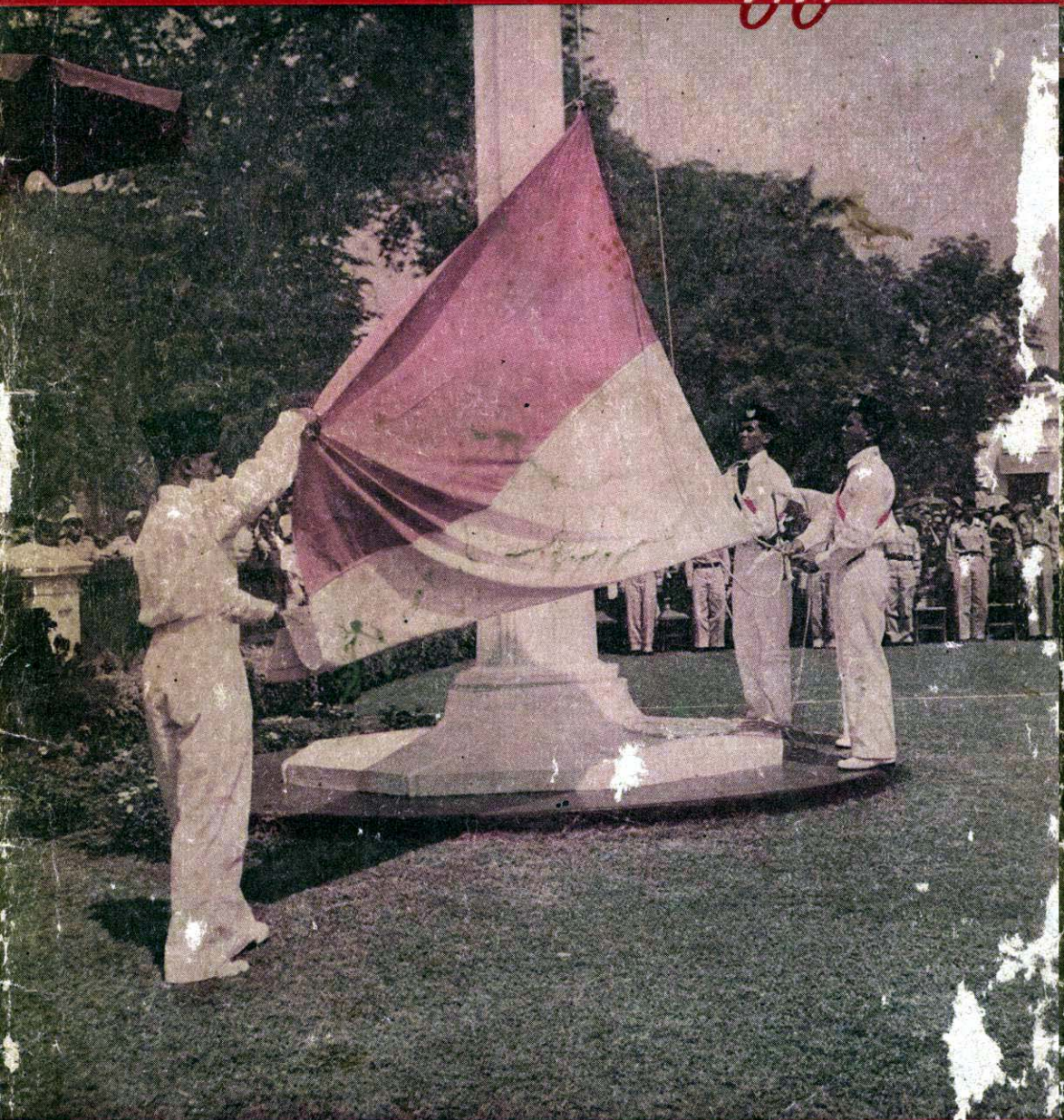


Indonesian Affairs



© R. Marnette

ISSUED BY THE



VOLUME III No. 3 — AUGUST 1953



INDONESIAN AFFAIRS

A Monthly on Indonesia and its World Relations



CONTENTS

	Page :
The eighth year of Independence	3
After one "windu"	5
Our National Anthem	33
Picture Pages	41
Government Statement	45
The charm of an East Java village	65
Impressions on the Indo minority problem	71
Spotlight on Kalimantan	73
An impression of beauty	77
Nutrition and malnutrition problems	79
Press comments	82

This magazine is published by the Ministry of Information
Editor: Arif Effendi

Editorial address:
9 Medan Merdeka Barat, Djakarta, Indonesia
Telephone G 820 extension 12

Any material contained in "Indonesian Affairs" may be freely
reproduced, provided only that the source is acknowledged.

FRONT COVER

*The Bendera Pusaka — Inherited Flag
— about to be hoisted in front of the
Palace on Independence Day.*

INSIDE FRONT COVER

*Visitors to the Independence Memorial
on the eighth anniversary of inde-
pendence.*

PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE



WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDONESIA, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE
INDEPENDENCE OF INDONESIA. PROCEDURES PERTAINING
TO THE TRANSFER OF POWER AND OTHER SUCH MATTERS
WILL BE UNDERTAKEN EFFICIENTLY AT THE SHORTEST
POSSIBLE TIME.

DJAKARTA, AUGUST 17, 1945

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF INDONESIA

SUKARNO — HATTA

pech. geygand undruetlyg.

THE EIGHTH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE

gelygand *guyphangkellyhhead.*

Eight years ago the proclamation of Indonesian independence signalled the beginning of a new era for our nation and our people. On August 17, 1945 the Indonesian nation came to life again, after 350 years of outside rule. We fought for our freedom, and won it. But this victory was not, of course, an end. It was the opportunity to begin the tremendous task of building a new national community out of our smashed cities and ravaged countryside.

We were then, as now, potentially rich—after the United States and the Soviet Union, the world's third richest country in natural resources. Our resources, however, were still in the ground. Our earth had been scorched. Many of our factories were destroyed, and thousands of our people sick, wounded, and hungry. Further, we had to overcome the handicap of a colonial-type agricultural economy that did not allow us to produce more than a small percentage of the goods we needed. The most forbidding handicap of all was shortage of trained personnel. It should be remembered that when the Republic of Indonesia came into being only seven per cent of our people could read and write.

That was our situation. Today, looking back across eight years, Indonesians may ask themselves. "Have we measured up to our task? Have we made freedom mean something, in terms of progress and a better life for our people?"

The answer is certainly yes. This may be said, even with full realization that we have made mistakes, and will undoubtedly make more mistakes before we build ourselves into one of the world's great nations. Yet consider what a long distance we have come since the spectacular days of 1945. Consider, for example, that in this month of this year more than 40 per cent of the Indonesian people can read and write. Let us regard with pride the numerous factories we have repaired and built, the roads and rail lines that have been laid down, and our growing air and merchant fleets, the hundreds of new schools and hospitals we have created where there were none before.

We may also be proud of Indonesia's record in foreign relations. We count our Republic the friend of all countries and the foe of none. It is not too much to say that our diplomats have worked most effectively for peace in and out of the United Nations.

The world knows we are devoted to the cause of peace. We join others in thanking God that the tragic Korean conflict has been brought to a halt.

In this coming year, Indonesians look forward to these things:

1. Peace in the world.
2. The first national elections in our history.
3. Trade with all nations on a basis of mutual benefit.
4. Greatly increased production at home, so that our people may have more of the world's goods.

The Indonesian Government and people look forward to continued friendly relations with the governments and peoples of all the world.

Ali Sastroamidjojo

Prime Minister, Republic of Indonesia
(Former Ambassador to the U. S. A.)

**What have we achieved
and
What tasks lie ahead of us?**



As was the case every year since 1945 the eighth anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence was again celebrated by the entire Indonesian people on August 17, 1953. In every city, town and village a committee had been set up to conduct the celebrations. In the capital an immense crowd thronged the street and open space in front of the State Palace to watch the ceremonies and the subsequent military parade. On this occasion the President as head of the nation delivered a speech, which was preceded by that of the Chairman of Parliament. The day previously the President had visited the Parliament, where he had also given an address. We print the latter one in this issue, as it can give us an idea of what the young Republic has achieved — or not yet achieved — during all these last years, and what tasks lie ahead of the Indonesian people.

We invite our readers to read it on the following pages to see for themselves how far the Indonesians have succeeded to give content to their independence.

AFTER ONE "WINDU"

Speech of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, delivered before the plenary meeting of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia on 16th August 1953, to commemorate the eighth anniversary of the Independence Proclamation.



Honourable Chairman of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia.

Tomorrow, the 17th August, 1953, the Indonesian Nation will commemorate the first "windu" (eight years) of their independence.

As we are wont to do on every anniversary of Indonesia's Independence Proclamation, we will pause on the results achieved in the year past.

In connection herewith, I would like to invite you to take stock of the state of affairs in the period between 17th August, 1952 and 17 August, 1953 — of those relating to home affairs as well as those bearing upon our foreign relations.

HOME AFFAIRS.

1. Security.

Mr. Chairman,

The question of internal security has constituted a most important problem ever since restoration of Indonesia's sovereignty.

Practically every Cabinet has included the security problem into its program.

The Government has successively instituted a Security Staff and a Security Council, while the House of Representatives and the Home Affairs, Defence and Security/Justice, Sections of this House have incessantly devoted themselves to the security problem.

To carry out their programs, the successive Governments mobilized the instruments of power of the State by launching drives and operations against the nest of disturbers of security, while at the same time they also embarked upon so-called political operations.

However, in spite of the many exertions, it cannot be said that completely satisfactory results have been achieved as yet.

Disturbances of security have gained in strength and ferocity of late.

They even ask for our more special and deeper attention, this to be attended with measures of which all strata of our society must be able to feel their impact more deeply.



President Soekarno at a reception accepts congratulations from foreign representatives, and others on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the Indonesian Republic.

All these ferocious attacks, terrorism in the form of abduction and murders, the plundering and burning down of people's property, up to the derailment of trains and the holdup of cars, in no small measure inflict losses of human lives and property. This cannot be allowed to go on forever.

The objects that the various disturbers of security have in view differ one from the other. It goes without saying that greater attention will be paid to those who have political designs in mind than to those whose activities are merely criminal.

By those who have political designs in mind, I mean the people who try to form a State within the Republic of Indonesia, and particularly the Kartosuwirjo movement, known as the Darul Islam.

This movement, having its headquarters in West Java, has tried to extend its sphere of influence and power. It is known to operate in the western part of Mid Java. Beside this, it has been noticed to make attempts to infiltrate into East Java, North Sumatra, South Sumatra and into Kalimantan and to maintain relations with the Kahar Muzakar band in Sulawesi.

Apart from this, other disturbances of security that are political in nature are also to be found; these are among others gangs operated by the Bambu Runtjing gang in West Java, and by the gangs operating in the Merapi-Merbabu area in Mid Java.

By gangs whose activities are of a criminal nature, I mean those disturbers of security whose aims and whose features are not political, who perpetrate their crimes because they have been disappointed in their lives, and for other such-like reasons.

In facing these disturbers of security, one thing is gladdening to the Government of late, that is, the attitude of the People.

People, formerly apathetic, begins to grow aware; the design of the peace-breaking elements, aiming at disturbing the security of the People, have only revived the consciousness and initiative of the People.

In consequence there is a flux of manifestations taking the form of demonstrations or resolutions adopted by meetings, and all of them wishing that the Government act more promptly in stamping out the disturbers of the security of State and People. The People have also stated their readiness to back up the Government in this undertaking.

The oneness of will and determination on the part of Government and People stated above, demonstrates that the time is ripe to issue an order to all instruments of power of the State to carry out a cleaning-up action against the enemies of the State such as the Kartosuwirjo movement (called the Darul Islam), and against the other armed organizations as the "Bambu Runtjing" and the like.

2. Organization of the State.

Mr. Chairman,

In their effort to improve the organization of the State, the Government and the House of Representatives have jointly made a superb achievement: the Act for the Election of Members of the Constituent Assembly has been completed and has come into effect as from 7th April, 1953.

As a State based on democracy, Indonesia now has an Act outlining the procedure for electing the representatives of the People who are to be assigned to draw up the Constitution and other Acts, and who are to determine the policy of State and the Government.

Since the promulgation of the Elections Act, the Government has been started to make preparations and to embark on comprehensive and time-devouring operations.

Every Government Regulation for the execution of the General Elections Act must be brought into harmony with conditions in our State, with the stage of development of our People with the structure of the areas in our State, with our financial position, with our means of communication, with our knowledge — in short, every factor which may give rise to difficulties in the execution of the general elections must be taken into account, the more so as this will be the first time that general elections are held in our State.

Regulations and directions must be drawn up in such a way as to make it practicable for the entire Indonesian archipelago as well as for abroad; for that part of the People who are on a higher level of education as well as for the entire part of the people who are entitled to a vote.

It is quite understandable that — in a State which has just been freed from the shackles of colonialism, which has just emerged from the revolutionary current, which still suffers from various disturbances, where the territory is made up of islands big and small, where the inhabitants are made up of various races each having their own customs and characteristics, and where the subdivision of the territory into areas is not yet as it should be — it will not be easy to find a system for carrying out general elections which is not only practicable but which also meet the requirements of democracy.

Our aim, that is, to have a State based on democracy, has strengthened our will to face all difficulties depicted above, however.

Everything at our disposal must be mobilized to arrive at that aim — not only the instruments of the State, but private support so that the general elections may be realized in the shortest possible time.

And, finally, I call upon the Political Parties and the other Popular Organizations to give their greatest possible assistance to the Government bodies — beside carrying out their legal elections campaign — so that every preparation and operation relating to the general elections may be carried into effect smoothly.

In the year past, the Government continued its undertaking to develop decentralization and regional autonomy as laid down in our Constitution.

In this connection I would like to recall the work of a Government Committee under Mr. Nasrun which has succeeded in drafting a bill on the financial relation between the State and the Autonomous Regions.

Besides, I would like to recall the work of another Government Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Wongsonegoro, which was assigned to study the obligations and powers of the Civil Service in general, and of the Residents in particular.

The extent of the work did not enable these two Committees to complete their respective assignments within the expected space of time.

Even so, this does not mean that, in view of conditions, the Government did not incidentally delegate some obligations and powers — up to now exercise by the Civil Service of any other body of the Central Government — to the Autonomous Regions.

Speaking of the organization of the regional administrations, I would like to say a few words to the Civil Service, in particular to the Regional Heads, Governors, Residents, "Bupatis", "Wedanas", and "Tjamats" (respectively Heads of Regencies, Districts and Sub-Districts), who represent the Central Government in their respective areas and who execute the obligations, power and assignments still falling under the competency of the Central Government in their respective regions.

I am in a position to state that the afore-meant functionaries have generally been able to adjust themselves to their new assignments in doing their day-to-day work in the course of the first eight years of our independence, and have always observed the democratic principles, so that, even though sometimes they had to carry into effect regulations originating from the colonial period, they executed them by way of consultation whenever possible, this in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution and the ideals of our Nation.

In general, they have steadfastly faced these eight years of struggle and reconstruction — full as they were of physical and moral privations and tribulations — and they are ready to face the time to come, which will bring along arduous work such as the general elections, with their traditional guiding principle: to serve the People.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express, from this place, my esteem toward the Civil Service, one of the main pillars of our Unitary State, for their deserts in the first eight years that have passed, and for their readiness in times to come.

Mr. Chairman,

Pending the Act regulating the position "Swapradjas" (Principalities) under Article 132 of the Constitution, the Government policy toward these territories will not differ this year from the years past.

This policy will be brought in keeping with the changing conditions, while observing the current legislation.

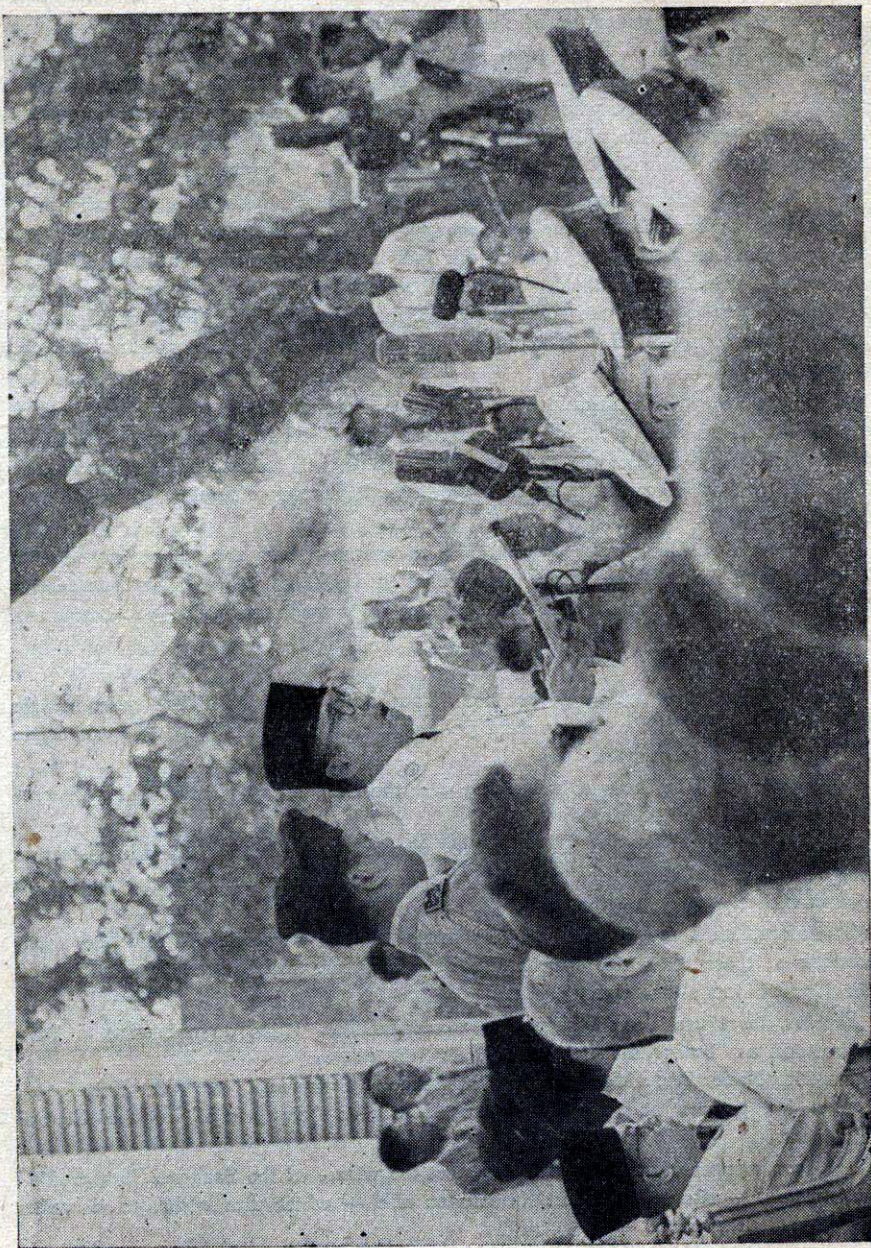
It may gratefully be stated here that they who are at the head of the administration in the "Swapradjas" have realized that one-man administrations are no longer in harmony with the spirit of the time.

Therefore, steps are gradually being taken in the "Swapradjas" that the administrations of these territories may arrive at a structure as required by Article 132 of the Constitution ultimately.

Besides, there are also "Swapradja" administrations which do not want to have their position as "Swapradjas" preserved.

On 21st November, 1952, the Head of Sekadu "Swapradja" in West Kalimantan delegated his powers and the administration of his "Swapradja" to the Central Government.

Now arrangements are being made to meet the wishes of the Sanggau "Swapradja" administration, — situated in West Kalimantan also — which also wishes to waive its rights on said Swapradja.



10

speech is silver - woord is goud.
 speech is silver, silence is golden - praten
 is silber - swygen is goud.

"Be the vehicle of History". The President's speech on Independence Day
 onafhankelykheid;
 vehicle - draager - gelyden

The status of officials in "Swapradjas" where the administration is running no longer, and who have not been appointed Government officials as yet, receives the fullest attention of the Government.

They are given relief in the form of subsidies, or pensions where pensions regulations exist and when they are pensionable.

The income of the "Swapradja" Heads and of members of the "Swapradja" administrations, — formerly among other things consisting of levies under "Adat" (customary) laws — is now being examined by the Government.

Mr. Chairman,

In trying to democratize the regional administrations, the Government's attention is turned towards the lowest level of regional administration, i.e. the administration of "desas", of "margas", "negeris" "kampung", etc., which constitute the lowest social units that are spread throughout Indonesia.

These regional administrations-on-the-lowest-level have good records; they have deserved well during the National Revolution. It is to be hoped that they will also deserve well in the coming reconstruction period.

In every field of civil administration — in preserving security, in the fields of food production, social affairs and education — their contribution towards the State has been of inestimable value.

In terms of money, their merits will amount to million, milliards of rupiahs.

In their joint efforts, the population have shown self-activity in every field relating to the interest of the regional units — without converting their contribution in terms of money, without indulging in theoretical problems, and by basing everything they did on their own capacity and capability.

In view of these facts, the Government is most careful in bringing about far-reaching changes in the administrative structure of the "desas" or similar regions.

The structure of the administration must be kept in harmony with the local customary laws.

Likewise, the tasks of the functionaries must be brought into line with the conditions as made by the populations according to their respective customs.

Therefore, every alteration in the administration of these lowest regional units must be canalized so as to be in concord and in harmony with the development of "adat" (customary law).

In some regions, administrative structures based on collegueship and assisted by a people's representative council are to be found.

In other areas, especially in the interior of Kalimantan and Sulawesi, the heads of the "sukus" (tribes) are still at the head of affairs as individuals.

In the present transition period, where the financial position of the State looks gloomy, when we are very short of expert personnel, the Government deems it necessary to act very cautiously in its undertaking to establish a modern administrative structure at short notice for the lowest regional units mentioned above.

Even so, the Government has endeavoured — with the manpower and the money at its disposal — to stabilize and consolidate the administrations of "desas" and

The measures that necessarily must be, and have been, taken in the latter part of 1952 to control the development of the foreign exchange position, took effect towards the end of August 1952, and mainly concerned the grouping of import commodities into the a, b, c, and d lists.

In view of the large amount of money circulating, contraction was deemed most urgent; to this end, the regulation concerning 40% prepayment for imports was promulgated, this percentage to be increased 75% by the end of March 1953.

Viewed from the angle of cash basis, the position of the balance of payments and the development of foreign exchange position were generally below the fixed limits until the end of May 1953.

The amount of monetary reserves, i.e. gold and foreign currency, could be kept on a constant level during the first five months of 1953.

The balance of payments, the maximum deficitary limits of which could be assessed at about 500 million rupiahs for the period of January-May 1953, proved to have evolved below the level of said danger limit.

As the above figures rest on cash basis, the forward position including various commitments regarding the payment of foreign currency has not yet been taken into account.

As our forward position does not give us a satisfying picture, and as it carries pressures on the balance of payments, rigorous and strict control on the position of the balance of payments and the foreign exchange development is still required for the near future.

The contraction of money through import regulations, by way of inducement certificates and 75% prepayments, has yielded satisfactory results up to now.

However, we know by experience that the effect of said regulations will fall off in the months to come, so that we must always be on our alert in the near future.

Mr. Chairman,

In the 1952 Budget, the deficit is estimated at 4,328 million rupiahs.

Preliminary examinations in this respect have shown that the deficit amounts to 4,305 million rupiahs, that is, a little less than the original estimate.

The State expenditures rose, especially in the months of November and December 1952, so that it brought along inflationary pressures in the first quarter of 1953.

In the 1953 Budget, the deficit is fixed at a maximum of 1,800 million rupiahs.

As up to now the Ministries lay stress on expenditures which still constitute "transfers" from the 1952 Budget, the last quarter of this year, in other words, the pressure of State expenditures and the relevant inflationary pressure, may be expected to be felt mainly in the latter half of this year.

In connection herewith, strict control on State expenditures is imperative.

Mr. Chairman,

In reference hereto, I may well touch upon the question of legislation in the financial field.

To regulate monetary affairs in the past year, Acts were promulgated, including the Main Act on the State Bank, the Emergency Acts on the fixation of the value of the Bank of Issue reserves in gold and ingots, on the prohibition of the use and

circulation of the silver coins issued under the "Indische Muntwet (Coinage Act for the Netherlands Indies) 1912", and also a Government Regulation on the issue of cashnotes.

In the fiscal field, the Act and Regulations promulgated included those on the reduction of the rate of the transitional income and property taxes, on the increase of the inhabited house tax in view of use of de-luxe motorcars, on the company tax, and on duties and excises.

However, Mr. Chairman, the financial problem of our State cannot be solved by monetary, budgetary and fiscal policies alone as in essence these things only serve to "guard the flanks".

The basic solution lies in the field of **production** — the production of exports as well as home manufactures.

The necessity to step up production and export still constitutes a basic principle. In this connection it may be stated that the overall production has increased a little, though not yet satisfying, especially in areas where security can be guaranteed and where transportation does not meet with great difficulties.

The production of rubber, bauxite and copra falls off with rather rapid strides; a rather significant increase in production is to be found in the fields of tin, petroleum, rice, coal and coconut oil.

As to the price-level it may be stated that, according to index-figures, retail prices of foodstuffs dropped in the principal towns, except Palembang and Ternate, during 1952.

The index-number for the cost of living only increased from 137 to 141 in 1952.

The rise in prices during 1952 primarily applied to semi-luxe and de-luxe goods.

Mr. Chairman,

Let us now have a further look at the economic questions. In this respect, the **rice** question is the most important.

To meet the needs of rice, it was planned in 1952 to import 600,000 tons of foreign rice, and to buy 430,000 tons from the home supply; all this was to be controlled by the "Jajasan Urusan Bahan Makanan" (Food Foundation).

The purchase of rice at home was done by the Civil Service with the assistance of private organizations, while the hulling of rice was entrusted, by contract, to rice-hulling works which were paid for this.

In addition to selling rice to the Army, Police, the population of food-deficient areas, the Foundation also sells rice freely — the so-called "rice injections" — below market price.

These rice "injections" have caused the rice-price to drop: in Djakarta, for instance, the price of a quintal of hand-hulled rice has fallen from 270 rupiahs to 180 rupiahs, and of machine-hulled rice from 345 rupiahs to 240 rupiahs.

As the Food Foundation sells the injected rice below cost-price, the Government earmarked 100 million rupiahs to absorb all risk that might crop up in 1952; 86 million of this fund have been used.

The above system has enabled the Government to stabilize prices.

Private enterprises which are prohibited to buy rice direct either hulled or unhulled, are supplied by the Food Foundation at the current or cost-price.

The volume of rice which the Government must be able to control in 1953 to preserve price stabilization, should at the least be the same as the 1952 quantity.

In connection with the foreign exchange position and with the probability of larger agricultural output, rice import in 1953 are planned at 40,000 tons, and rice purchases at home at 400,000 tons. All this will come under the control of the Food Foundation.

In addition to this, the Government has earmarked funds for the purchase of 60,000 tons of unhulled rice — the equivalent of 30,000 tons of hulled rice — this money to be controlled by the Regional Heads in behalf of the population in their respective regions.

The purchase of rice at home has proceeded smoothly; up to the beginning of this month, more than 85% of the purchases planned have been concluded.

In view of the smoothness in which the purchases at home could be struck, and in view of the position of the rice supply both originating from abroad and from home, there is no reason for any anxiety towards the future, even if the imports — planned at 400,000 tons — should be reduced to 300,000 tons.

The sale of rice to the Armed Forces, Police, the populations of food-deficient areas, and the like, and also the injection of rice into the markets, will be continued in 1953.

To cover losses in 1953, the Government has earmarked a fund of 150 million rupiahs to insure against all risks.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government has furthermore provided for the following in the economic field.

To raise the know-how of officials, Service courses were held: Last year, 96 officials qualified for the Co-operatives Service, and 39 officials for the General Economy Service.

Beside this, 11 Co-operatives officials were sent abroad to augment their knowledge; 14 other officials are ready to follow them.

Courses on co-operatives are given at the Agricultural Faculty of Bogor and the Economic Faculty of Djakarta since the school-year 1952/1953.

The training of villagers to be the nucleus of co-operative associations has produced 2,640 people who are deemed capable to put their knowledge into practice in their respective associations.

To improve the co-operative movement, two Co-operative Banks have been set up in the Provinces of West and East Java; steps like this are being considered and prepared in the other Provinces.

At the suggestion of the Government, the 3rd Co-operatives Congress — held recently in Bandung — has resolved to establish a Co-operatives Council. This is to be the highest body in co-operative matters and is expected to evolve into supreme direction for the co-operative movement in our Country, so that it may then be entrusted with matters of information and training which is now taken in hand by the Government.

To build up capital for the co-operative movement, a "saving week" — beside the ordinary saving — is held among the members of co-operative societies.

At the end of 1952, 7,667 co-operative societies were registered having a membership of 1,070,437; the savings of the members stood at Rp. 51,096,143, their reserve funds at Rp. 2,838,923.

In conclusion, experiments were made in three Provinces of Java to introduce the co-operative system for overcoming shortages of food supply, such as the establishment of storehouses to tide over periods of food deficiency.

To advance and improve smallholders' crops, the Government has set up, as the first step, a Capok Institute in substitution for the former Capok Board. In addition to this the Government has put aside credits for the export of these commodities.

The Government also tries to have analogous enterprises form associations so that they may dispatch their business more smoothly: the associations that have been set up include those of Indonesian Sugar Traders, Middle Class Importers in several big towns, and Radio Importers, the Association of Indonesian Batik Co-operatives and the Association of Indonesian Film Importers.

The credits supplied, under the guarantee of the Credit Foundation, to develop people's enterprises include 16 million rupiahs given to tobacco-growers in East and Mid Java, and 44 million rupiahs given to sugar-growers whose cultivated area covers 11,000 hectares.

Beside enlarging export possibilities, the supply of credits is intended to make farmers — by way of the co-operative system — more efficient in the agricultural industry, in particular with regard to commercial crops; it is also intended to open up new, sound, and mutually profitable, relations between sugar enterprises and farmers so that the community of interests may also form a fillip for the latter.

The national shipbuilding enterprises turned out 10 ships of 13.5 tons, 2 ships of 15 tons, last year; other ships, of 35.50 and 100 tons, are in course of completion.

Furthermore, the Government has set up 2 committees, i.e. an Advisory Committee on Transportation which, among other things, has been set to use mainly national shipping enterprises for the transportation of the goods of Government Foundations and Services; and an Advisory Committee on Insurance Matters which has for its term of reference to see to it that national insurance companies are entrusted with the insurance of goods of Government Foundations and Services.

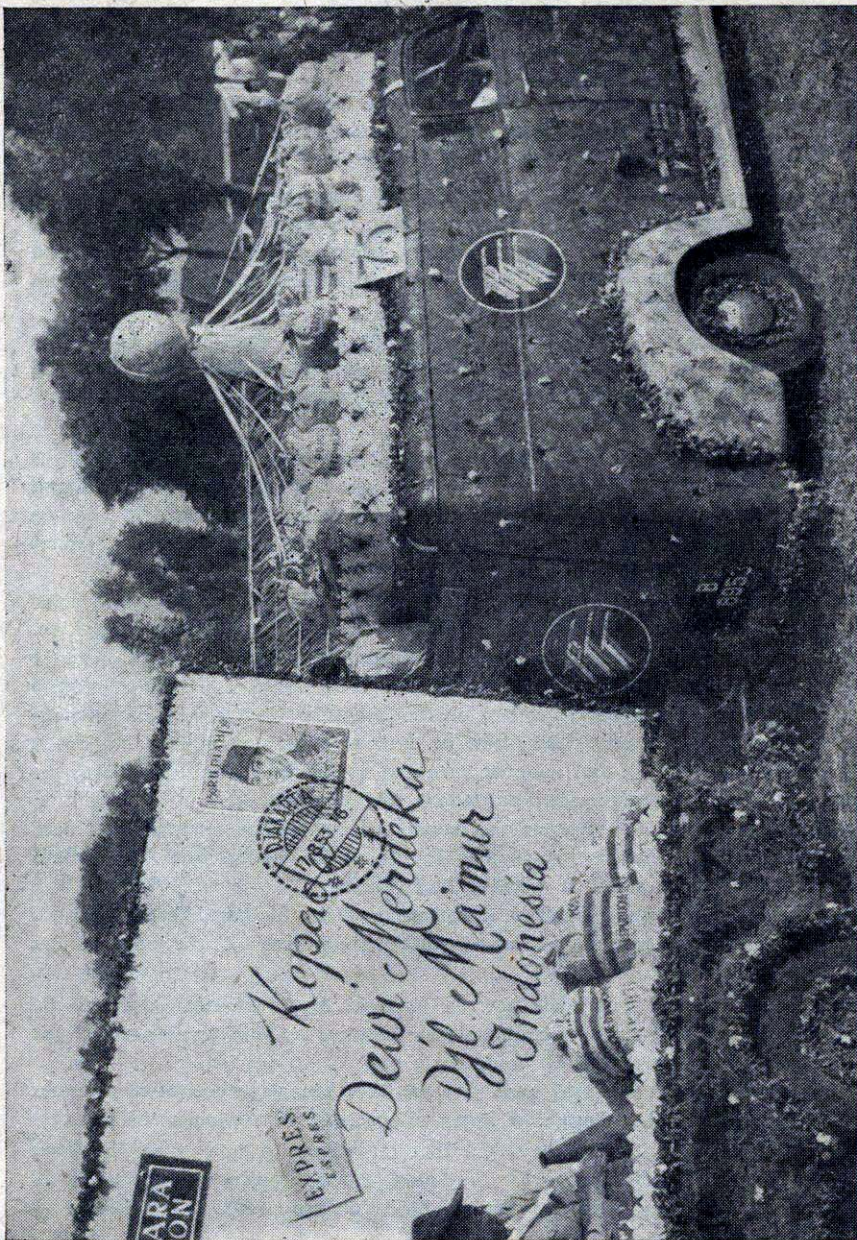
For the time being, insurances to the amount of 500 million rupiahs have been effected with national insurance companies for goods of Government Foundations and Services; their value stood at 4,000 million rupiahs.

As to the developments in the field of commerce, it can be stated that some 1,600 importers of Indonesian nationality have availed themselves of the opportunities given to them.

Even though part of them could not yet come up to the requirements made by the Government to enable them, to continue their business as importers, it has turned out during their screening that 60% could fit in.

Gratifying is also the fact that some of them have become importers of technical goods. This proves that they have now begun to specialize in the import business.

On the other hand, it must be stated that the extent of interest in the home trade — in the sense of distributing the technical goods throughout the Republic of Indonesia, as imports must fundamentally be based on the needs of the People — is not satisfactory as yet.



During a floral parade on Independence Day the Post, Telephone & Telegraph Service came out with a huge envelope symbolizing its services to the community.

Moreover, the trade in home-made products has not yet received the attention it deserves — while the development of industry must also be stimulated by function of trade in the movement of goods, so that enterprises can focus their attention on the volume of their production and the quality of their goods without being interfered with by sales difficulties.

The Government's program of matters that must urgently be taken in hand in the industrial field is fundamentally aimed at small-scale industries which can supply the economic needs of our society: such as the ceramics industry, tanneries, wood-working, hardware, textile and other industries.

To this end, the Government has instituted courses to train nuclei for these industries; it has also sent persons abroad to augment their knowledge.

In illustration of the industrial development at home, it may be pointed out that the productive capacity of the textile industry has risen from 90 million metres in 1952 to 110 million metres in 1953, thus approaching the pre-war capacity of 120 million metres.

This kind of development has also been achieved in the production of motorcar and cycle tyres, rubber goods for home use, the chemical industry, and businesses producing foodstuffs such as coconut-oil, margarine, edible fats and so on.

Such development will enable the import businesses to devote its attention to the purchase of capital goods, such as machines and industrial goods.

In viewing the development of trade and industry, the question of price control should also receive our full attention.

Thanks to the various regulations, prices could remain practically on the same level before, during, and after, "Lebaran" (the end of Islamic Month of Fasting), so that it may be said that there is a stability in the price-fluctuations in our society.

The recent rise in prices of some primary necessities, especially household articles, is now being examined.

In connection with the present depression in world markets, there will be an overall drop in prices in Indonesia; this matter is therefore being considered by the Government.

The output of the State mines, such as the Bangka tinmines, the Bukitassam collieries at Tandjung Enim, and the Umbilin collieries at Sawah Lunto, was also satisfactory in the past year.

In the interest of its tin output, Indonesia has become a member of the International Tin Study Group; it attended the International Tin Conference in Brussel last June, and concluded a three-year tin contract with the United States.

Early this year, Indonesia also sent a delegation to the ECAFE Regional Conference held in Tokyo to discuss the development of mineral resources. This has been useful to us in that we could exchange knowledge and experience in matters of geology and mining with the other member countries of said organization.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government's endeavours to build up and rehabilitate agriculture made good progress last year. They developed according to plan and the results were in no way disappointing.

In the field of people's agriculture, the stress is laid on the supply — quantitative as well as qualitative — of foodstuffs.

As I said earlier, rice production has risen and has now even succeeded the prewar level.

Beside this, the production of other foodstuffs such as maize, cassava, sweet potatoes, soya beans, groundnuts, vegetables, and the like has also risen.

Thanks to the increased production of foodstuffs, and the policy pursued with regard to the purchase of rice, the price of the main foodstuffs may be called stable, while the import of rice can be reduced by degrees.

The joint undertaking of farmers who do not (yet) make up co-operative association — they run collective store-houses in some 5,000 villages — is also one of the important factors accounting for the absence of food shortage.

The introduction of tractors early this year, especially outside Java, will also contribute towards speeding up the production of rice.

Mechanization in the field of agriculture was started with the establishment of eight tractor-pools each pool having a workshop and 2,500 hectares of land.

Officials for these pools are trained at Pasar Minggu near Djakarta; besides, 14 officials have been sent abroad to be trained in mechanized agriculture.

Next to foodstuffs, attention is also paid to the cultivation of commercial crops cultivated by the people.

The Government has started in co-operation with the People, to gradually rehabilitate damaged plantings and to extend the planting of important crops by laying out seed-gardens, by distributing choice seed among the People, and by fighting plant-diseases.

Tobacco, sugar-cane, tea, coffee, capok, cotton, ramie (China grass), cloves, pepper are among the kinds of cultivation that are being paid full attention to.

The output of the fishing industry has now exceeded the prewar level; however, this is only sufficient to cover one-third of the needs.

In connection herewith, the Government presses up its activity in the fields of sea-fishing and fresh-water fishing; this is also being done according to plan.

The activity in the field of cattle-breeding includes the enlargement of live-stock and the improvement of its quality; this is done by providing breeding-stock and by fighting contagious cattle-plagues.

The live-stock in Indonesia has nearly reached the pre-war level.

To improve the quality of the live-stock, the Government has started to set up stock-farms, breeding ground, milk marketing boards, and the like.

Institute for Cattle Research at Bogor also forms a scientific research centre; its findings can be made public and then be put in practice.

Next to this, said Institute prepares vaccines and antisera to fight cattle diseases.

The need of remedies for the various kinds of cattle diseases can now be fully supplied by said Institute.

Reafforestation of barren soil — caused by the destruction of woods during the war and during the times of turbulence — is one of the important undertaking in the field of forestry.

Since 1950, the reafforestation of 500,000 hectares of land has been taken in hand gradually and systematically. Every year some 40,000 to 50,000 hectares have been reafforested, while before the war the rate was only 25,000 hectares a year.

The trees planted are of the kind furnish building materials or raw materials for industrial purposes such as paper, tannin, matches, boxes.

Since November 1952, the Government has conducted the so-called "karang kitri" drive: Carried out by the People themselves under the direction and supervision of Government bodies, this campaign is intended to plant up on a large scale barren tracts of land with those plant-species that can check erosion and produce firewood, fruits, etc; it is also intended to terrace sloping terrains and to plant them up by degrees.

The output of firewood and building materials have reached the pre-war level by the end of 1952, while the preservation of wood by way of impregnation — this wood to be used for sleepers, telephone-posts, building materials, etc. — is being applied in an increasingly larger measure.

Mechanization is applied in the field of forestry by making use of sewing-machines, tractors etc.

The plantations also show signs of progress even though, except for rubber, the output does not yet reach the pre-war level.

U.S. stockpiling, done in the course of 1951 and culminating early in 1953, has made rubber price soar up; this has furnished the State with a rather substantial amount of foreign exchange, and has also been most profitable to the rubber business.

On the other hand, the subsequent slump of rubber prices is now markedly felt — in the foreign exchange position of the State and in the earnings of the People.

The fall in exports is to a large degree due to the low quality of people's rubber, while world-markets ask for high-grade rubber.

This has been one of the incentives for the Government to try to improve the quality of people's rubber. Beside this, the Government also tries — through international channels such as the Rubber Study Group — to save the rubber surplus of the People.

Our foreign exchange position — that has dwindled down as a consequence of the decline of exports and the rubber price — must be recovered by increasing the production of other crops that are still widely marketable such as sugar and tobacco.

Before the war Indonesia produced more than 1,5 million tons of sugar yearly of which 1 million ton was exported.

After sovereignty is restored, production ranges only from 250,000 to 600,000 tons.

For the cigarette industry, Indonesia needs some 100,000 bags of Virginia tobacco. 70,000 bags of these were imported, the other 30,000 is home produce.

To meet the above needs, the Government endeavours to enlarge the cultivation of Virginia tobacco in Indonesia so that imports may be reduced.

Besides, Indonesia is still exporting other kinds of tobacco such as wrappers and "krosok"; these, however, only amount to 30% of pre-war at present.

Next to sugar and tobacco there are still many crops the cultivation of which can be expanded for export purposes, such as coffee, cocoa, pepper.

Mr. Chairman,

Perfectly operating means of communication on land, at sea and in the air are prerequisites for stimulating the development of the People's economy, for facilitating the working of administration, for strengthening the political and strategic position of the State.

In its communications policy, the Government holds by the Constitution, Article 28, i.e.: Vital means of communication must completely be in the hands of the Government; the other means of communication may be entrusted to private national entrepreneurs who work under Government supervision. In the latter case, the Government can participate as a shareholder, where necessary.

Due to the limitedness of the State's finances, and the shortage of expert personnel and equipment, the execution of various earlier projects can only be done by degrees.

For all that, progress can be noted in all sections of communication.

As regards overland communications it may be stated that, except for the railway service at Medan and its environs which is run by the "Deli Spoorweg Maatschappij" the railroads are completely run by the Government — even though it must be admitted that part of the lines are the property of private enterprises.

The transfer of the right of said enterprises to the Government, and the inclusion of their personnel into Government service, are now being negotiated between the Government and the Managements of these enterprises.

100 Krupp D 52 steam engines, 100 "market"-carriages and 1,000 vans have been imported since September 1950, to improve railway communications; 27 diesel-electric engines, 298 carriages and vans, have been ordered and are expected to arrive before long; furthermore, the ordering of 19 diesel-hydraulic and steam engines are contemplated for use in Atjeh.

Pending the arrival of said diesel engines, the tracks are being strengthened so that eventually trains may run at the rate of 120 kilometres on the secondary lines.

The policy pursued for overseas communications is in its broad outlines, the following: Interinsular shipping must be Government-controlled and Government-owned: coastal and oceanic shipping may be left to private initiative, where necessary with the Government participating.

An Indonesian Shipping Service, the PELNI, has been set up to put into practice the above policy. It is established as an interinsular shipping enterprise. 45 vessels have been ordered, and they are expected to arrive one after the other in due time. Ways and means are sought for the acquisition of other ships up to a total tonnage of 70,000 tons.

It must be noted that 131 vessels have been received since September 1950; they are used by the port authorities, the hydrographic service, the beaconage service, and by the regional administrations.

Next to the acquisition of ship, the Government pays attention to the improvement of harbours.

The harbours can now be kept at their proper depth constantly, owing to the addition of some dredgers to the fleet of suction-dredgers; the drainage of the marshes south of Tandjung Priok can now be started.

The building of an oceanic harbour at Bitung is being continued; a rapid progress cannot be made due to financial difficulties, however.

Construction and improvement of airfields, addition to the number of airplanes, training of skilled personnel, are needed to expand air communication throughout Indonesia.

In the last three years, the Civil Aviation Service has succeeded in increasing the number of airfields from 30 to 50; besides, existing airfields have been improved.

The Garuda Indonesian Airways possesses 20 Dakotas, 5 Catalinas, and 8 Convairs. 14 De Havilland Herons have been ordered from Britain by the Government; the delivery of these planes was started on 15th August, 1953, and will be completed by the end of this year. 8 Convairs of a newer type have also been ordered; they will be delivered as from the beginning of 1954. The purchase of three four-engined planes is being considered to maintain air communications with neighbour-states; this will certainly benefit Indonesia, politically and economically.

The training of Civil Service personnel is taken in hand on a large scale with the assistance of I.C.A.O. 200 pupils have been admitted to the courses; 30 of them will be trained for aviators. In Hamble, Great Britain, 25 Indonesian students are being trained for pilots while the Garuda Indonesian Airways also trains 4 pupils for pilots in the Netherlands.

Of late, steps are being taken to effectuate a change in the G.I.A. contract that was concluded between the Government of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia and the Dutch Royal Airlines, to the effect that all shares and the management pass under the control of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

To improve postal, telegraphic, telephone, and radio communications, the Government has taken steps to improve and expand the installations of the telephone offices in Djakarta Raya, Semarang, Surabaya, Bandung, Makassar, Solo, Malang, Bukittinggi, Purwokerto, Magelang, Madiun, Bandjarmasin, Tjirebon, Bogor, Sukabumi, Jogjakarta, Padang, and Palembang, and in 364 smaller offices. This will be done gradually.

Long-distance communications are being brought up to date by adding to the number of cable and radio communications, while teleprinters are put into use to improve telegraphic communications.

To the existing radio-telephonic communications with Europe, America, Australia, New Zealand and a number of countries in Asia are added new radio telephonic communications between Djakarta and Singapore, Hongkong, Ireland.

Mr. Chairman,

Now I would like to survey the progress made in the field of public works and energy.

In this respect, the Government regrets to say that the supply of peoples' housing has not come up to expectations; this is mainly due to the position of the State finances.

In view of the dire shortage of people's housing, — caused by the war, the revolution, the disturbances of security, etc., — the construction of 1,217 houses in 1951, and 2,489 houses in 1953, for all Indonesia, does not amount too much.

A great shortage of buildings for offices, schools, police barracks and housing for Government officials all over Indonesia is also felt, while the position of the State finances does not allow a large-scale addition to the number of buildings constructed.

As some of the competencies of the Central Government in the field of public works have been delegated to the autonomous areas, there are now three kinds of roads: State roads, Provincial roads and roads under the control of lower autonomous administrations.

A three-year project is now in course of execution, covering the islands of Sumatra, Kalimantan and Sulawesi, for the reconstruction, strengthening and repair of arterial roads — connecting main ports, industrial areas — and for the construction of new roads that are deemed necessary to connect the above roads with one another and that are badly needed for the supply of food, the transportation of produce, and for administration purposes.

The construction of a 2,600 kilometres road traversing Sumatra from the North all the way down to the South is now being contemplated.

It will take 8 years to complete and cost 3 thousand million rupiahs.

The endeavour towards improving the health of the people, sanitation and supply of drinking-water, are being continued — though with limited means.

During the war and the turbulent times waterworks were not kept up as they should be, making their conditions unsatisfactory as yet.

Shortage of water-meters, bad condition of water-mains, etc., have caused a waste of water and a decline in the companies' revenues.

Repairs will generally require outlays that these companies cannot possibly defray at short notice, so that they need financial aid.

In connection herewith, aid has been contemplated, and rendered, for the construction of an installation for the purification of drinking water in Djakarta, for the overhaul of water-mains in Tjiandjur, the towns and regencies of Mid Java, the towns of Jogjakarta, Malang, Langsa-Sigli, Bukittinggi, Bengkulu, Bandjarmasin, Poso and Ambon, and for the preparations of the construction of an installation for the purification of water in Pontianak.

As regards sanitation, the drainage of swamped areas — nest of malaria mosquitoes — is being continued.

In this connection subsidies have been given for the repair of two lock-gates and the construction of 4 lock-houses in Djakarta, while funds have been earmarked for the improvement of sanitation and sewerage in the Provinces of Java and in the other islands.

Practically all matters concerning irrigation have been delegated to the Provinces, with the exception of irrigation systems that must operate in behalf of new settlements, irrigation-systems the constructions of which are beyond the technical power of the regional administrations, and irrigation work that cover the area of more than one Province.

In addition to this, the Government also renders financial aid in special cases, such is in the event of disasters caused by forces of nature, or in the event of restoring village irrigation systems that have greatly suffered from the war and the turbulent times.

In course of construction, repair and restarted construction, or in course of preparation, are the following: the construction of the Darma water-reservoir, the continued reconstruction of the Djatiredja dam and the Rawa Lakbok irrigation works, research work for the construction of the Maribaja water-reservoir, all of them in

West Java; the construction of water-reservoirs at Tjajaban and other places in Surakarta, the construction of the Grambjangan dam in the Jogjakarta area, the two of them in Mid Java; the restoration of the Sampean Baru irrigation system, the continued restoration of the Klampis irrigation system and the continued construction of the Dung Bendo dam, all of them in East Java; the restoration of the irrigation of the Way Sekampung irrigation system in South Sumatra; the continued construction of the Mentaran polder in Alabio, Kalimantan; the restoration and extension of the irrigation system of Sadang, Sulawesi; the continued restoration and extension of irrigation systems in Kalimantan, Generong, and the Gadungan irrigation system in the Lesser Sunda Isles; and research into the possibility of building irrigation works in the Moluccas.

In food-deficient areas where it is possible to construct or improve irrigation works, the Government has taken steps to that effect such as in the Kulon-Progo area of Jogjakarta, in Flores, Sumbawa and other islands.

In my 17th August speech, last year, I touched upon the work of the Committee for the Nationalization of Electric and Gas Companies.

This Committee has completed its work, and to settle the matters of principle that have been broached by said Committee it is deemed necessary to enter into negotiations with the electricity and gas companies concerned at the earliest possible moment.

To this end, another Committee was set up to negotiate the nationalization of Electricity and Gas Companies, last April.

To cover the shortage of electricity for industrial, lightning, and household purposes in West Java, a new diesel power station was put up at Antjol, Djakarta; while the following projects are in course of execution: a diesel power station at Karet, a hydro-electric station at Parakankondang, a second pressure-pipe at Lamadjan, and the extension of the unit at Plengan, and the addition of two units at Kebajoran.

In Mid Java, ANIEM has been instructed to enlarge their generating station at Kalisari (Semarang), Jogja, Tjilatjap and Lasem.

The outlays for these enlargements are borne by the Government, while the enlargements will be Government property.

In addition to the above, the diesel power station at Tegal will be enlarged.

To increase the supply of electricity in East Java, the following will be undertaken: the restoration of the Konto River power stations, the establishment of a new diesel power station at Ngagel, the construction of a generating station at Gelang (Madiun) to add to the electricity generated at Giringan. The suggestion has also been made to set up a new power unit in the town of Madiun. The ANIEM has been instructed to enlarge their generating stations at Djember, Lumadjang, Tjepu, Situbondo, Tuban and Pamekasan. The expenses will be borne by the Government while the enlargements will be Government property.

In Sumatra, new diesel power stations are being put up at Kotaradja, Padang, Pakan Baru, and Djambi.

The Government-owned electricity enterprises in several small towns of North and Mid Sumatra are now supplementing their generating stations by new, small, machines.

The ANIEM has been instructed, on the above conditions, to enlarge the generating stations of Bukittinggi and Sibolga.

The hydro-electric station at Tes, South Sumatra, will be reconstructed.

The ANIEM has also been instructed, on the above conditions, to enlarge the power stations in Kalimantan, i.e. at Bandjarmasin, Pontianak and Singkawang.

In North Sulawesi, the enlargement of the hydro-electric power station is being taken in hand.

The MEBP in South Sulawesi has been instructed, also on above conditions, to enlarge the hydro-electric power station at Sawito, to construct a new diesel power station at Pare-Pare, and to put electric lighting in several townlets in the areas.

In the Sunda Isles, the ANIEM has also been instructed to enlarge the caloric power station at Den Pasar, Singaradja and Ampenan.

In the Moluccas, new generating units will be added in Ambon, while the Djaring-djaring unit will be renewed.

Mr. Chairman,

Transmigration is an undertaking that is material to our reconstruction.

Transmigration can no longer be regarded as simply a movement of inhabitants from over-populated to sparsely populated areas; it must especially be seen in its relation to the reconstruction of our State and to the more equal distribution of productive manpower throughout the Indonesian archipelago.

In this connection, the Government has planned the movement of people from Java to the other islands on the largest possible scale.

In the year passed, 9,010 families were moved. This amounted to 38,898 people.

To facilitate the reception of transmigrants in the new settlements, a Foundation for the Opening Up of New Settlements was set up, last October. This Foundation is in charge of clearing land and making it fit for tilling.

In this way the new settler will be enabled to till the new land and produce crops immediately so they may properly provide for their families in their new places of residence.

Rendering relief to people who have suffered from the disturbances of security in some areas, is another important social undertaking.

8,5 million rupiahs were spent for the absorption of 190,000 evacuees in 1952.

4 million rupiahs were spent in 1952, and 1,5 million rupiahs in the first six months of 1953, in aid of victims of disasters caused by natural forces.

The Government has given goods at the value of 848,400 rupiahs in relief of victims of disasters caused by natural forces abroad.

A Council for the Preparation of Welfare Work was set up in September 1952, having for its term of reference to do social research.

The Government continues to take care of waifs and orphans (to the number of 16,000) and the poor (to the number of 12,000).

General welfare courses have been instituted to facilitate welfare work; some 20,000 people attend these courses. Courses are also held to augment the knowledge of Social Affairs Ministry officials themselves. A group of officials have also been sent abroad to follow courses in schools for social workers.

Mr. Chairman,

In labour affairs, special attention is being paid to conflicts between employers and employed.

It is easily understood that labour conflicts, with the attendant unfavourable consequences, hamper economic stabilization and reconstruction.

Only a deep appreciation of one another's importance will enable both employers and employed to render their constructive contribution in the interest of productivity, economic stability and for the progress of the Indonesian State and Society.

The Government will always intervene in the event of labour conflicts, in view of the important part the two parties play in matters of production, in economic affairs, and in the interest of State and Society.

2 Acts and 11 Government Regulations were promulgated last year, bearing upon personnel affairs. The most important concern superannuation, increased pensions, the regulations on sick-leaves and on hadj.

Mr. Chairman,

Last year, 3 Acts were completed dealing with the health sector.

They refer to the prohibition of establishing new pharmaceutical chemist's shops in certain towns, to matters relating temporary chemist's shops and to the assignment of certain hospitals for tending the poor and the destitute.

A Government Regulation has also been promulgated to execute the stipulations of the last-mentioned Act; furthermore, a Ministerial Decree has been issued on the partial rise of the restitution-rates for medical treatment and nursing so as to alleviate the burden of Government officials.

Due to the shortage of physicians and other medical personnel, the Government is trying to attract foreign physicians, to intensify the training of medical personnel other than physicians, of health inspectors, nurses, dietetic advisers, health visitors, etc.

As to the construction of new buildings it can be stated that the foundation-stone has been laid for a pharmaceutical work and depot at Djakarta; a leper hospital will be completed and put into use at Tangerang this year; the enlargement of the maternity ward, the operating room and the children's department of the Djakarta Central Hospital is nearing completion; the buildings of the Venereal Diseases Institute at Surabaya are in course of construction.

Contact with and aid from international bodies such as WHO, UNICEF, FAO, TCA, Colombo Plan, the British Council, are continued satisfactorily.

The WHO Regional Office for South-east Asia held a conference at Bandung, September last year.

FAO and WHO also held a Nutrition Conference for South-east Asia and the West Pacific in Bandung, June this year.

WHO also sent a visiting team of medical scientists to Indonesia. During their two-month stay, these scientists visited several places, read papers and exchanged thoughts with their Indonesian colleagues on important health matters.

The Government has also approved of the establishment, with the aid of UNICEF and FAO, of a factory for the productions of soybean-milkpowder in Indonesia; this will be of great importance to babies, children and mothers.

The combat of tuberculosis, yaws, malaria, and the work in the field of maternal and child welfare proceed smoothly with the aid of afore-mentioned foreign bodies.

Mr. Chairman,

Now I must also touch upon the activity of the National Reconstruction Bureau which works in behalf of the men who formerly have fought for our independence.

It has been the Government's primary aim to employ them in productive activities in the shortest possible time, thus making them workers in those fields of reconstruction that fit in with their aptitude and ambition.

1,815 families of ex-fighters are employed in 17 experimental industrial enterprises spread all over Java, Sumatra, Kalimantan and Sulawesi.

1,778 families are in the employ of enterprises in the field of agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and cattle-breeding; these enterprises are run on a co-operative basis and are spread all over Java, Sumatra, Sulawesi, the Lesser Sunda Isles and the Moluccas.

6,150 families of ex-fighters have been moved from Java to Lampung, Bengkulu, Dumoga and Kangean.

Vocational education is given in 57 places to 5,259 ex-fighters so as to train skilled labourers for the various fields of activity: 2,539 persons have completed these courses.

Mr. Chairman,

After dwelling on the physical section of the welfare questions, we must now discuss the cultural side.

Though curbed by the financial position of the State, the Government always works towards the expansion, improvement and modernization of education.

The facilities to receive education are always being enlarged; in this connection, priority is given to the teaching of professional knowledge; the teaching of general knowledge comes second.

Improvement as regards curricula, methods of teaching, composition of the body of teachers, educational appliances, is always striven after.

The number of schools training teachers for elementary education has risen from 200 to about 500. A and B-I courses, i.e. to train teachers for the lower and higher secondary schools respectively, are constantly being added to.

As to curricula and methods of instruction, the stress will be laid on the principle of activity, that is, to develop the creative power of youth, their eagerness to learn, and interest in their surroundings.

Teachers' training centres have been established to this end at Kajutanam and Bandung: the former for the instruction of the expressive subjects (handicraft, drawing, music); the latter for biology, natural science, and chemistry.

It has grown clearer and clearer that the Indonesian society must, and can, assist the Government in the field of training and education.

Our society gives evidence of their assistance by erecting new buildings at the expense of millions of rupiahs.

The initiative of our society must be regulated and canalized; the establishment of parent-teacher associations (patterned after such-like associations abroad) is in course of preparation.

Moreover, foundations are being set up in every autonomous region to stimulate and direct the activity of the people towards building more class-rooms.

As many pupils who have passed through elementary schools, cannot continue their study at secondary schools, it is deemed necessary to institute practical vocational courses of short duration and aimed directly at the needs of our society.

In the meantime, experiments are under way to train girls for iron- and wood-workers.

When these courses are spread throughout Indonesia, the volume and quantity of the people's production may be expected to increase.

The Government intends to hand over these courses to the autonomous regions.

Foreigners are given full freedom to establish educational and training institutions to meet their specific needs, provided they do not disturb public order and peace, or offend the sentiments of other groups and nationalities. The Inspection Board for Foreign Educational Institutions has been enlarged to improve the supervision of these schools.

4000 new elementary schools and 500 colleges to train teachers for elementary education were established on 1st July 1953. These elementary schools were formerly courses that were set up pending the introduction of compulsory education, while the latter were formerly the teachers courses.

The number of these training colleges is considered adequate to turn out enough teachers to meet the requirements of compulsory education.

It is being contemplated to make the preparation for compulsory education a "national undertaking", with every Ministry co-operating, so that its introduction can be guaranteed to take place in 1961.

The University of Indonesia and the Gadjah Mada State University make steady headway.

The addition of new Indonesian and foreign teachers is always being striven after; and also the training of candidate-teachers.

Lecture-rooms and laboratories at Djakarta, Bogor, Bandung and Jogjakarta are being enlarged within the scope of financial possibilities of the State.

The translation of foreign-language studybooks into Indonesian is continued.

The building of boarding establishments for students at Jogjakarta and Djakarta is given full attention to by the Government.

A bill has been submitted to the House of Representatives to the effect that the former R.I. Act No. 4/1950 be applied to the entire territory of the Republic of Indonesia so as to give a uniform legislative basis to all schools throughout Indonesia.

The Government has promised that, as soon as said bill is ratified, a committee will be set up, composed of pedagogic experts and trusted with the drawing up, in the shortest possible time, of a new Main Act on Education and Training that will be an improvement of the former R.I. Act No. 4/1950.

It is deemed necessary to declare the former R.I. Act operative for the whole of Indonesia so that it can be made the uniform, legal basis for every type of school and so that a Government Regulation can be promulgated concerning subsidies to private schools.

A draft bill on Universities is ready, a draft bill on other schools is being drawn up, while a draft Government Regulation on subsidies is nearing completion.

Extramural instruction is given in 83,789 illiteracy courses and 1,152 general knowledge courses. The latter are divided into A, B, and C courses — respectively

for persons whose knowledge is equivalent to those having passed through elementary school, lower secondary school, and higher secondary school.

In addition, extramural instruction is also given to adults in 545 villages; these courses intend to teach that kind of professional knowledge which is pertinent to the villages concerned.

Libraries also receive the Government's attention.

People's Libraries — grouped into A, B, and C categories — will gradually be set up in the capital of every "Ketjamatan" (district), "Kabupaten" (regency) and Province or Municipality. Beside these, libraries have been set up in 11,156 villages.

Magazines to keep the knowledge of former illiterates up to the mark, are published with a circulation of 50,000 copies.

Furthermore, a Youth Advisory has been set up. This body is to find facts on youth-affairs.

The Government's interference in the field of arts is confined to the granting of subsidies so as to stimulate the development of popular arts.

It constantly pays attention to dancing experts in their experiments to create new dances.

The group of Balinese and Minangkabau dancers which was sent to the International Fair at Colombo, and the Bali group that toured Europe and America, met with a warm reception abroad.

The Government also pays attention to sculpture in Bali and the other areas.

The Government runs the Kerawitan Conservatory at Solo, and the School of Music at Jogja, so as to advance music; it has also subsidized the private Schools of Music at Djakarta.

The Government intends, with the assistance of the National Culture Council, to give awards for the best piece of literature and painting so as to stimulate creativeness.

Progress was made last year in the restoration of Parambanan Temple and the excavation of Sorogedug.

The restoration of the graves of national heroes and men of art: Diponegoro, Singamangaraja XII, Raden Saleh, is being taken in hand.

More and more students are sent abroad, either on a fellow-, scholar-, or visitorship, of foreign countries, or at the public expense.

Four agreements were concluded with foreign bodies; i.e.: the Ford Foundation Agreement on technical teachers' training at Bandung; the Ford Foundation Agreement on the sending of 11 teachers to Indonesia for English teaching; the Affiliation Agreement on the sending of physicians, candidate-teachers, and professors to the University of California, and the T.C.A. Agreement on the sending of 23 technical teachers, some professors and lecturers to the United States.

A national Committee has been set up for UNESCO. Originally light, the membership has subsequently been added to 17. This Committee is sub-divided into an Executive and several sections so as to work more efficiently.

7 UNESCO consultants are attached to the Ministry of Education and Culture to assist this Ministry in matters relating to their respective fields of expertness.

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to say a few words on religious affairs.

A start has been made with the appointment of teachers on general knowledge at Islamic religious schools so as to teach the pupils general knowledge beside religious affairs.

As to the Hadj this year, the Government regrets to say that due to the foreign exchange position of the State only 14,000 out of 45,000 applicants could be given the opportunity to perform their religious duty.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government avails itself of the informational bodies and instruments it has at its disposal to introduce the above activities and undertakings in our own country as well as abroad.

Apart from incidental issues, such as the general elections, information to the people — either by word of mouth or in writing — has been adapted to the resolution adopted at the conference held jointly by the Ministries of Economic Affairs, Finance, Agriculture, and Information, in September 1952.

Written information is given by means of pamphlets, magazines, wall-pictures, folders and posters.

Information to foreign countries was made more active last year by the sending of new information officers to the representative offices of the Republic of Indonesia abroad, and by Indonesia's participation in the International Fair at Manila, the International Folkdance Festival in Wales, and the International Folk Music Council Conference at Biarritz Pamplona, Spain.

The Government has been executing a five-year plan since 1950 to arrive at a national radio broadcast covering the entire People.

To this end, steps have been, and are being taken to improve the quality and to increase the quantity of the transmitters; expenses are covered by the Government direct or through Eximbank loans.

The number of wireless receiving sets — 100,000 in 1950 — has grown to 326,000 in 1953.

The progress of the national press is evident from the increase in the number of newspapers and their circulation: While 45 Indonesian language newspapers with an overall circulation of 390,000 copies were registered in 1949, these figures have grown to 70 and 411,500 in the first half of 1953.

Through the agency of the Government, 5 members of the Indonesian Journalists' Association were sent to the various parts of Indonesia, and two groups consisting of 9 members of this association were sent abroad.

In addition, press rooms were established in a number of towns in Indonesia so as to assist the Indonesian press.

The Government set up a Press Institute in September 1952, which was made a Foundation in July 1953.

The Government also pays attention to the service given to the press, the more so as the attention of the foreign press to Indonesia is growing.

69 foreign pressmen visited Indonesia in the year past, while the year before their number was only 36.

The production of the various kinds of films by the State Film Enterprise — newsreels, informational and educational films, features — also showed a rapid increase last year. To develop the State Film Enterprise, the Government has sent an official to Britain and 6 others to the United States, so as to augment their knowledge in the various fields of film production.

As the State printing offices are overstocked with orders, steps are taken to set up a new State printing office in Ambon, and to enlarge the rooms and to increase the number of machines in the existing offices.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

Mr. Chairman,

It now remains for me to take a look at our foreign relations.

In the year past, the House of Representatives approved of 5 Acts on Pacts of Friendship with India, Pakistan, Burma, the Philippines, and Syria.

In addition, the Government approved of trade Agreements with Japan, Switzerland, Hungary, and of the agreement on the additional loan from Eximbank.

Furthermore, trade agreements with Pakistan, India, Poland, West Germany and Norway were initialled.

In the U.N., we also co-operated closely with other countries of the Asian-African bloc on matters of primary importance such as the Tunisian and Moroccan questions, and the "apartheid" in the Union of South Africa.

The Indonesian-Netherlands relations also underwent a change by the expiry of the Agreement on the Netherlands Military Mission in Indonesia.

Mr. Chairman,

This is the state of the Republic of Indonesia at the end of the first eight years of its independence.

Some purpose may be served by taking stock of the situation at moments like this, so that we may be acquainted with our strong and weak points and, with knowledge, draw up our strategy for the future.

In general, we may be satisfied with the results achieved in our struggle.

Let us now, shored up by these results, look forward, and carry on our National revolution in all its glory.

Thank you.

OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM

*

WHEN young Supratman sang his own song **Indonesia Raya** for the first time before a youthful audience, it was received with enthusiastic applause. It was October 28, 1928, in Djakarta, when Supratman gave his demonstration. His audience were the delegates to a grand youth meeting, the All Indonesian Youth Congress, who were eager to hear his composition. After Supratman had finished his song, the Congress passed a resolution that the **Indonesia Raya** or **Great Indonesia** should be the national song of the Indonesians from that time onward. Supratman would never know that seventeen years later his song was to become the national anthem of his free country; the composer died seven years prior to this occasion.

Why were the young people so enthusiastic about it, and why should a congress of youth take such an important decision? If we talk about the **Indonesia Raya**, we must inevitably touch upon the history of the people's political movement.

The youth's enthusiasm could have arisen because of the march time of the song, but apparently it was more than that. There was one verse of it that had an immediate effect upon the audience. It was the verse **LET US ALL DEMAND INDONESIA UNITED** in which Supratman called appealingly on his people always to be united, because as he said in his song, we are sons of the same fatherland, and we are the guards of the same Mother. Supratman put down this verse not without reason.

At the time when the **Indonesia Raya** made its first appearance, Indonesia was a Dutch colony. The people's movement had then just received crushing blows from the colonial government following the uprising in 1926. Communists and nationalists were rounded up, gaoled or sent into exile. The secret police was engaged in subduing the resisting spirit of the people. The colonial regime, of course, was much concerned to keep a law and order of its own version.

More effective, however, was its "divide and rule" policy that capitalized on the linguistic, cultural, and religious differences between the population groups inhabiting the Archipelago. Thus petty regional controversies grew up, and gradually this tendency of provincialism became a threat to the cause of independence, for which so many sacrifices had already been made. Finally some college students got together, and they decided to call a meeting between youth organizations.

It is a fact in history that in risky situations the youth among the people is always ready to step into the breach and take the lead, where the older generation has failed. Indonesia, like other colonized countries, was no exception to this fact. Moreover the young people in Indonesia had always played a leading part in the national movement. Perhaps it was because some advantage from their western education made them see this problem clearer than other sections of their community.



ONE

**NATION
COUNTRY
LANGUAGE**

The All Indonesian Youth Congress thus convened in 1928 on the initiative of college students came to discuss what policy should be followed to encounter the colonial divide and rule manoeuvres. Then they found it was imperative to reorganize, and to stimulate the consciousness of nationality and the feeling of national unity among the population.

If we speak of one nation, they said, we do not think ourselves being in the first place Javanese, Minangkabaus, Sundanese, Malays, Bataks, Ambonese, Buginese, or anything else, but we feel strongly that all these population groups belong to the one great nation opposing the one common colonial foe. Let us discard our narrow regional outlook, forget our differences in religious beliefs, and avow that the whole of the "Dutch East Indies" from Sabang to Merauke is the one homeland to be liberated. The people must form a strong united national will against the manoeuvres of the colonial rulers, if we are to bring our cause of independence to a successful end.

Then the Congress decided to take the lead in establishing this unity. In an enthusiastic spirit the participating youth organizations, the Young Ambon, Young Celebes, Young Sumatra, Young Java, and others, took a decision to dissolve and to merge later into one organization, the INDONESIA MUDA (Young Indonesia). With this decision a statement of avowal was issued:

1. We are of the same people: the Indonesian people
2. We have the same fatherland: Indonesia
3. We have the same language: the Indonesian language.

Generally it is now regarded that the awakening of nationalism in Indonesia commenced from the year 1908. But never before 1928 was the principle of one nation, one country and one language so firmly and distinctly pronounced as at this Congress of Youth. In 1926 the political parties were crushed, but this principle had a profound influence upon the rebirth of the national movement. Organizations of the older generation followed the example of the youth, for instance the "Surabaya Studyclub" merged with the "Madura Association" into the "(P)ersatuan (B)angsa (I)ndonesia" (Indonesian People Association). A later example was the fusion of the Javanese "Budi Utomo", P.B.I., Celebes Association, Sumatra Association, and others, into the "Partai Indonesia Raya". Some historians later said that the youth's avowal in 1928 marked the beginning of the termination of narrow regionalism or insularism in Indonesia. In literature and in social intercourse in all the islands the Indonesian unitary language based on the pure Malay from Riau in Sumatra became more widely practised, and its use by the national press increased its spread and added to its development.

It was this spirit of unity enveloping the Congress that had made the young people so enthusiastic about Supratman's *Indonesia Raya*, because it was just in line with what they wanted. *Indonesia Raya* is a song for unity, for the love of the country, so for the youth in 1928 it would be the best means in welding the united national will. Another symbol of unity was adopted by the Congress: *Sang Merah Putih* — the Red and White — was proclaimed the national flag of the Indonesians.

For some people perhaps this might all sound like an irrational dream, a national hymn and a national flag when there was no freedom, even no nation at all, to be the symbols of. The British *God Save The King*, the French *Marseillaise*, the Japanese *Kimigayo* for instance came into being when there were already the nations in existence.

Yes, it might be a dream, the youth in 1928 dreaming of independence at the apex of the colonial might, and they would not be able to tell when their dream could be realized. But still the **Indonesia Raya** represented a nation in the making.

Right from the beginning the **Indonesia Raya** was popular among the people everywhere in the islands. Just as was expected from it, it brought national consciousness to the most remote part of the Dutch colony. It was sung at political gatherings with the audience standing in respect, also by boy scouts in the fields, by village children while herding buffalos, and sung, hummed or played by everyone on every occasion. It awoke the masses, kept their minds open, and kindled their desire for independence. They sang that verse LET US ALL DEMAND INDONESIA UNITED over and over again so that they knew it by heart. In the thirties the principle of one nation, one country and one language had already struck roots in the minds of the people in all the islands. Supratman, the composer, had succeeded in making an echo in the hearts of his fellow countrymen of what was living and vibrating in his own heart.

But if the **Indonesia Raya** was like music of tomorrow for the Indonesians, in the ears of the colonial rulers it sounded like the rumbling of a working volcano. So they took more reactionary measures. The **Indonesia Raya** was prohibited, it was only allowed to be sung at political meetings behind closed doors, while the police officials guarding such meetings should not stand up when it was sung. It was further banned from all school compounds. For the colonialists, of course, it was not a national song at all, it was just another rebel song. All their doings, however, had the reverse effect, for they helped only to increase its prestige.

Then came the Pacific war in 1941. The Japanese, in trying to win the hearts of the Indonesian people, broadcast every day the **Indonesia Raya** with the assurance that they were coming to liberate Indonesia and all the other western colonies. Indeed, during the first days of their occupation they allowed the Indonesians to put out their Red-and-White flags, and to sing their national song in public. But it did not last long. No sooner did the Japanese feel that their power was firmly established then they prohibited it again. When they later realized that they could not carry on the war, they again allowed the hoisting of the Red-and-White and the singing of the **Indonesia Raya**, if it was done in the second place after their "Hinomaru" and "Kimigayo".

On August 17, 1945, the Indonesian people took advantage of the situation, when the people were roused to consciousness of their nationhood, when the Japanese army was in a state of demoralization, and the Dutch colonialists were then nowhere to be seen. They proclaimed the independence of their country, hoisted their Red-and-White flag without the "Hinomaru", sang the **Indonesia Raya** without the "Kimigayo", and formed their own army to defend their independence. So by just a turn in the course of world history a new nation was born, and the **Indonesia Raya** became the national anthem of a Republic. The dream of 1928 had come true. But it would still take four more years of sacrifices, before the Republic was stabilized and recognized by the outer world. And here again the Indonesian youth, the PEMUDA of 1945, held such a prominent place in the revolutionary movement.

Who was Supratman, the man who composed the national song for his people, and so contributed so much to the realization of the great ideal? When he sang his song before the Youth Congress in 1928, he was just 25 years old, and at that

time a journalist. It was through his newspaper work that he often came into touch with college students and the political movement in Djakarta. He wrote his song at the request of college students, because he was also a well-known violin player. He was as restless as he was sociable. At one time he was a teacher, at another he earned a living by playing the violin in the big Djakarta hotels. He got interested in politics, and found a job on a paper. Whatever he was, he liked to mix with the common people, to laugh at their jokes, and to cry with their misery, and many **abang Betawi**, the man-in-the-street of Djakarta, knew him personally.

His full name was Wage Rudolf Supratman; he was born in Djakarta on May 9, 1903. His father was an instructor in the Dutch colonial army. As his father was often transferred from one place to another, Supratman came to live in many parts of Indonesia, and to mix with the people there. This was perhaps one of the reasons why he developed such an intense national feeling. His father was well-versed in the Javanese art of music, but Supratman liked modern music better, so he taught himself to play the violin.

Supratman went to school when he was in Macassar, but he could only finish elementary school. From a child he was very independent of character, and people usually regarded him as mischievous when he was a boy.

As a young man he roamed the streets of Surabaya, Semarang and Djakarta, and always managed somehow to get a living, mostly because of his cleverness on the violin, also because he could write a little, and so eventually became a journalist in Djakarta.

Beside the "Indonesia Raya" he wrote many other songs, among others the "Surya Wirawan" (a song for a youth organization) and the "Mars Parindra". He wrote a book, the "Perawan Desa" (Village Girl), but it was banned by the authorities, because it was regarded as in conflict with moral law at that time. On August 17, 1938, the teacher, violinist, journalist, writer and composer Supratman died in Surabaya after a restless life at the age of 35 years. He left no family, as he never married.

His people will never forget his services towards the nation. A committee has been founded in Surabaya to erect a Rp. 600,000 monument in his memory.

In conclusion a few words more about the **Indonesia Raya**. The present Indonesian national anthem differs a little from the original one, as it has undergone some alterations in the course of time. In 1945 there was a committee founded which was to study the national song and to bring up proposals in connection with it. It had to lay down rules regarding the way in which to sing or play the national anthem, also to determine on which occasions only it should be sung or played.

Indonesia

$\text{♩} = 104$
di marcia



In-do-
In-do-



ne-sia ta-nah a-ir-koe Ta-nah toem-pah da-rah-koe Di-sa-na-lah a-koe ber-
ne-sia! Ta-nah jang moe-lia Ta-nah ki-ta jang ka-la Di-sa-nah-lah a-koe ber-



di-ri Dja di pan-doe i-boe-koe In-do-ne-sia ke-bang-sa-an-koe Bang-sa
a-da Oen-toek s'la-ma-la-ma-nja In-do-ne-sia Ta-nah pos-sa-ka P'sa-ka



dan Ta-nah A-ir-koe Ma-ri-lah ki-ta ber-se-roe In-do-ne-sia ber-sa-
Ki-ta se-moe-a-nja, Ma-ri-lah Ki-ta men-do-a, In-do-ne-sia ba-ha-



Raya



III. Indonesia! Tanah jang soetji,
Tanah kita jang sakti,
Disanalah akoe berdiri,
'Ndjaga lboe sedjati,
Indonesia Tanah berseri,
Tanah jang akoe sajangi,
Marilah kita berdjandji,
„Indonesia abadi!”

S'lamatlah Ra'jatnja,
S'lamatlah Poetranja,
Poelaunja, laeetnja semwanja,
Madjoelah Negrinja,
Madjoelah Pandoenja,
„Oentoek Indonesia Relat!”

INDONESIA THE GREAT

(Indonesia Raya)

*Indonesia, our native country,
Consecrated with our spilt blood,
Where we all arise to stand guard,
Over this our Motherland.*



*Indonesian our nationality,
Our people and our country,
Come then, let us all demand,
Indonesia united.*



*Long live our land,
Long live our state,
Our nation, our people, and all;
Arouse then, its spirit,
Organise its own bodies,
To obtain Indonesia Raya*



*Indonesia the Great, independent and free,
Our country, our state, which we love,
Indonesia the Great, independent and free,
Long live Indonesia Raya.*

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

on

the Program of the Ali Sastroamidjojo Cabinet made by the Prime Minister before the House of Representatives on 25th August, 1953.



Chairman of the House of Representatives,

After the Wilopo Cabinet returned its mandate to the President on 3rd June last, the Head of State successively assigned Mr. Sarmidi Mangunsarkoro together with Mr. Mohammad Roem, Mr. Mukarto Notowidigdo, Mr. Burhanuddin Harahap, and Mr. Wongsonegoro to form a new Cabinet.

At last, with God's blessing Mr. Wongsonegoro succeeded in forming a Cabinet, the composition of which was sanctioned by the President on 30th July, 1953.

Today I should like to introduce this new Cabinet to the House of Representatives officially.

After the Prime Minister has enumerated the Ministers of his Cabinet, and read out the outline of his Cabinet program, he then proceeds with the following.

Mr. Chairman,

With regard to the Program of the Cabinet, which I read out just now, the Government deems it necessary to explain it item by item.

I. HOME AFFAIRS.

1. Security.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government is alive to the fact that every undertaking on the part of the Government and the People towards welfare within our country is preconditioned by the guaranteed existence of general security.

Since the day when the national independence was proclaimed — the eighth anniversary of which we jointly celebrated some days ago — our State has gone, time after time, through armed uprisings which jeopardized the existence of our State.

Thank God, we have been able to overcome a great many of these security disturbances by the skill and the courage of the members of the instruments of power of the State, who are supported by the people.

In coping with disturbances of the state of general security and order as perpetrated by armed gangs which are out to destroy our State — especially the

Kartosuwirjo movement calling itself D.I., and the Bambu Runtjing and other armed movements, under whatever name they may operate — the Government, considering the experiences in the past, will now take a distinct stand which will be made the starting-point for further actions.

In view of the increasing disturbances of the state of security, especially in West- and Central Java, in Sulawesi and in South Kalimantan, making the people suffer from various kinds of privation and tribulation by the loss of life and property — apart from the losses suffered by the State as a consequence of acts of terrorism such as derailments — and in view of the intensified desire on the part of the People to assist the Government in settling the security problem, the necessity of taking the Government measures I mentioned above as soon as possible is evident.

In connection herewith the Government declares the above movements to be rebellious intending to set up a State so as to destroy the Republic of Indonesia; therefore, they are enemies of the State. In fact, these movements are outside and against the law, intending to hamper the completion of the national revolution we started on 17th August 1945. Therefore, the Government takes the stand that these illegal movements must be rooted out with all the efficacy of the instruments of the State.

Meanwhile, the Government has been able to draw up a plan for settling the security problem on military, police and political lines, with due observance of the legal principles established in our State.

In all the steps planned, the Government neither forgets one question of principle, that is, every effort to guarantee or restore the state of general security and order will not succeed unless it is supported by the People.

Therefore, every step will be taken so as to bring the instruments of power of the State nearer to the People, while the Government will whole-heartedly co-operate with every sound element among circles of the population who sincerely and honestly strives for the restoration of the state of general security and order.

The Government guarantees good treatment for every member of an armed gang who, realizing the errors of his ways, surrenders to the Government so that he may be rehabilitated into an ordinary member of a regular society.

Should the above statements produce the impression as if only an idea was given of the repressive steps taken by the Government, I am in a position to say that, in the field of security, the Government starts from the standpoint that the activities to prevent or avoid disorder are no less important than the activities to quell it.

I mean to say by this that the Government, to the best of its ability, will also strive for removing or reducing conditions which may sprout into disturbances of the state of general security and order in areas where the state of security has not been disturbed as yet.

2. General Elections.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to carry into effect the Act for the Election of Members of the Constituent Assembly and the House of Representatives at the earliest possible moment, the Government confirms the existence of the Ad Hoc Committee of General Elections Affairs which was established by the former Wilopo Cabinet and which was composed,

ex officio, of the Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs; it further confirms the existence of two more committees which were set up to assist said Ad Hoc Committee and which were composed of officials of the Ministries of Justice, Home Affairs, Finance, of the Central Election Committee and the State Printing Office.

The respective auxiliary committees have for their terms of reference the following:

- the first: to prepare Government regulations, instructions and other regulations for executing Act Nr 7/1953;
- the second: to see to the purchase of equipment and the printing of matters needed for the preparation of the general election, and their dispatch to the various areas.

The first step in executing the General Elections Act is the division of the respective electoral areas into "kabupatens", "ketjamatans" and "desas" according to articles 130 and 5 of Act Nr 7/1953.

The second committee must also have knowledge of these divisions so that the purchase of equipment, and their dispatch to the areas, can be carried out efficiently and economically.

To carry out the division of areas as mentioned above, lists are sent in by the Governors concerning the division of their respective areas, and suggestions as regards new divisions meant under article 130 of the General Elections Act.

Up to now, a division of the electoral area into all its levels has been able to be completed in North Sumatra, South Sumatra, the Western Lesser Sunda Isles, and in Djakarta-Raya.

The division of the electoral areas in Central Sumatra, West Kalimantan, South Kalimantan, East Kalimantan, North Central Sulawesi, the Moluccas and the Eastern Lesser Sunda Isles cannot be executed as yet, pending the coming in of some further information from the respective Governors.

Difficult communication in the areas and the problem of combining the lowest regional units (the lowest societies based on "adat" law) with small numbers of population into certain districts for the registration of voters, so that the general elections can be carried out as best as possible, retard the above-meant divisions.

The electoral areas of West Java, Central Java and East Java (with the exception of the Surabaya Municipality) have been divided into "kabupatens", and further sub-divided into "ketjamatans" and "desas".

With the coming into effect of Act Nr 7/1953, all bodies for the execution of elections which were set up under Act Nr 7/1953, cease to work.

The offices (secretariats) of these bodies are reorganized into bodies for the execution of elections as set up under Act Nr 7/1953.

The existing secretariats of the Central Election Office, the Provincial Election Offices (in the "ketjamatans") respectively become the secretariats of the Indonesian (Central) Election Committee, the (Regional) Election Committees and the Polling Committees under the provisions of the General Elections Act.

For the setting up of Election Committees, the Minister of Justice calls in the assistance of the Governors and the Mayor of Djakarta-Raya for the recommendation of candidates.

The members of the Kabupaten Election Committee, the Polling Committees and the Committees for the Registration of voters are taken, as much as possible, from the trends existing in the areas concerned on the condition that these persons are capable of accomplishing their tasks.

The Indonesian Central Election Committee will be set up by the Government as soon as possible.

To execute the general elections as soon as possible, the Government has drawn up a time-table which covers from beginning to end a period of about 16 months, reckoning from January 1954.

In conclusion, the Government expects the largest possible measure of assistance from the parties and other organizations, so that the elections may proceed smoothly.

3. Prosperity and Finance.

Mr. Chairman,

(a) The stress as regards the Government policy on reconstruction is laid on all activities which are taken in hand in the interest of the common people.

To execute this policy, the Government directs its attention to two sectors in the agricultural field, i.e.:

firstly: To raise the production of foodstuffs in particular, of materials for reconstruction purposes and commercial produce in particular.

secondly: Parallel with the speeding up of production, to strive after the improvement and raising of the living standard of the farmers.

Consciousness and participation on the part of the farmers, fishermen and other persons who are actively engaged in the field of reconstruction are preconditions for warranting every activity in the agricultural field to yield a favourable result.

In connection herewith, the Government will activate and keep up the self-activity of the farmers, fishermen and other productive manpower, in its endeavour to carry out the work of reconstruction; it will also continue to restore (rehabilitate) the existing and running apparatus of production, and open up new sources in the field of agriculture.

In activating and keeping up the people's self-activity, the Government will give the necessary stimulation, guidance and aid to the farmers, fishermen; also to their activities in the wider sense of the term agriculture. These will be given to them either individually or through the organizations they have called into being.

Guidance and aid are badly needed to speed up and develop the activities of the people in the fields of agriculture, cattle-breeding, fisheries, so as to enable them to strengthen their economic positions beside raising their production.

As regards the first item, i.e. the raising of production, special attention will be paid to the production of foodstuffs so as to meet our own needs.

In the main, the production can be divided into:

firstly: production in the sector of people's agriculture; the main foodstuff being rice, and then followed by maize, cassave, legumes, vegetables and fruits.

The speeding up of production in this field will primarily be carried out by opening up new sources in Sumatra, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, the Lesser Sunda Isles and the Moluccas.

Every technical experience gained and every finding of research work done in the past will be put to use to carry out this project.
secondly: production in the sectors of cattle-breeding and fisheries.

In this field, a continuation will be made with activities that are in course of progress at present. The most important of these include the establishment of breeding stations, the mechanization of sea-fishing and the extension of fish farming in fresh and saltish water.

In view of the importance of estate products for the people's economy, and as a source of foreign currency for the State, the Government will also keep paying its full attention to activities towards restoring, extending and stimulating production in this sector.

The State deficit, which has assumed such vast proportions, can be covered by raising our production likewise, the foreign materials we need for the reconstruction of the State can also be acquired against the output of our production which primarily lies in the agricultural sector.

In short, agricultural production will remain an important source for the strength of the economic position of the State and the people — at present and in the future; therefore, it must be taken in hand systematically and intensively.

Within the framework of the Government's activities in the field of agriculture, forestry also receives the fullest attention in connection with its function as a source of prosperity in the hydrological, orological, and climatological sense.

To let forestry slide may endanger the activities in the field of agriculture.

Beside this, our forests will always be a rich source for the supply of wood, which is important, at present and in the future, for our reconstruction in the fields of housing and industrial enterprises.

In view of the above considerations, the Government's attention will be directed to continuing the activities which are in course of progress at present; in particular, attention will be paid to reafforestation and mechanization.

Further, in the field of research the Government will continue the activities towards improving the composition and equipment of research institutes in the sectors of agriculture, cattle-breeding, forestry, fisheries, so as to supplement the body of scientists with proper personnel from our own country as well as from abroad.

The deficiency of technicians and experts delays the progress of reconstruction; it necessitates the endeavours to add to the number of these persons to be continued by establishing schools, courses from the lowest up to the highest levels in our own country, by sending persons abroad, and by training nuclei of farmers so that the speed in the field of reconstruction can be kept pace with.

Furthermore, within the scope of the limited State finances, the Government intends to give priority to advancing activities which can be felt immediately by the people, such as the construction of waterreservoirs and irrigation-works.

To protect the interests of the farmers, it must also be endeavoured to arrive at an equilibrium between the prices of agricultural produce and the necessities of life; a way must be sought to get out of the economic depression which hits the Indonesian State and Society at the moment.

Mr. Chairman,

The greater attention paid to the farmers does not imply that the Government lessens its attention to the other economic sectors.

The co-operative movement must be extended and stimulated in the interest of reconstruction in the field of people's economy; this must be brought into line with the spirit of mutual assistance, which is specifically Indonesian, and which is of great importance in awaking self-confidence among circles of the population.

Beside this, the Government wishes to aid this endeavour by improving and extending the credit system; the most important in this respect is the supply of capital to the bodies of the credit system in the villages, such as the village store-houses and banks, which, as much as possible, must be set up as co-operatives.

The activities to develop the small industries and handicrafts of the people will also be extended.

It will be tried to improve the quality of the output yielded by the people's industries, so that these may develop towards big industries, by providing finishing enterprises and effectuating mechanization and standardization.

Further, the Government will continue to cultivate a national middle class, and to improve the position of the existing middle class merchants.

To facilitate service to be given to national enterprises the Government will also try to add to the number of the existing national banks.

Meanwhile, the Government realizes that the above prosperity program can only be materialized if production is sped up; this holds good both with regard to the need of consumers goods which can be produced in our own country as well as to widening the fields of activity for the people.

Under the present economic structure of Indonesia, attention must in particular be paid to the production of export commodities as these are a source of foreign currency needed to import materials for our reconstruction.

Further, the Government realizes that the speeding up of production is dependent on the activities which must be taken in hand to enlarge the national capital; this can be canalized into the sectors of production so as to attract foreign capital on proper conditions.

The endeavour to raise exports can only be carried out if the expenses for producing export commodities — which in some sectors have exceeded export prices — can be reduced in such a way as not to injure labour.

The fate of the rubber cultivators among the people, who suffer losses at present owing to slumping rubber prices, receives the full attention of the Government.

By stimulating the factors of national production, especially those mentioned above, the Government hopes to be able to lay new foundations for a sound and strong national economy.

To speed up the reconstruction of the State, and to expedite the course of the administration, the Government will also pay its full attention to the development of communication on land, at sea and in the air.

Meanwhile, the Government goes by the guiding principle that vital means of communication must be controlled by the State; the other means of communication may be delegated to private national enterprises working under Government supervision, in which case the Government can also participate as a shareholder.

In view of the limited financial strength of the State, and the deficiency of experts and equipment, three roads will be followed to carry out the short-term plans in the field of communication, i.e.:

- firstly: The existing equipments, which are in running condition, will be kept up.
- secondly: The equipments that have been neglected and are out of order owing to the armed fights and attacks of gangs, will be repaired and brought into running condition.
- thirdly: New inter-insular lines of communication, at sea and in the air, will be established.

Rehabilitation in the interest of the people which lies in the field of spiritual and material welfare, and which is connected with education and culture, will be continued as best as possible.

The Government will lay the stress on the advancement of the various sciences and arts; it will also fight illiteracy more energetically.

Mr. Chairman,

(b) In order to renew the agrarian laws so as to bring them into harmony with the interests of farmers and townspeople, the Cabinet deems it necessary to appoint a Minister for Agrarian Affairs, who is entrusted with this particular task.

The primary task of the Minister for Agrarian Affairs is to prepare a Main Act on Agrarian Affairs, which can then be used as the foundation of the entire body of agrarian acts.

However, the drawing up of this Main Act requires an overall survey of the agrarian regulations, and a thorough examination into conditions prevailing in all areas throughout the State. Therefore it can be visualized that this preparatory work will take quite a time.

Meanwhile, a number of problems have come to the fore which require to be settled immediately or at short notice.

The Government will go by some guiding principles in its endeavours to arrive at the above aim, viz.:

- firstly: It will be endeavoured that the concentration of vast estates in the hands of a few persons be abolished so that we may arrive at a situation which is in keeping with the spirit of articles 26 and 38 of the Constitution;
 - secondly: The feudal title of Principalities and other areas on land will be replaced by a more democratic use of the land;
 - thirdly: Differences in titles on land, still existing among circles of the people from former times, will be adapted to the developments and needs as are apparent in the society;
 - fourthly: In affording foreign capital the opportunity to participate in developing the economy of the State the Government will focus its attention on the interests of the farmers and townspeople in the wider sense of the word. Beside these, the Government will continue to carry out the measures that have been taken in the past, among other things:
- firstly: To convert private-owned lands into State-owned lands integrally;

secondly: To perfect the registrations of lands owned by the people; the importance of this is felt more and more, in connection with the fact that the economic ties between the people and the world of commerce have grown closer.

Mr. Chairman,

(c) To speed up the employment of former fighters in the field of reconstruction — by absorbing them into society or at the various schools — the Government deems it necessary to, first of all, reconsider the relevant regulations which were promulgated in 1951 and which were then revised in 1952; to adjust them to the developments in society, and, in general, to the present condition of former fighters and the State.

The solution of the question of former fighters does not stand alone; it must be connected with the question of the absorption of army members who have been demobilized, into society. These must be steered into the channels leading to the upbuilding of the State in general, and the speeding up of national production in particular.

The experiences gained by the former Governments with respect to these questions will be put to use; these activities that have proved to be useful, as for instance the transmigration of former fighters, will be continued.

With due observance to the financial capacity of the State, the transmigration of former fighters will be sped up and given priority.

The co-ordination among the various transmigration projects, which were started by the former Governments, will be continued and perfected.

Viewed from the angle of the distribution of productive manpower in the fields of agriculture, industry and trade, the fullest possible attention must be paid to the movement of people from densely populated areas to sparsely populated areas, and to the mobilization of the unemployed and destitute on behalf of the process of production.

The Government aims at gradually increasing the volume of transmigration.

As far as lies in the power of the State, the Government intends to carry out the transmigration and other projects to the greatest possible extent.

Mr. Chairman,

(d) The item on improving the supervision on the expenditure of public money is included in the Program of the Cabinet as it is still apparent that a great amount of money and capital is used in such a way as not to produce the greatest possible benefit for the State and the national economy.

It goes without saying that this less efficient use cannot be answered for.

Psychologically, it may be easily accounted for that, due to the strong desire to build up, it is often overlooked that the expenditure of money and capital must be preceded by, and attended with, a plan which has been thoroughly drawn up, the training of personnel for co-ordination, administration and organization purposes while all this to be followed by a proper supervision and direction.

Only if this is deeply realized by all parties who are responsible for the expenditure of public money can it be expected that the money and capital, which have been contributed by the people with great pains, will be used to the greatest benefit.

The Government is of the opinion that deficiencies as meant above are still to found in various fields — in bodies which constitute Government offices and in private organizations as well.

It stands to reason that such a situation cannot be remedied at short notice.

Nevertheless, the Government is convinced that this question is most likely to be ignored if no attention, fully and incessantly, is paid to it: should this occur, a sound situation will not be arrived at.

In point of fact, only expenditures which are attended with the guarantee that the money will be used as efficiently as possible, should be made; especially with the present financial position, after that the State has experienced large deficits in its budgets and deficiencies of gold and foreign currency for years on end.

Of course, situations may crop up, necessitating steps to be taken which deviate from the directives for the expenditure of money illustrated above. However, the Government is of the opinion that such matters can be restricted.

Within the framework of improving the supervision on the use of public money, the Government's opinion may be put forward that the booking of budgets in every Ministry must need to be reconsidered and perfected.

All this will generally meet with difficulties owing to the deficiency of experienced personnel. However, the aim set may be arrived at by reorganizing the existing personnel and training new officials.

The improvement expected can also be arrived at by perfecting the legislation, where necessary, and by adjusting the regulations on accountability to the prevailing facts and conditions.

4. Labour Affairs.

Mr. Chairman,

As labour problems are related to problems concerning prosperity and finance, I would like to make the statement on labour affairs first, thus deviating from the order put in the Program of the Cabinet.

The Government aims at justice in the field of production; its other aim, for the longer term, is to arrive at the ideal of full employment in Indonesia as meant in articles 28, 29 and 36, of the Constitution.

One of the conditions towards this goal is that production and national income be raised.

Labourers and entrepreneurs play a most important part in these activities.

More important, however, is the problem of distributing the output of production and the national income.

The Government is convinced that the endeavours towards the attainment of full employment and social justice will only bear fruit if there is a system for a just distribution of profits and an efficient distribution of the output of production among the common people.

The Government must work towards raising the living standard of labourers without prejudicing the interests of entrepreneurs, as the latter are factors who stimulate and take the initiative in the field of production.

Beside these, the Government will awaken the sense of responsibility on the part of labour in the field of production so that, in devoting their energy, labour must not feel impelled by fear but by a sense of responsibility which is felt as a national duty in the interest of the people and the State.

Nevertheless, it must be realized that the raising of the living standard of labour for that matter, labour problems in general are closely related to economic questions.

Therefore, the Government will closely see to it that these would not hamper developments in the economic field so as to injure the welfare of the entire people.

Further, the Government is convinced that, beside the Government endeavours to raise the living standard of labour, positive activities on the part of labour themselves are badly needed, so that a good understanding between Government and labour — and in particular the trade unions — may arise, and an atmosphere may be created which is free from prejudices.

The Government realized that **bonafide** trade unions must be given freedom to move, freedom to organize, appreciation of labour rights; in short, the democratic principles must be observed honestly by both sides.

On the basis of the above, in view of the fact in the present economic field and the ability of labour organizations themselves, the Government intends to execute the following working plan:

firstly: The legal basis will be laid for labour relations in the industrial field. Where necessary, this will be perfected by revising and replacing the legislation existing in this field.

As a case in point it may be put forward that the Emergency Act Nr 16/1951 will be replaced by a new one; likewise, the Act on Dismissals, which is a legacy from colonial times. Other acts in this field are in the making.

secondly: Acts must also be drawn up concerning labour conditions. The guiding line must be the intention to protect labour, physically and socio-economically, as long as they work as labourers.

thirdly: Plans with regard to social guarantees and labour welfare must be executed; cases in point are sick-funds, housing for labourers, retreats, etc.

fourthly: Endeavours must be made to employ the right labourers in the right places; vocational courses must also be set up so as to help the unemployed to acquire professional knowledge.

fifthly: It must be tried to find practical ways to raise the productive capacity of labour.

sixthly: The Government apparatus in the field of labour must be supplemented and extended so that its progress may keep pace with the endeavours to complete labour legislation.

5. Organisation of the State.

Mr. Chairman,

(a) The Government sincerely intends to improve the policy of decentralization by way of perfecting its legislation and working towards the establishment of autonomous areas up to the lowest level; all this is done to speed up the realization of the ideal of granting the largest possible autonomy to the areas as meant in article 131 of the Constitution.

The Bill on Regional Administration, which is to replace the Act Nr 22/1948, and the Act Nr 44/1950 of the former State of East Indonesia, is in course of completion. This bill may be expected to be completed in three months' time.

As to the factual delegation of powers to the autonomous areas in accordance with the act for the establishment of such areas, I can state that the Government continues the work that has been started by the former Cabinets.

The preparation of a provisional draft on the financial relations between the Central Government on one side and the autonomous areas on the other side, has been completed by a Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. M. Nasrun.

Further, the Government wishes to state that a draft bill on the election of members for the Regional Houses of Representatives is in course of preparation; the principles of this are in keeping with Act Nr 7/1953.

More than anything else, the establishment of the lowest level of autonomous areas requires a most thorough examination and preparation, in connection with the constellation of the Indonesian society, with all its sorts and conditions of communities, both viewed from the angle of sound „adat" laws and from the social angle in general.

We know that there are multifarious Communities at law, which are firmly rooted in the respective areas. In connection herewith, investigations and preparations requiring a lot of time, are needed before the decision can be taken to establish the autonomous areas concerned. It is quite possible that the result will not be one uniform structure; that the structures will not be identical and that their establishment can only be brought about gradually, in accordance with the factual conditions in the respective areas.

The establishment of autonomous areas will also be canalized in such a way as to enable the soonest and best possible, development of party systems.

Further, the Government intends to reconsider at the earliest possible time the position of Principalities with a view to bringing them into line with article 132 of the Constitution.

Mr. Charman,

(b + c) To realize the ideal of the Government, i.e. to set up an efficient Government apparatus and to bring about a rational distribution of manpower by endeavouring to improve the living standard of officials, and to fight corruption and red-tapism, it is deemed necessary to appoint a Minister who is to be in charge of affairs connected with the welfare of the State.

The Minister has been given the task:

- firstly: to study the possibilities of simplifying and perfecting the organization of the State, and to submit suggestions to that effect;
- secondly: to examine the course of the State administration, and to make suggestions for its improvement;
- thirdly: to check the organizational efficiency and the working system employed at the State offices, and to make suggestions with respect hereto.

- fourthly: to plan and suggest the perfecting of the organization and the working system of the bodies which are in charge of supervising activities with a financial responsibility and the procurement of goods for the State, in Indonesia as well as abroad;
- fifthly: to fight corruption and red-tapism in all fields, and in the widest sense of the word.

In order to perform this extensive task, the Minister will be made responsible for the work which is now being done by State Commissions in charge of affairs connected with the organization of the Ministries and with the payment of Government officials respectively.

As the nature of corruption and red-tapism is the same everywhere, the Minister does not intend to interfere with or to derogate from the responsibility of the other Ministers in fighting corruption and red-tapism in their respective Ministries. The Minister only intends to lighten the other Ministers, who are overburdened with work, by co-ordinating their activities.

Every Ministry, and every Government Service, continues to perform its task in this field.

However, the instruments which are in charge of supervising the State services will be co-ordinated in such a way as to enable quick and firm measures to be taken when facing such events.

Thus, the nature of the co-ordinating work done by the Minister is **checking and activating**, without prejudicing the tasks that are being performed by respective State services.

In doing his work, the Minister has set up a secretariat; the establishment of its personnel is such as not to run counter to the activities to check the dissipation of manpower and money.

6. Legislation.

Mr. Chairman,

Article 145 of the Constitution contains the provision that the Government shall see to it that the existing legislation be adapted to the Constitution immediately after the latter becomes valid.

The legislation meant is of various kinds; it covers all fields, and a space of time of about 3½ centuries.

It is easy to understand that it is a huge task, and that it must be taken in hand by experts in various fields.

What has been done by the Government up to now is exclusively dictated by circumstances.

The reason for this is not that the former Governments ignored the appointed task as laid down in the Constitution.

The primary cause is that the Governments met with difficulties in working towards this aim, owing to the deficiency of personnel; the existing personnel are mobilized entirely to cope with the daily work.

In connection with all this, and to speed up the work towards national legislation, the Government deems it necessary, indeed, to set up a State Commission which will be in charge of preparing a national legislation covering as many fields as possible.

It is to be hoped that the expectations towards the speeding up of national codification may be answered.

National acts which the Government hopes to submit to Parliament before long include a Main Act for the State Defence, Acts on the State Police, on State Banks other than the Bank of Issue, on the establishment of enterprises and on citizenship.

II. WEST IRIAN.

Mr. Chairman,

Holding to the fact that it is a special case, the West Irian question is given a separate place in the program of the present Cabinet.

The national claim with regard to Irian is based on the ground that historically, legally, and politically, this area actually form one whole with the territory of the Indonesian Nation's country.

What is meant by the area of the Republic of Indonesia since the Proclamation of Indonesia's Independence, is the former area of the late Netherlands Indies.

This national standpoint is also in keeping with the Provision laid down in the first article of the Charter for the Transfer of Sovereignty, reading that „the Netherlands Kingdom transfers complete sovereignty over Indonesia to the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, unconditionally and irrevocably”.

The word Indonesia, according to this article, certainly means the area of the former Netherlands Indies, the sovereignty over which was restored to the Government of the Indonesian State by the Netherlands Kingdom on 27th December 1949.

Since that day, the conflict between the two States does no longer concern the question of **sovereignty**; it only relates to the **de facto** authority over the residency of West Irian as was confirmed by the correspondence conducted between the two governments on 2nd November 1949, and reading that the status quo over the residency of Irian means "the authority of the Government of the Netherlands Kingdom over the residency of Irian".

The political position of West Irian was to be settled by way of negotiations within the period ending 27th December 1950.

However, the dispute over the **de facto** authority was not settled within that period, and the Indonesian Government made the statement to the Netherlands Government that, as from 27th December 1950, the occupation of West Irian by the Netherlands did not carry the consent of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

The standpoint of the Republic of Indonesia as defined above, has not only been explained; it was made clear, time and again, on the international forum, in the meetings of the U.N. General Assembly in Paris and New York.

Further more, no sentence whatever in any agreement concluded between Indonesia and the Netherlands says or intends that the **de facto** authority may permanently be exercised by the Netherlands Government over West Irian when the negotiations on the authority over that area should meet with failure.

Besides, the Netherlands Government has tried unilaterally to give this part of the Indonesian territory the status of a non-selfgoverning country; it goes without saying that this is rejected by the Government of the Republic.

The National Government of Indonesia firmly holds to the West Irian area, and is in duty bound to peacefully reunite it with the Indonesian territory whose sovereignty, forming a whole entity in itself, may not be divided so that the de facto authority over that area must also be in the hands of the Indonesian Government.

The above standpoint is consistently expressed in the Act for the Election of the Parliament and the Constituent Assembly which will be carried into execution next year.

III. FOREIGN POLICY.

Mr. Chairman,

(a) Before making statements on the items of the Cabinet program which bear upon foreign problems, I deem it necessary to state, first of all, that, in the opinion of the present Government, the foreign policy of every country is a continuation and reflection of its home policy.

In connection herewith, the Government is of the opinion that our foreign policy must primarily be viewed from the angle, and within the frame-work, of our internal policy.

It is also evident that the strength in actualizing the foreign policy is for the greater part dependent on the internal position of strength, especially with regard to the national strength, the economic strength, and — this is a hard fact — the military strength.

This is the more important for our State in connection with the foreign policy it pursues, and which does not make small demands on us.

It is generally known, and accepted as the right attitude, that from the outset — that is, from the establishment of the Republic of Indonesia — our state has pursued "an independent and active foreign policy, based on the interest of the people and aimed towards world peace".

This has been the policy of the former Cabinets, and it will also be carried out by the present Cabinet.

As regards the **independent policy**, it is obvious that such a policy is nothing else but the realization of the independence and sovereignty of the state in international relations, where in the last resort the will of the state or the nation itself will be decisive in coming to resolutions in the field of international relations.

In this connection the Government recognizes that interdependency exists, and international law applies, in the relationship of the nations in the world in all fields.

Thus, an independent foreign policy is to all intents and purposes normal for every state which wishes to strengthen its sovereignty.

On the other hand, however, it will be easily understood that in a world where force and power still constitute main factors, it will greatly depend on the forces working within said country to how far that independent policy can be executed as strongly as possible, that is, in a consistent way.

This very independent policy has been the reason why Indonesia does not side with one of the blocs, either the U.S. or the U.S.S.R. bloc.

It needs no further explaining that the foreign policy, like the home policy, must be based on the interests of our own people, not on the interests of other peoples, or exclusively on the interests of a few individuals or cliques.

This is, indeed, in harmony with the principle of national independence and people's sovereignty.

Unlike the policy of neutrality (this term would be more to the point if used in the event of an armed conflict), the independent policy is active in nature and has a distinct object in view.

Self-evidently an independent foreign policy cannot possibly be isolationist or indifferent in the field of international politics.

That is why we have joined the United Nations so as to settle problems of the utmost importance in the political, economic, cultural, and other fields — all of which are useful to us and to the whole world. For the same reason we also try to reconcile the two conflicting blocs.

Together with the other Asian and African countries we try to solve colonial or semi-colonial problems such as the Tunisian, Moroccan, and "apartheid" questions which, in our opinion, hampers the arrival at world peace.

That is also the reason why Indonesia has entered into agreements of friendship with other countries (Egypt, Syria, Pakistan, India, Burma, and the Philippines).

All this intervention is no more nor less aimed at world peace, because we are deeply aware that world peace is not merely a lofty ideal cherished and nurtured in the hearts of men in general who wish to realize it for all they are worth. It is, besides, a precondition for building up our state systematically and rapidly.

We consider co-operation with the Asian-Arab (African) bloc truly important; we are convinced that close co-operation among these countries will certainly strengthen the endeavours to arrive at a lasting world peace.

The co-operation among the Asian and African countries is quite in harmony with the provisions of the U.N. Charter regarding regional arrangements. Besides, these States generally have the same standpoint on several international questions indeed. They have a common ground to form a special group. Therefore, we will continue and strengthen that co-operation.

The world breathes more freely now that a truce has been concluded in Korea. We too hope that eventually a strong peace treaty may be concluded among all parties concerned, and that this may be the basis for a lasting world peace.

With our neighbour-states it will be endeavoured to arrive at relations which are based on good-neighbour policy and which cultivate mutual goodwill for a co-operation as neighbours, in harmony with the spirit of the U.N. Charter.

Our activity in the field of international affairs is not restricted to the United Nations; it must also be boosted up outside the U.N., with might and main.

Our achievements are by no means small, and the Government will now systematically continue its activities, in the interests of the Indonesian people and the whole world.

(b + c) A few matters must be taken in hand as soon as possible, however, i.e.: the revision of the Indonesian Netherlands relations as based on the Union Statute

into normal international relations, the speeding up of the reconsideration of the other agreements accruing from the Round Table Conference, and the annulment of agreements which are disadvantageous to the State.

Apart from the fact that the West-Irian question is not settled as yet, a more satisfactory bilateral co-operation between the Republic of Indonesia and the Netherlands Kingdom is also hampered by the fact that the Union has not yet been dissolved, as a consequence whereof the other agreements which accrue from the Round Table Conference are not yet revised, and the agreements which are disadvantageous to the Republic are not yet annulled.

The outside world will easily understand our standpoint if it only will take account of the trend of our foreign policy, its basis and its aims.

The Union bond has been tested since December 1949 (the Round Table Conference), but it has never run smoothly, its effects are even contrary, so that there is no other way out — if indeed an improvement of the relations between the Indonesian and Netherlands nations is intended — than to terminate a relationship which is unable to develop, which is even negative, and to change it into normal international relationship where the above-meant improvement may be expected, as the latter relationship constitutes a co-operation in an atmosphere of independence and sovereignty; this will be deeply felt by the Indonesian nation.

In the mean time, the remnants of the colonial period which are still to be found in the economic, financial, and other fields, must be liquidated as soon as possible so as to arrive at the goal set.

For this reason the Government wishes to speed up the reconsideration of the other agreements accruing from the Round Table Conference, and the annulment of agreements which are disadvantageous to the Republic of Indonesia.

If both parties recognize the avenues for improving the relations between the two nations, who formerly lived as colonizing and colonized people, a settlement of the above problems may be expected in an atmosphere of peace and mutual understanding.

This is the expectation of the present Government: Statements concerning the other questions of current interest which also fall under the foreign policy, i.e. the exchange of diplomatic representatives between the Republic of Indonesia and the Soviet Union and the relations between Indonesia and Japan, are given elsewhere.

IV. GOVERNMENT POLICY.

Mr. Chairman,

It now remains for me to make a statement on the last item of the Program of the Cabinet which runs as follows:

To seek after the settlement of all political disputes which cannot be settled in the Cabinet, by referring decisions on them to the Parliament.

Mr. Chairman,

By virtue of the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, the democratic parliamentary system applies to our State.

The logical conclusion of this system is that the Government is obliged to carry out all decisions of the House of Representatives.

Should it turn out that a decision of the House of Representatives cannot possibly be carried out by the Government, there are two ways to be followed, i.e.:

- firstly: The Government can submit the question to the House again, state its endeavours to carry the decision into effect, and the reasons why it cannot possibly be executed.
- secondly: The House can call the Government to account; then the Government can proceed as stated in the preceding paragraph.

On the basis of the new explanations of the Government, the House of Representatives can then reconsider its former decision and, if necessary, make a new decision which the Government is likely to be able to execute.

This, Mr. Chairman, is the policy that the present Cabinet will pursue in confronting several important issues which, below, I will mention one by one.

Firstly: The Exchange of Diplomatic Representatives between the Republic of Indonesia and the Soviet Union.

The Rondonuwu motion, carried by Parliament, and asking for an embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to be opened in Moscow, will be carried into effect after the Government has made preparations and provisions as best as possible.

Secondly: Indonesian-Japanese Relations.

It will be endeavoured to establish normal relations with Japan as soon as possible, by seeking a firm basis which will be to the advantage of our State, i.e. a bilateral agreement in place of the San Francisco peace treaty, where arrangements will also be made concerning the distribution of war reparations and sea fisheries.

Thirdly: Distribution of land in East Sumatra.

A State Committee will be set up to effectuate improvements in the distribution of land in East Sumatra, while taking into account the interests of the people as well as of the State. Those concerned will sit on this Committee.

The Committee will be in charge of investigations so as to arrive at the following improvements:

1. plots which were allotted for the cultivation of tobacco and where villages and rice-fields were established before 1950, will be reduced from the concessions;
2. maintenance will be perfected in the interest of the building up and development of villages;
3. the movement of farmers will not be carried out before harvest time;
4. farmers will be enabled to harvest their crops from the plots they have left in case these plots are not immediately used for the cultivation of tobacco.
5. marsh-grounds and precipices shall not be allotted to the people;
6. within the scope of the State finances:
 - a. the aid will be increased to Rp. 300; where possible, this will be given in the form of agricultural implements;
 - b. the means of transportation and movement will be improved;
 - c. the preparation of lands that will be occupied by farmers will be improved;

7. those who have registered as farm-hands but who are actually farmers, will be included in the group of farmers;
8. lands will only be allotted to Indonesian citizens;
9. the investigations also cover the mapping out of the lands distributed, without prejudicing the existing agreements concluded between the Government and the estates on the acreage of the land that has been taken from the concessions, on the understanding that, if it is deemed necessary, the Government can conclude new agreements regarding the acreage of the lands that must be returned to the Government.

The Committee will submit its suggestions to the Government in two months' time. It consists of an equal number of representatives of entrepreneurs and farmers' organizations, and is presided over by an official of the Central Government who is appointed by the Cabinet.

The removal of people will be carried out as follows:

- a. the movement of persons who have agreed to the new lands that are allotted to them, and who are ready to move while waiting for their transportation or the time of harvesting, can be continued;
- b. the movement of persons who have expressed their willingness to be removed but who do not agree to the land allotted to them, can be continued provided they agree to the new allotment of land in the place of what they have rejected.

With regard to persons who cannot be included in either group a or b, their removal will be postponed until the Government has made a decision on the basis of the report received from said Commission.

The Tandjung Morawa affair will be settled according to law.

The investigation of the detained persons by the police, the council for the prosecution and the court will be sped up.

The persons who are found unguilty will be released soon.

Fourthly: The North Sumatra Oil Wells.

In view of the fact that Indonesia is still in need of foreign capital — and for this reason adopts a foreign investment policy which, while preserving the interests of the State, affords foreign enterprises the possibility to be active, — plans must be drawn up with regard to nationalizations which are in accordance with the capacity and the needs of the State.

The question of the North Sumatra oilwells is kept in abeyance for the time being.

Meanwhile, the Government will immediately make investigations and take thorough steps so as to save production.

Apart from the question whether these oilwells must be returned to the concessionaries or not, the Government faces the fact that the oilwells are in a state of neglect.

At the moment it is hard to find out about the condition of the wells at every drilling-site, the equipment, the number and the condition of the labourers who seek a subsistence at these wells, the way in which and by whom the oilwells are managed.

This situation is caused by the fact that, up to now, attention has only been paid to the future status of the oilwells; its present state has been ignored.

As at present the Government is responsible for the state of these oilwells — irrespective of the outcome of the question of its future status — it is necessary to take steps to give content to the Government's responsibility.

These steps are aimed at the attainment of a distinct hierarchy in the management, at improving the organization, at making an inventory of the wells, the equipment and the manpowers, and at raising the quality of the production.

In this connection it will be taken into consideration whether the experience gained in running the Tjepu oilwells — which have not yet been returned to the concessionaries and which are running more systematically — may be put to use.

CONCLUSION.

Mr. Chairman,

Before concluding this exposition, I should like to ask the fullest attention of the Honourable Members of the House of Representatives for the present position of our State.

I need not repeat that condition in our country are not stable as yet.

On the other hand, however, there is no strong reason for pessimism.

I am even of the opinion that moderate optimism is quite in place.

I am convinced that, beside apathy, there is still much joy and readiness among the People to fight on so as to finish our National Revolution.

Beside setbacks, there is also progress which tends to make us glad — as was explained by the Head of State from this place on 16th August last.

There is still the potency of Indonesia's national resources; there is still the potency of the will to work for the building up of our wealth, too.

It is only to be regretted that flaws have come in the unity of our nation which we possessed whole when we proclaimed the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia — while a prerequisite for guiding the State and our People is oneness of will and firmness of spirit.

I know that the principles of democracy bring along difference of opinion and the confrontation of the political convictions of the various sectors of the people.

But this need not mean that the disputes among ourselves should come to a head.

"Bhineka Tunggal Ika" also contains the principle of democracy that is to be found in the French saying: "Du choc des opinions jaillit la vérité".

Democracy does not wish for the roads to separate, for it does not wish an antithesis and disintegration; democracy wishes for the roads to meet, for a synthesis and integration.

Realization of this fact will take us on the road to a strong position for our Nation and State, inwardly and outwardly.

The outside world looks attentively at our State and our Nation, because of our potential political, strategic and economic position right in the midst of the international crossroads.

I have full confidence in the democratic consciousness of our nation.

I also believe that the awareness of the part which our State and Nation can play in the international game of chess, in seeking peace in this world, can arouse our People to work for the greatness of their Country. Therefore, we will set out with doing our duty in a spirit of gladness and moderate optimism. May God Almighty bless us and direct us towards our common goal.

Mr. Chairman,

This is the Government Statement and its elucidation; they will always be used as the basis and guide by the Cabinet in continuing its work.

Thank you.

The Charm of an East Java Village Lampah, Surabaya Residency.

*

THE land around seemed poor for Indonesia. In part I believe that is true, but it's sure the impression was heightened by the time of the year. This was the dry season and fields to either side of the road we drove along looked desolate and grey. The rice had been harvested some time ago, and weeds and the untidy high stubble



Lampah's leafy main street.



The village meeting hall with the administrator's house behind it.

of the sawahs — wet rice fields — filled the unpromising looking beds with their borders of rather broken down terrace. I thought „this is going to be a 'strictly business' visit."

But we were still on a fair sized road then. After we turned off towards the villages things began to look different. This road had never known paving and the search for a passage over a broken surface ceased; but we had to go slowly — there'd been just enough rain the night before to make slipping a near possibility. But we could see more.

The fields were not as desolate as I'd thought. Here and there some were planted with sweet potato or maize; here and there the earth had been turned, and people were congregating to make vegetable beds where no rice would grow until the rains came again.

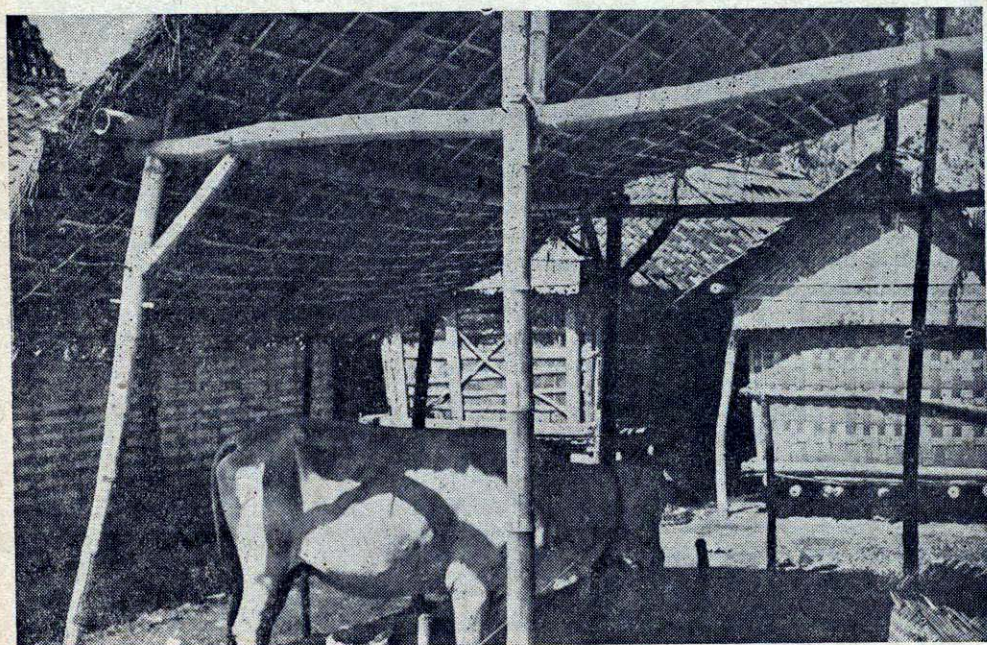
Then the turi trees began. Their feathery, silvery green leaves cast a light shadow over the road and the paths through the fields which, no more than a foot pad, run along the top of the low narrow banks dividing one sawah from the next. The turi trees are most useful things. They grow from seed to perhaps as much as twenty feet high in a year, a straight growth with stiff-looking twigs along their branches. At a year or more they make good and ample firewood for the small one-pot earthenware stoves on which village people cook. But the trees bloom before they die, and

the waxy white flowers, about as long as your thumb, make good bitters for a salad — when people feel like bitters, and that's not as seldom as you might think. So attractive a household use for the turi tree is quite overshadowed, however, by an agricultural blessing it confers. Its roots gather a wealth of oxygen and deposit it in the surrounding soil — they're good for gardens and growing things, those soft lacey looking trees!

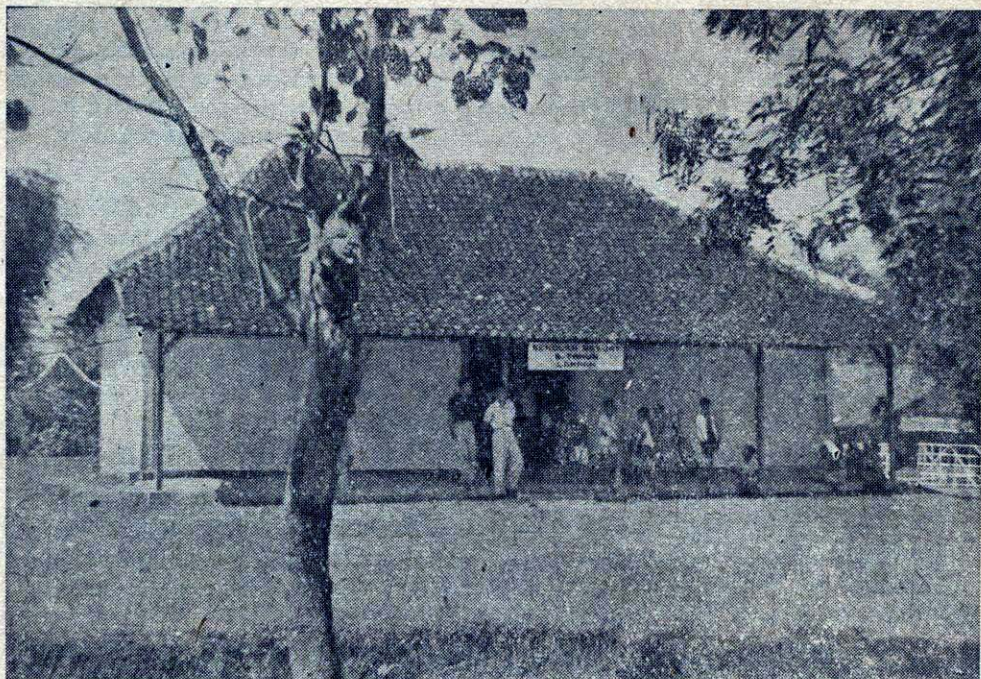
By the time the story of the turi trees had been told, we'd passed a number of road leading off to villages we couldn't see, though our road passed through a few hamlets. But the fields continued. Out of one, a small otter-like creature slid, evidence of the presence of water and fish not too far away — through the russet falcon we saw later seemed better suited to the surroundings.

More tumbled fields, more turi trees, and our station waggon slowed down on the outskirts of Lampah, the village we'd come to visit. On the left lay the village school, on our right a reed and lily filled pond which constituted the none-too-hygienic, but inexhaustible, water supply for all the inhabitants.

We turned a corner and were in the heart of the village, the main street which runs right past the village administration's house. Such houses always comprise also the village hall, and here a crowd had gathered. Our "business" was the anti-yaws campaign and, alas, we were to see many afflicted that day.



Buffalo and rice barns. All parts of the buildings except their roofs are made of bamboo.



Lampah village school. It provides a six-year course of elementary education, and has one teacher.

We got out and, finding the campaign proceeding satisfactorily, we began to look around. Something about the pretty girls caught our eye. That long nose with its high bridge was rather unexpected. So too were the panels of deep wood carving at the back of the hall — swastika and tendril design and the old traditional shades of blue and red which decorated it.

Questions asked of the village administrator, coupled with old stories known to one of our party, gave us what seems to be the answer.

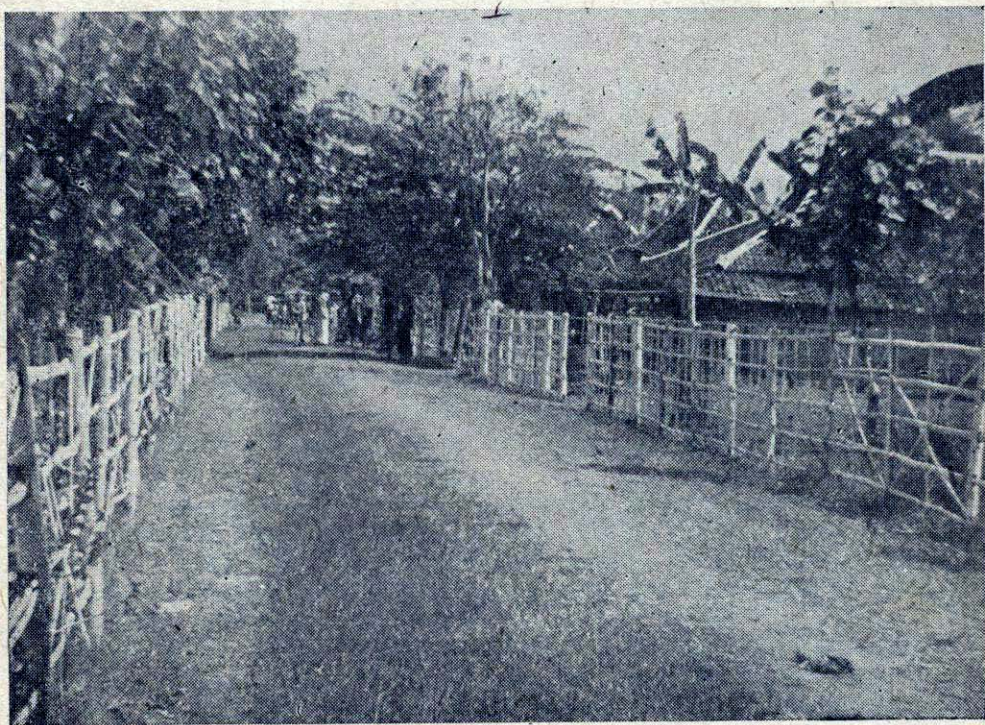
Many hundreds of years ago the seat of a great empire lay to the south of modern Surabaya. We think now of lost Modjopahit as the flower of the ancient Hindu-Javanese civilisation, but an empire of the fourteenth century with treaties signed with China, with vassals in Madagascar, with all centres of civilisation throughout the Indonesian archipelago acknowledging its might, must have been a grand and glorious thing indeed to its own generation.

Modjopahit's capital was inland, a river city, whose chief port lay many miles to the north in the protected waters of the strait between Java and the island of Madura. An overland road connected port and capital, no doubt a well-travelled road, with inns and staging posts for people weary of jolting carriages and swaying palanquins.

Our village of Lampah, whose suggestive name means „walking“, was such a staging post. An old story tells of a princess who stayed there on an adventurous journey long ago. When the Hindu-Javanese culture still ruled men's customs, women also had their rights. Ceremonial forms provided them the means of asking a man's hand in marriage. And this was the desire of our princess, journeying from her home in the great port to the king's court in Modjopahit's capital, that she might make her request to his face.

In those days certainly princesses did not stay the night in backward villages, a circumstance which gives credence to the tradition that Lampah was once a busy township, and its administrator no less than a knight of the royal blood. What pomp and circumstance it once enjoyed we may also perhaps guess by the traditions maintained to this day, even though its population has become Moslem. Once a year, on the anniversary of the centuries'-old death of the founder of Lampah, the villagers of today still gather where his grave is said to be. In a quite un-Moslem like way they dance, ritual fashion, and they drink palm wine, heady stuff, locally brewed. Not even Islam has been strong enough amongst the people to kill this ancient tradition.

All of this from a smallish, out-of-the-way village, miles from anywhere; resting, you'd think, in peaceful isolation from the rest of the world!



It is difficult to see the houses for the trees which surround them and line the street.

Did we speculate too much? Who can say now? Perhaps, one day someone will find out, and our dreams will be known for what they were — or for a shadow of the reality.

But, fervid imagination or shadow of substance, no one can detract from the quiet dignity of Lampah, the village with grass-flanked road and neat houses behind tidy bamboo fences, still lying on the long-unused route from the old port of Gresik to ruined Modjopahit.

Impressions on the Indo Minority Problem in Indonesia

by

J. C. BOUWENS.

Editor's note:

The contributor of this article, Mr. J. C. Bouwens, is the same author who wrote the article "An inside story about Western New-Guinea", which was published in our last Februari issue. Mr. Bouwens is of Dutch origin living in Indonesia. We would like to point out that all views and ideas contained in articles contributed to us from our readers, and published in this magazine, are not necessarily those of the Editors themselves.

*

MUCH has already been said and written about the Indo-Europeans in Indonesia, but too much of the past and too little about the future.

The approximate 95,000 Indos are mainly of Dutch origin and from a minority, but in spite of that, they are split up into two groups. Those who took Indonesian citizenship are united in the Gabungan Indo untuk Kesatuan Indonesia — or I.E.V. — which union looks after the Indo's interests and strives for their assimilation in the community of peoples of Indonesia along lines of evolution. The other group adheres to its Dutch nationality, notwithstanding that most of them settled down in this country. Because of the past these people sometimes are not taken seriously by the Indonesians of birth. It is taken amiss that hardly any one of them participated in the Indonesian struggle for independence.

But why did they so, and are they really to blame for this? There are several reasons, firstly: The internment during the Japanese occupation unrooted them socially.

In the second place, their isolation from daily life during those days caused it that they stuck to a pre-war level point of view. And this was precisely the period that covered World War II in the Pacific, while moreover one of its consequences, the Indonesian revolution, rolled on! The miseries and chaos that accompany each revolution cast them entirely out of reality.

But thirdly the core of the matter lies in history; in the course of time also the Indo-Europeans had fallen a victim to the colonial divide and rule policy. Beside all the good and constructive things of pre-war days also stood "divide et impera". The policy that set one people or community against the other as manoeuvres of distraction against any possible independence movement.

Today the remainders of this policy are still active. There are the Dutch Indos, mentioned before, who settled down in Indonesia and refuse to take citizenship, thus remain foreigners in their native country. Furthermore, this minority problem is an aspect of the Irian Barat question, for in this occupied residency also live Indo-Europeans, namely about 9,000, for the greater part as colonists. They are living there under extremely poor conditions. Conditions against which even the press and parliament in Holland fulminated! (These conditions however, are due to lack of capital for the development of Irian Barat, as was recently stated in the Dutch report about this territory to the United Nations, against which report Indonesia protested for reasons well-known.)

The case is, that if all Indos would unite, instead of part of them, forming a facet of the community of peoples of Indonesia, the position of the Dutch in the Irian Barat residency would be endangered from just one more side.

The isolated Indos in Irian Barat further fail in the first stadia of the assimilation-process that is taking place in the greater part of the Indonesian Archipelago and which gradually culminates in the acceptance of citizenship.

A crisis may hit them, however, when the administration of this residency will be transferred also de facto to Indonesia. Another step in that direction is the demand of the Moslim World Conference to the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs during his recent stay in Karachi, to return Irian Barat to Indonesia as soon as possible.

However, a sacrifice of people for colonial purposes is no fiction at all. This was proved in the recent past, among others, with the Ambonese war-veterans and the Dutch Indos, now staying in displaced-persons camps in Holland; out of employment and without an outlook for the future, perhaps

It will be quite clear that such a state of affairs must be prevented from taking place once more, and therefore it is hoped that insight will be gained by those Dutch Indos who want to stay in Indonesia.

That they may accept reality, instead of chasing fata-morganas of the past and renouncing their native country; for themselves and the sake of their children's future.

SPOTLIGHT ON KALIMANTAN



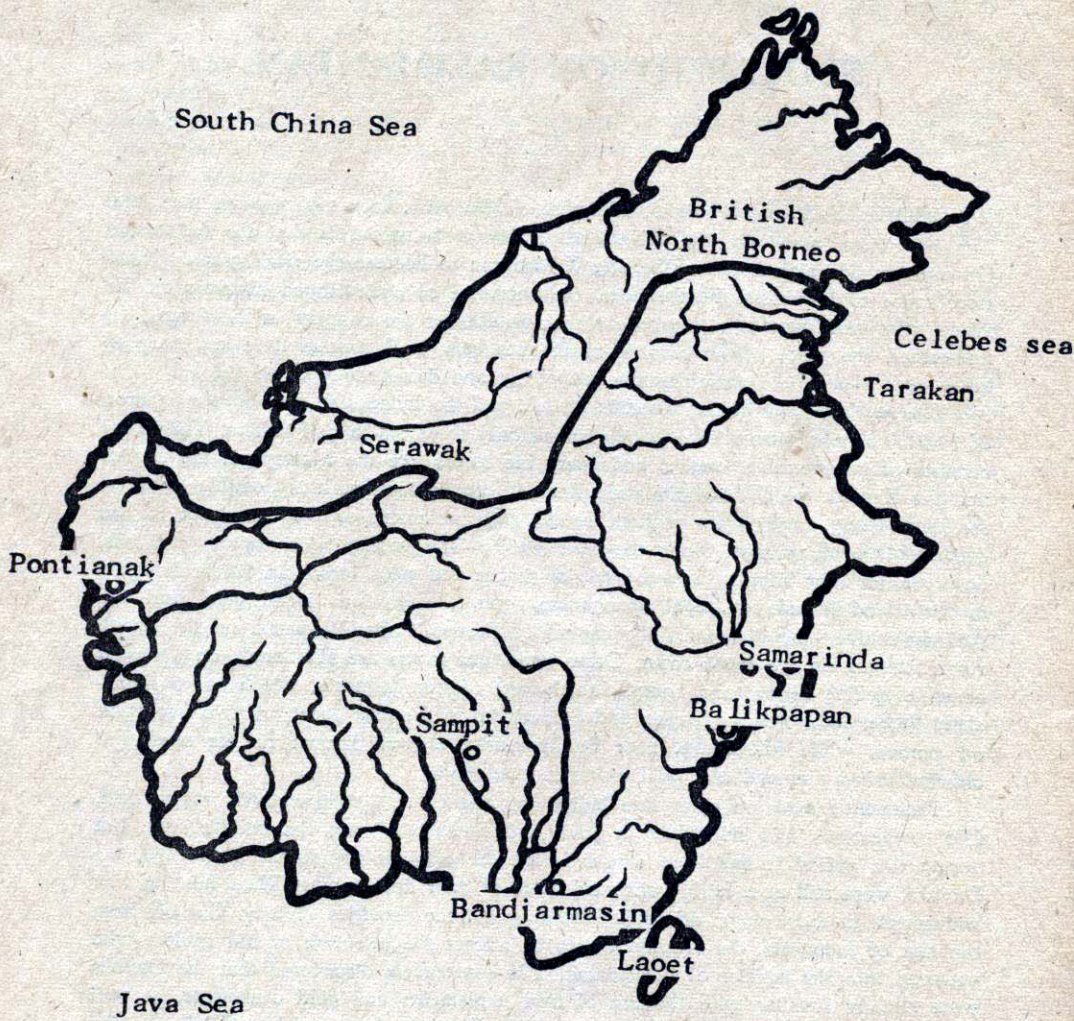
INDONESIA'S largest island, Kalimantan (Borneo), formerly a terra incognita, has been much in the news lately. The main reason is that the Indonesian Government has high hopes of helping Kalimantan to become the rice "granary" and store-house of Indonesia. Furthermore, the existence of undeveloped minerals on the island may well provide a source of great wealth for the country in the future. To understand the place of Kalimantan in the economy of Indonesia it is necessary to have some idea of the nature of the geography and demography of the island.

The northern part of the island is British, and the Indonesian part covers an area of 208,300 square miles with a population of only three and a half million. The island consists of impenetrable jungles, and many big rivers like the Martapura, the Barito, and the Kapuas, which form the main lines of communication. It is possible to travel for days along these rivers without seeing any settlement or person except for an occasional small village along the river banks. The vast jungles are of great use, however, for they supply various kinds of timber and wood products. Minerals found in the island include oil, coal, manganese, iron, the precious metal gold, and the precious stone, the diamond. The capital of Borneo is Bandjarmasin, on the Barito river, situated on the south coast. Other important towns are Pontianak, on the west coast, a trading centre, and Sampit, north-west of Bandjarmasin, which has a flourishing timber industry. Balikpapan and Samarinda on the east coast are two important oil centres, while Martapura, near Bandjarmasin, is well known for its small but old-established diamond and gold extracting industries.

Kalimantan made its entry into Indonesian history at a comparatively recent date. Old civilizations had flourished in Java and Sumatra during the middle ages, but during this period it has been assumed that the original population of Borneo, the Dayaks, were still at a fairly backward stage of their development. Head-hunting was widespread in those days, and still existed up till the previous century. Cut off from the rest of Indonesia, the Dayaks began to attract the attention of sea traders who ventured into the interior of Kalimantan. The sea traders discovered that the Dayaks were already familiar with the use of iron implements and gold ornaments, as well as diamonds. The number of migrants from Sumatra, Java and the Celebes to the coastal areas of Borneo increased to a steady flow. Today, ceremonial head-hunting does not exist among the Dayaks, and the settled population, formerly nomads, have started to share in the progress of the rest of Indonesia.

There are at present 49 Dayak tribes in the heart of the island, who practice a primitive form of agriculture and the rearing of livestock as their means of livelihood. Education is a feature of life that is new to them, and it is interesting to note that the passionate love of head-hunting said to have characterized the people in former

KALIMANTAN



times has now given way to an equally ardent desire to achieve better educational standards. There are 150 schools in the Dayak's territory, and the number is increasing every year. The coastal populations, who were originally migrants from other islands, have on the whole much the same standard of life and education as the rest of the Indonesians outside Kalimantan.

The vast jungles represent treasures upon which a considerable part of the population depends for its subsistence. Sampit, the centre of the timber industry, has become increasingly important in the past few years, and now lies on the Garuda Indonesian Airways line and the K.P.M. shipping line as a scheduled stopping-place. The Dayak Wood Company in Sampit produces 63,000 cubic metres of timber annually. Although the yield is used primarily to meet Indonesia's reconstruction requirements, part is exported to Malaya, Europe, Australia, and South Africa.

Nature has also provided Kalimantan with many mineral resources. Firstly, there are the oil fields found in Balikpapan, Samarinda, Sanga-sanga, Kambodja, Tandjung, and the islands of Bungu and Tarakan. The centre of the oil refineries is Balikpapan, which is operated mostly by the B.P.M. The B.P.M. refineries there have recently undergone a reconstruction, now completed, after 6 years of strenuous labour following the serious and extensive damage inflicted on the refineries during the war years. Nevertheless, not all the oil wells in Kalimantan have been put back into operation. Those at Tandjung, and at Bungu island off the coast of Kalimantan, are being repaired. The wells at Kambodja and Sanga-sanga already in operation produce some 36,000 tons of crude oil per month, while the Tarakan island refinery wells, which suffered the worst damage during the war have a production capacity of 32,000 tons of crude oil per month.

Kalimantan also has considerable deposits of iron-ore, manganese, gold and diamonds, but most of these have not been worked yet. However, the small gold and diamond industry in Martapura has already achieved popularity beyond the Indonesian borders.

West Kalimantan, with Pontianak as the capital, is the second producer of copra in Indonesia, with an annual output of 60,000 to 70,000 tons of dry copra. Work on the copra plantation there is mostly organised through the 25 copra cooperatives, who receive any help that is required from the West Kalimantan Copra Board.

Despite all this natural wealth, Kalimantan, as a whole, is still poor and undeveloped. At present, it cannot start a programme of industrialization, as extremely large capital sums would be required, which the central government would not be able to afford. Industrialization for Kalimantan is therefore an impossibility for the time being. On the other hand, great plans for the mechanization and promotion of agriculture on the island are being carried out. A part of this work, the Kalimantan project, calls for the speedy reclamation of extensive wastelands near Bandjarmasin, and their conversion into fertile areas for cultivation. When completed, these large wastelands will produce at least 600,000 tons of rice annually. In order to speed up the completion of the vast agricultural plan, four foreign experts are now working on the staff of the Kalimantan project, and several more are expected to commence later on this year.

Important machinery, including tractors, bulldozers, and machines for clearance and drainage purposes are already being used on the spot. Fourteen Indonesian officials in the Agricultural Service have just completed a year's practical study of agricultural mechanization in the United States, and the experience that they have

acquired there is sure to be of great value in the future. The costs involved in carrying out the Kalimantan Project are high by Indonesian standards, but they will be more than covered later by the production of food-stuffs and other products, as wasteland is reclaimed. Furthermore, the long-cherished aim of self-sufficiency in rice-production for a large, and increasing population will finally become a reality.

Already a small section of the large project, located in the area of Bandjarmasin and its surroundings, has been completed. Private initiative has been active in clearing and draining the swamps surrounding the town, and on the newly reclaimed areas, modern buildings have been erected, and new roads have been constructed to keep up with the expansion of the town.

The experience in transforming swamps into arable land which has been gained during the course of this small section of the whole project will prove invaluable for the later completion of the rest of the operation. Modern techniques, applied by people whose enthusiasm is enabling them to overcome great obstacles, are transforming Kalimantan from a steaming wasteland to one of the most important and up-to-date agricultural centres of Indonesia.

AN IMPRESSION OF BEAUTY



MR. JAMES LEONARD TOMLINS made a trip to one of the most famous mountain retreats in Indonesia, Lake Toba, which is situated in North Sumatra. There he was struck by the beauty of the lake, and as a result of his impression he wrote a poem, which he contributed to this magazine.

This is what he wrote under the heading of LAKE TOBA :



O colours that before my eyes arise
From shaded mountain tops that in their guise
Of sentinels do kindly tint your blue,
Your icy waters, with a regal hue;
Paint happy frescoes for a weary mind
Tormented by intrigues of its own kind!
A savage green slashed with the dun of sand
Caresses Samosir, mystique is'land.
The evening rays of a cloud-filtered sun,
Embellish beauties clear to everyone —
Englishmen, with golf and tea
Forgotten temporarily.
Americans in baseball hats,
Buy Batak combs and prayer mats.
The Frenchman laisse tomber 'Ce Soir',
Exultant at thy vigorous power.
Vengeful destruction seen in blackened brick,
Is man's infringement of your bailiwick.
Heed not the form of pain, Great Tobameer,
Now strife is o'er, there's nought else to fear :
Sumatrans long have known your sacred charm,
That gives to restless Man a sublime calm.
All those, from noble captive to the free,
Who've felt your pleasures, live more tolerantly.
For me there'll ever be one priceless prize :—
Your colours that before my eyes arise.

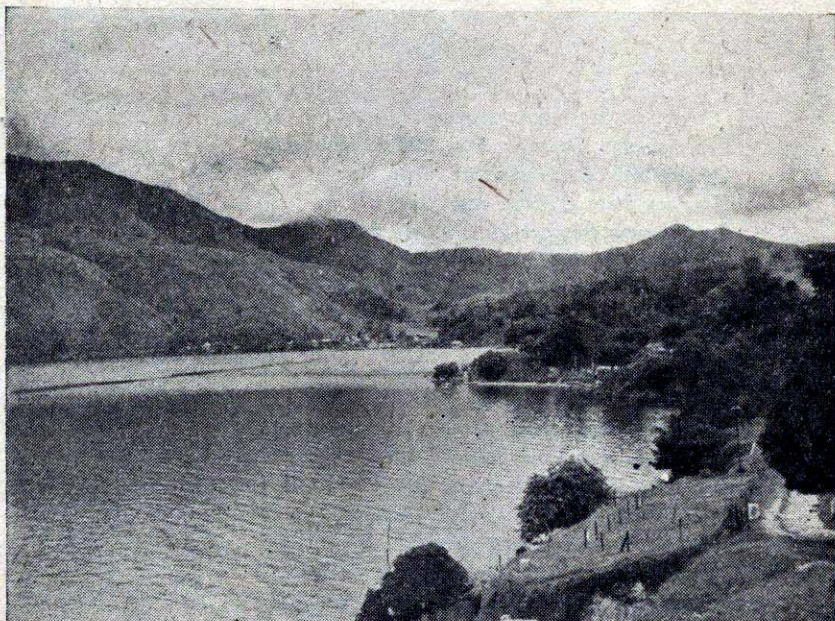


Just for the sake of introduction, Mr. Tomlins was born at Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, England on February 24, 1927. He was educated at Ardingly College, Sussex, England, and Neuchâtel University, Switzerland, where he studied French, German and Italian. After completing National Service in the Royal Air Force, he taught for two years, travelling widely in Europe from the English Channel to the Black Sea.

Mr. Tomlins arrived in Sumatra in January, 1952, where he is at present employed with an English firm in Medan. He has travelled quite extensively in Sumatra, and has contributed travel articles about the country to American, British and Swiss newspapers.

The newspapers concerned are *The Chicago Tribune*, *Blackwood's Magazine*, *The Wide World*, and *Voix Ouvrière*.

The countries he had visited are France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Italy.



The wealth of beauty and peace around Lake Toba makes it an ideal health resort.

Nutrition and Malnutrition Problems in Indonesia



A PROPRIATE feeding is necessary to gain resistance against diseases, especially against contagious diseases, and it is perhaps not wrong to say that disproportioned feeding is one of the main factors leading to epidemics in Indonesia. Improvement of the people's feeding is thus one of the most important means of combatting and preventing epidemics, of raising the standard of people's health and, through that, of leading towards the people's prosperity.

Disproportioned feeding also causes malnutrition in toddlers and this condition is responsible for bad development, frequent sickness, liver diseases, and blindness, and is partly responsible for the exceptionally high mortality in small children.

This problem of high mortality and frequent sickness among the children has long attracted the attention of doctors and has stirred medical services in Indonesia.

100 to 300 small patients come daily to the Children's Department of the Central Public Hospital in the capital city of Djakarta. They are weak and thin children, toddlers with an apathetic look in their eyes, who hang sullenly in their mother's slendang, the carrying scarf. There are also among them children cross and peevish, crying angrily at every movement the mother makes, but without much vigour. Children suffering from the sores that cover their whole bodies.

This bad situation has led the doctors of the health services, with the help of a W.H.O. expert, Dr. P. H. Oomen, to start a survey on infantile malnutrition.

A suitable site for the survey was found in the pediatric department of the Central Hospital where the children come.

Every morning a certain number of newly arrived patients are examined. They are first brought to a trained dietician, then another nurse weighs and measures the child and has it tested for T.B. It is also necessary to take a photograph of each child as this generally presents more information than the written word.

To obtain complete data inquiries are made after their social background: where they live, what they eat, what's the father's profession, etc. It is also very important to find out previous conditions of the patient. How the child came to this bad state; had it been healthy before? Could it walk unsupported before? How was its appetite? How was its digestion? Had its hair been black before? Could it see by lamplight? And so on.

All information obtained is recorded on a card, and compared with previous documents if the child had visited the polyclinic before.

From the examinations it soon proves that the cases confronted with are serious general disturbances of metabolism which manifest themselves in nearly every organ and perhaps most in those with a rapid metabolic turnover of protein. They are created by nutritional deficiency and the disease is called malnutrition. Kwashiorkor is

a worse state of malnutrition whereby an alteration of the pigment of skin and other conditions take place.

When the result of the survey is 0, however, this does not mean that there is no positive evidence of malnutrition. Evidence of malnutrition, however, means immediate danger for the life of the child and this state of ill-health indeed gives every opportunity for contracting serious infectious disease, and, as such, it is more important than the diagnosis of even tuberculosis.

The greater part of the children thus examined indeed show cases of malnutrition, in a lower as well as in a higher degree. No statistic of malnutrition cases throughout Indonesia has yet been available but it is evident that the problem of malnutrition here demands the greatest attention of medical circles and of those with eyes to see and possessed of a sympathetic heart, the plight of the endangered malnourished child is evident enough.

Undoubtedly many people will seek the background of this sad situation in poverty. This is not always the case, however. It is true, it is a problem of the less prosperous people, the lower income groups. The occupations given by parents of afflicted children are mostly bechak drivers, household servant, vendors, chauffeurs, etc. But though their incomes are low, this is not real pauperism. Comparing the external appearance of the mothers with that of their children, we'll see a striking contrast. Not only do they look healthy, but they also look tidy and are properly dressed. It was felt that it was not lack of food which was responsible, but that ignorance on the part of the parents was the main cause for this essentially reversible condition of malnutrition. The approach to the problem by better distribution of food amongst the family, by better selection of foodstuffs, and by improving food habits, looks quite promising.

We have to tackle this matter ourselves and we find no difficulty here as nearly all the elements necessary for the preparation of good food are found in the vegetables and plants grown here.

Attached to the Central Public Hospital in Djakarta is a Nutrition Institute where foodstuffs are analyzed. The Institution is under the leadership of Dr. Purwo Sudarmo, whilst a W.H.O. nutritionist, together with an expert from F.A.O., have been rendering valuable assistance in the work since 1952.

Much valuable work has been done here. Artificial feeding of infants, for instance, meets with many difficulties in this country because of the shortage of cows' milk and because of many serious objections to the use of imported tinned milk. In times of emergency during the Dutch blockade in the years of revolution in this country, the doctors had introduced soybean milk to replace imported tinned milk and this new kind of artificial milk has proved to be an excellent substitute and many good results are recorded from the use of this soymilk. Army babies and mothers were given this kind of milk during those years.

Later on an experiment on its acceptability was also made amongst the pupils of several primary schools. It proves that only 10% refused to take this soymilk or "saridele" (sari = the main component of something; dele: the two last syllables of *bedele* which means soybeans). This milk is also distributed among the patients in several hospitals. The saridele is now enriched with calcium and vit. A, so that the formula is similar to that of cow's milk. The saridele could be made in large

quantities for the beans are produced by the country itself. It is intended to start a large scale production of soybeanmilk in the next future.

Other building, preventive and protective elements necessary for the human body can also be found in the vegetables and fruits grown here in the country, such as groundnuts, green gram, banana, etc. It is a pity that the Indonesian people themselves were not and are still not aware of the high value of several foodstuffs obtainable here, such as tahu, tempe and ontjom. The first two are made of kedele, one a cake, the other curd, and ontjom is made of groundnuts, so that these foods are rich in protein. Obviously information on the values of these foods is needed.

As regards fish, though much fish can be caught in the Indonesian seas, the people cannot yet make great enough use of this food on account of lack of transportation.

It is evident that we need not worry about the foodstuffs. What is highly necessary is the spreading of information on nutrition and propaganda for nutrition-mindedness among the people. This also is the task of the Institute of Nutrition and much work has already been done in this field. Training, lectures and demonstrations have been given to nutrition workers, women's associations, domestic science teachers, midwives, student nurses, leaders of anti-illiteracy campaigns, assistant dieticians etc. Leaflets, posters, books etc. have been issued to make the general public acquainted with nutrition and the right way of preparing food. One of the posters named: "Empat Sehat, Lima Sempurna", which means: "Four is Healthy, Five is Excellent", is used as a simple means towards popular nutrition education. This poster actually emphasizes an existing habit of using the four bases in the menu: the carbohydrate supply from a portion of rice, the vitamins and minerals from vegetables and fruits and the protein supply from fish, meat and vegetable protein such as found in soybeans and so on. For the vulnerable groups, expectant and nursing mothers is added: milk (excellent).

In cooperation with other ministries, such as the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Agriculture, the people are taught the right way of growing vegetables in their own gardens, a better method of fishculture, improvement of cattle breeding etc.

Indonesia's population is still about 60% illiterate and the people are therefore often too closely tied to tradition. Animistic misconceptions of life and the people's reluctance to accept anything new to them makes it difficult just to educate them and to tell them to do this or that. Therefore the most suitable way of education for Indonesia's people seems to be by visual means. Films have to be produced and this has also been done. A film under the title "4 sehat" (Four is Healthy) was produced by Dr. G. Adrian.

As in all fields many difficulties and obstacles are met with in this work, but thanks to the perseverance of the people engaged in this task, it has been possible to plan future measures. The plans include the establishment of centres for the study of malnutrition in country areas within the next year, to be staffed partly with W.H.O. personnel, which are to undertake a similar evaluation of the nutritional status of the population throughout the nation, in different groups of people, particularly amongst children of from 1-5 years.

Work has been conducted in Flores for some time and in the next few months studies of conditions in North Celebes and the Sangir Islands will be undertaken. It is felt that from the data so collected, a nationwide program can be evolved.

Press Comments on Government's Statement on Policy.



THE daily "Times of Indonesia" wrote in its editorial: Premier Sastroamidjojo's policy statement to Parliament delivered last Tuesday morning, while essentially the same as similar pronouncements made by his predecessors, nevertheless served as a useful recapitulation of the programme the new administration hopes to accomplish during its tenure of office. The Premier's round condemnation of the armed gangs as public enemies outside and against the law, and his affirmation that these illegal movements in West and Central Java and South Celebes should be rooted out, will strike an answering echo in every Indonesian heart. The spoliation of rich areas by these gangs, coupled with their defiance of lawful authority, are a festering canker of four years' duration, and only a bold, surgical operation will be effective in excising it.

Specially welcome is the Premier's declaration that general elections, to be carried out in stages, will be completed within a period of 16 months commencing January 1, 1954, and a first step in that direction will be the appointment of an Election Committee. Administrative and technical difficulties are holding up to the delineation of election districts in Central Sumatra, in Kalimantan and in parts of the Celebes, the Moluccas and the Lesser Sundas. These can be left to the fag-end of the elections, while the polls are conducted earlier in those parts where preparations are complete. The speed with which elections are held will constitute a test of this administration's sincerity in its promise — implicit in its policy statement — to replace the present appointive, irresponsible and unrepresentative Parliament by a legislature freely elected by the people and responsible to them.

"The Premier's emphatic assurance that there will be no change in Indonesia's active and independent foreign policy — meaning that we shall not play satellite to either the American or the Soviet power constellations — and his stress on our desire to make a useful contribution to international politics, inside and outside the United Nations, will ensure continuity in the conduct of our foreign affairs. In his statement he also touched upon Indonesia's interest in the colonial and semi-colonial territories which, largely inarticulate, have to rely upon us and our friends from the Asian and Arab countries to befriend them in their struggle for freedom. Our memories are not so short that we have forgotten our own bitter past."

"Indonesia Raya" said: "It is difficult to judge the statement, because of its general nature. No one objects to steps to crush the Darul Islam, Bambu Runtjing and other armed gangs, to increase production etc. The main objection to this statement

is the general nature of all the points mentioned, which does not provide a guide as to what the government is intending to do."

"Indonesia Raya" goes on that opposition parties in parliament are facing difficulties in putting forward their objections.

"The statement gives rise to two impressions: firstly, it reflects a disagreement within the cabinet which has limited the statement to the general outlines, and, secondly, the statement has been made in a hurry and the cabinet has not yet gone into details of how to realize its programme.

"The statement only reflects the intentions of the government. It does not make clear the facts and of how the intentions are to be realized.

"The part of the government statement which says that all decisions of parliament should be carried out by the government, constitutes the weakest part of the statement and it does not indicate the will on the part of the government to take actions according to its policy." The paper asks whether a decision of parliament which does harm to the state will also be carried out by the government. The paper says that as parliament has frequently proved that it has not much sense of responsibility to the state, the attitude of the government as outlined in the statement opens the door for various adventures which will endanger the state and the people.

The paper finally calls on parliament to urge the cabinet to issue a firmer and more profound statement.

Another daily "**Mimbar Indonesia**" says that the government statement does not contain new points. No details have been mentioned about financial and economic affairs. As regards the security problem, "**Mimbar Indonesia**" says that a similar statement was issued by the Sukiman cabinet with the exception that now the armed gangs are called by their names.

The paper regrets that the policy on foreign investments has not been mentioned separately.

The paper agrees if differences are not sharpened. The fact is, it adds, that the communists always aggravate the conflicts and presently they claim that the struggle has now begun between democratic and fascist forces.

"**Mimbar Indonesia**" also regrets that the recent statement by the Minister of Finance concerning foreign capital has not been given a more concrete picture in the government statement.

The paper finally wants to know of a more clear analysis of corruption as this is largely related to the general economic situation.

The Masjumi (leading Moslem party) journal "**Abadi**" stated: "The government statement on policy submitted to Parliament yesterday by Prime Minister Ali Sastroamidjojo does not contain any new points." The paper explains that the present cabinet's programme had already been made public at the time the present cabinet was being formed, and most of the points in the statement have already been touched upon by the President in his recent speeches. Almost all the ministers, it adds, have already made various statements concerning their respective tasks.

"**Abadi**" then stresses that the qualification "rebels and State's enemies" used in reference to the armed gangs was also used two years ago by the Sukiman-Suwirjo cabinet, adding that the manner in which the present Government wants to approach

the security problem does not differ much from that undertaken by the former Wilopo cabinet.

While stating that, although the Ali Sastroamidjojo cabinet is clearly judging the issue soberly, the paper doubts whether it will be able to settle the security problem as a whole.

Pointing out further that the Government's statement in regard to the settlement of the so-called "frozen issues" will attract much attention, it says that the clarification concerning the proposed opening of an embassy in Moscow, the San Francisco agreement, the Tandjung Morawa incident and the North Sumatra oil-wells, does not give the impression that the Government intends to approach these issues in a more radical fashion than was the case during the Wilopo cabinet.

The paper then concludes by saying that the Government's statement makes neither a comprehensive analysis of the difficulties confronting us at the present moment, nor of the issues relating to economic and monetary fields and to general affairs, and it asserts that the future steps to be taken by the Government do not concern basic issues but only constitute "a tinkering policy."

The Socialist newspaper "**Pedoman**" attacked the government's statement. It said that the government's statement was a strange one because it did not produce any analysis of the problems being faced by the Government at present. It describes the Government's statement as a chain of steps the Government is going to take without mentioning the reasons why they are necessary and on what considerations they are based.

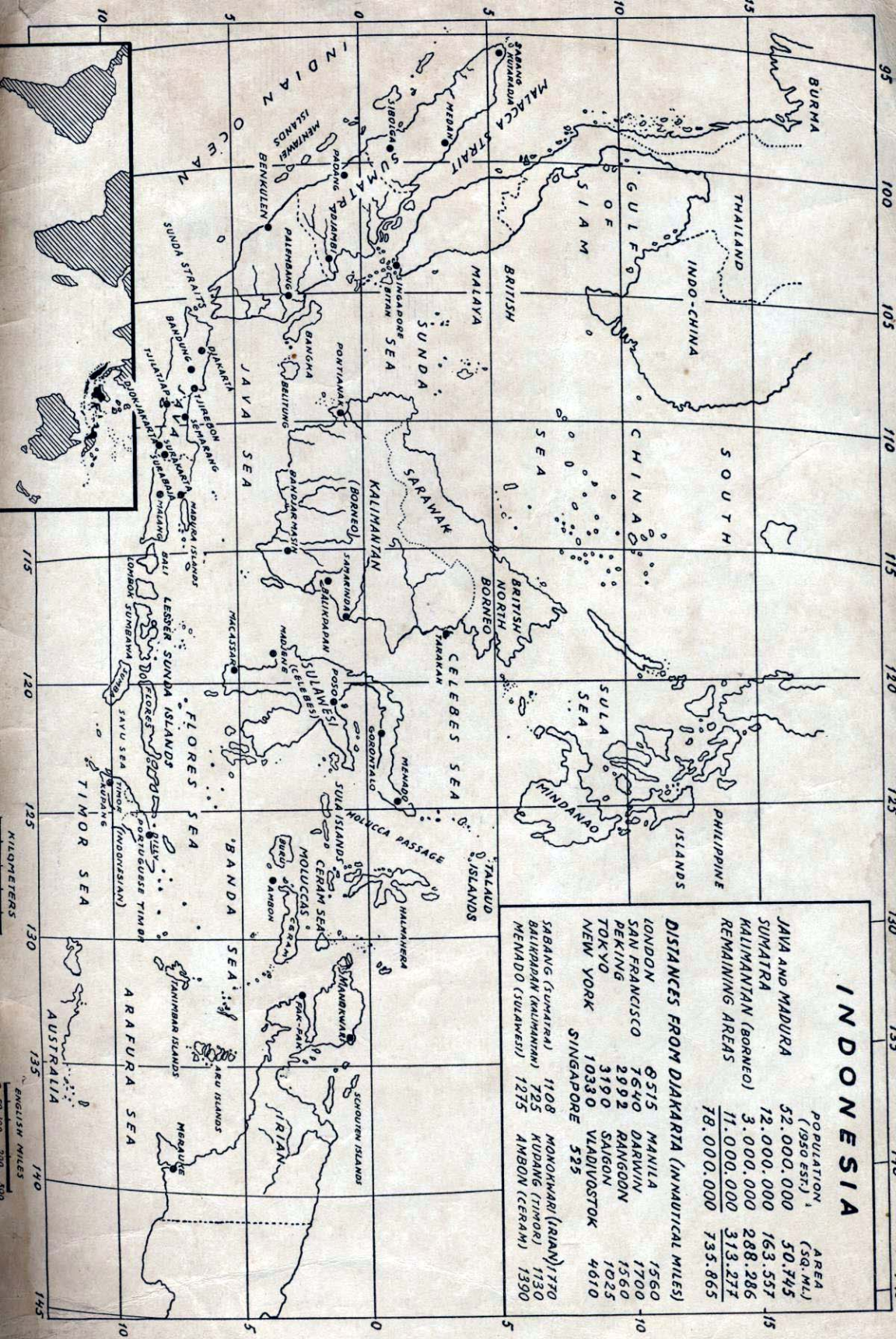
The paper says, for instance, that the clarification with regard to economic and monetary steps was not at all clear, because it only stated that production must be stepped up and national capital increased. Referring to recent press reports to the effect that the budgetary deficit may amount to Rp. 2.5 milliards, while according to the analysis of the former Finance Minister the maximum limit without bringing about any inflation is Rp. 1.8 milliards, the paper expresses surprise that this question was not touched upon at all in the statement.

The daily "**Merdeka**", on the other hand, says that the Government's statement clearly shows the present cabinet's awareness of the comprehensive and difficult task it has to carry out.

The government, "**Merdeka**" says, does not outline precisely how it will try to eradicate the various "diseases" from which our society is suffering, but in general, it adds, the statement reflects the absolute determination of the Government to carry out its reconstruction programme.

One of the points which attracts our attention, the paper says, is that the statement does not touch upon the question of settling the October 17th affair. This is wise, "**Merdeka**" adds, because this question has been left to the discretion of the Attorney General so as not to sharpen the controversies.

The paper finally says that the programme outlined in the statement is a working-programme, and hopes that every right-thinking man will be prepared to give the present Government ample change for the realisation of its programme.



INDONESIA

	POPULATION ¹ (1950 EST.)	AREA (SQ. MI.)
JAVA AND MADURA	52,000,000	50,745
SUMATRA	12,000,000	163,557
KALIMANTAN (BORNEO)	3,000,000	288,286
REMAINING AREAS	11,000,000	313,277
	78,000,000	735,865

DISTANCES FROM DIAKARTTA (IN NAUTICAL MILES)

LONDON	8515	MANILA	1560
SAN FRANCISCO	7540	DARWIN	1700
PEKING	2992	RANGOON	1560
TOKYO	3190	SAIGON	1025
NEW YORK	10330	VLADIVOSTOK	4610
SINGAPORE	525		
SABANG (SUMATRA)	1108	MONOKHARI (IRIAN)	1770
BATIKAPAH (KALIMANTAN)	725	KUDANG (TIMOR)	1130
MENADO (SULAWESI)	1215	AMBON (CERAM)	1390

1 INCH = 100 MILES
1 INCH = 160 KILOMETERS

