NOTES

CHAPTER I

2. Ibbetson was asked “to visit each port or place of any consequence on the coast; collect the best information on the spot concerning its natural, commercial, and political advantages; the extent and nature of its resources, productions, imports, and exports; the precise nature of the revenue, and authority of its government; the number, character, and principal occupations of its inhabitants; the principal articles forming its staples, as well as those of foreign commerce in demand there; the nature and extent of its intercourse with the countries in the interior ... and every attainable information respecting the character, pursuits, and wants of the inhabitants of the interior countries” (Anderson, Mission, pp. 353-64).
5. A similar process took place on the Philippine island of Mindanao where Bukidnon, Manobo, and members of other tribes became bilingual and converted to Christianity as a result of contact with Christian Visayan immigrants. These converts began to dress like Visayans and gave up any practices which would make it impossible for them to pass as Visayans.
8. One cubit has 45.72 cm.
9. Page references here and below are to Anderson, Mission.
10. D. G. E. Hall, A History of South-East Asia, pp. 441-42.
11. Anthony Reid, The Contest for North Sumatra: Atjeh, the Netherlands and Britain, 1858-1898, pp. 11-14.
15. Schadee, pt. 1, pp. 89, 91, and 94; Reid, p. 16.
16. Article 3 reads: “The High Contracting Parties engage that no Treaty hereafter made by either with any Native Power in the Eastern Seas shall contain any Article tending, either expressly, or by the imposition of unequal duties, to exclude the Trade of the other Party from the Ports of such Native Power; and that if, in any Treaty now existing on either Part, any Article to that effect has been admitted, such Article shall be abrogated upon the conclusion of the present Treaty.”
Notes

17. Reid, p. 31; Schadee, pt. 1, p. 86.
22. Reid, p. 37.

CHAPTER II

2. R. W. van Bemmelen, The Geology of Indonesia, IA, 689.
3. Ibid. 687.
4. Ibid. 689.
5. Ibid. 689.
7. van Bemmelen, IA, 691.
8. Ibid. 691-93.
9. Ibid. 694.
10. Ibid. 686-87.
11. These are reviewed in J. H. Druif, De bodem van Deli: H, Mineralogische onderzoeken van de bodem van Deli, pp. 21-34.
12. This and the following two paragraphs are based on the English summary in Druif, pp. 189-90.
15. Druif, pp. 190-91.
17. Mohr, p. 472.
18. R. van de Waal, Richtlijnen voor een ontwikkelingsplan voor de Oostkust van Sumatra, pp. 16-18.
20. The leaves of nipa palm are folded over a slat made out of the wood of the nibung palm (Onosperma filamentosum Bl.) and then stitched in place with a thread obtained by splitting the stem of the herbaceous bamban (Donax arundastrum Lour. and D. canniformis K. Schum.). The atap industry of East Sumatra required such large quantities of nipa leaves and bamban that both were actually planted by atap makers.
22. Most fires along the sides of public roads are due to the carelessness of travelers.
CHAPTER III


2. Ibid. p. 22. P. van den Arend and his partners were disappointed in the tobacco produced on Tempeh and decided not to renew the lease. The experiment ended with a loss of 36,000 guilders.


5. Schadee (*Geschiedenis*, I, 93) reports that Said Abdullah was born in Surabaya but, after losing a ship on the east coast of Sumatra by shipwreck, settled in Deli and married a sister of the sultan. Abdullah was therefore related by marriage to the sultan but was definitely not a prince.


7. It is not known whether this was the very first Deli tobacco to arrive in Europe or whether Deli-grown tobacco had been received earlier via a British trading firm in Penang.


10. A. Hoynk van Papendrecht, pp. 33-34.

11. Ibid. p. 32. The transfer took place 1 April 1867; Schadee, *I*, 176.


13. Ibid. p. 28. Since nutmeg was not mentioned by Anderson as an export commodity of Deli and since he did not observe this once so important spice, we must assume that the industry was started after 1823. The nutmeg industry, like the pepper industry, has practically disappeared from Deli. Certainly the planters soon lost all interest in the nutmeg industry; I am not aware that any of them ever engaged in pepper production. This industry remained in the hands of the local population, but since the planters soon had control over all the land the pepper industry was bound to decline.


15. Ibid. 33.


17. The Consortium was changed to the Tobacco Company Arendsburg (N.V. Tabak Maatschappij Arendsburg) in April 1877, with a capital of 750,000 guilders. Looking back over the fifteen years that the Consortium had operated reveals that the pioneering years were years of heavy losses; throughout the period Nienhuys was administrator, the Consortium had only deficits. De Munnick was able to balance expenditure and income during the span from 1867 to 1871. Then the year 1872 showed a loss of about 12,000 guilders, but the following years — 1873, 1874, and 1875 — yielded handsome profits totaling some 220,000 guilders. The last year of the Consortium, 1876, was again a loss of about 4,450 guilders. (See A. Hoynk van Papendrecht, *Gedenkschrift*, for full historical data regarding the activities of van den Arend and Consortium.) The new company was most successful in the period from 1877 to 1927: in just ten years the company paid dividends amounting to 100 percent or more of the nominal value of the issued shares and in 1906 dividends reached 170 percent of the nominal value. The company was finally absorbed by the Deli Company in 1952.

CHAPTER IV

2. The pods of the *petéh* are eaten in small quantities for their pungent flavor, which slightly suggests garlic. The *petéh* also has a diuretic effect.
3. The *tualang* tree grows to a very great height and has large buttresses. The timber splits badly, is not at all durable, but is excessively hard and heavy. As happens so often in Southeast Asia with trees of a very low utilitarian value, the *tualang* are believed to be haunted. This may have led to the practice of sparing them; Batak woodcutters refuse to cut them. Another reason sometimes given is that the *tualang* are the favored nesting trees of wild bees. Since the villagers do not wish to lose their source of honey, they insist that the trees be spared. Of the two explanations, the first one appears to me to be the more plausible.
4. Called "sand leaves" because the rains splash sand particles onto these lower leaves.
10. In September 1907 the seven radjas of Simelungun signed the so-called Short Declarations in which they recognized the sovereignty of the Netherlands, promised not to have political contracts with foreign countries, and agreed to follow the rules and regulations established by the Netherlands Indies government.

CHAPTER V

2. Ibid. p. 12.
3. Ibid. p. 11.

8. For a history of the model contracts, see H. J. Bool, Landbouwconcessies in de Residentie Oostkust van Sumatra, pp. 6-17; and for the text of these four model contracts, ibid. pp. 122-38.


10. The company records of families in concession areas would permit a very useful study of population growth in East Sumatra, since it was in the interest of the plantation companies to keep careful records. So far as I know, no one has used these data.

11. In the original this passage reads: “alle hoofden van huisgezinnen, hetzij tijdens, hetzij na de uitgifte op de concessiegronden gevestigd en die volgens de inheemse instellingen te rekenen zijn tot de rechthebbenden op grond.”


15. J. G. W. Lekkerkerker, Concessies en erfpachten voor landbouwondernemeningen in de Buitengewesten, p. 89.

16. Lekkerkerker, p. 90.

17. Bool, pp. 53-56; Lekkerkerker, p. 94.

18. J. de Ridder, De invloed van de westersche cultures op de autochtone bevolking ter Oostkust van Sumatra, p. 25.

19. The Karo Batak have five main margas — Tarigan, Ginting, Karo-Karo, Perangin-angin, and Sembiring — each of which is divided into a number of submargas. The Simelungun Batak have four main margas — Damanik, Sinaga, Saragih, and Purba — each divided into submargas. The Toba Batak are divided into many more margas than either the Karo or the Simelungen, even if we take into consideration the Karo and Simelungun submargas.

20. C. J. Westenberg married the daughter of a Karo Batak chief of the plateau, became probably the best expert on Karo Batak adat, and was instrumental in the establishment of Dutch rule over the Karo plateau about 50 years ago. His writings are a most valuable source of anthropological, sociological, and economic data regarding the Karo Batak, both of the Karo plateau and of the coastal states of East Sumatra.

CHAPTER VI

1. Investment opportunities were being sought everywhere in the tropics, but the Netherlands Indies had some advantages over other areas. For example, both U.S. Rubber and Goodyear applied successfully for large amounts of land in Sumatra after efforts to obtain similar amounts in the Philippines had failed. In the Philippines the law limited the amount for which a company could apply to 1,024 hectares; the Netherlands Indies knew no such limitation.

2. J. G. W. Lekkerkerker, Concessies en erfpachten voor landbouwondernemeningen in de Buitengewesten, pp. 66-70.

3. Sumatra Post, 5 April 1899 and 7 August 1902, as quoted by J. van den Brand, De millioenen uit Deli, pp. 15-17.

4. In this connection it may be revealing to compare the relationship between planters and members of the British Colonial Service serving across the
Strait of Malacca on the Malay Peninsula. The social background of the British officials with their public school and Oxford-Cambridge university training enabled them to take a more independent stand and resist the attempts of the planters and businessmen to influence their decisions.


6. Ibid. p. 65.

7. J. de Ridder, *De invloed van de westersche cultures op de autochtone bevolking ter Oostkust van Sumatra*, p. 43.


10. Similar opposition among the Karo of the plateau induced the governor of East Sumatra to close Karoland to Western plantation agriculture. One finds the argument that all this opposition was due to the machinations of missionaries and of dishonorably discharged officials, but if the people themselves had been convinced that they would benefit financially or otherwise or that their own economic future would be safeguarded, it is doubtful that they would have supported the efforts of those opposed to plantation development.

11. The Long-Lease Ordinance for the indirectly ruled territories outside Java and Madura (*Erfpachts-ordonnantie voor de zelfbesturende landschappen buiten Java en Madura*), published in *Staatsblad 1919*, No. 61, became effective 1 February 1920 in those territories whose rulers had signed the so-called Short Declaration. The ordinance could not be applied to territories whose rulers had signed the so-called Long Contracts without modification of these political contracts. For this reason the Long-Lease Ordinance did not become effective in Langkat, Deli, and Serdang until 1 December 1938 (*Staatsblad 1938*, No. 628 and 676) after the Long Contracts had been revised on 16 June 1938.


15. Ibid.


19. These include medical services, housing costs, value of rice and other allowances distributed among laborers, cost of housing laborers and their families, pensions, and cost of recruitment and repatriation of laborers.

20. The lawyers, adhering carefully to the letter of the law, not only rejected in principle any increase in the size of the allotments but insisted on retention of the *bouw* as against the larger hectare as the area unit. This eclectic
legalism reminds me of the unsuccessful maneuver in 1945 by lobbyists in Washington for Cuban sugar interests to have the unit of the Philippine sugar quota changed from long tons to short tons. The result of course would have been to reduce the actual quota by 10 percent.


22. J. G. Frowein, Rapport nopens den waterstaatkundigen toestand en de hierop gebaseerde agrarisch economische mogelijkheden van de ter gelegenheid der aanstaande conversie op de Onderneming Boeloe Tjina aangeboden gronden (Medan, 15 October 1940, mimeo).

23. The planters had learned by experience that land below the two-meter mark had too high a salt content and was, therefore, unsuited for tobacco cultivation. The salt content of the soils is due to their relatively young age: these soils have formed on very young alluvial sediments, which experience the daily entrance of salt water that penetrates several miles inland through a network of creeks and small and large rivers and apparently affects the ground water. This last assumption would explain why even soils which are no longer reached by sea water may retain small quantities of salt.

24. The head of the Conversion Bureau submitted a report entitled Kolonisatie Sisir Gunting (no. 73/C.B./24 March 1937) to the Assistant Resident of Deli and Serdang.

25. T.eeltdwang-Ordonnantie, in Staatsblad 1939, No. 538 and 539.


27. At least these data on the sawah pilot projects disappeared from the files of the Agricultural Service. Copies of van Lijnden’s reports may have survived in other files, but I have been able to locate only a few monthly reports for the year 1940.

28. The sultan of Langkat, at a meeting in his palace in Bindjei on 12 April 1938, had taken the same position, declaring the division between “A” and “B” claimants unacceptable and further arguing that if the jaluran system were to be abolished there should also be a prohibition on the practice of giving jaluran to laborers, foremen, clerks, guards, tobacco-shed builders, and other plantation employees as part of their wages. A report by J. Gerritsen of the meeting of 17 February 1941 was issued in Medan on 19 February 1941 under the title Kort verslag van de op 17 Februari 1941 gehouden besprekingen ten paleize van den Sultan van Langkat te Bindjei inzake de nieuwe inzichten betreffende het grondenvraagstuk bij conversie. The 26 February 1941 meeting in the Kerapatan office in Medan was reported in J. Gerritsen, Kort verslag van de op 26 Februari 1941 gehouden besprekingen ten Kerapatan kantore te Medan inzake de nieuwe inzichten betreffende het grondenvraagstuk bij conversie (unpublished).

CHAPTER VII


2. The Dependence of the Economic Existence of Sumatra’s East Coast on the Maintenance of Industrial Agriculture (Medan, n.d.) is one of many unpublished reports written for the guidance of Colonel Namura.

3. A case is reported of one administrator being severely reprimanded for ordering the destruction of tobacco standing in the field and defending his order by insisting that the land was needed for the planting of food crops.

5. On many plantations the oldest stands were located near the administrative center or around the factory, while the youngest stands lay at a considerable distance. Postwar maps of these plantations, showing a nonproducing area in the center, illustrate the factor of age in the choice of land cleared for emergency food production. A map of the wartime clearings in the Wingfoot Plantation of the Goodyear Rubber Company presents a rather striking distribution pattern of rectangular plots of equal size. Since Wingfoot had neither sufficient reserve land nor overaged stands, the administrator had decided to cut down all those blocks which had been planted with a certain rubber clone that had been found to be inferior to other clones used on neighboring plots.


9. The center at Nagahuta was organized by Captain Inoue, a Kempeita officer who gained great influence among Simelungun and Karo youth. It was called Talapeta (*Taman Latihan Pemuda Tani*, or Farm Youth Training Center).


13. Ibid. p. 63.


17. Those fortunate enough to be interned by the TRI in Simelungun — at Pematang Siantar, Raja, and Bah Birung Ullu — were set free when Dutch troops occupied the region in July 1947. In the safe of the Bank Negara Indonesia in Pematang Siantar, the jewels and other valuables belonging to internees were found but the loot of the bands following the orders of the PP leadership could not be recovered; *Medan Bulletin*, 2, No. 173, 1 August 1947.


CHAPTER VIII

1. J. van den Brand, *De Millionen uit Deli*, Amsterdam, 1902.