection by Local authorities of a number of fees and licences previously collected by the central Government and for the institution of rates, cesses and such other levies as may be required to finance an expanding programme of local social services. It is hoped that it may be possible in the very near future to begin the organisation of a particularly large and important authority in the Sibiu district.

I should now like to refer briefly to some of the bills which come before you at this meeting. Two of them, you will notice, refer to the delegation by the Governor and the Governor in Council of some of their powers. I am sure you will all appreciate that the only reason for the introduction of these measures is the heaviness of the burden now imposed on the Governor in Council by the considerable increase in the number of Ordinances, where it is essential for the efficient working of the Council that I and my advisers should be able to devote ourselves to the deliberation of the more important matters. The proposed delegation of certain powers will, you may rest assured, be exercised with the utmost discrimination.

There is a bill on your agenda to provide for the variation of Native Customary Law which I regard as most necessary for the future progress of the natives people. The bill is designed to enable variations to be made in the recognised codes of their customs which have for long had the effect of law, but which, since the Constitution Ordinance of 1941, have been fixed and incapable of variation in accordance with the natural evolution of the peoples. I wish to stress this point: changes in the customary law will only be made at the instance of the people themselves and in

accordance with the general consensus of their opinion, so that they will themselves govern the rate of their advance and release from the restraining bonds of outworn customs.

The Currency Bill is a measure which will be fully explained to you by my Financial Secretary. The only other bills I wish to mention are the Immigration and Passport Bills. It had been hoped to present these to Council at this meeting, but unfortunately the Secretary of State's approval to these measures has not yet been received as they are still under consideration in London. I am convinced of the urgency for replacement of our present inadequate legislation on this subject; the Secretary of State has therefore been asked that his advisers should complete examination of these bills as early as possible and I hope that I shall be in a position to call a special meeting of Council in the near future at which they will be presented to you.

You will have heard by now of the very generous invitation we have received from His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. We have been asked to send three of your members to England to attend the Festival of Britain as guests of His Majesty's Government. A most interesting programme has been arranged for them and I am sure that they will enjoy themselves and see much which is of interest and value and which will enrich their minds and widen their field of vision to the future benefit of this Council and the Country. Their days will be busy and many people will wish to make their acquaintance but I hope they will make time to visit the Rajah and convey the humble respects of this Government to His Highness. The fair name of Sarawak is in good hands and we could not wish for better ambassadors.

His Excellency's Address to Council Negri — 5.5.53

Mr President and Members of Council Negri:

When last I had the honour of addressing Council in December of last year, a state of emergency still existed in the First Division, but shortly afterwards, on the 16th of January, I felt that it was possible to revoke the order since there had been no recurrence of trouble and quite a number of disaffected persons who had shown no liking for our liberal way of life had elected to go elsewhere to seek their earthly paradise. Since that incident in August, 1952, we in Sarawak have not suffered any outward aggression at the hands of the Communists but that is not to say that the Government or the people of this country can afford for one moment to relax their vigilance or lower their defences. You will note on your Order Paper that Government still considers it necessary to retain powers allowing for the detention of persons in certain circumstances and with the necessary safeguards, and you will be asked to approve these powers for a further period. Furthermore, although the people of this country have not during the last few months been the victims of violence or disruption of their daily lives — indeed, there have been some encouraging and comforting signs of improvement in public morale and determination — yet the picture in Asia as a whole does not, I am afraid, lead me to any feelings of very great confidence.

In Malaya there has been a steady improvement of the situation in the fighting against the bandits. The success of the security forces is now clearly no temporary phase. The bandits have lost the initiative in the field and are being hard pressed, and they know it as the increasingly frequent surrenders prove. We rejoice in this success and are proud that Sarawak citizens have contributed in some measure to this healthier state of affairs. But let us not delude ourselves into thinking that a victory won in Malaya necessarily lessens the danger in Sarawak.

The Communists in Korea show no desire whatsoever to bring about an honourable and reasonable armistice. They show only a determination to continue their aggressive policy of

domination in Asia. Any country which desires to maintain its own way of life, to develop its resources and to progress along the road of prosperity and happiness, must be sufficiently strong to deter the aggressor.

At your last meeting you voted large sums of money for the purpose of improving the efficiency of the Constabulary. It is essential to continue this process; even though our revenues may suffer a decline, and our enemies remain quiescent or are fully engaged elsewhere. Let us ensure that what is happening at this moment to the little kingdom of Laos, a country of hardworking, God-fearing peasant farmers, wanting only to live in peace and work out their own salvation, does not happen in Sarawak. In Laos we see where inadequate defence and preparation and divided loyalties may lead — a fair and prosperous land laid waste by foreign invasion and the horrors of war.

Now let us consider what progress we in Sarawak have made during the last six months.

You will have heard that a meeting was held in Kuching on the 23rd of April last under the chairmanship of His Excellency the Commissioner-General, the Right Honourable Mr Malcolm MacDonald, at which His Excellency the Governor of North Borneo, His Highness the Sultan of Brunei and myself were present with our respective advisers. As I consider this meeting and what arose there from to be of considerable importance, I will give you some explanation of its background and purpose. Since the middle of 1950 a Joint Defence Committee for the Borneo Territories has been in existence. This Committee has met twice a year to consider all aspects of the defence of the three territories in order to make sure that our individual plans are known to each other, that co-ordination is complete, that communications are adequate and that the mobilization of our joint resources can be achieved as efficiently and speedily as possible — in short, to ensure that we can assist each other effectively and rapidly in any emergency. You have witnessed for yourselves that these discussions have proved fruitful. We re-

ceived very prompt and efficient aid from the North Borneo police last August, as did Brunei in March of this year. The Brunei operation was a triumph of organization. Within six hours of the receipt of our call for assistance to the Governor of North Borneo, sixty police had arrived by air in the oilfields area and had been issued with weapons and rations and were at their posts as a fully effective force.

It was clear that in matters other than defence a closer co-ordination of policy, a pooling of technical resources, the exchange of ideas and experience and the unification of laws and regulations would bring benefit to all three territories. It was therefore agreed at this conference that at intervals of six months similar conferences would be held under the chairmanship of the Commissioner-General. The permanent members of the Sarawak-North Borneo-Brunei Conference are the Governors of Sarawak and North Borneo, and the Sultan of Brunei, all of whom will of course be supported by both official and unofficial advisers. It was also agreed to establish a system of periodic joint meetings between the Heads of Departments of the three territories for the discussion of problems of mutual and general interest, and to promote as far as possible co-ordination of policy and administration.

Nothing but good can come of a strengthening of the ties between these three territories in the Island of Borneo. By sharing the burden of our problems and difficulties and declaring our unity of purpose whilst each keeps his own individuality, customs and traditions, we will gain in stature and in the influence for good we can exert in this part of the world.

I am sure that I am expressing the sentiments of yourself Mr President and the members of your Council when I say how pleased we are to welcome here this morning the Maharaja Laila and the Orang Kaya Di Gadong of Brunei. These two distinguished members of His Highness's State Council have made the journey here in order to observe the proceedings of this Council and I hope they will find the experience useful and instructive and that they will enjoy this short stay in our capital city.

In the development of local Government a further step forward was made. On the 1st of January, 1953, the Kuching Municipal Ordinance was brought into force and on the same day the inaugural meeting of the Kuching Municipal Council was held. This was the out-

come of several years of planning and the change-over from the status of Government department to that of an autonomous municipality was effected according to plan with the minimum of dislocation. The volume of business passing through the Municipality has continued to show a steady increase which has been apparent from 1950 onwards. The Council has made an encouraging start and is facing its difficulties, among which the matter of public road transport is perhaps the most pressing, with courage and patience. In January, at the invitation of the Government, Mr A.A. Forward, Commissioner for Road Transport in the Federation of Malaya, paid a visit to advise upon this problem in Kuching. His report has now been received and confirms what has previously been apparent — that there are far too many public passenger vehicles on the roads and that the service extended to the public is by no means all that it should be. The report is being studied at the present time by the Municipal Council.

I shall now deal with some points of interest in the work of the Departments of Government. Firstly, Agriculture. The prospects for the 1952/3 paddy crop are good. The total acreage of this year's crop has been far higher than for the 1951/2 crop and, provided yield expectations are realised, Sarawak has, temporarily at any rate, overcome the most serious situation it has had to face with regard to rice imports for many years. Providence may not always be so kind in future and it is hoped that our farmers will profit from this experience and not be so keen in future to neglect essential paddy production for temporarily profitable cash crops. It should not be forgotten that last year, in 1952, we had to import no less than 28,000 tons of rice at a great cost to the consumer; and the price continues to rise. Most of this rice came from Siam towards whose frontiers the menace of Communism marches.

Pepper diseases are causing increasing anxiety and, whilst there is no cause for alarm and despondency as yet, one cannot help remembering the havoc that disease at times wrought in our pepper gardens before the war. The department is tackling the problem energetically and outside expert advice is being obtained, and the Secretary of State is trying to recruit a plant pathologist for us. Whilst there seems little hope of effecting a cure of badly diseased vines, it does seem that

the prospects of preventing the spread of even the worst diseases are good, provided all gardeners will conscientiously take the proper precautions. Sarawak's pepper industry is now extremely prosperous and it would be a disaster of the first magnitude if disease extinguished the industry. It is hoped therefore that all gardeners will accept the advice of the Department of Agriculture in this matter and co-operate fully with them.

Due to the fall in prices, the rush to plant a new rubber has abated somewhat; there is still however a healthy tendency to plant up new areas of high yielding material when the material can be obtained. It is perhaps of interest to record that in 1952 the total value of rubber exported from the Third Division was almost equalled by the value of pepper, timber and sago, thus indicating a more balanced economy and not the complete dependence on rubber which has caused so much anxiety in the past.

The Forest Department is making steady progress in its main tasks of formation and protection of permanent forest, inventories of the Colony's forest resources and the planning of the systematic working of timber in accordance with the principle of sustained yield. By the end of 1952, the area of permanent forests in the Colony totalled 7,506 square miles, and further 2,400 square miles are now in process of constitution. At the end of 1951, only 2 square miles, of forest were being developed under working plans. During the past year this figure has been increased to 84 square miles, and plans for further very large areas are almost complete. Work on forest inventories is proceeding steadily, and special attention is being given to an assessment of the Colony's resources; this project, however, owing to the very uneven distribution of the species, presents peculiar difficulties and will take some years to complete. Until it is completed, future policy with reference to belian timber must remain undecided, but in the meantime every care must be taken to ensure that it is used with the utmost economy.

As foretold in December, the timber industry has continued steadily to expand. The total production of timber increased from approximately 110,000 tons in 1951 to 202,000 tons in 1952, but of recent months there has been a decline in local demand. The quantity of timber exported, in terms of round timber, increased from 69,500 tons in 1951 to 128,000

tons in 1952. There is no sign of a decline in this trade, and exports during the first two months of the present year totalled approximately one-fourth of the total exports for 1952. Of recent months there has been some revival in the trade with Australia, which had previously fallen to a low level. The United Kingdom and Hong Kong remain the principal importers. It is pleasing to note that there is a general, though fluctuating, tendency for the number of export timbers to increase and 25 kinds of timber were exported under their own names in 1952, the highest number so far recorded.

The decision of the Government to allow the Colonial Timber Company to take over Government land at Rejang for a new mill has been well received in the village where full employment will once again be available after many years of depression.

The Director of Lands and Surveys reports that a scheme to settle Chinese on land suitable for rubber, coconut and padi on the coastal lands between Oya and Mukah has been completed and the land will be made available during the next few months.

The mapping facilities of the Land and Survey Department have been improved by the acquisition of a modern machine used for compilation of maps from air photographs. The Department is now able to produce sketch maps for special purposes such as agricultural and forestry projects and development schemes generally.

The meteorological staff in Kuching has now moved to the Kuching Airfield, where the installation of staff quarters and up-to-date equipment and offices has been completed. Meteorological offices and quarters have also been completed at Miri and Bintulu.

The Department of Trade and Customs reports that the year 1952 closed with the aggregate value of the Colony's external trade being \$821,509,270, \$70,585,623 down on the previous year, with an apparent favourable trade balance of \$55,617,364. The large decrease in the trade balance, \$79,986,615, as compared with 1951, was due to the decline in both the volume and value of rubber exported. It would have been reasonable to have expected this decline to have had a greater adverse effect on the general prosperity of the Colony than it did, but, while rubber is still the Colony's main export, the secondary industries, sago, pepper and timber, contributed

greatly to maintaining a moderately high level of prosperity and resulted in a satisfactorily trading year. The factors most responsible for this continued prosperity were pepper and timber. The rapid recovery of the pepper industry since the war has been remarkable and exports for the year, approximately 4,000 tons, were only a little short of the peak year 1934. Timber is rapidly becoming an important item in the Colony's economy with exports for the year being 80% over those 1951. The Government's policy of encouraging interest in industries other than rubber has amply justified itself, and the results from the pepper and timber industries over the past year have saved the Colony from what might well have been a slump. If, however, the Colony is to depend less on rubber, a still further expansion of the Colony's secondary industries will be necessary.

The Public Works Department's construction activities, as might be expected, have been hampered in the last few months by the exceptional weather conditions, and progress in building works has been mainly confined to completion of last year's schedule and preliminaries for the programme this year. Included in the latter is a considerable expansion of Police training facilities and accommodation throughout the Colony. Work has started on the erection of new Government offices in Kuching and the establishments required for the Broadcasting Scheme.

Progress on re-surfacing of the Kuching-Serian Road has been disappointing and the work is not expected to be completed before June. The Bau Road reconstruction also has not gone ahead so well as had been hoped and it may not be finished until the middle of 1954. Survey of the Serian-Simanggang road trace has been completed and the calling of tenders is in hand. At Sibul, recourse has been made to the import of stone from Hong Kong to enable bazaar road reconstruction to proceed.

Arrangements for the establishment of a major quarry at Sebuyau have gone forward and it is anticipated that delivery of stone will commence during the second half of the year.

The department is still hampered in its work by the shortage of staff.

The Medical Department has made a promising start in the scheme for the training of midwives; three fully trained women are now engaged in Sibul, Simanggang and Kuching on this programme.

A Superintendent has recently arrived to take charge of our Leper Settlement. He has worked for many years for the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association before coming to Sarawak to assist us in this vital work.

The ATAS Clinic was opened in March, and excellent example of what can be achieved by the general public in co-operation with Government. The first B.C.G. vaccination programme for the control of tuberculosis is nearing completion. Five local teams have now been trained to continue the work after the departure of the World Health Organisation team.

Mr P.J. Shannon has retired from the post of Commissioner, Sarawak Constabulary, and Mr G.S. Wilson arrived from Hong Kong in March and assumed command of the Police Force.

The Constabulary (Special Allowances) Regulations, 1952, came into effect on the 1st January, 1953. Members of the rank and file who qualify under the various headings, Education, Languages, and Specialists, will materially benefit. Payment of these allowances should encourage members of the rank and file to make every effort to improve their professional knowledge and will, it is hoped, react favourably on the morale and efficiency of the Constabulary.

By the courtesy of the Commissioners of Police, Federation of Malaya and Singapore, Gazetted Officers, Inspectors and N.C.O.'s this Force are attending courses both in the Federation and Singapore on General Police Duties, Special Branch work, driving and simple mechanics.

The establishment of the Inspectorate has been increased by 12. An intensive recruiting drive is under way to fill vacancies in the Inspectorate. The Commissioner of Police of the Federation of Malaya has undertaken to recruit and train a number of Inspectors recruited by him for the Sarawak Constabulary together with those selected from Sarawak. Preliminary reports indicate that the officers recruited in Sarawak are doing extremely well and creating a favourable impression. There are still some 240 vacancies in the rank and file of the regular police.

The first platoon of the Field Force has already been recruited from the Second Division and is now undergoing training. On the completion of its initial training at the Police Training School it will be transferred to the

Jungle Training School at Bukit Siol for advanced training. The second platoon has been formed and is now under training at the Police Training School. The object of the Field Force is to provide Government with a mobile striking force which can be called out at short notice to deal with emergencies. Further recruiting in the force will be undertaken in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Divisions.

New barrack blocks have been completed at the Police Training School providing a welcome addition to the available accommodation, and a new canteen and mess room have also been completed.

In December last I stressed particularly the need for greater vigilance and a higher sense of responsibility on the part of managers, teachers and parents in Chinese schools and I am therefore very glad to report that the tone and discipline at a number of our schools, where previously the situation was far from satisfactory, have shown a marked improvement during the past few months. An improvement in the supervising staff situation of the Education Department is at last enabling more attention and help to be given to schools. The appointment of a well qualified Education Officer, on secondment from Hong Kong, is a welcome addition to the staff. The growing co-operation of members of boards of management is an encouraging sign and will result in continued improvement; especially if this is supported by an increasing number of parents beginning to take a more genuine interest in the welfare of their children. This improvement reflects great credit on the Director and his staff as well as on the managers of the schools.

The expansion of primary and secondary education continues to be encouraging. In the Cambridge Junior Certificate Examination held in 1952, 110 pupils qualified for certificates as against 76 successful candidates in 1951.

A successful Refreshers Course for teachers in the Batang Lupar District was organised by the District Group Supervisor last December. A Conference of all Group Supervisors held at the Training Centre early this year provided a valuable opportunity for the exchange of information and ideas.

During the past few months a further thirteen students have been awarded Scholarships for higher education overseas, but some of these are awaiting admission to va-

rious institutions. This higher stage of our educational programme is progressing most satisfactorily. In addition to the recent awards just mentioned, since liberation more than seventy students have been sent overseas, under various scholarship schemes on courses of higher training covering thirty different subjects. It is very pleasing that our first Sarawak students have obtained degrees at the new University of Malaya; two in Medicine and two in Arts.

The Batu Lintang Training Centre suffered a sad loss by the resignation of Mr J. K. Wilson at the end of last year. A new Principal, a well qualified and experienced officer, has been appointed and should be arriving in June. It is pleasing to be able to report that, as a result of the efforts of those people responsible for recruitment, a larger group of young men and women has entered the centre this year to take the Grade IIA Course. It is significant that these student-teachers have been drawn from Chinese Middle schools in Kuching and Sibul, as well as from Government and Mission schools. Furthermore, this new group is now representative of Malays, Dayaks and Chinese. The standard of entry into the Post-Primary Classes has also improved considerably over the last few years which indicates that trained teachers, in spite of their many difficulties, have helped greatly to improve the quality of some of our local schools. In 1949 not one pupil from Dayak rural schools was found suitable academically for entry into Batu Lintang. For the new admissions this year there were over a hundred applications from the rural primary schools, and a class of thirty promising pupils of correct age has been recruited.

The Immigration Department has been strengthened by the appointment of an additional Passport Examination Officer in Kuching; there are now Passport Officers stationed at Miri, Sibul, Sarikei and Kuching. This has materially increased the efficiency of immigration work and tended to centralise control.

The work of the Labour Department has increased considerably owing to the extended P.W.D. road contracts. A considerable number of wage disputes, brought to official notice, were due to the malpractice of employing sub-contractors and sub-sub-contractors; this has now been taken up and conditions of employment have lately improved.

A Prisoners Aid Society has been formed to take over the work formerly done voluntarily by certain Rotarians in alleviating distress among the families of prisoners.

The Co-operative Development Department has been fully occupied since the beginning of the year in carrying out the Annual Audit of 109 registered Co-operatives. A few new groups are being prepared for registration, but this will take place only when all audits have been completed. It is not yet possible to supply statistics of 1952 Development, but the increase in assets is expected to be very considerable.

An interesting project has been started at Kampongs Muara Tuang and Bundong in the Samarahan, to which several departments are giving their combined efforts and advice. It is a community development scheme amongst the Malays: an attempt to improve every aspect of their social and economic conditions, in which adult education, more advanced agricultural techniques, co-operative methods and improved hygiene are all playing their part. The success of this pilot scheme must, however, ultimately depend upon the Malays themselves and their keenness to improve their living standards. I am glad to say that the initial enthusiasm is encouraging.

The Museum has continued to analyse the results of the excavations at Santubong which have attracted widespread attention and interest outside the Colony. Many of the fragments of broken pieces have been fitted together with meticulous care and there are now about 30 complete pieces which give a clear idea of the type of ceramics traded between the Sarawak River Delta and the mainland of Asia eight to ten centuries ago.

A Museum expedition left for the Kelabit country in the headwaters of the Baram on December 2nd, 1952. The programme of collecting and research in that area has now been completed. The expedition took up tea and hemp plants to Bario, which is probably the highest permanent by inhabited place in Borneo, at an elevation of 3,500 feet. These plants were doing very well when last seen in March.

The turtles have done well and a nett profit of \$28,000 was handed over to the Turtle Trust for religious and charitable purposes.

While the Postmaster-General was on leave in the United Kingdom, he visited the leading Telecommunication Equipment

Manufacturers. In collaboration with Messrs. Preece Cardew and Rider, Consulting Engineers to the Crown Agents, he was able to consider Sarawak requirements for material and equipment having regard to price and quality.

Underground cables for Kuching to the value of \$500,000 have been ordered and delivery in the United Kingdom is expected not later than June.

A detailed specification for the Kuching Automatic Exchange has been drawn up and tenders called for. The outcome is not yet known but delivery in the United Kingdom should be about January, 1954.

A decision has been made on the contractor to supply and instal the equipment for the V.H.F. Radio Telephone Scheme. The order is about to be placed and delivery in the United Kingdom is expected to commence in September, 1953. The contractor will send installing engineers to Sarawak a few months in advance of arrival of equipment to prepare staff and conduct radio surveys so as to be ready to commence installation work without delay.

The appointment of a new Chief Justice, Mr E.H. Williams, Senior Puisne Judge, Hong Kong, has been approved by Her Majesty the Queen and he is expected to arrive in Sarawak later this month.

The work of the Judicial Department has gone on unobtrusively and no special comment seems called for. The Courts have been called upon to deal with little serious crime. Most of the work has been on the civil side. The records of the cases tried by the lower courts show that magistrates have on the whole done their work conscientiously and to the best of their ability. One of the Judges has given a course of lectures on Law to the prospective Sarawak Administrative Officers who will thus acquire in advance some familiarity with their Judicial duties.

The Government Information Service continues to expand its activities and there have been two note-worthy developments.

By the generosity of the Director of the Malayan Film Unit, a member of the Information staff has been well trained in the use of both still and moving picture cameras. The Information Office is now making its own photographs for distribution both within Sarawak and abroad, and several promising films of life in Sarawak have already been made and shown.

The appointment at the beginning of the year of an experienced Chinese writer has made possible the production of original pamphlets in Chinese about Sarawak — an important enterprise which will grow in volume. Greatly increased help to other Departments of Government in translation to and from English and Chinese has also been made possible by this appointment. This service, working in co-operation with the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs, is much in demand.

Both these developments help one of the main purposes of the Information Service, which is to provide for the people of Sarawak fuller opportunities to learn what their fellow citizens think and do.

To this same end, more reading rooms outside Kuching have been opened and equipped. Community wireless listening sets have been bought and are installed in the reading rooms as these are opened, and in other approved centres in the smaller outstations.

Mobile cinema units based in Sibul and Miri are now established and working in the Third and Fourth Divisions. The Third Division units has its own outboard motor sampan and the Fourth Division uses the Public Address motor van stationed at Miri.

Turning to the Sarawak Broadcasting Service, I am glad to say that good progress has been made. The Chief Engineer arrived in Kuching in January, and the Programme Organiser early in March, and both officers have been hard at work since their arrival. The Springfield site for the headquarters of the Service, in Rock Road, Kuching, has been cleared and levelled and tenders for the construction of the main building have been received. A temporary building on the same site for housing the pilot broadcasting service has been erected, and, subject to a major difficulty to which I will refer in a moment, this service should be in operation in June or July.

The major difficulty is the problem of finding the experienced technical staff essential for the very complex and skilled task of installing and working both the pilot and the main transmitters and their ancillary equipment. It has been our firm purpose from the beginning to engage, and to continue to employ, Sarawak men and women in the service; but for the senior technical posts it has been possible to do so. This is unfortunate, but understandable. Broadcasting engineering is a new science which, by the devotion and skill of its adhe-

rents and the intensive demands made on them, has been brought in a few years to a very advanced scientific level; and it is natural that in a country where hitherto there has been no broadcasting, there are no experienced men. Since last year, intensive negotiation, personal enquiry, and advertisement have been carried on, both locally and in Singapore, Malaya and Hong Kong to find and engage the men we need. So far, because the terms we are able to offer consonant with the terms of service in other and comparable branches of Government service are not attractive enough, we have not been able to engage any of the men we need and the Chief Engineer is still working single-handed and at great pressure. Because of these staff difficulties, it is doubtful whether the main service — and I feel bound to give you this warning — can be in operation by the end of this year, as we had hoped. But I am sure that every possible effort will be made by those concerned to achieve this.

Now may I issue a word of caution on the subject of Finance? Although we are not so dependent as formerly on rubber for our revenue, it is still our main industry and we cannot expect a return to the boom prices of 1951 or anything near them. We must also expect in the future to see a reduction in the price that our pepper will fetch.

Our customs and excise revenue for 1952 was \$12½ million less than in 1951, and the tonnage of rubber exported has fallen by 20%. We cannot afford, therefore, any great expansion of Government services at the present time. In fact, I consider that we may well be faced with the necessity to practise considerable economies in the near future. Our finances are in a healthy state and the country has shown itself economically far more resilient than was expected. However, some of us may still be thinking in terms of boom prices and years of exceptional revenue and I think we should realise that those days over and we must adjust our plans to our present means.

I have no special comment to make on the order of business for this Session or on the bills which are to be put before you. But I would like to draw your attention to an omission.

When you last met I mentioned that some of our Iban trackers in Malaya were being used experimentally in combat duties. That experiment proved a success and the Federation Government with the consent and co-operation of this Government has since been re-

cruiting Dayaks for combat duties in Malaya. This force now bear the honoured title and wears the badges of the Sarawak Rangers.

It was clearly desirable that the force so raised should have military status and that provision should be made for this both under the law applicable in the Federation and by the law of this country.

I am happy to say that the immediate step of giving military status to this force while in Malaya has been provided for by Emergency Regulations enacted in the Federation. A Bill has also been prepared here to regularize with retrospective effect the arrangements made and to incorporate the force raised in the Sarawak Volunteer Force. It will I am sure be readily understood that legislation of this character requires careful consideration and it was thought desirable to obtain the comments both of the Federation Government and the Secretary of State. The latter's comments have only just reached me and in the circumstances for this Session.

In a few weeks' time we and countless others throughout the Commonwealth, and indeed throughout a great part of the World, will be engaged in celebrating the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

I believe the plans for Coronation Week are nearing completion and I hope they will meet with general approval. We want everyone to enjoy himself and we want all to be able to take a part in this great family gathering. Sarawak has quite a reputation for its hospital-

ity and for its capacity for enjoyment and I have no doubt at all that we will make the very best of an occasion which provides us with so excellent an excuse for celebration and merriment. For never has a Queen more beloved or more beautiful ridden forth to her coronation. Beneath the gaiety and charm of youth shines forth for all who wish to see that deep sense of devotion to duty and consecration to the service of her people which is such a moving inspiration to her loyal subjects.

I want all of you here to-day, the representatives of your people, to make it your special responsibility to ensure that the plans you have made emphasise that our celebrations in Coronation Week are principally for the benefit and enjoyment of the young; let us make of this Week a great festival of youth, at whose head rides our young and gracious Queen. We want every boy and girl throughout the whole of our rejoicing country to carry, through the rough and tumble of the years to come, a bright and happy and indelible picture of these great days of 1953.

You Mr President, supported by member of this Council, will be our witnesses to the act of crowning and dedication in Westminster Abbey on the 2nd June and you will carry with you our loyal greetings to Her Majesty and our fervent prayers for a long and glorious reign.

Mr President and members of Council Negri. I thank you for your attention. May God guide and prosper your deliberations.