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Home > The Straits Times > 16 April 1939 > Page 7 > Notes From The Negri

Notes From The Negri

The Straits Times, 16 April 1939, Page 7

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Add to Citation

Previous Article

Next Article

Previous Page

Next Page

Notes From The Negri

NOW no longer used for regular passenger traffic, the Seremban-Port Dickson railway was the first line to be opened in the State of Negri Sembilan.

Opened in 1891, it ran a distance of 24 miles and was constructed and owned by the Sungei Ujong Railway Company which operated independently for many years until it was subsequently taken over by the F.M.S. Railway system in 1908.

Some years ago government found it necessary to close the line for regular passenger traffic and now only goods trains run on these rails.

Bangi To Seremban

THE next railway line to be constructed in Negri Sembilan was in 1903 when the main line was extended from Bangi to Seremban.

The Straits Times, giving an account of the opening of the Seremban-Port Dickson line known as the Sungei Ujong railway said that the stations at Seremban and Port Dickson were well-built roomy structures. The account mentioned three stations en route from Port Dickson to Seremban namely Kuala Sawah Rasa and Baubau. The first is the Kuala Sawah of today and the last is evidently Mambau.

Historic Club

EIGHT years from now the Negri Sembilan Club of Seremban will celebrate its silver jubilee. It was founded in 1897 in connection with the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The present club building, however, was erected, I believe, a few years later.

The club is one of the oldest in the Malay States and perhaps the only non-European club to take its name after the States. A marble plaque commemorating the date of the founding of the club was inserted in recent years when Mr. George E. London was president of the club.

By The Sunday Times
Seremban Correspondent

Information



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Table of Contents

< Previous | Page 7 | Next >

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THE club will take on a better appearance when the new annexe—the Dr. Muttu memorial pavilion—is completed. Plans have already been prepared and have been submitted to the Sanitary Board. The memorial will take the form of a pavilion fronting the club and attached to it. The pavilion will serve to remind members and others of one of its former honorary secretaries—the late Dr. A. S. Muttu.

Dr. Muttu, who died following a motor accident, was extremely popular in Negri Sembilan where he was connected with a number of public bodies. A leading member of the Negri Sembilan Ceylonese community he was chosen to represent the community when the Duke of Windsor visited Malaya as Prince of Wales.

Port Dickson's Pagars



IN view of recent references in these notes under the above caption, I am tempted to quote Mr. Ashley Gibson again. In his interesting book "The Malay Peninsula and Archipelago" Mr. Gibson says: "So at Port Dickson, or anywhere else along these coasts, sensible people bathe inside pagars. Even these will not keep out the jelly-fish (on their at-home days), or the luckily not very common ikan sembilang, a little abomination not unlike our English weever, who buries all of himself in sand or mud save his nine poisoned spines."

"But, inside pagars, sensible people will still bathe. It would be feeble not to when Providence arranges a week-end for you at any of the delectable bungalows which peep out every furlong or so from the casuarinas and the coconuts that fringe, only thirty yards from the surf's edge, Port Dickson's eight mile crescent of silver strand."

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