



THROUGH HAZEL EYES

by Hazel Brannon Smith

Singapore, Malaya
(Delayed)

Singapore is famous for its Sultan of Johore and the Raffles Hotel, one of the world's best known establishments.

Johore is one of the leading provinces and it is only a few miles drive over a causeway from Singapore to Johore—where the Sultan's palace is located.

At the time the Monroe was in Singapore the Sultan was vacationing in England and the palace was closed—guarded only by two soldiers with rifles. The public could drive through the beautifully kept grounds during the day and admire the lovely building and bright flowers in the mid-December sunshine—but all windows were barred and doors under lock and key.

Fortunately I had a letter to the Sultan from one of his personal friends in Honolulu, Mr. Earl Thacker. Armed with this letter and accompanied by a charming Englishwoman who lived in Singapore, Mrs. S. H. Peek, I went out to Johore one afternoon.

Neither of the two Malayan guards spoke English but by some kind of international sign language which is the only language accomplishment I've been able to master thus far I made it known that I wanted to go through the palace even though it wasn't open. One of the guards left with my letter and was gone for some time. When he returned he was accompanied by an English-speaking soldier who carried a huge ring of keys and proceeded to show us through the entire palace room by room.

The visit to the palace was certainly worth the effort we had made to see it. Mrs. Peek and I both agreed. Although she had lived in Singapore many years and had always intended to go out and see the palace some day she hadn't gotten round to it.

Johore and Kelantan are the only two Malay States which have their own orders of the royal family and crown to which appointments in several degrees are made. Thus the sultans, or rulers, are crowned rather than installed as in other states. The rulers are the spiritual as well as temporal heads of their states and it is their responsibility to be guardians of Malay custom.

Everywhere in the palace of Johore are letters and other testimonials of affection and esteem from the crowned heads of Europe, particularly England. Cablegrams of felicitations on birthdays and other events from Queen Mary and the late King George of England as well as personal letters signed by royal hands adorn the wall and make interesting reading for country editors.

Most visitors are greatly impressed with the solid gold dinner service on display along with the thousands of pieces of china, crystal and silver. Everything in this service plates and bowls of every size, cups and saucers and every odd serving piece you can think of is in solid gold.

The two outstanding rooms in the palace as far as I was concerned were the really beautiful drawing room and the adjoining throne room.

The drawing room contained a whole suite of furniture made completely of crystal and mirrors—tables, chairs and odd pieces. I had never seen anything like this before and I must say it was quite effective in this large room with high ceilings from which there was suspended the most beautiful cut glass chandeliers I've ever seen. The guard who was showing us through said he thought they came from England but I think they must have been Belgian or Czechoslovakian.

The throne room featured the two gold thrones of the Sultan and his consort, from which the guard obligingly removed the sheets for us to see. Its walls were solidly lined with portraits of the royal family in full dress.

Men are usually fascinated by the trophy room where there was on display the mounted heads of elephants, tigers, bears, rhinoceros, hippopotamus and other big game. In fact the place looked like a museum. All of these were reportedly bagged by the Sultan on big hunts over the globe.

The Sultan himself is as lavish as the lush tropical growth throughout the state of Johore, according to Mr. Thacker, who told me one time he received a letter from the Sultan saying he was shipping him two baby elephants as playmates for the two Thacker children. Imagine the consternation in the Thacker household in Honolulu! A cable-

Sherrie Scott Dies In Durant Auto Accident

Funeral services for little Sherrie Scott, age four who died April 8, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident at Durant, were held Sunday afternoon, April 9, at the Nazareth Church, Durant, the Rev. F. D. Garrett officiating. Burial was in Scotland cemetery, Montgomery county.

Surviving are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Scott, four sisters, Dixie, Shirley Ann, Mary Elaine and Jerrie and one brother, William Dowell, all of Durant.

gram sent posthaste fortunately stopped the shipment in time.

Back at the Raffles Hotel, which was named for Sir Stamford Raffles who founded Singapore in 1819, the outstanding impression is one of spaciousness. The rooms are huge, three times as large as the Peabody, and each has an adjoining sitting room. The bathroom is also large, two or three times as large as in most American hotels, and is stuck to one side of the room having been added years later after the hotel had been built.

The ceilings are twenty to twenty-five feet high which helps considerably for the climate of Singapore is very hot and humid. Ceiling fans are in every room and the beds are the hardest I've ever slept on. Everything is spotlessly clean and the mosquito netting which encircles every bed is drawn at night when the hotel maid turns down the bed.

During the war many wives of the military were puzzled to get letters from their husbands saying the "Dutch wife" they slept with at Singapore was very unsatisfactory. This "Dutch wife" is nothing more than a kind of bolster on double beds put there to absorb perspiration.

Singapore is the cultural center for this whole area and there are five daily newspapers published there in English, from four to 12 regular size pages each day. The Straits Times which boasts of being "Malaya's leading newspaper" and established in 1845 also puts out annually an ambitious pictorial magazine in color which is beautifully done. Depicted therein are scenes in color of outstanding events of the year, such as installing a new ruler in one of the provinces, typical scenes throughout Malaya of magnificent scenery and colorful native costumes and ceremonies.

In addition to the English newspapers there are also published in Singapore four daily newspapers in Chinese, two in Tamil and one in Malay. There are two radio stations, the British Far Eastern Broadcasting Service which relays BBC programs and Radio Malaya run by the Government Department of Broadcasting.

It seems the name "Raffles" dominates everything here—for the main commercial and shopping district is contained in the square known as "Raffles Place" and within a few blocks are the banks and the large business houses.

Raffles College and King Edward VII College of Medicine are located at Singapore and they form the nucleus of the University of Malaya to be established in Johore Bahru.

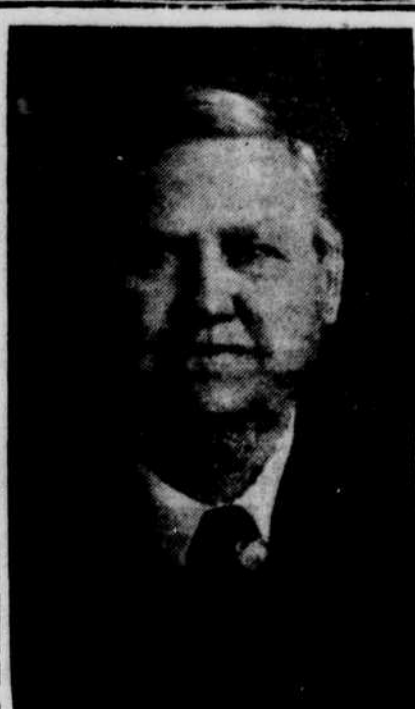
One of the places most tourists stop in is "thieves alley" just off Raffles Place where Balinese from the Dutch East Indies vie with porcelains from China for the American dollar.

One of my pleasant hosts in Singapore was Mr. S. H. Peek whose flourishing automobile business keeps him on the go constantly—but he is never too busy to take time off to show visitors the city and its many attractions.

Mr. Peek is a past president of the Singapore Rotary Club which could be considered the most cosmopolitan in the world. It was organized twenty years ago by 75 leading business men of Singapore representing different races.

By 1941 it had 160 members of 24 different nationalities. During the Japanese occupation of Singapore (February 15, 1942, until September 5, 1945) Rotary activities were suspended but were immediately resumed after the liberation. Among other activities the club entertains at Christmas 6,000 children. Since the war it has given a mobile dispensary to the government and constructed the first tuberculosis clinic in the Colony.

Next week I shall write on Port Swettenham, Malaya's rubber port, and the gateway to Kuala Lumpur, capital city of the Malayan states.



Phillip Marion Downer

Phillip Marion Downer Services Held At His Home At Emory Wed.

Funeral services for Phillip Marion Downer, 88, prominent planter of the Emory community near Lexington who died at his home on Monday, April 17, after an extended illness, were conducted at his home at 10:00 a. m. Wednesday, April 19, the Rev. A. H. Miller, Meridian, assisted by the Revs. Curtis Ellis, of West, and W. M. Langley, Acona. Burial was in Downer Cemetery.

Mr. Downer was born in Holmes county on October 6, 1861, was a deacon in the Emory Baptist Church and was affectionately known as "Uncle Phillip" to his many friends.

Mr. Downer married the former Miss Cora Elizabeth Ellis on Christmas Eve, 1889, and the couple celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Christmas Eve, 1949.

Mr. Downer was foster-father of E. E. Wynn, sheriff of Holmes County, and Mrs. W. B. Farmer, Cruger.

He is survived also by his wife, Mrs. Cora Elizabeth Downer, Durant, and a sister, Mrs. W. R. King, Cruger.

Pallbearers were Eris Tate, Marvin Cade, John C. Ammons, Estes Hill, Sharkey Truitt, Andrew Smith, K. F. Downer and C. J. Coleman.

Lee and Craney Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Eliza W. Wyers Passes At Tchula

Funeral services for Mrs. Eliza Walker Wyers, 92, who died April 2 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James Uzzle of Tchula, were held at the Lee and Craney Chapel, April 4 at 2:00 p. m. the Rev. H. N. McKibben officiating.

Burial was in Oregon cemetery. Mrs. Wyers was born in Texas and was a member of the Marlin, Texas Methodist Church. She moved to Tchula about four years ago from Texas, and lived with her daughter.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. James Uzzle, Tchula. Pallbearers were Bluford Taylor, W. T. Richards, Dan Bruce, Walter Younger, Enis Edwards and S. C. Richards.

Lee and Craney Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Patients At The Hospital

Mrs. Collier Farmer, Lexington
Mrs. Watson Lehman and baby boy, Greenwood
Mrs. Raymond Doudle and baby boy, Durant
Mrs. R. E. Rosson, Durant
Mrs. W. D. Brister, West
R. B. Wigley, Lexington

Colored
Jim Moore, Tchula
Ollie Lee Wright, Cruger
Eva Fisher, West
Beatrice Hooker and baby boy, Lexington
Willie Lipsey, Goodman
Mary Alice Anderson, Lexington

MUSICAL PROGRAM GIVEN BY CLARK CHORAL GROUP

A musical program will be presented by the Clark College Choral group at Harlands Creek Baptist Church, Sunday, April 23, beginning at 3:00 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Mrs. R. W. Rhyne, Miss Edith Rhyne, Miss Daisy Mae Daniels, and Mrs. Mattie McDonald attended the pilgrimage in Columbus Sunday.



JOYCE WILLIAMS, Home Demonstration Agent

Whether family fare is frugal or fancy, the onion is a most important vegetable in giving zest to a wide variety of dishes, specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture remind home cooks. For seasoning no other vegetable is used in so many ways. Think of the many sauces, gravies, stuffings for meat, poultry or fish, salads and salad dressings, relishes, main dishes and vegetable dishes which need onions for their flavor.

Heating chopped or sliced onion in a little fat helps draw out and distribute the onion flavor in stews and stuffings. Many good cooks let sliced onion stand in French dressing awhile before mixing the salad, as a means of stretching flavor.

Raw slices of the big mild, sweet onions have always been favorites for sandwiches, both hot and cold. The big pale rings are attractive, tender in texture, and not too pungent to combine with salad greens, vegetables or even citrus fruits. Grapefruit sections, onion rings and crisp lettuce make a handsome salad bowl mixture.

As a cooked vegetable onions are popular creamed, au gratin, or stewed with tomatoes. When making a creamed medley of leftover cooked vegetables, try cabbage, carrots, celery and onion together.

Baked onions are an easy addition to an over dinner. Peel medium-size sweet onions. Cut in half crosswise. Place in a baking dish. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and dot with table fat. Add enough water to cover the bottom of the dish. Cover and bake in a moderate oven (375 F.) about 30 minutes. Top with crumbs. Then bake uncovered 15 or 20 minutes longer until crumbs are brown and onions tender.

A "Plant America" movement is on in the United States. Each state will work toward creating more interest in the use of plants. You fit into this over-all plan because each community in Mississippi must be planted to contribute toward Planting America.

The basic purpose of the program is to use more plants—in the fields, for checking erosion, for home and community beautification and improvement. It is designed to cause citizens in every state to take pride in restoring the mantle of green which once covered our land.

We are all well with the heavy loss of soil by water erosion each year. We have seen good soil left barren after the nutrients have been leached out. We all know of the tremendous loss involved in dust storms in the west. Any program which helps prevent such is a good program.

Our rural areas can be made more liveable by improving the farm homes. Orchards and vegetable gardens, located on a well landscaped farmstead make for a well balanced, happy farm home. The planting of rural schools and

The first step in "Planting Mississippi" is for each community to adopt a project. Everybody can get in on it. Costs can be kept low. Parents and youngsters can do most of the work. Likely the boys and girls will be the most enthusiastic backers of the project.

Community projects could be planting shrubs, trees and flowers around community buildings, improving a picnic area, replanting a cemetery or cleaning up weeds along roads and fence rows. Once a start is made, plenty of ways will be discovered to continue the beautification program in your community from year to year.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

It's time for all home demonstration club members, 4-H club members and other interested in healthier, safer and better looking farms and homes to get busy on a Spring Clean-Up.

One of every three persons killed by fire is a farm resident. About 3,500 farm residents die as a direct result of fires every year.

As you go about your clean-up, don't limit it to the farmhouse. Include farm buildings, farm equipment and farm grounds. Remove old paper, discarded boxes, unused bedding, feed bags and similar material that would be tinder for stray sparks.

To Conduct Revival



Rev. Van M. Arnold

Revival services at the Durant Presbyterian Church will begin, Sunday, April 23 and continue through the evening service Friday, April 28. The Rev. Van M. Arnold, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, will be the guest pastor for these services.

The morning services will be at 11:00 a. m. and the evening services at 7:30 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Little Elois Mitchell Buried April 14

Funeral services for little Elois Mitchell, age two years, who died April 13 at the home of her parents at Eden as the result of a fall, were held at the Pleasant Hill Church, Friday, April 14 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning, the Rev. Snelgrove officiating. Burial was in Pleasant Hill cemetery.

Surviving are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Edward Mitchell of the Eden community.

Southern Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

4-H Clubs Increase Activity In Home Improvement Program

Trend of the times—people are spending more leisure hours in the home. This is particularly true of rural folk. Many have recently electrified their homes, added telephones and modern farm machinery. Consequently farm families are giving more consideration to the comfort and beauty of their dwellings. Of particular value in this direction is the National 4-H Home Improvement program now in its fourth year. Enrollment has increased almost 15,000 in the past year, and the number of 4-H's awarded county medals jumped from 2,433 to 3,052.

In Mississippi some 4,100 Club members will take part in the 1950 program, according to the State Extension office which conducts the activity. County Extension Agents and local Club leaders give demonstrations, prepare displays and instruct the youth in phases of home improvement. Members who become skilled in some particular job such as upholstering, floor sanding or working with color also give demonstrations. The enthusiasm shown by their sons and daughters inspires parents to cooperate in carrying out long-range plans to make their homes more livable.

A favorite starting place for girls and boys, to has been on their own bedrooms. They have done amazing things with a little ingenuity, lots of hard work, a few cans of paint and bright new fabrics. Living rooms should be high on the list this year, because the family finds extra time to spend together indoors. Club members who have been active in the home improvement program during the past few years are now skilled in renovating of furniture and redecorating. Many have done remarkable carpentry work building closets, cupboards and bookshelves.

Outstanding accomplishments will again be rewarded by the Sears Roebuck Foundation. A \$300 college scholarship will be awarded to the eight top-ranking 4-H's in the nation. The State champion will be given a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress and county winners a medal. Last year's medals were presented to 81 in Mississippi. State and national honors went to Bertha Joan White of Bailey.

JAYCEES ATTEND MEETING
The Durant Jaycees were well represented by Deck Johnson, Louis Clements, Van L. Stewart and W. H. McKenzie at the Lexington Jaycee meeting, Thursday, April 13, at which new officers were elected.

Medical Conference To Be Held At West

A white children medical conference will be held Friday, April 28, at the West Health Center, beginning at 1:00 p. m. Children from six weeks to six years are invited, and doctors will be present to give examinations and immunizations necessary.

Parents whose children will begin school for the first time this fall are especially urged to bring those children.

Business Places Close Wed. Afternoons

We the undersigned merchants of Durant, hereby agree to close our places of business each Wednesday afternoon at 12 o'clock for the remainder of the day beginning the first Wednesday in May and ending the last Wednesday in August.

The Style Shop, R. L. Anthony, Walter Durham, J. P. Durham, R. K. Van Keuren, Western Auto Associate Store, Herrin Barber Shop, Terry's Barber Shop, R. E. McNeer, Mayor, Neal Furniture Company, Robert E. Irby, Cephas A. Dickerson, Piggy Wigley, F. V. McCullar, Durant Grocery and Market.

D. M. Barranco, Powder Puff Beauty Shop, Helen Ashley Beauty Shop, Durant Dry Goods Company, Peoples Bank of Durant, B. F. Friedman, Guion's Super Market, Julius Guion, McLeilan's Store, Wellworth Stores, Odum Bros., Lizzie McAbee Beauty Shop.

Cancer Campaign Still Short Of Goal

The cancer campaign in Holmes County is still short of its goal, according to O. A. Cleveland, county campaign director.

No reports have, as yet, been received from Tchula, West, Coxburg, Thornton, Richland and the various Negro districts, according to Mr. Cleveland. He states that reports from Mt. Olive, Mileston, Saints Industrial and Ambrose High Schools indicated that their respective quotas will be reached.

Mr. Cleveland suggested that community chairmen stage some kind of entertainment whereby quotas may be reached if solicitation fails.

He urged all citizen to see their community chairmen and to make a liberal contribution to this worthy cause.

Services Held April 14 For Mrs. Callie Yaw

Funeral services for Mrs. Callie Yaw, age 67, who died at her home in Coxburg, Monday, April 10, after a long illness, were held at Coxburg at 2:00 p. m. April 14, the Rev. Wigley officiating. Burial was in Coxburg cemetery.

Mrs. Yaw was born at Tupelo, January 8, 1883.

She is survived by her husband, B. Y. Yaw and one son of San Diego, California.

Southern Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Carl Moses' Condition Reported Worse

Friends of Carl R. Moses, owner of Tchula Theatre at Tchula, will be sorry to learn that his condition has taken a turn for the worse, according to Mrs. Moses.

Mr. Moses underwent a cerebral operation at Mercy Hospital at Vicksburg recently, and specialists at that time reported his condition improved.

His many friends in Holmes county and in Tchula wish him a speedy recovery.

Dr. Parsons To Speak At G'wood Cancer Clinic

Dr. W. H. Parsons, chairman of the committee on cancer of the Mississippi State Medical Association, will speak at the cancer clinic at Greenwood, April 26, and May 2, according to Dr. R. C. Fraser, Holmes County Health Officer.

Registration fee will be \$10.00, and Dr. Fraser will be Holmes County registrar at the meeting.

Mrs. Doug Ramsey of Jackson was a Durant business visitor Thursday and while here visited with relatives and friends.

Red Cross Fund Drive Lags; Community Quotas \$671.88 Short

Holmes County is far short of its \$3,900 quota, according to reports made by campaign officials Monday. No reports have been received from Pickens, Bethesda, Centerville, Eulogy, Mileston, Owens, and Richland, and A. P. Johnson, Negro campaign chairman, has not as yet reported.

Report on collections to date on Red Cross Fund campaign, showing assigned quotas and amounts contributed over the county are as follows:

Comm.	Assigned	Am't. Cont.
Lexington	\$800.00	\$860.00
Tchula	600.00	600.00
Howard	40.00	40.00
Emory	20.00	20.00
Brozville	10.00	12.00
Liberty Chapel	10.00	12.00
Beulah	10.00	10.00
Oregon		
(Elliott Hill)	10.00	11.50
Durant	600.00	341.50
Goodman and		
Junior College	200.00	101.00
West	200.00	150.00
Cruger	250.00	89.00
Thornton	100.00	62.00
Coxburg	50.00	37.50
Franklin	20.00	9.50
Ebenezer	50.00	8.50

For every dollar collected the Chapter retains only 46c which is used to carry on the work of Red Cross over the entire county. Since January 1 the demands made on the Chapter for civilian relief alone have depleted the balance which had been carried over from former campaigns. If these calls are answered, even on a limited scale, there must be money with which to operate.

Mrs. Pearl C. Smith Passes At Lexington

Funeral services for Mrs. Pearl C. Smith, age 75 of Lexington, who died at Community hospital April 13, after a long illness, were held at the Mt. Pleasant Church at West, Friday, April 14, the Rev. Curtis Ellis, officiating.

Burial was in the Church cemetery.

Mrs. Smith was born in Carroll County, July 3, 1874.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Herman Griffin of Lexington and one son, W. C. Smith of Drew.

Pallbearers were Calvin Ussery, Vardeman Barton, Boyd Moss, Johnnie Farmer, Marlin Grantham and Ernest Harrison. Southern Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Masonic Services Held For Charles Lofstrom

Services for Charles A. Lofstrom, 73, who died at the Veterans Hospital at Biloxi, April 12, after an extended illness, were held at Southern Funeral Home chapel, Lexington, at 4:00 p. m. Friday, April 14, the Rev. C. T. Floyd, pastor of the Methodist Church officiating. Interment was at Odd Fellows Cemetery, and Masonic rites were held at the graveside.

Mr. Lofstrom was born at Water Valley on December 3, 1876, was a veteran of the Spanish-American War and was a Mason for a number of years. He was a pharmacist.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Guile Lofstrom, Lexington, and a son, Charles Pitt Lofstrom, Vicksburg.

Southern Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Library Notes

This week the Holmes County Library at Durant offers the much talked "Seeds of Treason," the story of Hiss-Chambers case, by Ralph de Toledano. Fiction offered includes "Tiger In The Garden" by Speed Lamkin, "The Tower And The Town" by Grace Campbell, "Never Another Love" by Jan Tempest and "Kilroy Hall" by Monica Ewer. Mystery readers will enjoy "The Case Of The Black Sheep" by Scott Finley, "The Bride Regrets" by Marjorie Carleton and "Fright" by George Hopley.

Juvenile readers are offered additions to two series, "The Bobbsey Twins In Eskimo Land" by Laura Hope and "The Adventures Of Grandfather Frog" by Thornton W. Burgess.

New issues of magazines are in and the "Post" had been added to the weekly selection offered by the Library.