



Home &gt; Newspaper Catalogue &gt; The Straits Budget &gt; 1914 &gt; May &gt; 21 &gt; Page 3 &gt; Cromlix Rubber Estate. FIRST COFFEE CROP IN COURSE...



## Cromlix Rubber Estate. FIRST COFFEE CROP IN COURSE OF COLLECTION. The Rubber Outlook.

The Straits Budget, 21 May 1914, Page 3

Share

Save Citation

Microfilm: NL2173

< Previous Article Next Article >


### Cromlix Rubber Estate.

### FIRST COFFEE CROP IN COURSE OF COLLECTION.

### The Rubber Outlook.




The fourth ordinary general meeting of the Cromlix Rubber Estate and Produce Syndicate, Limited, was held on April 21, at the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate Place, E.C., Mr. James L. Anstruther (chairman of the company) presiding.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, as notice of this meeting, together with report and accounts, has been in your hands for the usual period, I propose, with your permission, to take the report as read. You will notice from the report that the authorised capital of the company has been increased to £60,000 in 60,000 shares of £1 each. The number of shares allotted is 40,000, in respect of which £26,840 10s. was paid up on December 31 last. Since then a call of 15s. per share on the 15,000 new issue shares has been made, so that the total subscribed is now £30,390 10s. This amount is arrived at as follows:—1,562 shares issued to vendors in part payment, £1,562; 38,438 shares on which 15s. has been called up, £28,828 10s., making a total of 40,000 shares and £30,390 10s. in cash. The payment of this last call on the new issue shares brings all subscribers' shares of both the original and new issues into line—that is, 15s. paid. It is estimated that the balance of capital available on the subscribed shares will enable the company to bring the total of its planted area—viz., 993½ acres—into bearing. From the report you will see the total acreage is 2,082 acres, of which 993½ acres have now been opened up and planted. After giving the matter careful consideration the directors decided that it was desirable to surrender 1,000 acres of the original grant rather than continue paying the high



rent now being charged by the Government. Our agents were instructed to give Government notice accordingly, so from January 1 last our acreage is reduced to approximately 1,082 acres, and a new title will in due course be received. Should we decide later on to extend our planted area we have no doubt the Government will be quite willing to re-let the area now surrendered, and possibly by that time the Government charge will be less onerous than it is to day.

### Labour and Health.



In my speech last year I drew attention to the wonderfully healthy condition of the estate, and I am glad to say that the experience of the past year confirms all I said then. Our labour force continues ample, and you will see from the report that at present we have 237 Tamils on the estate. This is almost more than we require for present needs, but it is evidence that Bukit Jalil estate is quite popular. We must wait a little longer before we are able to commence tapping, but we are getting within sight of that time, for 543 acres, you will see, were planted in 1911. Meantime our coffee is coming into bearing, and this month we are gathering our maiden crop. Unfortunately the market for this product is not as strong as we should like it to be, but it will be satisfactory to have some revenue coming in. Our inspector's last report is dated December 3, 1913, and on January 9, we issued it in full, exactly as received, to all shareholders. It was of such a satisfactory character that we thought no time should be lost in placing it in the hands of shareholders, especially as it was the last report for the year. Mr. D. K. Michie, chairman of the Klanang Produce Company, is with us to-day, having only lately returned from the East. He is not a shareholder in this syndicate, but at our request was good enough to visit Bukit Jalil estate when in the Federated Malay States recently. Had he not been here I should have quoted from the very satisfactory report he sent us of his visit to the estate on January 17, but, as he is present, it is better you should hear from himself what he has to say. I take this opportunity of conveying to Mr. Michie, who made his visit and report free of any charge, your thanks as well as the thanks of your directors. We believe we have got a valuable property. We hope to bring it into bearing for about £40 an acre, excluding original purchase price, when it was all forest, but including bungalows, hospital and coolie lines, so that even with rubber at present prices, it ought to pay handsomely. I now beg to propose that the report and accounts as printed for the year ended December 31, 1913, be received and adopted. After Mr. Jenner Davies has seconded the motion I will endeavour to answer any question which may

asked before putting it to the meeting.  
Mr. E. Jenner Davies seconded the motion.

### A Report on the Estate.

Mr. D. K. Michie: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, it affords me pleasure to attend your meeting and tell you that, in my opinion, your property Bukit Jalil is a very promising young rubber estate. I went over the place in company with Mr. Majendie, the visiting agent, and the superintendent about the middle of January last, and was very favourably impressed with what I saw. The estate is well opened and clean, and the young rubber trees have made excellent growth for their age. The Robusta coffee that has been interplan-

ted as a catch crop does not, perhaps, show the even vigour that was expected, but much of it has made good growth and promises to crop well. As a rubber estate Bukit Jalil should be a valuable property in due time.

No questions were asked, and the Chairman having put the motion to the meeting, it was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then moved the re-election of the two retiring directors, Messrs. Edmund Walker and E. Jenner Davies, remarking that their services had been of much use to the company.

Mr. John Gibson said he had pleasure in seconding the motion. All those who were closely associated with the company knew full well the value of the advice of Mr. Walker and Mr. Jenner Davies in conducting the affairs of the property. He was sorry to say that Mr. Walker was unable to be present that day, but he hoped that his was a very temporary illness and that they would soon see him back in his accustomed place.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Jenner Davies, in acknowledging his re-election, said he was very much obliged for the honour done to himself and Mr. Walker. He believed that that was the first meeting of that or the kindred company that Mr. Walker had not attended. He hoped his illness was not serious, and believed it was not, but, at any rate, he was not able to be there that day.

On the motion of Mr. Hadden, seconded by Mr. Pope, the auditors, Messrs. Goodricke, Cotman and Co., were reappointed, and the proceedings then terminated.