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M.M."

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The fifth annual general meeting of Sungei Ramal Syndicate, Limited, was held at the registered office of the company, 1 Embankment, Kuala Lumbur, on Friday. March 15th, Mr. H. R. Mcullin, Chairman of the Company, presided.

The Chairman addressed the meeting as follows :-

Gentlemen .- The report and accounts for the year 1918 having been in your hands for the usual time, with your permission I will take them as read. You will see from the accounts that we have made a profit on the year of \$36,866.62, or about 18 per cent on the capital of the concern. With the carry forward from 1917 we have \$77,810.10 less the interim dividend of 5 per cent paid in December, absorbing \$10,000, \$67,810.10 to deal with. We now recommend a further distribution of 10 per cent., making 15 per cent for the year. This will leave after transferring \$10,000 to reserve a sum of \$37,810.10 to be carried forward to this year's accounts, less Directors' fees and bonus to manager.

We have \$10,000 invested in F M S and Straits War Loans. Mr E W Tyler left the country in July and his seat on the Board was not filled. It is proposed to



Alleged Crimping of Coolies.

Alleged Crimping of Coolies. Mr F B O'Malley of Seaport Estate, in Kuala Lumpur Court on Thursday

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The Estate is in excellent order and was thoroughly upkept in every way. The thanks of the shareholders are due to the Manager (Mr C Phillips) who shewed energy and zeal in his work, although overdue for leave. His work in standardising the latex on the estate ensured a uniform quality which fetched the best prices obtainable in Singapore.

The all-in-cost is 10.95d. The estimate for the current year is 250,000 lbs. at 36 55 cents or 10.23d. f.or. Kajang Station. I now propose that the report and accounts for the year ended 31st D cember, 1918, be passed, and I would ask Mr Kindersley to second this. Before putting the motion I shall be glad to answer any questions.

Mr English enquired about the prevalence of "Brown Bast" and its treatment.

The Chairman replied that all serious cases had been cut out, and there need be no anxiety concerning this disease at present. Limewashing was being experimented with

The Chairman stated that owing to an error the crop for the year was stated in the Directors report as 189,707 lbs, instead of 192,580 lbs. A printed slip pointing out this error would be circulated with the dividends.

Mr Teale enquired why the cost of tapping was so high.

The Chairman replied that all tapping was done by Chinese on contract and the work done was considered quite satisfactory. Owing to the proximity of the estate to a Chinese village, labour was always plentiful and the outturn very good. It was hoped to reduce the cost of tapping as the trees got older.

Mr English asked if the estimate for 1919 was not too conservative.

The Chairman replied that owing to the experience last year it was thought advisable not to give too high an estimate. During the dry spell the trees on the hilly ground on B Division were almost dry and had to be completely rested.

Mr Teale enquired if it was the intention of the Directors to continue caring their rubber at the Kajang Central Rubber Factory or did they intend erecting their own factory.

The Chairman replied that the Company had a three years' contract with the Kajang Central Rubber Factory which did not expire till 1920. The Directors had not yet considered the question of erecting their own factory. It was quite an open





matter with the present high cost of materials, and there was no reason to doubt that the Kajang Central Rubber Factory would extend the present agreement.

No further questions being asked the report and arc unts for 1918 were adopted.

A final dividend of 10 per cent. for 1918 (making 15 per cent. for the year) was declared.

Raja Allarg bin Raja Brayuon was reelected a Director.

A sum of \$3,000 was voted as Directors'

fees for 1918 .- "

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