

# MALAYAN BULLETIN

THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH MALAYA

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## (1) POLITICAL

(187) THE EMERGENCY: Reports from all sources suggest that the position has considerably improved. Casualties have increased in favour of the security forces and the general morale, European and Asian alike, is much higher. Supplies of information have grown and a considerable number of wanted men have been arrested. The co-operation between the police and the army is said to be first rate and the troops now have much more experience in this specialized form of operations. The bandits appear to be getting short of ammunition and have been instructed to use it economically. Recent regulations have been made requiring special permits for the movement of rubber by night and it is believed that this will decrease a profitable source of revenue to the bandits. On the other hand, the payment of extortion money has by no means ceased. The Siamese frontier continues to cause concern and some 2,000 - 3,000 armed bandits are known to be in salient positions near Perak and Kedah. While the armed and usually informed part of the Communist organisation seem to have withdrawn from the coastal districts and retired to more remote places (for further training or a review of tactics), killer squads have been left behind, small groups of about ten men, the LOI TUNG TAI, whose objective is particularly the killing of K.M.T. officials, informers and others. The bandits are now, wherever possible, stealing identity cards and a warning has been given by Government that the bandits may break up their gangs and attempt to return to civil life. The High Commissioner, Sir Henry Gurney, recently appointed a Chinese Emergency Advisory Committee to deal with matters concerning the Chinese in the present circumstances. This Committee has started its sittings.

(188) BRITISH POLICY IN MALAYA: The Prime Minister's statement in April that Britain had no intention of making a premature withdrawal in Malaya (vide item 186 April) was generally welcomed in Malaya. Some considered it not strong enough. The "Straits Times", recognising that it was difficult for the British Government to give dates, considered that its chief value lay in its assurance that the nature of Malayan problems was appreciated in Britain. Chinese press comment was generally favourable and only one Malay newspaper commented editorially; this was the Left wing "Utusan Melayu" of Singapore which described it as disappointing. The "Times" correspondent said "Mr. Attlee's statement is a useful contribution towards restoration of confidence, but it must be seen in conjunction with the many other measures now being energetically taken by the Government of the Federation".

(189) SECESSION IN PENANG: A petition demanding the secession of Penang (including Province Wellesley) from the Federation and the restoration of Crown Colony status is shortly to be presented for forwarding to the Colonial Office. A deputation led by the chairman of the Secession Committee, Mr. T.A. Mackay, is to meet the High Commissioner. Continued disregard of Penang affairs by the Federation is said by the Secretary to make it more than ever necessary for Penang to break away.

(190) SARAWAK AND MR. ANTHONY BROOKE: In its issue of March 7th, the Sarawak Gazette publishes an open letter to Mr. Brooke from the Commissioner-General, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, dated 11th February 1949. After recapitulating the reasons for the continued ban on Mr. Brooke's entry into Sarawak, the Commissioner-General concludes, "I can, therefore, give you no reason to hope that the ban on your entry into any part of the Borneo territories will be modified or lifted in the foreseeable future".

(191) THE SULTAN OF PERAK: His Highness the Raja Yussuf ibni Sultan Abdul Jalil, K.C.M.G., O.B. E., was installed as 32nd Sultan of Perak on the 17th April. The High Commissioner, representatives of 8 Malay Rulers and many leading personages, both English and Malay, were present. Outside the grounds of the Istana, the 26th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, fired a salute of 17 guns. The Sultan wore the insignia of installation - dragon armlets, a golden chain fashioned after the pattern of a coconut flower; the Sword of State hanging by a chain from his right shoulder, the Talisman of Petrified Dew resting in his waistband, and the State "Thunde

( 11 ) GENERAL

(192) WAR DAMAGE COMPENSATION: The British Government has offered a free grant of £.20 millions in place of the £.10 millions offered in April 1948. An interest-free loan up to £.18½ millions will also be made if required. It would be repaid in equal annual instalments over 20 years starting in 1956. Should the proceeds from Japanese reparations as yet unknown, be insufficient to fill any remaining gaps in Malaya's finances, and if Malaya is consequently having difficulties in completing the scheme, Britain has undertaken to consider further assistance sympathetically when the times comes. Company reports and representations from public bodies (this Association amongst others) continue to press for the need of quick settlement. The Malayan Associated Chinese Chamber of Commerce at a recent meeting decided to oppose the Select Committee's scheme of settlement of War Damage Compensation (item 30- March) in favour of the Carson report, and resolved to ask the British Government to make a more substantial contribution. The Far Eastern Private Chattels scheme administered by the Board of Trade, is however, to be extended to U.K. British subjects not interned or not P.O.W.'s who suffered war losses in the Far East, and to others, who after release returned to Malaya but have since come back to the U.K. There is a provision in each case that there is an intention to settle permanently in the United Kingdom.

(193) TRADE BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND INDONESIA: On 5th May the 3 Chambers of Commerce in Singapore handed the Governor a memorandum asking for the removal of "discriminating measures" hampering trade between the two territories. The Dutch Consulate-General has denied any discriminatory treatment but stated that the foreign control position required drastic control of foreign trade. The "Times" reports that trade with Indonesia is falling and that March exports to that country were less than \$ 1.m. as against a monthly average of \$ 16.m. in 1948. The protection by the Dutch of their foreign exchange position has involved a cut of their textile requirements from 650 m. to 350 m. yards. Textiles are the main item in Singapore's exports to Indonesia. Chinese merchants also say that the prices fixed by the Dutch for low grade Sumatran rubber are too high. At the same time the action of the British Gov't in negotiating the February Trade Agreement with Holland without consulting or informing Singapore is deprecated, particularly as it is feared that the expansion of U.K. - Indonesian trade resulting there from is likely to be at Singapore's expense.

(194) JAPANESE TEXTILES: The "Straits Times" comments that Manchester's complaints that Japanese textiles are throttling British markets in the Far East are a little previous. It points out that the 25 m. yards "reserved" for Malaya is far smaller than the average cotton imports from Japan in the decade before the war, and actually no larger than in the lean years when quotas were operating. The Japanese industry has a long way to go before reaching pre-war production. (See also item in Hansard)

(195) MALAYAN RUBBER INDUSTRY 1949: "To predict for 1949 is almost impossible with such factors as the wastage in experienced planters through death and retirement, the deterioration in the state of lawlessness which is holding up the new planting schemes, the delay in settlement of War Risks Insurance and War Damage Claims so long overdue, and the state of the country's finances. In addition we still have the synthetic bogey. The outlook for 1949 therefore is not as hopeful as at this time last year". The industry was set for a good year in 1948, and although production passed the 1947 totals, the figures would have been greater but for terrorism. British and Dutch rubber interests have shown disappointment at the results of the recent conference of the International Rubber Study Group. The Chairman of the General Tyre & Rubber Co. has said that natural rubber and synthetic rubber were not competing, but were complementary and that the use of the man-made product was only for rubber goods for which natural rubber was unsuitable. "Financial Times" On the other hand, Mr. Charles Mann, at the annual meeting of the R.G.A. in London said that the price of rubber was being artificially held down at a level whereby few companies can make a profit. Synthetic, he said, is a serious competitor and the quality of natural rubber must be improved and production made cheaper. He complained that R.G.A. has no access to the Rubber Study Group and is not consulted as to the representations of the rubber producing industry.

(196) RICE: About 5,000 tons of rice allowed by the Siamese Gov't for export outside the I.E.F.C. allocations has been shipped to Singapore

between early March and the middle of April, it is estimated. This rice is part of an estimated 60,000 tons which the Siamese rice exporters said were available for free export. Import permits into Singapore for such rice are freely issued but no re-export is permitted. A Gov't statement issued recently says the reports of the free rice are misleading, "There is, in fact, no free export of rice from Siam but stocks of damaged and infested rice do accumulate and are free for export outside normal allocations. Such stocks after extensive cleaning are used either as normal food or for grinding into rice flour". The price of rice in Malaya has been reduced from 30 cents to 28 cents a kati. The pre-war price was 5 cents. The demand for the de-control of rice and its transfer to commercial channels made by the Malayan Chinese Chambers of Commerce is supported by the "Straits Times" which doubts whether such a step would involve stoppage of the I.F. F.C. allocation. It instances the case of India and believes that private traders might do better for the public.

(197) MALAYAN STERLING LOAN: Application lists for the issue of £ 8,050,000 Government of Malaya 3% inscribed stock 1974-1976 closed 15 minutes after being opened in London on 12th May. Applications for over £.1,000 had to be scaled down by 10 to 15%.

(198) LESS MONEY: Reports from Singapore suggest that the people now have less money to spend than at any time since the liberation, and there is less inclination to spend. Some articles for which there was recently a keen demand for cash are now being sold on the instalment system. Places of entertainment are suffering a general falling-off of revenue.

(199) COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE FUND: The Federation's share of the vote of £5 m. for Malaya is \$ 32 m. Nearly \$ 5 m. is to be spent on a new technical college in Kuala Lumpur, and other sums on an economic survey, tuberculosis settlement, hospitals and fish-marketing scheme. Money is also to be spent on timber research, scrub typhus and the use of D.D.T. against malaria.

(200) A CENTRAL ELECTRICITY BOARD is to be set-up in the Federation, a self-financing commercial body. The Colonial Development Corporation is to provide \$ 32 m. at 4% interest to assist a large expansion programme. The Board will control the generation and supply of all electricity for sale in the Federation.

(201) MALAY LABOUR: Mr. C.D. Ahearne, retiring secretary of the Malayan Planting Industries Employers Association, says that while Indian labour is now dropping by at least 5,000 annually, Malay & Javanese labour has increased since the war from 25,000 to 70,000; Malay labourers are now earning \$ 40 m. yearly and a diversion of remittances to China and India should have beneficial results in Malayan kampongs. The cost of living for estate labour is gradually falling and is now 10% below the level of 2 years ago.

(202) MALAYAN TRADE UNIONS: Before the Malayan Communist party was outlawed in June 1948, there were 302 unions in Malaya with a membership of 149,000 and of these 129 unions were directly controlled by Communists. At the end of 1948 there were 171 unions with a membership of 72,000. One federation of trade unions has been re-registered. There is a new sentiment behind the movement and at a recent T.U. conference, Mr. V.M.N. Menon, secretary of the All Malayan Estates Asiatic Staffs Association, said that their biggest enemies were "the forces of disruption which if they had their way would prevent democratic progress and dominate the movement".

(203) UNITED PLANTING ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA: At the annual meeting of the U.P.A.M., the President, Sir Sydney Palmer, criticized the burden of taxation and the non-payment of War Damage Claims. He expected a smaller output of rubber in 1949 than in 1948, flush yields having previously been obtained owing to the long rest during occupation; he estimated that rubber stolen and illicit tapping amounted to 10% of the total crop; the export duty should be reduced to its pre-war level.

(204) MALAY REGIMENT: Further expansion of the Malay Regiment up to 2 brigades is to be considered as funds become available in 1950 and later. Recruiting for the 4th Battalion has begun. Buildings for the 3rd Batt. at Mentakab (Pahang) are in hand. The 4 Battalions will be quartered at Port Dickson, Mentakab, Taiping and Kota Bahru.

General cont.,

- (205) MALAYAN NAVAL FORCE: The new Malayan Navy has received its first ship, a landing craft (tanks) from the R.N. at a ceremony at the Naval Base. The Governor, Sir F. Gimson, accepted the vessel from Rear-Admiral Clifford Caslon, Flag Officer, Malayan area. The ship which is named Pelandok, is equipped with a variety of workshops and will be valuable in the training of the new force. Shore establishments are estimated to cost \$ 5 m. over 5 years. The strength is to be raised from the present 54 to 750 in 3 years. The shore base is to be at Woodlands. Already 5,000 applications have been received. Enrolment is open to British subjects and Federal citizens.
- (206) INDIAN OVERSEAS AIRWAYS are to extend their Bombay-Singapore service to Australia; the flight will be by Skymaster carrying 44 passengers once a week. The B.O.A.C. Constellation London-Australia weekly plane will in future touch-down in Batavia as well as Singapore.
- (207) HELICOPTERS IN THE CAMPAIGN: It is understood that the army in Malaya proposes to use helicopters for the rescue of wounded men in inaccessible areas.
- (208) "PENNIES FROM HEAVEN": Members of the Royal Singapore Flying Club have dropped payrolls totalling \$ 1,400,000 on rubber estates in the Fed. since the emergency began. Speaking at the annual meeting at Kallang, the President of the R.S.F.C., Mr. F.G. Lunden, said, "One of the things banditry has done in Malaya is to make the people air-minded. They realise now that it is one of the safest methods of travel". Mr. Lunden is President of the R.S.F.C. for the 20th successive year.
- (209) K.M.T. BANDIT ORGANISATION: At the end of April, 87 bandits belonging to a secret K.M.T. organisation surrendered in Perak. This body was the remains of the war time "Overseas Chinese Anti-Japanese Army", a unit distinct from, and smaller than the M.P.A.J.A., organised by the Communists. Since the war this party of the O.C.A.J.A. has operated on the Kuala Kangsar-Grik road and controlled squatter areas there.
- (210) THE GOVERNMENT OF SARAWAK has agreed to the request of the Gov't of the F.O.M. that the Dyak trackers who had returned to Sarawak should be engaged for further service in Malaya and their numbers raised to 40. Their skill in tracking has been found invaluable.
- (211) SINGAPORE HOSPITALS: Over \$ 10 m. is to be spent on new quarters, new wards and alterations to the General Hospital, and a sum of over \$ 6½ m. on Kandang Kerbau, according to the modified medical plan. St. Andrew's Mission Hospital has received a cash gift of \$ (S) 21,052 from the Church World Service Incorporated, of America. The gift is part of a donation of \$ (U.S.) 20,000, the balance of which is being spent in the U.S. on surgical equipment required by the mission hospital.
- (212) THE CENTRAL WELFARE COUNCIL has decided to organise a Youth Council in the Fed. formed from delegations of local youth organisations. It has also brought to the notice of the Gov't the problem of children cured and ready for discharge from Sungei Buloh Leper Settlement, whose welfare and education should be (in the Council's opinion) a Gov't charge. Six places in the U.K. for Social Welfare scholars are expected in 1949.
- (213) LEPROSY IN MALAYA: The "Times" reports that new sulphone drugs are producing hopeful results at Sungei Buloh. The Superintendent, Dr. B.D. Molesworth reports that the morale of the Settlement has completely changed recently and that the outlook of its inmates is "as if a door had suddenly opened in a blank wall". There are over 2,000 lepers in this self-contained settlement in Selangor.
- (214) VANTAGE POINTS: Owing to the extreme housing shortage, points are awarded to those on the waiting list for Gov't quarters. The points go for length of residence in Kuala Lumpur in the current term of unbroken duty - either by holidays or sick-leave or transfer to another station; the number of children under 8 years of age; and the officer's age and seniority. The points game was introduced with the agreement of the Malayan Civil Service Assoc., and the European Civil Service Assoc. One player complained that it was like a bridge game, "points above and below the line, fractions and permutations plus a long wait, and then the final winner has to share his house!"
- (215) MALAY EXHIBITS, B.I.F. (EARLS COURT): An infinite variety of crafts, products and bi-products were displayed and the stands draped with rare

Trengganu sarongs. The model tin dredge, fine timber panels and coloured rubber flooring were again admired. Among the smaller exhibits were pewter ware, Kelantan silver, pottery (made in Kuala Lumpur), lizard skins, rubber shoes and trys, modern rotan furniture, palm oil and tea. There were things to eat, too, "Ho-Ho" biscuits, sweets and something new to spread on bread, KAYA, made from sugar, eggs, coconut and cream. A very promising artist, Munsen, added to the distinction of the stand with typical and very lovely water colours of Malaya in semi-impressionist style and true harmony of natural tones.

(216) VISIT OF DEFENCE CHIEFS TO S.E.ASIA: It is reported in London that Mr. Shinwell, Field Marshall Sir W. Slim and Admiral Lord Fraser are likely to pay visits to Malaya and other parts of S.E. Asia in the coming months and that the subject of their study will be the growing Communist danger.

(217) ANNUAL DINNERS: The Sarawak Association held a dinner at the Trocodero restaurant on 28th April. The Governor of Sarawak was amongst those present. The Association of British Malaya is to hold its annual dinner at the CONNAUGHT ROOMS on 15th June. Lord Milverton will preside and the chief guest will be the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(111) P A R L I A M E N T A R Y

(218) HOUSE OF LORDS - DEBATE ON MALAYA: Lord Killearn in opening the debate said that it was absolutely essential that we should hold on and show no flinching in the maintenance of our position in Malaya. Lord Mancroft said that both the major parties in the U.K. were determined that self-government should ultimately come to the Colonial possessions which desired it. It seemed fantastic that we should be striving for unity in Europe and at the same time acquiescing in the dissolution of Commonwealth and Empire. Lord Listowel replying said that there had been a modest, gradual, steady and uninterrupted improvement in the situation in Malaya.

April 13th 1949

HANSARD: (219) MALAYA- ARMY ALLOWANCES: Commander Noble asked the Secretary of State for War whether he will now consider the local allowances paid to troops in Malaya. The Under-Sec. of State for War, Mr. M. Stewart: My right hon. Friend has no evidence from the local military authorities in the Far East which suggests that the local overseas allowance is inadequate for the purpose for which it was issued. He does not therefore consider that it needs to be reviewed at present. Comm. Noble: Is the Minister aware that local prices bear no relation to the real rate of exchange, for example, a bottle of beer for a soldier out there costs about 5s 6d? Mr. Stewart: Yes, but these matters are considered in estimating the rate of allowance. On that we had considerable evidence, both written and verbal, when the amount of the allowance was determined. Mr. W. Fletcher: Is the Minister aware that his point of view is quite wrong in this, that troops are put into a much worse position with civilians of equal status, and that it is already causing a considerable amount of bad feeling? Mr. Stewart: I must repeat that when this allowance was fixed it was in the light of evidence most carefully collected and there has been no evidence from the troops since the time it was fixed that there is any reason for reviewing it.

O.As. Col. 1 & 2 - 26th April

(220) OPERATIONS - MALAYA: Replying to Mr. Emrys Hughes, Mr. Eden and Comm. Noble, who asked for assurance that R.A.F. raids on bandits in Malaya in no way endangered unarmed civilians, Mr. Henderson, Sec. of State for Air stated, "No bandit infested area is attacked from the air unless the civil authorities are satisfied that there is no risk to the civilian population. The R.A.F. take every precaution to ensure accuracy of attacks ..... Rombing attacks only took place on bandit camps and hide-outs".

O.As cols. 165-6-7 - 27th April

(221) SHOOTINGS - POLICE WARNINGS: Mr. Emrys Hughes asked the Secretary of State what fresh instructions he has now given to the police in Malaya with regard to the shooting of women. Mr. Rees-Williams: The regulations authorising the use of firearms in effecting arrests or preventing escapes already require clear warnings to be given before fire is opened. It is not practicable to discriminate in this matter between men and women. To do so might facilitate the escape of women who are themselves bandits, or suspected of assisting the bandits in their murderous activities. One of the women killed on 23rd Feb. was in uniform and armed.

General (221) cont.,

On 20th April the hands of a woman were blown off by a grenade which she was in the act of throwing at a police patrol. Mr. Hughes: In view of a previous statement that these two women were unarmed, will my hon. Friend consider giving an instruction that unarmed people should not be shot? Mr. Rees-Williams: I do not remember that a statement was made to the effect that the women were unarmed. One of the women was armed and it is quite impossible to know whether a person is armed or not before fire is opened. Mr. W. Fletcher: Is it not established that both in the case of bandits and of the squatters who helped them there have been many cases of women who were armed attacking members of H.M.'s Forces? Mr. Rees-Williams: Yes, that is so. Mr. S. Silverman: Is it not the case that one of the two women shot was described in an official statement as running away and being chased for half a mile before she was shot? Was she armed? Mr. R-Williams: One of the women was armed and the other was not. I must point out to my hon. Friend that the country is very enclosed, the ground is rough and it is largely jungle. Half a mile under those conditions is not like half a mile along Parliament St. As to the other question, it is quite impossible to give orders to the police that they are not to fire unless they first search the people to find whether they are armed. That would destroy the whole point of the regulations.

O.As. cols. 171-2 - 27th April

(22) DETAINED PERSONS: Replying to Mr. Piratin who asked why detained persons who had made objections to the advisory committees had not been released, and whether it was the intention to charge them with alleged offences, Mr. Rees-Williams said that no charge need be brought against these persons; that it was not in the public interest to indicate what grounds they were detained upon; the matter had been looked into very carefully; one may be suspicious of persons against whom it is quite impossible to bring a charge, either there is not sufficient evidence or witnesses are liable to be murdered while the case is proceeding; every person detained has the right to go before a committee of review, which investigates the case and sees if there is evidence of some suspicious activity.

O.As col. 173 - 27th April

(223) REQUISITIONED GOODS, MALAYA: Comm. Noble asked the Minister of Defence why Service Departments in Malaya are refusing to pay compensation for certain goods requisitioned in 1941-2 on the ground that they were requisitioned for purposes of denial; what right of appeal there is against such decisions; and whether he will make a statement. Mr. Alexander: The Service Depts. do not accept liability for the payment of compensation in respect of goods requisitioned for denial from the enemy which are regarded as falling within the category of ordinary war damage losses. Claims in respect of such cases would be dealt with by the Civil Gov't, and in this connection I would refer the hon. and gallant Member to the reply given to my right hon Friend, the Sec. of State on 23rd March (vide item 173 April).

O.As col. 177- 27th April.

(224) DEATH SENTENCE: Mr. Piratin asked the Secretary of State whether the appeal by Mr. Ganapathy against sentence of death in Malaya has been heard; and will he make a statement. Mr. Rees-Williams: On 1st March last, this man, when challenged near Rawang in Selangor by a party of special constables, showed fight and grabbed a revolver which he had in his belt. After a short struggle he was overpowered, and the revolver was found to be loaded with 6 rounds of ammunition. Mr. Ganapathy was charged and convicted of unlawful possession of arms and ammunition under the Emergency Regulations. Both assessors (one European and one Indian) found him guilty without retiring. His appeal to the Court of Appeal was dismissed. The Ruler in Council has declined to exercise the prerogative of mercy in his favour, he was executed this morning. Mr. Piratin: Is the Minister aware that the announcement he has just made will be met with widespread disapproval in the labour movement in this country as Mr. Ganapathy was a leading trade unionist in Malaya; and, further, is the Minister equally aware that this penalty of death for carrying arms in Malaya is something which does not conform with what he has often declared is the Western way of life, & will he therefore remember what he previously said in this particular matter?

O.As cols. 1008-9 - 4th May

(225) OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS: Replying to Mr. Awbery who asked how many local men in Malaya had been given senior appointments since the end of the war; and to what extent have the recommendations of the Trusted Report been implemented, Mr. Rees-Williams said that the figures were not readily available and that he would write when they had been obtained from Malaya. As

regards the second part of the question, most of the principal recommendations in the Trusted Report have been implemented with retrospective effect.

O.As col. 1009 - 4th May

(226) CITIZENSHIP: In answer to a question by Mr. Awbery, Mr. R.-Williams issued the following official report regarding citizenship of Malaya: -

Malayan citizenship is not a nationality, and does not affect or impair the status of British or other nationals who become Federal citizens. Citizenship may be acquired either automatically or on application. The following persons are automatically Fed. citizens: (a) Any subject of the Ruler of a Malay State. (b) Any British subject born in either of the Settlements of Penang and Malacca, who is permanently resident (that is, say, has completed a continuous period of 15 years' residence) anywhere in the territories comprised in the Fed. (c) Any British subject born in any of the territories comprised in the Fed. whose father, either (i) was himself born in any of these territories or; (ii) has resided therein for a continuous period of not less than 15 years; (d) Any person born in any of the territories comprised in the Fed., who habitually speaks the Malay language and conforms to Malay custom. (e) Any other person born in any of these territories at any time, both of whose parents were born in any of the territories and have been resident in them for a continuous period of not less than 15 years; and (f) Any person whose father is, at the date of that person's birth, a Federal citizen.

The provisions regarding acquisition of citizenship by application are as follows: The High Commissioner may grant a certificate conferring the status of a Federal citizen on any person who applies and satisfies the High Comm. - (a) that either - (i) he was born in any of the territories comprised in the Fed. and has been resident in any one or more of the territories for not less than 8 out of 12 years preceeding his application; or (ii) he has been resident in any one or more of those territories for not less than 15 out of 20 years immediately preceeding his application. (b) The applicant must satisfy the High Comm. that he is of good character, possesses an adequate knowledge of the Malay or English language, has made a declaration of permanent settlement in the prescribed form, and if his application is approved, that he is willing to take the citizenship oath. An applicant for citizenship must be of the age of 18 or over.

In the case of any person over the age of 45, who has been resident in any of the territories comprised in the territory of the Fed. for 20 years, and who applies for citizenship within two years from the appointed day, the language qualifications will be waived.

O.As cols. 1010-1011 - 5th May

(227) COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA: Replying to Mr. W. Fletcher who asked about counter Communist propaganda among Colonial visitors and students, Mr. Rees-Williams said, "The best answer to Communist propaganda is the truth. The Colonial Office, Colonial Gov'ts and the British Council make available to students and other visitors correct information about Colonial affairs and British democratic institutions.

(228) TRADE WITH JAPAN: Replying to Mr. Dodds-Parker, Mr. Creach Jones said the Colonial Governors were consulted before the conclusion of the recent trade agreement between the Commonwealth and Allied Authorities in Japan; he could not say whether Legislative Councils and Chambers of Commerce were consulted. Mr. Dodds-Parker suggested that there should be full consultation with Legislative Councils and Chambers of Commerce, and Mr. Creach Jones promised to take that into account. O.As. col. 1839 - 11th May

(229) NORTH BORNEO AND SARAWAK- RICE: In answer to Mr. T. Reid who asked what progress was being made in these territories which imported about half their rice supplies, towards growing rice on a large scale, Mr. Creach Jones said, "Trials are proceeding in Sarawak for the mechanised cultivation of rice. Any question of large scale mechanised schemes must wait until it is established that small scale trials are successful.

O.As. col. 1840 - 11th May

(230) CHINESE REPATRIATES: Replying to a supplementary question by Mr. W. Fletcher, Mr. C. Jones agreed that it would be the "height of folly to allow repatriates from Malaya to enter Hongkong when for good reasons they have been deported from Malaya and that it is by no means certain that entry into Swatow is followed by arrest." O.As. col. 1842 - 11th May

(231) JAPANESE TEXTILES: Replying to Mr. Gammans, Mr. Creach Jones said that the policy (of the Malayan Gov'ts) is governed by the trade agreement between the sterling area countries and the Supreme Commander, Allied

Parliamentary (231) cont.

Powers, in Japan for the period of July, 1948 to June 1949. An import quota for cotton piece goods has been established within the framework of this arrangement, and particulars of allocations have been notified to importers. He did not think that the interests of Lancashire were involved and these goods were desperately required. O.As. col. 1843 - 11th May.

(IV) A P P O I N T M E N T S

<u>MR. W.D. CRAIG</u>	<u>Registrar, University of Malaya.</u>
<u>MR. W.L. BLYTHE</u>	<u>President, Municipal Commissioners, Singapore.</u>
<u>MR. H.H. FACER</u>	<u>President, United Planting Association of Malaya.</u>

(V) P U B L I C A T I O N S

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH OF MALAYA; Report by Prof. Raymond Firth (51 pp) (Singapore) - \$ 2/-.

EDUCATION REPORT, SINGAPORE 1947: by J.B. Neilson (Gov't Printing Press, Singapore) \$3.

ANNUAL REPORT ON EDUCATION IN THE MALAYAN UNION 1947: by H.R. Cheeseman, C.M.G., (Gov't Press, Kuala Lumpur) \$2.50.

COLONIAL PRIMARY PRODUCTS COMMITTEE : 2nd Report Jan. 1949 (60 pp.) (Col. 233 - H.M.S.O.) 1s. 2d.

PRODUCTION OF FISH IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE: (Col. 237 - H.M.S.O.) - 5d.

MURAL DITTIES & SIM ROAD SOLILOQUIES: by C.C. Brown. Illustrated by R.W.E. Harper. (Kelly & Walsh Ltd, Singapore and in England from the Malayan Agent, Malaya House.

CHERITA BUALAN: by C.C. Brown. (Malayan Publishing House, Singapore 70cts) These are personal reminiscences in Malay for students and are also obtainable from the Malayan Agent, Malaya House price 3s.)

(VI) L E G I S L A T I O NSingapore - Ordinance:

No. 5. of 1949	<u>Debtor and Creditor (Occupation Period)</u>	S. 91.
" 6. " "	<u>Registration of U.K. Patents (Amendment)</u>	S. 128
" 7. " "	<u>Registration Births &amp; Deaths (Amendment)</u>	S. 130
" 8. " "	<u>Naturalization (Repeal)</u>	S. 131
" 9. " "	<u>Transfer of Powers &amp; Interpretation</u>	S. 132
" 10. " "	<u>Control of Rent (Amendment)</u>	S. 133
" 11. " "	<u>Trade Marks (Transitional Provisions (Amendment))</u>	S. 134
" 12. " "	<u>University of Malaya</u>	S. 136

Federation- Ordinance:

No. 1. of 1949	<u>Treasury Bills (London)</u>	G.N. 880
" 2. " "	<u>Government Trustee Securities</u>	G.N. 881
" 3. " "	<u>General Loan and Stock</u>	G.N. 882
" 4. " "	<u>Trade Disputes</u>	G.N. 883
" 5. " "	<u>Chief Secretary (Incorporation)</u>	G.N. 884
" 6. " "	<u>Custodian of Enemy Property (Amendment)</u>	G.N. 885
" 7. " "	<u>Municipal (Temporary Surcharge on Rates)</u>	G.N. 886
" 8. " "	<u>Appointment of other offices of District Judges "</u>	887
" 9. " "	<u>Johore (Replacement of Lands)</u>	G.N. 888
" 10. " "	<u>Naturalization (Repeal)</u>	G.N. 889
" 11. " "	<u>Customs Duties (Penang)</u>	G.N. 890
" 12. " "	<u>Rubber Exise (Penang)</u>	G.N. 891
" 13. " "	<u>Treasury Bills (Local) (Amendment)</u>	G.N. 892
" 14. " "	<u>Stamps (Valuation)</u>	G.N. 893

(VII) S T A T I S T I C S

<u>FOREIGN TRADE:</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>
February 1949	\$ 137,123,945	\$ 155,815,551
..... March " "	\$ 179,467,473	\$ 129,678,998 .....

EXPORTS OF TIN - Metal Content : January, 4,554 long tons. February, 3,591 long tons and March, 4,673 long tons.

EXPORTS OF RUBBER - April 1949 - 74,586 tons.

VITAL STATISTICS: SINGAPORE 1948 Birthrate 46.2% - Deathrate 12.4%

<u>INDUSTRIAL SHARES ( MIS.)</u>	<u>12th May.</u>	<u>Buyer</u>	<u>Seller</u>
<u>Fraser &amp; Neave:</u>	Ord.	8.25	8.75 \$
	Ord.	3.60	3.65
<u>Singapore Traction:</u>	Ord.	21. -	22. -
	Ord.	10. 3	11. -
<u>Straits Traders</u>		9. -	9. 20