

K E S A T U A N K A J I B U M I M A L A Y S I A
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N E W S L E T T E R

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UNESCO MEETING OF MARINE SCIENTISTS

The Fourth Regional Meeting of Marine Science Experts in East and Southeast Asia was held in Singapore from 18 - 21 March 1968. Geology was quite strongly represented, and a number of the recommendations made concerned marine geology and geophysics.

In particular the meeting agreed unanimously that the Sunda Shelf is an area of great scientific interest of which there is relatively little geological knowledge, and that a continuing programme of basic geological and geophysical research in the area is most desirable. It was suggested that a programme of research in marine geology and geophysics of the Sunda Shelf and in the geology of outlying islands on the shelf, should be initiated in the first place in that part of the shelf covered by the southern part of the South China Sea, and the Straits of Malacca. It is recognised that the region is deficient in research vessels, equipment, and marine geologists and ways of making good these deficiencies were discussed.

Whether the recommendations can be implemented will depend largely on the efforts of research institutions in the area, with assistance, if possible, from U.N. agencies and other organizations outside the region.

- NSH

NEWS FROM EAST MALAYSIA

Volunteer joins the Geological Survey

Mr Gerry Jacobson, an Australian Volunteer Abroad (AVA) geologist joined the Geological Survey in January and will spend 2 years in Sabah. Mr Jacobson has mining company experience and he was granted leave of absence from the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, Victoria to come to Sabah. His main task will be engineering geology, particularly in connection with the 'East-West Highway' joining Kota Kinabalu (Jesselton) and Sandakan. Mr Jacobson is a keen climber and his 'background' task will be mapping the southern part of the Kinabalu batholith between the Mamut and Nungkok Copper Prospects.

University of Malaya Undergraduates in Ranau

Three undergraduates from the University of Malaya arrived in Kota Kinabalu on 19 March en route to Ranau to do geological mapping for their degree theses. Ranau lies in an inland plain 20 miles southeast of Kinabalu not far from the Mamut Copper Prospect. The plain consists of terraces and Recent alluvium filling a downwarp surrounded by mountains of flysch-type sedimentary rocks cut by basic and ultrabasic intrusions. One as yet unsolved problem is the origin and evolution of the plain and its terraces. Evidence indicates that ultrabasic intrusions "moving in the cold" during Quaternary time have affected the drainage. The three theses will be read with much interest ...!!!

Stone tools

Almost all the stone tools discovered to date in Sabah have been found in caves. It was therefore a pleasant surprise when a large number of chert flakes and some strikers were found in 'the open' on low hills in the lower Segama Valley area near the east coast of Sabah recently. The flakes were 'exposed' about 2 feet below the surface in road cuts on an oil palm estate. Chert pebbles are used on the estate for constructional purposes and the chert flakes were therefore 'disguised' as fragments of road metal. One wonders how often geologists and others have walked by road cuttings not recognising that some of the near-surface stone fragments they contain could be the product of patient chipping by some Neolithic rock hounds.

- GEW

Geological Survey Re-organisation

As announced by the Minister for Land and Mines, plans for the merging of the two Geological Surveys are going ahead. Meanwhile to meet the changing circumstances, the acting director of the West Malaysian Geological Survey, Mr S.K. Chung, has taken over de facto control of the East Malaysian department, with Mr Nicholas Wong and Mr Charlie Kho in charge of Sabah and Sarawak offices respectively.

Valete

The Wilfords - Wilf and Alwyn - left Kota Kinabalu on 24 May on retirement. Dr Wilford, deputy director of the East Malaysian Geological Survey came to Borneo in 1949 and was a founder member of the British Borneo Geological Survey. He worked in Sarawak, Brunei, and

Sabah, and his numerous publications on the area need no introduction to Members. After leave, Dr Wilford plans to work in Canada or Australia -- whichever it is, a reluctant "selamat jalan" from his many friends in the Society.

- PC

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

Professor K.F.G. Hosking, formerly head of the Department of Geology and Geochemistry, Camborne School of Mines, arrived in Kuala Lumpur on 19 April to take up a 3-year appointment as Visiting Lecturer in Applied Geology. Professor Hosking is a leading authority on the geology of tin deposits, and a pioneer in the field of geochemical prospecting. He visited Malaya as a consultant for 3-4 months in each of the years 1955, 1956, and 1957, and a number of mining engineers and geologists employed in the Department of Mines, mining companies, and the University are his former students, so that he is already acquainted with Malaysian geology and geologists. Dr F.P. Glasser, who will be visiting the University under the Aberdeen exchange scheme, will give courses in geochemistry.

A course in Applied Geology will be introduced in the coming session, being offered in the Final Year as the second subject to those students already reading Geology as the first subject, and will include such topics as geology of mineral deposits (with special reference to tin ores and other minerals occurring in Malaysia) applied geochemistry and geophysics, elements of geo-hydrology and soil science, and engineering geology. The Department's new X-ray fluorescence spectrography and Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer are at present being set up and calibrated, and should/fully operational soon, and the course will include instruction in the use of these instrumental methods of analysis, as well as colorimetric and microchemical tests. While the Department will continue to aim at giving graduates a sound grounding in all aspects of Geology, it is expected that future teaching and research will be closely geared to the economic needs of Malaysia, and that the number of research projects done in co-operation with the Geological Surveys of Malaysia and the mining and oil industries will increase. /be

The Department is fortunate in receiving a Fulbright Visiting Professor for the coming session in the person of Professor C.J. Smiley, (full) Professor of the University of Idaho. Professor Smiley arrived on 19 May. He has wide

experience in palaeontology, with special interest in palaeobotany. He intends during his stay to study the Malaysian rain forests with a view to comparing their ecology with that of equivalent Mesozoic and Cenozoic forests which he has studied. Dr K.J. Pocock, of the University of Adelaide, will be joining the Department later in the year to replace Dr D.J. Gobbett, who is at present on leave prior to resignation. Dr Pocock is a palaeontologist with an interest, among others, in Cambrian trilobites.

There are five students reading for the Honours degree in the coming session. Three of these, Messrs. Leong Tin Kong, Quah Pheng Hai and Choo Mun Keong, have been mapping areas around Ranau, Sabah (southeast of Gunong Kinabalu) with assistance from the Geological Survey. They have been studying interesting sedimentary structures in the Lower Tertiary flysch sedimentary rocks of the area, as well as granite, gabbro, and ultrabasic rocks which intrude the flysch. The other two students, Messrs. Ong Sin Sia and Khoo Theam Hoe, are mapping areas around the Muda and Pedu Damsites in Kedah, where a thick sequence of clastic rocks (including sandstone, shale, and conglomerate) some of which is in red-bed facies, offers many interesting problems. Encounters with an elephant, a tiger and a ten-foot king cobra have prevented boredom.

Four Year III students (Messrs. Ahmad bin Jantan, Yeap Ee Beng, Chin Lik Suan and Choy Kam Wai) have been attached to the Shell group of oil companies in Seria, Brunei, where they have worked on various aspects of the geology of Brunei and north Sarawak.

- NSH

SOCIETY NEWS

Field Meeting

The visit to a dredge of Sungei Way Dredging Ltd., and the open-cast mine of the Sungei Besi Ltd., on Thursday 23rd May was called off in view of the poor response from members. Initially it was intended to visit both the properties on a week-end, but the managers generally would not be free then.

- LWK

Publications of the Society

Members will be pleased to learn that Bulletin No. 1 of the GSM is now being printed and should be available for distribution within 3 weeks.

The Bulletin entitled, Studies in Malaysian Geology, contains some of the papers presented on the occasion of the Society's First Annual General Meeting. The contents are:

- Upper Palaeozoic Stratigraphy of the T. Suntharalingam
area west of Kampar, Perak.
- The Permian System in Malaya D.J. Gobbett
- The Tembeling Formation - a litho-
stratigraphic description B.N. Koopmans
(West Malaysia)
- Physical and chemical differentiation C.S. Hutchison
of West Malaysian limestone
formations.
- The Northwest Borneo Geosyncline in N.S. Haile
its geotectonic setting (Abstract)
- The effects of Late Tertiary and G.E. Wilford
Quaternary tectonic movements on the
geomorphological evolution of Brunei
and adjacent parts of Sarawak
(Abstract)
- Glaciation of Mount Kinabalu P.H. Stauffer
(Abstract)
- Tectogene hypothesis applied to the C.S. Hutchison
pre-Tertiary of Sabah and the
Philippines.

The Bulletin will be distributed free to all members. Non-members may obtain copies for the modest charge of M\$3/- (Members may purchase extra copies at M\$2/- each)

Please send orders for extra copies to:

The Editor, Geological Society of Malaysia,
C/o Department of Geology, University of Malaya,
Kuala Lumpur, West Malaysia.

Bulletin No. 2, the bibliography of Malayan Geology has now been compiled and will shortly be passed to the printers for page proofs.

Bulletin No. 3 is currently being compiled.

Manuscripts (typed - double spaced) are invited for the bulletin series and should be sent to the Editor at the above address.

Contributions of a less formal nature, news of members, recent developments, views on any aspect of Malaysian Geology, etc., will be most welcome for the Newsletter.

- JDB

Library

In March 1967 (No. 5) edition of the Newsletter the formation of the Society's Library was announced. The Library is housed in the Klompe Reading Room of the Department of Geology, University of Malaya by agreement with the Department.

Papers housed in the library include the following - presented at the International Tin Council Technical Conference March 1967:

Mining the Ore Deposits of Symetain (Democratic Rep. of the Congo)	P.A. Anthoine & C. Kharkevitch
Some Recent Innovations in Dredging Practice in Malaysia	D.J. Batzer
Gravity Beneficiation of a Stanniferous Ore	P. Blasy & R. Houot
Offshore Prospecting	L.J. Fick
The Geology of the Ore Deposits of Symetain	P. Evrard & G. Schaar
The Underground Pursuit and Development of Tin Lodes	R.H.T. Garnett
New Avenues for Tin Consumption	E.S. Hodges
Sea Bed prospecting	J.C.C. Hill
Endogenous Tin Mineralisation in the Bohemian Massif	J. Janecka & M. Stempok

- The Recovery of Fine Tin by Flootation A.S. Joy & J. Kinkup
- A Tin Province of the Nigerian Type in Southern Amazonia J.B. Kloasterman
- A Gravity concentrator for Fine Minerals R.H. Mozley
- Some of the Problems to be considered in the Prospection of offshore and Estuarine areas for heavy minerals and their possible solutions by using Sonic Profiling techniques G.E.G. Sargent
- Tin Belts around the Atlantic Ocean: Some Aspects of the Geochemistry of Tin R.D. Schuiling
- Tables for the Microscopic Identification of Tin Minerals D. Santokh Singh
- The Geotechnics and Metallogenesis of the Challapata - Caxata Zone of Bolivia: Preliminary Studies W. Thornman
- Relation between Concentrate grade and Recovery in some mills of Corporacion Mineva De Bolivia: Some observations P.A. Wright
- A Note on the Organisation and Functions of the Mines Department in Malaysia
- Western Malaysia work and Problems on Tin
- The work of Geomines at Manorio (Dem. Rep. Congo)

Further lists of the publications in the Society's Library will be reported in the Newsletter from time to time.

Members are invited to make use of the Library which is open from 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. - 4.30 p.m., Mondays to Fridays and 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. on Saturdays.