

Z. St. eing. 22/4 1912

Certificate No. 119739.

THE BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS, LIMITED.

STATUTORY REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

(Pursuant to Section 65 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908).

The Directors report to the Members as follows:—

(a) The total number of Shares allotted is 122,000 of £1 each, of which 78,000 are allotted wholly for cash, and £1 per Share has been called up, the remaining 44,000 Shares of £1 each are allotted as fully paid, being part of 50,000 Shares to be allotted in respect of the purchase consideration.

(b) The total amount of cash received by the Company in respect of the Shares issued wholly for cash is £75,334 10s. 0d.

(c) The receipts and payments of the Company on Capital Account and otherwise to the 16th April, 1912, are as follows:—

PARTICULARS OF RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.
To Sundry Shareholders on account of 78,000 shares of £1 each allotted	...	75,334	10	0
" Interest	...	163	7	2
" Transfer Fees	...	1	2	6

PARTICULARS OF PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.
By Vendors on account of portion of purchase consideration payable in cash under Agreement dated 17th January, 1912	...	57,000	0	0
" Costs and Duties in connection with transfer of the Properties to the Company	...	759	7	8
" Preliminary Expenses	...	3,095	0	0
" Brokerage on Shares	...	76	0	0
" Underwriters' Commissions	...	4,650	0	0
" General Expenses	...	50	15	8
" Remittance to Estate	...	500	0	0
" Cash at Bankers:—				
Deposit A/c	£8,500	0	0	
Current A/c	867	16	4	
		9,367	16	4

£75,498 19 8

£75,498 19 8

NOTE.—The above figures do not include any receipts or payments made in the East.

The preliminary expenses of the Company are estimated at £3,500.

(d) Names, Addresses and Descriptions of the Directors, Auditors and Secretaries of the Company.

Directors.

NAMES.	ADDRESSES.	DESCRIPTIONS.
ARBUTHNOT, Keith Fraser	37, Mincing Lane, E.C.	Director of Public Companies.
KELLY, John	Moate, Co. Westmeath, Ireland	Gentleman.
LOWDEN, Mathew	52, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.	Director of Public Companies.
SELDON, Harold Samuel	Mincing Lane House, London, E.C.	Director of Public Companies.
TAYLOR, Archibald	18, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.	Stock and Share Broker.

Auditors.

BROADS, PATERSON & Co.	1, Walbrook, London, E.C.	Chartered Accountants.
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Secretaries.

THE RUBBER SHARE TRUST & FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED	Mincing Lane House, 59, Eastcheap, London, E.C.	
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We hereby certify this Report to be correct.

H. S. SELDON, }
M. LOWDEN, } *Directors.*

Dated the 19th day of April, 1912.

AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE.

We hereby certify that so much of this Report as relates to the shares allotted by the Company, and to cash received in respect of such shares, and to the receipts and payments of the Company on Capital Account and otherwise, is correct.

BROADS, PATERSON & CO., }
Chartered Accountants, } *Auditors.*

1, WALBROOK,
LONDON, E.C.

19th April, 1912.

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS, LIMITED.

PRODUCTION BEGUN REPORT ON CONDITION OF ESTATES.

The statutory meeting of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday at the registered office of the company, Mincing Lane House, 59, Eastcheap, E.C., Mr. Harold Samuel Seldon presiding.

Mr. F. C. Rycroft, representative of the secretaries (the Rubber Share Trust and Finance Company, Ltd.) having read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said: I regret the absence of our Chairman, Mr. Arbuthnot, who unfortunately has been laid up for several weeks, and is not allowed by the doctor to attend. He has asked me to take the chair, and I have pleasure in doing so. Well, gentlemen, you know this is the statutory meeting, and is simply called in compliance with the Companies Acts, and at this stage of the company's history there is very little to report to you. The accounts speak for themselves. We have allotted 78,000 shares wholly for cash, and £1 per share has been called up. The amount paid up in the statutory report is £75,334 10s, but since then we have received further sums. Interest and transfer fees also speak for themselves. As regards particulars of payments, we have paid £57,000—that is £1,000 short—of the cash purchase price. The reason why we have kept that £1,000 back was that when the estates came to be transferred there was a quarter of an acre which the vendor, Mr. Kelly, was under obligation to sell to someone else, and, in view of that, we kept back £1,000 in cash and 6,000 shares. There can be no valuable building on this quarter of an acre, and, in fact, there are no valuable buildings at all as yet. Besides this we have an indemnity from the vendor against any further risk, if there was any. Costs and duties in connection with the transfer of property, preliminary expenses, underwriting commission and general expenses were all provided for by the prospectus. The amount remitted to the estate was £500. I think there is no other item which calls for comment. We first got to business by appointing as agents on the other side Messrs. Harrisons and Crosfield. We all know them and have confidence in them.

VISITING AGENT'S REPORT.

Then Mr. Patrick Hadow, visiting agent for a great number of Sumatra companies, was appointed visiting agent. On Saturday we got his report, and I shall be able to tell you one or two things which may interest you. The February and March crops, which you have probably seen in the papers, were—February 5,500 lbs, and March 5,000 lbs. The reason why the March return was rather short is because the trees were wintering. We have now 36,000 trees, being tapped, of which 4,000 have just come into the tapping round this April. The planted acreage up to date is 1,314 acres, including 230 acres which were felled but not planted when the company took over the property. They have since been planted, and we have a further 300 acres to be felled and planted. Probably they are being felled now. With regard to weeding, the visiting agent says:—"With the exception of a small portion of one of the steepest hills where

grass is grown purposely, the whole area is clean weeded and absolutely free from all weeds. Weeding is performed by Tamil and Javanese coolies." He also says that with the exception of a few isolated cases of trees attacked by white ants, or fungus, the whole estate may be said to be free from disease. On this point he says:—"I have seldom seen an estate where so little disease was in evidence." As regards supplying he states that the whole cultivated area is being carefully supplied, and there are no vacancies amongst either the old or the young rubber. Then as regards water supply he says:—"The water supply for the Tamil lines is all that can be desired. There is a well from which excellent water is obtained, to which is attached a pump with piping, the well being covered and cemented. The water supply for the Javanese lines is also good, and with the exception of one set of lines where a well is now being put in hand, the water supply is satisfactory and complete."

HEALTH OF COOLIES.

The health of the coolies, he reports, is excellent and sickness is said to be almost unknown. The coolies whom he saw were all in good health, and well nourished. We have had to build a hospital; as a matter of fact, we have to build it by the 25th of May. It would not be possible to do it by the 25th May, but they would have no difficulty in extending the date. At present a bungalow was being pulled down for a hospital site. They would also have to build some further coolie lines and a factory, but he did not think they would proceed with the building of the factory at present, having made arrangements with one of the neighbouring estates whereby they were under contract to manufacture; the cost will be cheap and reasonable. The labour consists of 160 Tamils and 250 Javanese. The estate is very favourably situated for labour, and Mr. Kelly says he will be able to procure as many free Javanese as he requires. It is a favourite estate amongst the Javanese. He has also recruiters in India recruiting Tamils, and such a healthy estate should have no difficulty in getting a large labour force. In talking of the planted area, he says that part of the older rubber is probably too closely planted and later on we may have to cut some trees out. I think that is more or less the experience of the older companies, and we shall, I think, have to cut out a few trees. I think that is pretty well recognised all round. We shall probably get as much rubber from 100 trees as from 150. I do not think there is any more information to give you at the moment. I am glad Mr. Hadow's report came in just in time for this meeting so that you can get the latest news to date as to the estate. We have discussed the question of selling rubber forward, but we did not think it expedient to sell any until we had actually seen the rubber. The rubber now will be coming to London, whereas previously it has been going to the Continent. We have no proposition to put before you, but if there is anything you would like to ask me that I can answer, I shall be very pleased to do so.

In reply to a question, the Chairman said they did not anticipate having to raise any further capital. They had some unissued shares which, as the company seemed likely to be a dividend payer from the beginning, they would have no difficulty in placing if required.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

The Times (London)

Nr.

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BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS, Limited.

CAPITAL - - - £135,000,

Divided into 135,000 Shares of £1 each.

Of these Shares, 50,000 will be allotted to the Vendors in part payment of the purchase consideration; 7,000 will be held in reserve for future issue, and the remaining

78,000 Shares are now offered for Subscription at Par

PAYABLE:

2/6 per Share on Application,
7/6 " " on Allotment.
10/- " " on 15th March, 1912.

DIRECTORS.

KEITH FRASER ARBUTHNOT, 37, Mincing-lane, London, E.C. (Director of Linggi Plantations, Limited, and Chairman of Sumatra Para Rubber Plantations, Limited).
JOHN KELLY, Moate, County Westmeath, Gentleman.
MATHEW LOWDEN, Kellermont, Bearsden, Glasgow (Director of the Perak Rubber Plantations, Limited).
HAROLD SAMUEL SELDON, Mincing-lane House, London, E.C. (Director of Pataling Rubber Estates Syndicate, Limited).
ARCHIBALD TAYLOR, 52, Queen Victoria-street, London, E.C. (Director of the Anglo-Asiatic Rubber and Finance Trust, Limited).

BANKERS.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LIMITED, 62, Lombard-street, London, E.C.; Head Office: Edinburgh, and Branches in Scotland.
THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA, 38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.

SOLICITORS.

STEPHENSON, HARWOOD & CO., 31, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

SOLICITORS TO THE VENDORS.

PARKER & PARKER, Friars House, New Broad-street, London, E.C.

AUDITORS.

BROADS, PATERSON & Co., Chartered Accountants, 1, Walbrook, London, E.C.

BROKERS.

W. I. CARR, SONS & TOD, 22, Finch-lane, London, E.C.

J. S. SANDERSON & Co., 5, Queen-street, and Stock Exchange, Edinburgh.

SECRETARIES AND REGISTERED OFFICES.

THE RUBBER SHARE TRUST AND FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED,
MINCING LANE HOUSE, LONDON, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed to acquire as from the 1st February, 1912, the Broome Estate, Bangi, situated in the Mukim of Kajang, in the District of Ulu Langat, Selangor, Federated Malay States, and for the purposes set out in the Memorandum of Association.

The Estate comprises an area of approximately 2,025 acres (subject as to part to the delimitations to be fixed by the Statutory Land Grants when issued). Of this area 1,032 acres are planted with Para Rubber trees. The property is in the neighbourhood of such well-known Rubber properties as the Inch Kenneth, Glen-shiel, London Asiatic, and F.M.S. Estates.

SITUATION.—The Estate is 2½ miles from Kuala Lumpur, and adjoins Bangi Station on the line from Kuala Lumpur to Seremban, and is 10 miles from Kajang. It is favourably situated as regards transport, the main road from Kuala Lumpur runs through the property for two miles, and there is a fine factory site within two minutes from the Railway Station.

TITLES.—The quit rent payable in respect of about 290 acres is 50 cents per acre per annum in perpetuity, for 352 acres four dollars per acre per annum, and for the remainder a rent of one dollar per acre per annum for various periods rising to four dollars per acre per annum.

REPORT.—Mr. H. d'Esteire Darby visited and examined the Estate in September, 1911, and has reported thereon, under date 30th September, 1911, to The Anglo-Asiatic Rubber and Finance Trust, Limited. The following information is based on Mr. Darby's report and upon a valuation dated 11th January, 1912, made to the same Company by Mr. F. C. Kingsmill Brown, the Manager of an adjoining property.

CULTIVATION.—The approximate area planted with Rubber Trees in bearing is 293 acres, and the age varies from four to six years old, some 20 acres being of the latter age; the remainder are classed between four and five years. As regards weeding, this area is all clean and the Rubber looking well everywhere.

Rubber Trees not yet in bearing cover about 739 acres. Some 81 acres of this Rubber is older than the balance, being from 2½ to 5 years old, and Mr. Darby reports that there were trees ready for tapping in this area. The remaining 658 acres is all young Rubber from 21 months downwards, and Mr. Darby reports that the whole area was practically clean.

AGES AND NUMBERS OF TREES.

Para Rubber	5 to 6 years old	..	49,810 trees.
"	2½ to 3 "	"	13,770 "
"	21 months	"	17,650 "
"	18 "	"	65,490 "
"	11 "	"	23,290 "
"	3 to 6 months	"	22,914 "
Total trees			193,934

street, London, E.C., hereinafter referred to as the Trust, who, by the Agreement (a) below mentioned, have agreed to sell the said Broome Estate to the Company for £58,000 in cash and £50,000 in fully-paid shares in the Company of £1 each (making a total of £108,000) as against the above valuation of £125,000, the Company discharging the survey fees and premium if any remain payable in respect of the applications for Statutory Grants. No part of the purchase price is in respect of goodwill. Under Agreement (a) below mentioned Mr. K. F. Arbuthnot for services rendered in connexion with the promotion and formation of the Company will be paid by the Trust the sum of £4,000 in cash. Mr. Arbuthnot's entire net benefit under this arrangement will be handed over by him without consideration to the Rubber Share Trust and Finance Company, Limited, of Mincing Lane House, E.C.

Of the Broome Estate some 514 acres are held upon Statutory Land Grants, about 193 acres are held upon the Mukim Extracts, and about 1,318s. 1r. 0p. for which applications for Statutory Land Grants were made in 1909 and 1910 and have been approved by the Government of the Federated Malay States.

The present Owners of the Estate are entitled to nominate one of the Directors of the Company to hold office until completion of the purchase, and thereafter so long as they shall be the registered holders in their own right of shares in the Company of the nominal value of £25,000. Mr. John Kelly has been nominated under this power.

The preliminary expenses, including registration fees, the cost of printing, distributing, and advertising this Prospectus, the cost and expenses of and incidental to the reports and valuation here referred to, Brokers' fees and legal and other expenses, down to the date of the first general allotment of Shares (except the underwriting and over-riding commissions below mentioned, the cost of and duties payable on the transfer and Brokerage) are estimated at £3,500. The Trust has agreed to pay such preliminary expense (except as aforesaid) in consideration of the payment to them by the Company of the sum of £3,500. The costs, duties, and brokers' aforesaid are estimated at £700 and are payable by the Company.

The minimum subscription upon which the Directors may proceed to allotment is fixed by the Articles of Association at the nominal amount of 100 shares of £1 each, but as the 78,000 shares now offered have been underwritten the Directors will proceed to allotment upon the closing of the Subscription List.

The following Contracts have been entered into:—

(a) Dated 8th March, 1911, between John Kelly, of Moate County Westmeath, Ireland, and Joseph Kelly, of Bangi, in the State of Selangor (in this Prospectus referred to as "the present Owners"), of the one part, and the Trust of the other part, by which the present Owners have granted to the Trust an option for the purchase of the said Broome Estate for the sum of £100,000, payable as to £50,000 in cash, and as to the balance (£50,000) in fully paid shares of the Company treated as of par value in con-

Wendell

A further 280 acres of jungle has been felled, and should be cleared and planted forthwith, leaving approximately 718 acres of jungle land, practically all of which is believed to be available for planting and shows heavy forest which should contain valuable timber.

Amongst the Rubber in bearing root disease has given trouble on two blocks, comprising some 75 acres, but the logs have all been cut out and burnt as well as the infected trees, so that the matter is having careful attention to prevent any spreading of the disease.

Mr. Darby states that he saw little or no signs of any disease in the area covered by the trees not yet in bearing, and although the drought had been very severe, the Rubber looked well and regular; supplying had been carefully done and there were very few vacancies.

He states that the whole cultivation can be said to be in first-class order.

LAY OF LAND, SOIL, &c.—The lay of the land varies considerably. Most of the land where the young Rubber is planted is steep, with small areas of flat land. In the older Rubber the lay of land is good and soil is a yellowish red loam on the hills and a sandy clay on the flats, both of which are very suitable for Para Rubber. There are drains on the flat land, but contour drains are required on the steeper parts.

BUILDINGS.—The Buildings consist of a Manager's Bungalow, 4 sets of Javanese Liats sufficient for 350 coolies, 1 large set Tamil Lines for 200 coolies, 2 Overseers' Houses and 1 Shop House. These are all in order. The Rubber is at present being cured at the F.M.S. Rubber Company's Store at Kajang, until a factory is erected on the Estate.

LABOUR.—The labour force on the Estate at date of Mr. Darby's visit consisted of 476 Coolies, comprising 70 Chinese on contract, 170 Tamils, and 236 Javanese. More Javanese labour is easily obtainable if required.

The health is described as good and the water supply as being satisfactory.

GENERAL.—Mr. Darby states that the only drawback at present to this property is the want of roads inside the Estate. It is very fortunate in having the Government road running alongside as it does, and now the temporary road to Sepang, which passes through the new clearing of 171 acres and where the 280 acres is being felled, is to be made by the Government into a metalled road, every part of the Estate will be made most accessible. Mr. Darby recommends that internal roads and connecting paths and contour drains should be put in hand on the steeper parts as soon as feasible, and the Directors intend to carry out these works.

In conclusion, Mr. Darby observes that taking transport facilities, health, &c., into consideration, this work is all that is necessary to make the property as fine a one as any in the country.

MR. DARBY'S ESTIMATE OF CROPS (Dry Rubber).

1912	108,000lb.
1913	145,500 ..
1914	176,500 ..
1915	250,000 ..
1916	310,000 ..
1917	350,000 ..

Mr. H. d'Esteiro Darby's Report was checked by Mr. Herbert M. Darby, who states, *inter alia*, "I consider that the report is a fair one, and the crops are safely estimated."

Both of the Messrs. Darby are experienced and well-known Planters and Rubber Experts in the East.

The present owners have cabled that the output of Dry Rubber from the Estate for the year 1911 amounted to 52,000lb.

On the basis of Mr. Darby's Report, and taking the estimate of crop (Dry Rubber) the Directors consider that the following would be a conservative basis of net profit to be derived from the Estate for the next six years, viz.:

		Net profit.
1912 ..	108,000lb. at 3s. 0d. per lb.	£16,200 0 0
1913 ..	145,500 .. " 2s. 6d. ..	18,187 10 0
1914 ..	176,500 .. " 2s. 6d. ..	22,062 10 0
1915 ..	250,000 .. " 2s. 6d. ..	31,250 0 0
1916 ..	310,000 .. " 2s. 0d. ..	31,000 0 0
1917 ..	350,000 .. " 2s. 0d. ..	35,000 0 0

The present owners undertake to deliver the cultivated portion of the Estate in first-class condition, clean and free from weeds, and without any vacancies in or amongst the Rubber Trees, on completion of the purchase, when the Company will take over the Estate.

Mr. F. C. Kingsmill Brown states as follows in his valuation:—"As Manager of Bangi Estate (belonging to the Balgownie Rubber Estates, Limited) which adjoins that property (the Broome Estate), I have had ample opportunity of judging what the general condition of the place is like. The growth of Rubber, age for age, is equal to anything I have seen in Selangor, and I consider this Estate one of the best now privately owned in the Malay States. In the 4½ year old Rubber most of the trees measure from 22 to 32 inches in circumference 3 feet from the ground."

"The remaining portion of the Jungle land is practically all available for planting, and I consider that the whole of this property can be weeded at an average cost of about \$1 per acre per month."

"I can thoroughly recommend the purchase of the Estate as a sound investment, from which substantial profits should be earned."

Mr. Kingsmill Brown's valuation of the property, which he states is made on a conservative basis, is £125,000.

The Directors consider that the Working Capital provided by the shares now offered, together with the Reserve Capital when issued, should be sufficient for the purposes of the Company.

The Vendors to, and Promoters of, the Company are The Anglo-Asiatic Rubber and Finance Trust, Limited, of 52, Queen Victoria

consideration of the sum of £6,500 paid by the Trust to the present Owners, which amount is to be taken as paid on account of the said sum of £50,000 cash portion of such purchase price. The present Owners are each entitled to a moiety of the said sums of £50,000 cash and £50,000 in fully paid shares (which cash and shares are payable by the Trust out of the purchase consideration payable by the Company to the Trust as above mentioned). (b) Dated 8th March, 1911, Letter from the said Joseph Kelly to the Trust under which Mr. Charles Mitchell, of Malacca, Straits Settlements, is entitled to 2,500 fully paid shares of £1 each in the Company out of the 50,000 fully paid shares receivable by the present Owners under Contract (a). (c) Contract of Sale dated 17th January, 1912, between the Trust of the one part and the Company of the other part. (d) Dated 17th January, 1912, between the Company of the one part and the Trust of the other part, whereby in consideration of the Trust underwriting 33,000 shares of the Company, the Company agrees to pay to the Trust a commission of five per cent. in cash and an over-riding commission of one per cent. in cash upon the nominal amount of the said 33,000 shares. (e) An agreement dated the 17th January, 1912, between the Company of the one part and John Kelly of the other part under which the latter agrees to underwrite 20,000 shares at a commission of 5 per cent. in cash and an over-riding commission at the rate of 1 per cent. in cash on the nominal amount of the said 20,000 shares. (f) An agreement dated the 17th January, 1912, between the Company of the one part and Messrs. W. I. Carr, Sons, and Tod of the other part under which the latter agree to underwrite 25,000 shares at a commission of 5 per cent. in cash with an over-riding commission of 1 per cent. in cash on the nominal amount of the said 25,000 shares. Various sub-underwriting contracts have been entered into. (g) An Agreement dated the 17th January, 1912, between the Trust of the first part, Keith Fraser Arbuthnot of the second part, and the Company of the third part.

The Articles of Association provide:—

The Directors shall be paid out of the funds of the Company by way of remuneration for their services at the rate of £200 per annum for each Director (other than the Chairman), and at the rate of £250 per annum for the Chairman, and the Directors shall also be paid such further remuneration (which shall accrue from day to day) as the Company in General Meeting may determine. The Directors shall also be entitled to be repaid all travelling and hotel expenses properly incurred by them in or with a view to the performance of their duties.

If any Director, being willing, shall render or be called upon to perform extra or special services of any kind, or to travel or to go or reside abroad for any business or purposes of the Company, he shall be entitled to receive such sum as the Board may think fit for expenses, and also such remuneration as the Board think fit either as a fixed sum or as a percentage of profits or otherwise and such remuneration may, as the Board shall determine, be either in addition to or in substitution for any other remuneration he may be entitled to receive, and the same shall be charged as part of the ordinary working expenses.

The remuneration of a Managing Director shall from time to time be fixed by the Board, and may be by way of salary or commission or participation in the profits, or by any or all of those modes, and shall, if so determined by the Board, be in addition to his share of any remuneration payable to the Board or to the Managing Director as one of the Board.

The qualification of a Director is the holding of shares of the nominal amount of £250.

The Directors are interested as follows:—

Mr. K. F. Arbuthnot is interested as above mentioned, and he is a Director of and holds 29,846 shares in the Rubber Share Trust and Finance Company, Limited, which has a nominal capital of £700,000, divided into 700,000 shares of £1, whereof 249,821 share have been issued and are fully paid. Mr. Kelly is interested as above mentioned under Contracts (e) and (f). Mr. Lowden and Mr. Taylor are Directors of and hold respectively 50,065 and 24,490 shares in the Trust, which has a nominal capital of £25,000, divided into 250,000 shares of 2s. each, whereof 250,000 shares have been issued and are fully paid. Mr. Seldon holds 500 shares in the Trust and has sub-underwritten 1,000 of the shares of the Company now offered on the terms above mentioned and is a Director of and hold 1,005 shares in the Rubber Share Trust and Finance Company Limited.

A copy of the Memorandum of Association, with the names, addresses, and descriptions of the signatories and the number of shares subscribed for by them respectively is printed in the fold of this Prospectus and forms part of it.

The above-mentioned Reports, Cable, and Valuation, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the above-mentioned Contracts, or copies of such documents, can be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors of the Company at any time during business hours while the Subscription List is open.

Application for Shares must be made on the accompanying form and sent to the Company's Bankers with the amount payable on application. If no allotment is made, the application money will be returned in full, and if the number of shares allotted is less than the number applied for, the balance of the application money will be applied towards the amount payable on allotment, and any excess will be returned to the applicant. Failure to pay any instalment will render the Shares and previous payments liable to forfeiture.

A brokerage of 3d. per Share will be paid by the Company on Shares applied for and allotted on applications, other than under writing applications, identified as coming through Brokers or approved Agents.

Application will be made to the Committee of the London Stock Exchange for a settlement in the Shares of the Company.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares can be obtained from the Company's Bankers, Solicitors, and Brokers, and at the Offices of the Company.

London, dated 17th January, 1912.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 896 vom 20. Oktober 1913

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

The report of the directors for the period from January 17, 1912, to June 30, 1913, states: The amount of dry rubber collected to June 30, 1913, was 117,189 lb., which realised a gross average price of 3s. 10.06d. per pound. This crop was obtained from about 326 acres. The estimate for the year ending June 30, 1914, is 120,000 lb. The directors believe that this is a conservative figure. For the three months July-September, 1913, the output, according to cable advices, was 27,193 pounds. The cost of the rubber f.o.b. Port Swettenham, including depreciation was 1s. 7.99d. per pound. After adding London selling charges (viz., draft, discount, insurance, freight, wharfage, brokerage, and agents' commission), and the whole of directors' fees, London office expenses, legal charges, &c., the "all in" cost amounts to 2s. 3.84d. per pound. The estimated cost f.o.b. for the year 1913-14, exclusive of depreciation, is 1s. 2½d. per pound; 542 acres of rubber were planted during 1912, and no further extensions are to be undertaken

for the present. Considerable thinning out and pruning of the old rubber has been done, and the manager reports that the bark renewal is improving as a result of this. The reports from Mr. A. P. Hadow continue to give the board satisfaction, and in the last report, on his visit to the estate at the end of June, says: "This estate is steadily improving in value and developing well. I am exceedingly pleased with the excellent growth that prevails." Owing to the decline in the price of rubber, further working capital will be required, and this matter is now under consideration. The net profit for the period is £9,075. The directors propose to apply this amount in writing off the whole of the preliminary expenses and underwriting commission, £8,150, and to carry forward to the next account the balance of £925.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. *8975* vom *29. Okt.* 1913

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

CONDITION OF THE ESTATE—ISSUE OF DEBENTURES FORESHADOWED.

The first annual general meeting of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Limited, was held yesterday, at the Cannon-street Hotel, E.C., Mr. K. F. Arbuthnot (chairman of the company) presiding.

A representative of the secretaries (the Rubber Share Trust and Finance Company, Limited) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, I will first of all deal with the accounts, which have been in your hands for the past week, and with your permission, will follow the usual course and take them as read. On the credit side of the balance-sheet you will see that we have expended £13,683 13s. 4d. on the upkeep of the immature area. This figure includes four-fifths of the Eastern general charges and the whole of the cost of opening up the new clearings of 542 acres planted in 1912, and brings the total book cost of the estates up to £121,611 5s. 5d. The sum of £875 8s. 2d. has been written off buildings, furniture, and live stock for depreciation. The remaining figures on this side of the balance-sheet do not, I think, require further explanation, except that I may tell you that the stock of rubber unsold and valued at £774 12s. has since been disposed of at a slightly higher figure. Turning to the other side of the balance-sheet, the item of £2,100 15s. 8d., appearing under the heading of sundry creditors, chiefly consists of £1,529 18s. 10d. owing in the East in respect of coolie pay, salaries, immigration tax, F.M.S. Company's curing charges, &c., and has since been paid. The other items do not require further comment. The trading account shows a credit balance of £11,132 10s. 1d., and, after deducting the whole of London office expenses, directors' fees, &c., their remains a net profit of £9,073 4s. 5d., which we recommend you to apply in writing off all the preliminary expenses and underwriting commission, £8,150, and carry forward the sum of £923 4s. 5d. We shall then start the new year with a balance-sheet free from any items of that nature to be charged against future revenue. During the period under review the crop of dry rubber obtained was 117,189 lb., which has been sold at a gross average price of 3s. 10.06d. per pound. The average yield from 326 acres in bearing was 257 lb. of dry rubber per acre, or, say, 2 lb. per tree.

CURRENT YEAR'S ESTIMATE.

The estimate for the current twelve months is 120,000 lb., and the manager informs us he is confident that this amount will be obtained, if not exceeded. On the advice of our visiting agent (Mr. A. P. Hadow), about 100 acres of the old rubber which was too closely planted has been thinned out and pruning operations put in hand in order to let in light and air to facilitate bark renewal.

This, together with a light system of tapping, accounts, to some extent, for a smaller crop than was originally expected, but the after-effects should be beneficial. The bark renewal, according to the manager's reports, is showing considerable improvement as a result of this policy. You will be interested to hear that the system of tapping is daily quarter tree, half herring bone; this allows four years for bark renewal. The "all-in" cost was 2s. 3.84d. per pound, including all London expenses, freight, and sale charges. This being our first year, I cannot give you the comparative cost of production in the past, but the estimated f.o.b. cost for 1913-14 is 1s. 2½d. per pound, exclusive of depreciation; therefore, the "all-in" cost for the future should show considerable reduction. Your directors appreciate the necessity of exercising the strictest economy compatible with efficiency in expenditure on the property, and our agents at Kuala Lumpur (Messrs. Harrisons and Crossfield, Limited) and the manager are also fully alive to this important matter. I cannot say what the future price of the commodity will be, but we must do all that is possible to keep down costs. From the table of acreages you will see that last year we planted 542 acres, which is reported to show excellent growth. In view of the present state of the market for the raw material, and the company's future financial requirements, your board do not propose, for the present, to open up any further land. (Hear, hear.) The total planted area is 1,387 acres, but I will deal later with this subject. The labour force is up to present requirements, and we have no difficulty in recruiting, as Broome is a healthy and favourite estate. During the past fiscal year we have had to provide considerable accommodation for our manager, assistants, and labour force. A new manager's bungalow, an assistants' bungalow, coolie lines of a permanent nature, sundry sheds, &c., have been erected, and, in addition, to meet Government requirements, a hospital has been built and is now in use. This is expenditure of a compulsory nature that will not be recurring.

ERECTION OF A FACTORY.

The latex has been manufactured at the factory of the F.M.S. Company; but a factory of our own has now been erected, equipped with up-to-date machinery, and will shortly be in working order. With our own factory we should be able to produce rubber of a better colour, as there will not be so long a period for oxidation of the latex when on the way to the factory; and it will be more economical, as we have paid the F.M.S. Company 8c. per pound for manufacturing our rubber, but should be able to do this ourselves at 4½c. per pound. The estate is reported to be clean weeded, and pests give very little trouble. Careful watch is kept for any outbreak of disease, which is promptly treated. The visiting agent's report for September should very shortly be in our hands, but in the June report Mr. Hadow says:

WENDEN!

"This estate is steadily improving in value and developing well. I am exceedingly pleased with the excellent growth that prevails." The weeding costs are being reduced, and, although during the past year the average cost for new clearings was \$2.15 per acre per month, for immature rubber \$1.81 per acre per month, and for mature rubber \$1.08 per acre per month, the latest returns show that a reduction is being made. We hope to get the weeding costs down to about \$1 per acre per month all round, which is quite a normal figure. The estate has recently been surveyed, and we regret to state that in the planted area taken over from the vendors the surveyor has found a very serious shortage; in all, about 218 acres are short, 100 of which is said to be in respect of 1910 plantings. The matter is having the attention of the board, and your directors are now in negotiation for substantial compensation. Mr. John Kelly, one of the original vendors and a director of this company, I was in hopes would be with us to-day, as I am sure he would have assured us that he was desirous to meet the company in a fair manner if we have a reasonable claim. The present low price of rubber, as you are all aware, is a very serious matter for this company, and in order to meet capital requirements we shall have to raise further funds to enable us to reach the self-supporting stage. This will only be possible at the present time by an issue of debentures.

THE PRICE OF RUBBER.

Regarding the price of rubber and the present methods of sale, you will no doubt be fully conversant with the various schemes that have been proposed to protect this industry, as the matter has been so fully ventilated in the press and elsewhere. It is sufficient for me to say that we are willing to join any sound scheme of combination that will enable us to obtain a steady and remunerative price for the product. Before concluding, I would like to express the appreciation of the board of the good work that has been done on behalf of the company by our manager (Mr. S. S. Stevens) and his assistants, our agents at Kuala Lumpur (Messrs. Harrisons and Crosfield, Limited), and Mr. A. P. Hadow (the visiting agent), and I hope that a vote of thanks to those in the East who look after our interests will be proposed from the other side of the table. With these remarks I beg to move: "That the directors' and auditors' reports and the accounts and balance-sheet to June 30, 1913, be, and are hereby adopted, and that the whole of the preliminary expenses and underwriting commission, amounting to £8150, be written off, and that the balance of £923 4s. 5d. be carried forward to the next account." I will ask Mr. Lowden to second the motion, but before putting it to the meeting I shall be pleased

to answer to the best of my ability any questions that may be asked.

Mr. M. Lowden seconded the motion.

Mr. Egerton Martin characterised the report as a very disappointing one, and wished to know why the period covered by the accounts was extended to June last. This, he said, rendered it extremely difficult to compare the results with the prospectus figures. According to the prospectus they should have made £16,000 in the first year; but only £9,000 had been made in seventeen months, while the output of rubber, which should have been 108,000 pounds for the first year, was only 68,272 lb. for eleven months. It was most unusual and unbusiness-like for the directors to have paid the full purchase price without first ascertaining that they had the full planted acreage. As working capital was required, the directors ought to obtain £10,000 or £15,000 in cash from the vendors on account of the shortage, and if they did this it would be unnecessary to issue debentures.

SHAREHOLDERS' QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

The Chairman, in reply to questions, said the directors had not yet formed any plan with regard to the proposed debentures. They hoped to get a substantial sum by way of refund from the vendors, and in that case no debentures would be required. Immediately the directors learned the result of the survey they put the matter in the hands of the company's solicitors. There was no special reason for bringing the accounts up to the end of June, except that that was a convenient date on which to end the financial year. The directors could not be held responsible for the amount of the crops in the East; their duty was to manage the company to the best of their ability, and this was what they did. The figures referred to were not put into the prospectus by himself. The estate was valued and reported on by a competent visiting agent, and his figures were published in the prospectus. The title-deeds to the property were lodged with the Chartered Bank of India, in the East, for safe custody. The directors had had a certificate to that effect; but as it was not dated June 30, the auditors referred to the matter in their certificate. The f.o.b. cost last year was 1s. 8d. and the "all-in" cost 2s. 3.84d. The directors would be quite prepared to consider the question of reducing their fees. Their aggregate holding in the company was about 70,000 shares.

The motion was carried, with one dissentient, and Messrs. Broads, Paterson and Co. having been reappointed auditors, a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, as well as to the manager and staff in the East, moved by Mr. Martin, closed the proceedings.

The Singapore Free Press

No. 1397 vom 7. Mai 1914

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER

An official announcement is to hand from the board of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber directors stating that as the result of negotiations the original vendors have agreed to refund £5,000 of the purchase consideration, half in cash and half in shares. The amount of cash recoverable from the vendors, together with the proceeds of the sales of rubber and temporary advances by the secretaries, provides the company with funds to finance the estate, both as to capital and revenue expenditure. Therefore, for the present, further working capital will not be necessary, provided the price of the raw material does not fall below 2s per lb. The amount of rubber harvested to March 31 is approximately 81,875 lb., of which 65,779 lb. have been sold at a gross average price of 2s 3.5d per lb. (London equivalent). The total acreage of the estate is 2,027 acres, of which 1,387 acres are under rubber, and about 400 acres are now being tapped. It is expected that a further 300 acres will be steady to bring into the tapping rounds by July next.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. *9906* vom *11 Nov*

1916

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

THE PROFITS MORE THAN DOUBLED—LARGE INCREASE IN THE CROP.

The fourth annual general meeting of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday, at the registered office of the company, Winchester House, Old Broadstreet, E.C., Sub-Lieut. Joseph Kelly, R.N.V.R. (chairman and managing director), presiding.

The Representative of the Secretaries (the Culloden Consolidated Co., Ltd.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the result of the year's trading was a profit of £13,561, or about 10½ p.c. on their issued capital of £128,600, and more than double the profit made in the preceding year. After providing for the interim dividend £20,914 remained to be dealt with, and the directors proposed that £10,000 should be transferred to reserve, that a final dividend of 6 p.c. should be paid, and that the balance of £3,198 should be carried forward. The crop had amounted to 252,804 pounds, as compared with 163,517 lb.—an increase of rather more than 55 p.c. The fact that the f.o.b. cost at 11.65d. per pound slightly exceeded the previous year's figure was explained when he said that a greater proportion of the East and general charges had been debited to revenue account, that the cost of all estate supplies had gone up, and that they had tapped a considerable area of young trees for the first time. The planted area had been extended by six acres during the year under review, and a further 233 acres were now ready for planting. That would bring the total cultivated area up to 1,637 acres. The policy of the directors was to continue planting up gradually. For the year ending June 30, 1917, the manager estimated for a crop of 350,000 lb. To October the crop had amounted to 131,695 pounds, so that everything pointed to the estimate being exceeded. He did not think it would be safe to expect much reduction in the f.o.b. costs this year, as a further number of young trees would be brought under the knife, and the initial cost of tapping young trees was always high. In due time, however, their costs would diminish, while they had sold forward for shipment during January to June, 1917, 24 tons at 2s. 7½d. per pound, London equivalent.

EXCESS PROFITS DUTY.

With regard to the question of excess profits duty, they would doubtless be anxious to learn how the company would be affected. Not having a pre-war standard of profits, they had adopted the "statutory percentage," which for limited liability rubber companies had been fixed at 10 p.c., but the amount of their capital for the purpose of excess profits duty was not the figure of £128,600 appearing in the balance-sheet, as some people seemed to imagine. They had to take the total amount of their assets, as per balance-sheet, which was £156,500. Subtracting the amount of £28,250 they had been allowed to charge to revenue under the "Vallambrosa" decision for the purpose of income-tax returns, there remained £128,250. To that they could add £4,000 in respect of depreciation not allowed by the Surveyor of Taxes and the amount of pre-

liminary expenses, £3,150, written off in the first year, leaving £140,000. They had to deduct bills payable and sundry creditors and also the undivided profits from 1915-16, less the interim distribution of £3,215, or a net amount of £10,346, leaving their capital for the purpose of excess profits duty at £123,500. Their datum line, accordingly, was £123,500, so that for the past year they would escape altogether payment of any excess profits duty. For the current year they estimated that their capital for the purpose of excess profits duty would be increased by about £4,500, and their datum line on June 30 next on that basis

would be £128,000; but as they could show pre-war losses of about £4,000, which they understood could be set off against future liability for excess profits duty, their datum line would be increased to £132,000. They estimated that about £20,000 of the expenditure could be charged for 1916-17 against profits for the purpose of duty. If their crop were 350,000 lb., realising 2s. per pound net, there would be a surplus of £16,000, which would enable them to escape taxation, and so it would appear that in respect of any price realised in excess of 2s. per pound net 60 p.c. of such surplus would be the company's contribution. Those figures, however, had yet to be agreed with the Surveyor of Taxes.

Mr. Matthew Lowden seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. Mr. John Kelly was elected a director, and the auditors (Messrs. Breads, Paterson and Co.) were re-appointed.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 10229 vom 5. Sep. 1917

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

EXCELLENT CROP RAISED, AND GOOD SELLING PRICE OBTAINED.

The fifth annual general meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday, at Winchester House, Old Broadstreet, E.C., Lieut. Joseph Kelly, R.N.A.S. (chairman and managing director), presiding.

Mr. F. C. Rycroft, representing the secretaries (Culloden Consolidated Co., Ltd.), read the notice and auditors' report.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: The accounts are set out pretty clearly, and, I think, show the very satisfactory progress made during the past year. The net profit, after providing for depreciation and all expenses, amounts to £24,827. This figure shows an increase of over £11,000 as compared with the preceding year's working. After adding to the net profit for the past year the balance brought forward from the last account, there is £23,025 standing to the credit of profit and loss account. In April last we distributed an interim dividend of 6 p.c., leaving available for consideration to-day £20,309. Your directors propose that £5,000 be transferred to reserve and that a final dividend of 9 p.c. (making 15 p.c. for the year) be paid, leaving £3,735 to carry forward to the next account. This carry-forward should more than cover any excess profits duty for which we may be liable. With regard to the cost of production, it is slightly higher than that of last year, but you are undoubtedly aware of the present high figure at which freight and insurance premiums now stand. In spite, however, of these adverse circumstances, your directors consider that we have done exceedingly well and quite up to expectations. The crop obtained was 383,579 lb. and realised a gross average price of 2s. 8.61d. per pound. It is owing to this excellent crop and the very good selling price obtained that we are able to put before you such a satisfactory showing. The planted area remains at 1,637

acres, and until after the war your directors think it well to devote their energies to keeping the rubber we have got in good condition rather than to the development of more land, which, I may say, is their ultimate objective.

ESTIMATE FOR CURRENT YEAR.

With regard to the current year, it is not possible to make any forecast, and we can only hope that we shall do as well as we have done during the year we are now reviewing. You will see from the report that the manager expects to obtain 450,000 lb. up to next June, but this figure is given with due reserve and is subject to the difficulties under which we are labouring nowadays both as regards freight, which is our chief difficulty, and labour. You will recollect that in the early days of the company, when the adjustment of the acreage was settled, 2,675 shares were surrendered. Practically the whole of these shares have been sold since the accounts were made up, and the amount of cash realised is roughly £4,000. Our cash position is, therefore, strengthened by this amount, which item will figure in our next account. Perhaps you would like to know how we stand with respect to excess profits duty. As the secretaries are at present in negotiation over the matter with the income-tax authorities I would request you to avoid any discussion concerning it for the moment. The secretaries will be only too pleased to let you know the result when it has been definitely arranged if you care either to write or to call at the office. However, I can assure you that our carry-forward of £3,700 odd will be much more than sufficient to meet any liability under this heading. Our manager (Mr. Paul) and his assistants have done excellent service, and the directors wish to record their appreciation of their efforts in the company's interests. We are also indebted to our Eastern agents (Messrs. Harrison and Crossfield, of Kuala Lumpur), who control the administration of the estates in the East.

Mr. John Gaynor seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman announced that, according to the articles of association, Mr. Matthew Lowden was the retiring director, and he offered himself for re-election, but notice had been given that Mr. A. V. Houghton would be proposed to fill the vacancy on the board.

On a show of hands Mr. Houghton was declared elected in place of Mr. Lowden.

The auditors (Messrs. Broads, Paterson and Co.) were then reappointed, and the proceedings terminated.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 10538 vom 12. Sep. 1918

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

For year to June 30 last the rubber crop was 417,544 lb.; gross average price realised, 2s. 2.96d. per pound; cost f.o.b., 1s. 1.48d. per pound, and all-in, 1s. 8.10d. The amount written off for depreciation, equivalent to 78d. per pound, is not included in the above figure. Estimated crop for current year, 450,000 lb. (subject to revision). Net profit, £10,949, and £3,736 was brought in, making £14,685. To reserve, £5,000; forward (subject to excess profits duty, if any), £9,685. Meeting, Winchester House, Dec. 19, at 12.30.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. *19545* vom

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BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

EXPECTATIONS AS TO EARLY DECLARATION OF INTERIM DIVIDEND.

The sixth annual general meeting of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, E.C., Lieutenant Joseph Kelly, R.A.F. (chairman and managing director), presiding.

The Representative of the Secretaries (the Culloden Consolidated Co., Ltd.) having read the notice convening this meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, as customary, I will first deal with the accounts, which are set out in the usual manner. The net result of the past year's trading is a profit of £10,940 18s. 4d. In the preceding year we made a net profit of £24,827 2s. 5d., and it will therefore be seen that our revenue this year is £13,878 4s. 1d. less. The reasons for this big decrease are, firstly, a drop of 5.65d. per pound in the gross average selling price from 2s. 8.61d. to 2s. 2.96d., and, secondly, an increase from 1s. 4.42d. to 1s. 8.10d., viz., 3.68d. per pound, in the cost of production. The crop of rubber harvested, however, shows an increase of 34,965 lb. as compared with the output obtained during the season 1916-17, notwithstanding that many of the older fields were rested, and that the younger areas which could have been tapped were not opened up.

With regard to the smaller prices obtained for our produce, this, as you all know, has been common to every rubber-producing company, and is due to lack of shipping facilities from the East and restrictions upon imports into the U.S.A. and Canada. It costs 1.35d. per pound more to harvest and put our rubber free on board steamer at shipping ports, and, owing to the enormous increase in rates of freight, the sale charges, which include this item, have gone up by 3.15d. per pound. Per contra, war risks insurance shows a saving of 0.7d. per pound, due to our shipping considerable quantities via the Pacific to America, instead of through the Mediterranean, and London standing charges are down 0.12d. per pound. Having regard to these difficult and anxious times, I think we may congratulate ourselves on having come through with what is at all events a fairly substantial balance on the right side of our accounts.

Although shipping facilities cannot be all that we may desire for some time to come, I do not think that I can be considered an extreme optimist if I express the opinion that our industry has seen the worst, and, given time and more freight, the outlook must slowly improve. Your directors do not consider that they would be justified in recommending the payment of a dividend to-day. It is essential that we should conserve our cash resources at least for the present, but during the next three or four months, or when the general situation clears, the board intend to declare an interim dividend in respect of the current financial year.

PRESENT FINANCIAL POSITION.

You would no doubt like to know our present financial position. Our output for the year ended June 30, 1918, has all been disposed of, with the exception of about 45,000 lb., which is in store in Vancouver awaiting release from bond. We are expecting to hear at any moment, now that all other Governments have removed their restrictions, that Canada will follow suit. This ought to realise a much better price than that at which it was value in the accounts.

With regard to this year's crop we have already disposed of 156,000 lb. ex-warehouse in the East at a fair profit. The position really amounts to this: that we have now sufficient funds at our disposal in ready cash, or its equivalent, to pay all expenditure to the end of our present financial year ending on June 30 next, and we will eventually have the sale pro-

ceeds of, say, 300,000 lb. of rubber available for dividends and general reserve for the year ending on June 30, 1919. This quantity of rubber would realise at present prices approximately £25,000. The planted acreage is now 1,657 acres, of which 20 acres consisting of scattered patches on the boundaries were planted towards the end of 1917. We have now approximately 1,400 acres, varying from six to thirteen years old, and under the knife, leaving only the 1916 and 1917 plantings to be brought into the tapping rounds. From this you will gather that our capital expenditure, on a large scale, on bridges, roads, factory, lines, bungalows, clearing timber, and tree stumps, is practically at an end in respect of the area that is now under cultivation. In another two years or so the whole of our 1,657 acres of rubber should be contributing to our revenue.

The estimated capital expenditure during the years 1919-20 and 1920-21 is estimated respectively at approximately \$20,000 each year, so a sterling expenditure of under £2,500 in each of these years should cover all outgoings of this nature, and after that the whole estate will be in bearing and all expenditure on revenue account.

You will, no doubt, be interested to hear what our visiting agent, Mr. J. A. Brown, of the firm of Messrs. Brown and Tough, has to say about the state of affairs when he last visited the property. He reports that we have ample labour, tapping is good, and the estate clean weeded. The factory, machinery, and all other buildings and coolie lines are in good order. The medical officer, who pays a monthly visit to the estate, mentions that the health of the labour force is, in his opinion, very good, and this is confirmed by the extraordinarily low death rate.

The visiting agent's concluding remarks are as follows: "The end of the financial year finds the estates in very good order. There should be a considerable reduction in expenditure this year—i.e., 1918-19." When addressing you at our annual meeting in the past I have always told you that the policy of the board is a progressive one. When circumstances permit, we hope to increase the planted area, and so reduce the capitalisation per acre of our estates. This we can accomplish very cheaply, as it will mean simply additions to our present factory, bungalows, roads, &c.

CURRENT YEAR'S OUTPUT.

The estimated output for the year ending on June 30 next is 450,000 lb. This figure is given with all due reserve, owing to the uncertainty as regards freight in the immediate future,

which is the main determining factor. For the five months down to the end of November we have harvested 201,375 lb., as will be seen from the crop figures which are published each month in the papers, and also from the slip showing the outputs during each month since the inception of the company, which it is our custom to issue with the annual reports. This, gentlemen, is all I have to say to you to-day, and I express the hope that when we meet next year the troubles and difficulties we are now encountering will have passed away, and that there will then not be any obstacle to the declaration of a dividend. I again have to record the board's appreciation of the services rendered by our Eastern agents (Messrs. Harrisons and Crossfield, Ltd.), the estate manager, and his assistants. I now beg to move: "That the report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1918, as submitted to this meeting, be, and are hereby, approved and adopted, that the sum of £5,000 be transferred to reserve account, and the balance of £9,684 11s. 11d. be carried forward, subject to excess profits duty, if any." I will ask Mr. Houghton to second this resolution, but before putting it to the meeting I will be pleased to answer, as well as I can, any questions you may wish to ask.

Wendeni

Mr. A. V. Houghton seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

In answer to a question, the Chairman said that the idea of the directors was that if within the next three or four months the situation was cleared, financially and with regard to shipping, it was their intention to declare an interim dividend.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. John Gaynor was re-elected a director and Messrs. Broads, Paterson and Co. were re-appointed auditors, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and staff.

THE STATIST.

Nr. *2122*

BROOME (SELANGOR).

Issued Capital: £128,600 in 21 Shares.

Results for Years to June 30

Total Area in Rubber Planted Bearing Output	Acres	Acres	lb.	Acres	lb.	per lb.	per lb.	Net Profit	Dividend
								£	£
1915-16...	1,404	761	252,804	332	2/5-3	1/4		13,561	10,931
1916-17...	1,037	1,100*	383,570	345*	2/8-6	1/5		24,827	19,290
1917-18...	1,057	1,350*	417,544	310*	2/3	1/8-88		10,949	

* Estimated.

Price of Shares, 30/0. Market Capitalisation per planted acre, £116.

This Company has failed in the past to show ability to work really economically, and for a Selangor estate with 80% of its plantations in bearing and tapping unrestricted, the past year's all-in figure of nearly 1s. 9d. per lb. is much too high for comfort, especially seeing that though only 20 additional acres were planted, as much as £6,804 of development and upkeep expenditure, including a proportion of general charges, has been debited to capital account. The f.o.b. cost alone works out at 1s. 1½d., and sale charges account for nearly 5d. per lb. In dealing with the 1916-17 report we pointed out that after paying the declared dividends the balance sheet then issued showed an excess of current liabilities, and to put the position straight now involves the passing of the dividend. Even so surplus liquid assets at June 30 last only stand at £5,886, with an almost complete denudation of stores and materials. Luckily no excess profits duty has to be paid. The current year's production is estimated at 450,000 lb., but until costs are drastically revised shareholders can scarcely expect to receive a large return.

The Manchester Guardian

Nr. *22881* vom *10 Sep. 1911*

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

The seventh annual general meeting of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Limited, was held yesterday in London, Mr. Joseph Kelly, chairman and managing director, presiding.

Mr. F. C. Ryeoff, on behalf of the Culloden Consolidated Company, Limited, the secretaries, having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: The result of the past year's working shows a net profit of £19,154. This is rather more than £2,000 in excess of the profit realised in the preceding season, although our gross revenue has only increased by about £2,200. The amount spent in securing the crop is practically the same, and so is the amount written off for depreciation, but a saving of approximately £6,000 has been effected in respect of selling charges, freight, and insurance premiums. After adding the balance brought forward from last year and deducting the interim dividend of 5 per cent paid in April last there remains a sum of £22,408 to be dealt with to-day. We propose to you that £5,000 should be transferred to reserve (bringing that account up to £25,000), and that you should accept a final dividend of 7½ per cent, which will absorb £9,645, leaving £7,763 to be carried forward. The estates, &c. stand in the books at £154,728, while the issued capital of £128,600 and the reserve of £25,000 make a total of £153,600, or practically

the same figure. The stock of rubber, which figures in the accounts at £23,996, is rather more than usual, and is readily understandable when the much longer period taken nowadays to discharge steamers and obtain delivery of the produce after it has arrived in London owing to the congestion at the docks is considered. As a natural consequence it takes far longer to sell and receive the proceeds of sale. With the exception of some 15,000lb. of rubber, the whole of the stock has been disposed of at or above the figure at which it was valued. The 15,000lb., I think, we can safely count on realising at a figure which will show a surplus, as compared with that which we have taken for our accounts. We have ample liquid assets. The total of our book debts, stock of rubber, and cash in hand is approximately £31,000, while against this there are bills payable, sundry creditors, and the final dividend to be deducted. These figures make a total of about £20,000, leaving a cash reserve of £11,000. I hope to see this cash reserve gradually increased in the course of the next few years. The crop of rubber harvested during the year was 499,806lb., and realised a gross average price of 1s. 10.94d. per lb., which is quite a satisfactory result, and all the more so when taking into consideration the fact that of this amount only 343,036lb. were shipped from the East and sold on this side at the gross average price of 2s. 1d. The balance of 156,770lb. was disposed of during the early part of the year for delivery in Singapore at the average gross price of 1s. 6.43d. The net average obtained for the whole crop was 1s. 9.11d. The cost of production shows a satisfactory decrease, and is 6.10d. per pound lower than last year. This reduction has been effected as follows:—The f.o.b. cost is 2.17d. per pound less, selling charges, freight, and insurance 3.77d. per pound less, and London administration expenses 0.16d. per pound less. Owing to the ample provision that has been made in the past in writing down buildings, plant, and machinery, we have only to set aside for depreciation this year £1,165, as compared with £1,360 during the preceding season. There have been no new plantings, and the cultivated area remains at 1,657 acres. The crop of 499,806lb. was obtained from 1,418 acres, over which only 80 per cent. of the trees were tappable. The average yield per tree, from both old and young areas, was 3.79lb., or 427lb. per bearing acre. There are not many estates beating this. The estimate for the current season is 530,000lb., and during the four months to the 31st October we have secured 184,032lb. Unless anything unforeseen happens, I do not think that there is much doubt that we shall secure the estimate. As our capital expenditure will amount to a very small sum in future years, and as our cash reserve increases, we hope to be in a position to distribute our profits more liberally as time goes on. We are taking advantage of the good prices obtaining

for forward delivery, and have sold forward 30 tons at 2s. 4d. and 45 tons at 2s. 7d., both c.f. New York, or 75 tons in all at a London equivalent price of about 2s. 6d. per pound. The first contract is for shipment during the first three months of next year and the second during the period from April, 1920, to January, 1921. With regard to the question of excess profits duty, so far as we can gather there is no liability in respect of the past year's working. If there is any liability it can only be a very small amount, and our income tax reserve should much more than cover it.

It was unanimously resolved that the report and accounts be adopted, that £5,000 be transferred to reserve, that a final dividend of 7½ per cent. less tax, be paid, and that the balance of £7,763 be carried forward.

The Times (London)

Nr. 12,380 vom 11.2.1919

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS (LIMITED).

INCREASED PROFIT.

The SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations (Limited) was held yesterday at Winchester House, Mr. JOSEPH KELLY (chairman and managing director) presiding.

Mr. F. C. RYCROFT—representing the secretaries, Culloden Consolidated (Limited)—read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, and the payment of a final dividend of 7½ per cent., said that the result of the past year's working showed a net profit of £19,154 1s. 11d. This was rather more than £8,000 in excess of the profit realized in the preceding season, although their gross revenue had only increased by about £2,200. The amount spent in securing the crop was practically the same, and so was the amount written off for depreciation, but a saving of approximately £6,000 had been effected in respect of selling charges, freight, and insurance premiums. After adding the balance brought forward from last year and deducting the interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid in April, there remained a sum of £22,408 13s. 10d. to be dealt with. The directors proposed that £5,000 should be transferred to reserve (bringing that account up to £25,000), and that shareholders should accept a final dividend of 7½ per cent., which would absorb £9,645, leaving £7,763 13s. 10d. to be carried forward. They had, he was glad to say, ample liquid assets. The total of their book debts, stock of rubber, and cash in hand was approximately £31,000, while against this there were bills payable, sundry creditors, and the final dividend to be deducted. These figures made

a total of about £20,000, leaving a surplus of £11,000, or, in other words, a cash reserve of £11,000.

The crop of rubber harvested during the year was 499,806lb., and realized a gross average price of 1s. 10.94d. per lb., which he thought shareholders would agree was quite a satisfactory result, and all the more so when taking into consideration that of this amount only 343,036lb. were shipped from the East and sold on this side at the gross average price of 2s. 1d. The balance of 156,770lb. was disposed of during the early part of the year for delivery in Singapore, at the average gross price of 1s. 6.43d. The cost of production showed a satisfactory decrease, and was 6.10d. per lb. lower than in the previous year. There had been no new plantings, and the cultivated area remained at 1,657 acres. The crop of 499,806lb. was obtained from 1,418 acres, over which only 80 per cent. of the trees were tappable. The average yield per tree, from both old and young areas, was 3.79lb., or 427lb. per bearing acre. There were not many estates beating this. The estimate for the current season was 530,000lb., and during the four months to October 31 they had secured 184,032lb.

Mr. JOHN GAYNOR seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously; and the retiring director and auditors were re-elected.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 11,444 vom 15.2.1920

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

For the year to June 30 last the rubber crop was 533,493 lb., which realised the gross average price of 1s. 9.40d. per pound. The cost f.o.b. was 1s. 0.13d. per pound, and "all in" 1s. 3.22d. per pound, exclusive of depreciation 0.42d. per pound. The estimated crop for the current year is 527,000 pounds, but the board having decided to restrict output, the figure is subject to revision. The net profit for the year is £13,500, and £7,764 was brought in, making £21,264. An interim dividend of 7½ per cent. has been paid, leaving available £11,619. The directors propose to transfer to reserve £5,000 and carry forward £6,619 (subject to corporation profits tax and excess profits duty, if any). In view of the low prices at present ruling for rubber, the directors consider it advisable in the company's interest to conserve all cash resources so far as possible, and regret that they are unable to recommend the payment of a final dividend. Meeting, 4 Buckingham-gate, S.W., Dec. 22 noon.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 11758

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

COSTS SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED—CUR- RENT SEASON'S PROSPECTS.

The tenth annual general meeting of the shareholders of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday at the company's offices, 4 Buckingham-gate, S.W., Mr. Joseph Kelly (chairman and managing director) presiding.

Mr. H. Symons, the representative of the Secretaries (Roschaugh Co., Ltd.), having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report,

The Chairman said: Ladies and gentlemen, the directors' report and statement of accounts for the year ended on June 30 last have been in your hands for the past week. During the period under review the price of rubber has been at its lowest, but, thanks to the forward sale of 30 tons for shipment during January to June last at the equivalent of about 1s. London landed terms, we have managed to obtain a gross average price of 8.52d. for the restricted output of 420,226 lb. Crops since the inception of the company are given in the report, and upon referring to them you will see that last year the restricted output was 474,825 lb., and the year before that 533,498 lb. There is no doubt whatever that were it not for voluntary restriction on the part of some of the Rubber companies, and more particularly those operating in Malaya, conditions would have proved to be very much worse for the industry than they have. . . . As you all know, voluntary restriction is now a thing of the past except from certain estates in the Dutch East Indies, and as from November 1 last a scale of export duties has been imposed by the Governments of Ceylon and Malaya which will prevent estates in those countries from exporting more than 60 per cent. of their standard production.

REHABILITATION OF THE INDUSTRY.

Since the middle of October, when the Stevenson scheme was published, the price of rubber has risen considerably, and consequently the rehabilitation of the rubber industry has been speeded up. The object of the Stevenson scheme is not to inflate the price of rubber unduly, but to stabilise it and permit rubber companies to work at a profit. Before very long we may be allowed to export more than 60 per cent. of our standard production, and possibly in a year or two all the rubber that can be produced will be required.

I will now deal with the accounts for the past year, which, I think you will agree, require very little explanation. The gross revenue was £15,216, and the cost of harvesting the crop, plus selling expenses, £12,587, leaving a profit of £2,629. Depreciation has been provided for on an extremely liberal scale, and £1,273 has been written off buildings, plant, machinery, &c. After providing for interest and London expenses and taking credit for income-tax over-reserved last year, there is left a balance in hand of £558, which sum goes towards the reduction of the debt balance of £3,419 from the previous year, leaving only

£2,860 to be carried forward. The balance-sheet, I think, speaks for itself and shows how we stand. The only item which perhaps you would like me to enlarge upon is the investment of £5,000 appearing on the credit or asset side. This investment, as shareholders have already been informed, consists of 5,000 fully-paid shares of £1 each in a syndicate operating in Tanganyika Territory (late German East Africa), and formed by the group of companies with which we are associated. I am a director of the syndicate and have just returned from a visit to Tanganyika Territory, having investigated the whole position and inspected the properties in which the syndicate is interested. This syndicate is engaged in the cultivation of sisal hemp and cotton, and I am very pleased to be able to state that our plantations there are coming on splendidly, and that the prospects for the undertaking in general are very bright. I have very little doubt but that this investment will prove a very profitable one, and that before long we should see a good return on our money. I wish to inform shareholders that there is no liability in respect of this investment, for the shares are fully paid up. I lay particular emphasis on this, because I gather that some shareholders are apprehensive upon this point. As time goes on and the syndicate desires to extend its operations, we shall have the opportunity of increasing our interest, should we consider it desirable to do so.

You will no doubt have been pleased to see the substantial reductions in costs of production that have been effected. The f.o.b. cost was 6.62d., or 5.73d. per pound less than in the previous year, while the total cost was 8.23d., or 6.53d. less than the cost a year ago. It has only been possible to reduce costs gradually, and I can assure you that this reduction has not been made at the expense of efficiency. The estates are reported to be in first-class order.

THE OUTLOOK.

I will now deal with the current season and its prospects. For the five months ended November 30 the output was 191,795 lb., and the total expenditure in the East equivalent to 21 cents, or less than 6c. per pound, and this "all in" f.o.b. figure of 6d. covers all expenditure incurred in the East, both capital and revenue, including all moneys spent on the upkeep of areas which are not now being tapped, in order to comply with the restriction scheme. This figure has been arrived at by dividing total expenditure in the East, both capital and revenue, by the number of pounds of rubber produced. As we may only export 28,000 lb. per month from November 1, the output during the remaining seven months of the current season will have to be regulated to that figure, unless, of course, the present basis of 60 per cent. is increased. Assuming that the 60 per cent. limit remains in force till next June, the total crop for the current financial year will be, in round figures, 387,000 lb. We have received a mail from the East only a few moments ago, and we are now informed that we may have our standard production fixed at 600,000 lb. per annum. Sixty per cent. of this is 360,000 lb., or equivalent to 30,000 lb. a month instead of 28,000 lb. It must be obvious that a smaller crop will of necessity cost more to produce, but it is not anticipated that the total "all in" f.o.b. expenditure in the East for the year will exceed 25 cents per pound, say, 7d. Rubber, as you know, is now selling in London and in the East at about 1s. 2d. per pound, and even if

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the price does not increase beyond that figure—and there is every reason to suppose that it will—we should be able to secure a profit of about £10,000 for the year, and every penny a pound we average for our rubber over 1s. 2d. will mean an additional profit of £1,000.

A COMPLETELY EQUIPPED ESTATE.

This being our tenth year, it may not be out of place to point out that since the company was formed in 1912 we have earned in profits £103,188; £11,959 has been applied in writing off depreciation on buildings, plant, and machinery, £55,941 has been distributed in dividends, £30,000 placed to reserve, and the

balance employed in developing and extending the property. As a result we now possess an estate on which very little further capital expenditure will be required of any description. All areas are mature and could be tapped. The estate is practically free from pests, it is well drained, the steeper portions are silt-pitted or terraced, and all requisite roads have been constructed. For many years nothing further will be required in the way of bungalows, coolie lines, or hospital accommodation, and the factory is equipped with smoking and creping plant easily capable of dealing with the maximum output from the planted area at any future period. In fact, we can congratulate ourselves on a completely equipped estate, on which very little capital expenditure will be required in the future, and on which we ought to be able to produce rubber at a very low cost indeed. In view of our policy of voluntary restriction, our "all in" f.o.b. cost of less than 6d. during the five months of our present financial year from July 1 to November 30, must be considered extremely satisfactory, and would indicate that we should have been found among the survivors if the pernicious ideal of the "survival of the fittest" prevailing at one time had been persisted in to the end.

The health conditions on the estate have been excellent, and labour fully adequate for all requirements.

I consider we owe a very great debt of gratitude to our secretaries, the Rosehaugh Co., who financed us during the very trying period through which the planting industry has passed, and also to our staff in the East, our Eastern agents, Messrs. Harrison, Barker and Co., Ltd., and our visiting agents, Messrs. Tough, Brown and Menzies, for the valuable services always rendered. Before the meeting closes I hope that a hearty vote of thanks will be accorded them from the other side of the table.

I beg to move: "That the reports and accounts, as submitted to this meeting, be, and the same are hereby, approved and adopted."

Mr. F. C. Rycroft seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The retiring director (Mr. F. C. Rycroft) and the auditors (Messrs. Broads, Paterson and Co.) were re-elected, and a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, directors and staff concluded the proceedings.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 11.152 vom 21. Sep. 1920

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER
PLANTATIONS.

POLICY OF CONSERVING THE COMPANY'S CASH
RESOURCES—THE OUTLOOK.

The eighth annual general meeting of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday, at the company's offices, 4 Buckingham-gate, S.W., Mr. Joseph Kelly (chairman and managing director) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the profit on trading for the past year amounted to £15,264, as compared with £20,920 in the preceding year. The gross proceeds of sale of rubber were £47,772, or a few shillings less than the corresponding figure in the accounts to June 30, 1919. Crop expenditure was £28,960, as against £23,488, due to harvesting a larger quantity of rubber. Sale charges, freight, and insurance were consequently higher, being £5,056, against £3,807. After deducting London administration charges, &c., which were slightly less than in the previous year, there remained a net profit of £13,500. An interim dividend was paid in the spring, absorbing £9,645, and the directors proposed that £5,000 should be transferred to reserve and £8,619 carried forward, subject to corporation profits tax and excess profits duty, if any. There was no liability for excess profits duty, and the amount payable in respect of corporation profits tax, if any, should only come to a small figure.

The directors regretted that they could not recommend the payment of a final dividend which they could distribute, because it was most advisable to conserve cash resources as far as possible, in view of the low price at present ruling for the commodity. After increasing the reserve by £5,000, this account would figure at £30,000, which, added to the issued capital of £128,600, gave a total of £158,600, and practically represented the cost of the estates, buildings, machinery, &c. The Broome Co., in conjunction with associated companies and individuals, had formed a private syndicate to undertake planting of produce (other than rubber or tea) in Tanganyika territory, East Africa, and the directors were confident that profitable results would be obtained.

CROP DETAILS.

The crop of rubber harvested during the past year amounted to 533,498 lb., and slightly exceeded the estimate of 530,000 lb., being 34,000 lb. odd more than the crop secured in the preceding year. The cost of production (excluding depreciation, &c.), which worked out at 0.48d. per pound) was 1s. 3.22d., as against 1s. 2d. last year. The loss on rice amounted to over £1,500, and mainly accounted for the increased f.o.b. cost. The gross average price for the crop was 1s. 9.49d. per pound, as against 1s. 10.94d. per pound. With regard to the current season, the manager estimated that he would obtain a crop of 567,000 lb., but as the board had decided to restrict output, in conformity with the general scheme, this figure was subject to revision. The expenditure on the erection of a smoke house to provide further facilities for manufacturing increased crops had been postponed until the company was in a position to harvest rubber on a normal basis. The present factory was capable of dealing with the output that would be obtained during the period of restriction.

With regard to the future, everybody connected with the rubber industry was aware that the market in the United States controlled the position. They were by far the largest users of the product, and consumed at least three-fourths of the annual output. It could only be hoped that the smaller quantity of rubber produced, together with a

steadily increasing demand on the part of American manufacturers, would enable the present large stocks to be absorbed, and this should result in a better price being obtained. The various nations on the Continent must also come into the market at some future date, and this should also assist matters. The directors on their part must exercise every economy and keep down expenditure, and conserve their finances as far as possible. The company's financial position was not an unsatisfactory one, as they had in past years made liberal allocations to reserve, and not distributed dividends on an unwise scale. Mr. Arthur V. Houghton seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 11.446 vom 9. Dez. 1921

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

For year to June 30 last rubber crop, 474,825 lb.; gross average price realised 10.54d. per pound; cost f.o.b. 1s. 0.35d. per pound, and all-in 1s. 2.76d. Estimated restricted crop for current year, 428,000 pounds. Net loss for year, £10,036; deduct balance brought in, £6,619; debit balance carried forward, £3,419. Meeting, 4 Buckingham-gate, S.W., Dec. 16, noon.

The Times (London)

Nr. 44.902 vom 13. Dez. 1921

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

For the year ended June 30 the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Limited, made a net loss of £10,036. The credit balance brought forward was £6,619, leaving a debit balance to carry forward of £3,419.

The Times (London)

Nr. 43506 vom 23. Nov. 1923

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

For the year ended June 30 the crop of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations amounted to 483,025 lb., against 420,220 lb. in 1921-22, which realized a gross price of 12.74d. per lb. (against 8.52d.). The f.o.b. cost was 6.90d. (against 6.62d.). The profit, after writing off £1,007 for depreciation and deducting £1,770 for interest and London expenses, amounted to £6,121 (against £558). There was a debit balance of £2,861 brought forward, and income-tax amounts to £1,884, leaving a credit balance of £1,376. This is carried forward, subject to corporation tax. During the year the unissued capital was offered at par to shareholders, and 2,812 shares were applied for, leaving 3,548 shares still unissued.

The Financial News (London)

12040 Nr. 23. Nov. 1923

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

For year to June 30 last crop (restricted) 483,025 pounds; gross average price realised, 12.73d. per pound; cost f.o.b. 6.90d. per pound. Company's standard production has been fixed at 561,857 lb. At present 60 per cent. of this amount, or, say, 335,000 lb., may be exported at minimum rate of duty. Profit on working, £8,899, and after writing off £1,007 for depreciation and deducting £1,770 for interest and London expenses (less transfer fees) there remains a surplus of £6,121. Deduct balance brought in £2,861, and income-tax £1,884, leaving to be carried forward (subject to corporation profits tax), £1,376. Meeting, 4 Buckingham-gate, S.W., Nov. 30, 1923.

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Financial News (London)

Nr. 11789 vom 26. Jan. 1923

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

The directors of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., have decided to offer the balance of the authorised capital, viz., 6,400 new shares, ranking in all respects with the existing shares, in the first instance to shareholders at par in the proportion of approximately one new share for every 20 shares now held, fractions being disregarded. It has been decided to raise this further capital in order to release for dividend purposes profits earned which otherwise would have to be applied in the first instance to rebuild cash reserves. Forms of application, with 5s. per share, are to reach the company's bankers not later than February 3. The balance will be payable 5s. on allotment and 10s. on March 1. Transfer books are closed from January 24 to February 3.

The Financial News (London)

12047 - 1. Dez 1923

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

FURTHER SHARE ISSUE—INTERIM DIVIDEND PROPOSAL.

The eleventh annual general meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday at 4 Buckingham-gate, S.W.

Mr. Joseph Kelly (chairman and managing director), who presided, said that the profit on trading account was £8,899, and, after providing for administration expenses, &c., the net profit for the year was £6,121. The restricted crop of 403,025 lb., mostly sold in Singapore, had realised a gross average of 12.73d., or about 1s. 1½d. per pound gross. During four months of the period covered by the accounts the present restriction scheme had not been in force, but the better prices obtained since that scheme was introduced would be reflected in the prices obtained during the current season. The cost of production f.o.b. at 6.99d. might be considered satisfactory. With an unrestricted crop he had no doubt that the "all in" f.o.b. cost for the year would have been less than 6d. They were continuing to write down plant, buildings and machinery on a liberal scale, and £1,007 had been applied during the year for depreciation. Their buildings, plant and machinery, &c., were worth considerably more than the figure at which they stood in their books.

During the year they had offered for subscription at par to the shareholders the whole of the unissued capital, and 2,812 shares had been subscribed for. The remaining 3,588 shares were now available for issue as and when required. They had now experienced five months of the current season, and, in view of the profits they were making each month, the directors had proposed to declare simultaneously with the issue of the report an interim dividend on account of the current year. They, however, had thought it better perhaps to wait until the General Election was over, and if all went well, the board hoped to declare an interim dividend early in the New Year. They felt that the position of rubber was now

more assured, so that they could safely resume the payment of dividends soon.

The estate, comprising 1,657 acres of planted rubber, was now all mature, and future capital expenditure ought not to amount to very much, as the estate was well and fully equipped with the necessary buildings, and adequate machinery to cope with the largest crops the estate could produce. It would, of course, be necessary to expend small amounts on renewals, repairs, and upkeep of plant, build-

ings and machinery and the estate water supply. Sufficient had been said elsewhere regarding the restriction scheme, which everyone agreed had so largely benefited the industry. The position, of course, could not be considered entirely satisfactory until full crops could be exported and readily consumed, and they hoped that would only be a matter of time. Until then, they must be contented to harvest restricted outputs and work at modest profits. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the formal business transacted.

The Financial News (London)

12341 18. Nov. 1924

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

PRICE OF COMMODITY AND DIVIDEND—OUTLOOK UNDER RESTRICTION.

The twelfth annual general meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday at the company's offices, 4 Buckingham-gate, S.W. Mr. Joseph Kelly (chairman and managing director) presided, and, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said the net proceeds of the sales of rubber totalled £17,217. The gross revenue amounted to £17,287, showing a profit on trading account of £5,154. An interim dividend of 2½ per cent. was paid on January 28 last, when it was hoped the price of the raw commodity then ruling would persist; but, unfortunately, this had not been the case, and, as a consequence, no further dividend for the year was possible. Stocks of rubber unsold were valued at a conservative figure, and the surplus in excess of export licenses of June 30, 63,572 lb., had been taken at f.o.b. cost, namely, 8d.

The directors had been always strong supporters of restriction, even in its voluntary days, and were of opinion that it had been instrumental in bringing the rubber plantation industry into a more sound and healthy condition. It had been responsible for the very big reduction reported to have taken place in the stocks now held in London, America, and the East, and the consequent increase in price of raw rubber to over 1s. 5d. per pound. Certainly 50 per cent. of standard output of an estate at 1s. 5d. was preferable to full production at 7d., and the balance-sheets recently published of various rubber companies bore evidence to this fact. It also possessed the added advantage of improving considerably bark reserve, which, after all, was the main asset of any fully-matured rubber estate. When full production was again possible, this would enable the estates of Malay and Ceylon, which had had to bear the burden, to compete on very favourable terms with the now heavily-tapped plantations of the Dutch Indies.

Mr. John Kelly seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Financial News (London)

10667 10. Dez 1925

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

An interim dividend of 12½ per cent. (actual) has been declared in respect of year ending June 30 next. Tax will be deducted at 4s. in £. (For 1924-25 total distribution was 8 per cent.)

The Financial News (London)

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12. Sep. 1925

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BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

For year ended June 30, 1925, output was 273,046 pounds and amount exported, viz., 242,357 lb., realised gross average price of 1s. 10.61d. per pound. In addition, stock on hand on June 30, 1924 (65,770 lb.), has been exported and realised gross average price of 1s. 0.43d. Total amount exported was 308,127 lb. The stock of rubber in excess of export licences on June 30, 1925 (30,389 pounds), has been taken in at 1s. 6d. per pound. F.o.b. cost was 8.54d. per pound. Report states that depreciation has been so liberally provided for in past years that buildings, plant, and machinery stand in books at figure very much below their present values, but nevertheless an expenditure of £399 has been written off. Standard under old regulations has been fixed at 522,546 lb. Profit amounts to £13,379, less capital expenditure written off £399 and amount transferred to furlough and passage reserve £350, leaving £13,121; add balance brought forward £1,137, making £14,258. Directors propose dividend of 8 per cent. (actual), less tax, and transferring to amortisation reserve £1,000 leaving to be carried forward £2,745.

Meeting, 2 Idol-lane, E.C., Sept. 21, 12 noon.

The Times (London)

12. Sep. 1925

Nr. 4 4 0 6 5 vom

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

Net profits of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations for the year ended June 30 were £13,121 (against £3,439), while £1,137 was brought forward. The dividend for the year is 8 per cent., less tax (against 2½ per cent.); £1,000 (against nil) is placed to amortisation reserve, and £2,745 is carried forward.

The Financial News (London)

1 25 99

22. Sep. 1925

Nr.

vom

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

FORWARD SALES—INCREASE OF LIQUID ASSETS.

Presiding at the thirteenth annual meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., held yesterday at 2 Idol-lane, the Chairman and Managing Director (Mr. Joseph Kelly), in moving the adoption of the report, said that during the financial year ended 30th June last expenditure in the East amounted to £9,715. The net proceeds of the sales of rubber totalled £24,191, to which must be added the surplus from sale of the stock on hand twelve months ago, and sundry other small receipts. This gross revenue amounted to £25,307, showing a profit on trading account of £15,591. After deducting administration expenses, &c., writing off capital expenditure £399, and transferring £350 to furlough and passage reserve, there remained a net profit for the year of £13,121. The net balance brought forward from the previous account was £1,136, making the total amount available for distribution £14,258. The directors proposed to pay a dividend for the past financial year of 8 per cent., less tax, transferring £1,000 to amortisation reserve, and carrying forward to the next account the balance of £2,745.

Turning to the balance-sheet, very large amounts had been written off in the past for depreciation of plant, machinery, buildings, &c., and consequently those now stood in the books at a figure much below their present value. The stock of rubber on hand in excess of export licences—30,389 lb.—had been valued at 1s. 6d. per pound and the remainder at actual sale prices. Cash and liquid assets amounted to £10,346, against £10,302, and current liabilities were £3,298, against

£7,305, so that on the 30th June last their net liquid assets showed an appreciation of over £13,000. The crop of rubber harvested was 273,046 lb., of which 242,357 lb. had been exported under the restriction scheme. In addition, they had exported the stock on hand on the 30th June, 1924—65,770 lb.—or 308,127 pounds in respect of the past financial year. The gross average price realised for the 1924-1925 exportable crop was 1s. 10.61d. per pound. The 1923-24 surplus only realised 1s. 0.43d. per pound, but it was, of course, sold during the latter half of 1924, when prices were low. The f.o.b. cost of 8.54d., as compared with 8d. in the preceding year, must be considered as satisfactory, particularly when it was borne in mind that the 1924-25 crop was 91,765 lb. less than the preceding year's output.

They had sold forward 6 tons of rubber per month for shipment from July to December, 1925, at 1s. 7½d. per pound, and 6 tons a month for shipment from January to December, 1926, at 1s. 6d. per pound, London landed terms. The proceeds of these forward sales were estimated to cover approximately all expenditure incurred in the East in securing a crop of 36,000 lb. per month.

The report was unanimously adopted.

The Financial News (London)

1 25 99

Nr.

vom

22. Sep. 1925

Against the modest distribution of 2½ per cent. for the last-mentioned period, with which the company re-entered the dividend list after three lean years, the company is now paying 8 per cent. These results have been accomplished notwithstanding that there was some increase in cost following a reduction in crop. As with many other concerns, the directors deemed it prudent, early in the current year, to enter into forward contracts sufficient to cover all estate expenditure to the end of 1926. These sales, however, leave a substantial proportion of the output available for disposal in the open market, and a very satisfactory showing for the current year may therefore be anticipated.

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

The improvement in the rubber situation during the past year was reflected in the distinctly better results dealt with by the chairman of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations at yesterday's annual meeting of the company. Thanks to an increase of over 10d. per pound, to 1s. 10.61d., in the gross average price realised, the directors were in a position to return a net profit of £13,121 for the twelve months ended June 30, in contrast with £3,439 for 1923-24, so that

(Continued at foot of following column.)

The Financial News (London)
30. Nov. 1926

12968

**BROOME (SELANGOR)
RUBBER.**

Dividend of 20 per Cent.

The fourteenth annual general meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday at the Rubber Growers' Association, 2-4 Idol-lane, London, E.C., Mr. Joseph Kelly (chairman and managing director) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts and the declaration of a final dividend of 7½ per cent., less tax, said that during the financial year ended 30th June last the crop expenditure in the East amounted to £14,802. The net proceeds of the sales of rubber totalled £46,738, to which had to be added the surplus from sale of the stock on hand twelve months ago and sundry other small receipts, bringing the gross revenue to £48,503. After deducting crop and administration expenses, &c., there remained a profit on trading account of £31,038. A sum of £630 had been written off for depreciation and £550 transferred to furlough and passage reserve, leaving a balance for the year of £30,058. The net amount brought forward from the previous account was £2,623, making a total amount available for distribution of £32,687. An interim dividend of 12½ per cent. was paid in January, and they now proposed paying a final dividend of 7½ per cent., less tax, making a total of 20 per cent. for the year, transferring £2,000 to amortisation reserve, and carrying forward to the next account a balance of £3,687, subject to staff bonus for the past year. The cash and liquid assets amounted to £31,716, against £19,346 last year, and current liabilities were £5,207, against £3,298, so that on 30th June last their net liquid assets showed a surplus of £26,500, against £16,000 a year ago, which included the amount received from the issue of the 3,583 shares at par mentioned in the report.

The crop of rubber harvested was 513,152 lb. The gross average price realised for the amount exportable was 2s. 0.19d. per pound, as compared with 1s. 10.61d. last season. The f.o.b. cost of 6.83d., as compared with 8.54d. in the preceding year, must be considered very satisfactory. Naturally the larger crop secured would help to reduce the cost per pound. It would be noted from the report that they had appealed against their new assessment of 577,990 lb. which, although showing an increase of 55,444 lb. over the previous standard production figure, still seemed rather inadequate.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Signatur

Datum

30 Nov 1926

The Times (London)

7. Dez. 1927

4 4 7 5 8

Nr.

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

The crop of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations for the year ended June 30 was 466,368lb. (against 513,152lb. for 1925-26) and the gross average selling price was 1s. 5.46d. per lb. (against 2s. 0.19d.). Costs, f.o.b., were equal to 7.43d. per lb. (against 6.83d.). The profit amounted to £13,611 (against £30,059) and a net balance of £3,985 was brought forward. A dividend of 10 per cent. is proposed (against 20 per cent.), absorbing £13,500, the balance forward being £3,507.

Bitte wenden

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 13288 vom

15. Dez. 1927

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

Coffee and Tin Possibilities.

The meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday in London.

Mr. Joseph Kelly (chairman and managing director), who presided, said that with the amount brought forward there was a total amount of £17,006 available. The board proposed paying a dividend of 10 per cent., less tax, carrying forward the balance of £3,506. This year they had appropriated £3,500 from taxation reserve and transferred it to amortisation reserve, bringing the latter up to £6,500. Investments also amounted to £6,500, the greater portion consisting of a holding acquired in a company engaged in the cultivation of high-grade coffee in the well-known Arusha coffee district of East Africa. That company should have about 400 acres of coffee planted by next spring. It owned just over 5,000 acres of very valuable land, and the board had every hope that in course of the next two or three years the investment would prove to be a very profitable one, as coffee from the Arusha district commanded a very high figure on the London market.

He might also mention that they had been approached by a well-known dredging company with regard to the leasing of a portion of their estate, most of which was unplanted. The result of those negotiations would be communicated to the shareholders in due course. The board had been aware for some considerable period of the existence of tin on this portion of the estate, but have never undertaken any boring to test its value.

The crop harvested was 466,368 lb., the gross average sale price being 1s. 5.46d., against 2s. 0.19d. last season. The f.o.b. cost of 7.43d., as compared with 6.83d. in the previous year, must be considered very satisfactory. A cable had been received from the East informing them that the new assessment was 429,619 lb., as compared with 603,976 lb. previously. In view of that drastic reduction an appeal had been lodged for a higher standard production figure. They had never had the least difficulty in easily harvesting their quota under the restriction scheme, and on no occasion had they ever had "unused coupons." In the light of those facts, they might reasonably hope for an increase in the figure, but if such was not the case, and all other estates were subjected to similar treatment, then, of course, they had no reason to complain; it was all for the good of the cause. The directors were, and always had been, strong supporters of the restriction scheme.

With regard to new clearings, 120 acres in all had been planted last year, and a further 26 acres were now being dealt with. There were no forward sales to report.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

The Times (London)

Nr. 45052

Nr.

vom

16. Nov. 1928

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

The crop of the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations for the year ended June 30 was 466,368 lb. (against 466,368 lb. for 1928-27), for which the costs per lb. rose from 7.43d. to 8.34d., while the gross sale price fell from 1s. 5.46d. to 1s. 2.12d. per lb., London. The net profit amounted to £3,866 (against £13,611), in addition to which £3,210 was brought forward. No dividend is proposed (against 10 per cent.). A sum of £2,500 is to be placed to amortization reserve (against nil), and £1,845 to taxation reserve, leaving £2,750 to go forward, subject to staff bonus.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 15874 vom

26. Nov. 1928

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

Forward Sales.

The 15th annual general meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held on Friday last at 24 Idol Lane, E.C.

Mr. John Kelly (the chairman), after expressing the opinion that the Government should not have abandoned the restriction scheme in the manner they have done, said that, all things considered, it was by no means unsatisfactory to be able to show a profit of £3,866, having regard to the small output exportable under restriction, coupled with a low selling price. The board considered that it would be extremely inadvisable to propose a dividend for the past year, in view of the present uncertainty, and advocated that the finances of the company should be conserved in order to tide over any continuance of the depression in the rubber plantation industry. The estimated crop for the current year was 550,000 pounds, and this should be secured, under a conservative system of tapping, at an estimated cost of about 5d. per pound f.o.b. During November, December, and January they were shipping or delivering under contracts now in existence 91 tons of rubber (including 25 tons of low grades), at the average price of about 9d. per pound. In addition they had sold forward for shipment in equal quantities per month from January to December, 1929, 144 tons of standard smoked sheet at prices averaging a fraction over 1s. per pound all round. These latter sales, the board estimated, would more than cover all expenditure next year. There was still left for disposal almost half the estimated output during the calendar year 1929, and, whatever price this quantity realised would represent a clear profit. The returns received from the estate covering July, August, and September were very encouraging, and, judging by these, it was probable that they would be able to work up to a crop of 600,000 pounds per annum under the present conservative system of tapping.

The Times (London)

Nr. 45339

Nr.

vom

21. Okt. 1929

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER.

The crop of rubber harvested by the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations for the year ended June 30 amounted to 636,523 lb. (against 300,916 lb. in the previous year). The gross average price realized was 10.56d. per lb. (London equivalent) (against 1s. 2.12d.). The cost of production f.o.b. was 4.75d. per lb. (against 8.34d.). After writing off £500 for depreciation and placing £430 to furlough and passage reserve, the net profit was £10,052 (against £3,866), and £2,675 was brought forward. It is proposed to pay a dividend for the year of 5 per cent. (against nil); to place £2,500 to amortization reserve (the same); and to carry forward £2,477 subject to staff bonus. Meeting, October 28.

The Financial News (London)

Nr. 13857

Vom

29. Okt. 1929

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER PLANTATIONS.

Large Increase in Profit.

MR. J. KELLY ON THE OUTLOOK.

The seventeenth annual general meeting of Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations, Ltd., was held yesterday at 2-4 Idol-lane, E.C.

Mr. John Kelly (the chairman) said that the net profit for the past year amounted to £10,051, and the directors proposed to pay a dividend of 5 per cent., to transfer £2,500 to amortisation reserve (bringing it up to £11,500), and to carry forward £3,476. The balance-sheet showed that the financial position of the company was satisfactory, cash, investments, stocks, debtors, &c., aggregating £25,332, as against creditors, income-tax, &c., amounting to only £4,480. The crop of rubber harvested was 636,523 lb., or more than double the restricted output in the previous year. The f.o.b. cost showed a very satisfactory reduction, being 4.75d. per pound, against 8.34d., but the gross average selling price was only 10.56d. per pound, as against 1s. 2.12d. obtained last year. Notwithstanding this, the profit was about 2½ times greater than that of last season. The estate had undoubtedly derived great benefit from the enforced rest during the years of restricted exports, and very high yields were now being obtained.

The visiting agent reported that the estate was in a very satisfactory state and well managed. Adequate cultivation work was being done, and the low cost of production was not obtained at the expense of false economy in that respect. The output for the current season was estimated at 700,000 lb., and 184,000 lb. had been secured during the three months to 30th September. No forward sales had been made since those reported last year, and in respect of these contracts 107,520 lb. would be delivered out of the 1929-30 crop at a gross average price of 12.1d. per pound.

With reference to their coffee interests, which represented the bulk of their investments, he had recently returned from a visit to East Africa, where he spent about three months on the estates. He was very satisfied with the manner in which work was proceeding, and about 500 acres of coffee had been planted to date. Production on a small scale had already commenced, and the coffee sold had realised good prices on the London market. Next year they should pick a substantial amount of coffee, and increasing crops were anticipated in subsequent years. The policy of the board was to invest part of the amortisation reserve in a product other than rubber, and the directors felt confident that the money so invested would appreciate considerably in value, and that good dividends would be received when coffee was being harvested on a large scale.

As to the rubber position in general, the outlook, in his opinion, was somewhat obscure. There was apparently more rubber coming forward than was required at the moment. It was reasonable to suppose that consumption would still further increase in 1930, but he was of the opinion that production would not increase in the same ratio as in 1929. Consequently taking the long view, he thought they could look forward to the future with some confidence.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

The Times (London)

Nr. 45687

Nr. vom

4. Dez. 1930

BROOME (SELANGOR) RUBBER

A crop of 636,523 lb. was obtained by the Broome (Selangor) Rubber Plantations for the year ended June 30 (against 636,523 lb. for the previous year). The gross average price realized was 7.70d. per lb. (against 10.56d.), and the f.o.b. cost was 4.86d. per lb. (against 4.75d.). The net profit for the year amounted to £3,324 (against £10,052), and £3,233 was brought forward. No dividend is recommended (against 5 per cent.), but the directors propose to transfer £1,500 (against nil) to taxation reserve and a similar amount (against £2,500) to amortization reserve, which will leave £3,557 to be carried forward, subject to staff bonus. Meeting, December 11.

Hamburgisches
Welt-Wirtschafts-Archiv

Signatur

A 22 B 337

Datum

3. Okt. 1935

The Times (London)

Nr.

47185

Broome Rubber Plantations.—A dividend of 10 per cent. is recommended for the year ended June 30. Meeting, October 30. B 337

Signatur

A 22 B 337

Datum 8. Okt. 1935

The Times (London)
No. 47189

BROOME RUBBER PLANTATIONS

The accounts of Broome Rubber Plantations, Limited, for the year ended June 30 show a net profit of £7,730, out of which the directors have set aside £1,000 for income-tax, written off £502 from stamp duty on increase of capital, &c., and placed £163 to furlough reserve. They now propose to pay a dividend of 10 per cent. and to carry £475 forward to next year's accounts, subject to staff bonus (against £699 brought in). A profit of £5,168 was reported for the period from July 15, 1933, to June 30, 1934.

An agreement has been entered into for the purchase of an estate in Johore for £79,850. In order to provide for this acquisition it is proposed to make an issue of shares in due course and to offer them to shareholders for subscription. For this purpose, and to facilitate any further acquisitions, the capital is to be increased to £250,000. Meeting, October 30.

The Times (London)

~~The Times (London)~~

Nr. 47493

BROOME RUBBER PLANTATIONS

The accounts of Broome Rubber Plantations, Limited, for the year ended June 30 show that the issued share capital was increased during the year from £81,145 to £163,736 in 1,637,360 2s. shares (of which 468,750 rank for dividend only as from July 1, 1936). Two share issues were made in connexion with the acquisition of fresh properties, while £62,500 of Six per Cent. Convertible First Mortgage Debenture stock was also issued at par. Net profits, after Debenture interest, were £9,567, against £7,730 for 1934-35, when no Debenture stock was in issue. After crediting the net balance of £175 brought forward and transferring £1,000 to income-tax reserve, it is proposed to pay a dividend of 2d. a share, or 8½ per cent., on 1,168,610 shares, absorbing £7,425, leaving £1,317 to be carried forward, subject to staff bonus. Underwriting commission, new issue expenses &c., amounting to £8,480, have been written off from share premium account. Cash (£36,345), stocks, and debtors amounted on June 30 to £44,670. Creditors, including £6,924 due on Eldred estate purchase account, were £10,112, and the income-tax reserve stood at £5,391. The crop of rubber taken into the accounts, including 65,527lb. brought forward, was 1,130,168lb. at a cost of 3.70d. per lb., f.o.b. The net average sale price was equal to 7.04d. per lb., London landed terms. Estimates for 1936-37 have been based on an output of 2,000,000lb. Meeting, October 7.

The Economist (London)

№ 4859

BROOME RUBBER PLANTATIONS, LIMITED

IMPROVED PROSPECTS

The third general meeting of Broome Rubber Plantations, Ltd. was held at 19, Fenchurch Street, London, on the 7th instant, Sir Lionel Smith-Gordon, Bt. (the chairman,) presiding.

The chairman, in the course of his speech, said that the profit for the year was £11,861, and there was a balance available of £8,742, out of which the directors proposed to pay a dividend of 2d. per share and carry forward £1,316, subject to staff bonus. The balance-sheet reflected the large expansion of their business during the past year. There had been an issue of fresh capital during the period under review and they had more than doubled the planted area of rubber by the acquisition of Eldred Estate. The new property had fully come up to expectations, and they had the fine young rubber as a substantial reserve against the old rubber.

The past year they considered to be a very important transition period in the company's history, and the year they had now entered into they looked upon as a period of consolidation.

There were a few small areas it was desirable to acquire in order to round off Eldred Estate, but the amount of money required to buy them would not amount to very much and could be provided out of their present resources. He particularly mentioned that so that they might know that no further issue of capital was contemplated, as they desired to concentrate their energies on the present area.

The result of the year's trading was a matter for satisfaction, but it was to the future they had to look. If there was no setback in the price of rubber, and they were able to work to estimates, the figures they should be able to submit to them a year hence would be very much better even than those now presented. If that forecast materialised they hoped to be able to resume a practice adopted by that company years ago of paying interim dividends, and unless something unforeseen arose, he saw no reason why they should not be able to declare an interim dividend six months hence and so transfer profits earned to the pockets of the shareholders rather than keep the cash lying idle in the company's bank account at a small rate of interest.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

The Times (London)
Nr. 47800

L A22 B337
BROOME RUBBER PLANTATIONS
During the year ended June 30 Broome Rubber Plantations, Limited, earned a net profit of £29,717 (against £9,567 in 1935-36), out of which the directors have transferred £2,500 (against £1,000) to taxation reserve and £500 to furlough reserve. An interim dividend of 5 per cent. was paid last March, absorbing £6,704, and the board now propose to make a final distribution of 10 per cent. on 1,910,905 shares, which will require £14,332 and leave £5,705 to be carried forward, subject to staff bonus and directors' additional remuneration (against £24 brought into the accounts). Last year a dividend of 8½ per cent. was paid. A crop of 1,856,626lb. of rubber was harvested during the past year at a cost of 3.99d. per lb. f.o.b. The net average sale price realized for 1,725,371lb. exported was 8.52d. per lb. (against 6.39d.), and the unlicensed stock of 131,255lb. has been taken into the accounts at the f.o.b. cost. Meeting, October 20.

The Economist (London)

Nr. 4913

BROOME RUBBER PLANTATIONS, LIMITED

IMPROVED RESULTS—DIVIDEND OF 15 PER CENT.

The fourth annual general meeting of this company was held, on the 20th instant, at 19 Fenchurch Street, London, Sir Lionel Smith-Gordon, Bart. (chairman), presiding.

The Chairman, in the course of his speech, said: The profit for the year was £32,342 11s., and the directors propose to pay a final dividend of 10 per cent., making 15 per cent. for the year, and carry forward a balance of £5,704 17s. 9d., subject to directors' additional remuneration and staff bonus.

Rubber sales at £61,262 are more than double the corresponding figure of £30,081, while on the other hand the cost of producing the exportable crop was £28,668, against £17,428, or about two-thirds more. The net average price realised for 1,725,371 lb. of rubber exported was 8.52d. per pound, which is equal to 9.3d. per pound gross London landed terms. This is about 2½d. more than we obtained for last season's crop. F.o.b. cost works out at 3.99d., as compared with 3.7d. per pound. The small increase is due to rising costs generally, and may be considered satisfactory.

Standard production for the year 1937 has been assessed at 2,476,884 pounds, of which 90 per cent., or, say, 2,230,000 pounds, may at present be exported. The output for the three months July-September amounted to 599,380 lb., so we are ahead of our quota and building up the permissible maximum stock. We have already sold 680,000 lb. of the new season's crop at a price equivalent to 9½d. per pound London landed terms.

We have embarked on a steady replanting programme, so that areas which are uneconomic may be replaced with high-yielding stock.

We have started the year well, but recently the price of rubber has fallen sharply owing to causes mainly not concerned with rubber. We must not forget that the rubber regulation scheme has functioned very well so far, and there is no reason to suppose that if our commodity remains below, say, 9d., the committee will not make a cut in the January-March exportable quota to restore the price to a fairer level.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the alterations in the articles of association were approved.

Signatur A 22 B 337

Datum 2. Nov. 1938

The Times (London)

Nr. 48141

42210337
BROOME RUBBER PLANTATIONS

The accounts for the year ended June 30 of the Broome Rubber Plantations show a net profit of £18,206 (against £29,717 for 1936-37). The directors have transferred £4,000 to taxation reserve and they now recommend a final dividend of 4 per cent. (making 8 per cent. for the year, against 15 per cent.), payment of which will leave £4,698 to be carried forward, subject to N.D.C., staff bonus, and directors' additional remuneration (against £1,797 brought into the accounts). During the year 2,045,224lb. of rubber were harvested (against 1,856,626lb.) at a cost of 4.25d. per lb., f.o.b. (against 3.99d.). The gross average sale price realized for 1,951,009lb. exportable was equivalent to 7.66d. per lb. London landed terms. Meeting, November 2.

Signatur

222 B 237

Datum

12. Nov. 1938

The Economist (London)

Nr. 4968

BROOME RUBBER PLANTATIONS, LIMITED

NEW PLANTING AREA ACQUIRED

The fifth annual general meeting of the Broome Rubber Plantations, Limited, was held on the 9th instant at 19 Fenchurch Street, London.

Sir Lionel Smith-Gordon (the chairman), in the course of his speech, said that the profit for the year was £19,783. The directors proposed to pay a final dividend of 4 per cent., making 8 per cent. for the year. The standard production for 1938 had been assessed at 2,555,927 lb., of which 45 per cent. might at present be exported. As from January 1st next, their standard production should be increased in respect of the young Eldred rubber. In order to avoid reducing crop too drastically or building up an abnormal stock, they had purchased licences for 72,000 lb. of rubber. They were very pleased to be able to report that the general manager found all the properties in good condition and efficiently managed on the occasion of his recent inspection. They were particularly pleased with Eldred Estate and its extensions, of which property they would remember they only took over 2,000 acres on January 1, 1936, and 1,400 acres later in the year.

The Selangor properties were reported to be in the usual good order, and there was nothing in particular he had to say about them.

In previous speeches he had told them that they had embarked on a steady replanting programme so that areas which were uneconomic might be replaced with high yielding stock. As from January 1 next new planting within limits would be permitted. In those circumstances the board had decided not to undertake any further replanting for the time being, but to supplement old areas with new rubber planted on virgin soil.

Having regard to the success of the Eldred property, the general manager had carefully investigated adjacent jungle land, and had selected a 1,000-acre block, which had been approved, and the land taken up, plus an extra 10 per cent. to cover buildings, ravines, swamps, etc. They proposed to make a start on planting in 1939.

It was not the intention at the moment to raise further capital, but when market conditions were more favourable they proposed to make an issue and invite shareholders to subscribe on a *pro rata* basis.

The report was unanimously adopted.