

Annual report on Brunei / Colonial Office.

Contributors

Great Britain. Colonial Office.

Publication/Creation

London : H.M.S.O., [1947]

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ba3e4qyd>

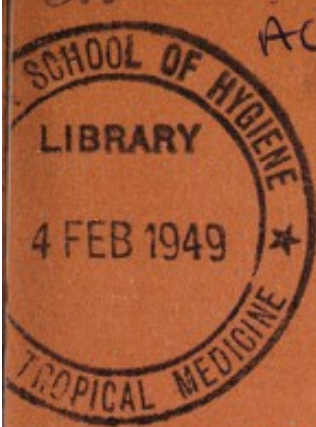
License and attribution

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

Brunei

1947



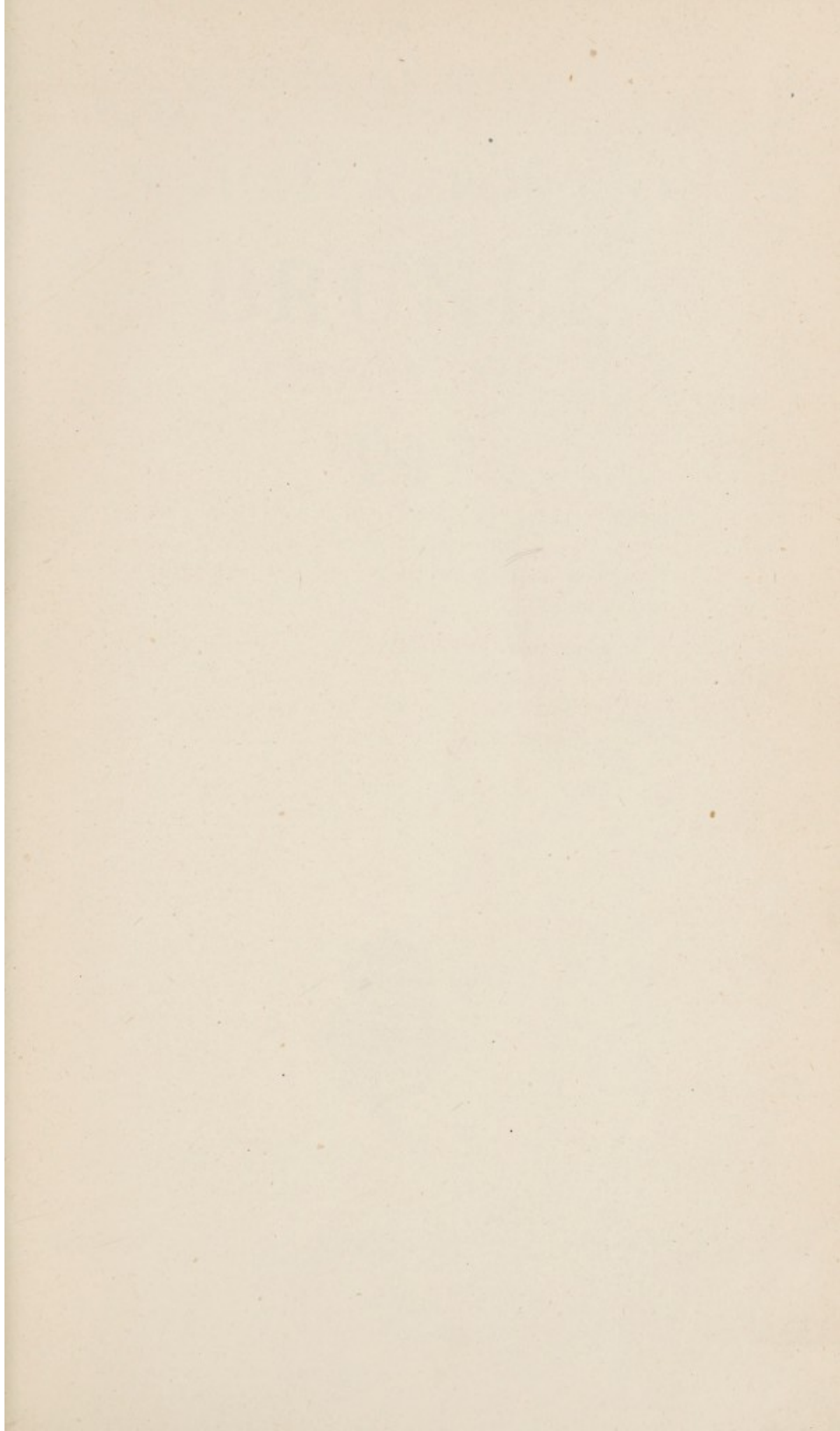
LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

PRICE 4s. 6d. NET

51167

THE SERIES OF COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after suspension in 1940) is being continued with those relating to 1947.

It is anticipated that the Colonies and Protectorates for which 1947 Reports are being published will, with some additions, be the same as for the previous year (see list on cover page 3).



COLONIAL OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT ON

BRUNEI

FOR THE YEAR

1947

819



LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1948

PRINTED IN SINGAPORE

Crown Copyright Reserved

The cover illustration shows Brunei Bay

ERRATA

Correction Slip to State of Brunei Annual Report for the year 1947.


Page 1	Paragraph 7	Line 2	For "conjunction" read "conjunction"
.. 3	..	3 .. 1	.. "Kings" read "King's"
.. 4	..	3 .. 14	.. "Belati" read "Belait"
.. 5	..	4 .. 11	.. "543" read "453"
.. 6	..	4 .. 1	Delete "," after "persons"
.. 6	..	4 .. 3	Insert "," after "persons)"
.. 11	..	10 .. 1	Insert "of" after "acquisition"
.. 12	..	9 .. 1	For "dollars" read "dollar"
.. 17	..	8 .. 5	.. "opportuunity" read "opportunity"
.. 25	..	1 .. 1	.. "Bengin" read "Benign"
.. 26	..	6 .. 1	.. "calls" read "cells"
.. 30	..	1 .. 1	.. "constitued" read "constituted"
.. 30	..	4 .. 5	.. "laws" read "law"
.. 31	..	3 .. 1	.. "tables" read "table"
.. 31	..	4 .. 1	.. "conviction" read "convictions"
.. 32	..	1 .. 3	Insert "and" after "Weights"
.. 40	..	1 .. 2	For "runaway" read "runway"
.. 45	..	6 .. 11	.. "ceeded" read "ceded"
.. 46	..	3 .. 7	.. "moral" read "morale"
.. 47	..	2 .. 6	.. "civilian" read "civilians"

CONTENTS

CHAPTER.	PAGE.
PART I.	
1.—SPECIAL EVENTS	1
PART II.	
1.—POPULATION	4
2.—OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANIZATION	6
3.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION	9
4.—CURRENCY AND BANKING	12
5.—COMMERCE	13
6.—PRODUCTION	14
7. SOCIAL SERVICES	19
8.—LEGISLATION	29
9.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS	30
10.—PUBLIC UTILITIES	33
11.—COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS	36
PART III.	
1.—GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE	42
2.—HISTORY	43
3.—ADMINISTRATION	48
4.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	49

APPENDICES

A.—TABLE OF IMPORTS FOR THE HALF YEAR 1946 AND THE YEAR 1947	50
B.—TABLE OF EXPORTS FOR THE HALF YEAR 1946 AND THE YEAR 1947	52
C.—ABSTRACT OF REVENUE	53
D.—ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURE	54
E.—STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	55
F.—BRUNEI—BRITISH RESIDENTS AND ASSISTANT RESIDENTS	56



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b31408928>



PRINEL TOWN

PART I.

The year 1947 has seen considerable progress in rehabilitation and improvement in the standard of living of the peoples of Brunei after the loss and devastation caused by the Japanese occupation and the war operations carried out for the eviction of the enemy.

Supplies of food and consumer goods generally have improved greatly, and the import of adequate quantities of cloth has met a particularly pressing need of the people for clothing. Rice is still in short supply but the position is not quite so acute as it was 12 months ago. The people have planted a slightly larger acreage of rice this year and there are good prospects that it will prove a better season than last.

Roads and foot-paths have been re-opened and repaired and it has proved possible to restart the wireless station at Temburong. More temporary shop-houses of an approved pattern have been built and considerable progress has been made with the re-building of schools and quarters.

One of the principal obstacles to rapid reconstruction is the shortage and expense of essential materials. Freight charges are still very high and certain materials difficult to obtain.

The British Malayan Petroleum Company, which is the principal industrial undertaking in Brunei, continued its programme of reconstruction and expansion in the oil fields with such success that it has now tripled its best pre-war output figure. Trade and minor industries, such as the manufacture of silver-ware, brassware, kajang, atap and basket-work also showed considerable expansion.

Land has been acquired in Brunei Town as a site for a new hospital which it is proposed to begin in 1948. Land has also been acquired for the construction of a new senior officers quarters at Subok.

The first full Census in Brunei since 1931 was taken during the year. It was carried out in conjunction with the Sarawak census and although the final figures have not yet been published it appears that the population of Brunei is now just over 40,000.

SPECIAL EVENTS

His Excellency the Governor-General and Mrs. MacDonald visited Brunei from the 30th April to the 7th May and again from the 10th to the 13th November. On the first occasion His Excellency included a tour of the Temburong and Tutong Districts in his programme and enjoyed trips up the Pandaruan and Tutong Rivers. His Excellency spent a night in a Dyak Long House up the Pandaruan and another night at a rural school in Ulu Tutong.

On the second occasion His Excellency was accompanied by His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak Sir Charles Arden Clarke, K.C.M.G. who spent a night in Brunei before proceeding overland to the Fourth Division of Sarawak. A reception was held at the Residency on the first evening in honour of the visit of Their

Excellencies and was attended by His Highness the Sultan, the Ministers of State, members of State Council, Government servants and local business men.

His Highness the Sultan and the Tengku Ampuan, who had been staying in Malaya for 6 months, returned to Brunei on the 12th of March and received an enthusiastic reception from their people. They both looked well after their holiday and continued to enjoy good health during the remainder of the year.

It is recorded with regret that the mother of His Highness the Sultan, the Raja Isteri Pengiran Fatimah, died on the 8th March. The funeral was conducted according to ancient customs and the bier was borne on a specially constructed funeral raft to the Royal burial ground up river. The one concession that was made to the march of time was the use of a motor launch to tow the raft.

On the 19th March a youth of 12 years was taken by a crocodile in the Brunei River opposite the town. This was the first time anyone had been taken here for about 10 years. The people of the River Kampong do not normally hunt crocodiles very often but on the rare occasions when a human being is taken the gongs and drums are sounded and the villagers band together for the hunt which is not given up until the murderer is captured and killed. So it was on this occasion. The hunt lasted for several weeks and involved the slaughter of quite a number of these monsters before the account was considered paid.

The birthday of His Majesty the King was celebrated officially on the 12th June. In the morning a Guard of Honour of the Brunei Police Force was mounted on the "padang" in front of the Government offices under the command of the Chief Police Officer and was inspected by the British Resident. Subsequently the salute was taken at the march past by the British Resident in the presence of His Highness the Sultan. Members of State Council, Heads of Government Departments and members of the public were in attendance at the ceremonial parade.

In the afternoon a Garden Party was held at the Residency at which His Highness the Sultan and about 70 other guests were present.

His Highness the Sultan's younger brother, Pengiran Muda Omar Ali Saifudin, was installed as Duli Pengiran Bendahara (First Minister of State) on the 18th July. The ceremony was carried out according to ancient custom though His Highness the Sultan, owing to indisposition, was unable to be present in person. His Highness, however was pleased to give his authority for the appointment and installation to be carried out on the due date.

The birthday of His Highness the Sultan, which is always celebrated in accordance with the Mohammedan Calendar, fell on the 18th August. The usual ceremonial parade was held in the morning followed by the customary "menghadap" ceremony in the Council Chamber, when congratulatory addresses by the British Resident and leading members of all communities were

read out. In the evening His Highness gave an official dinner party at the "Astana".

The usual annual regatta was held on the Brunei River on the second day of the "Hari Raya Puasa" holiday in August. The weather was good and the river presented a cheerful and animated scene. The returning peace and prosperity in the State were reflected in the increased number of entries compared with 1946.

His Excellency the Governor-General presented the Kings Commendation for Brave Conduct to Pengiran Mohamed bin Pengiran Piut (Wireless Engineer) and Daud bin Haji Osman (Police Engineer) on the 11th November at a public ceremony held in front of the Government Offices. Before the presentation His Excellency and His Highness the Sultan together inspected a Police Guard of Honour under the command of the Chief Police Officer.

On the morning of the 12th November an Arts and Crafts Exhibition was held in the Brunei Town School at which His Excellency the Governor-General and Mrs. MacDonald were present. The Exhibition was held for the purpose of awarding the Governor-General's prizes for the best pieces of craftsmanship in silver, weaving and basket-work. It was a great success and many good exhibits were seen.

His Excellency and Mrs. MacDonald left Brunei on the 13th November.

Mr. W. J. Peel, M.C.S. acted as British Resident throughout the year and Mr. M. H. Wood, M.C.S. acted as Assistant Resident.

The State had the pleasure of welcoming the following important visitors and advisers during the year.

Mr. A. Haywood	Coal Adviser to Special Commissioner South East Asia.
Dr. Clyde	Nutritional Adviser to Special Commissioner South East Asia.
Brigadier Hotine	Secretary of State's Adviser on Geodetic and Topographical Survey.
Colonel Willis	Deputy Director of Survey South East Asia Land Forces.
Captain Cunningham	Bomb Disposal Team South East Asia.
Sir Charles Arden Clarke, K.C.M.G. and Lady Clarke.	His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak.
His Excellency the Governor-General and Mrs. Malcolm MacDonald.	
Air Vice Marshall J. D. Breakey	Air Vice Marshall, Royal Air Force.

Mr. C. F. Hickling	Fisheries Adviser to Secretary of State for the Colonies.
Rt. Rev. Bishop Hollis	Lord Bishop of Sarawak and Labuan.
H.M.S. Penn	Destroyer Royal Navy.
Sir H. Trusted, Kt. Bach.	Commissioner, Salaries Commission.
Admiral C. M. Cooke, U.S.N.	Commander-in-Chief, United States Navy West Pacific Fleet.
Mr. R. Stone	Photographer to Colonial Office.
Mr. C.F.C. Macaskie, C.M.G.	Commissioner, War Damage Claims Commission, Borneo.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

POPULATION

Race.—The principal indigenous races of the State are Brunei Malays, Kedayans, Tutongs, Dusuns, Belaits, Muruts and Dyaks.

The Brunei Malays and Kedayans are found principally, in the Brunei, Muara and Temburong districts and to a lesser degree in the Tutong district. The Tutongs live along the lower reaches of the Tutong River and the Dusuns inhabit the hinterland between the upper borders of the Tutong and Belait River; these two races probably have a common ancestry. The Belaits are confined to the lower reaches of the Belait River. The Muruts were formerly numerous in the Temburong District but largely owing to the small-pox and cholera epidemics in the latter part of the last century and to their degenerate way of living at that time, their numbers have been greatly reduced, and there are now only scattered communities in the Temburong District. The Dyaks are found in scattered settlements along the upper reaches of the Temburong, Pandaruan and Belati rivers.

The Brunei Malays live near the sea and are principally fishermen, the other races practise agriculture of one sort or another. Until quite recently the Dusuns, Dyaks and Muruts practised shifting cultivation only, but they are now being induced by means of judicious propaganda to adopt settled method of cultivation.

Of the alien races the Chinese are by far the most numerous. They are immigrants from the South China Provinces, and are occupied principally as traders or shop-keepers. Other alien races in much smaller numbers are Indian, mostly Tamil and Malayalis who work as shop-keepers and as labourers in the oilfield and there are a few Arabs.

Religion.—The religion of the Brunei Malays and Kedayans is Islam of the Shafe-ee sect. The Tutong and Belaits also

generally profess Islam. Of the other races, the Dusuns, Dyaks and Muruts are all pagan animists.

Language.—The languages spoken in the State are as diverse as the races which compose its population. The Bruncis and Kedayans speak Malay and in general each race has its own language though colloquial Malay serves as a lingua franca both for indigenous and alien people.

Of the foreign languages spoken in the State Chinese is the most common, the principal dialects being Kheh, Hokkien and Cantonese. The Indian population speaks principally Tamil or Malayalam.

Vital Statistics.—A census of the population of the State was made in November 1947. The final and correct figures will not be available until the latter part of 1948 but provisional figures are given below together with the figures of the last census in 1931 for comparison.

Cultural Group	Census 1931	Census 1947	Change
European and Eurasian	70	394	plus 324
Malay	14,835	16,748	" 1,913
Malanau	—	85	" 85
Tutong	2,733	2,431	minus 302
Sea Dyak	543	1,332	plus 879
Land Dyak	—	2	" 2
Bisayah	—	34	" 34
Kedayan	5,871	6,723	" 852
Murut	290	298	" 8
Dusun	2,118	2,759	" 641
Belait	446	716	" 270
Other indigenous	—	7	" 7
Chinese	2,683	8,313	" 5,630
Indian	377	436	" 59
Ceylonese	—	20	" 20
Javanese	165	234	" 69
Other Asiatic	94	109	" 15
Nomadic Punans	—	29	" 29
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	30,135	40,670	" 10,535
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

The increase in some cases, notably that of the Chinese, is mainly due to immigration. The population of Kuala Belait district has shown a very marked expansion. In 1931 the figure was 1,193 while the approximate figure enumerated in the recent census is 12,576. Unfortunately immigration statistics for the inter-census period are not available and it is thus impossible to ascertain how much of the increase is natural and how much due to immigration.

The density of the population works out at 18.3 persons to the square mile.

Births.—The total number of births registered during the year was 1,854 representing a birth rate of 45.59 per mille. Of the births recorded 964 were male and 890 female, giving a birth-sex ratio of 92 females to 100 males.

Deaths.—The number of deaths registered was 816, representing a crude death rate of 20.00 per mille. Registration of births and deaths is now fairly complete and these figures are reasonably accurate.

Infant Mortality.—The infant mortality rate for the year was 133 which is still distressingly high but represents a fall of 37% on the pre-war figures. For this, much of the credit lies with the Infant Welfare and Maternity clinics of which details are given in the section under Health.

Migration.—There was no organized migration during the year, but as always a constant ebb and flow of population took place between the State and the neighbouring territories of Sarawak and British North Borneo. The excess of arrivals over departures amounted to 2,680 as shown below:—

<i>Arrivals</i>			<i>Departures</i>		
Europeans	..	1,322	Europeans	..	1,272
Eurasians	..	251	Eurasians	..	195
Malays	.. ..	11,556	Malays	.. ..	10,868
Chinese	.. ..	8,972	Chinese	.. ..	7,288
Indians	.. ..	694	Indians	.. ..	576
Other Races	..	767	Other Races	..	683
		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>			<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
		23,562			20,882
		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>			<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>

Aliens, which term connotes persons, other than subjects of His Highness the Sultan and British subjects (not including British protected persons) are required to register on arrival and to notify change of address and departure from the State. They may be, and in the case of the labouring class generally are, required to furnish a guarantor for their repatriation expenses to the country from which they have arrived, should that become necessary.

Little restriction is placed on the free movement of Aliens of Malayasian race. Immigrants of other races however, are normally required to produce a passport or similar document. There is no legislation regarding the volume of immigration.

CHAPTER II.

Occupations, Wages and Labour Organization.

The State is not dependent to any great extent on immigrant labour, the great bulk of the labour employed being indigenous. There is no system of organised immigration, except in so far as the State participates in the organization for the assisted immigration of South Indian labourers from India to Malaya. It is, however, not of much practical application to the State.

The principal large employers are the Government, the British Malayan Petroleum Company and four European rubber estates. The following table shows the racial distribution of the labour employed according to the various categories of employment.

Race	Government (Public Works)	British Malayan Petroleum Co. (Oil Mining)	Rubber Estates Field and Factory Work.	Total
Malays and Borneans ..	410	1,492	382	2,284
Chinese ..	3	683	12	698
Indians ..	2	202	—	204
Javanese ..	4	66	26	96
Eurasians ..	—	13	—	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	419	2,456	420	3,295
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The normal hours of work in the Oilfields for processes which are not necessarily continuous are $7\frac{3}{4}$ hours per day and 44 hours per week. For processes which are necessarily continuous the hours are 8 per day and 48 per week. Government employed labourers work 8 hours a day, with one hour off for meals, and the hours worked on Rubber Estates are similar.

There is a large volume of casual labour. A considerable proportion of the indigenous population consists of peasant proprietors who seek outside wage-earning employment only as a seasonal occupation to supplement the means of livelihood obtainable from their small-holdings.

The major portion of the State is made up of Kampong dwellers and fishermen, leaving the actual wage earner in the minority.

Since the war wages in general have increased by some 100 to 200 percent.

Kampong fishermen can make anything from \$2 to \$5 per day. The fisherman, in common with other sections of the peasant population, does not regard the acquisition of money as the highest aim. If nature provides an exceptionally bountiful catch on one day he may decide not to go out the following day.

The Kampong dweller who in the main grows a small amount of padi and collects local fruit appears to be satisfied by making various exchanges.

The following are the rates generally paid to workers outside the British Malayan Petroleum Company:

Public Works.—Labourers, basic wage of 60 to 90 cents with a monthly allowance of 40 cents a working day plus 30 per cent of basic wage as High Cost of Living Allowance.

Rubber Estates.—On European estates, the bulk of the work is carried out by contract and a labourer can earn from \$1 to \$2 per day but no High Cost of Living Allowance is given. The system is to pay on the amount of latex brought in during the morning. In the afternoon the labourer is offered other types of work such as clearing undergrowth and draining at so much per chain.

In the oilfields at Seria where a number of imported labourers are engaged, the following rates are paid:

Labour (unskilled)	80 cents to \$1.00 p.d.	} High cost of living allowance
Skilled labour:		
		at 35% of basic wage with the following minima.
Artisans	\$1.70 p.d. to \$185.00 p.m.	Bachelors —\$15 p.m.
Mandors	\$35.00 p.m. to \$200.00 p.m.	Married man with no children —\$24 p.m.
Serangs	\$30.00 p.m. to \$180.00 p.m.	Married man with one child —\$31 p.m.
Apprentices	\$ 80 p.d. to \$1.50 p.d.	Married man with two children —\$38 p.m.
Operators	\$1.00 p.d. to \$2.00 p.d.	Married man with three children —\$45 p.m.
		Married man with four children —\$52 p.m.

Conditions of labour are governed by the provisions of the Labour Code. All labour is free, and contract or indentured labour is not allowed. Verbal agreements to work may be entered into for any period not exceeding one month, and, in the absence of proof to the contrary, all agreements are presumed to be for that period. Where the engagement is monthly it may be terminated by one month's notice or by payment of 24 days' wages on either side. There are no penal sanctions for breach of agreement by the labourer. The employer is bound to provide at least 24 days work in each month for every labourer employed by him, and no labourer can be required to work for more than six days in one week or for more than nine hours a day or six hours on end. (In actual practice the number of hours worked is almost invariably less than the statutory maximum). Overtime is payable at double rates. No labourer may be fined by his employer for bad work or damage to property. The employment of women and young persons on night work or on underground work in mines is prohibited. Maternity benefit is payable to female labourers during the period of absence from work for one month before and one month after confinement.

Cost of Living.—During the year under review the rationing system has greatly improved and the daily ration of rice per person has been increased to 10 ozs per day with 14 ozs. for heavy labourers. The increase in the ration has been accompanied by a price increase from 21 cents to 25 cents per lb.

The increase in the ration caused prices in the open market to drop considerably and at the end of the year the price was \$2 or slightly less per gantang as compared with the 1946 price of \$4 to \$5 per gantang.

Rice is the only commodity which is rationed at present.

All local foodstuffs are in ample supply but there has been very little change in their cost.

From a recent check of prices it would appear that the cost of living figures show very little if any change from 1946 and remain at about 300 per cent above pre-war figures.

Government continues to control the prices of most food-stuffs and a Committee meets frequently to discuss present prices compared with supplies and makes adjustments where necessary.

Labour Department.—The actual functions of administration form part of the duties of the Resident, assisted by the Assistant Resident and the Medical Officer, who have been appointed Assistant Controllers of Labour. Periodical visits of inspection are made to ensure proper observance of the provisions of the code.

The Labourer's life is not one of toil only. There is ample leisure for recreation, and large employers of labour provide facilities for football and other forms of sport.

Before the second World War, the Controller of Labour, Malaya was, under the Labour Code, Controller of Labour, Brunei. Since the War this arrangement has no longer been effective and on 28th December 1947 a Joint Labour Adviser was appointed to the Governments of North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak. It is hoped that this officer, who will be stationed in Jesselton, will perform the duties of Controller of Labour for Brunei and give close attention to all labour questions which are assuming an increasing importance with the expansion of the Oil Company's activities at Seria.

No labour legislation was enacted during 1947, but at the end of the year Trades Union legislation was in course of preparation. It is hoped to introduce it during the first half of 1948 and it appears probable that two associations of workers in the Oilfields at Seria will wish to register. There were no Labour disputes in the State during 1947.

There is at present no factory legislation or workmen's compensation legislation in force in the State although the Oil Company and at least one of the large Rubber Estates are operating their own schemes of compensation. There is also no legislative provision for sickness or old age, though provision on a satisfactory scale is in fact made for the former by large employers of labour.

CHAPTER III

Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE

The principal sources of revenue are briefly described in the following paragraphs:

Customs.—Import duties are collected on a wide range of articles and preference is given to certain articles of British manufacture.

Export duties are collected on a limited number of articles the principle of which is rubber.

Licences and Excise.—Fees are charged for the issue of licences for specific purposes, the most productive of which are

licences for motor vehicles and licences for rubber dealers. Excise duty is charged on locally distilled spirit.

Municipal.—Rates and taxes are levied for services provided within Sanitary Board areas. Charges are made for specific services such as conservancy and private water supply. All houses and buildings within these areas are subject to an annual assessment.

Posts and Telegraphs.—Sale of postage stamps and telegram charges are the chief sources of revenue under this item.

Land.—Premium is charged on the alienation of land. In the case of land alienated for agricultural purposes this varies from 50 cents to \$4 an acre, while in the case of land for building purposes in town areas it may be as much as 60 cents per square foot. Alienated land is also subject to an annual quit rent, varying from 40 cents an acre for padi land to \$2.50 an acre for other agricultural land and \$5 per lot for building land in town areas. Land leased for oil mining is subject to a minimum rent fixed on a sliding scale over a period of years which is merged in royalty on the amount of oil produced and natural gas sold when production eventually takes place.

Forest.—Royalty at various rates is charged on forest produce removed from State and alienated land alike.

Currency Profits.—Profits are derived from the All Malayan Currency Surplus Fund.

The total revenue of the State for the year 1947 was \$4,389,974 as compared with a revised estimate of \$3,452,280.

The following comparative table shows the actual receipts for the second half year 1946 and 1947 under the main heads:—

	2nd half year	
	1946	1947
Customs duties	346,717	2,360,054
Licences and Excise	19,446	71,101
Municipal	5,892	28,557
General	9,207	80,392
Posts and Telegraphs	35,233	241,740
Land Revenue (includes oil Royalties)	173,578	1,065,271
Interest	177,376	180,972
Currency Profits	—	419,029

A detailed statement showing the estimated and actual revenue for 1947 under each main head with comparative figures for the second half year 1946 is shown in Appendix C.

Customs Duties.—The revenue under this head was \$2,188,864 for import duties and \$171,190 for export duties as against \$292,679 and \$54,039 for 2nd half year 1946 respectively.

The major part of this revenue was collected on the very large quantities of machinery and ironware imported by the British Malayan Petroleum Company. A proportion of this will have to be refunded in accordance with the decision to remit

duty collected on plant and machinery imported as replacements for similar articles lost or damaged during the war. The large quantities of articles which arrived during the latter part of the year and their high values were unpredictable, hence the excess over the estimates. The peak of supplies was no doubt reached during the year and considerably smaller quantities are to be expected in future.

Licences and Excise.—The following comparative table shows the revenue from the principal items under this head.

	2nd half year	
	1946	1947
Stamp duties	434	2,508
Excise duty	7,015	23,797
Wharf dues	2,334	7,394
Motor vehicles	2,720	17,857
Rubber dealers	543	3,280

Estate duty amounted to only \$350 during 1947.

Municipal.—Details of the revenue collected under the principal subheads are as follows:—

	2nd half year	
	1946	1947
House Assessment	402	8,899
Slaughter	1,284	3,807
Water Supplies	1,231	3,277
Conservancy	1,138	4,925

Posts and Telegraphs.—The revenue under this head was \$143,973 for sale of stamps and \$95,224 for telegram charges as against \$12,881 and \$22,322 for 2nd half year 1946 respectively.

A new issue of stamps in February 1947 accounted for 70% of the sales of stamps which is a substantial contribution to Brunei revenues on the part of philatelists.

Land revenue.—The land revenue was \$30,915 as against \$13,326 for 2nd half year 1946 and oil royalty was \$994,912 as against \$58,550 for 2nd half year 1946.

Interest.—A total of \$108,972 was collected as against \$177,376 for 2nd half year 1946.

Currency Profits.—A total of \$419,029 was received from the all Malayan Currency Surplus Fund. This was the first distribution since 1941.

EXPENDITURE

The expenditure for 1947 was \$1,797,597 as compared with a revised estimate of \$2,175,377. A detailed abstract of expenditure with comparative figures for 2nd half year 1946 is given in Appendix D.

A sum of \$85,000 provided for the acquisition land for road building under the Oil Company's development scheme was unexpended at the end of the year.

Savings amounting to \$40,000 were made in the Medical Department estimates on account of the non-arrival of equipment.

FINANCIAL POSITION

As stated above, the revenue for the year 1947 amounted to \$4,389,974 and the expenditure to \$1,797,597. The year's working therefore resulted in a surplus of \$2,592,377.

The following statement shows the revenue from oil and other sources over a period of years:—

	Revenue from oil royalties	Revenue from other sources	Total
1932	67,510	294,893	362,403
1933	235,756	345,000	580,750
1934	286,929	358,091	645,020
1935	383,112	430,420	813,532
1936	489,172	439,518	928,690
1937	482,567	566,726	1,049,293
1938	592,350	587,629	1,179,979
1939	710,999	563,645	1,274,644
1940	792,537	763,817	1,556,354
1941	548,711	777,201	1,325,912
Arrears	84,783		84,783
1946	58,550	630,812	774,145
1947	994,912	3,495,062	4,389,974

Assets and Liabilities.—The surplus of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1947 amounted to \$3,624,101. A detailed statement of the account is given in Appendix E.

The assets at the close of the year consisted of cash and bank balances to the amount of \$3,460,681 and surplus balances investment amounted to \$648,328.

Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund.—This fund was created in 1926 to take the place of the opium revenue when revenue from that source would no longer be available. The Fund stood at the close of the year at \$283,371. This source of revenue ceased after the Liberation.

Public Debt.—The State has no public debt.

CHAPTER IV

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

Currency in circulation.—It is estimated that approximately \$2,000,000 were in circulation in notes and coins. The State is a party to the Malayan Currency Agreement and Malayan currency is the only legal tender.

The standard coin is the Malayan silver dollars with a par of two shillings and four pence, at which value it is linked to sterling. Subsidiary silver coins are those of value 50 cents, 20 cents, 10 cents and 5 cents. There are also nickel five-cent coins

and copper coins of one cent. Currency notes are issued in different denominations from 10 cents upwards.

Banks operating in Brunei State are as follows:—

- (i) Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation with Branches at Brunei Town and Seria (Belait District)
- (ii) Post Office Savings Bank with branches at Brunei and Kuala Belait.

The Hongkong & Shanghai Bank is the first Bank to be established in the State. Its branches commenced business in January in Brunei Town and in April in Seria.

The State opened accounts at both branches and the provision of banking facilities has been of considerable help to the community and to the Government.

The total number of depositors with the Post Office Savings Bank at the close of the year was 241 and the amount standing to their credit was \$59,725.

CHAPTER V. COMMERCE

A dozen items may be taken from Appendix A as representing the main imports. Half of these are in respect of food for the people, the largest and most important of which is rice. The rice position, as in the whole of South East Asia, has been acute. The local harvest was fair in the circumstances but did not reach pre-war standards. The over-all position improved slightly as the year drew to a close and the harvest prospects for 1948 are encouraging. The shortage of rice is partly made up by the consumption of local sago as a substitute, and this is most marked where people are unable to afford Black Market rice.

Cigarettes and intoxicating liquor were in the usual demand although the supply of both was inadequate at times.

Textiles, including clothing, were more plentiful in the second half of the year but the prices remained high.

The imports of vehicles, ironware and machinery were very considerable and attributable in most part to the rehabilitation and expansion of the British Malayan Petroleum Company's oilfields which form the most important industry in the State and provide the major portion of the State's Revenue in the form of royalties.

In reviewing exports as shown in Appendix B there are only two main items, oil and rubber. The former increased steadily in production as rehabilitation took place and at the end of the year production had risen to some 6000 long ton a day, which is more than treble that of pre-war years.

The oil is exported by pipeline to Lutong in Sarawak territory where a part is refined before export and the remainder exported as crude oil.

Sheet rubber exports averaged 150 tons a month. There was a sudden drop in price in the middle of the year and some dealers were hard hit. The price regained its position after a few months.

In December a new tariff of duties was introduced which was more in uniformity with the neighbouring Colonies of Sarawak and North Borneo. In the case of Sarawak the tariffs are now almost identical with the main exception of rubber export duty. North Borneo however, was unable to adopt so close a similarity and there are still several marked differences. The export duty on rubber was reduced to enable Brunei to compete on equal terms with Malaya.

The chief change in the tariff was the abolition of import duty on machinery and ironware in an attempt to assist the development of local industry. These items are the largest revenue producing ones in the tariff and it is yet to be seen whether or not the other amendments will eventually compensate for the loss.

Two European commercial firms, Borneo Company Limited and Harrisons and Crosfield (Borneo) Limited, established branches in the State. Both trade as general import and export merchants and the former concentrates particularly on the cigarette business. They appear to have prospered and are providing a greater variety of goods than was available before their arrival.

The export of sago has ceased due to the increased demand for local consumption and the shortage caused by the cutting down of trees by the Japanese.

The Customs and Marine Department was in the charge of Mr. D. H. Trumble, an officer seconded from the Malayan Customs Service.

CHAPTER VI. PRODUCTION

Statement of principal products of Brunei State in 1947.

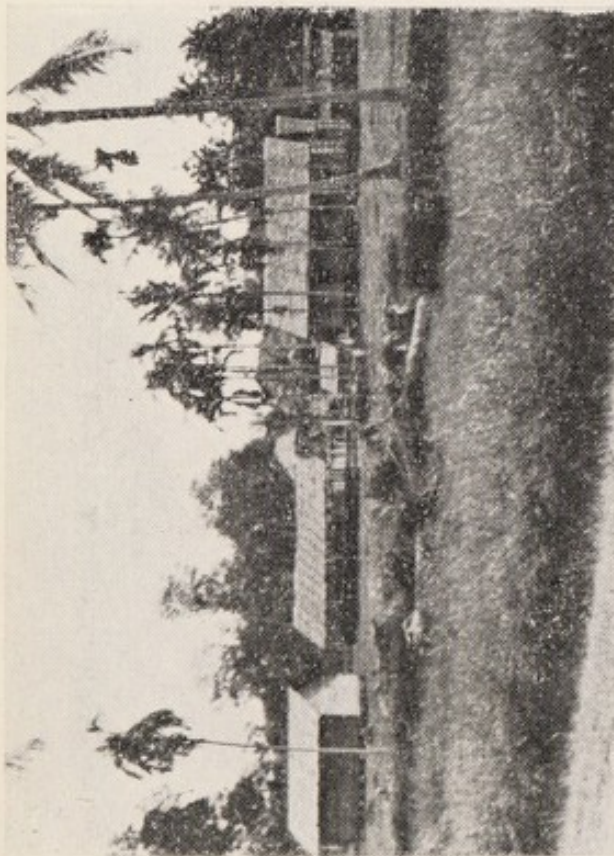
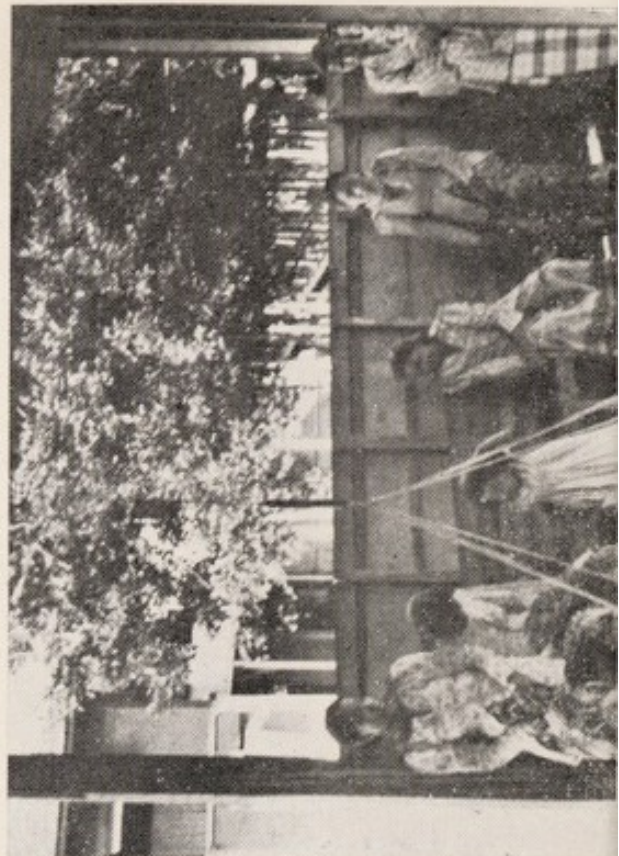
Agriculture

Food Crops	Acres Cultivated	Fruits	Acres Cultivated
Wet Padi	4,723	Pineapples	484
(Yield 480,179 * Gantangs)		Bananas	477
Dry Padi	3,752	Mixed fruits or not specified separately	853
(Yield 437,139 * Gantangs)			
Sweet Potato	198		
Tapioca	616	Coconuts	
Sago	2,022	Sole crops	879
Maize	182	Mixed crops	144
Menjalai	80		
Sugar Cane	380		
Ground nut	37		

* 1 gantang = 1 gallon approx.



AT WORK IN THE
TEMPORARY LABORATORY



GENERAL VIEW OF
BRUNEI TOWN TEMPORARY HOSPITAL



	Acres Cultivated		Acres Cultivated
<i>Food Crops</i>		<i>Rubber Estates</i>	
Vegetables	386	Large Holding	3,500
Lesser Yams	160	Medium Holding	3,717
<i>Spices</i>		Small Holding	17,958
Arecanuts	39	New Planting	694
Pepper	26	<i>Beverages (Coffee)</i>	
Ginger	31	Interplanted or	
Tumeric	48	catch crop	9
Sireh	58		
<i>Crops not specified elsewhere</i>			
Tobacco	64		
Derris	34		

Animal Husbandry

	Total Census
Buffaloes	5,493
Cattle	2,185
Pigs	1,994
Goats	997
Domestic Birds	26,142

Forests

Jelutong	1,641 piculs
Timber and Poles	718,000 cubic ft.
Sawn and converted timber	2,000 tons

Fisheries

There is no Department of Fisheries and no statistics are kept other than those shown under Appendix A.

Mining

Mineral Oil	1,700,231 English tons
Gas	8,933,448,730 cubic feet

Organization

Forestry.—This industry is controlled generally by the State Forest Officer with Headquarters at Kulala Belait.

Individual trade in timber is carried on by the Borneo Australian Timber Company.

The British Malayan Petroleum Company consumes about 77% of the State's production of sawn and converted timber.

The Borneo Australian Timber Company has been exporting logs in the round to Australia for plywood manufacture. The amount exported in the year was 226 tons but this extremely enterprising attempt to establish a regular export trade has not proved entirely successful. In exploiting swamp forest, difficulty was experienced in obtaining a sufficient proportion of floating logs to make rafting by sea a sound proposition. By the close of the year rafting had been abandoned in favour of shipping by small shallow-draft vessels.

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.—An Agriculture Officer exists for the supervision of the Agricultural Department. He

gives advice and assistance to all agriculturists and maintains experimental stations.

Cultivation of all kinds is in the hands of private agriculturists and consists, with the exception of four European rubber estates, of small plots and holdings.

Rubber and jelutong are produced entirely for export.

Rice and other foodstuffs are produced almost entirely for local consumption as are animals and poultry.

The Kedayans are the principal agriculturists but all sections of the community take part to a lesser extent.

Mining.—Mineral oil is produced in very large quantities from the oilfields at Seria owned by the British Malayan Petroleum Company, a subsidiary company of the "Shell" group, which operates under a mining lease.

Events affecting Production

Agriculture.—During the year agriculture and animal husbandry have made marked progress and there have been substantial increases in the areas of "wet padi". At the same time there has been a marked decrease in the cultivation of "hill padi". This is a satisfactory feature since "hill padi" involves wasteful shifting cultivation. Since the re-occupation the native peasant has returned and settled in the agricultural areas and production has accordingly increased.

Primitive methods of cultivation are used and "wet padi" fields are prepared by buffalo which trample the area before the planting of seedlings. In the case of "hill padi" large areas of jungle are felled and burnt and the padi seed sown direct.

Much assistance has been given to kampong dwellers during the year under review.

Large drains were cut, in some cases to drain off water and in others to assist in obtaining sufficient water during the growing season. Padi seedlings were also supplied to those growers who were late in preparing their ground or whose nursery had been damaged by insects or wild pigs. In all some 300,000 seedlings were distributed.

A drought in the early part of the year resulted in the "hill padi" crop becoming almost a failure. During the remainder of the year rain was evenly distributed and the crops promise a good harvest.

Sago.—During the past year the production of sago greatly increased on account of the high price of rice.

Agricultural Stations and Padi Test Plots.—Experiments were made with true line strains of padi with a view to improving the local strains. The reproduction of fruit trees by marcoting and budding was carried out throughout the year and a number of these have been supplied to the public. A large area has been planted at the new Kuala Abang Station where it is intended to develop a mixed fruit and vegetable plantation. Fruit trees, coffee and coconuts have been brought into bearing during the year.

During the year a School Teachers refresher course was held and lectures and demonstrations were arranged at the Agricultural Station, Kilanas. A talk on padi planting and general agriculture was given to the Penghulus and Ketuas.

Wild pigs are still the worst pest in spite of the plentiful use of poisons. During the latter months the receipt of a shipment of shotguns and ammunition helped to ease the situation.

Diseases of Rubber.—In some districts mouldy Rot (*Ceratostomilla fimbriata*) has given considerable trouble and a further disease Secondary leaf-fall, which appears shortly after defoliation has occurred, has caused a certain amount of damage to foliage.

A rice huller and engine have been established at the main State test station where milling of Government purchase padi takes place.

Forests.—An unmetalled forest road was constructed over a distance of 3 miles, being an extension of an existing road, leading from the sea coast to the Andulau Forest Reserve at Sg. Lumut.

The cost of construction was borne by the British Malayan Petroleum Company who propose to instal a sawmill at the head of the road. It is anticipated that this source of supply will be adequate to meet the hardwood and softwood timber requirements of this Company for several years.

Shifting Cultivation.—The Sea Dyaks (Ibans) continue to be the worst offenders. There are five settlements in Forest Reserves and eighteen in State Land forests, mostly in remote regions. The policy has been to fix a 'pak' or limit on the Belait, Tutong and Temburong Rivers above which settlements and 'ladangs' are prohibited, and to confine clearings for "hill padi" cultivation to secondary jungle.

Production of Seed.—There was a heavy fruiting of dipterocarps in February and March. The enkabang mast (illipe nuts) was exceptionally heavy but unfortunately the Singapore market prices were not high enough to make collection of the fruit profitable. Consequently the opportunity of exporting this valuable source of vegetable oil was lost. Large quantities were collected and used by the natives of the State.

Silvicultural Operations.—Commercial seeding fellings and commercial thinnings continued on an extensive scale in kapur paya forest in the Anduki Forest Reserve.

Sawmills.—There are three sawmills in the State.

The installation of a new sawmill at Tutong was authorised during the year and was nearing completion in December. This mill is intended to supply the hard and softwood requirements of Brunei and Tutong Districts.

Land Tenure.—All land not already held under title or under a recognised concession is designated State land and may be disposed of by the Government on behalf of the Ruler of the State in accordance with the provisions of the Land Code. Such land is held either in perpetuity or for a term of years by entry in the Land Office Register, and the document of title issued to the land

holder takes the form of an extract from the Register endorsed with a plan of the land. The title covers surface rights only and is subject to certain reservations in favour of the Government, such as the right to all minerals and the power to resume the land for public purposes on payment of compensation. Except in the case of land alienated for the cultivation of padi paya (wet rice) and rumbia (sago) premium is generally charged on alienation, and the land is also subject to an annual quit rent which, however, in the case of padi paya (wet padi land) is remitted for the first five years. Annual licences for the temporary occupation of State land are also issued in certain cases. They do not, however, convey any permanent rights and are not transferable.

Mineral rights are conferred under the Mining Enactment.

Cottage Industries.—No report on Production in Brunei would be complete without a mention of the cottage industries, of which the chief are silverware, brassware, kajang (palm leaf) matting and weaving. The silver trade, which suffered from a lack of raw material immediately after the War, got into its stride during 1947 and a wide variety of useful and ornamental objects was produced. Most of the old craftsmen are still in the trade and it is encouraging to see that there are a number of silver-smiths of the younger generation who will be able to carry on the trade in years to come so that the distinctive Brunei designs will be preserved and handed down to the next generation.

There was less activity among the brass workers during the year as supplies of empty shell and bullet cases left after the War were gradually used up. It is a matter for regret that the famous Brunei gongs are no longer being made and it would appear that the art is now almost extinct after being forgotten during the Occupation years.

Kajang mats, bags and baskets are being produced in increasing numbers and find a ready sale. There is no lack of raw material for this product and dyes are becoming more plentiful. The weaving of sarongs on the other hand is still held up for lack of thread.

All these industries are carried on in houses in the River Kampong with the barest number of tools of a rudimentary kind. The production of silverware is the task of the men while women are active in mat and bag making and also in the construction of atap (roof thatching) which is in great demand. These craftsmen work in their own time and in their own way; their products command a relatively high price and the resultant way of living is most congenial to the Brunei's temperament.

There is an annual vote in the State's Budget for encouragement of these arts and crafts and every assistance is given by Government in arranging for the marketing of silver and kajang ware in Malaya. Examples of Brunei silverware were exhibited in the Malayan Agri-horticultural Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur in August 1947.

CHAPTER VII.
SOCIAL SERVICES

Education

There are thirty two schools in the State of Brunei, of which 24 are Malay Vernacular Schools, 5 are Chinese Vernacular Schools and 3 are English Schools. The Malay Schools are State schools directly controlled by the State Education Department, while the Chinese and English Schools are private schools directed, in the case of the Chinese schools, by local committees and, in the case of the English schools, by a Roman Catholic Mission. A degree of Government control of these private schools is ensured by the Registration of Schools Enactment 1939, which requires all non-Government schools and all teachers employed in such schools to be registered and provides for their inspection by Government officers. At present there are no secondary schools in the State and all schools are primary. The majority of them are in rural districts.

Malay Schools.—During the year two new Malay schools were opened, one at Labi in the Belait District and one at Labu in the District of Temburong. It was found necessary to close the school at Bukit Sawat as a number of the Dusun families, for whose children this school catered, has left the area and an insufficient number of children remained to justify its continuance.

Enrolment and School Attendance.—By the Education Enactment all male Malaysian children between the ages of seven and fourteen years are required to attend Malay vernacular schools provided that a school is available within two miles of their home. Education is provided free and school books and writing materials are also supplied free to those pupils whose parents are unable to afford them. The following table shows the number of pupils enrolled in the Malay schools at the end of 1947:—

School	Number of Pupils		
	M.	F.	Total
1. Brunei Town	510	58	568
2. Sengkurong	65	4	69
3. Kilanas	41	9	50
4. Gadong	40	3	43
5. Kasat	32	8	40
6. Lumapas	49	13	62
7. Berakas	40	1	41
8. Muara	60	4	64
9. Bangar	49	15	64
10. Labu	22	4	26
11. Bukit Bendera	57	21	78
12. Tanjong Maya	70	2	72
13. Ukong	35	7	42
14. Penanjong	32	10	42
15. Kiudang	33	—	33
16. Keriam	25	11	36
17. Sinaut	33	12	45
18. Lamunin	45	4	49
19. Kuala Belait	86	48	134

20.	Seria	..	..	114	59	173
21.	Kuala Balai	..	..	18	11	29
22.	Labi	..	..	41	10	51
23.	Danau	..	..	34	15	49
24.	Tumpuan Telisai	..	..	27	5	32
	Total			1,558	334	1,892

These figures show an increase of 275 males and 85 females over corresponding figures for the month of December, 1946 but the proportion of Malaysian children of school age, who are enrolled, is still low. The reasons for this are several. There are still considerable stretches of country in the State, where the population is very scattered and no schools exist within reasonable distance. As a result of the Japanese invasion and the subsequent years of neglect, a number of schools are still in such a state of disrepair that many parents will not permit their daughters to attend them. To a large extent, it may be said that the lowness of the enrolment figures is still due to conditions which are a result of the Japanese occupation and, as further progress is made in the general rehabilitation of the State, enrolment figures should continue to rise.

For much the same reasons as those which account for the failure of a considerable proportion of the children to enroll, the standard of school attendance is low among those enrolled. The absence from school for considerable periods of children, whose parents take them inland during the padi season, is a feature of the coastal schools. The Government is planning to deal with this problem, by providing schools in the padi areas. In the meantime, a considerable improvement in school attendance has resulted from the appointment, which was first made at the end of 1946, of a School Attendance Officer.

Work of the Schools.—The standard of work of the Malay Schools has shown some improvement on that of the previous year. The Education Department has succeeded, with the assistance of the Director of Education, Federation of Malaya, in replacing to a certain extent the stocks of text books and other teaching equipment lost during the period of enemy occupation. Progress was also made during the year in the repair or replacement of school buildings but much remains to be done and the progress of education is still hampered by the inadequacy of many of the school buildings and also by the shortage of quarters for teachers.

Curriculum.—The curriculum is based on that of Malay vernacular schools in Malaya and comprises Reading and Writing both in Jawi and Romanised scripts, Arithmetic, Composition, Geography, History, Hygiene, Drawing, Practical Gardening, Handwork and Physical Training. The teaching staff includes an Instructor in Physical Education and Handwork, who makes periodical visits to all Malay schools. Boys are taught canoe building, basketry in bamboo and rattan and the shredding of coconut husks and bamboo to make brushes; girls are taught sewing and embroidery. Religious instruction by Mohammedan

teachers is given in the Malay Schools at Brunei town, Kuala Belait and Bukit Bendera.

In 1947 the inter-school Games and Drill Competition and the School Gardens Competition, both of which were annual events before the war, were revived. An inter-school football competition, which is open also to Chinese schools and English schools, was started during the year. Volley ball and badminton are played in the Malay schools at Brunei town, Bukit Bendera, Seria and Bangar.

Staff.—At the end of the year, the Malay administrative staff of the Education Department consisted of an Acting Superintendent of Education, an Acting Inspector of Schools and 3 Group Teachers. The teaching staff consisted of 4 trained Teachers, 56 untrained Teachers and 5 Women Teachers (untrained), 3 Religious Teachers and one Instructor of Physical Training and Handwork. There are thus approximately 28 pupils per teacher, excluding Group Teachers.

As there are no facilities for training teachers in Brunei, teachers selected for training are sent to the Sultan Idris Training College in Malaya for a three years' course. At the end of 1947, there were 12 students from Brunei at the College, of whom 4 were third year students who had returned to complete courses started in 1941, and 8 were first year students.

Chinese Schools.—Details of Chinese schools in the State are as follows:—

School	Number of Pupils		
	M.	F.	Total
1. Brunei Town Chinese School	113	69	182
2. Chung Hua School, Kuala Belait	297	213	510
3. Chung Hua School, Tutong	39	8	47
4. Chung Hua School, Seria	100	84	184
5. Chung Hua School, Labi	18	6	24
Total	567	380	947

The Chung Hua School at Labi has recently been opened and little is yet known of its work. The other Chinese Schools were all established before the war and they appear to be well supported and to be maintaining a standard which can be regarded as reasonably satisfactory in the light of the difficulties, such as shortage of trained teachers, lack of text-books and shortage of funds, with which they still have to contend. During 1947 the Chung Hua School, Kuala Belait received a grant-in-aid from the State of \$50 per month.

The language of instruction at the Chinese schools is Mandarin and, although they are not regarded as English schools, most of them include English in their curriculum.

English Schools.—Before the war, the Brunei Government used to send a small number of Malaysian boys to the Government English School at Labuan. This school was badly damaged

by bombs and is now unable to accept Brunei pupils. Facilities for Education in English exist at the following schools:—

Kuala Belait English School
 Roman Catholic School, Brunei
 Roman Catholic School, Seria.

The standard is low, largely on account of the lack of qualified teachers. All are fee-paying schools and the State pays \$50 per month to the Kuala Belait English School and \$100 per month to the Roman Catholic School, Brunei as grants-in-aid.

Kuala Belait English School.—This school which is subsidised jointly by the Government and the British Malayan Petroleum Company was originally managed by a School Board. Although the school-building was destroyed by bombs, the school was re-started in rented premises after the war. At the beginning of 1947, the School Board decided, on account of the difficulty of obtaining suitable staff, to accept an offer by the Roman Catholic Mission to take over the running of the school and to provide the staff. This school is therefore now under the management of the Mission.

Miscellaneous.—There are four Scout troops in the State, two being at Brunei one at Kuala Belait and one at Tutong. They lack a suitable organiser and sufficient uniforms, badges and sports requisites.

The sum of \$56,448 was spent on Education in 1947 as compared with \$20,280 in 1946.

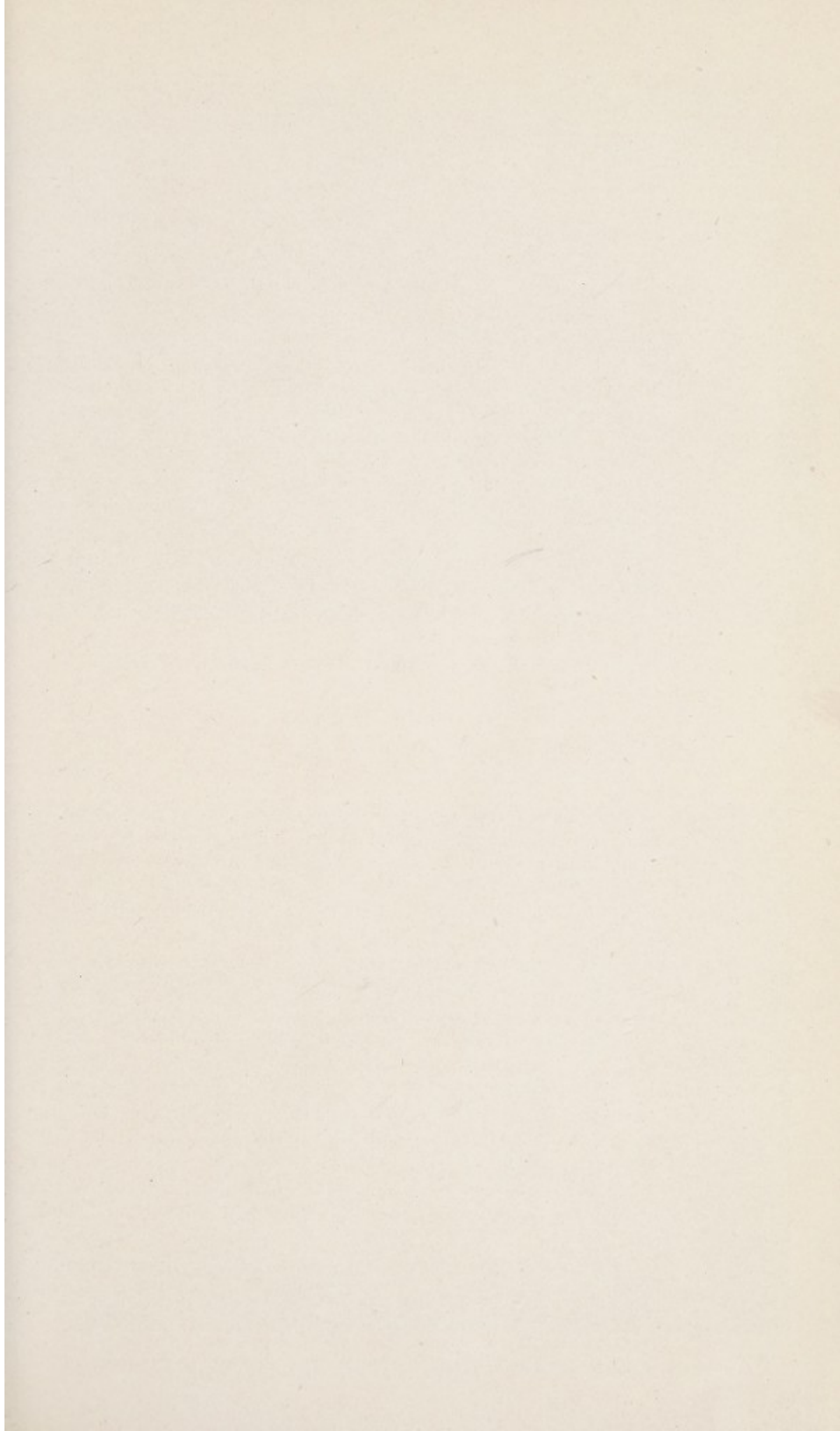
Summary.—During the year under review considerable progress in education was made. There is, however, real need for further improvement of the existing schools and also for the provision of secondary schools and a Trade School. More adequate arrangements also require to be made for female education. The Government has prepared plans to provide schools to meet these needs but it seems unlikely that much can be done towards carrying out these plans until a full-time Director of Education has been appointed. Urgent efforts are being made to find a suitable officer to fill this post.

Health

Administration.—The Medical and Health administration of the State is in the hands of one officer who is a member of the Malayan Medical Service, seconded to Brunei. Dr. G. A. Mott held the post throughout the year.

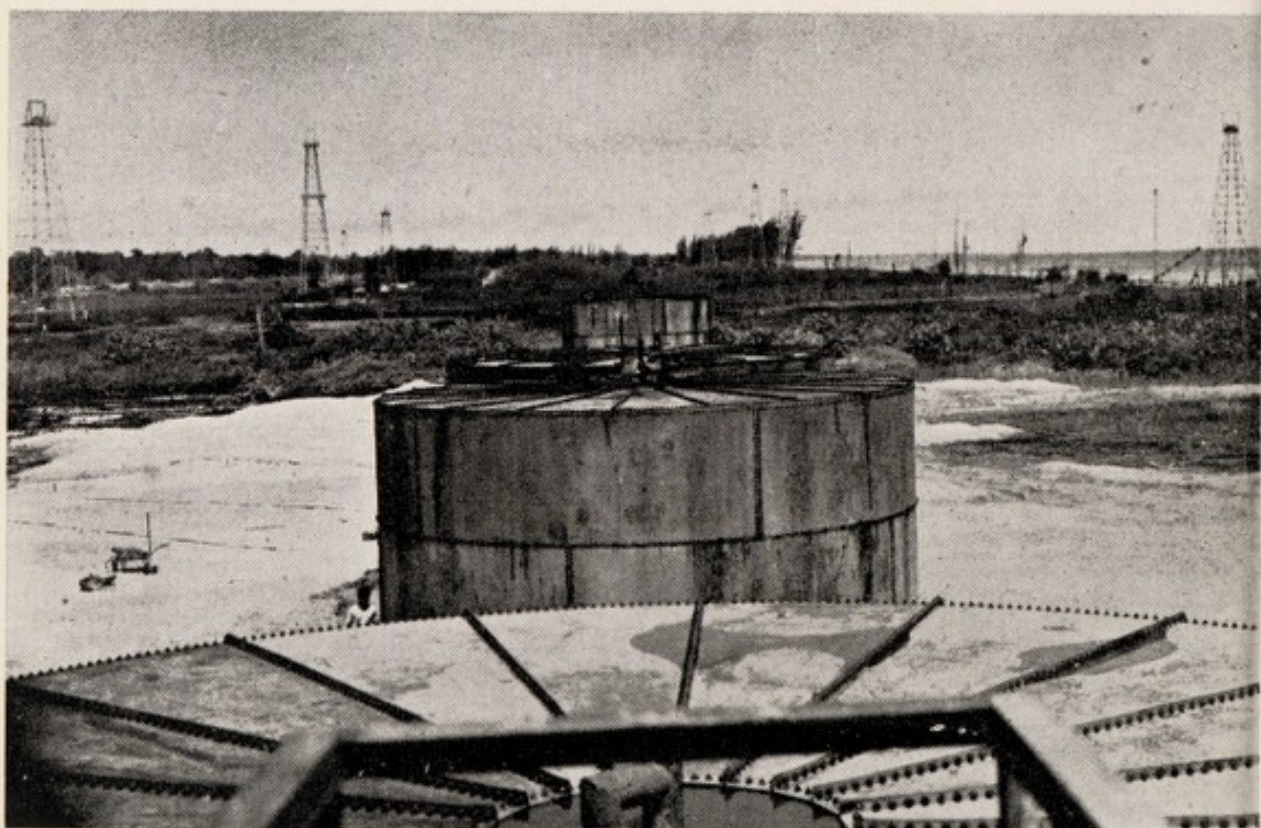
The British Malayan Petroleum Company at Kuala Belait employ two Medical Officers and one of these receives a retaining fee from the Government and looks after Government patients at this end of the State. A close liaison is maintained between the State Medical Officer and the Medical Officer of the Company.

Post War Difficulties.—The ravages of war and its aftermath made the year one of extreme difficulty. Brunei town and its hospital were totally destroyed, equipment has been primitive in the extreme and although extensive orders for new supplies were placed early in the year, it was only in November and December





SERIA OILFIELDS AFTER FIRING BY THE RETREATING JAPANESE



A SECTION OF THE OILFIELD AFTER REHABILITATION

that they began to be received in bulk. Throughout the year, the Medical Department had to rely on supplies taken over from the Army. These supplies were designed primarily for a military campaign and were only partly suited to the needs of a civilian population, which, for four years, had been deprived of many of the necessities of existence.

Thus the year has been one long struggle to provide a basic medical service, with only a temporary hospital, and with shortages of almost all medical supplies. It has in effect, been a year of preparation and of planning for the future, while at the same time endeavouring to provide as good a service as possible with the facilities available. Figures in the hospital records indicate the extent to which this has been done, although it must be frankly stated that the service provided to the average individual patient has inevitably fallen short of the standards which it is the aim of the Government to reach.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.—With the destruction of Brunei Town Hospital during the war, work continued throughout the year in a temporary hospital. This consists of an old Malay house, renovated and adjusted, and with the addition of two atap out-buildings which serve as female wards, and a further atap out-building which is used as out-patient department and Infant Welfare Clinic. In the main building there is a small theatre, equipped with material salvaged from the old hospital and with what could be obtained elsewhere. There are also an office, a consulting room, a medical store and three small wards in the main building. The building can take the maximum of about 70 patients, but only 50 can be accommodated conveniently and the number usually averages 30 to 40. During the year a wooden building with eight cells for the temporary accommodation of lunatics was added.

Dispensaries in charge of a dresser exist at Tutong, Temburong, Muara and Kuala Belait. Those at Tutong and Temburong are permanent pre-war structures and those at Muara and Kuala Belait temporary buildings only.

In Kuala Belait the British Malayan Petroleum Company have their pre-war hospital, which fortunately suffered no damage to the fabric during the war. Government sponsored patients are admitted to this hospital through the dispensary at Kuala Belait.

The dressers at Tutong and Temburong pay monthly visits up-river, but this is as much as it has been possible to do for the people in the outlying districts. Travelling dressers will be re-started as soon as supplies permit but this has not yet been possible.

By an arrangement with Sarawak, Brunei provides medical services for the Limbang area, the tongue of Sarawak between the two parts of Brunei State.

Child Welfare and Maternity.—There is a child welfare and maternity clinic at Brunei where it forms part of the female out-patient department, and one at Kuala Belait attached to the dispensary. Each clinic is in the charge of a staff nurse, assisted by four midwives in Brunei and two in Kuala Belait, and in asso-

ciation with the clinic the midwives provide a district midwifery service under the supervision of the Staff nurse.

The amount of work achieved by these clinics is indicated by the records of attendance; they are extremely popular amongst the local people and their achievements are indicated by the Infant Mortality Rate which was 210 in 1938 when the Brunei clinic was first opened but has fallen to 133 during 1947. The figure is still too high, but it is hoped that with the continued work of the clinics there will be a steady decline.

Superstition, ignorance and prejudice still hamper the work of the clinics and again and again cases of Labour long-obstructed, present themselves for the first time when the patient is moribund. Children brought for the first time in a state of the most gross marasmus are also common sights. In these circumstances the achievements of the clinics reflect the greatest credit on the nurses and midwives who work in them, and in particular on the two Staff nurses upon whose personality and ability the work of the clinics primarily depends.

Sanitation and Refuse Disposal.—In the Sanitary Board areas night soil is collected in buckets and dumped into a convenient tidal river. In the Kuala Belait—Seria area a considerable number of houses have their own water-borne sanitation. Little can yet be done to improve the position in the native Kampongs.

In the three main centres, street and domestic refuse is collected and disposed of by labourers under the supervision of the Sanitary Boards. In Brunei and Kuala Belait, it is incinerated whilst in Tutong it is discharged into the river which at that point is only 3 miles from the sea.

Food Animals.—All animals slaughtered for food in Brunei and Kuala Belait are inspected before and after death by Sanitary Inspectors under the supervision of the Sanitary Board. The slaughter house in Brunei is too small and will have to be replaced.

Anti-Malarial Measures.—Anti-malarial work is possible only in the two large centres of population at Brunei Town and Kuala Belait. An exact investigation of the carriers of malaria has never been made in Brunei, but arrangements have been made for this to be done in the near future, by the Borneo Malaria Research Unit under Dr. McArthur. It has hitherto been assumed that the most commonly occurring anophelines, namely, *A.Kochi*, *A.Barbirostris* and *A.Leucosphyrus* were also the most important vectors. That this is a very dangerous assumption is shown by Dr. McArthur's findings in North Borneo, and an exact survey and identification of the vector is necessary before scientifically planned anti-malarial work is possible.

Work is primarily anti-mosquito, consisting of oiling, draining and clearing. In Kuala Belait the work is undertaken by the British Malayan Petroleum Company and Government makes payment to the Company for the area outside the area of the Company's oil lease.

Prevailing Diseases.

Malaria.—This condition is widespread throughout the State and only the limited area of Brunei Town is relatively free. The

commonest form is the Bengin Tertian parasite, but the Malignant Tertian parasite also occurs commonly and the Quartan form is encountered occasionally. One severe case of Blackwater Fever was treated in Brunei Hospital and this eventually recovered after being dangerously ill for several days.

Helminths.—Infestation with round worms is exceedingly common especially in children and routine treatment is usually necessary before discharge from hospital in the case of a child admitted from any cause.

Hookworm infestation is much less common in Brunei Town, where a large proportion of the population live in the river town in which sewage is disposed of straight into the river. In the urban districts it is extremely common partly due to the use, during the occupation, of human faecal material as manure, and partly to the lack of effective means of sanitation in native houses. Hookworm Pneumonia has been seen on several occasions in Brunei Hospital, while the parasites are passing by the lungs.

Chronic Malaria, Malnutrition and the Hookworm.—This vicious triad is responsible for a very great deal of the illness occurring amongst the people in urban areas, and it is probably true to say that every Kedayan admitted to Brunei Hospital is suffering from it to some extent. Increased blood loss due to Hookworm, increased blood destruction due to malaria, and diminished blood formation due to an unbalanced, deficient diet, produce the most gross degrees of Anaemia, as well as beri-beri, starvation Oedema, and a tremendously increased susceptibility to infection, especially tuberculosis. The condition responds with extraordinary speed to simple treatment with iron mixture, liver injections, vitamin B tablets, and a balanced adequate diet and it is frequently found that a patient, admitted for some independent reason such as broken bone and kept in hospital for several weeks, leaves the hospital with his blood haemoglobin doubled, his oedema disappeared and his weight increased by a stone or more.

The cure for this condition is obviously to be found in an elevation of the standard of living, and the teaching of sanitary and anti-malarial methods, and this should become more practicable as the State is developed and opened up.

Tuberculosis.—Together with the foregoing, with which it is closely connected, tuberculosis forms the major health problem in the State. Overcrowding in the houses, spitting, malnutrition and debilitation due to chronic malaria and hookworm infestation, when allied to a racial susceptibility and an absence of immunity, form conditions which are ideal for the spread of tuberculosis. At the moment no facilities exist either for treatment or segregation of cases, and little can be done for the unfortunate sufferers or to prevent the spread of the disease.

Better housing conditions, and improvement in the general standard of living, and an educational attack on the evils of spitting, together with the provision of sanatoria for infective cases, probably form the most fruitful lines of progress, but, as in many neighbouring countries, the disease is likely to be widespread for many years.

Veneral Disease.—Gonorrhoea is fairly widespread, and syphilis much more frequent than before the War. In Penicillin, however, there is available a much more powerful weapon than any hitherto, and it is possible to do much more for many cases than in earlier years although there remains the difficulty of persuading patients to stay under treatment until cured.

Dysentery.—Amoebic and Bacillary Dysentery both occur, the former being more commonly encountered in Brunei Hospital than the latter. Both diseases are readily curable if seen in the early stages, but one case of Bacillary dysentery, and two of Amoebic, died as the result of delaying too long before seeking treatment. Amoebic Abscess of Liver is seen occasionally, and in one case treated in Brunei Hospital a secondary Pleurisy due to rupture of such an abscess into a bronchus was seen.

Measles.—There was an extensive outbreak of Measles in the middle of the year, characterized by a rash of short duration and a marked tendency to Broncho-pneumonia. Only one death was recorded due to secondary Broncho-pneumonia in an infant.

Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis.—This disease is endemic in this State, but no record exists of it ever having reached epidemic proportions. Four cases were treated in Brunei Hospital during the year, two of which died. One of the surviving cases was very interesting, in that the patient acquired Measles and Meningitis simultaneously, the Measles developing clinically, when the Meningitis had subsided.

Typhus.—This disease has not been previously described in Brunei, but four cases were seen during the year, one case, that of the Medical Officer himself, being proved serologically. It is a mild form and is of the Urban type, the reservoir probably being the rat, and the vector, the rat flea. It is probable that some cases of unexplained fever in the past were due to this condition.

Mental Diseases.—The Hospital now includes eight calls for the temporary accommodation of mental patients. Severe cases requiring long confinement are normally sent to Kuching.

Leprosy.—This condition is probably commoner in the State than has hitherto been supposed, and it is likely that a close survey would reveal an appreciable number of cases. In view of the slight risk of contagion, these cases are normally left in their homes, but a few are sent to the Leper Settlement at Kuching. As yet no facilities for treatment exist in Brunei.

Other Diseases.—Three cases of Jering Poisoning occurred during the year in three prisoners who, while working on the road, ate the fruit of the jering tree, and subsequently developed signs of Acute Nephritis, one case going on to fits.

All ultimately recovered. The condition has been described in Java, by de Lanyen, Hijman and Van Veen under the name of Jenghol poisoning, but it has not been possible to find a previous recorded case of this condition in Borneo. It is well-known however, to the local Kedayans, who treat it with coconut milk. Since this is an alkaline fluid it is a rational form of treatment for an irritated kidney.

HOUSING

Housing in Urban Areas.—The three townships of Brunei, Kuala Belait and Tutong were virtually destroyed by bombing during the War. All have Sanitary Board areas under the Sanitary Boards Enactment, and strict control over matters relating to housing and sanitation is exercised by the local Sanitary Boards. Plans of buildings and of structural alterations must be submitted to the Boards for prior approval and all houses are subject to inspection by their officers.

Houses of the "bazaar" areas are mostly of the shophouse type, the new temporary buildings recently constructed in Brunei Town are two storied buildings made of wood with attap roofs. These buildings have a frontage of 20 feet with a depth of 70 feet. The top storey of the building is used as a habitation by the shop-keeper, usually Chinese, and his family, whilst the ground floor serves as business premises.

Outside the shophouse area there still remains a number of houses which escaped the bombing. These are mostly of the plank and attap variety on a small plot of land.

It is desirable that replacement of temporary buildings in the Towns by permanent structures should not be over long delayed. Before this is undertaken it is proposed to draw up approved Town Plans for Brunei, Kuala Belait and Seria and the temporary buildings will be allowed to remain in the meantime. It is impossible to carry out a rapid programme of reconstruction at present as the demand for building materials and artisans exceed the supply. This is largely due to the rapid expansion of the British Malayan Petroleum Company's operations in the State and the large building programme which accompanies it. During the year a bungalow suburb was built by the Company at Seria to house the European staff and their families who now number almost three hundred. These and many other buildings erected for the Company's employees during 1947 were built of temporary materials.

Housing in Rural Districts.—Outside the Sanitary Board areas housing is not generally subject to government control, but some by-laws relating to housing and sanitation have been applied in certain areas.

The usual native house is raised on piles about five feet from the ground. The more pretentious may have walls and floor of plank and be roofed with billian (ironwood) shingles. More commonly, however, the walls are of water-proof matting made from leaves of the nipah palm, the floors of separated slats, split bamboo or nibong, and the roofs of attap (palm thatch). They usually consist of an open front verandah with two or more rooms and a separate kitchen joined to the main building by a raised platform. This type of building is cool, dry, healthy, and effectively ventilated, and, apart from some overcrowding, the conditions under which this class of the population live are reasonably satisfactory. Sanitation, however, where it exists at all, is generally of the most primitive type.

In Brunei Town, but outside the sanitary Board area, lies the famous River Kampong where for generations the bulk of the

Malay population has lived. The houses are of similar construction to native houses on land but are built on hardwood piles on shallows in the river. Overcrowding is more marked than in the land kampongs, but sanitation is better, as refuse is discharged into the river and effectively carried away by the tide. The kampong is generally free from epidemics which may be associated with this mode of habitation as the river is tidal and is of a very high salt content which makes the water undrinkable. There is now observable tendency amongst the younger and better educated generation to build their houses on the land.

Dyaks, Dusuns and Muruts generally live in communal long-houses. These are long buildings on high piles between 6 to 10 feet from the ground with numerous doors to which the inhabitants gain access by ascending a ladder made of a tree trunk with steps cut into it to form the rungs. The buildings vary in length according to the number of inmates which may be as many as two hundred, and consist of a long covered verandah where the bachelors live and a line of rooms occupied by the married members of the community and their families. The sanitation of these houses is even more primitive than of those mentioned above, as pigs, goats and chickens frequently live on the ground in the floor space under the house.

Housing of Government Employees.—In Brunei Town most Government servants who are natives of the State own their own houses. In the out-districts, and in the case of non-domiciled individuals free quarters are graded in classes and conform to approved standard plans. They are well-built buildings each with a minimum accommodation of two rooms and a kitchen and adequate sanitary appointments. Police and certain other employees are housed in barracks. A large number of the Government quarters still remain and during 1947 underwent the repairs which they failed to receive during the Japanese occupation.

Housing on Estates and Mines.—Statutory requirements are prescribed by the Labour Code for the housing of labourers on estates and mines. The type of married accommodation favoured on estates is the semi-detached house with small garden attached. Where barrack-type family accommodation is provided, the unit consists of two rooms and a kitchen. Estate labour is largely indigenous and on certain estates most are non-resident and live in their own houses, often situated a considerable distance away from their employment.

In the oilfields at Seria and Belait the Oil Company accommodates its labour force in temporary attap and kajang houses built in the form of lines and fitted with water supply which is pumped down from the Belait River at Badas.

BUILDING SOCIETIES.

There are no Building Societies in the State. There is, however, a co-operative society run for the benefit of Government employees, from which members may obtain loans for the erection and repair of their houses.

CHAPTER VIII

LEGISLATION

The main body of the law consists of the Enactments which have been passed from time to time within the State and certain Enactments of the previous Federated Malay States which have been applied to Brunei by the Courts Enactment, 1908, and the Federated Malay States Laws Adoption Enactment, 1939.

The external legislation which has been applied to the State comprises the Penal Code, the Law of Evidence, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Civil Procedure Code the Law of Specific Relief and the Law of Contracts in force in the Federated Malay States before the war.

The language of all legislation is English.

Twelve meetings of the State Council were held during the year and the following Enactments were passed.

(1) *The Census Enactment*.—This Enactment provides for the taking of a census from time to time.

(2) *The Pensions (Special Provision) Enactment*.—This Enactment enables retrospective effect to be given to certain pensions regulations and rules, makes fresh provision for the exercise of the option for a reduced pension and gratuity, and enables the period of the enemy occupation to count for pension and for like purposes.

(3) *The Traction Engines and Motor Cars (Amendment) Enactment*.—This Enactment amends the Traction Engines and Motor Cars Enactment, 1924.

(4) *The Customs (Remission of Duties) Enactment*.—This Enactment provides for the remission of Customs duties in certain cases.

(5) *The Immigration Enactment*.—This Enactment consolidates and unifies the laws relating to Immigration.

(6) *The Japanese Judgments and Civil Proceedings Enactment*.—This Enactment makes provision with regard to Judgments, orders and decrees of Japanese Courts and for the carrying on of proceedings instituted in such Courts during the period of Japanese occupation.

(7) *The Customs Duties (Amendment) Enactment*.—This Enactment amends the Customs Duties Enactment, 1906.

In addition rules were promulgated under various Enactments, the more important being—

(a) the Currency (Coins) Regulation made under the Currency Enactment, 1939.

(b) the Census Rules made under the Census Enactment, 1947.

(c) The Forest (Amendment) Rules made under the Forest Enactment, 1934.

(d) The General Rules and Revised Import and Export Tariffs made under the Customs Enactment, 1906.

CHAPTER IX
JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS

Justice

The Courts constituted in the State for the administration of civil and criminal law are as follows:—

- The Court of the Resident.
- Courts of Magistrates of the First Class.
- Courts of Magistrates of the Second Class.
- Courts of Native Magistrates.
- Courts of Kathis.

Court of the British Resident.—The Court of the Resident has jurisdiction in all matters of a civil nature excepting the annulment of marriages solemnised between Christians in the United Kingdom or in any British Colony, protectorate or possession, and criminal jurisdiction in the case of all offences committed in the State or on the high seas on board ships registered in the State or committed by subjects of the State on the high seas on board ships whether registered in the State or not. It may pass any sentence authorized by law, including sentence of death. In its appellate jurisdiction it has power to hear and determine all appeals from the decisions of the lower Courts both in civil and criminal matters.

Court of the First Class Magistrate.—The Court of a Magistrate of the First Class has original civil jurisdiction in suits involving not more than \$1,000 and original criminal jurisdiction in the case of offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed seven years or which are punishable by fine only. The sentences which may be passed by the Court are imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, fine not exceeding \$1,000 and whipping not exceeding 12 strokes. The Court has also appellate criminal and civil jurisdiction in respect of cases tried by the lower Courts.

Court of the Second Class Magistrate.—The Court of a Magistrate of the Second Class has civil jurisdiction in suits involving not more than \$100 and criminal jurisdiction in the case of offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by laws does not exceed three years, or which are punishable with fine only of a sum not exceeding \$100. The sentences which may be passed by the Court are imprisonment for a term not exceeding 14 days and fine not exceeding \$50.

Court of the Native Magistrate.—The Court of the Native Magistrate has civil jurisdiction in suits brought by or against Malays or other Asiatics involving not more than \$25, and criminal jurisdiction in the case of offences for which the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed three months. It may impose a fine not exceeding \$10.

Court of the Kathi.—The Court of a Kathi deals solely with questions concerning Mohammedan religion, marriage and divorce, and may impose a fine not exceeding \$10.

Procedure in the Courts is regulated by the provisions of the Federated Malay States Criminal Procedure and Civil Procedure

Code, these Enactments having been applied to the State, *mutatis mutandis*, by the Federated Malay States Laws Adoption Enactment, 1939. The former includes provision for the granting of time for the payment of fines, the release on probation of first offenders and the special treatment of youthful offenders.

There were one First Class Magistrate, five Second Class Magistrates and one Kathi functioning in the State during the year. There are at present no Native Magistrates.

The following tables shows the number of cases instituted and disposed of in the various Courts:

District	Resident' Court		First Class Magistrate's Court		Second Class Magistrate's Court		Total	
	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil
Brunei	4	—	26	2	161	7	191	9
Belait	—	—	58	11	133	26	191	37
Tutong	—	—	1	—	33	—	34	—
Temburong	—	—	2	—	2	—	4	—
Muara	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
	4	—	87	13	331	33	422	46

Of the 422 criminal cases, conviction were registered in 339 cases, 57 resulted in acquittal, 22 were withdrawn and 4 were pending.

The amount involved in civil suits was \$3,846.94. There were six letters of administration suits in respect of estates aggregating \$44,842.05 in value.

Police

The Brunei Police Force is commanded by an Officer seconded from the Malayan Police Force. Mr. H. J. Spinks, Assistant Superintendent of Police held the appointment throughout the year.

The strength of the Force at the end of the year was 95 Subordinate Police Officers and constables, showing a shortage of 21. The high wages paid by the Oil Company makes recruiting difficult on the existing rates of Police salaries.

The Asiatic Inspector, a new post, completed a course at the Singapore Police Training School and will take charge of the Kuala Belait—Seria District early in 1948.

The discipline and health of the Force were fair though there was a considerable improvement in the latter during the year. Malaria accounted for much absence from duty.

Recruits are trained in Brunei Town. Selected men are sent to the Singapore Police Training School for short Refresher Courses.

New temporary barracks were occupied at Brunei and Seria. Accommodation is now satisfactory, though still far below pre-war standards. Shortage of labour and materials is delaying the erection of permanent buildings.

In clothing and equipment the Force has reached a fairly high standard. Transport will be further improved during 1948. There has been some delay in the supply of Standard Weights Measures from England but these are expected during 1948.

Offences reported to the Police numbered 577 as compared with 551 in 1946. Comparative details are as follows:—

	Seizable	Non-seizable	No Offence Disclosed.
1947	230	347	207
1946	270	281	215
1939	123	311	277
1938	76	463	404

The majority of the seizable offences was house-breakings and thefts in the Kuala Belait—Seria District. The increase in the number of reports is due to the growth of population and to the Oil Company's expanding labour force.

There was one case of Amok caused by sexual jealousy in which seven persons were seriously assaulted with a jemmy.

There were two reports of a child being killed by crocodiles. They occurred at Brunei and Ulu Tutong.

There was a case of Causing Hurt in Committing Robbery at the Capitan China's house in Brunei town when about \$6,000 in cash and jewellery were taken. The offender was arrested and all the property recovered.

The number of Aliens who registered was 2,296 as against 1,386 in 1946. Many of these were old residents taking out new papers to replace those lost in the war.

The Police are also responsible for examination of pass-ports, licensing of firearms, drivers and dogs, the registration of motor vehicles and bicycles and the supervision of Weights and Measures.

Fire Brigade

There were 11 reports of fire during the year. Four of these related respectively to a labourers' lines, an engine and two smoke houses. The remainder of the fires were in private dwelling houses. There was no loss of life and no offences were disclosed.

Two Jeep Willys Overland Fire-engines are expected early 1948 to replace appliances destroyed during the War. The Fire Brigade Service is operated by the Police.

Prisons

There are two prisons in the State for the detention of convicted prisoners undergoing sentence of imprisonment, one at Brunei under the charge of the Chief Police Officer and one at Kuala Belait under the charge of the Assistant Resident. The prison at Brunei was completely destroyed by the Allied air attack and a temporary building was occupied during 1947. Mental cases are now housed in the new temporary observation Ward at the hospital. The main offences for which prisoners were undergoing sentences were housebreaking and theft and there were a few assault cases. The health of the prisoners was good. Prisoners

are employed on earthwork, grass cutting and similar occupations and basket making was added during the year. A limited supply of books and papers is available. There is a fund from which prisoners on discharge are paid. The prisons are inspected monthly by Visiting Justices appointed by the Resident.

Sixty-four prisoners were admitted during the year as against 78 during 1946.

CHAPTER X.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Electricity Supply.—In Brunei Town the present supply, which is Government owned, is a makeshift one, due to the pre-war installation having been destroyed completely during the Japanese invasion.

At present a 10 K.W. (A.C.) army portable set gives a limited supply for Street lighting and the Government quarters in the Town area, while a 10 K.W. (D.C.) set, driven by a Japanese engine, supplies light to the Residential area including the Rest House. Both sets are loaded to capacity.

Two new 75 K.W. (A.C.) and one 22 K.W. (A.C.) generating sets including ancillaries, are at present on order from the Crown Agents, but these are not expected before the end of 1949.

A power station to house the new equipment is at present under construction.

At Kuala Belait in pre-war days a supply of current for power and lighting was obtained from the British Malayan Petroleum Company on repayment.

The British Malayan Petroleum Company's installation was destroyed during the early days of the war, and at present a Government owned 10 K.W. (D.C.) set, driven by a diesel engine of Japanese make, operates on a very limited scale.

Light is only available for Government quarters and street lighting. It has not been possible to give any supply to private premises.

In Seria the British Malayan Petroleum Company installation provided the supply in pre-war days, but the installation was destroyed in the early days of the war.

At present the Oil Company's offices and quarters are supplied from a series of portable plants but a scheme is under preparation for the construction of a permanent installation to feed the whole Company's area, and when this scheme is in operation, it is hoped that the town of Seria will again receive a supply, on repayment, as in former days.

In Seria, at present, there is a small privately owned set (5 K.W. D.C.) which provides a supply to 15 shophouses under private arrangement.

Water Supplies.—In Brunei Town the main supply is from an impounding reservoir formed on the Sungei Tasek by a con-

crete dam 76 feet in length at the crest, and 10 feet high from the scour to the spillway.

The water gravitates through 1130 feet of 8 inch steel main, concrete lined into a steel tank 20 feet in diameter and 10 feet in depth.

The 8 inch main then continues for a distance of 3237 feet at which point there was in pre-war days a 5 inch siemens turbine pattern meter.

From the meter, the supply continues in a double parallel line of 5 inch pipe for a distance of 825 feet, after which, it branches off to form a reticulation main round the town.

The total length of 5 inch main is 8124 feet.

A loop line connects Kampong Sumbiling to the main reticulation the length to this pipe is 1904 feet.

There is no purification plant for the town's supply.

The supply mains suffered severely during the Allied bombing, and as a result, several sections have been relaid in 3 inch steel main as a temporary measure, pending the arrival of new cast iron pipes. The length of steel main laid was approximately 3,000 feet.

The 5 inch Torrent meter was destroyed and orders have been placed for a 6 inch Torrent meter. Until this meter arrives it is not possible to determine the average daily consumption.

In Brunei Town residential area the supply is from an intake formed by a small concrete weir across a small stream in the hill behind the Residency whence the water gravitates through 35 feet of 3 inch galvanised iron pipe to a semi-circular sand bed having a surface area of 56 square feet.

The water then passes to a clear water tank (the other half of the circular tank containing the sand filter) of 1400 gallons capacity, and then through 898 feet of 2 inch galvanised iron pipe to a circular service reservoir of 400 gallons capacity.

Water is supplied to four Senior Officers quarters in this area through 931 feet of 2 inch pipe and 224 feet of 1½ inch galvanised iron pipe.

For the River Kampong, Brunei Town two small supplies are taken from springs adjacent to the Jalan Residency area.

In the first supply, the water gravitates through 58 feet of 3 inch pipe to a silt trap and thence through 95 feet of 2 inch and 57 feet of 1¼ inch galvanised pipe to a stand pipe controlled by a valve. This stand pipe extends out over the river and the Kampong boats come underneath it with large jars and fill up with water.

The second source of supply is from a spring which has been dammed, and the water is led through a 1½ inch galvanised iron main to a stone built storage tank 10 foot square and 7 feet in depth.

From here a 2 inch galvanised iron pipe runs to the river's edge to enable the Kampong dwellers to fill their water vessels which they can do easily even at low tide.

The Sungei Pangga supply is situated in the Lumapas area and is taken from a small stream which has been dammed by a concrete weir whence the water flows through 162 feet of 3 inch and 20 feet of 2 inch galvanised iron main to the edge of the Brunei River, where the kampong people fill their water vessels.

The former supply in the Kampong Kianggeh area has been abandoned as the area is now supplied from the main Tasek supply.

At Tutong a small catchment area of about 30 acres in the Panchor Dulit valley has been dammed, and the water is led through 3505 feet of 3 inch and 455 feet of 1½ inch galvanised iron mains.

The water is led to a stone built surface tank 10 feet square and 6 feet deep of 4,000 gallons capacity and, in pre-war days, was pumped to an overhead pressed steel storage tank of 10,000 gallons capacity.

This overhead tank was erected to supply the Government quarters on the hill area, while the town was supplied from the pipe leading from the catchment area.

At present the overhead tank supply does not function due to the fact that the pump and engine were destroyed during the Japanese occupation.

A new centrifugal pump has been obtained, but the Petter engine ordered some time ago, has not yet arrived.

In Temburong (Bangar) a small impounding reservoir, constructed in the hills behind the Government hospital, provides a supply.

The length of the mass concrete dam is 26 feet and the height from the scour to the spillway is 8 feet.

The main supply pipe is 2 inch galvanised iron for 924 feet reducing to 1½ inch for 638 feet.

Previously the supply was metered, but until a new meter is obtained the average daily consumption cannot be determined.

At Kilanas a small stream between two hills is dammed by a concrete weir 20 feet in length.

Water is supplied to the Kampong through the medium of a 3 inch galvanised iron main for a length of 691 feet, thereafter reducing to 2 inch diameter for a distance of approximately 60 feet.

The school teachers quarters are supplied from the 3 inch main at the point of pipe reduction.

At Muara in pre-war days the inhabitants obtained their supplies of drinking water from wells.

The Japanese made use of a stone built storage tank of 3,500 gallons capacity which had formed part of a water supply scheme abandoned some years previously, and, by tapping a nearby stream led water to the tank, and from it to Muara village.

The supply main was destroyed during the Allied invasion but has now been restored by making use of 3 inch diameter steel pipes.

Water has been laid on to the Government dispensary, and the public obtain supplies of water for domestic purposes from a standpipe.

In Seria the supply is given by the British Malayan Petroleum Company.

Kuala Belait in pre-war days was supplied by the British Malayan Petroleum Company on repayment. The installation was destroyed in the early days of the war, and the Japanese sunk bores and obtained a supply of water by pumping.

This practice still continues and the pumps are run by the Public Works Department.

The supply is not satisfactory either in quality or in quantity and when the British Malayan Petroleum Company obtain a supply from the Badas river area, Kuala Belait and Seria will again be supplied by the Oil Company.

The Badas river scheme is at present under investigation by the Oil Company and pumping plant has already been ordered.

CHAPTER XI.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS

Shipping.—The Ports of the State commencing from the western end are as follows:—

- (a) Kuala Belait, situated a few hundred yards from the Belait River mouth.
- (b) Tutong, situated about six miles from the Tutong River mouth.
- (c) Muara (Brooketon), situated on the western shore of Muara Harbour.
- (d) Brunei Town, situated nine miles from an inner bar where the Brunei River meets Brunei Bay.
- (e) Bangar, situated eight miles up the Temburong River.

Approaches to these ports are conditioned by tides, depths, bars, barriers, snags and all the usual maritime difficulties.

No large ocean-going ship can reach any of these ports. Connection with such vessels is made at the island of Labuan (now part of the Colony of North Borneo) which lies some 35 miles distant from Brunei Town in a north easterly direction. The majority of trade is carried on at Kuala Belait and Brunei Town.

The Oil Company runs a considerable fleet of the L.C.T. type for the conduct of its business. The majority of these use Kuala Belait as a port. Messrs. Harrisons and Crosfield run an A.V. (Auxilliary Vessel of about 200 tons) which works the tide over the bar. She plies between Brunei Town and Labuan about twice a month.

In addition to these vessels, native boats such as tongkangs, junks, and small motor boats carry on coastal trade around the Borneo ports on a small scale.

The State runs a motor launch service between Brunei Town and Bangar, and Brunei Town and Labuan. The latter service

carries the mail and passengers to connect with the weekly air Service. It also connects as far as possible with the Straits Steamship service at Labuan which now runs fortnightly to and from Singapore and Borneo ports. Each journey entails a return trip of 70 miles across Brunei Bay in all weathers and is a strain on the three small ex-army launches which form the State's only service.

Since the war it has not proved profitable for commercial firms to run a frequent service between Brunei Town and Labuan. Vessels are limited to a draft of 7 feet over the inner bar of Brunei river at the lowest Mean Spring Tides and larger vessels which could work the tide are limited to about 12 feet along side the Customs Wharf at Brunei.

A sound concrete Wharf still stands in Brunei Town with a length of 200 feet. There is water but no fuel other than benzine is procurable. There is no lifting appliance or dock facilities but a full Customs Service is provided. A good road gives access from the wharf to the town and connects with the general road communication.

There is an erratic service of small native vessels and a recently acquired Motor Fishing Vessel belonging to the Island Trading Company to the Temburong District where rubber and other products are collected for delivery to Labuan.

The port and town of Tutong is very small; its wants are supplied chiefly by road and the amount of shipping is negligible. The bar at the river mouth is shifting, shallow and dangerous.

Muara (Brooketon) is a small fishing village and shipping is limited to small native craft of the sampan type.

Roads.—Brunei State has no extensive system of properly constructed roads. This is partly due to the fact that, except at Seria, the State is not yet highly developed and its resources are mainly agricultural.

A second reason for the lack of metalled roads is the great shortage of road stone. There are no quarries in the State, and the few deposits of sandstone which exist are quite unsuitable for road making purposes owing to the soft nature of the stone.

Supplies of gravel are obtained from the Butir area, 4 miles downstream from Brunei Town, and the stone has to be transported upstream by junk or tongkong (barge).

Coral and sandstone are brought in a similar manner from the islands of Berbunut and Chermin, situated near the mouth of the Brunei River. Coral is the better materials for road making purposes.

There are some sources of supply of stone in the Kuala Belait or Seria areas.

The roads throughout the State suffered severe deterioration during the Japanese occupation, and this was particularly noticeable on sections of the main road to Tutong and the first section of the Brakas Road leading to Muara.

In the early part of 1947, rehabilitation work on the roads went on very slowly because supplies of asphalt were slow in coming forward, and the rate of supply of stone and gravel was

irregular owing to the great shortage of junks and tongkangs, most of which had been destroyed either by the Japanese or by Allied bombing.

At the end of 1947 the length of roads in the State was 122 miles 37 chains and 34 feet made up as follows:—

Earth	..	..	..	73	miles	63	chains	16	feet
Gravel	..	..	..	00	"	68	"	23	"
Block and Gravel	..	..	..	04	"	73	"	44	"
Asphalt	..	..	..	40	"	33	"	29	"
Concrete	..	..	..	01	"	79	"	59	"
Concrete Dual Track	..	..	..	00	"	38	"	61	"

Of these roads 110 miles 37 chains and 34 feet are maintained by the Public Works Department and the balance is maintained by the British Malayan Petroleum Company, whose headquarters are at Seria.

The width of the metalled roads outside the Town of Brunei, and excluding the length maintained by the Oil Company, is only 8 feet, but widening to 12 feet is being carried out in certain sections and at all improvements.

The main road in the State is from Brunei Town to Tutong, a distance of approximately 30 miles. About 18 miles of this have been remetalled since the re-occupation, and it is hoped that the remaining 9 miles of earth road will be block metalled before the end of 1948. Supplies of block metal have been brought to the site in preparation for this work.

All the bridges have been strengthened, one has been completely rebuilt, and a new bridge was constructed in Tutong Town in order to dispense with a road detour.

The connecting link between Tutong Town and Seria is along the sea beach at low or medium tides.

The first section between Tutong and Kuala Tutong is approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length and to enable traffic to reach the Ferry at high tide, an alternative track has been cut above the high water mark.

At Kuala Tutong a ferry link up with Danau. This ferry consists of a pontoon, capable of carrying two vehicles at a time, and is towed by a motor launch.

The distance between Danau and Seria by the beach is approximately 19 miles and at present there is no alternative land route for vehicles.

Unless the beach passage is made at low or medium tide the journey can be a most hazardous undertaking due to the many streams which have to be crossed. At every stream a land deviation has been cut and in the event of the tide being too high the land deviation, locally called a rentice, can be followed and the stream can be crossed by a wooden bridge. In bad weather or after heavy rain it is advisable to take the rentice route rather than to ford the streams.

The second most important road is the Brunei—Brakas Road for $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles with its $12\frac{1}{4}$ miles cross link to Muara.

The first section suffered severe deterioration during the Japanese occupation due to the heavy traffic to the Japanese constructed airfield. Repairs of a major nature are required to put the road into good repair.

The major part of the Brakas-Muara section was constructed before the Japanese invasion and was completed during the occupation. The alignment is good but it is an earth road, subject to very heavy traffic and it has cut up badly, especially in the low lying and swampy areas.

All the bridges have been strengthened and a number of new culverts provided to assist the drainage.

Weird and wonderful types of construction have been adopted due to the lack of suitable materials; 8 inch diameter steel pipe has been used as bridge girders and ¼ inch steel plates, salvaged from the Japanese shipyards at Muara, have been used to carry the road over swampy sections.

In the State there are approximately 32 miles of bridle paths and bridges and with the exception of 3 miles all the paths have been re-opened to pedestrian traffic since the re-occupation.

Ferries.—The Tutong and Belait rivers are crossed by means of ferries. The former ferry is Government owned but is let out to a contractor while the latter ferry is owned and operated by the British Malayan Petroleum Company.

Internal communication in the State is mainly by bridle path or by one of the many streams which are navigable for considerable distances.

Railway.—The Oil Company maintains a light railway about 8 miles long from Seria to Badas, which the public is permitted to use if space is available. There is no other railway in the State.

Vehicles.—Details of the vehicles registered in the State at the end of 1947 are as follows:—

	Brunei District	Kuala Belait District
Lorries	26	126
Passenger carrying vehicles (Buses) ..	15	33
Private cars	21	43
Motor Cycles	9	21
Miscellaneous items of Mechanical equipment	3	59
Total	74	282

Air.—Late in the year 1943 the Japanese started the formation of an air strip on land belonging to the Kumbang Pasang Estate, on the Brakas Road, about 2¼ miles from Brunei. The length is about a mile and the width nearly 200 feet. About ¾ of the strip has been brought to formation and levelled.

The regular appearance of the Allied Air Force prevented further work. The work was carried out entirely by manual labour.

There has been no Air Traffic on the strip. Rain makes the strip soft and the runaway would be unfit for landing unless it were properly surfaced. Some attempt was made by the Japanese at blocking a chain width for about 400 feet of the runway but the work had to be abandoned owing to Allied Air activities.

The Kumbang Pasang Estate has now taken the area back into its possession and has started planting rubber on it.

Sunderland aircraft on the regular run from Singapore have from time to time visited Brunei, and have landed and taken off on the Brunei River opposite the Residency. It appears that no difficulty was encountered either on landing or take off.

Posts.—Post Offices are maintained at Brunei Town, Tutong, Kuala Belait and Temburong (Bangar) whence mails are carried by lorry or launch.

There is a weekly air mail service to and from Singapore via Labuan, and this links up with the plane from Singapore to Jesselton.

Surface mail for Singapore and abroad leaves Labuan at approximately fortnightly interval and the Brunei mails are so arranged that they catch the mail boat.

Surface mail from Singapore for Brunei leaves Singapore by Straits Steamship every alternate Saturday.

Facilities for insurance, money orders and cash-on-delivery parcels which were suspended after the War have now been resumed.

The total number of postal articles dealt with during the year was 239,382 as compared with 277,186 in 1946. This decrease was mainly due to the smaller quantity of printed matter which was received.

Telephones.—Government maintains a small public telephone service with a 50 line line switch board in Brunei. Extensions are given to the neighbouring estates and to Kuala Belait and Tutong.

Radio Telegraph.—Direct radio telegraph service is maintained between Brunei and Singapore Radio.

For internal communication, Stations have been set up at Kuala Belait, Seria and Temburong, but all messages to and from these Stations and abroad must be sent through Brunei.

The Brunei Wireless Station is also in direct communication with Jesselton, Labuan and Miri.

Public Works Department.—In addition to its responsibilities for roads, bridges and bridle paths, water supply and electricity, the Public Works Department has further responsibilities in regard to the maintenance of Sea and River walls, all Government buildings throughout the State, small irrigation works, the running of a workshop and also town planning.

Sea and River Walls.—Considerable damage was done to the sea walls at Muara by Allied bombing, and neglect to the wharf and river walls at Brunei, during the Japanese occupation, necessitated a considerable amount of work.

At Muara 140 feet of sea wall approximately 10 feet high was rebuilt, while in Brunei 1081 feet of stone revetment walls were built to an average height of 8 feet. A new face wall 123 feet long was also built at the wharf.

Land Reclamation.—Work is steadily proceeding on land reclamation both on the Jalan Residency section to prevent road erosion and on the swamp area adjoining Jalan Masjid for road widening.

The responsibility of maintaining all Government buildings in the State devolves on the Public Works Department.

In Brunei considerable damage was done to permanent buildings by the intensive Allied bombing, and the work of rehabilitation is proceeding slowly.

Wherever possible it has been the practice to rebuild in permanent construction, but in the earlier days of the year temporary construction had to be resorted to on account of the complete lack of suitable building materials and the urgent need for accommodation.

During the year the following buildings were erected:—

Permanent construction

Brunei Town	..	1 Block of 2 Class "F" Quarters 1 Block of 2 Class "G" Quarters 1 Store building for P.W.D. 162' 6" in length.
Tutong Town	..	2 Blocks of 2 Class "G" Quarters
Kuala Belait Town		1 Block of 2 Class "G" Quarters Customs Office and Bonded Store

Semi-permanent construction

Brunei Town	..	Works shed at wharf for Customs Dept.
Kilanas	..	Granary for Agricultural Department
Kuala Belait Town		Recreation Club for Government Servants.

Temporary construction

Brunei Town	..	Malay Mosque Malay School Mental Cells at temporary Hospital Servants quarters at the Astana (Palace) Garage for His Highness's Secretary at the Astana.
Muara	..	Block of 4 quarters for Police Malay School at Mile 3½ Brakas Road.

Work is at present proceeding on the construction of 3 Class "F" quarters at Kuala Belait and on the Electric Power Station in Brunei. These buildings are in permanent construction.

Workshop.—The Public Works Department runs a small workshop for the maintenance and repair of all Government vehicles and plant.

34 vehicles including 2 road rollers are constantly maintained in good running order.

Owing to the shortage of machine tools and other items of equipment it has been necessary to improvise in many ways, but none the less the workshop continues to render most useful service.

Town Planning.—Brunei Town was severely damaged by Allied bombing, and most of the public buildings were destroyed. Among those destroyed were the Government Offices, Council Chamber, Hospital, Police Station, Gaol, Chief Police Officer's Quarters, Rest House, Recreation Club, Mosque, Police and Customs Club, Police Barracks, Malay Schools and the Public Works Department Stores Depot.

In addition all the shophouses and many private buildings including the English Church were gutted.

As a result of the great damage suffered, the opportunity has been taken to prepare a new draft Town plan and it is hoped to make a serious start on the work of re-construction in 1948.

Seria, which is the headquarters of the British Malayan Petroleum Company and also its oil producing centre also suffered severe damage, and was almost completely destroyed. A new town plan is under consideration.

Muara was completely destroyed by shelling and bombing during the Allied invasion and total rebuilding will be necessary.

PART III

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Geography

Brunei is a State on the north-west coast of Borneo, lying between latitude $4^{\circ} 2'$ and $5^{\circ} 3'$ north and longitude $114^{\circ} 4'$ and $115^{\circ} 22'$ east. It forms two enclaves into the territory of Sarawak, by which it is bounded on all sides, or perhaps it would be more correct to say, historically speaking, that an intrusion of Sarawak formed by the basin of the Limbang River splits the State into two separate parts. It comprises an area of some 2,226 square miles, and has a coast line of about one hundred miles extending from Brunei Bay in the East to the boundary with Sarawak in the West.

The capital of the same name, or, to give it its honorific Arabic title, Daru'l Salam (Abode of Peace) is situated on the Brunei River about nine miles from its mouth and is distant by sea 758 nautical miles from Singapore. At the time of the last census in 1931 it had a population of 10,453. The preliminary figure for the 1947 Census shows an increase of less than 200. Prior to 1910 the town consisted entirely of Malay houses built on nibong piles on mud flats in the river, but it has now spread over a portion of the mainland, partly reclaimed, on which the Government Offices and other public buildings and streets of shophouses have been built.

Set in a wide sweep of the river this river town is in its way unique. At high tide under favourable conditions of light it takes on quite a remarkable beauty; viewed at close quarters it is even more remarkably ramshackle. The houses are grouped together in small villages, many being connected by precarious bridges, and there the inhabitants carry on their multifarious activities in much the same way as if they were on land.

The only other town of any size is Kuala Belait at the south-western end of the State's seaboard with a population of about 4,000. In the Seria area, which is the centre of a rapidly expanding oil producing district and the local headquarters of the British Malayan Petroleum Company the population is approximately 5,500. At Kuala Belait with municipal services, piped water supply, electric light, domestic gas, cold storage, cinema and other amenities, it is difficult to realise that within living memory it has been the scene of human sacrifices, and that only two hours up river there are pagan tribes treasuring the grisly relics of head-hunting expeditions of not so long ago.

Climate

The climate is of the tropical type and is characterised by uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall. The heat is usually tempered by a slight breeze and the temperature rarely exceeds 90°F., the usual daily range being between 76°F. and 86°F.

The annual rainfall varies from 100 inches at the coast to over 200 inches in certain parts of the interior. There are no well defined seasons, but the rainfall tends to be heaviest from October to the middle of January during the period of the North-east monsoon.

Local standard time is eight hours ahead of Greenwich (time meridian 120°E). As the mean longitude of the State is roughly 115°E, there is a sort of natural daylight saving of about twenty minutes.

CHAPTER II.

HISTORY

The native name for the island of Borneo has always been Pulau Kelamantan, but a Mercator's chart of 1595 gives to the town of Brunei, as well as to the whole island, the name of "Borneo". Early writers spell the name of the island variously, Bruni, Brunai, Bruné, Borneo, Borney, Bornei, Borne and Burni; from these variations upon the theme of one word, two words eventually crystallised—"Brunei" and "Borneo". As recently as 100 years ago, Brunei territory was always referred to as "Borneo Proper". The fact is that at the time of the earliest cartographers and writers, the kingdom of Brunei was at its zenith; the terms "Brunei" and "Borneo" were synonymous and the whole island was subject to the dominion of Brunei.

Brunei has no discovered pre-history and no established early history, and the meagre written records do not go further back than the first Mohammedan Sultan, contemporaneous with the

introduction of the Arabic script in or about the fifteenth century. For records of the pre-Muslim era we have to turn to Hindu and Chinese chroniclers. Chinese annals of the sixth and seventh centuries contain references to a Kingdom known as Poli or Puni which sent tribute to the Emperors of China in A.D. 518, 523 and 616. Similar references to a State of that name 45 days' sail from Java occur in the annals of the Sung dynasty which ruled over South China from about 960 to 1280 A.D., and there are strong grounds for identifying it with Brunei, though the authorities are not unanimous on this point. With the decline of the Sung dynasty Brunei transferred its allegiance to Hindu Majapahit in Java, then back again to China, and finally, at the end of the fourteenth century, paid tribute to Mohammedan Malacca. With the coming of the Ming Emperors the ties with vassal States were strengthened, and tributes were sent to China several times between 1405 and 1425. Thereafter there is no record.

Brunei must soon have thrown off all allegiance for by the early years of the sixteenth century it had risen to great power, and one of its rulers, Sultan Bulkiah, or Nakhoda Ragam (the Singing Captain) a renowned sea rover, voyaged to Java and Malacca and made conquests in Borneo, the Philippines and Sulu and even seized Manila. The names of many islands scattered throughout the archipelago are alleged to commemorate the circumstances of his voyages. One legend is that he set out on a cruise with a gantang of pepper seeds and was not content to return until he had given to each seed the name of one of the myriad islands encountered. His wife was a Javanese princess whose followers inter-married with the people of Brunei, and such, according to one tradition, is the origin of the Kedayans whom custom associates with the main body guard of the Sultan and who introduced in Brunei a system of rice cultivation greatly superior to local standards. It is related that in his declining years he carried with him on his exploits a band of artisans whose duty it was to prepare royal tombs in remote parts of the archipelago, it being his wish, should he die at sea, to be buried at the nearest site; the finest of these is said to contain his remains at Kota Batu, about 1½ miles downstream from Brunei Town. This tomb of exquisite workmanship in hard basaltic stone was damaged by Spanish round shot in the seventeenth century and is now in a sorry state of dilapidation and the engravings upon it remain a secret to posterity.

This was the golden age of Brunei. Her sovereignty extended over the whole island of Borneo, the sultanates of Sambas, Pontianak, Banjarmasin, Pasir Kotei and Bolongan being her vassals, as well as over the Sulu archipelago and over the islands of Balabac, Banggi, Balambangan and Palawan.

It was probably during the life-time of Sultan Bulkiah that Pigafetta, the Italian historian of Magellan's voyage around the world, visited Brunei and wrote the first eye-witness account in which he bore evidence as to the splendour of the Court and the size of the town of Brunei, the population of which he estimated at 25,000 families.

Kublai Khan, the Mongol Conqueror, is known to have sent an expedition from China to the eastern archipelago in 1292 and it is more than probable that this was the origin of the Chinese colony in northern Borneo which is commemorated in the nomenclature of the Kinabatangan river and the mountain Kinabalu and which according to tradition provided Brunei with an early ruler.

In 1291, according to Marco Polo, there was a considerable junk carried trade between Brunei and China.

In Brunei, the traditional ceremony, the royal precedence and the nomenclature of officers of state, all commemorate Hindu and Chinese influences. The Hindu influence emanated from the Empire of Majapahit in Java and according to Javanese records a Javanese Force expelled Sulu marauders from Brunei in 1368 and Brunei is mentioned as one of the countries conquered during the reign of the Angka Wijaya who was the last king to reign over the Majapahit before it was vanquished by Mohammedan Malacca.

The Portuguese visited Brunei in 1526 and confirmed the glowing account of Pigafetta. Further visits were paid by the Portuguese until 1530, and a trading factory and Catholic mission were established at the beginning of the next century. Spain too, having taken possession of the Philippines, evinced an active interest in Brunei affairs and twice attacked the capital. Later the English and the Dutch in turn made sporadic appearances.

Towards the end of the sixteenth century the power of Brunei began to decline, and the outlying territories gradually fell away. The Dutch, having established trading stations on the South-west, South and East of Borneo rapidly extended their sphere of influence over the the semi-independent but nominally vassal sultanates. This disintegration continued until by the beginning of the nineteenth century the kingdom of Brunei had so dwindled in extent as to include only what is now Sarawak and part of North Borneo.

At this period the capital itself seems to have degenerated to the condition of a slave market for the sale of captives of Illanum and Sulu pirates. Anarchy was rife in the outlying districts, and in 1841, in return for his services in assisting the Bendahara Raja Muda Hashim, Viceroy of Sarawak, to quell an insurrection at Kuching, Sarawak Proper was ceded to Mr. James (later Sir James) Brooke, who was proclaimed Rajah of Sarawak. In 1846 the island of Labuan was ceded to Great Britain as a base for anti-piracy measures and for the watering and careening of ships, and in 1877 the whole of the northern portion of Borneo was ceded to form the nucleus of what was to become British North Borneo. At various later dates further cessions were made to the Rajah of Sarawak and to the British North Borneo Company till the territories of the State were eventually reduced to their present circumscribed limits.

In 1847 the Sultan entered into a Treaty with Great Britain for the furtherance of commercial relations and the mutual suppression of piracy with an additional clause providing for extra-territorial jurisdiction over British subjects in Brunei, which provision was modified by an Agreement of 1856. By a further Treaty made in 1888 Brunei was placed under the protection of

Great Britain, and the Sultan agreed that the foreign relations of the State should be conducted by Her Britannic Majesty's Government. Provision was also made for the setting up of Consular Courts with jurisdiction over British subjects and foreign subjects enjoying British protection. In 1906 a Supplementary Agreement was entered into whereby the Sultan undertook to accept a British Officer to be styled Resident, who should be the agent and representative of the British Government under the High Commissioner for the Malay States*.

The years between 1906 and 1941 were years of steady progress. Very shortly after the treaty a form of Government was set up under the Sultan in Council and the British Resident, and law and order was established. Roads were built, people were encouraged to become agriculturists and fishermen according to their way of life. Conditions of housing were improved and trade flourished. The discovery of a workable oilfield at Seria only 10 miles from Kuala Belait in 1929 gave added importance to the State and its revenues increased and Brunei became prosperous.

Period of Japanese Occupation

In the early morning of 16th December, 1941, the first wave of Japanese Forces landed at Kuala Belait and occupied the oilfields at Seria. Six days later on 22nd December, Brunei Town was occupied and all the British Government Officials were interned. Almost immediately the Japanese introduced their East Asia Co-Prosperity policy but it had a bad effect on the people's moral when public thrashings had to be attended and later the Japanese dropped that policy to a certain extent. People living near Kuala Belait were driven to work in the oilfields and the country folk were forcibly made to grow food.

Trade of course came to a standstill and only certain shopkeepers were allowed to remain as distributors. Luckily for the native population the Government in the years immediately preceding the outbreak of war had compelled traders to import large stocks of rice, the staple food, in case the European War disrupted shipping in the Far East. As a result of that policy, the population had ample food for the first year and only slightly less in the second year, but by the end of 1943 the stocks had been used up and only a trickle of food was able to enter the country owing to Japanese shipping losses. Even the Japanese themselves lacked food, but not for long. As soon as the local harvest was in, the majority of it was confiscated to feed the Japanese Forces and a serious state of starvation prevailed. Medicines were almost non-existent, malaria spread and the resistance of the population to disease was broken down.

The Japanese policy seems to have been one of neglect. No anti-malarial work was done and no maintenance to houses, roads, ditches or water transport was even contemplated.

In 1944 the Allied Air Forces began to take an active interest in Brunei. There were almost daily raids somewhere in the State

*The treaties and agreements relating to events described in this and the preceding paragraph were published as appendices to the Annual Report for 1946.

and later the main town areas were destroyed by bombing. All the shophouses were destroyed in Kuala Belait and Brunei and in the latter town the newly completed hospital with X-ray equipment was literally blown off the face of the earth. Luckily the famous River Kampong was spared but many houses have scars of machine gun bullets to bear witness to those frightful days. Most of the native population went into the interior to look for a piece of land to cultivate and live on until the coming of the Allied Forces.

Allied Re-Occupation

On 10th June, 1945 the Allied Forces landed at Muara and proceeded towards Brunei which they entered easily having only encountered small patrol activity. The Japanese in the meantime were busily destroying their installations and setting fire to the oilfield at Seria. Realising that the end had come the Japanese took out all the civilian imprisoned for suspected anti-Japanese activities and executed them in their usual cowardly fashion. Their Forces then moved up country and into the interior where many of them met timely ends at the hands of the Dyaks.

Almost immediately a system of Government was set up under British control and so began the era of reconstruction under the British Military Administration. The population was found to be in a shocking state of health and it is no exaggeration to state that if the landing had not taken place when it did thousands of people would soon have perished through starvation and disease.

Free food and clothing were distributed as quickly as possible to the whole population and the sick were taken to hospital. Those Government servants who were still capable of work reported for duty and the gaps were filled by many well-known members of the various communities.

Distribution of supplies was difficult because the Japanese had allowed the roads to revert to jungle, and grass was growing on many of the roads in the town area. Water transport was scraped together from old hulls and Japanese car engines were put into them. Rubble had to be cleared away in the town, bomb craters filled in and roads rehabilitated.

Temporary shophouses were built along the river bank and partly over the water from the beginning of Jalan Stoney up towards the Customs Wharf until such time as the shop area could be cleared and drained.

Gradually the health of the population improved and order was restored to something like normal. Trade began again though very slowly and prices, other than those goods distributed from the Supply Depot, were prohibitive at first.

On 6th July, 1946, the Government of the country was formally handed over to the Civil Authorities.

CHAPTER III.

ADMINISTRATION

Brunei is a sultanate. The present Ruler, the twenty-seventh of his line, is His Highness Ahmed Tajudin Akhazul Khairi Wadin, C.M.G., ibni Sultan Mohamed Jemal-Ul-Alam born on 2nd September, 1913, and succeeded to the throne, on the death of his father, on 20th September, 1924, at the early age of eleven. A Regency was set up under the two principal ministers, the Pengiran Bendahara and the Pengiran Pemancha, which terminated on the 19th September, 1931, when the Sultan assumed full sovereignty.

The supreme authority in the State is vested in the Sultan in Council. At the beginning of the year the Council consisted of nine members including the British Resident with the Sultan as President. In September the State Treasurer and two additional Malay members were appointed to the Council. In October the first Chinese member was appointed. There was one resignation due to old age and at the close of the year the membership stood at twelve. The assent of the Council is required for the enactment of Legislation and all important questions of policy are referred to it.

The general functions of Administration are carried out by a British Resident who is an officer of the Malayan Civil Service. By the Treaty of 1906 his advice must be asked and acted upon in all questions other than those affecting the Mohammedan Religion. The seat of Government is in Brunei Town. The British Resident communicates direct with the Governor-General through the intermediary of the Secretary-General. At Kuala Belait, the second principal Town, is the Assistant Resident's office which has control over the districts of Belait and Tutong. The Assistant Resident is also an officer of the Malayan Civil Service.

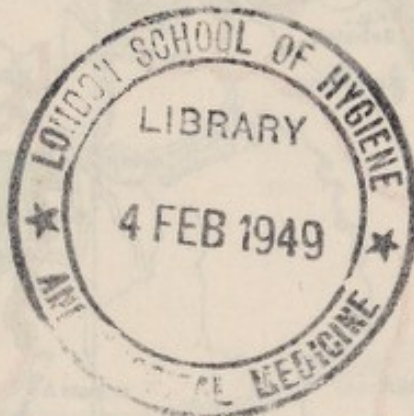
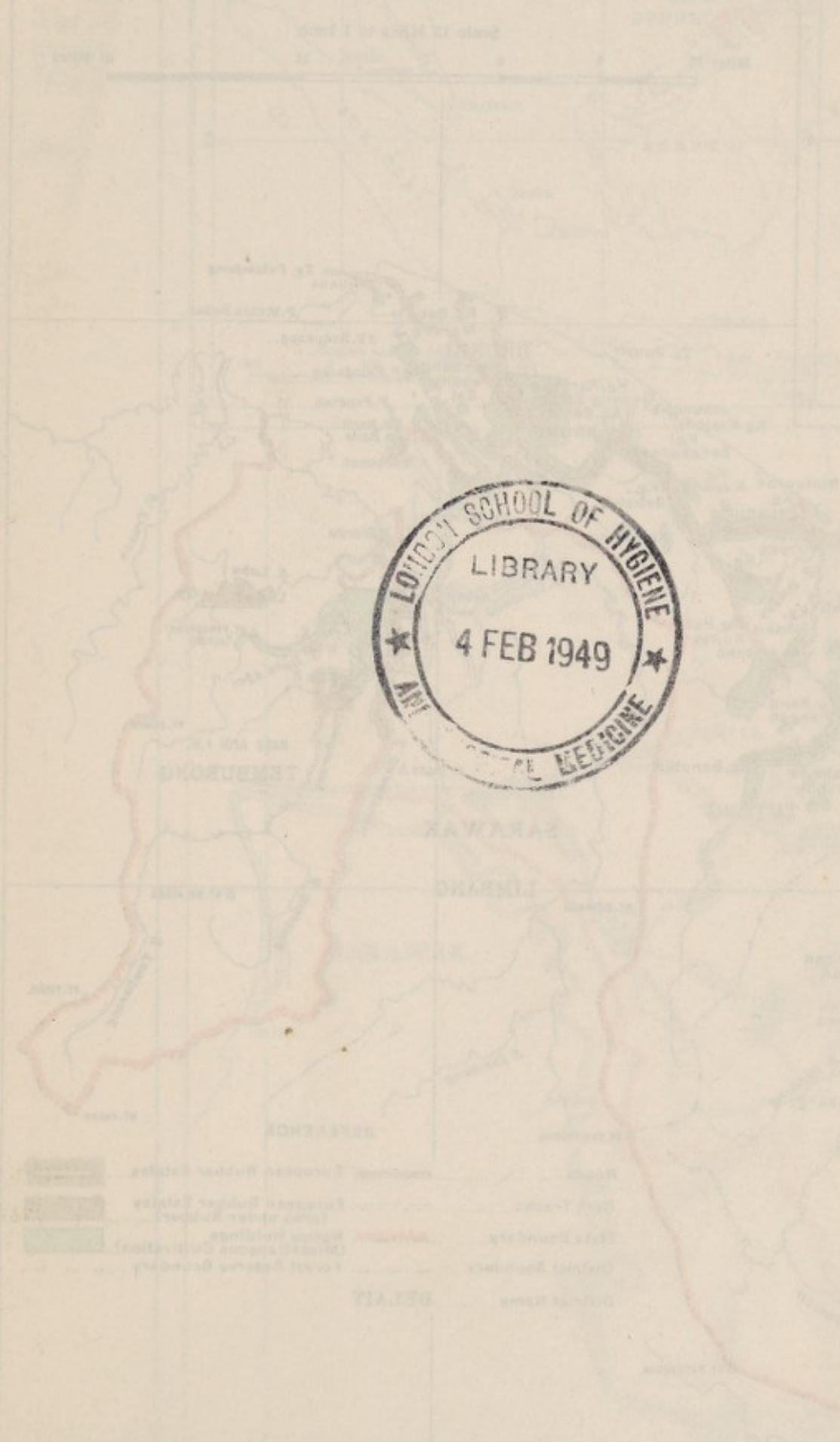
The State is divided into four administrative districts, namely Brunei and Muara, Temburong, Tutong, and Belait under the charge of Malay District Officers who are responsible to the Resident. There are also State heads of the Public Works, Medical, Agriculture, Forests, Police, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs and Education Departments. Seconded European officers from the Malayan Professional and Technical Services are in charge of all the above departments except the Posts and Telegraphs and Education Departments. The Assistant Resident is, however, responsible for the Education Department at present.

At Brunei, Tutong and Kuala Belait there are Sanitary Boards appointed by the Government which are responsible for the sanitation, conservancy, street lighting, rating and Municipal matters within the area appointed for the Board.

Owing to the present acute food situation throughout the world the Government for the time being controls the issue and distribution of goods such as rice, flour, sugar etc. For this purpose there is a State Supply Depot in Brunei Town and a Subsidiary Depot at Kuala Belait.

REPORT MAP OF THE
STATE OF BRUNEI

1948



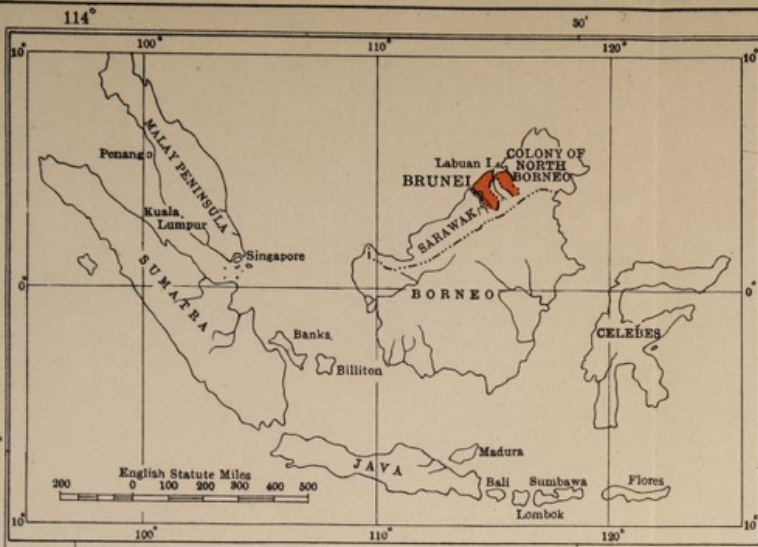
LEGEND

[Symbol]	State Boundary
[Symbol]	District Boundary
[Symbol]	Local Government Boundary
[Symbol]	Urban Buildings
[Symbol]	Forest Reserve
[Symbol]	Water

REPORT MAP OF THE STATE OF BRUNEI 1948

Scale 12 Miles to 1 Inch

Miles 12 6 0 12 24



- REFERENCE**
- Roads.....
 - Cart Tracks.....
 - State Boundary.....
 - District Boundary.....
 - District Name..... BELAIT
 - European Rubber Estates.....
 - European Rubber Estates (area under Rubber).....
 - Native Holdings.....
 - Miscellaneous Cultivation.....
 - Forest Reserve Boundary.....

CHAPTER IV.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Both English and native weights and measures are used. The legal standard weights and measures from which all others are ascertained are the Imperial yard, the Imperial pound and the Imperial gallon.

The following are the principal local weights and measures and their English equivalents:

The chupak equal to 1 quart

The gantang equal to 1 gallon

The tahil equal to $1 \frac{1}{3}$ oz.

The kati (16 tahils) equal to $1 \frac{1}{3}$ lbs.

The pikul (100 katis) equal to $133 \frac{1}{3}$ lbs.

The koyan (40 pikuls) equal to $5,333 \frac{1}{3}$ lbs.

L. H. N. DAVIS,

British Resident, Brunei.

Brunei
March, 1948.

APPENDIX A.

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE HALF YEAR 1946 AND THE YEAR 1947.

Names of Articles	Unit	2nd half year 1946		Duty	Quantity	1947		Duty
		Quantity	Value			Value	Value	
Rice	..	6,995	\$ 157,712	\$ —	44,577	909,439	\$ 843	
Milk x 48 tins	..				6,139	123,944	4,637	
Salt	..				1,181	11,033	327	
Sugar	..				11,538	382,506	226	
Cigarettes	..				764,508	683,347	222,773	
Tinned Tobacco	..				1,210	7,214	2,591	
Native Tobacco	..	180,068	760,419	45,017	49	3,696	3,758	
Provisions	..				—	391,977	41,253	
Flour x 150 lbs.	..				18,893	162,233	1,950	
Coconut oil	..	56,001	154,529	12,058	3,541	44,570	11,200	
Coffee	..		216,533		675	40,037	10,040	
Spiritous liquors	..				8,486	179,122	78,752	
Arrack	..			15,822	121	2,746	1,288	
Beer and Stout	..				28,833	17,962	30,323	
Dried Fish	..				579	22,699	1,487	

APPENDIX A.—(Cont.)

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE HALF YEAR 1946 AND THE YEAR 1947—(Cont.)

Name of Articles	Unit	2nd half year 1946		Duty	Quantity	1947		Duty
		Quantity	Value			Value	Value	
Petroleum ..	Gallon		\$	\$	297,178	73,595	\$	\$
Fuel Oil ..	Gallon				365,440	175,221		10,947
Lubricating Oil ..	Gallon				58,886	169,734		36,348
Timber ..	Ton				6,013	35,449		11,753
Motor Vehicles ..	..		84,758	20,119	148	742,196		3,195
Dyed Cotton Goods ..	Yard		66,288		410,356	431,314		148,155
Sarongs ..	Piece		552,909	91,250	24,087	55,130		30,227
Machinery ..	..				—	510,734		2,502
Matches ..	Tin				674	34,947		62,083
Soap ..	Cases				1,740	30,980		16,049
Cement ..	Ton			37,562	64	7,694		4,921
Ironware ..	..					7,859,584		950,518
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles ..	..					3,120,612		1,014,987
Total			1,993,248	221,828		16,229,715		2,703,133

APPENDIX B.

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS FOR THE HALF YEAR 1946 AND THE YEAR 1947.

Name of Articles	Unit	2nd half year 1946		Duty	1947		Duty
		Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
Crude Oil	Ton	184,407	\$	(a)	1,689,963	\$ 29,540,995	(a)
Plantation Rubber	Lb.	1,952,862	781,145	751,156	4,030,034	1,282,214	142,892
Natural Gas	1000 cubic ft.	—	—	—	893,344	256,500	(a)

(a) Not dutiable, revenue collected as Royalty

APPENDIX C.

ABSTRACT OF REVENUE.

	Revised Estimates 1947	Actual Revenue 1947	Actual Revenue 2nd half year 1946.
CLASS I.			
<i>Duties, Taxes and Licences</i>			
Customs	1,887,000	2,360,054	346,717
Licences and Excise	68,000	71,101	19,446
Municipal ..	26,600	28,557	5,892
CLASS II.			
<i>Fees of Court and Office Etc.</i>			
Courts	3,800	4,778	3,939
Surveys	2,210	2,212	105
General	76,820	80,392	9,207
CLASS III.			
<i>Government Undertakings</i>			
Posts and Telegraphs	226,900	241,740	35,233
Electrical ..	5,000	5,191	1,457
CLASS IV.			
<i>Revenue from Government Property</i>			
Land Revenue ..	1,056,960	1,065,271	173,578
Cession Monies ..	2,030	2,031	—
Interest	96,320	108,972	177,376
Currency Profits ..	—	419,028	—
CLASS V.			
<i>Land Sales</i>			
Premia on Land Sales	640	647	1,195
Total	3,452,280	4,389,974	774,145

APPENDIX D.

ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURE.

	Revised Estimates 1947	Actual Expenditure 1947	Actual Expenditure second half year 1946.
Pensions, Retired Allowances ..	59,710	85,345	93,254
His Highness the Sultan ..	55,350	54,418	21,063
Ministers ..	20,558	18,505	5,200
British Resident ..	37,587	32,356	9,059
Assistant Resident	13,698	12,625	2,631
Agriculture ..	85,173	76,064	25,441
Audit	5,654	5,570	2,162
Courts	5,588	5,496	2,229
Customs and Marine	92,850	77,359	25,673
Education ..	74,006	56,018	20,280
Electrical ..	26,440	17,991	8,126
Forests ..	27,403	22,205	8,528
Land and District Offices	180,049	77,942	10,676
Medical and Health	145,279	96,564	29,126
Miscellaneous Services	449,738	369,233	202,658
Municipal ..	59,948	45,218	18,519
Police and Prisons	97,586	81,030	32,246
Posts and Telegraphs	94,915	83,615	16,286
Religious Affairs	3,391	2,898	1,442
Treasury ..	7,548	7,248	3,088
Public Works Department ..	255,246	224,416	73,745
Public Works, Extraordinary ..	377,660	345,481	68,164
Total	2,175,377	1,797,597	679,596

APPENDIX E.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	\$		ct.
Supply Depot	958,883.88	Cash in Treasury	6,404.70
Deposit	201,034.08	Cash in Bank	3,454,276.62
General Reserve Fund	1,705,974.80	Crown Agents Current Account	
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	283,371.07	Joint Colonial Fund	
General Revenue Balance on 31.12.1946	1,019,710.55	Investment: General Reserve (Sterling Securities)	933,671.80
Add Excess of Receipts over Payments in the year 1947	2,604,390.28	Investment: (Dollar Securities)	772,303.00
	3,624,100.83	Investment: Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve (Sterling Securities)	
		Investment: Surplus Balance (Sterling Securities)	392,827.93
		Investment: (Dollar Securities)	255,500.00
		Suspense:	
		Displaced Javanese	8,318.91
		H.M. Paymaster General	514.29
		Acid, Padi, Buckets	248.18
		Census	5,359.97
		P.W.D. unallocated Stores and Benzine	47,453.04
		Advance	61,894.39
		Loan	59,037.29
			8,497.27
	<u>\$6,773,364.66</u>		<u>\$6,773,364.66</u>

APPENDIX F.

BRUNEI

BRITISH RESIDENTS	ASSISTANT RESIDENTS
1906/May 1907—M. S. H. McArthur	May 1906/May 1907—F. A. S. McClelland
May 1907/Dec. 1907—H. Chevallier	—
Jan. 1908/Apr. 1908—M. S. H. McArthur	May 1907/June 1908—J. C. Sugars
Apr. 1908/Sept. 1909—J. F. Owen	June 1908/Feb. 1910—B. O. Stoney
Sept. 1909/Nov. 1909—B. O. Stoney (Acting)	Mar. 1910/May 1911—W. H. Lee-Warner
Nov. 1909/Nov. 1913—H. Chevallier	May 1911/Jan. 1913—E. A. Dickson
Nov. 1913/Dec. 1914—F. W. Douglas	Jan. 1913/1914 —W. H. Lee-Warner
Jan. 1915/May 1916—E. B. Maundrell	1914/1930 —Abolished
May 1916/Mar. 1921—G. E. Cator	Jan. 1931/Sept. 1931—T. F. Carey
Mar. 1921/Mar. 1923—L. A. Allen	Oct. 1931/Sept. 1933—R. C. Gates
Mar. 1923/Feb. 1926—E. E. F. Pretty	Aug. 1933/Apr. 1935—A. Glencross
Mar. 1926/Mar. 1927—O. E. Venables	Apr. 1935/Mar. 1936—D. A. Somerville
Mar. 1927/May 1928—E. E. F. Pretty	Mar. 1936/May 1938—H. Hughes-Hallett
May 1928/Jan. 1929—P. A. B. McKerron	May 1938/Apr. 1940—E. C. G. Barrett
Jan. 1929/Aug. 1929—R. J. F. Curtis	May 1940/Dec. 1941—R. N. Turner
Aug. 1929/Sept. 1931—P. A. B. McKerron	July 1946/Jan. 1947—C. J. Briscoe
Sept. 1931/Oct. 1934—T. F. Carey	Jan. 1947/Dec. 1947—M. H. Wood
Nov. 1934/Jan. 1937—R. E. Turnbull	
Jan. 1937/Dec. 1939—J. Graham Black	
Jan. 1940/Dec. 1941—E. E. Pengilley	
July 1946/ —W. J. Peel	

NOTE.—The appointment of Assistant Resident was abolished in 1915 and had not been recreated until 1931 consequent upon the development of the Seria Oilfields, Belait.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

ADEN	GIBRALTAR	ST. LUCIA
BAHAMAS	GOLD COAST	ST. VINCENT
BARBADOS	GRENADA	SARAWAK
BASUTOLAND	HONG KONG	SEYCHELLES
BECHUANALAND	JAMAICA	SIERRA LEONE
BERMUDA	KENYA	SINGAPORE
BRITISH GUIANA	LEEWARD IS.	SWAZILAND
BR. HONDURAS	MAURITIUS	TONGA
BRUNEI	FEDERATION	TRINIDAD
CAYMAN ISLANDS	OF MALAYA	TURKS AND
CYPRUS	NIGERIA	CAICOS IS.
DOMINICA	NORTH BORNEO	UGANDA
FALKLAND IS.	NORTHERN	WESTERN
FIJI	RHODESIA	PACIFIC
GAMBIA	NYASALAND	ZANZIBAR
	ST. HELENA	

A standing order for selected Reports or for the complete series will be accepted by any one of the Sales Offices of H.M. Stationery Office at the following addresses : York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 (Post Orders : P.O. Box 569, London, S.E.1); 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh, 2 ; 39-41 King Street, Manchester, 2 ; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff ; Tower Lane, Bristol, 1 ; 80 Chichester Street, Belfast.

A deposit of £4 (four pounds) should accompany standing orders for the complete series.

ORDERS MAY ALSO BE PLACED THROUGH ANY BOOKSELLER

