

experiment is now being discontinued, to record the results is desirable. The weight of dry rubber each year has been as follows:—

| | | | lbs. | oz. |
|-------|-----|-----|------|------------------|
| 1896 | ... | ... | ... | Not recorded. |
| 1897 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1898 | ... | ... | 1 | 0 |
| 1899 | ... | ... | 3 | 0 |
| 1900 | ... | ... | 5 | 12 |
| 1901 | ... | ... | 3 | 12 |
| 1902 | ... | ... | 2 | 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ |
| 1903 | ... | ... | 2 | 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 1904 | ... | ... | 3 | 6 |
| 1905 | ... | ... | 3 | 14 |
| 1906 | ... | ... | 4 | 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 1907 | ... | ... | 4 | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 1908 | ... | ... | 2 | 0 |
| 1909 | ... | ... | 3 | 8 |
| 1910 | ... | ... | 8 | 4 |
| 1911 | ... | ... | 10 | 0 |
| 1912 | ... | ... | 13 | 0 |
| 1913 | ... | ... | 13 | 8 |
| | | | 13 | 0 |
| Total | ... | | 98 | 0 $\frac{3}{8}$ |

MOHAMED HANIFF.

SELECTION OF RUBBER SEED.

The following is from the Bulletin de l'Association des Planteurs de Caoutchouc, v, 1913, page 305.

"Mr. W. T. Ruys, manager of the Plantation of the Company Rotterdam Tapanoelie, has made a very interesting experiment in selecting seeds of *Hevea*, the result of which the Company has been so good as to communicate to us. Mr. Ruys took 96 seeds in order to ascertain the influence of size on their germinative power and growth, and divided them into four groups, each of 24 seeds, by their size, which were weighed collectively. The seeds were sown on January 22nd, and the seedlings measured on the 11th of June, following, with these results:—

| No. of Seeds. | Weight of same in grammes. | No. which germinated. | Stems produced collectively measured in cm. | Average length in cm. | No. of plants of different heights. | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| | | | | | 90 cm. | 80 cm. | 70 cm. | 60 cm. | 50 cm. | 40 cm. | 30 cm. | 20 cm. | Less than 20 cm. |
| 24 | 141.5 | 20 | 1271 | 65.5 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | — | — | — |
| 24 | 116.5 | 18 | 997 | 55.5 | — | — | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | — |
| 24 | 86.5 | 13 | 545 | 42.0 | — | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 24 | 42.5 | 4 | 96 | 24.0 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 1 |

The conclusion is that large seeds furnish by far the best results, both as regards germination and as regards growth of the seedlings. One should therefore, before planting seeds, go over them and selecting from them, count as inferior and throw out all which weigh less than five grammes."

THE POSITIONS OF THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS IN 1913.

In arranging the following statements, the first place is given to the territory of Malacca, because in it Para Rubber—the premier crop of the Malay Peninsula—is more developed than elsewhere.

Territory of Malacca.

If we compare the rubber produced and exported from Malacca with that produced and exported from the whole peninsula, we get the following figures:—

| <i>Date.</i> | <i>Export of the Peninsula.</i> | <i>Crop of Malacca.</i> | <i>Percentage of the whole which the crop of Malacca makes.</i> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 1911 | 23,615,417 lbs. | 2,180,788 lbs. | 9.23 |
| 1912 | 43,102,314 " | 5,527,040 " | 12.82 |
| 1913 | 77,836,945 " | 9,342,997 " | 12.00 |

Having interest to this considerable extent, the Malacca planters during 1913 made themselves leaders in dealing with the important question of wages, and with marked success. Such interest and such success fully justify in themselves the arrangement of material adopted here.

It was in 1898 that Mr. Tan Chay Yan planted 40 acres with Para rubber, mixed with *Ficus elastica*, on Bukit Lintang, near Malacca town, and then formed a Chinese syndicate to plant up more Para rubber (mixed with tapioca) on Bukit Asahan towards the north east corner of Malacca territory, becoming the first outside Negri Sembilan and the second in the whole peninsula to take up an industry which the Government had been putting forward as a possibility for some years. The Government of the Straits Settlements had at that time trees at Singapore, Penang, and near Malacca; the Government of Perak had trees at Kuala Kangsar and near Teluk Anson; and Mr. T. Hislop Hills—the first planter—had trees on his estate at Sungei Ujong. Other trees had been distributed and planted in District Officers' gardens but their history has yet to be collected.