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*COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS*

# Brunei

## 1948



*LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE*

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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 1948.

It is anticipated that the Colonies and Protectorates for which 1948 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

1948

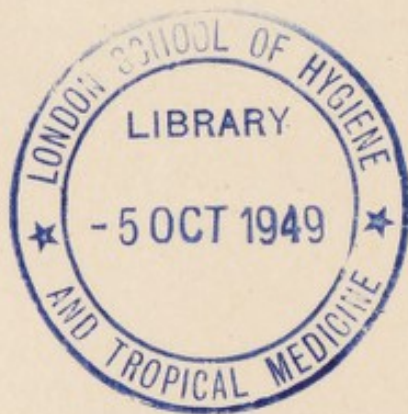


LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1949

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## CONTENTS

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CHAPTER.	PAGE.
PART I.	
1.—SPECIAL EVENTS .. .. .	1
PART II.	
1.—POPULATION .. .. .	3
2.—OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANIZATION .. .. .	5
3.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION .. .. .	8
4.—CURRENCY AND BANKING .. .. .	10
5.—COMMERCE .. .. .	11
6.—PRODUCTION .. .. .	12
7.—SOCIAL SERVICES .. .. .	14
8.—LEGISLATION .. .. .	25
9.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS .. .. .	26
10.—COMMUNICATIONS .. .. .	29
11.—PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS .. .. .	33
PART III.	
1.—GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE .. .. .	40
2.—HISTORY .. .. .	42
3.—ADMINISTRATION .. .. .	46
4.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES .. .. .	47

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## APPENDICES

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A.—TABLE OF IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1947 AND THE YEAR 1948 .. .. .	48
B.—TABLE OF EXPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1947 AND THE YEAR 1948 .. .. .	50
C.—ABSTRACT OF REVENUE .. .. .	51
D.—ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURE .. .. .	52
E.—STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES .. .. .	53
F.—BRUNEI—BRITISH RESIDENTS AND ASSISTANT RESIDENTS .. .. .	54

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## PART I.

During 1948 the process of rehabilitation has continued but progress in many directions has been painfully slow owing to shortage of trained staff and the difficulty of obtaining certain essential materials.

So far as Government is concerned the shortage and incompetence of local contractors and the entire absence of any contracting firms with adequate capital has made it impossible to carry out even half of the new public works which had been envisaged and this is likely to have a snowball effect in years to come unless such persons can be encouraged to set up business within the State.

The British Malayan Petroleum Company, on the other hand, with a vast organisation behind it, has already succeeded in making a start in this direction and indeed has accomplished a remarkable work of rehabilitation during the past three years. The oilfield at Seria is now the largest producing field in the British Commonwealth, with an output of 60,000 barrels a day.

Land and sea communications were much improved and the Tutong Road is now metalled and asphalted for 24 out of its 30 miles.

The State was fortunate in having no food problems thanks to the increased acreage planted with rice and an excellent harvest, but the position has to be carefully watched as there is a tendency for the peasants to be attracted away from their fields to the more lucrative employment offered by the Oil Company.

It was indeed refreshing to the writer to return here after an absence of 20 years and to find that, despite the disturbances of war, the old atmosphere of peaceful contentment and happiness was still prevalent, in such marked contrast to the state of affairs in many neighbouring countries.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

The chief event of the year, politically, was the relinquishment of the post of High Commissioner for Brunei by His Excellency the Governor-General on his assumption of the office of Commissioner General for South East Asia and the appointment of the Governor of Sarawak in his stead. Under an Agreement signed on the 1st May 1948 the Government of Brunei has agreed to accept officers of the Sarawak Establishment to fill the posts hitherto held by officers seconded from the Malayan Civil Service and the Sarawak Government has made available the services of its technical departments in an advisory capacity to the Government of Brunei.

His Highness the Sultan was indisposed during the early part of the year and in July moved to Kuching, where he has bought a residence, for medical treatment and recuperation. He was still there at the end of the year and his health had much improved.



The Right Honourable the Earl of Listowel, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, visited Brunei on the 17th March for two days.

His Excellency the Right Honourable Malcolm MacDonald, P.C., Commissioner General for South East Asia, visited the State for four days in September. He was accompanied by His Excellency Sir Charles Arden Clarke, K.C.M.G. who had paid his first visit as High Commissioner in May, and Lady Arden Clarke.

On the later occasion His Excellency the High Commissioner presented the insignia of the O.B.E. to Inche Ibrahim bin Mohamed Jahfar, formerly Secretary to the Resident, who was awarded this honour for conspicuous services rendered during the Japanese occupation. Apart from members of the royal family, he is the first Brunei recipient of an honour conferred by His Majesty the King.

Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.C., R.N., Commander-in-Chief British Pacific Fleet paid a visit to Brunei in H.M.S. "Alert" in March. A large party of officers and men came ashore and played a football match against the local team. This visit was greatly appreciated and was a memorable occasion for the people of Brunei.

On 10th June an Agricultural Show was held at which certain classes were for local handicrafts such as silver-ware brass-ware and weaving. Special prizes were given for these classes by His Excellency the Commissioner General who has always been a great patron of these industries and has done his utmost to encourage them.

The Annual Regatta at "Hari Raya Puasa" in August was marred by rain but the competition was as keen as ever and a large and enthusiastic crowd watched the events.

A Brunei Branch of the British Red Cross Society was formed in May.

The Borneo Salaries Commission's report was published in February and most of its recommendations were approved. Salaries were revised with retrospective effect from July 1946 and may now be said to be more commensurate with the greatly increased cost of living. These recommendations did not, however, apply to daily-paid wage earners who were still working for little more than pre-war rates of pay.

Mr. L. H. N. Davis, M.C.S. acted as British Resident until August when the present writer assumed the duties of the post for the third time.

Mr. D. C. I. Wernham, M.C.S. officiated as Assistant Resident, Kuala Belait, throughout the year.

Among the other principal visitors during the year were the following:—

His Excellency Mr. E. F. Twining, C.M.G.	Governor of North Borneo
General Sir Neil Ritchie, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.	Commander-in-Chief, FARELF
Mr. Pei Chun Yu	Consul for China. North Borneo
Dr. Ying Wing Chan	Consul for China, Sarawak
Mr. W. H. Chinn, O.B.E	Adviser on Social Welfare, Colonial Office
Monsieur A. Morand	Acting Consul General for France, Singapore
Sir Godfrey Mitchell	Chairman, Messrs Wimpey and Company
Miss Stephenson	British Red Cross Society
His Honour Mr. Justice L. Y. Hedges	Chief Justice, Sarawak
Mr. L. S. Greening, O.B.E., M.C.	Economic Liaison Officer, Colonial Office
Sir Leonard Paton	Director, Harrisons and Crosfield

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## PART II.

### CHAPTER I.

#### POPULATION

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

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 Rivers; 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 later 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 Dayaks are found in scattered settlements along the upper reaches of the Temburong, Pandaruan and Belait 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, Dayaks and Muruts practised shifting cultivation only, but they are now being induced by means of judicious propaganda to adopt settled methods 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 a few Arab traders.

*Religion.* The religion of the Brunei Malays and Kedayans is Islam of the Shafi'i sect. The Tutongs and Belaits also generally profess Islam. Of the other races, the Dusuns, Dayaks and Muruts are all pagan animists.

*Language.* The languages spoken in the State are as diverse as the Races which compose its population. The Bruneis 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 peoples.

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 and Malayalam.

*Total Population.* A census of the population of the State was made in November 1947 and the final corrected figure shows that at that time the population was 40,657. This shows an increase of 10,522 on the 1931 census, the bulk of the increase being among the Chinese.

The density of the population works out at 18.2 to the square mile.

*Births.* The total number of births registered during the year was 1,647 representing a birth rate of 40.50 per mille. Of the births recorded 833 were male and 814 female giving a birth-sex ratio of 99% female to 100 males.

*Deaths.* The number of deaths registered was 882, representing a crude death rate of 21.60 per 1000. 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 139 which represents a rise of 6 on the 1947 figure. Both for 1947 and 1948 the figures show a great reduction on the pre-war rate, and much of the credit for this 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 North Borneo. The excess of arrivals over departures amounted to 1302 as shown below:—

	<i>Arrivals</i>	<i>Departures</i>
Europeans .. ..	79	55
Eurasians .. ..	—	—
Malays .. ..	1,018	887
Chinese .. ..	3,441	2,829
Indians .. ..	170	136
Other Races .. ..	927	426
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> Total 5,635	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> Total 4,333

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 classes 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 Malaysian race. Immigrants of other races, however, are required to produce a Passport or similar document. There is no legislation regarding the volume of immigration.

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## CHAPTER II.

### OCCUPATION, WAGES & LABOUR ORGANISATION

The total population of the State is about 40,000 and of these approximately one-eighth are employed on the oilfield, so that though it is still correct to say that the majority of the inhabitants are kampong dwellers and fishermen, many have some member of the family working on the oilfield. This acquisition of cash wages and the appreciation of what money buys must perforce lead to a gradual breaking of a characteristic that has been commented on by successive British Residents, viz. a disregard for the acquisition of money and a system of barter to supply their simple needs.

The principal employers of labour are the Government, the British Malayan Petroleum Company and four European owned estates.

The oilfield at Seria is now one of the most important oilfields in the world, producing more oil than the whole of the oilfields of Trinidad, and employing about 5,000 persons in all, over 50% of whom belong to one or other of the indigenous races of the country. Other races employed are Chinese, Indians and Dayaks. The Indians, who are largely from the west coast of India, make excellent drillers while the Dayaks are used for jungle felling and clearing.

In addition to the rubber estates referred to above, there are a large number of small holdings planted with rubber. Estate labour is mostly drawn from surrounding villages.

Conditions of work vary according to the employment but conditions are in general governed by the provisions of the Labour Code. All labour is free and indentured labour is not allowed. Verbal agreements to work may be entered into for any period not exceeding one month and in absence of proof to the contrary all agreements are presumed to be for that period. There are no penal sanctions for breach of agreement by the labourer. The employer is bound to provide at least twenty-four days' work in each month and no labourer can be required to work for more than six days in any one week or for more than nine hours a day or six hours on end. In practice there is a tendency to adopt the eight hour day and this is the policy on the oilfield where much of the work is done by shifts.

The workers' 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. The Oil Company also provide free cinema entertainments.

The cost of living is about 300 per cent above the pre-war level and even higher in the Belait District where the Oilfield is situated.

The Government pays a cost of living allowance and so does the British Malayan Petroleum Company, but Government has found it necessary to pay an additional special allowance to its officers stationed in the Belait District.

Housing suffered great destruction during the war and present construction is very largely temporary. The oilfield, however, have now started their permanent building programme. Buildings are of an advanced type and have piped water and natural gas for cooking laid on. Living space is liberal and suitable provision is made for family and ethnic grouping. The latter is important since the labour force consists of different races. Land for growing foodstuffs is provided.

The hospital in Brunei was destroyed during the war and all medical care suffered a severe set back, and the pre-war standard has not yet been reached. The British Malayan Petroleum Company maintain an efficient hospital at Kuala Belait, principally for the care of their employees though in-patient accommodation is available for others on repayment. Malaria is the most prevalent disease and there is a high incidence of hookworm. There are as yet no known occupational diseases. Promotion of health in the oil industry receives close attention and compensation is paid for accidents.

Wage rates are not easy to state. In many cases work is done on contract or paid for by result. On rubber estates the reward is on the amount of latex brought in. Tappers earn about \$50 a month and a living wages is ensured by the fact that labour is in short supply. The basic wage for labourers employed by the Public Works Department was 60 cents with an allowance of 40 cents a working day plus 30 per cent of basic wage as cost of living allowance.

The daily rates on the oilfield were as follows:—

Artisans	.. ..	\$1.70 — \$4.50
Drivers	.. ..	\$1.00 — \$1.30
Mechanics	.. ..	\$1.40 — 02.20
Engine drivers and fitters	.. ..	\$1.20 — \$2.00
Pipe fitters	.. ..	\$1.00 — \$1.70
Watchmen	.. ..	\$ .80 — \$1.00
Carpenters	.. ..	\$1.00 — \$2.20
Shipwrights	.. ..	\$1.20 — \$2.50
Masons	.. ..	\$1.10 — \$1.70
Chainmen	.. ..	\$1.00 — \$1.45
Unskilled workmen	.. ..	\$ .80 — \$1.00

*Cost of Living Allowance.* 35% of wages with a minimum of \$15 a month for 26 days' work monthly.

In addition, several other allowances can be claimed or earned for marriage, good conduct, regular attendance, separation and the like.

On the oilfield young workers intended for skilled work are trained as apprentices in the particular branch they select. Artisans in Singapore may in some cases receive higher rates of basic pay but they do not get free accommodation, water, gas, transport, free cinemas and other advantages which are provided by the British Malayan Petroleum Company.

There is freedom of association under the Societies Enactment. Any society can be registered under this Enactment unless it is a Triad Society or a society formed for some unlawful purpose incompatible with the preservation of peace and good order.

Employers of labour on estates and notified places, such as rubber factories, oilfields, coal mines and cutch factories are required to provide house accommodation, good drinking water and make proper sanitary arrangements and to care for their workers.

Unemployment—except voluntary—is non-existent and indeed except on the oilfield and certain estates there are few workers dependent entirely on wage earnings. The shortage of labour has necessitated bringing in some skilled workers from Singapore.

There is as yet little organization amongst workers so that collective bargaining has not yet been introduced. Supervision of labour is a Government responsibility and the Controller of Labour and the Assistant Controllers of Labour and the State Medical Officer have powers of inspection on places where labourers reside or are employed.

The Labour Adviser for the three Bornean territories is also Controller of Labour for Brunei. He is stationed in Jesselton and has paid four visits to Brunei. He has been engaged on overhauling the existing labour legislation. The Labour Code has been re-modelled and drafts for a Workmen's Compensation Enactment and a Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Enactment have been prepared. The position of the State in relation to International Labour Organisation Conventions has been examined and opportunity has been taken when redrafting the

Labour Code to bring the legislation into line where desirable. In particular a separate chapter deals with the employment of women and children and will implement relevant Conventions.

The following table shows the racial distribution of the labour employed according to the various categories of employment:—

Race	Government (Public Works)	B.M.P. Co. (Oil Mining)	Rubber Estates & Cutch Works	Total
Malays & Bruneis	567	2,232	501	3,300
Chinese ..	9	1,131	15	1,155
Indians ..	2	218	—	220
Javanese ..	2	73	16	91
Eurasians ..	—	22	—	22
	580	3,676	532	4,788

### 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 principal 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. 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 \$1 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 1948 was \$6,586,299 as compared with \$4,389,974 for 1947.

The following comparative table shows the actual receipts for 1947 and 1948 under the main heads:—

	1947	1948
Custom duties .. .. .	2,360,054	1,381,192
License and Excise .. .. .	71,101	96,926
Municipal .. .. .	28,557	33,903
General .. .. .	80,392	90,320
Posts and Telegraphs .. .. .	241,740	289,925
Land Revenue (includes oil royalties)	1,065,271	4,381,752
Interest .. .. .	108,972	118,582
Currency Profits .. .. .	419,029	39,185

A detailed statement showing the actual revenue for 1948 under each main head with comparative figures for 1947 is shown in Appendix C.

Two items of revenue are outstanding in comparison with the previous year, Customs duties and Land Revenue.

*Customs Duties.* At the end of 1947 the tariffs were overhauled and considerable changes were made, the chief of which was the removal of the items 'ironware' and 'machinery' from the tariff. This action resulted in a considerable drop in the revenue as was to be expected in view of the large works to be performed in an oil mining district.

*Land Revenue.* The royalties collected on oil mined in the State were four times as great as in 1947 as production increased.

#### *Expenditure*

The expenditure for 1948 was \$3,740,254 as compared with \$1,797,597 for 1947. A detailed abstract of expenditure with comparative figures for 1947 is given in Appendix D.

The main factors contributing to this increased expenditure as compared with 1947 are as follows:—

Remission of Customs Duty on plant and machinery imported to replace material damaged during the war \$534,000; arrears of pay due for the Japanese Occupation period \$131,000; settlement of pre-war accounts \$49,000; arrears of pay and cost of living allowances as a result of the salaries revision \$591,000; Public Works Extraordinary \$340,000.

The shortage of labour and material prevented the completion of an ambitious programme of Public Works and a considerable part of the provision has been re-voted for 1949.

#### *Financial Position*

As stated above, the revenue for the year 1948 amounted to \$6,586,299 and the expenditure to \$3,740,254. The year's working therefore resulted in a surplus of \$2,846,045.



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

	Oil Royalties	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	710,099	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
1948	4,239,287	2,347,012	6,586,299

*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 \$309,497. This source of revenue ceased after the Liberation in 1945.

*Assets and Liabilities.* The surplus of assets over liabilities on 31st December 1948 amounted to \$5,032,821. A detailed statement of this account is given in Appendix E.

*Public Debt.* The State has no public debt.

#### CHAPTER IV.

### CURRENCY AND BANKING.

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 dollar 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 5 cents upwards.

In the second half of the year it was decided that all old Malayan currency notes bearing a date prior to 1st July 1941 should be re-called and replaced by new notes of a later issue. This was a welcome measure as many of the old notes were in an appalling condition.

Banks operating in Brunei State are as follows:—

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

The total number of depositors and the amount standing to their credit with the Post Office Savings Bank at the close of the year 1947 and 1948 were as follows:—

Year	Number of Depositors	Amount
1947	241	\$ 59,725
1948	625	\$231,863

## CHAPTER V.

### COMMERCE.

*Imports.* Once again some dozen items are outstanding in Appendix A, the most important of which are the items for machinery and ironware valued at \$13,280,265 and \$7,506,015 respectively. This is readily accounted for by the requirements of the local Oilfields which are still in the process of expansion.

The local rice harvest was good and in consequence less rice was imported than in 1947. The Black Market ceased to be effective early in the year.

After the liberation of Borneo in 1945 the British Military Administration introduced a Customs Tariff in Brunei which was similar to that of North Borneo but in December 1947 it was possible to pass legislation to give effect to a tariff under Civil Law and at the same time to amend the whole structure of the tariff and its policy. A large number of petty items were eradicated and an attempt was made to concentrate on the more productive items and the duty on the majority of these was raised.

The most outstanding change was the deletion of the items 'machinery' and 'ironware' from the import tariff. The effect of this gesture on the Revenue with the existence of a very large oil-field may be easily appreciated. The value of these two items imported this year was \$20,000,000.

*Exports.* The same main items remain in Appendix B and disclose a small increase in the quantity of rubber exported when compared with 1947.

The production and export of Crude Oil and Natural Gas have steadily increased since the war. The export in 1948 was more than half as much again as in 1947.

The Oil is exported by pipeline to Lutong in Sarawak territory where a part is refined and the remainder exported as Crude Oil.

The Customs and Marine Department was in the charge of Mr. D. H. Trumble.

## CHAPTER VI.

## PRODUCTION

The following table shows the acreages planted with food and other crops during 1948:—

Food Crops	Acres	Fruits	Acres
Wet Padi ..	4,655	Pineapples ..	590
Dry Padi ..	4,437	Bananas ..	575
Sweet Potato ..	245	Unspecified ..	1,028
Tapioca ..	523		
Sago ..	2,046	Coconuts	
Maize ..	171	Sole Crops ..	466
Menjalai ..	65	Mixed Crops ..	600
Sugar Cane ..	485		
Ground Nut ..	57	Miscellaneous	
Vegetables ..	403	Tobacco ..	78
Lesser Yams ..	78	Derries ..	64
Coffee and Cocoa ..	48		

The yield from the area planted with wet padi was 1,461,643 gantangs and dry padi 770,190 gantangs.

This is roughly equivalent to 4750 tons of rice or about 66 per cent of the State's estimated consumption.

The following areas were planted with rubber:—

Large holdings ..	3,866 acres
Medium holdings ..	4,282 "
Small holdings ..	10,954 "
New planting ..	348 "

Production of rubber was 2,037 tons of smoked sheet.

*Animal Husbandry.* The census of livestock is as follows:—

Buffaloes ..	7,311
Cattle ..	1,017
Goats ..	580
Pigs ..	2,272
Domestic Birds ..	43,784

The following agricultural pests were destroyed by poison:—

Wild pigs ..	1,469
Rats ..	9,229

*Forest Products.*

Jelutong ..	2,492 pikuls
Sawn Timber and Poles ..	841,857 cubic feet
Firewood ..	2,550 tons.

*Fisheries.* There is as yet no Fisheries Department, but one will be started next year. Meanwhile no statistics are kept, though a large number of persons are engaged in this occupation.

*Mining Production.*

Mineral Oil ..	2,645,412 English tons
Gas ..	19,836,900,599 cubic feet.

*Organization.*

*Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.* The State Agricultural Officer was seconded from Malaya and Mr. H. Ritchings was in charge of the Department throughout the year. 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 consumptions, as are animals and poultry.

The Kedayans are the principal tribe of 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. The oil is for export.

*Forestry.* This industry is controlled by the State Forest Officer with Headquarters at Kuala Belait. Mr. E. S. Erskine was in charge of the Forest Department throughout the year.

The trade is in the hands of local individuals the majority of whom have contracts with the British Malayan Petroleum Company at the oilfields in Seria, who consume over seventy five per cent of the timber extracted within the State.

*Important Events affecting Production.*

*Agriculture.* Wild pigs and rats continue to be the worst pests. "Yellow phosphorous" has been used against the pigs and has proved most successful.

There have been no excessive draughts or floods but the November rainfall of 21.01 inches is the heaviest recorded in any one month since records have been kept.

One Haward Roto Hoe and one Anzunoto Iron Horse were imported during the year and both have given satisfactory results.

*Forestry.* An island of pure mangrove of 5,500 acres was constituted a forest reserve this year.

*Cottage Industries.*

Brunei silverware has long been deservedly famous in the Far East and the craftsmen, while preserving the traditional patterns, have introduced many new designs and articles which appeal to the modern taste. They find a ready market, especially among European visitors, and are exported to many neighbouring countries.

It is regrettable that no progress can be recorded in the brass-working industry, but kajang mats, bags and baskets are being produced in increasing quantities and some of the work is very fine.

The high price of gold thread has retarded progress in the resuscitation of the weaving of Jong Sarat, the beautiful gold sarongs, but two table-runners of this type were included in the State's Wedding-present to Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth.

Mrs. D. H. Trumble deserves great credit for the interest which she has taken in the local Arts and Crafts and for the assistance and encouragement which she has given to the workers.

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## CHAPTER VII.

### SOCIAL SERVICES.

#### *Education.*

There are thirty four schools in the State, of which 25 are Malay vernacular schools, 5 are Chinese schools and 4 are English schools. Twenty two of the Malay schools are Government schools directly controlled by the Education Department, the other three being estate schools for which the buildings are provided and maintained by the owners of rubber estates and the teachers and school equipment are provided by Government. The Chinese schools are all private schools directed by local committees. The English schools are also private schools, three of them being directed by a Roman Catholic Mission while the fourth is owned and controlled by the British Malayan Petroleum Company Ltd. A measure 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 them 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 schools, the majority being rural schools.

#### *Malay Schools.*

During the year one new Malay school was opened at Kampong Sungai Hanching, Brunei District.

*Enrolment and School Attendance.* By the School Attendance 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 within two miles of their home. This 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 1948:—

School.	Number of Pupils.		
	M.	F.	Total
1. Brunei Town .. ..	514	71	585
2. Sengkurong .. ..	78	4	82
3. Kilanas .. ..	45	11	56
4. Gadong (Estate School) ..	42	3	45

5. Kasat .. ..	31	8	39
6. Lumapas .. ..	41	9	50
7. Berakas (Estate School) ..	33	7	40
8. Muara .. ..	53	37	90
9. Bangar .. ..	66	23	89
10. Labu (Estate School) ..	19	3	22
11. Bukit Bendera .. ..	56	24	80
12. Tanjong Maya .. ..	66	2	68
13. Ukong .. ..	33	9	42
14. Penanjong .. ..	36	11	47
15. Kiudang .. ..	51	3	54
16. Keriam .. ..	25	9	34
17. Sinaut .. ..	41	10	51
18. Lamunin .. ..	65	8	73
19. Kuala Belait .. ..	93	37	130
20. Seria .. ..	123	47	170
21. Kuala Balai .. ..	14	10	24
22. Labi .. ..	43	14	57
23. Danau .. ..	24	11	35
24. Tumpuan Telisai .. ..	17	4	21
25. Sungei Hanching .. ..	44	1	45
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,653	376	2,029
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

While these figures show an increase of 95 males and 42 females over the corresponding figures for December, 1947, the number of children who are enrolled is still probably less than half the total number of Malaysian children who are of school age. In the first two years after the Japanese occupation the low proportion of Malaysian children enrolled in the schools was largely due to shortage of food and clothes among the people, to shortage of school-books and teaching equipment and to the ruinous condition of many of the schools. The situation with regard to food and clothes has now improved to such extent that shortage of these is no longer a factor which seriously affects school attendance. There now appear to be only two main reasons for the lowness of the enrolment figures. Firstly, there are still considerable stretches of country in the State where no schools exist within a reasonable distance. Secondly, although considerable progress has been made during 1948 in rebuilding schools destroyed or damaged during the war, there are still places in the State where the existing Malay schools are too small for the population. At Brunei Town the present temporary buildings can accommodate less than 600 pupils although accommodation is required for an additional 250. The Seria Malay School, which is in the oilfield area, can accommodate only 170 pupils out of an estimated 300 to 400 Malaysian children of school age whose parents are employed in the oil industry. In both these cases, the provision of larger schools is planned and it is hoped that the new Brunei Malay School will be completed before the end of 1949.

Throughout the year the attendance of the pupils enrolled in the Malay Schools has been good.

*Work of the Malay Schools.* A reasonably satisfactory standard of work has been maintained in the Malay Schools within the limits of the vernacular to which they are at present confined. Owing to the continued assistance given by the Department of Education of the Federation of Malaya in allocating Malay School books for the use of Malay Schools in Brunei, the pupils have been adequately supplied with books. There is still a shortage of Teachers, particularly of Trained Teachers.

*Curriculum.* The curriculum is based on that of the 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 periodic visits to all Malay schools. As handwork, boys are taught canoe building, basketry in bamboo and rattan and making brushes from shredded coconut husks and bamboo. Girls are taught sewing and embroidery. Religious instruction by Mohammedan teachers, who are nominated for the purpose by the Chief Kathi, is also given in those schools which are easily accessible.

During the first term of the school year male pupils at the Malay Schools play football and there is an inter-school competition which is open also to private schools. During the second term they commence physical training and sports in which an inter-school competition is also held. Volley ball and badminton are played at two or three of the more central schools.

*Staff.* Pending the appointment of a full time Education Officer, the Assistant Resident is *ex officio* Director of Education. The Malay administrative staff consists of an Acting Superintendent of Education, an Acting Inspector of Schools and 3 Group Teachers.

At the end of 1948 the teaching staff comprised 16 Teachers, (including the 3 Group Teachers and the Travelling Instructor in Physical Education and Handwork) trained at the Sultan Idris Training College in Malaya, 63 Untrained Teachers and 5 Women Teachers (Untrained). The ratio of Teachers to pupils is therefore about 1 to 22. At the Brunei Malay School one local craftsman is employed to teach canoe building. The religious teachers are 15 in number.

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 year course. At the end of 1948, there were 13 students from Brunei at the College. During 1948, 2 Malay Women Teachers were sent by the Government to the Malay Women Training College at Malacca, this being the first occasion on which Brunei Women Teachers have been educated overseas. At the end of 1948 arrangements were also made to select 10 students for admission in February 1949 to the Teachers' Training Course at the Batu Lintang Training Centre and School in Kuching.

*Private Schools.*

*English Schools.* Apart from the school provided by the British Malayan Petroleum Company Ltd. for the children of their senior staff, the only English schools are those run by the Roman Catholic Mission. Details of these are as follows:—

Name	Number of Pupils		
	M.	F.	Total
Brunei Roman Catholic School ..	96	33	129
Kuala Belait English School ..	80	56	136
Catholic Anglo-Chinese School, Seria	130	76	206
	306	165	471

The standard of education in these schools is at present low, principally on account of the difficulty which the Mission experience in obtaining Teachers, particularly those capable of teaching English. During 1948 these schools all received small grants-in-aid from Government and the Catholic Anglo-Chinese School also receives financial assistance from the British Malayan Petroleum Company Ltd.

*Chinese Schools.* Details of Chinese schools are as follows:—

Name	Number of Pupils		
	M.	F.	Total
Brunei Town Chinese School ..	96	33	129
Chung Hwa School, Kuala Belait ..	271	213	484
Chung Hwa School, Tutong ..	36	13	49
Chung Cheng School, Seria ..	172	112	284
Chung Hwa School, Labi ..	29	9	38
	604	380	984

These schools are reasonably well run but have difficulty in obtaining teachers and changes in their teaching staff are frequent. The language of instruction is Mandarin but most of them also teach some English. With the exception of the Brunei Town Chinese School, all received small grants-in-aid from the Government during 1948.

*Miscellaneous.*

*Refresher Course.* The annual Malay Teacher's Refresher Course was held in Kuala Belait in November, 1948.

*Batu Lintang Training Centre and School.* Reference has been made to the arrangements being made to send Brunei students to attend a Teachers Training Course at Batu Lintang. Eight boys between the age of 12 and 15 years are also being selected to go to this school for post-primary education.

*Scouts.* 4 Scout Troops in the State are nominally still in existence, two being at Brunei, one at Kuala Belait and one at Tutong. On account of the lack of a competent organiser, their activities are at present at a standstill.

*Finance.* The sum of \$108,330.39 was spent by the State on Education in 1948 as compared with \$74,006 in 1947.



*Summary.*

Some improvement in the standard of education has been achieved in 1948. However the educational system of the State remains in form much the same as it was 15 years ago, when the development of the oil industry in the State was only just starting, and nothing has yet been done to adapt it to the needs of the present era of intensive industrial activity. The number of schools, and of the pupils attending them, has been more than doubled in the intervening period but the education is still only primary and, in all but a few private schools, is restricted to the vernacular. It does not appear that any real progress towards providing the more advanced education now required by many of the inhabitants of the State will be made until the State has a full-time English-speaking education officer. The failure of all efforts made during the past three years to obtain such an officer is especially deplorable in view of the growing demand by the people of the State for better education and also because the efforts of the Malay Teachers, many of whom do not lack enthusiasm for their work, deserve proper direction.

*Health.*

*Administration.* The Medical and Health Administration of the State is in the hands of the State Medical Officer. Until April 30th, this appointment was on the Malayan Establishment, but from May 1st., Brunei abrogated The Malayan Establishment Agreement and with effect from this date the post of the State Medical Officer should have been filled by an officer seconded from the Sarawak Medical Service. Sarawak, however, were not able to second a Medical Officer to Brunei this year and the post of the State Medical Officer was therefore held throughout the year by Dr. G. A. Mott of the Malayan Medical Service.

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 that end of the State. A close liaison is maintained between the State Medical Officer and the Medical Officer of the Company.

*The Year in General.* The shortage of essential supplies which was so crippling in 1947 was largely overcome this year and with the arrival in the first 3 months of the year of bulk supplies ordered in March 1947, anxieties on the subject of supplies largely ceased. It has been possible to give more satisfactory treatment to the majority of patients and to establish small centres of essential supplies such as anti-malarial drugs, at outlying schools and kampongs.

However the great difficulties imposed by the primitive nature of the hospital accommodation remained and if anything increased. In spite of numerous temporary repairs, the present buildings in Brunei have deteriorated rapidly, and considerable difficulty has been found in finding accommodation for the new supplies. Towards the end of the year, this difficulty became so acute that it was necessary to close one of the wards in order to extend the store. This inevitably gave rise to considerable congestion in the two remaining male wards. It is with a sense of

profound relief that it is found possible to record that plans for the new hospital have been finally approved and there is now good reason to hope that the buildings will be largely completed during 1949.

*Hospitals and Dispensaries.* The temporary hospital which was established in Brunei town shortly after the liberation has remained the focal point of the Medical and Health Services. It consists of an old Malay house in which has been installed running water and electric light, with the addition of two attap out-buildings which are used as out-patient department and Infant Welfare Clinic. There is also a block of eight cells for the temporary accommodation of lunatics. In the main building there are a small theatre, an office, consulting room, medical store and two small male wards. With the disappearance of the third male ward to extend the medical store, the maximum accommodation for patients is fifty but if the number exceeds forty there is acute congestion. Some idea of the difficulties experienced in practising modern medicine in these surroundings is obtained when it can be recorded that a rain-storm causes rapid adjustment of the position of beds to avoid the numerous runlets of water which come trickling through the roof.

Dispensaries in charge of a dresser exist at Tutong, Temburong, Muara and Kuala Belait. Those at Muara and Kuala Belait are temporary buildings only; those at Tutong and Temburong are permanent pre-war structures, but the foundations of the Tutong dispensary were so badly shaken by bombing that it is probable that it will have to be re-built in due course. The dispensary at Temburong was renovated and painted during the first half of the year.

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 and some cases, who require more elaborate treatment than can yet be given in Brunei, are sent overland to Kuala Belait from Brunei.

Travelling by dressers in out-stations has increased considerably during the year, but there is a real need for travelling dressers and it is hoped to establish these during 1949. Prahus and out-board motors will be based on Tutong, Temburong and Kuala Belait and a travelling dispensary ambulance will operate along the Brunei-Tutong and Brunei-Muara Roads.

Brunei also provides Medical Services for the fifth division of Sarawak which has dispensaries at Limbang and Lawas.

*Child Welfare and Maternity.* The infant welfare and maternity clinics at Brunei and Kuala Belait have remained extremely popular with the local people and they are probably the most flourishing aspects of the work of the Medical Department. Each clinic is in charge of a Staff Nurse, assisted by four midwives in Brunei and two in Kuala Belait and in association with the clinics, the midwives provide a district midwifery service under the supervision of the Staff Nurse.

The clinics are increasing in popularity among the local people largely owing to the outstanding personalities of the two Staff Nurses who are widely known and trusted and whose ability is greatly respected. Inroads are slowly being made into the superstitious and ignorant tradition which still surrounds the practice of midwifery in Brunei, but lives are still lost because the relatives refuse to permit the woman in labour to come to hospital until too late, and because of their refusal to accept the most elementary principles of infant feeding. In Brunei the uncompromising personality of the Staff Nurse in charge of the clinic and the wide respect in which she is held have more than once been the deciding factor in persuading a patient with obstructed labour to come to hospital and submit to operation.

During 1948 the Infant Mortality rate was 139 which shows an increase of 6 on the figures for 1947.

*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 areas 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 three 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 Boards. The slaughter-house in Brunei is too small for its purpose and re-building is necessary, but in view of the vast amount of re-building required in the State, it will probably be some time before this can be done.

*Anti-malarial Measures.* Anti-larval measures consisting of oiling, draining and clearing are only possible in the two large centres of population at Brunei Town and Kuala Belait. In Kuala Belait the work is undertaken by the British Malayan Petroleum Company and Government makes payment to the Company in respect of the work done in the area outside the Company's Oil Lease.

Anti-malarial measures in the small scattered communities of the State are a very formidable problem. There are numbers of these communities in which the spleen rate is 80% or more and who are repeatedly suffering from attacks of fever and the debilitation resulting therefrom. It is quite impossible to undertake anti-larval measures in these sparsely populated areas, but there is no doubt that malaria among the inhabitants could be stamped out if only the co-operation of the people could be obtained. Prophylactic atabrin one tablet daily or paludrine two tablets weekly would remove the menace very quickly if it were properly taken. But it has proved impossible to make the people understand the value of the treatment or the necessity for carrying it out religiously. Irregular treatment is worse than useless—it merely builds up a drug-resistant strain of parasite which is a

greater menace than before and since many areas are heavily infested with the malignant tertian parasite, it precipitates Blackwater Fever.

An example of what can be done by prophylaxis is seen in the case of the Police. In 1947 malaria was rife amongst them, but near the end of 1947 atebrijn prophylaxis was instituted and the co-operation of the Chief Police Officer obtained, so that an attack of malaria was regarded as an offence against discipline. Malaria in the Police Force now is almost unknown in spite of their great exposure. If similar measures and discipline could be adopted among outlying communities, there is little doubt the results would be equally satisfactory.

*Prevailing Diseases.* Malaria. In Brunei Town where anti-larval measures are practised, malaria is uncommon; in Kuala Belait where similar conditions obtain it is not a great problem. But almost everywhere else in the State it is a formidable menace, the cause of a great deal of ill-health and of many deaths. The commonest form is the benign tertian parasite; almost as common is the malignant tertian parasite and occasional cases of Quartan infection are also seen. One severe case of Blackwater Fever was treated successfully in Brunei Hospital.

*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 very common in urban districts partly due to the use of human faecal material as manure and partly to the lack of effective means of sanitation in native houses. It 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.

*Chronic Malaria, Malnutrition and the Hookworm.* The year 1948 has seen no reduction in the incidence of this vicious combination which is responsible for a very great deal of the illness occurring amongst people in urban areas and is the handmaiden of what is probably the greatest health problem in the State as in most of South East Asia—Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Increased blood loss due to hookworm, increased blood destruction due to malaria, and a diminished blood formation due to an unbalanced deficient diet produce the most severe degrees of anaemia as well as beri-beri and starvation oedema. Amongst such debilitated people tuberculosis thrives.

Perhaps the greatest tragedy of this is that it is readily preventable and equally readily curable, although the latter needs time. A broken leg in a person from an urban area is often a blessing in disguise—it keeps him in hospital for 6 to 8 weeks during which time a balanced diet, a simple iron mixture, Vitamin B. tablets and a few liver injections simply transform his general health and when he leaves hospital he has not merely recovered from his broken leg, but has put on weight, lost his oedema and his lassitude and has his blood haemoglobin doubled. Alas, within 6 months he is usually in as bad a condition as before.

It is hoped that the introduction of travelling dressers will enable health propaganda to be spread among the urban population and do something to lessen the incidence of this tragic and unnecessary ill-health.

*Tuberculosis.* As in every other country in the Far East a tremendous problem. Its increase since pre-war days is undoubtedly to a large extent a relic of the Japanese occupation with its starvation and shortages, but the debilitating effect of these experiences, together with overcrowding in the house, and the universal pernicious habit of indiscriminate spitting, are important factors in maintaining the disease.

Although in their debilitated state local rural persons have little resistance to the disease, resistance very rapidly appears when nature is given a chance. If a patient with tuberculosis will come into hospital, have his malaria and hookworm treated, and rest quietly in bed while being given iron and Vitamin, nature is often able to deal with the tuberculosis and the patient's weight begins to increase rapidly. Seldom, however, will the patient remain in hospital to complete the cure once he begins to feel a bit better.

*Venereal Disease.* Gonorrhoea is widespread and the cause of much suffering; syphilis is also common. With the increased supplies of Penicillin available it has been possible to do much more for these cases and early cases of Gonorrhoea can be cured in 24 hours, a tremendous advantage when dealing with patients who are only prepared to stay a limited time in hospital. Syphilis is seldom seen in the early stages but it is not uncommon to see congenital syphilis in infants, and it is undoubtedly a big factor in the number of cases of miscarriage and neo-natal deaths. Penicillin is used only for primary and secondary cases. Later cases are treated with organic arsenicals and bismuth.

*Dysentery.* Amoebic and bacillary dysentery both occur commonly and liver abscess and acute hepatitis due to the former are often seen. As in so many other cases, a disease, readily curable in the early stages, is often neglected until by the time it does come to hospital, death is inevitable.

*Influenza.* There was an extensive outbreak of influenza in the middle of the year, but fortunately it was of low virulence and no deaths were recorded. The small European population in Brunei Town suffered severely, 60% being affected in ranging degrees of severity.

*Typhus.* Sporadic cases of endemic typhus were seen throughout the year. In no case was the disease severe although it was incapacitating for about 3 weeks.

*Diseases of the Eye.* A fairly extensive epidemic of Kochweeks Conjunctivitis occurred during the year and in a few neglected cases from urban districts blindness due to panophthalmitis followed. Cases treated reasonably did well and no ill-results followed.

In November the Army ophthalmic surgeon from Singapore came to Brunei for a holiday and offered to do any necessary surgery. The result of this was amazing; the hospital was besieged

by blind people. For many of the patients nothing could be done but 15 successful operations were performed, mostly for cataract. From this visit it became clear that blindness is much commoner in Brunei than had been thought and the bulk of it is either preventable (when due to neglected conjunctivitis or entropion) or curable (when due to cataract or pterygium). The travelling dispensaries may do much to prevent this crippling condition. Our thanks are due to Dr. Moorse, who, although on holiday, gave freely of his time and skill in the interests of humanity.

*Mental Diseases.* There are eight cells in the hospital compound for the temporary accommodation of mental patients, but they are transferred to the Kuching Mental Hospital when transport can be obtained. Six mental cases were sent to Kuching in 1948.

*Leprosy.* This is not uncommon in the State, but in view of the slight risk of contagion, these cases are normally left in their homes. Destitute cases can be sent to the Leper Settlement in Kuching, but no such cases were sent in 1948.

#### *Housing.*

*Housing in Urban Areas.* Sanitary Boards control housing in the Urban Areas of Brunei, Kuala Belait and Tutong all of which were destroyed or badly damaged by bombing during the war. Plans of proposed buildings and of structural alterations in existing buildings must be submitted to the Boards for prior approval and all Houses are subject to inspection by their officers.

Temporary building only took place during the year but in December, the Sanitary Board in Brunei decided that no further temporary building would be permitted and that all future building must be permanent or semi-permanent. Town plans for Brunei, Kuala Belait and Seria have been or are being drawn up by the Public Works Department and future permanent building will be fitted into these. Work began towards the end of the year on the new permanent housing for the British Malayan Petroleum Company in Kuala Belait, and in addition there was considerable extension of their existing temporary accommodation. These projects drew off a great deal of materials and labour and increased the difficulties of any permanent construction in the Urban Areas.

The existing temporary buildings in the Urban Areas are mostly of the shop-house type consisting of 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 is used as a habitation by the shopkeeper, usually Chinese, and his family while the ground floor serves as business premises.

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

*Housing in Rural Districts.* Outside the Sanitary Board Areas, housing is not subject to Government control, but some bye-laws relating to housing and sanitation have been applied in certain areas.

The usual native house is raised on poles about five feet from the ground. The more pretentious may have walls and floor of plank and be roofed with billian 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 lives 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 Areas, 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 of a very high salt content which makes the water undrinkable. There is now an observable tendency among the younger and better educated generation to build their houses on the land.

Dayaks, Dusuns and Muruts generally live in communal long houses. These are long buildings on high piles between 6 and 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 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 house. In the out-districts and in the case of non-domiciled individuals, 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 pre-war Government Quarters remain and most of these were painted and renovated in 1948. Four new Quarters were also built.

*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 labourers 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 but the Government occasionally grants loans to approved applicants at a low rate of interest for the erection and repair of houses, and will have to extend this service to a considerable extent if the town of Brunei is ever to be re-built to its pre-war standard.

#### *Social Welfare.*

There is as yet no Social Welfare Department in the State and the need for it is not pressing.

During the year, as the result of a visit by Colonel Miss Stephenson of the British Red Cross Society, the formation of a Brunei Branch of the Society was approved. The local ladies have shown great enthusiasm in their weekly sewing-parties and have rendered valuable assistance in relief work. It is hoped shortly to commence a course of training in First Aid under the tutorship of the State Medical Officer.

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### 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.

Fourteen meetings of the State Council were held during the year and the following Enactments were passed:—

(1) The Malayan Establishment Pensions Enactment—This Enactment regulates the granting of Pensions, Gratuities and other allowances to officers on the Malayan Establishment and supersedes similar legislation enacted in 1940 which is repealed.

(2) The Oil Mining Enactment—This Enactment amends and consolidates the law relating to Oil Mining.

(3) The Sedition Enactment—This Enactment revises and unifies the law relating to Sedition.



(4) The Undesirable Publications Enactment—This Enactment revises and unifies the law relating to Undesirable Publications.

(5) The Courts (Amendment) Enactment—This Enactment constitutes the Chief Justice of Sarawak as Judge of Appeal in Brunei and makes certain consequential amendments to the Courts Enactment 1908.

(6) The Proclamations, Transfer of Powers and Interpretation (Amendment) Enactment—This Enactment amends the Principal Enactment dated 1946 by substituting the words "Federation of Malaya" for "Malayan Union," and the words "High Commissioner for Brunei" for "Governor-General of Malaya."

(7) The Land Code (Amendment) Enactment—This Enactment amends and clarifies section 12 of the Land Code 1909.

(8) The Marriage Enactment—This Enactment provides for the solemnization and Registration of Church and Civil Marriages, within the State.

(9) The Minor Offences (Amendment) Enactment—This Enactment amends the Minor Offences Enactment 1929.

(10). The Prisons (Amendment) Enactment—This Enactment amends the Prisons Enactment 1920.

(11) The Societies Enactment—This Enactment unifies and amends the law relating to Societies.

(12) The Oil Mining (Amendment) Enactment—This Enactment amends the Oil Mining Enactment 1948.

In addition Rules were promulgated under various Enactments the most important being—

(a) The additional Rules made under the Arms and Explosives Enactment, 1927.

(b) The Currency (Coins) Regulations made under the Currency Enactment, 1939.

(c) The Rules made under the Land Code regarding the occupation of land under Temporary Licence.

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## CHAPTER IX.

### JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

#### *Justice.*

During the year the Chief Justice, Sarawak, was appointed Judge of Appeal in Brunei. He heard one Civil Appeal, the first in Brunei for very many years.

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 solemnized 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 law 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.

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

District	Court of Appeal		Court of Resident		Court of 1st Class Magistrate		Court of 2nd Class Magistrate		Total	
	Cri- minal	Civil	Cri- minal	Civil	Cri- minal	Civil	Cri- minal	Civil	Cri- minal	Civil
Brunei	—	1	4	7	39	25	184	85	227	117
Belait	—	—	1	2	85	18	206	36	292	56
Tutong	—	—	—	—	—	1	62	—	62	1
Temburong	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	—	8	—
Muara	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
	—	1	5	9	126	44	460	121	591	174

Of the 591 criminal cases convictions were registered in 524 cases. 38 resulted in acquittal, 24 were withdrawn and 5 were pending.

The amount involved in civil suits was \$28,959.

There were two letters of administration suits in respect of estates aggregating \$15,616 in value.

#### *Police.*

The Brunei Police Force during 1948 was commanded by an officer seconded from the Malayan Police Force. Mr. H. J. Spinks held the appointment till the middle of February when he went on leave and was succeeded by Mr. T. H. Allen, Assistant Superintendent, Singapore Police Force.

The strength of the Force at the end of the year was 132, which is a shortage of 4 on the approved establishment.

Improved rates of pay which came into force during the year have improved the recruiting situation which however is still not easy.

In addition to the approved establishment there is a force of Additional Police numbering 180 who are employed by the British Malayan Petroleum Company and trained by a regular Police Inspector. At present they are not armed.

Discipline and health were good, the latter having been greatly improved owing to prophylactic treatment against malaria.

Housing accommodation is still temporary only, but it is hoped to commence permanent building in 1949.

Transport has improved with the delivery of two Jeep "Pick-up" Trucks which are ideally suited to local conditions.

The position in regard to clothing, equipment, arms and ammunition was satisfactory but standard Weights and Measures ordered from England in 1946 have still not arrived.



THE RESIDENCY

*Lim Kah Pow*



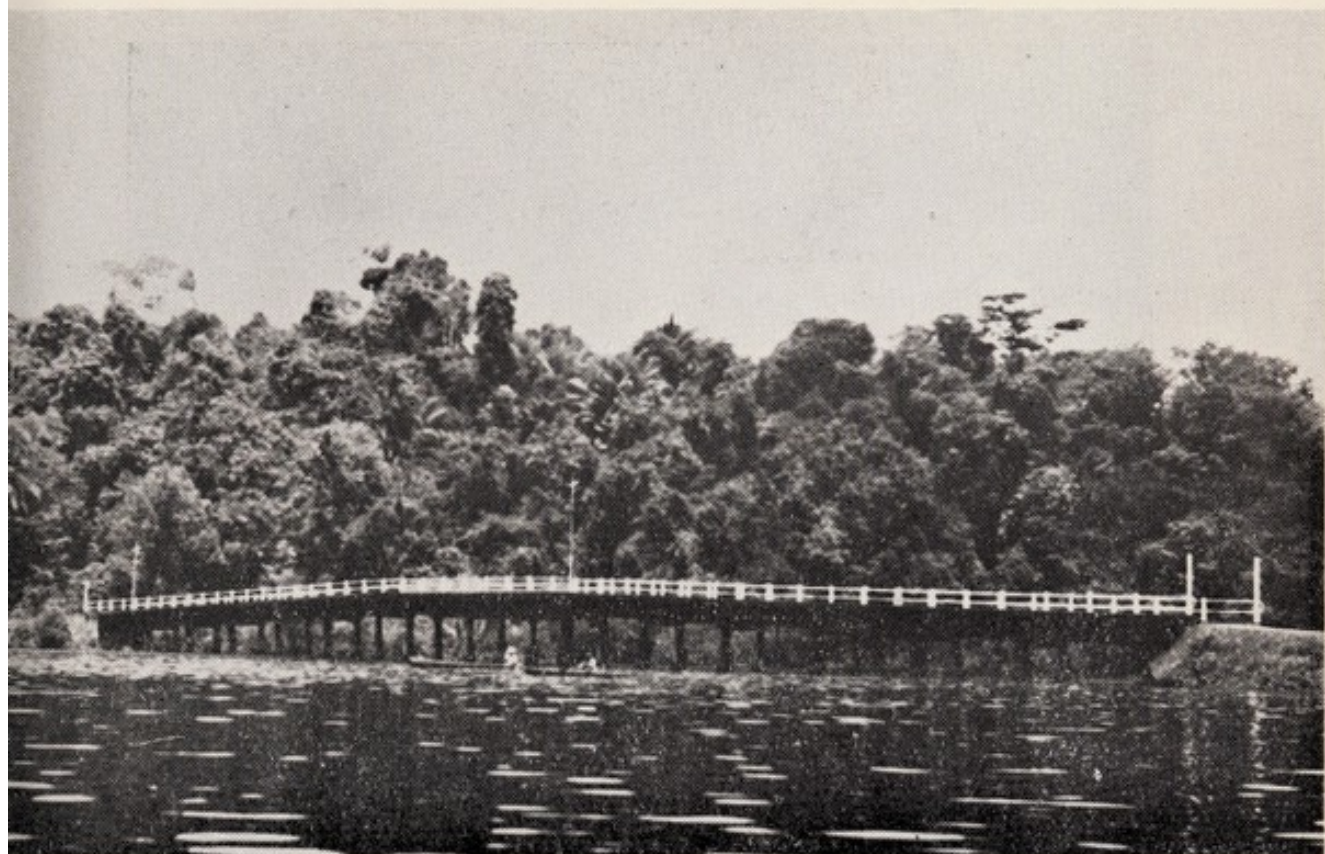
BRUNEI TOWN

*Lim Kab I*



OPENING OF NEW BRUNEI RECREATION CLUB

*Lim Kab I*



CLIFFORD BRIDGE, BRUNEI

*Lim Kab Pow*



TEMPORARY HOSPITAL, BRUNEI

*Lim Kab Pow*



BRUNEI TOWN WATER SUPPLY

*Lim Kab Pow*

Offences reported to the Police numbered 763 as compared with 577 in 1947. Comparative details are as follows:—

	Seizable	Non-Seizable	No Offence Disclosed.
1938 ..	76	463	404
1939 ..	123	311	277
1946 ..	270	281	215
1947 ..	230	347	207
1948 ..	152	611	661

As formerly the majority of the seizable offences were house-breakings and thefts in the Kuala Belait-Seria District, where there was also one case of Rape.

The number of aliens registered was 485 as against 2,296 in 1947.

The Police are also responsible for examination of passports, licensing of fire-arms, drivers and dogs, the registration of motor vehicles and bicycles and the supervision of Weights and Measures.

During the year a Price Control Inspector was appointed who is an ex-Sergeant Major of Police and his activities were conducted under the supervision of the Chief Police Officer.

#### *Fire Brigade.*

There are now Jeep Fire Engines at Brunei Town and Kuala Belait. At present they are manned by the Police but an attempt is being made to institute a Volunteer Fire Brigade in Kuala Belait. There were in all 5 calls and 2 false alarms during the year. Only one was serious, a pipe-line fire with which the British Malayan Petroleum Company was unable to cope but which was successfully extinguished by the Fire Brigade.

#### *Prisons.*

There are two prisons in the State, one at Brunei and one at Kuala Belait. At the former 16 prisoners and at the latter 33 prisoners served sentences during 1948.

Both prisons were regularly visited by Visiting Justices whose recommendations were generally carried out.

The prisoners are employed on earthwork, grass cutting and basket-work. They are supplied with books and papers and given a small gratuity when discharged.

The health of prisoners was good.

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## CHAPTER X.

### COMMUNICATIONS.

*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 three 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 & Crosfield run an A.V. (Auxiliary Vessel of about 200 tons) which works the tide over the bar. She plies between Brunei Town and Labuan about four times a month.

In addition to these vessels, native boats such as tongkangs, junks and small 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 every ten days 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.

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 alongside 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.

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, but there is deep water close up to the wharf and this is the only place which is likely to develop into a real port.

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 (other than oil) are mainly agricultural.

A second reason for the lack of metalled roads is the great shortage of good 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 tongkang (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 material for road making purposes.

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 Berakas Road leading to Muara, but during 1948 rehabilitation work on the roads made considerable progress.

At the end of 1948 the length of roads in the State was 122 miles 31 chains and 35 feet made up as follows:—

Earth	..	..	..	72	miles	39	chains	36	feet
Block	..	..	..	03	"	79	"	9	"
Block and Gravel	..	..	..	00	"	33	"	62	"
Asphalt	..	..	..	43	"	33	"	29	"
Concrete	..	..	..	01	"	74	"	22	"

Of this length all but 12 miles were maintained by the Public Works Department, the balance being 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 25 miles of this have been remetalled since the re-occupation.

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 3½ 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 links up with Danau. This ferry consists of a pontoon, capable of carrying three 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-Berakas Road for 9½ miles with its 12¼ miles cross link to Muara.

This is an earth road and has been greatly improved during the year.

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

In the State there are approximately 33 miles of bridle paths and bridges and most of these have been kept in good order.

*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 1948 are as follows:—

	Brunei District	Kuala Belait District
Lorries .. .. .	36	131
Passenger carrying vehicles (Buses) ..	20	33
Private Cars .. .. .	30	162
Motor Cycles .. .. .	11	79
Miscellaneous items of Mechanical equipment .. .. .	6	119
Total	103	524

*Air.* There are no airfields or landing grounds in the State. Sunderland aircraft on the regular run from Singapore to North Borneo have on one or two occasions 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, Temburong (Bangar) and Brooketon whence mails are carried by lorry or launch.

There is a weekly air mail service between Singapore and Sandakan which calls at Labuan.

Surface mail from Singapore arrives in Labuan at intervals of 10 days and is brought over by Brunei Government launch.

Facilities for insurance, money orders and cash-on-delivery parcels which were suspended after the War have now been resumed. The British Postal Order Service was re-introduced on the 1st October.

The total number of postal articles dealt with during the year was 241,724 as compared with 239,382 in 1947.

*Telephones.* Government maintains a small public telephone service with a 50-line switch board in Brunei. Extensions are given to the neighbouring estates and to Kuala Belait and Tutong. A new line connecting the Muara District was put into commission during the year.

*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, Kuching, Miri and Limbang.

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## CHAPTER XI.

### PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS.

#### A. *ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.*

*Brunei Town.* The present temporary supply continues to function fairly satisfactorily considering its make-shift nature.

The installation consists of 2 units, situated in different areas.

The town area is fed by a portable army set 10 KW (AC) which in addition to supplying Government quarters with light, also provides a modified form of street lighting.

The Residency area is supplied with light from a 10 KW (DC) set driven by a Japanese engine.

In both cases light is supplied between the hours of 6—11 p.m. only.

The total number of consumers at the end of 1948 was 82.

The new generating plant is expected towards the end of 1949, but such work as can be done pending its arrival is being done.

A new power house has been erected, with the exception of the concrete floor, which cannot be laid until details of the engine seats are supplied; and a Vaughan overhead travelling crane has been delivered on site. This will be erected early in 1949.

*Kuala Belait.* The installation here consists of a 10 KW (DC) set driven by a Diesel engine of Japanese make.

The plant operates on a very limited scale, and provides light for Government quarters together with a modified form of street lighting.

Towards the latter part of the year Government entered into a contract with the British Malayan Petroleum Company for the supply of Electricity in bulk.

By combination of both supplies it is hoped to supply light to all Government buildings and shop houses in the near future.

Work is proceeding on the renewal of the overhead mains and the necessary steel poles and other accessories for the purpose have arrived.

The number of consumers at the end of the year was 60. Seria. There is no Government installation in Seria.

At present there is a small privately owned set 5 KW (DC) which provides a limited supply to some of the shop houses under private arrangement.

The Oil Company's offices and quarters etc. are supplied from installations run by the Oil Company.

*General.* Re-wiring of Government buildings was put in hand and a total of 229 points were re-wired in Brunei Town and 200 in Kuala Belait. In all 43 buildings were dealt with.

#### B. WATER SUPPLY.

*Brunei Town, Main Supply.* The main supply to Brunei Town is a gravitation one.

A small catchment area has been formed on the Sungei (river) Tasek by the construction of a concrete dam. This dam is 76 feet in length at the crest and 10 feet high from the scour to the spillway.

Water gravitates from the dam through 1,130 feet of 8" diameter steel pipe (concrete lined) to a steel tank, 20 feet in diameter and 10 feet in height.

Owing to the good quality of the water, no purification plant is necessary.

An 8" supply main leads from the tank to the town. This pipe is later branched off to form two 5" diameter C.I. Mains, which form the reticulation supply to the town.

The total length of 5" and 8" supply mains leading from the tank to the town, is 6,312 feet.

As a result of heavy bombing, most of the supply mains in the town area proper were destroyed, and temporary mains were laid, making use of discarded oil pipes (3" diameter). Approximately 3,000 feet of steel main (3" diameter) were laid and this has continued to serve the town as a temporary measure.

New 6" cast iron mains and specials were ordered in February but due to the difficult supply position in the United Kingdom these have not yet been delivered. It is hoped that they may be forthcoming soon so that this important work of rehabilitation may be put in hand.

The meter recording the daily consumption of the town was also destroyed during the war, and the replacement ordered has very recently been delivered. It has not yet been installed.

Until this is done it is not possible to ascertain the daily consumption of water.

*Brunei Town, Residential Area.* The water supply for the Residency and the Senior Officers quarters in the area is obtained from a small stream to the rear of the Residency. A concrete weir has been constructed across the stream, and from here, the water gravitates to a semi-circular sand filter, having a filtering area of 56 square feet. The other half of the circular tank forms a clear water well having a capacity of 1,400 gallons. A 2" galvanised pipe then leads the water from the clear water well to a small circular storage tank of 400 gallons capacity. Water is supplied to the quarters in this area through 931 feet of 2" pipe and 224 feet of 1¼" pipe.

*Brunei Town, Supplies to the River Kampongs.* Two small supplies taken from springs adjacent to the Jalan Residency, provide water for the domestic uses of the river kampong dwellers. The first of these is situated to the north of the State Engineer's bungalow, and the second is near the Malay Graveyard. In each case a galvanised iron water pipe has been extended from the river bank out over the river, and in this way the kampong dwellers, who bring their water vessels in small perahus (canoes) can paddle right under the outlet and fill their tins etc. even at low tide.

It is a remarkable sight to see the kampong children returning in the evenings with their perahus loaded with containers and having very often only an inch of freeboard to spare.

*Sungei Pangga Supply (Lumapas area).* This supply is similar to the kampong supplies in Brunei.

The supply is taken from a small stream which has been dammed by a concrete weir and the water is then conducted through a galvanised iron pipe to enable the water containers to be filled easily.

*Tutong Supply.* A catchment area of approximately 30 acres has been formed in the Panchor Dulit valley by the construction of a short length of concrete dam. From here the water is led through 3,505 feet of 3" and 455 feet of 1½" galvanised main to a stone built storage tank of 4,000 gallons capacity. The water is then pumped to a pressed steel overhead storage tank of 10,000 gallons capacity which supplies the Government quarters in the Bukit Bendera area. The town area is fed from the main supply pipe from the catchment area.

The overhead supply is now functioning satisfactorily, the pump and engine destroyed during the war having been replaced.

In October a serious leak developed in the Dam at the intake. To repair this it was necessary to excavate the full length of the dam on the land side, and underpin with concrete. Repairs were also carried out to the spillway at the same time. These works were carried out successfully and the supply is now in good working order.

*Temburong Supply (Bangar).* The supply for this community is from a small impounding reservoir behind the Govern-

ment hospital. The length of the concrete dam is 26 feet and the height from scour to spillway is 8 feet. Except in periods of drought (which are rare) the supply is satisfactory.

*Kilanas Supply.* The kampong here is supplied from a small stream which has been dammed by a concrete weir some 20 feet in length.

*Brooketon Supply (Muara).* Before the war the inhabitants of this small village got their water from wells.

During the Japanese regime use was made of a disused stone built storage tank and a stream was let into it. From this tank the supply was then piped to the village. The mains were destroyed during the invasion but were replaced with salvaged oil pipes and the village still continues to enjoy a supply of water.

*Seria Supply.* This supply is provided by the British Malayan Petroleum Company from a large pumping station at Badas on the Belait river, whence it is conveyed by 8 miles of pipe-line to Seria.

*Kuala Belait Supply.* Before the war Kuala Belait was supplied by the British Malayan Petroleum Company on repayment. The installation was destroyed in the early days of the war and the Japanese sank bores and obtained a supply of water by pumping. This practice still continues, the pumps being operated by the Public Works Department. The supply is an unsatisfactory one from a quantity point of view and the quality is not all that might be desired.

The Oil Company are assisting by giving a modified supply for a few hours daily and this has helped considerably.

It has been decided to carry out investigations in 1949 to ascertain whether or not an alternative source of water can be found to give an ample supply to the Town, and so put to an end the present unsatisfactory state of affairs.

#### *Public Works.*

In addition to its responsibilities in regard to Roads, Streets, Bridges, Water Supply, Bridle paths and Electricity, the Public Works Department has further responsibilities in regard to the Maintenance of Sea and River walls, Land reclamation, Irrigation works, care and maintenance of all Government buildings throughout the State, the running of a workshop for the repair of all Government vehicles and Town planning.

*Wharves and Maintenance of Sea and River Walls.* During the year new wharves were constructed at Brooketon (Muara) and at Temburong (Bangar).

Both of these wharves had suffered badly during the war years and were quite unsafe for use.

The wharf at Brooketon was built under contract, while the Temburong wharf was built by departmental labour.

At Brooketon, work was continued on rebuilding the sea wall, and a further length of 188 feet was completed.

In Brunei town a new length of river wall was constructed opposite Jalan McArthur. The length of wall built was 275 feet.

When the space reclaimed by the construction of this wall is blackfilled, a considerable area of land will be made available for future development.

A section of the river wall in Brunei Town adjoining the Chinese Temple has been raised, the length treated being 455 feet.

Work is at present proceeding on the construction of a revetment wall in the Kianggeh area, and when this is completed, road construction can be carried out in the area in accordance with the new layout of the town.

*Irrigation.* A concrete dam was built for the Agricultural Department at Mulaut in order to provide water for a very large padi growing area.

### Works and Buildings.

(a) *Annually Recurrent.* The majority of the pre-war Government buildings and quarters throughout the State have been entirely rehabilitated, and those still to be done are in out-lying stations, difficult of access. Every effort will be made to deal with these during the coming year.

In the main, the repairs have been done by Departmental labour and this has entailed a great deal of supervision.

(b) *Public Works Extraordinary.* The programme under this head was the largest ever tackled by the Department. While a considerable amount of work was completed, some disappointment was felt that the two largest works were not started. This was mainly due to the inability to obtain a contractor to undertake the works. It is hoped that these works will be commenced in 1949.

Details of the various buildings erected during the year are given below:—

#### *Permanent Construction:*

Brunei Town	..	1 Block of 2 class "F" quarters 1 Block of servants quarters at the Residency Guard House at Residency Recreation Club for Government servants Extension to Customs Bonded Store 1 Block of Customs Offices.
Kilanas	.. ..	Extension to Agriculture Department Office 1 Class "G" detached quarter.
Tutong Town	..	1 Block of 2 class "G" quarters.
Brooketon (Muara)		Rebuilding of one block of 2 class "G" quarters.
Kuala Belait	..	2 Class "C" quarters 3 Blocks of 2 class "F" quarters Extension to Malay School



		Extension to Government Rest House
		New Office for Municipal Department
		Garage for fire engine and Police vehicles
Labi	.. ..	1 Block of 2 class "G" quarters.
<i>Semi-Permanent Construction:</i>		
Brunei Town	.. ..	Rebuilding Customs post at Sungei Lampai.
Lumapas	.. ..	Granary for Agricultural Department.
<i>Temporary Construction:</i>		
Brunei	.. ..	Garage for Fire Engine and Police vehicles
		Temporary store and office at P.W.D. Workshop
		Store for stationery for British Resident's Office
		2 small store sheds for P.W.D.
		Bathing shelter at Tasek Pool
		Generating station for electricity supply at Jalan Residency.
Berakas	.. ..	Bathing shelter.
Kilanas	.. ..	Block of Labourers lines (6 rooms).
Kuala Abang	.. ..	Block of Labourers lines (6 rooms).
Tutong	.. ..	Lock up and store for Police.
Tanjong Maya	.. ..	School (100 pupils).
Seria	.. ..	Forest Guards quarters and office.

In addition the following works are at present under construction:—

Brunei Town	.. ..	Electric Power Station (Permanent Construction).
Sinaut	.. ..	Block of 2 class "G" quarters (P. Construction).
		School for 60 pupils (P. Construction).
Labi	.. ..	Rest House (P. Construction).
Kuala Belait	.. ..	Labourers lines (Semi-Permanent Construction).

An extensive repainting programme was also carried out and 5 Senior Officers' quarters, 57 Subordinate Officers' quarters, 3 Schools, 2 Police Stations, 1 Hospital, 3 Offices and 2 Rest Houses were painted throughout both internally and externally.

Work was put in hand on the construction of a new slipway at Brooketon. It was originally thought that it might be possible to repair the existing slipway, but on closer investigation this was found to be impossible. As a result the whole scheme had to be redesigned and a concrete slipway substituted for the old wooden one. The work was undertaken departmentally and, had it not been for the abnormally high tides, would have been completed before the close of the year. The work is however almost complete and will be finished off within the month of January, 1949.

Late in the year approval was given to provide a playground for small children in the Sumbiling area. The area had to be cleared of trees, levelled off and the surface regraded. Items of

playground apparatus were made by the Departments' carpenters and erected during December. These consist of sets of swings, see-saws, chutes, and Roman rings, and the whole scheme has proved a great success from the children's point of view. Flowering trees and a hedge have been planted, and in the years to come this will be a very colourful playground.

In the early part of the year work was started on clearing up the results of the damage done by bombing. The hardest task in this line was the demolition of the old Council Chamber. This was a particularly tough proposition, and had it not been for the help of the RE/RASC Bomb Disposal Unit, Borneo, who were in the District removing unexploded bombs, the Department might have been at the work yet. As a result of the excellent work done by the Unit, it has been possible to build a Recreation Club for the Government Servants on the old site.

The total number of bombs etc. disposed off in the State was made up as follows:—

Bombs	..	..	..	1,414
Bomb fuses	..	..	..	82
Shells	..	..	..	201
Grenades	..	..	..	16
				<hr/>
				1,713
				<hr/>

Unfortunately some unexploded bombs continue to be found as overgrown areas are gradually cleared and these include three 500-lbs bombs on the Oilfield.

*Public Works Department Workshop.* The Department runs its own workshop for the care and maintenance of all Government vehicles and other items of plant.

There are in all 49 Government vehicles to look after (including 4 rollers), and all these vehicles are kept on the road in good working order.

The present workshop is a very make-shift building but it is hoped that a new workshop may be built next year and that proper tools and other items of equipment may be obtained.

#### TOWN PLANNING.

*Brunei Town.* A new town plan has been prepared and approved. Re-allocation of shop lots is in progress at the moment and work on the re-alignment of roads will be commenced in the new year.

*Seria.* Nothing definite has been agreed upon for Seria township but it is hoped that a scheme will be drawn up soon and work started on clearing up the site. At present it is a disgrace and a considerable problem is presented by the number of persons occupying small plots under temporary licence on which ramshackle houses have been built.

*Brooketon (Muara).* Until the Oil Company's programme is definite, no progress can be made in Town planning in this area.

*Kuala Belait.* A scheme is being drawn up for this area.

*Labour and Wages.* The labour strength has been kept at a fairly steady level during the year, and so far as unskilled labour is concerned has not been too unsatisfactory. There is however a great scarcity of skilled labour, and though every effort has been made to recruit additional labour of this class, no progress has been made. The main reason for this is that high wages and allowances are being paid by the British Malayan Petroleum Company due to their large programme of reconstruction.

A Wages Committee was convened in October, to investigate the question of wages for daily paid labour, and recommendations were forwarded to the High Commissioner in mid-December. It is hoped that the new rates of pay will be brought into force on 1/1/49, and that through these revised rates, the Department may be able to get more labour of the skilled variety.

The Department labour strength at the end of the year was:—

Daily paid labour	..	..	567
Monthly paid	..	..	13
			<hr/>
			580
			<hr/>

*Staff.* The staff of the Department at the end of the year was made up of:—

Technical Assistants	..	..	..	..	4
Building Overseer & Sub-Overseer	..	..	..	..	2
Workshop Overseer	..	..	..	..	1
Road Overseer and Sub-Overseer	..	..	..	..	2
Store-keeper and Assistant Store-keeper	..	..	..	..	2
Draughtsman	..	..	..	..	1
Clerks	..	..	..	..	3
Peon	..	..	..	..	1
					<hr/>
					16
					<hr/>

The post of State Engineer was held by Mr. J. A. McLeod, A.R.I.C.S., M. Inst. Mun. Engineers (Chartered Surveyor, Chartered Municipal Engineer), an Officer seconded from the Malayan Public Works Department.

The total expenditure of the Department during 1948 was \$990,041.59, and the expenditure on Personal Emoluments was \$43,629.17 representing 4.4% of the total expenditure.

### PART III.

#### CHAPTER I.

#### GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE.

##### Geography.

Brunei is a State on the north-west coast of Borneo, lying between latitude 4° 2' and 5° 3' north and longitude 114° 4' and 115° 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 1947 it had a population of 10,620. 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 a quite 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 southwestern 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, Brunè, 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 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 procedure 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 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 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 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 Illanun 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 morale 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.

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

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 Force began to take an active interest in Brunei. There were almost daily raids somewhere in the State 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 oilfields at Seria. Realising that the end had come the Japanese took out all the civilians 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 Dayaks.

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 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 Custom 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.

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### CHAPTER III.

#### ADMINISTRATION.

Brunei is a sultanate. The present Ruler, the twenty-seventh of his line, His Highness Ahmed Tajudin Akhazul Khairi Wadin, C.M.G., ibni Sultan Mohamed Jemal-Ul-Alam was 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. The State Council, which meets regularly every month, consists of twelve members, including the British Resident, with the Sultan as President. 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 under the supervision of the Governor of Sarawak as High Commissioner. By the Treaty of 1906 the Resident's 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 and there is an Assistant Resident at Kuala Belait.

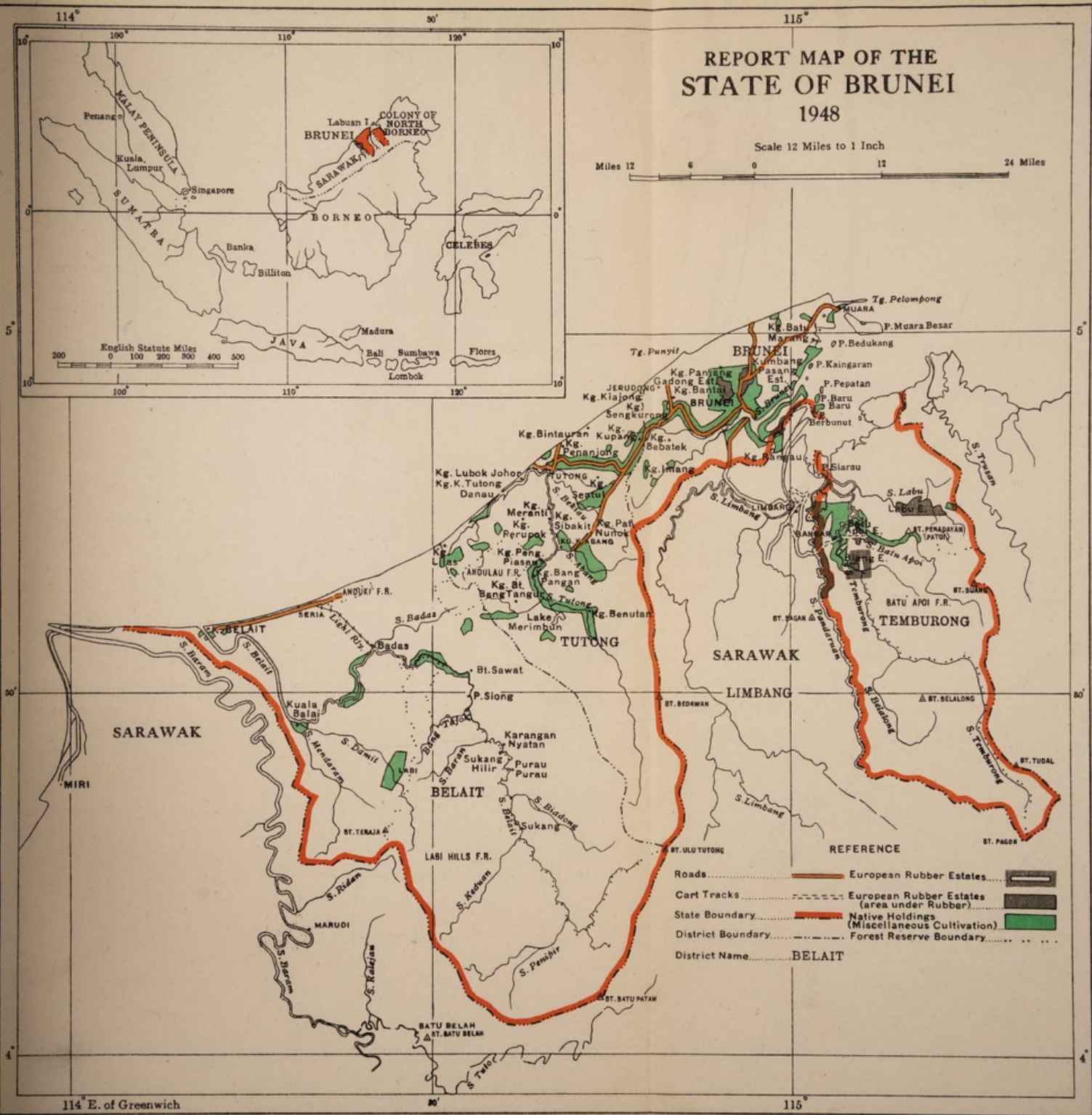
The State is divided into four administrative districts, namely Brunei and Muara, Temburong, Tutong and Belait, in each of which there are Malay District Officers who are responsible to the Resident.

European officers are generally in charge of the Public Works, Medical, Agricultural, Forests, Police, Customs and Education Departments, but at present there is no properly qualified State

# REPORT MAP OF THE STATE OF BRUNEI 1948

Scale 12 Miles to 1 Inch

Miles 12 6 0 12 24 Miles

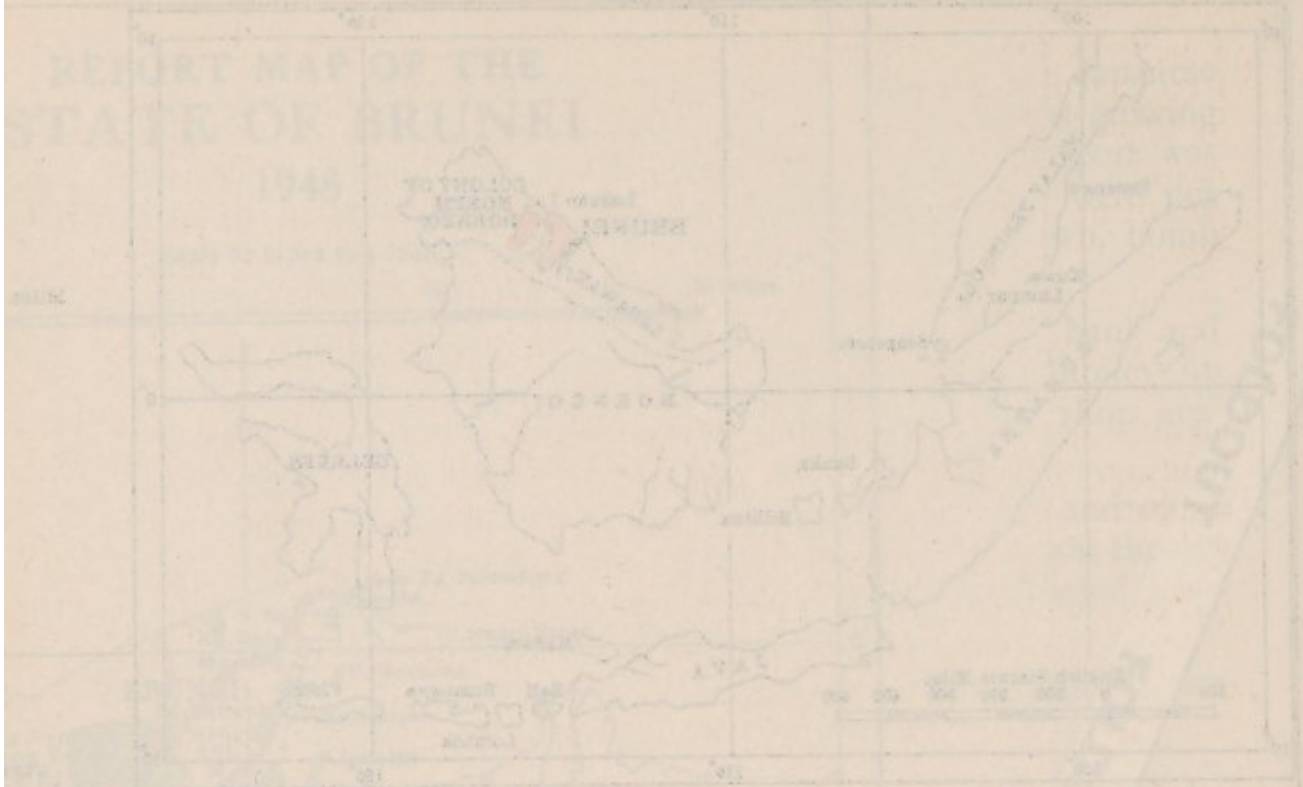


REFERENCE

Roads	European Rubber Estates	
Cart Tracks	European Rubber Estates (area under Rubber)	
State Boundary	Native Holdings (Miscellaneous Cultivation)	
District Boundary	Forest Reserve Boundary	

District Name BELAIT

REPORT MAP OF THE  
STATE OF BRUNEI  
1948



Education Officer, his functions being carried out by the Assistant Resident in addition to his ordinary duties. The Commissioner of Customs and Marine is also State Treasurer, and the State Engineer supervises the Electrical Department. The arrangements are not satisfactory and there is no doubt that additional European staff will be required in the very near future in view of the State's phenomenal expansion in the past two years.

At Brunei, Tutong and Kuala Belait there are Sanitary Boards whose members, of all nationalities, are appointed by Government. They are responsible for sanitation, conservancy, street lighting, rating and other Municipal matters within their respective areas.

Government continues to control the distribution of essential commodities such as rice, flour and sugar. For this purpose there are Supply Depots in Brunei Town and Kuala Belait, and prices are strictly controlled.

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#### 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.

E. E. F. PRETTY,  
*British Resident, Brunei.*

Brunei  
February, 1949.

## APPENDIX A.

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1947 AND THE YEAR 1948

Names of Articles	Unit	1947		1948	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Rice	Pikul	44,577	909,439	27,868	762,405
Milk	Case X 48 tins	6,139	123,944	8,146	230,578
Salt	Pikul	1,181	11,033	1,638	10,611
Sugar	lb.	11,538	382,506	16,484	427,739
Cigarettes	"	164,508	683,347	126,694	651,310
Tobacco, tinned	Pikul	1,210	7,214	3,299	27,522
Tobacco, native	"	49	3,696	21	4,627
Provisions	—		391,977		1,168,065
Flour	Sack X 50 lbs.	18,893	162,233	23,763	200,983
Coconut Oil	Tim x 4 gallons	3,541	44,570	5,423	71,713
Coffee	Pikul	675	40,037	1,684	100,525
Spiritous Liquors	Gallon	8,486	179,122	5,394	80,675
Arrack	"	121	2,746	290	4,140
Beer and Stout	"	28,833	179,620	43,916	186,450
Dried Fish	Pikul	579	22,699	1,068	38,692
Petroleum	Gallon	297,178	73,595	515,298	213,741
Fuel and Oil	"	365,440	175,221	867,651	507,355
Lubricating Oil	"	58,886	169,734	119,940	237,791
Grease	lb.	Statistics not available		61,975	19,423
Timber	ton	6,013	35,449	18,809	182,062
Vehicles and Accessories	Piece	148	742,196	193	1,686,072
Dyed Cotton Goods	Yard	410,356	431,314	501,538	936,357
Sarongs	Piece	24,087	55,130	36,165	88,883
Machinery	—		510,734		13,280,265
Ironware	—		7,859,584		7,506,015
Matches	Tin	674	34,947	820	39,479
Soap	Case	1,740	30,980	5,137	52,728
Cement	Ton	64	7,694	1,253	155,180

## APPENDIX A.—(Continued)

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1947 AND THE YEAR 1948

Name of Articles	Unit	1947		1948	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Miscellaneous Articles	—	Included under	3,120,612		\$ 4,936,119
Thread and Yam	—	"	Miscellaneous		48,888
Earthenware	—	"	"		32,362
Poultry	Head	"	"	407	611
Swine	"	"	"	1,405	108,228
Other Forest Produce	—	"	"		158
Furniture	—	"	"		108,032
Cosmetics	—	"	"		42,369
Electrical Equipment	—	"	"		829,322
Radio	Piece	"	"	35	7,308
Camera	—	"	"		13,700
Musical Instruments	—	"	"		11,236
Tea	Lb.	"	"	25,874	34,520
Fireworks & Crackers	—	"	"		1,093
Firearms	Piece	"	"	162	6,188
Ammunitions	Round	"	"	261,848	64,630
Gold	Tahil	"	"	159	25,800
Silver	"	"	"	300	705
Cattle	Head	"	"	30	4,844
Groundnut Oil	Tin x 4 gallons	"	"	1,419	24,633
Peas and Nuts	Pikul	"	"	1,080	30,533
Bran	"	"	"	1,033	4,640
	Total:		16,391,373		35,000,305

N.B. (i) Value of re-exports included above =

\$1,106,138

(ii) \$1 = 2s. 4d.

1947

\$1,215,500

1948

APPENDIX B.

TABLE SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1947  
AND THE YEAR 1948

Name of Articles	Unit	1947			1948		
		Quantity	Value	Duty	Quantity	Value	Duty
Crude Oil .. ..	Ton	1,689,963	\$ 29,540,995	\$ (a)	2,641,516	\$ 47,140,683	\$ (a)
Plantation Rubber ..	Lb.	4,030,034	1,282,214	142,892	4,563,147	1,594,635	94,787
Natural Gas .. ..	1,000 Cubic ft.	893,344	256,500	(a)	1,260,126	320,795	(a)

(a) Not dutiable, revenue collected as royalty.

## APPENDIX C.

## ABSTRACT OF REVENUE.

	Actual Revenue 1947	Actual Revenue 1948
CLASS I.		
<i>Duties, Taxes and Licenses</i>		
Customs .. ..	2,360,054	1,381,192
Licences and Excise ..	71,101	96,926
Municipal .. ..	28,557	33,903
CLASS II.		
<i>Fees of Court and Office etc.</i>		
Courts .. ..	4,778	9,695
Surveys .. ..	2,212	1,945
General .. ..	80,392	90,321
CLASS III.		
<i>Government Undertakings</i>		
Posts and Telegraphs ..	241,740	289,925
Electrical .. ..	5,191	7,051
CLASS IV.		
<i>Revenue from Government Property</i>		
Land Revenue .. ..	1,065,271	4,381,752
Cession Monies ..	2,031	133,693
Interest .. ..	108,972	118,582
Currency Profits .. ..	419,028	39,186
CLASS V.		
<i>Land Sales</i>		
Premia and Land Sales ..	647	2,128
Total	4,389,974	6,586,299



## APPENDIX D.

## ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURE.

	Actual Expenditure 1947	Actual Expenditure 1948
Pensions, Retired Allowances	85,345	48,271
His Highness the Sultan ..	54,418	56,594
Ministers .. .. .	18,505	25,360
British Resident .. ..	32,356	36,735
Assistant Resident .. ..	12,625	19,689
Agriculture .. .. .	76,064	118,475
Audit .. .. .	5,570	9,554
Court .. .. .	5,496	8,656
Customs and Marine ..	77,359	125,305
Education .. .. .	56,018	113,329
Electrical .. .. .	17,991	60,889
Forests .. .. .	22,205	28,040
Land and District Offices ..	77,942	129,944
Medical and Health .. ..	96,564	137,686
Miscellaneous Services ..	369,233	1,584,136
Municipal .. .. .	45,218	96,392
Police and Prisons .. ..	81,030	122,841
Posts and Telegraphs .. ..	83,615	149,889
Religious Affairs .. ..	2,898	6,594
Treasury .. .. .	7,248	13,303
Public Works Department ..	23,895	50,840
Public Works, Annually Recurrent	200,522	211,878
Public Works, Extraordinary	345,480	585,854
Total	<u>1,797,597</u>	<u>3,740,254</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1948.

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Supply Depot	296,997.32	Cash in Treasury	9,834.44
		Cash in Bank	1,929,223.46
Deposit	265,224.39	Crown Agents Current Account	1,939,057.90
		Joint Colonial Fund	6,757.36
General Reserve Fund	3,260,266.94	Investment: General Reserve (Sterling Securities)	2,505,149.75
		(Dollar Securities)	755,117.19
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	309,496.74	Investment: Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve (Sterling Securities)	3,260,266.94
General Revenue Balance on 31.12.47	3,624,100.83	Investment: Surplus Balance (Sterling Securities)	2,474,563.38
Add Excess of Receipts over Payments in the year 1948	1,408,719.93	(Dollar Securities)	253,375.00
	5,032,820.76	Suspense:	2,727,938.38
		Displaced Javanese	8,318.91
		British Postal Orders	9,636.00
		P.W.D Unallocated Stores buckets and benzine	177,678.69
		Advance	195,633.60
		Loan	20,920.31
		Cash in transit	7,020.64
	<u>\$9,164,806.15</u>		12,000.00
			<u>\$9,164,806.15</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	Dec. 1947/ —D. C. I. Wernham
Jan. 1937/Dec. 1939—J. Graham Black	
Jan. 1940/Dec. 1941—E. E. Pengilley	
July 1946/Jan. 1948—W. J. Peel	
Jan. 1948/Aug. 1948—L. H. N. Davis	
Aug. 1948/ —E. E. F. Pretty	

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

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