

## CURRENT PUBLICATIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

CECIL HOBBS\*

*Library of Congress*

**W**ITHIN THE past decade a fresh interest has been shown in events within the countries of Burma, Siam, Malaya, French Indochina, the East Indies, and the Philippines — the region of Southeast Asia. Historians, anthropologists, economists, and political scientists as well as businessmen and newspaper columnists have shown a keen desire for more information and factual data regarding the peoples of this little-known portion of the Orient. To meet this demand books have been published in America and Europe which have brought to the consciousness of the people of this hemisphere the long-term significance of Southeast Asia and the intense drive which is in progress in the countries of that area for the attainment of independence and an honorable existence in the comity of nations. However, books, newspapers, and periodicals published in these countries are still coveted and are not easily obtained.

The Library of Congress, in order to meet the wide and diversified needs of research students throughout the United States, has set itself the task of securing publications on all subjects about most countries around the globe. In general the materials in the Division of Orientalia in the library have been assembled to provide a well-balanced library for students of the Far East in the fields of current interest. It is a stated purpose to possess the significant publications in the vernacular languages of all Oriental countries. Up to this past year, however, the materials in the library dealing with Southeast Asia were embarrassingly few.

During the past year steps were taken in a procurement program in Southeast Asia whereby (1) books and other materials published prior to and since the war were purchased; (2) important newspapers and commercial periodicals were secured by subscription; (3) the available publications issued by the Japanese during their occupation period were secured; (4) the leading publications of educational institutions, research societies,

\* Cecil Hobbs, Reference Librarian for Southeast Asia in the Division of Orientalia of the Library of Congress, is the compiler of *Southeast Asia 1935-45: a selected list of reference books*. The Library of Congress sent Mr. Hobbs on a six months' tour of Southeast Asia during the winter of 1947-48 for the acquisition of materials published in the region. The present article is an abridgment of the report submitted to the Librarian of Congress.

and other bodies were arranged for by exchange; (5) all official documents of the respective foreign governments were arranged for by an exchange program; and (6) reliable bookdealers were engaged to supply publications issued in the future.

Thanks to the interest and co-operation of foreign officers in the Department of State, the necessary steps were taken with the officials of the respective foreign governments so that the library has now established international exchange relations for official publications with every country of Southeast Asia. In the case of institutional exchange the desired relations were either renewed from before the war or fresh ones were set up. Special efforts were made to acquire materials dealing with current developments and with linguistics. As a result of this latter effort, a number of dictionaries, grammars, and other studies relating to Burmese, Siamese, Malay, Javanese, Tagalog, and other languages were secured.

#### SIAM

*Legal documents.* The principal acquisitions in Siam were legal documents. These were acquired by both purchase and gift at the Siam National Assembly, the University of Moral and Political Sciences, and certain bookstores which specialize in law books. For the purpose of securing books in Siamese arrangements were made with the Department of Publicity to have Mr. Chamnong, the Chief Liaison Officer in the Foreign Division, aid in the project. He was an exceedingly valuable person because of his knowledge of law and his intimate acquaintance with bookstores and the book trade in Bangkok. Among the law materials acquired was a complete set of *Prachum kotnai prachumsok* (Collection of the laws of Siam), in fifty-eight large volumes, and a complete set of *Raingankan-prachum saphaphuthanrasadon* (Minutes of the meetings of the Assembly of the People's Representatives), which were purchased for the library's law collection. Considerable information concerning the organized bar, legal publications, and other questions of interest to the Law Library was secured. The University of Moral and Political Sciences has a printing establishment which was able to furnish scores of legal books of special interest, including the printed lectures of the professors in the Political Science Department of the university. This press also issues the *Law journal of Siam*. Besides these and other books in Siamese, acts and ordinances were secured from the International Translations Company, which makes it possible to have in English the *Royal Siamese government gazette*, the *Navigation laws*, *Revenue code*, *Customs law*, *Constitution of Siam*

and other documents which would appear to be indispensable to scholars and American business firms interested in Siam.

**Commercial press.** Most of the shops in Bangkok were small, but they did have many books which were wanted at the library. Among the publications issued by the commercial press were a number of works dealing with Siamese history, language, literature, drama, art, archeology, and religion. Worthy of citation are: *Deutsch-Siamesisches wörterbuch* by Mom Luang Manich Jamsai (Bangkok, 1938); the four-volume *The new model English-Thai dictionary*, edited by So Sreshtaputra (Bangkok, 1940); the *Ramakirti (Ramakien) or the Thai version of the Ramayana* by Swami Satyananda (Bangkok, 1940); and *Architecture in Siam* (Bangkok, 1944). *Investigation of musical instruments in Thailand* by T. Kurosawa (Bangkok, 1941) is a study which was made by a Japanese in the interests of extending cultural relations between Siam and Japan prior to the war. Unfortunately the number of volumes dealing with economics, trade, and agriculture were pitifully few. However, there were three recent handbooks which provide information of current interest: *The Siam directory, 1947* (Bangkok, 1947), which provides data about government officials, important treaties and agreements, and check lists of associations and business firms; the last four issues of the *Commercial directory of Siam* (Bangkok, 1943-47); and the latest issues of the *Statistical yearbook of Siam, no. 20* (Bangkok, 1937-1938); both of the latter are bilingual, official publications providing valuable statistical information. For the procurement of future books Nibondh Bookdealers, located on New Road, Sikak Phya Sri, Bangkok, was engaged; the manager's name is Sunetra Kongsiri.

**Siamese arts.** While in Bangkok, I had the pleasure of attending a special meeting of the Siam Research Society in the Silpakorn Theatre where Prince Dhani Nivat, one of Siam's foremost scholars, read an interesting paper on "The shadow play as a possible origin of the masked play." Following the lecture, the old-type Siamese shadow play and the more modern masked drama were presented. The contents of this scholarly presentation will probably appear at some future date in the *Journal of the Siam Society*. A typewritten copy of this lecture was secured. Two other unpublished papers dealing with Siamese music by Phya Chen Duriyanga were also procured in typewritten form: "A talk on the technic of Siamese music in relation to Western music" and "The technic of Siamese music."

**Serials.** Mr. Teg C. Grondahl, the Public Affairs Officer and Miss Dorothy Ward, the USIS Librarian, aided me in compiling a complete list of newspapers and periodicals published in Bangkok in English, Siamese,

and Chinese. Selections from the leading serial publications issued in Bangkok are as follows: *Norkorn sarn* (daily), *Siam trade and economic review* (monthly), *Economist* (weekly), *Law journal of Siam* (monthly), *Journal of the Siam Society* (quarterly), the *Bangkok post* (daily), and the *Journal of the Medical Association of Siam* — the last three of which were secured on an exchange basis.

**Official Exchange.** Official publications exchange relations between the governments of Siam and the United States were established on September 5, 1947. Government publications from Washington are sent to the National Library of Siam in Bangkok of which Phya Anuman is the head. Two shipments of publications issued by the Siamese government, 98 per cent of which are in Siamese, have been received at the Library of Congress.

**The National Library of Siam.** The National Library is located on one side of the royal plaza not very far from the grand palace of the Siamese king. It was founded in 1905 by the amalgamation of several smaller state libraries. At first the collections were housed in the palace of the Siamese kings, but by 1917, when the collection of books had grown to the size to demand larger quarters, the library was transferred to its present building. In 1926 the Royal Institute of Literature, Archaeology, and Fine Arts was established, and since that time the National Library has been a section of the institute. The library is divided into the Department of Printed Books, which is officially called the Vajiravudh Library in memory of King Rama VI or Maha Vajiravudh, whose collection of books became an integral part of the library, and the Department of Manuscripts, which is called the Vajirayan Library to honor the name King Mongkut used when he was in the Siamese priesthood prior to his accession to the throne. The Department of Books is divided into two sections: Siamese and Foreign. Within this department are included maps of every description.

In the Department of Manuscripts is a collection of Cambodian manuscripts which is probably one of the richest in the world. Of special interest are the magnificent lacquer and gilt cases in which these manuscripts are kept. Likewise this library has an unrivaled collection of Siamese manuscripts. As would be supposed, since Siam is a Buddhist country, a large number of these manuscripts are Buddhist prayer books and religious works. Because the more ancient manuscripts were destroyed when the Burmese invaded Siam and completely annihilated the capital of Ayutthaya in 1767, the majority of the manuscripts date back only as far as the latter part of the eighteenth century.

Of special interest is a custom which aids in the spread of knowledge. Since the turn of the present century it has been the custom for relatives of a deceased person to distribute books as souvenirs to friends who attend the cremation ceremonies. While many of the books distributed are purely religious, historical and literary works are being published in greater numbers. By this method many unknown but significant works have been spread among the people. Application is made to the National Library by those who desire to publish such works, and the council then selects a suitable work from among the unpublished manuscripts.

A worthy acquisition by the National Library of Siam is the Damrong collection. This collection consists of the books owned and used extensively by the late Prince Damrong (1862–1943), son of H. M. King Mongkut. During his long and outstanding service to his country in various departments of the government he collected hundreds of books on all subjects. The collection includes many books in English as well as Siamese. They are now housed in a small building located just to the rear of the larger library building, which is referred to as the Damrong room. The structure was built during 1947, and the inauguration took place on Prince Damrong's birthday anniversary, June 21, 1947, at which time the books and the other personal property of the prince ceased to belong to Princess Poon, his daughter, and became national property under the auspices of the National Library. A complete list of the books in the Damrong collection has been compiled during the past two years. Arrangements were made with Princess Poon to take this large catalog back to Washington with a view to checking it against the Siamese collection in the Library of Congress and thus determining the material which might be microfilmed for the library.

*U.S. Cultural Relations.* After observing the operations of the United States Information Services in Bangkok, and later in Rangoon, Batavia, Saigon, and Manila, I am thoroughly convinced of the value of having an Information Service in foreign countries. The Information Service Library with the highly selected collection of American newspapers and periodicals and the standard reference works, as well as the best of the latest books from the United States, is certainly of great importance, and it is utterly impossible to calculate the steady influence exerted by it in the formation of international good will and cultural interchange.

#### BURMA

*Rangoon — a war-torn city.* From Bangkok I proceeded by BOAC to Rangoon where I arrived in a little over two hours. We flew low enough to

see in considerable detail the destruction done by bombs and fire in Rangoon. I could pick out readily old landmarks, such as Judson College, the University of Rangoon, Scott Market Bazaar, the Secretariat, and other points. The view of the famous Shwe Dagon Pagoda was magnificent, and fortunately this Buddhist shrine had not been touched by the war. Rangoon was entirely different from the city which I knew seven years before. Already a number of buildings had been either reconstructed or redecorated, and I was told that considerable improvement had been made since the war. In most cases where buildings had been bombed the rubble was cleaned up, and in these open spaces hundreds upon hundreds of bamboo-thatch-roofed houses had been erected for dwelling places. Rangoon was never a clean city, but it was filthy now. The streets were dirty, the sewers were open, and people were living in the most congested conditions. There were no streetcars, and the common form of transportation was reconditioned army trucks made into buses; jeeps were seen everywhere as private cars. They were sold cheaply by the Army as surplus, and many people had them who otherwise would have no car at all.

*Publications Exchange Treaty.* For some years various departments in the governments of Burma and the United States have exchanged official documents on a selective basis. In January 1948, when Burma was crossing the threshold of her independence, the necessary groundwork was laid for the exchange of all official publications between the two governments. The agreement became effective on April 5, 1948. Important among government documents now being deposited in our National Library are *Myanma nainggandawdinepyi pyuhlootdaw* (Proceedings of the Burma Constituent Assembly); *The constitution of the Union of Burma* (1947), issued by the Constituent Assembly in Burmese and English; and *The Burma gazette*, a weekly serial which provides valuable data on new laws, commercial and agricultural statistics, and biographical information.

*Books published since the war.* Postwar publications are not abundant in Burma because printing establishments are far less numerous than before the war. Outstanding are books dealing with current political trends within the young independent nation. *The new Burma in the new world* (1947), the *Presidential address delivered by Major General Aung San, May 16, 1946* (1947), and the *AFPFL convention brochure* (1947) provide valuable data regarding the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, the dominant political party. *The planned state* by U Ba Han (1947), then head of the Burma Special Research Commission, is an evaluation of the social and economic foundations of the state in the light of a comparative

study of conditions in East Asiatic and Western countries. Among other appendices to the work are the lengthy reports of the commission, which was constituted by the personal order of the *Adipadi*, U Ba Maw, on May 9, 1944. *Ngado Bo Kyok* (Our general) (1947) is a brief account of Burma's national hero, the late U Aung San. All of the above books were published in Rangoon. New reference books published in Rangoon in the fields of history, literature, language, and religion include: *Myanmasa sabethamaing* (History of Burmese literature) by U Pe Maung Tin (1947); *Wethandya zatdawgyi* (The birth-story of Wethandya) by U Awbatha (1947), and *Myanma abidan kyan* (Burmese and Pali dictionary) by Ashin Awbathabi Wuntha (1947), which is the first volume of a new series. A book of commercial interest is the *Business guide of Rangoon* (1947). Certain books on Burma which had been published in India were available in Rangoon. *A peep into Burma politics, 1917-1942* by N. C. Sen (Allahabad, 1945) provides a general review of political developments in Burma from the time of Montagu Declaration to the time of the recent war. *Rebirth of Burma* by S. Devas (Madras, 1947) carries summary biographical accounts of prominent political leaders: U Ba Maw, the late U Saw, and the late General U Aung San. Mr. J. S. Furnivall endorses the book with a lengthy introduction. *Outline of Burmese history* by G. E. Harvey (Bombay, 1947) is an abridgment of his classic *History of Burma* (1945). Ma Mi Mi Kyaing's *Burmese family* (Bombay, 1946) will be of interest to the ethnologist concerned with social life and customs.

**Newspapers.** A complete list of the Burma newspapers was compiled, and in early 1948 thirty-five papers were being published in Burmese, English, and other languages used in the country. Outstanding among these are *The new times of Burma*, *The Burman*, and *The Burmese review* in English; and *Oway*, *Myanma alin*, *Hanthawaddy*, *Bamakhit*, *The Tribune*, and the *Rangoon daily* in Burmese. *The Burma market review* (monthly) is the only periodical to mention. *The Journal of the Burma Research Society* was resumed late in 1948. The *Burma digest* made its appearance in 1946 but was discontinued in 1947.

**Legal publications and information.** An interview with Taw Kyone Boon, secretary of the Rangoon Bar Library Association, provided considerable information and material concerning the organized bar in Burma. Prior to the war there was *The Burma law times*, but at present there is no official organ of the bar. All court decisions are published in the *Rangoon law reports*, which are issued by the Government Book Depot. All laws and enactments appear in *The Burma gazette*. A chron-

ological set of the Burma laws are to be found in *The Burma code* which is also an official document. At a gathering given by Ambassador Edwin Stanton, who was President Truman's representative at the Independence Celebration in Burma, I met U Thein Maung of the High Court in Burma. He related the fact that up to recently all the court proceedings were in English. From now on it has been decided that all proceedings are to be in Burmese with English as a permitted alternative. All evidence given in Burmese will be recorded without translation, and that in other languages will be translated if possible into Burmese. All court proceedings will be printed in Burmese, and within a year or so he expects to see all acts, ordinances, and government publications published in Burmese. Speaking as a recently retired member of the University Council, he said that courses at the University of Rangoon will be given in Burmese as far as possible. History and literature courses are being given in Burmese at the present time; science courses will have to wait until technical terms are translated into Burmese. In answer to certain questions relative to the need for better Burmese dictionaries he said that the Burmese-Burmese dictionary being compiled by Dr. U Ba Han and others is proceeding slowly. He further said that a Burmese-English dictionary is now being prepared in England.

**Buddhist literature.** The Library of Congress now has the best collection of Hinayana Buddhist literature in the Burmese language outside of Burma. This was made possible by a generous gift of the Burmese people to the people of America as a result of certain meetings in January 1948 with leading *pongyis* monks, including the president and secretary of the Myanma Maha Sangha Athin (All Burma Buddhist Monks Association), at which time I discussed with them the matter of supplying the library a representative collection of Burmese books on Buddhism. As a result a special campaign was launched some months later to secure books, and by popular subscription over Rs. 15,000 were raised. On November 15, 1948, at a colorful ceremony at the Shwe Dagon Pagoda in which the president of Burma took part, some one thousand individual Burmese works, consisting of the *Tripitaka* as well as works of classical and modern Burmese literature and history, were presented to the officials of the American Embassy for transmittal to the Library of Congress. The person who carried through the idea and worked with the Buddhist monks in the campaign for books was U Nyo Mya, editor of the *Oway*, a leading Burmese daily in Rangoon.

**Bookdealers.** Besides the numerous bazaar stalls which handle books,



the Educational Bookstore, Smart and Mookerdum, Zabu Meitswe Pitaka Press, Thudamawaddy Press, and the Hanthawaddy Press are the larger establishments from which publications may be secured. The educational Bookstore on Merchant Street, of which Mr. Locket is the manager, was selected to handle the library's future orders.

#### SINGAPORE AND MALAYA

*Newspapers and Journals.* The *Syonan shimbun* was the only English newspaper published by the Japanese during their occupation of Singapore. Beginning publication on February 20, 1942, and extending to September 4, 1945, the complete file consists of over 1,000 issues. Few complete files are now available, and these are expensive. Offers were made by three persons: one wanted 10,000 Straits dollars (U.S. \$5000), another S\$3,000, and a third person, S\$1,000. The complete file was finally purchased for S\$700 (U.S. \$350) from the person who made the third offer. For all intents and purposes this daily was the official Japanese newspaper in Malaya. The first issue carried in full a "Declaration of the Commander of the Nippon Army," Tomoyuke Yamashita, February 2602, in connection with the downfall of Singapore. The last issue of the file, Sept. 4, 2605, carried the Imperial Proclamation of Emperor Hirohito which was issued after the formal signing of the Japanese surrender terms. The *Syonan shimbun* offers invaluable material for anyone making a study of the Japanese occupation. Apart from this newspaper there were a very few Japanese publications available in Singapore. These included: *The good citizens guide, handbook of declarations, orders, rules and regulations* issued by Gunseikan-bu (Military Administration Department) and the *Syonan shimbun fortnightly*, which existed for a very short period in 1945.

Information concerning events from September 1945 to the present is contained in *The Straits times, The Sunday times, and the Singapore free press.* *The Straits times*, with the permission of the British military authorities, began publication only three days after the *Syonan shimbun* ceased. In the first issue is the currency proclamation defining the legal tender and regulating Malayan currency. Other proclamations and orders issued by the British military administration are to be found in this newspaper. The Republicans of Java operate an Indonesian Information Office at Raffles Place, Singapore, of which Dr. Fairin Zain is the chief officer. Here the daily *Indonesian news service* is issued in both English and Malay.

The following serials are now being issued in Singapore. *The medical journal of Malaya*, of which Mr. C. F. Young is the publisher, has been

issued as the official organ of the Malayan Branch of the British Medical Association since September 1946 (vol. 1, no. 1). *The Malayan educator*, edited by Mr. N. F. G. Scharenguivel, is the official organ of the Malayan Teachers' Union, and the monthly enjoys a wide circulation in the Malayan schools. The South Seas Society produces a quarterly *Journal* and a monthly entitled *Nanyang miscellany*, both of which are printed mainly in Chinese with brief sections in English. Mr. Tan Yeok Seong at 68B Robinson Road is the secretary of the society. Two of the most scholarly publications of Malaya, dealing with the humanities, are *The journal of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, edited by Dr. C. A. Gibson-Hill, and *The Journal of the Raffles Museum*, of which Mr. H. D. Collings is the editor. Ordinarily the *JMBRAS* is issued quarterly, while the museum *Journal* does not have a regular time of appearance but is published whenever material is sufficient to warrant a printing. Usually there is one issue per year.

Another scientific publication worthy of note is *The Malayan nature journal* issued in Kuala Lumpur by the Malayan Nature Society, of which Mr. A. T. Edgar is the president. *The Malayan agricultural journal* is now issued by the government in Kuala Lumpur as a quarterly and carries important data concerning various aspects of agriculture in Malaya as determined at the Agricultural Experiment Station. A quasi-official publication, the *Malayan forester*, is issued by members of the Department of Forestry at Kuala Lumpur but is maintained by private subscription. The Incorporated Society of Planters resumed publication of *The planter* at Kuala Lumpur in January 1947 as their official journal with Mr. Sidney Scott as the manager. *The Journal of the F. M. S. museums*, which was formerly issued at Kuala Lumpur, has not been resumed since the war because of lack of material and the destruction of certain museums. The chief newspaper published in English in Kuala Lumpur is *The Malay mail*. In Penang the following serials are published: *Economic Melayu*, *Suleh Kema-juan*, and *Dunia bahru* are issued in Malay, while *The Straits echo* and the *Sunday gazette* appear in English.

**New books.** New publications issued by the commercial and government presses will be of interest to students desiring information on the social and political changes in Malaya. *Malaya upside down* by Chin Kee Onn (Singapore, 1946) deals with the Chinese in Malaya; *Malayan problems from a Chinese point of view*, edited by C. Q. Lee (Singapore, 1947), consists of the writings and statements of Mr. Tan Cheng Lock, formerly a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils of the Straits Settle-

ments; and *The Malays, a cultural history* by Richard Winstedt (Singapore, 1947), one of the foremost scholars, deals with the social milieu of the Malayan people. Ordinarily directories are valuable for the biographical, geographical, and commercial data which they contain. Two directories recently issued are the *Commercial directory of Malaya* (Singapore, 1947) and *Who's who in Singapore and Malaya, 1947*, edited by K. R. Menon (Singapore, 1947). The editor of *The Straits times*, Mr. A. T. Simmons plans to compile a directory of Singapore and Malaya by the first of 1949. Furthermore, in either 1948 or 1949 a *Straits times annual* will be issued, similar to the elaborate one produced in 1939. Those concerned with the Malay language will find the following books of interest: *Good Malay for beginners* by Inche Sulaiman bin Ahmad (Singapore, 1947) and *Everybody's vocabulary, English-Malay-Hindustani-Hokkien and Japanese* by Rai Bahadur Mehta Prithvi Chand (Singapore, 1947?).

*Legal Material.* Many important legal documents are available in Singapore. One outstanding reference work is *Mallal's digest of Malayan case law, a comprehensive digest of all superior courts of Malaya from 1808-1939* (Singapore, 1940). The *Advocate and solicitors ordinance, 1947*, provides complete information regarding the bar and regulations for lawyers practicing in Malaya. This ordinance (a supplement to the *Malayan Union gazette*, 2 [Feb. 17, 1947], no. 5, notification no. 1024) and a complete list of the advocates of the Supreme Court may be secured from the registrar of the Supreme Court at Kuala Lumpur. Significant legal documents among the materials issued by the Government Printing Office at Singapore are: *Chronological table of Straits Settlements laws* (annual); *Manual of the law of extradition and fugitive offenders* by Aloysius De Mello (1935); *Straits Settlements law reports* (annual); *Handbook for public prosecutors in Malaya* by J. L. McFall; *Index to municipal ordinances* by D. K. Walters; *Orders, rules, regulations and by-laws* (annual); and *Ordinances passed during the years 1946...1947* (annual). *The double tenth trial, war crimes court...*, edited by Bashir A. Mallal (Singapore: Malayan Law Journal Office, 1947), contains the court record of the war crimes trial of twenty-one members of the Kempei Tai who conducted on October 10, 1943 — the tenth day of the tenth month — a so-called "raid" on the Changi gaol where hundreds of civilians were interned.

*Official documents — Singapore.* The Government Printing Office of the Colony of Singapore issues regularly the following documents which offer statistical data regarding import and export trade of Malaya: *Monthly return of foreign imports and exports of Malaya*; *Foreign trade of Malaya*

(monthly); *Summaries of Malayan foreign trade* (monthly); *Annual returns of Malaya foreign imports and exports*. Other publications issued by the government at Singapore include the recent booklet entitled *Facts about Sarawak* (1947) and a well-compiled and useful *Manual of rubber planting (Malaya)* by A. T. Edgar (1947). The following prewar publications are still available: *Index to Chinese written language; Malay proverbs* by E. S. Hose; *A report on civil aviation* by R. L. Nunn; *Malayan air pilot; Mui Tsai in Hongkong and Malaya, a report of the Commission*; and *Chemical analyses of Malayan foods* by J. L. Rosedale. Two valuable official documents which provide information about Singapore are: *Annual report for Singapore* (1948) and *1947 report of the Singapore Housing Committee* (1947). The Government of Singapore presented to Princess Elizabeth on the occasion of her wedding a handsomely bound and engraved book entitled *A presentation book of prayers offered by the various communities of Singapore on the occasion of the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth*. The contents was produced in Malay, Chinese, Tamil, and English.

*Official documents — Kuala Lumpur.* At Kuala Lumpur, the capital of the new Federation of Malaya, the printing presses have produced a number of publications since the war. Among the material issued by the Government Printing Office under the direction of Superintendent Holland are certain publications dealing with the new Malayan constitution: *Summary of constitutional proposals for Malaya* (1946); *Summary of revised constitutional proposals* (1947); and the *Statement of policy on the future constitution* (1947). Appearing simultaneously was an important nonofficial monograph which was drafted by the representatives of the Pusat Tenaga Ra'ayat or Putera and the All-Malaya Council of Joint Action and issued as *The people's constitutional proposals for Malaya* (1947). This 57-page treatise presents a summary account of the constitutional and political developments from September 1945 to September 1947 as well as an orderly exposition and analysis of the government's constitutional proposals.

Three publications now in preparation in different government departments carry the titles: *A short history of education policy of the Straits Settlements; Carr Saunders University report*; and *Rubber statistics handbook, 1946*. Chief among the publications issued at the Office of the Director of Public Relations, Mr. McHugh, are: *Semi-monthly digest of English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil newspapers published or circulating in the Malayan Union*. Most of the publications prepared in this office

are issued in four languages: English, Chinese, Malay (Jawi), and Tamil. Other government offices prepare their publications in English only. A monthly publication called *Malayan pictorial observer* is distributed widely for English readers; *Chérmin Melayu* is a Malay paper published fortnightly and distributed mainly in rural areas; *Varthamani* is a fortnightly Tamil paper distributed mainly on rubber estates.

Among the official publications issued in the Colony of Singapore and the Federation of Malaya there are the following gazettes: *Colony of Singapore government gazette*; *Federation of Malaya government gazette*, Kuala Lumpur; *Johore government gazette*, Johore Bahru; *Kedah government gazette*, Alor Star; and *Kelantan government gazette*, *Negri Sembilan government gazette*, *Pahang government gazette*, *Perak government gazette*, *Perlis government gazette*, *Selangor government gazette*, and the *Settlement of Penang government gazette*, all issued at Kuala Lumpur.

Besides books and serials, maps are being issued for the Federation of Malaya by the Surveyor-General, Mr. P. H. Bonnet. All of the printing presses were badly damaged during the war, but there has been a speedy renovation and the department is now turning out excellent maps in four colors. A complete list of the maps which are available may be secured from the Surveyor-General.

Government publications in Singapore may be secured through Mr. George Thomson, the Public Relations Officer, or Mr. Vine of the Government Printing Office. The Government documents published in Kuala Lumpur may be secured through Mr. McHugh, the Director of Public Relations, or Mr. Holland, Superintendent of the Government Printing Office.

*Rubber and Medical Research Institutes.* An important research center in Malaya is The Rubber Research Institute of Malaya, about three miles from Kuala Lumpur. According to Mr. C. E. T. Mann, Director, the institute was established in 1925 to take over the research and technical advisory work on rubber production for the whole of Malaya, which up to that time was performed by the Department of Agriculture of the Straits Settlements, research organizations of the Rubber Growers' Association, and other similar bodies. At the Institute's Experiment Station a corps of experts in botany, chemistry, entomology, and agronomy carry out the purpose of the institute; namely, of performing scientific experiments for the betterment, in the sense of economic advancement, of rubber growing in Malaya. The institute works in collaboration with the research organizations of other rubber-producing countries in the Orient, and in partic-

ular with the Rubber Research Scheme of Ceylon. These two organizations support financially and work in close touch with the London Advisory Committee for Rubber Research and its scientific staff. Foremost among the institutes' publications is the *Journal of the Rubber Research Institute*, which consists of articles in the form of communications, prepared by research officers, which appear at irregular intervals as information accumulates. Some communications are of a general interest to those concerned with the rubber industry, but usually the information is of a more technical character. *Planting manuals*, containing articles of an instructional nature, prepared primarily for use on rubber plantations, are also issued at irregular intervals. A recent *Manual* in its second edition (March, 1947) is *Latex preservation, concentration and shipment* by J. H. Pidford. In some cases *Manuals* are published in the vernacular language, for example, *Bud grafting—practical instructions in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil*. The *R.R.I. planter's bulletin* is a publication containing articles and notes in nontechnical language on matters of current interest and intended principally for the use of planters. The *Annual report of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya* includes valuable summary reports of the work of each division of the institute as well as the reports of the director and the governing board.

Another organization which is carrying on valuable scientific work in Kuala Lumpur is the Institute for Medical Research, of which Dr. R. Lewthwaite is the director. The war hit the institute badly, looting having left the laboratories stripped of modern equipment and the library of many volumes. The institute issues an *Annual report* as well as a *Bulletin* which includes the accounts of actual scientific research on specific subjects in the medical field.

*School publications.* Certain publications issued by schools in Malaya will be of interest to those concerned with education. Although these publications do not intend to be scholarly in their approach, they do contain information regarding various aspects of the Malayan schools: *Up and on*, St. Andrew's School, Singapore; *The Victorian*, Victoria Institution, Kuala Lumpur; *Penang Free School magazine*; *Onward*, Government English School, Kluang, Johore; *The Edwardian*, King Edward VII School, Taiping; *A.C.S. magazine*, Anglo-Chinese School, Singapore; *The voyager*, Anglo-Chinese School, Ipoh; *The mascian*, Anglo-Chinese School, Malacca; *The beacon*, Methodist Girls' School, Kuala Lumpur; *Our argosy*, Anglo-Chinese Girls' School, Ipoh. The *R.C.U. bulletin*, a student union publication, is the only periodical currently issued by Raffles College. According

to Dr. Allen, President of the Raffles College Council and appointed president of the future Raffles University, plans are under way whereby Raffles College and King Edward VII College of Medicine will be merged into a single educational unit to be erected on a new site.

**Bible Society.** According to Mr. Ernest Tipson, Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, all of the publications of the Malayan Branch of the society are being printed in Hongkong rather than Singapore because of the terrific cost of labor in Singapore. In this way a book can be produced for about one-half the price asked in Singapore. Mr. Tipson is compiling a Chinese dictionary based on the *Shuo-wen* dictionary, which appeared about 200 A.D., in which he aims to show the pictorial derivation of Chinese characters. The book will appear in late 1948 or early 1949 with the title: *Etymological and phonetic dictionary, Chinese-English.*

**Bookdealers and publishers.** Among the numerous bookdealers in the Colony of Singapore, Kelly and Walsh and the Malaya Publishing House are the largest. Not only is it possible to purchase here the materials published currently in Singapore and Malaya but also many prewar items. The prices are high but not as exorbitant as in Rangoon or Manila. Within the past two years there have been a number of new publications in Singapore, but not so many as the publishers would have produced had paper been easier to secure and labor costs had not been so high. This was emphasized by Mr. Reed, the managing director of the Malaya Publishing House, who said they had enough books to be printed to keep them busy for the next five years. This firm publishes a large number of the textbooks used in the Malayan schools, many being books issued by the Department of Education. When I was in Kelly and Walsh the manager, Mr. Davis, showed me a whole shelf of books long out of print, which they plan to republish as soon as time permits.

#### EAST INDIES

**Official publications — Republican.** Through the courtesy of the Good Offices Committee of the United Nations, permission was granted to go to Jogjakarta, the Republican capital, in the plane which the committee operated between Batavia and Jogjakarta. Chief among those who aided me was Mr. Natsir, the minister of information for the Republican government, who showed me the publications issued by the Ministry of Information. The material was published largely in English, nothing in Dutch. Among these publications the following titles appear: *Political manifesto of the government of the Republic of Indonesia; Constitution of the*

*Indonesian Republic; The freedom of Indonesia; Aims in the Pacific; Minorities in the Republic of Indonesia; Radio speech of Vice President Hatta, 21 February 1948; Do know more about Indonesia; Two tasks of Allied forces in Indonesia fulfilled; and Massacre at Macasser.* A rather unique acquisition was not a printed document but an album containing the original drawings in colors from which the Republican propaganda posters were designed. Being the only copy and never having been published, this album becomes all the more important to the Library of Congress. Later Mr. Natsir sent from Jogjakarta the large posters made from these miniature designs. The slogan of the Poster Division in the ministry was "We struggle with posters." No plans were made for official exchange with the Republican government since the United States had not recognized that government. Under existing conditions it has been rather difficult to secure publications from Jogjakarta on an orderly basis.

*Official publications — Dutch.* Since there was no centralized printing office in Batavia, arrangements were made with the top officials of RVD, Regeerings Voorlichtings Dienst (Government Information Services), located on Koningsplein West, whereby an exchange of official publications might be established on an informal basis. Mr. Seret, Chief of the Documents Division of the service, furnished all available publications which they have issued since the war. Included in these materials are: *The Indonesian problem, facts and factors*, with chapters entitled "General delineation of the Republic Indonesia," "Netherlands policy," "Talks with the Republic up to the signing of Linggadjati," "The agreement of Linggadjati," "The Republic in practice," "The period after March 25, 1947, cease hostilities," and about 60 pages of photographs; *From empire to union, an introduction to the history of the Netherlands-Indonesian relations; What's it about in Indonesia; 100 pages Indonesian economics; Denpasar: bouwt een huis; Indonesia in het Parlement Mei 1946; Commissarissen-General over de ontwerp-overeenkomst; De conferentie te Denpasar 7-24 December 1946 (2 vols.); Naar de nieuwe rechtsorde in Indonesia, bouwstoffen voor de federatie (2 vols.); Politieke groesperingin in Indonesia, een overzicht van de in de laatste tijd op de voorgrond tredende politieke organisaties; and Maandbericht van den in-en uitvoer van Indonesia.* Besides these, copies of the proceedings of all the Dutch-Indonesian conferences at Denpasar, Pangkalpinang, and Malino were secured. All of the above publications were published in either 1947 or 1948.

*Commercial publishing.* The bookstores in the Indies were packed with



books on every subject dealing with the Indies which were published prior to the war. Many works of Stutterheim, Pigeaud, van der Hoop, Ochse, and other authorities were readily available. Almost all of the postwar publications dealing with politics and economics have been issued by the Dutch and Republican governments and have been cited above. The large book-dealers in Batavia include Wolters, van Dorp, Visser, and Kolff. The latter firm, located on Nordwijk, will serve as the purchasing agent for the library. Kolff and Company besides having an excellent bookstore, also operates one of the largest printing and publishing establishments in the Far East. The general director, Mr. E. J. Terwey, related that they print all the government paper money, postage and revenue stamps, post cards and air letter forms, and all stationery supplies, as well as large proportion of the government publications. The reason that government printing is done by a commercial firm on a concession basis is that the Japanese all but completely ruined the government printing establishment.

*Serials.* The *Antara news bulletin* issued in Jogjakarta by the Republicans and the *Aneta news bulletin*, a Dutch publication issued in Batavia, are daily news sheets which provide valuable data concerning current events in Indonesia. *Sari pers* (Press summary) is also issued in Batavia by the Indonesian Information Service. Among the many serial publications issued, the following are worthy of note: *The economic review of Indonesia*, a monthly issued by the government Department van Economische Zaken; *Bulletin of bureau of mines and geological survey in Indonesia*, issued in Bandung (vol. 1, no. 1, March 1947), replacing the *Volcanological bulletin* and the *Kwartaalverslagen* which were formerly published as a supplement of the *Javasche courant*; *Bulletin koninklijk Bataviaasch genootschap van kunsten en wetenschappen*, the official journal of the Batavia Society of which Mr. van der Hoop is the director; *Mimbar Indonesia*, a monthly issued by the Indonesians in Malay; *Het dagblad* and *Nieuwsgier*, two dailies in Batavia; and *Our World*, a new monthly publication appearing in the spring of 1948.

*The General Agricultural Experiment Station* at Buitenzorg has close affiliation with the following government-operated institutes or research bodies: Institute of Applied Botany, Institute of Soil Research, Institute of Plant Diseases, Botanical Institute, Agricultural Institute, and the Laboratory for Freshwater Fisheries — all of which contribute scientific papers to the various publications issued by the GAES. Dr. C. van der Giessen, Head of the Station and Mr. A. van Leer, Librarian of the Central Library of Natural Science, made available these publications

issued by GAES: *Bulletin of the botanic gardens, series III* (formerly *Bulletin du jardin botanique de Buitenzorg*; *Treubia, mededeelingen van het algemeen proefstation voor de landbouw*, and the *Annals of the botanic gardens, Buitenzorg*. While at the printing establishment where a number of government publications are printed in Buitenzorg, it was learned that the following publications were to appear in 1948 or early 1949: *Archief voor de thee culture in Nederlandsch Indie*; *Tectona, boschbouwkundig tijdschrift*, and *Chronica naturae*. Another important document for those interested in scientific work in the East Indies is *Werkprogramma van het algemeen proefstation voor de landbouw 1948*, issued by the Department van Economische Zaken. It presents an account of the enormous number of experiments and projects being carried on throughout the laboratories and institutes in the department.

#### FRENCH INDOCHINA

Civil conditions in Indochina were probably the worst of any country I visited during the trip. The Vietnamese and the French were still carrying on actual military action; no settlement seemed to be near at hand, and the Communist elements were making the most of the situation. While landing at the Saigon airport, one could hear the shooting in the distance. Although conditions did not make it possible to secure publications from the Vietnamese in Vietnam, some worthwhile publications were available in Saigon and Hanoi.

*Official publications.* The number of official documents now being issued in Indochina are few indeed. An exchange agreement was made, however, on an informal basis so that the library will receive the publications which are issued by the French authorities. The Bureau de la Presse et de l'Information, of which M. de la Fourniere is the director, furnished the following current publications: *Journal officiel de l'Indochine*; *Journal officiel de la République de Cochinchine*; *Journal officiel du Royaume du Cambodge*; *Bulletin administratif de Cambodge*; *Bulletin officiel du commissariat de la République pour le Sud-Annam*; *Bulletin officiel du Laos*; *Chroniques d'Indochine: revue de la presse Vietnamiennne et Chinoise*; *Bulletin hebdomadaire de presses économique*; *Bulletin économique de l'Indochine*; *La conférence de Dalat*; and *Situation en Indochine*.

*Commercial press.* The relatively few new books issued in Indochina in the past few years were readily secured at A. Portail and Company, on Rue Catinat in Saigon, and at Imprimerie d'Extrême-Orient in Hanoi.

Among the books purchased the following are important: *Etude sur la littérature Annamite* by Georges Cordier (1940); *Viet Nam van hoa: su-cuong, esquisse d'histoire de la civilisation Annamite* by Dao duy Arh (1938); *La probleme Franco-Vietnamien* by Nguyen khac Ve (1947); *Accords économiques Franco-Japonais relatifs l'Indochine* (1941); *Tam tam sur le Mekong avec les guerillas Laotiennes* by J. M. Dischamps (1948); *Viet Nam kink-te louc khao* (Economics of Viet Nam) by Truc Chi (1947); and *Histoire des pays de l'Union Indochinoise* by Nguyen van Que (1933). When in Hanoi, M. Leboff, the general manager of Imprimerie d'Extrême-Orient, related that the entire printing establishment, which used to be near Lac de Truc-Bach, was destroyed in December 1946 together with all machinery and other equipment. The present plan is to have a complete new printing and publishing establishment in Saigon.

**Serials.** The following serials of a scholarly nature are available at various cultural institutions within the country: *Bulletin Société des Etudes Indochinoises* (Saigon); *Bulletin de l'Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient* (Hanoi), and the *Bulletin l'Institut Indochinois pour l'Etude de l'Homme* (Hanoi), the latter two being publications of Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient, of which Mr. Paul Levy is the director. Dr. Huard, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Indochine at Hanoi, furnished a good number of studies which have been issued in the field of medicine during and since the war. These include *Raciologie de l'Indochine Française* by P. Huard (1947); *Bibliographie botanique de l'Indochine Française* by A. Petelot (1944); and *Bibliographie analytique des travaux scientifiques en Indochine* by B. Noyer (1943). Through M. Maurice Bayen, Rector of the University of Indochina at Saigon, the library now receives *Education*, a monthly issued by the Department of Education. The law journal now being issued by the Faculty of Law of the university is the *Journal judiciaire de l'Indochine*, a monthly. One of the best postwar journals issued commercially is *France Asie*, which is edited and published by the enterprising and literary M. René de Berval. By means of this publication one will be able to keep abreast of the cultural institutions and literary writers in Indochina. Among the newspapers published in Saigon these three are of importance: *Journal de Saigon*, *Le populaire*, and *L'Echo du Viet Nam*.

**Cultural institutions.** For many years Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient (Hanoi) has been an important agency in the fields of archeology, ethnology, ancient history, and allied subjects dealing primarily with Indochina. One of the most important functions of this cultural center is the publish-

ing of scholarly studies and other valuable documents in special fields of research. Besides the *Bulletins* (*BEFEO* and *BIIEH*, already noted) there are the "Publication series" which are more extensive than the papers which appear in the *Bulletins*. The Japanese policy in regard to the EFEO library as well as other centers was one of protection rather than destruction. Within the library is a notable collection of Oriental manuscripts in Cambodian, Laotian, Burmese, Siamese, and Chinese. Up until early 1948 it was impossible to procure DDT with which to combat effectively the ever-present insect danger in the tropics. All books in the library are now dusted methodically with DDT. During the Viet Nam conflict in late 1945 and early 1946, the school lost a great deal of its photographic equipment, most of which was looted. Both Mr. Levy of Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient and Mr. Paul Boudet, Directeur des Archives et des Bibliothèques de L'Indochine, are making plans for establishing a photo-duplication service at their respective institutions.

#### PHILIPPINES

*New books.* As a marked contrast to Indochina there are many books and serials being published currently in the Philippines. Among the books available at the Advocate Book Supply Company, Azcarraga Street, Manila, of which Mr. Pedro Ayuda is the manager, the following were obtained for the Law Library and general collections: *Criminal law, revised penal code* annotated by Abrosio Padilla (1947); *The Philippine educational system, its foundation and practice* by Antonio Isidro (1947); *The government of the Republic of the Philippines: origin, development, organization and functions* by Arturo Tolentino (1946); *Report on communism in the Philippines* by Maximo Giron (1946); *1948 commercial and trade directory of the Philippines* (1948); *The reconstruction of lost and destroyed documents and records* by Salvador DeTagle (1945); *Political and social history of the Philippines* by Gregoria Zaide (1947); *An outline of Philippine social life and progress* by Francisco Pacis (1946); and *Commentaries and jurisprudence on the commercial laws of the Philippines*, 4th ed. by Arturo Tolentino (1947).

Economically the municipality of Manila has made great strides. Through the armed forces of the United States millions of pesos have been spent in the program of reconstruction, and thousand of Filipinos have been employed for building or repairing roads, bridges, and buildings. The most important publication relating to the economic life of the nation and the period of reconstruction is the Beyster report. This report, entitled

*Proposed program for industrial rehabilitation and development of the Republic of the Philippines*, was prepared by the Technical Staff of the National Development Company under the supervision of the H. E. Beyster Corporation of Detroit, Michigan, and was issued in Manila in October 1947. It was a study made as a part of the progressive program of reconstruction initiated by the late President Roxas.

*Philippine saga: a pictorial history of the archipelago since time began* by Professor H. Otley Beyer (Manila, 1947), is one of the most interesting books secured in the Philippines. The author is a professor at the University of the Philippines and is the outstanding anthropologist in the Islands.

Although there were not an enormous number of publications in the Tagalog language, all the important material issued in Manila was secured. There are two main sources of Tagalog books: the University of Santo Tomas Press and certain bookstores which handle primarily books in this language. One publication which will be of value to language students interested in Tagalog is *The propagation of the Filipino language*, which was issued in Manila by the Institute of National Language in 1944.

*Newspapers and serials.* The printing presses within Manila and the provinces are prolific in producing newspapers and periodicals in English, Tagalog, and other languages of the Islands. From a list of more than 225 serials which has been compiled the following are worthy of notation here: newspapers — *Manila chronicle, Manila daily bulletin, Manila times, Bagong buhay, Bisaya, Fookien times, Bicol independent*, and the *Pioneer press*; periodicals — *American chamber of commerce journal, Philippine educator, Philippine outlook, Business digest and buyers guide, Commerce, Philippine medical world, Lawyers journal, Philippine law journal* (University of the Philippines), and *Unitas* (University of Santo Tomas).

*Official publications.* As in the case of Burma, an international exchange of official publications between the governments of the Republic of the Philippines and the United States was established by a formal treaty. All plans were made for this in April with the head of the bureau of Libraries and the Foreign Office, and the treaty came into effect in June 1948. Unfortunately the Government Printing Office has suffered severely from two fires, thus making it impossible to fulfill the publication obligations to the various government departments.

*Japanese publications.* As in Singapore, circumstances proved favorable in Manila for the acquisition of both serials and books which were published by the Japanese during their occupation. A few Japanese publications having specific connection with the Philippines were provided by

Professor Beyer from the anthropology collection at the University of the Philippines. Among these was a study in a series of monographs submitted to the Research Commission on the Philippines under the Administration of Commanding General Tanaka entitled *A historical survey of policies pursued by Spain and the United States toward the Moros in the Philippines* (1943) prepared by Teopista Guingona. A study prepared by Dr. Beyer at the request of the Japanese officials was *Christian population of the Philippines in 1942*, published in Japanese in seven parts in two editions (1942, 1943). A third book was the *Addresses before the assembly of greater east Asiatic nations*, consisting of the speeches of U Ba Maw, Laurel, and other political leaders in Southeast Asia, delivered at Tokyo in November 1943.

*The Tribune*, which was issued in Manila in English by the Japanese from Jan. 3, 1942, to Feb. 3, 1945, is a mine of information for historians who are interested in the period of the Japanese occupation of the Philippines. As a continuation of *The Tribune*, the *Free Philippines*, Manila edition, provides information regarding the liberation of Manila since it was issued after the Americans returned. A third newspaper issued by the Japanese at Tacloban on the Island of Leyte is entitled the *Leyte shimbun*. The *Philippine review*, a monthly issued in Manila during the Japanese regime, carries cultural information concerning the Philippines as well as considerable war propaganda. *The Official journal of the Japanese military administration* is a bilingual publication in English and Japanese issued in 13 volumes from March 1942 to July 1943; it provides the official directives, proclamations, speeches, and messages of the Japanese. Complete files of these Japanese-issued newspapers and periodicals are in the Library of Congress.

*Filipiniana*. One of the most valuable collections of Filipiniana is located at the Museum and Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology in the University of the Philippines. Although larger before the war, it is now reported to contain 5,000 volumes, 15,000 pamphlets, 3,500 prints, and 5,000 manuscripts. Two outstanding collections in this material are (1) the unpublished typewritten manuscripts dealing with the ethnology of the Philippines and popularly known as the Beyer collection; and (2) the Japanese material published in the Philippines during the war. Fortunately the majority of the manuscripts were preserved, since Professor Beyer was granted special permission through the influence of a Japanese scientist friend to move the materials from the university campus to the museum and institute building on Aviles Street, in which they are now housed.

**The large collection of Japanese material came about because after the liberation the government put Professor Beyer in charge of salvaging the Japanese publications, which were stored largely in one building. Since the war there has been neither time nor sufficient staff to place the books on the shelves in their proper order; also, no record has been prepared as to what titles exist in the collection. Herein lies one of the chief reasons why such valuable documents should be filmed.**

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.