

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FOOTBALL TEAM

1928 TOUR JAVA AND SINGAPORE

20th June

We went on board the S.S. Houtman on Wednesday June 20th and left Darling Harbour at 12 noon bound for Java. There was a heavy swell on the water after we left Sydney Heads that made one feel empty. We steamed up the coast past Newcastle with all the boys very quiet. We sat on deck after dinner. Some were dancing, some just smoking and talking and I went to bed and read my book.

21st June

The heavy sea was worse next morning and everyone had a quiet day. We had one of our fellows sick but he was not too bad. Everyone went to bed early, I think, that night.

22nd June

On Friday morning the sea was like glass as we steamed into Brisbane. We landed about nine o'clock and spent four hours looking round the city and we sailed away again at one o'clock. Spent the afternoon reading in my cabin. We had a passenger list given us at dinner that night, so went to bed early and looked it over to see if I knew anybody, but I didn't.

23rd June

Saturday morning the sea was like glass and the coastline was wonderful to see. Very rugged and rough. One would sit watching it glide by mile after mile till one got very drowsy. At night we had a beautiful sunset that I watched till the sun went down. It was beautiful to see the changing of colour; first, from pale to dark, then gradually fade away altogether. We sat singing on the deck after dinner till we got sleepy and then we turned in to bed.

24th June

Sunday was a fairly quiet day for everyone on board. We had a meeting to arrange a committee to run some deck sports. The captain had a swimming bath erected and we had a swim just before dinner, and it was lovely. The water seemed to be more salty than it is down here and more buoyant. We strolled the deck after dinner and discussed the sports, etc. Then I went to bed.

25th June

Monday was just a repetition of Sunday. Lovely rugged scenery all the while along the coast of Queensland. After dinner we sat in the music room singing and playing the pianola and then strolled the deck till bedtime.

26th June

Tuesday, and the weather getting very hot. We played a few rounds in the sports competitions before lunch, which is at one o'clock. In the afternoon we fell in with the Eastern custom of sleeping

from two till four. Just after dinner we arrived at Cape York where we had to anchor for the night, as it was too dangerous to navigate the ship round the point in the dark. Some of the boys and younger women danced till fairly late in the night. I soon wearied of watching the dancing and so I went off to bed.

27th June

On Monday the boys started a sweep on the mileage of the ship. I was in it twice and I won it today, Wednesday. It was worth 4/6d and it was 3d to enter for it. The sea got very rough after we got round the cape and there was only about four of our fellows who didn't get sick. We played more deck sports in the morning and slept in the afternoon. At night we sat singing till we got tired of it, then we went to bed.

28th June

It was very rough on Thursday and I felt a bit sick all day. I was beaten in the semi-final of the deck quoits. The boat was rolling and pitching and it was hard to make a game of it for I couldn't put them where I wanted to. I went to bed almost straight after dinner.

29th June

Friday the sea was much better, almost calm, and we nearly finished up all the sports competitions. We spent the day reading and sleeping. The captain gave us a dinner at night, and oh boy! it was some dinner! There was all sorts of eats and Champaign to drink and everyone had a souvenir from the captain, and to wind up the evening they had a dance on deck.

30th June

On Saturday it was lovely to be a sailor because the sea was just like a millpond. I won the deck quoits doubles with a young lady for a partner. It was worth 25/- and a certificate.

We passed an island called Timor. It was about eleven o'clock when we came along side it and I think it was lovely. I got some snaps of the coast line from the boat and although it was a dull day they were fairly good results. Timor is partly a Portugese and partly a Dutch possession. We dropped a passenger named Major Newlands here. He was searching for lizards for the Melbourne Museum.

We also saw Native huts in amongst the palms and the Natives watching us from the water's edge and some funny little craft the Natives use as boats. We left the island behind us about six o'clock. We sat in the music room after dinner but went to bed early.

1st July

On Sunday we lolled about, read, talked and swam in the baths practically the whole day. I went to bed early that night after dinner.

2nd July

On Monday morning early we reached Macassar, and while we were pleased to see it, it looked very funny to us to see the Natives on the wharf. Some were bare to the waist, others wore jerseys and some wore short trousers, but most of them wore what is called a sarong. It is a piece of cloth

stamped with colours by the Natives and made like a bag without the ends sewn up. They just step into them and give the top a twist round their waist and they're dressed.

We were met by an official and taken around the town for a drive. The white quarters were very nice but the Native quarters were very bad places to live in for they smell dreadful. The roads are all bitumen and it is a pleasure to ride on them. We were shown a Chinese grave which cost 17,000 pound to build. It was beautiful to see it for it was all carved in little figures and patterns and inlaid with gold. It was laid out very nicely among palms with lawns and nice gardens and nice little paths with a pond right in front and set with some sort of lillies. We went back to the boat, had lunch, and got ourselves ready to play Macassar in the afternoon.

The match started at half past four. We were driven to the grounds in cars from the boat, and we lined up for a photo to be taken of our players. We were presented with a garland made of some sort of leaves and bound with a silk ribbon. We then gave our war cry, one that we had made up on the way over. Some lady started the game by kicking off for us. We had the best of the first half easily, after we had found our feet, although we could not play the combination that we knew we could play. But, in the second half we outclassed them, giving them a football lesson.

For Macassar, the goalkeeper stood out as a very fine keeper, saving shots that were almost impossible. But we won by two goals to one, in spite of his very fine effort. It was a fairly large crowd that attended the game, and we were surprised at the Natives barracking for any good work we did. The Natives were quite pleased with us and one heard them shout, "Oop, Australia", quite often.

We drove back to the boat after the game and watched Macassar fade away in the night as we left for Java. We were amused at the Natives loading coal at Macassar. They each carry a basketful, and there is a long line to and from the boat and the heap of coal. They just carry it up a plank and tip their basket upside down, and the coal goes down a chute into the hold or stoke hold. We left at seven o'clock at night that same day as we got in.

3rd July

The weather was very hot next day, and the sea like glass. We spent the day very quietly until dinner time and then we were given our prizes for the deck sports. It was a very bright moonlit night and we sat on the deck talking. I think we were a bit too excited to go to bed for a while, for we were to reach Java next morning, the place for where we had set out.

4th July

When on Wednesday we arrived at Sourabaya they had a brass band waiting to welcome us with music. The band was placed on a motor lorry, and we were driven in cars especially decorated for us to a civic reception at the Dutch Club, and the band played all the way. We were received by the Burgermaster. We all had a drink and different ones spoke to welcome the Australians, and expressed hope that we would have a good time both on the field and off. We were then driven to our hotel, the Hotel Sparkies, where we were allotted our rooms. After we had seen to our luggage, had a wash and some lunch, we felt more able to sit up and take notice of things.

Our rooms were big and airy, with a large verandah fronting each one. There were lizards in every room, and we learned afterwards that if there were not any they were put in to eat the flies and

mosquitos. They are harmless and will not touch anyone. They would run away from us as soon as we got anywhere near them.

We went out to one of the grounds we had to play on in the afternoon, and we had some practice. Then we came home and changed and went for a stroll around and we found a Native bazaar. We had a lot of fun in there trying to buy things from the Natives. We used to try and knock their prices down as much as we could, and it was funny to see the Natives trying to make us understand them, and us trying to make ourselves understood.

We could not get on with the food very well, as most of the cooking is done without any salt, and things tasted very strange. The waiters are Natives and look very dirty in themselves and in their ways, for at night they lay down and sleep in the doorways of shops and anywhere else they can get. We met a fellow named Harry Leeds and his wife, and his wife went into the kitchen and showed the boys how to cook for our chaps and we got on much better afterwards with our meals.

5th July

The next morning early we went out to practice before the sun got too hot, and came home for breakfast feeling hungry and in good spirits. We walked about the place looking at everything with interest. We walked till we were tired then we went to the club and played billiards. After lunch we went to see a football match so as to get an idea of the standard of football in Java. It was not very interesting as far as the game went, for there was not very much cohesion in either team. Before dinner we were taken to Mr. Perry's place for afternoon tea. He is the manager for Australian films in Java, and an Australian himself. He gave us a fair time, drinks and chips and nuts and some toasted stuff on toast which we enjoyed very much. Afterwards we went to the hotel, had our dinner, then went to the pictures. We were so tired that we all fell asleep before we were there an hour, so we went home to bed.

6th July

On Friday morning early, we went for a practice again and enjoyed the running and kicking about very much. We strolled around buying things, taking pictures and seeing as much of the place as we could, and in the afternoon we had a drive all round the town. We saw more of the place that way than we could by walking.

The white quarters are beautifully kept and looked clean and cool. The Native who have homes make them out of bamboo and in the worst places possible to build. Sometimes they build over swamps and waterholes, and if there is four or five together they look filthy outside, and from what we could see of them filthy inside too. The houses in the white quarter are unique in design, sort of quaint and different from what we have been used to. The idea of the places seems to be to keep them open as possible. The white women don't work very much, they mostly have Native servants to do the work for them. Native labour is very cheap. For instance a girl at service in Australian earns from one pound to 30/- a week, and that will keep a Native woman and her daughter working for about one month. The Natives make different things and peddle them around the houses and hotels to sell. We bought some vases and silk scarfs from some of them. Some of our fellows bought buddahs and dinner gongs, quaint figures and batik work from these Natives.

7th July

On Saturday we stayed at the hotel all day and rested and read books or wrote letters, although in the morning we had a small stroll up the street. We played a team called H.B.S. and we played for a gold cup. Mr Perry took moving pictures of us before and during the game. The first half was fairly even, but in the second half nearer the end of the game the H.B.S. chaps were done up and could hardly play football at all. We should have won by two goals at least, but the referee was not much good. He was not up to the game, and did not use the advantage rule, or seem not to know much about the offside rule. We ended up in a three all draw. One of their goals was offside and the other was fouled, but the referee used to be on the sideline like the linesman and he could not see half that went on. At night we went to the pictures and saw Beau Geste. We went straight home after the pictures to bed and we were glad to go to bed for we were all tired.

8th July

We had a very fine trip to the zoological gardens on the Sunday morning and enjoyed it very much. We saw some of the prettiest birds one could wish to see. There were all kinds of parrots and birds of paradise and different kinds of monkeys. One monkey was as big as an average sized man, and we saw different sizes of small ones, some with almost human noses, and shapes both funny and pretty.

We saw the aquarium and it is difficult and almost impossible to describe the different kinds of fish that were there. There were some of the prettiest colours one has ever seen. It was beautiful to see the way they flashed and shone in the light as they swam round and round. Some looked just ordinary fish to us and some of them were the most queer looking things anyone could imagine.

We also saw different kinds of snakes and lizards from pythons over twenty feet long to smaller ones about eighteen inches long. It was something well worth seeing, birds, reptiles and fish of every kind conceivable. We went home to lunch after a wonderful morning. We rested after lunch and then went to play the Sourabaya Bond.

We won this game fairly easily by three goals to one. It was not what one could call a good game because it was a bit one-sided. After the match we were presented with a big silver cup, then we went back to our hotel for a bath and a luncheon. After dinner we went to the Hollywood Club for a dance. Here we were given a good time. The boys were introduced to different people and they danced to their hearts' content. They had so good a time that most of them were merry when they got home at about two o'clock in the morning.

9th July

On Monday morning I never felt so stiff and tired in all my life, so I had a very lazy day of it, just going for a walk up the town in the morning. In the afternoon we (nearly all of us) had a good sleep. Then, after dinner we went for a good walk then came home and wrote letters, read books and things and went to bed early.

10th July

We were up early on the Tuesday morning to practice, and after breakfast we went for a motor trip to Malang. We were driven along roads that were a pleasure to ride upon. As we went along we saw growing rice, tapioca, sugar cane, cocoa nuts and coconuts. We drove a good few miles along level country before we started to climb up the mountains. Just as we started to rise to go up in the hills

we saw the mountains first on our right. They seemed to loom up out of the mists and you were nearly alongside them before you saw them. The way the light shone on them and the way the mists seemed to hang on them, they gave one the impression of being unreal, or more like a beautiful painting.

Before we got to Malang we turned off to a place called Mundit. Here we saw swans and wild ducks on the river. The river is called Bluewaters and we saw the Native girls catching either shrimps or small fish in a flat sort of a basket. We saw monkeys in their wild and natural state running and jumping from tree to tree. They are not ferocious unless you torment them and they come and take peanuts or bananas out of your hand. After we had a good look around the place and taken a few snaps we drove off for Malang. We went to the Concordia Club House for lunch. We had a grilled steak and chip potatoes and it was the best meal we had in Java up to that time.

On the way home we saw sugar cane being taken to the mills by wagons drawn by water buffaloes. They have very primitive ways of transporting their sugar cane and rice from the harvesting. They use a covered kind of wagon that has only one pole attached to it, and they breed water buffalo and use them to draw the wagons and to plough the fields. They use a very old fashioned sort of plough to plough their fields. It is a kind of three cornered affair with one handle at the back and top corner and the front corner is very sharp. It is made of wood.

We saw the roads under repair, and they make a very good job of it, although they take a long time. They are all tarred and it is nice to drive along them. One can sit in comfort without any jolting or jars and enjoy the scenery as one flies along.

We arrived back at the hotel fairly dusty, so we had a wash and a brush up. Then we went to an Australian's place for afternoon tea, a man named Mr. Allom. We were introduced to Miss, Mrs. and Mr. Allom, and they were very nice people, and were very pleased to have some of their own countrymen to see them. They gave us afternoon tea and we enjoyed it so much that we did not want any dinner afterwards. We stayed as long as we could before we left them for they were such homely people. We had to go finally to a Mr. Perry's place to see a picture of our first game in Java.

When we arrived at Mr. Perry's place he gave us iced drinks and smokes and we sat down and saw ourselves on the silver sheet. We little thought when we went to Java as Australian footballers that we would finish up by becoming moving picture artists. After we had seen the picture we went home again but we did not want any dinner, so we went to bed.

11th July

On Wednesday morning we just lollled about the hotel till lunch. After lunch we had a good sleep till four o'clock, then went to play the Excelsior Eleven. It was a fairly good game for about twenty minutes, then we had things practically our own way and won by four goals to one. We won another silver cup for this game. We went to the American Club after dinner where the cups were filled again and again. Some of the boys danced and two of them sang. We went home about one o'clock in the morning.

12th July

On Thursday we had a busy morning packing our bags. We sent them away after lunch and followed on ourselves. We went on board the Op Ten Noort bound for Semarang and arrived on board in time for afternoon tea, which we enjoyed very much. When we had finished putting our baggage away in our cabins and making ourselves familiar with the boat, it was dinner time and we were ready for it too.

We had a very good meal that night and we sat on the deck talking and singing till fairly late before we went to bed. Each of our cabins was fitted with double wash basins, two beds, two mirrors (one over each basin), two cabinets and a wardrobe.

13th July

On Friday morning we reached Semarang about half past six in the morning. It seemed to me to be a pity to leave the luxury of the boat behind. The Op Ten Noort anchored well out from the shore and we had to leave by a launch. The Op Ten Noort, by the way, is named after one of the directors of the K.P.M. Company. We had breakfast on board before we left and on arriving on shore we were taken to the Hotel Du Pavillon. We found this to be a fine big place with big airy rooms with a cool and clean appearance and situated in the main street. When we had seen to our baggage it was lunch time so we had lunch and rested until four, then we went for a practice.

We came back, washed and dressed and waited for dinner. We had a good meal and then went for a stroll up the street, but it was really too dark to see anything so we came back home to bed.

14th July

After breakfast on Saturday morning we went for a walk to see some of the town, but we spent most of the time going from one shop to another. After lunch we rested till four, then we went to play a team called Go Ahead.

They gave us a good game which was always full of interest to the spectators, but the pace was too fast for them and we won by five to three. We won a large silver medal for the game and were each presented with a small one as a souvenir. We went back to the hotel for a bath and dinner.

After dinner we went for a walk, just to walk out any stiffness, and came home early. We met a few men who said they would arrange for us to have a game of tennis.

15th July

It was a beautiful drive up in the hills to the tennis courts. Some of the members played golf and some played tennis. We spent a few hours there and drove back for lunch to our hotel. We rested in the afternoon till four o'clock then we played the Semarang Bond Eleven, and it was a good fast and fairly even game till half time. Then we had matters nearly all our own way. We won by three goals to none, and only for the brilliancy of the goalkeeper of the Semarang team we would have scored at least four or five times more during the latter stages of the game. We went home to dinner and afterwards were given a gazette with pictures of our landing in Java in it. Later we went to the Dutch Club where some played billiards and some had a dance and then we went back to bed.

16th July

On the Monday morning we went and played tennis and I had my first game of golf, and then home for lunch. We rested from two till four, then had a wonderfully delightful drive round the hills. We went round the better class of peoples' houses up in the hills just above the town. The view was beautiful. One could see all over the town and harbour and as it was just on sunset the light from the sun made the view very beautiful indeed. The houses up there were very nice and the grounds laid out lovely.

Going back home we went to a Chinese restaurant for dinner. It was impossible to explain the different foods that were put in front of us at this meal. We started off with English soup which was very nice, but Heaven only knows what followed. About six of our members went home sick and only one of us had anything like a meal. The foods were coursed well, but it was the thought and looks of the dishes that turned us from them and sickened us. We went from there to the Dutch Club where we were treated well by the Dutchmen. We played billiards and then went home.

17th July

On Tuesday morning we went for a good long walk (and I took some very nice snaps with my camera) returning to the hotel in time for lunch. We rested in the afternoon till about four o'clock then went to play tennis at the Dutch Club. Some of the boys played golf and the rest played tennis. The people belonging to the Club were mostly all English and they gave us a great time. The Club is called the Djandi Club and is pronounced 'shandie'. We played till the light began to get too bad before knocking off.

We returned home for dinner and afterwards went to the pictures and saw Charlie Chaplain in the picture called The Circus. Those of us who had not seen it enjoyed it very much.

18th July

On the Wednesday we just wandered around the town buying souvenirs and trinkets and taking snaps. We rested after lunch till four o'clock and then went to play the pick of the Java Chinese. It was a very poor game from a spectator's point of view being by far too one sided. We won by six goals to nothing and the game was a good football lesson to the players if they only took notice. We won a silver cup by winning the match. It was only a small one but it was a very neat and compact one.

We had a very nice spread at night with just a few of the promoters and one or two of the football officials. We went to the Dutch Harmony Club afterwards and we had some drinks and songs. We went home that night very late and started to pack out bags ready for the morning before turning in to bed.

19th July

The next morning we left early by motor bus enroute to Bandoeng. The scenery was beautiful. As we went along we saw the different things growing and the Natives at work in the fields. There were coconuts of both kinds, the coconut we all like to eat and the cocoa nut that cocoa is made from. We saw also a wonderful way of irrigating. They dam, or rather conduct the water by way of drains or

canals to the fields and it is run through the fields by way of small channels. For the rice it is run to the field and each bed of rice is flooded till the rice is nearly fully grown and then the rice bed is let dry so the rice will ripen. The coconut palms look cool and inviting. There is hardly any other kind of tree on the island. As we drove along it was nice to sit and watch the scenery and the different classes of people we passed.

The weather was getting much cooler as we climbed higher and higher and after the heat we were leaving behind us we welcomed the change. We stopped at a place called Borobuder to see a big stone temple that is over eight hundred years old. There was a flight of steps running to the top of it and at each landing there was a path running right around the temple. When we reached the top we could look down and see that the whole temple was just a huge pile of carved stone, terraced. From the top of the temple one got the best of views. The topmost stone was not unlike a big stone bell and on the topmost terrace was a lot of smaller ones. The stone carvings on the temple were very nice indeed and it made the place something worth seeing as well as something worth remembering. After seeing all we could of the place we went on our way and arrived at Djocja where we stayed over night. We stayed at the Grand Hotel Djocja.

The scenery between Borobudur and Djocja was much better than the first part of the journey for everything seemed so nice and green. Here and there we could see a touch of brown and gold of the ripening grain, and it made it look just like a great big oil painting. We had lunch at the hotel and we went for a stroll to have a look at the town. We found a Native bazaar and went in to have a look around it. We enjoyed ourselves so much that we stayed there till dinner time buying curios and having great fun trying to talk with the Natives. We went again after dinner and saw some wonderful fireworks. There are no words in which I can explain the beauty of the fireworks display. The Natives are very clever at that sort of thing, so I am told. We went around the different stalls and bought some of the Native work that was there for sale and then went home to bed.

20th July

The following morning we left Djocja by train to go on to Bandoeng. We entrained at the Djocja station at half past eleven. From there we began to climb the mountains properly. There is one thing about the railway that one could not help notice, that is the grades. They are so gradual that we hardly knew we were climbing up the mountain at all. The scenery at the first part of the journey was not much to look at, for we could not see much of the country, being sort of hemmed in by the tall palms. As we started to get higher up the mountain side we got a much better view and as we were getting over the top we saw the best scenery that came our way in Java.

We saw rice fields and sugar cane, tapioca and cocnut palms growing everywhere. These farms lay on the mountain sides and on the flat country round about as far as the eye could see. It was wonderful to see the way the Natives have of irrigating and it makes the farms look different and more interesting to see than the ones we see at home. We had as nice a ride in a train as anyone could wish for.

Bandoeng is over 2,000 feet above sea level and the climate is nice and cool so we were looking forward to seeing the place, for after the heat we had experienced on the flat country, we thought that we might get some rest and a game or two of football in something like decent weather. We arrived at Bandoeng at eight o'clock at night where we were welcomed with a civil reception at the

Hotel Preanger. Our luggage was taken to this hotel for we had to stay here. After the reception we were allotted our rooms and found them to be fine big spacious rooms with every convenience. At dinner time we had a first class meal and then feeling as if we owned the world we went for a stroll to see some of the town. As it was eight o'clock when we arrived at Bandoeng, and we had a reception as well, we did not see much of the place before we were back again ready for bed. Just as we were about to go to bed we received an Australian mail, and that was the end of the boys for the night.

21st July

The next morning we had a very nice drive around the city and we found that Bandoeng was the cleanest town we had been in and also the neatest. We did not drive too far because we had to play football that afternoon. After lunch we rested till four o'clock and then went to play the Bandoeng Bond. We won by four goals to three. The score would seem to make it a very close game, but in reality it was a very poor one. The referee spoilt the game either because he wanted Bandoeng to win or else it was from lack of knowledge of the game. The referees over here all seem to have the same idea as to where a referee should stand to referee a game. They stand on the side line and never come on to the field at all. This particular ref. lost control of the game and the players got out of hand. The Bandoeng players made things fairly hot for us until we had to give them some of their own medicine to steady them up a bit. It was poor sport on their part to play rough when they knew we were only half way through our tour. We had to keep out of any mixups because we were under contract to play so many games and we, none of us, wanted to be hors de combat while we were away from home.

After the game we went home for a wash up and dinner and afterwards we went to a dance at some club. Most of the boys received more correspondence during the day so they were not anxious to stay out very late.

22nd July

The following morning we had a very nice trip to a place called Lembang. Lembang is right up in the very peaks of the mountains and the land is cultivated by the Natives right to the very summits. The way these Natives irrigate makes one marvel at the way or method or whatever it is that they get the water to the top of the hills and mountains. There is a volcano at Lembang, but we could not see the crater because of the clouds on the top of it.

As we drove back towards the hotel we went by a different road and we stopped on the top of a mountain at the observatory. We were taken through the observatory, and although we did not understand much about it, it was very interesting. There was a great telescope inside the place that must have been at least thirty-six feet long and I suppose it would weigh about five or six ton. From this place we could see all the country for miles round about and I don't think I could honestly say there was one patch of spare ground to be seen. We tried to get a few snapshots from the grounds at the observatory, but the cameras would not focus anything at such a range.

From here we went back to the hotel for lunch. We rested afterwards till four o'clock and then we went to play a team called the Uni. Eleven. The Uni. team gave us a very good game. They played

good clean football and the referee was fairly good for he tried to be fair and the result was a fairly fast game. We won the game by two goals to nil being a much smarter team than they were.

We went home and had a bath and a clean up and then some of us went to see a film that an Australian jockey had taken of our first game in Bandoeng. This chap knew a couple of the boys from Victoria and when we arrived there he made himself known to us and he also introduced us to some of his mates. We saw the film and he showed us some others he had taken of some ceremonies, and we enjoyed ourselves very much for nearly an hour. We thanked him for his kindness to us and there is no doubt it is very nice to see and have someone to take an interest in ones spare moment when one is in a strange country among strange people who cannot speak to us in our own language. We went back to the hotel for dinner and then went to a social and dance given to entertain us. When we got to the club there was hardly anyone there, so after staying for a while we left and went to a cafe where we had something to eat. We soon got tired of the cafe and started for home. We called into another club, but there was no one there, so we went home to bed.

23rd July

We left Bandoeng at half past six in the morning to go to Batavia, and catch a boat from there to Singapore. We arrived in Batavia about ten o'clock after a very tiresome and uneventful journey in the train. Our luggage went from the station straight to the boat, but we went for a drive around the town having two hours to wait before the boat sailed. I did not like Batavia as well as the other places we had been in. It is a very well laid out town, but the surrounding country is very flat. It is also a very hot place. Batavia is the main shipping centre in Java as well as being the Capital.

After driving around for an hour or so we went to the boat. Here we had our cabins allotted to us and after seeing our luggage put safely in them we were able to look about us. The boat, which was called the Bontekoe, was a poor old tub to look at, but it was fitted up fairly decent for what few passengers she carries. Her cargo was mainly pigs, having over two thousand on board. There was also over seven hundred Natives on board and it was hard to tell which smelled the worst, the Natives or the pigs. We had a good lunch on board while we were alongside the warf, but when we started and got a whiff of the Natives and the pigs we all felt squeemish. The smell was awful and the weather hot and still, and when dinner time came nobody was hungry. We sat on the deck for a while and then went to our cabins. It was so hot, and the smell so bad that we could not sleep in them. Most of us took a pillow and rug and went on deck to sleep.

24th July

All day on Tuesday we lolled about trying to cheer ourselves up by singing and reading, but the conditions on the boat would not let us be very happy or peaceful for very long. We could not enjoy one meal and we turned in to get some sleep feeling as if the world was all against us. We had to sleep on deck that night again as it was so stifling hot in our cabins.

25th July

We were very pleased next morning when we arrived at Singapore. We dropped anchor a good way out from the shore and the Natives of Singapore came around our ship in funny little boats from the shore. They brought hotel agents, shipping agents, tailors, jewelers and different kinds of tradesmen soliciting customers. They would take anyone who cared to travel with them to the shore with their

luggage for a very small sum. We went ashore by a ferry and we were met by only one of the Singapore officials. He ordered for us taxis and directed the drivers to Raffles Hotel where rooms were engaged for us.

The hotel was a fine big place with fine large airy rooms. Each room was fitted with its own bathroom and lavatory and had a sitting room attached as well with electric fans in both sitting and bedrooms. After we had stored our luggage away some of us went for a walk, and after strolling around for a while we stopped at a fire station. The Superintendent and his assistants were Englishmen but the firemen were a mixture of coloured races. When they found out who we were they gave us a demonstration. We saw the latest patent for letting a person down from a height. It is a small machine about the size of an ordinary alarm clock. There is a rope running through it with a belt attached to each end of it. The belt is placed around the body under the armpits and you just let yourself off the building and the heavier one is the slower they come down. This apparatus is attached to the top of the big ladder. One of our own fellows tried it and found it safe and comfortable. We saw the engine working and the different hoses and sprays and also an invention of their own which they have called a sprinkler. It is a round device mounted on a tripod to attach to a hose and can be left unattended in a room or a cellar. The force of the water spins the device on the tripod and it sprays water in every direction. We saw the firemen jump from about 25 feet into a big canvas sheet, showing how people were rescued in cases of emergency. They also demonstrated how they come from their rooms when they are called out. They have their rooms over the top of the fire station and they just catch hold of a pole and slide to the bottom. When they want to go back again they just catch hold of the pole with their hands and they put their feet on the pole and they literally walk up the thing. Their Superintendent gave us a ride on the engine round the square. It was a demonstration worth going a long way to see and we thanked the Superintendent and his assistants for their kindness to us and then we went to see the big shop that nearly everyone that is English visits.

It is John Little's and here the society people gather nearly every morning for their morning tea. It was just after eleven o'clock when we got there and there was hardly anyone there, but we had the first real drink that we have had for some time. We had real English ginger beer and very good squashes and icy cold they were too. After we had a drink we went back to Raffles for lunch. In the East it is the custom for everyone to sleep in the afternoon during the hottest part of the day, and that is from about two o'clock till about four. After we had lunch we generally used to rest or sleep till about four o'clock and it was quite easy to get used to this custom because it was so hot that we could not walk about the town in comfort. We tried on several occasions but when we got back to the hotel we could wring the perspiration out of our clothes, so we thought the best thing we could do would be to rest the same as everybody else.

At four o'clock we went to see the football match between a team called the Dukes and a team called the Cricket Club. The Dukes won by two goals to nil. The thing that impressed our fellows most was the rough play. At every opportunity the players on either side would charge each other viciously as if they wanted to do each other some bodily harm. Most of the boys were not impressed by their football prowess, for the game we had just seen was of a very poor standard.

We went back to the hotel and had dinner and then went for a stroll. The road in front of the hotel runs along the seashore something like a promenade. The only difference was the road had a

footpath and a strip of grass lawn between it and the water. It was a nice cool walk after dinner and we used to go along this road pretty often, then we would come back and turn in to bed.

26th July

On Thursday morning we went to the Governor's residence to sign the visitors' book. When we arrived we were sent to the guard room and had to wait till one of the servants brought the book. While we were waiting we took some snaps of the Governor's place and of the guard room and had a yarn with the English soldiers that were there in the guard room off duty.

We signed the book and then went to the Cricket Club and when we arrived there we were told that the secretary was out. We thought it was a bit off, especially as we had been invited to the Club that morning. Some of us were so disgusted that we walked out and went to John Little's till it was time to go for lunch, or as it is called here tiffin.

After tiffin I went and bought a portmanteau and had a look at the shops and then came back and rested till dinner time. After dinner we all went to see the pictures. The picture was called 'On Your Toes' featuring Reginald Denny. It was a picture we all enjoyed very much for we were not being entertained in Singapore by the football officials and we had to arrange our own entertainments.

27th July

We were up early on Friday and went to the football ground to get some practice. While we were playing some photographer came there and wanted to take our photo, so we let him take one of the team. After we had about an hours training we went back for breakfast and then we had a days shopping, buying silk and curios. After dinner we strolled along the street before going to bed.

28th July

On Saturday morning we had great fun with the Native shop keepers buying curios. We rested after tiffin till four o'clock and then went to play a combined Chinese Malaya team. The Chinese Malaya team were a small sized team but very quick, and they beat our fellows by four goals to nil. It was a very good game to watch and the play going from one end of the field to the other. Each goal was visited and had very narrow escapes, but the Chinese Malayas played like a team inspired. They deserved to win for the way they stuck to their guns.

We came back and had a shower and had dinner then we went for a stroll along the seashore, and as we were returning home we met four Englishmen and they walked back to the hotel with us. They shouted us drinks and they promised to take us for a trip to Johore the next day. We went to bed soon afterwards for we were tired after our game.

29th July

The next morning two of the chaps came around in a car and away we went. One chap's name was "Bobbie" Robert Wilson, an engineer, and the other fellow we knew as Jock. He is an engineer draftsman and we found them both very nice fellows and they gave us a great time.

As we drove along they explained everything of interest to us. The way lay through the bush or jungle and we also passed through small towns, or rather they were just a few huts. Just after we

had left Singapore behind us we passed a Chinese high school. It is a fairly large place with dormitories for the pupils to live in. At one time, so we were told, the pupils went on strike and they refused to do any lessons. I don't know for how long it lasted. We saw plenty of rubber plantations for they were alongside the road nearly all the way to the causeway. There were rubber factories in plenty also. The next thing we saw was a place where the Natives cremate their dead. We continued on through rubber plantations till we came to the causeway. The causeway is a sort of breakwater across the arm of the sea that is between the island that Singapore is on and the mainland. We crossed over and found at the other end a sort of drawbridge to let the shipping through. Here we also found we had to pass the customs officials before we were allowed to enter Johore. We had no trouble in doing so.

Johore is a place hardly worth mentioning for it is a jumble of tumbled down huts and shops. The two chaps we were with had been here before a few times so they took us to a hotel, the only decent one we saw there in fact, and they shouted drinks and we went on again. Johore is ruled by its own ruler, or as they call him, the Sultan. We passed his palace and it is a nice place to look at from the outside.

We went on to the place of worship called the Mosque. There is a lovely drive up to the entrance. We got out here and walked up the path to an archway and went through it and we came to a nice bathing pool. Here the Natives have to wash themselves before they are allowed to go inside. It has marble steps leading down into the water. We went up a flight of marble steps to a porch and here we had to take our shoes off before we were allowed to go any further. From this porch we stepped into a long passageway which we crossed and then we found ourselves in the main hall. It is a wonderful sight to look down this hall. Right down the centre of the hall there are three beautiful cut glass chandeliers. There is a row of pillars down each side and between the pillars and the walls there is a row of smaller ones. The floor is of marble, and there are the most beautiful carpets spread on the floor that I have ever seen. The attendant said that he could not remember far enough back to know how old they were. He is an old man now, and he said they were there before he came there. There are two brass incense burners in the middle of the hall that they use at their ceremonies. They stood about three feet high and were polished beautifully. The whole place is lighted from the glass chandeliers. They used to be lighted with candles but now they are lighted with electricity. At the furthest end of the room there is a platform or dais where the priest stands to deliver his sermon and it has two flights of stairs and a sort of canopy top over it with a clock set in it. The grounds surrounding the Mosque are nicely set out with their lawns and flower beds and walks. The Mosque itself stands on a hill and it is a fine commanding sort of place.

We went back to the car and then drove all round the Mosque to see it from the outside and then we started on our way home. We went round through the different streets of Johore and when we came to the jail we stopped and asked if they would let us go through, but they wouldn't. We saw the government hospital and then went back as far as the causeway where we were stopped again by the customs officials who looked through our car and then let us go on.

As we passed the place where the Natives cremate their dead we saw a ceremony being held there so we stopped to have a look at it. While we were watching the ceremony our friends explained some of the Native beliefs and sacred rites to us. When one of them dies they disembowel the body and treat it with something to keep it. Then they hold services over it for two or three months. After

these ceremonies are over they hold a last one as the body is being cremated and this last ceremony is what we saw. They strip the carcass and then place it in a sort of oven to burn. The chief mourners bring different sorts of fruits and these are placed on the oven (as I call it) and then blessed by the priest, or whatever they call him. After it has been blessed then the priest gives some of it back again. Then they place some coins in a tin box and the priest gives them some sacred dust and they rub it over their foreheads and necks and they seem very pleased to get it too. Our friends told us how they get this sacred dust. The priest keeps two sacred bulls in the temple and the manure from these animals is dried and ground into a powder, and this is the sacred dust that is given to the mourners. The sacred bulls are used at certain seasons.

They are hitched to a plough and the priest walks behind them as they plough up a piece of ground and prays and chants. This is supposed to ensure to them good crops for that season. We did not stay till the end of the ceremony for we had to get back to play football, but our friends told us that the ashes of the corpse are given to the nearest relative. One would think the Natives were rejoicing at these ceremonies instead of sorrowing as we white people do.

Well, we left them to themselves and returned by the same route as we came by. We thanked our friends for the very good time they had given us and then went in for lunch. After lunch we went to the football ground early to help on the gates as there was some roguery going on and the only way we could stop it was to be there ourselves to keep an eye on things. We played an all Malaya state team and won by one goal to nil. Our fellows were easily the better team but our chaps seemed just the same as they were in the last match, being very sluggish and slow. I think they were just starting to get over their trip on the Bontekoe. The game was fairly fast and always interesting. After the game we went home for dinner and then went for a stroll along the street and then went to bed feeling well contented with all we had seen that day.

30th July

On Monday morning we had some great fun shopping at the Native shops. There are too many things to relate in regards to the fun we got out of these shopping expeditions, but I can recall this one well. One of the fellows wanted a port and the Chinaman, whose shop we were at, wanted ten dollars for it. We knocked him down to eight dollars and then we wanted to toss him for it. The Chinamen are great gamblers over here so we tossed him to see if we payed him nine dollars or we would get it for seven. We tossed a coin and said, "Heads we win, tails you lose", and he took us on and of course he lost! We were shopping or rather going round the shops all day till about four o'clock and then we went for a swim at the Hotel Sea View.

The tide was low when we got there and the water was muddy so we did not stay very long nor did we enjoy it very much either. After dinner we went to the pictures and we enjoyed them too.

31st July

It rained on Tuesday morning till about nine o'clock and then it fined up a bit. When it had fined up a bit we went to see the jail. We were met at the gate by the Governor of the jail and he showed us round himself. He showed us how they took the finger prints and how they took photographs. The fingers are pressed on a slab that is wet with ink and then pressed on a paper. When they take a photograph they place the prisoner's hands flat on the chest with the backs outwards. The Natives

are taught to make books, clothes, furniture, coconut mats, rope, tinware and to make and repair boots. They have their own steam laundry and do their own ironing. They have their own hospital also and there were some very sick men in it. We were shown the prisoners at work doing all these things. They have a machine that is worked by the prisoners for weaving and making a sort of cloth like tea towel stuff. The coconut, when it is first picked, has a thick sort of fleshy skin round the part that we buy as coconuts here. This fleshy part is stripped off and soaked in water for a week. It is then taken out and the juice is beaten out of the stuff leaving only the fibre. The fibre is then teased and dried and then twisted into rope or woven into mats. They make all sorts of cane things such as chairs, baskets, tables and even flower baskets. It is very interesting to see the different things being made from the rough and crude stuff till they are the finished article. The Governor showed us the cat and the cane but we did not try them. They are used as punishment when prisoners are sentenced to so many slashes from the court. There were two prisoners sentenced to death and were in the room opposite the execution chamber. The prisoners are not supposed to know where the execution chamber is, so the Governor would not show it to us for fear the prisoners would see it. We spent a good three hours going through the prison and I think everyone was very much interested. We thanked the Governor for his courtesy and we invited him to our match the next day and extracted a promise to dine with us after the game was over. We went shopping in the afternoon and after dinner that night we went for a stroll up the street.

1st August

On Wednesday morning we all went for a trip to Johore. There was only three of us went the first time, but this time the whole party went. We went by the same route as we three went before so there is no need to explain the trip there. We visited the Mosque but I have already explained that, and we went for the same drive through Johore as we had before. This time however we had permission to see the Sultan's Palace.

The Palace stands on a rise similar to the Mosque and the grounds are well laid out with lawns and paths and they have more flower beds about than the grounds surrounding the Mosque. The drive leading to the Palace winds its way through palms and trees to the entrance steps. We drove to these steps and then we had to go inside by ourselves. The Sultan's secretary was supposed to have met us and showed us through, but he did not turn up, so we went through by ourselves. Everything was under lock and key and there was quite an army of servants there so there was no risk of him losing anything. When we were inside we were soon lost in admiration of the beautiful things we saw there. We saw his armoury, his thrones, his crowns and jewels, beautiful antique ornaments, golden goblets and dishes, gold knives and forks, spoons and vases. There were sets of these things in gold and silver and the best of stainless steel. There were beautiful ornaments and statues in gold and silver worth a fortune. It is impossible for me to describe his jewellery, so all I can say is, it is beautiful. His armoury has different kinds of swords and sabres, javelins and daggers, from the types used hundreds of years ago, to the types used at the present day. His crowns were made of gold all set with jewels, and his swords that he uses today have jewelled handles. We visited his bedroom and the big dining room where he entertains. The dining room is lovely. It has the tables set right down the centre of the hall and has a balustrade of marble on the colonade that runs around the entire hall. There is a beautiful marble stairway that leads up to the colonade with the banisters made or carved marble. It is a magnificent hall. I have never seen its equal. We roamed around the

palace taking our time and seeing everything that was to be seen, then we went outside to visit the hall of justice.

This is a building standing on its own away from the Palace. It is a peculiar place. The floor is raised up in the middle and has steps leading from the floor proper to the part that is raised up. On this raised part of the floor there is a long table with chairs around it. I think this place is where their parliament sits to make their laws or to deal with anything pertaining to their laws. It was very hard to take snapshots inside the Palace because of the light, but some of us got a few good ones. We left the Palace and started on our way home.

We had to pass the customs on this trip the same as we had to do before. Before we came to the place where the Natives cremate their dead we turned into what is known as the Old Road, so the others never saw the place where the bodies are cremated. The Old Road is very narrow, but the road itself is very good. This road is very dangerous in places, that is why they built the road that we came out on. There is a lot of traffic on the road to Johore and when the traffic had to go along the Old Road there was always a terrible lot of people being seriously injured and killed, so they built the other road making the turns easier to take and the road itself much wider. We drove along the Old Road for a few miles and we got a much better idea of what the jungle is like. The road ran through the heart of the jungle where once lions and tigers roamed. Of course the countryside has been nearly all cultivated and it is only once in a while that a tiger is seen. Lions are seldom seen at all around this part. We drove through the jungle and two or three small villages and finally we came to the reservoir that provides Singapore and the surrounding villages with water.

We stopped here for a while to have a look at it. It is just like a lake all fenced in, for the top of it was all open. It looked to me as if it was a natural reservoir. From here we returned to the hotel and had tiffin. We rested afterwards till four o'clock and then went to play a picked European team. The game is hardly worth mentioning for it was so one-sided. We gave them a football lesson beating them by six goals to nothing. After the game we were presented with a silver cup for winning the match on the Sunday.

We went home for dinner and then went to a big fair that was called the New World. Here we had some great fun throwing darts and shooting dart guns. There were some wealthy Chinese and some fellows who were interested in football and they took us into a sort of clubroom and gave us drinks and music. We spent about three hours there and then as we were starting to feel tired after our football and our trip earlier in the day we went home.

2nd August

On Thursday morning the weather did not look good for there was a fine rain falling. We went for a walk around the shops and while we were out the rain commenced to fall very heavily. It rained till about two o'clock and we thought we would have to abandon the match that afternoon, but just after two the weather broke and although it was still cloudy we were able to play the match. I packed my bags just after tiffin and then rested till four o'clock, and then went to play the Dukes.

Considering that it had rained so heavily all the morning we did not expect to see a very large crowd, but when we arrived we found we had a record gate. The team we had to play was called the Dukes

and they had only been beaten once in three years. They belonged to the Duke of Wellington's Regiment stationed in Singapore. The ground was none the worse for the rain. The Dukes won the toss and kicked with the breeze behind them and our chaps faced the sun. The first half our fellows easily had the best of things but could not finalize their movements. They played good clean football that was a pleasure to watch. After half time the Dukes, who found they could make no headway against our defence, began to use their weight and some of them used their feet. Our chaps scored two goals, one about ten minutes after half time, and the other about ten minutes later. The Dukes scored a goal during a wild rush up the field, but they were lucky to score it. The shot went inside the post about a foot and our goalie was standing two or three feet inside, and seeing that the shot came from the eighteen yard line I don't know how he did not stop it. Just before the whistle blew full time the Dukes were awarded a penalty kick. The penalty scored, but the spectators claimed that the referee had played us seven minutes overtime. The penalty was given two minutes before the game ended, so we were unlucky not to have won. We were playing for a silver cup and after the game the Dukes were satisfied to give us the cup.

They invited us to the sergeants' mess that night for dinner, so we went. After we had changed we drove to the barracks and they gave us a real good meal, something like what we get at home. We had mashed potatoes, cabbage and corned beef, with a very fine steamed pudding to follow on with. After we had our fill we were entertained at cards and billiards, and we had some of them singing for us. One of them danced an Egyptian dance for us and he danced it very well, or he seemed to to us. We stayed there till we practically had to go for the lights have to be out at a certain time in the barracks.

3rd August

On the Friday we had a last shopping tour before lunch and then we packed our bags and sent them on to the boat ahead of us and then we followed them. The boat was the same one as we travelled from Sourabaya to Semarang on, the Op Ten Noort. When we had been fixed up with cabins and stowed our luggage away we had some fun watching the Natives alongside the boat in their little canoes. They would shout out something at the people on board. I suppose they wanted someone to throw a coin in and they would race one another to where it fell and all of them would dive in together. When they came to the top again, the one that got the coin would show it and then put it in his mouth. Two of them were playing with a ball, hitting it with their paddles from one canoe to the other. They were very clever at it and we were amused watching them till the boat started. After dinner we sat on deck till very late. It was nice and cool on deck and we sat there talking and singing till we were falling asleep in our chairs.

4th August

On the Saturday we had a very lazy day of it, just sitting about reading and talking. We arrived at Batavia early on Sunday morning. We went for a drive into town. We had left our luggage on board thinking we had to go to Semarang, but when we arrived in town we found the plans had been altered. We had to go for our luggage and when we were bringing our bags ashore we found out that we had to pass the customs. This caused quite a commotion as we had bought stuff in Java and taken it along with us and we were getting ready to make a fuss about it, but when they found out who we were they never opened our bags at all.

We went on to the hotel and waited till the luggage arrived and then we went to see some snake skin work at a shop. We bought several articles and then went to see the other shops. It is so hot in Batavia that we soon tired of walking about and rumaging about in poky little shops so we went back for dinner. After dinner we went to another hotel where there was a dance on but we did not stay long. The dance was a failure as far as we were concerned. Everyone takes their own partner so there was only one of us had a dance. We went home disappointed.

5th August - no record

6th August

On Monday morning we had a drive around the town, and then went to a place called Buitenzorg. Buitenzorg is about thirty-nine miles away from Batavia and it is a very pleasant drive out, The roads are' good all the way and the scenery looks green and pleasing to see. We passed through five or six small villages but we did not stop at any of them. They are horribly smelly and most white people never stop at any of them if they can help it. When we arrived at Buitenzorg we drove past a deer park that belongs to some millionaire. I was told that at certain times he goes there and has a bit of sport shooting the deer. The next place we went to was the Botanical Museum. It took us just under the hour to reach the Museum from Batavia. It is in the main part of the town. Buitenzorg is a very nice and picturesque little place. It is on the rise of the mountains and is nice and cool compared to the towns along the seashore and the flat country. They boast that the Museum and the Gardens are among the best three in the world. They may be the best for all we know. They certainly were the best I have ever seen. I suppose we spent a couple of hours in the Museum. The animals and birds, insects and reptiles were as true to life as it is possible to make anything that is dead. For instance the pythons were shown with small animals half way down their throats, and the tigers were in the act of eating an animal they had just killed. There was every kind of animal conceivable, from elephants to bush rats. Birds of all kinds and colours, all kinds of insects, reptiles of all kinds and more different kinds of fish than I have ever known or read about.

The way some of the fish were coloured made one think they were painted and I don't think it is possible to get better colouring anywhere than the colouring in the birds. Some of them were the most beautiful things that anyone could wish to see. Some of them were built like ordinary birds while others seemed to set styles for themselves and were beautiful to look on. In fact, they were unique. There were butterflies, moths, beetles, reptile, lizards, elephants, lions and tigers, wild bulls and cows, water buffaloes, foxes and all sorts of animals and fish, even the skeleton of a whale. The colour that is seem amongst these things is impossible for me to explain and give it justice, but we gazed our fill at the beauty and the strange things there for easily two hours and would have stayed there longer if we had only more time to spare.

We drove from the Museum to a hotel called the Hotel Bellvue and had a biscuit and a cup of tea. From there we went to the Botanical Gardens. We had to get out of the cars and walk through them which we enjoyed very much. Nice broad paths ran through the gardens and the tall trees, palms and bamboos, which were growing almost everywhere, seemed to form a natural arch over them. There were orchids in plenty growing there, and a very nice fountain in the middle of a lily pond. We spent over half an hour rambling through the garden, but as the flowers were not in bloom we could not see any of them. We started for home, but when we were about half way there it started to rain,

and by jove, did it rain!. Great drops as big as marbles: but we reached our hotel none the worse for the rain.

After we had lunch we went for a swim in the fresh water swimming pool. It cost one guilder for entrance, that is one and eight pence, so when you consider our two penny baths at home, it is a very dear swim. We enjoyed it very much indeed, and stayed till dusk. Before going into the water everyone has to have a shower or they will not be allowed to go in. This is done for hygienic purposes and it is carried out properly by everyone. We went back to our hotel for dinner, and afterwards to a shop for some snakeskin goods we had enquired about a few days previously. When we had finished our shopping we went back to the hotel and then to bed.

7th August

On Tuesday we left by train for Bandoeng and after an uneventful journey arrived about ten o'clock. After seeing to our baggage and having lunch we rested till about four o'clock, then went to play Bandoeng.

It was a fairly good game for a while, then it became too much one-sided to be of much interest to the spectators. We won comfortably by three goals to one and after the match were presented with a medal as a souvenir of our stay in Bandoeng. We went back to the hotel, and when we had changed, some of us went to see moving pictures which an Australian jockey had taken, and promised to show us. He showed us a big Native ceremony, which while being very serious and real to the Natives, was unique and funny to us. We went back to the hotel and had dinner, then went to see a circus which was showing there.

The circus people invited us and ringside seats were reserved for us. Harmonston's Circus it was called and was a very good show. It was quite a change from pictures and clubs, and we all enjoyed it. After the show we went home to bed, tired, but happy.

8th August

We left Bandoeng by motor bus early on Wednesday morning and had a wonderful trip over the mountains to Cheribon. This was the best motor trip we had on the whole of the tour. the road was very narrow and careful driving was necessary when passing other vehicles. It wound round the mountain sides in great curves, and so gave the roads a fairly easy grade. At different curves and points one got most magnificent views. The way the mountains were cultivated was something worth seeing. One would not do justice to the scenery if one would try to explain it and I do not think I could. All I can say is, it was beautiful.

We reached Cheribon just before lunch and we were ready for it too. After we had satisfied our inner men and had our rooms allotted to us we rested during the afternoon till just on four o'clock and then went to play Cheribon. It was a very one-sided game and we had an easy time on the field, winning by four goals to nil. After the game we had a shower and then dinner after which we went to the club. We had a very quiet time at the club and soon toddled back to go to bed. The hotel we stayed at was called the Hotel Cheribon, and a fairly nice place, although not quite as good as most of the others we stayed at.

9th August

We left Cheribon by train at eleven the next morning and had a very monotonous journey nearly all the way to Semarang. The first part of the journey we were just going down off the foothills of the mountains to the lower country on the seashore. It was too hot and dusty on the flat

country to make travelling by train a pleasure. We arrived in Semarang at three o'clock and were glad to get off the train to stretch our limbs. We went to the Hotel Du Pavillon and were allotted our rooms. After we had arranged our ports and baggage we went for a stroll. After dinner we went to a Native fair or bazaar. It is called the Passimallum. We wandered round the side shows trying different things and buying trinkets till we tired of it.

10th August

The next morning as we strolled around town we met some chaps belonging to the Tjandi Club, and they invited us to play tennis and golf there. After lunch we went to the club and played there all the afternoon till the light failed. After dinner we went again to the Native bazaar, and on the way there we saw a Native procession. There was some of the funniest costumes imaginable to be seen. Some of them carried symbols of by-gone days, some spears and others a kind of battle axe. It is hard to describe it, for we did not know what the different things represented. Although we were interested spectators we did not understand it. At the bazaar we amused ourselves for two or three hours throwing darts in a small game of chance. When we returned to the hotel I received some home newspapers for which all the Newcastle boys were grateful to Mr. Tamlin, the sender. We read most of them before going to bed.

11th August

On Saturday morning we went through the Native market where we bought some batik work. After lunch we finished reading our papers and read other correspondence we had received till four o'clock, then we went to play a team called the Motts.

It was a fairly good game from the spectators' point of view, being fairly even and fast. The game ended in two goals each, but it was the Motts' goal keeper that saved them from defeat. He was the best goalkeeper I have ever seen, and I have seen some good ones in action. We had played against this fellow before, so we knew that his good keeping was not just a flash in the pan. His anticipation was almost perfect.

After dinner that night we again visited the bazaar and met some of the football officials and they showed us the sideshows free. There was one English sideshow that we visited and found very good. The show consisted of marionettes and conjuring. There was a great big dancing hall there which we went to see and I think it was the best hall I have ever seen decorated. When one stepped inside the impression formed was that one was walking through a peach orchard in the moonlight. The place was lighted with coloured lights hidden in the blossoms hung overhead. It was so crowded that we could not find room to stand. By the time we had seen the Native work, the dance hall and most of the sideshows it was well after twelve o'clock so we went home to get some rest.

12th August

On Sunday morning we went to the Tjandi Club and played tennis all the morning. After lunch we rested till four o'clock and then went to play the Semarang Bond.

The game was almost a farce and it was only the play of the goalkeeper that saved them from ridicule. We won by four goals to one. For the first twenty minutes the game was fairly lively, but then Semarang players knocked up and from then on we practically played shooting in. Before the

game started we were presented with a medal as a souvenir of our success and our stay in Semarang.

After dinner we went to see "We're in the Navy Now" at one of the picture shows. We came home to bed early as most of the boys had seen it in Australia.

13th August

We spent Monday morning packing our bags and then after lunch we went to get the boat for Sourabaya. It was a much smaller boat than the others we had been on, although it was well fitted up, clean and served a very good meal. Again we had to put our things in our different cabins, it was dinner time, and we were on our way to Sourabaya. After dinner we sat on deck talking and singing but we all retired fairly early.

14th August

We were up early on Tuesday morning, packed out bags and then watched the boat berth at the wharf. We went to the same hotel as we stayed at before, the Hotel Sparkies, and were given the same rooms that we had before. Before lunch we strolled the town for an hour, then went for a swim in the salt baths after lunch. After dinner we went to the Broadcasting Station and spoke to Australia over the wireless. We also sang a song or two. The first time we were in Sourabaya we had talked to Australia over the wireless and when we went to the Station this time some of the people in Western Australia had written letters stating that they had listened to us and heard us very plainly and were very pleased to know that we were so successful and in the best of health. From there we returned to the hotel.

At this stage of the tour some of the boys were grumbling a bit. They were getting too much football and they did not feel as lively as they ought to have done. We had an average of three games per week throughout the whole of the tour, and the strain was beginning to tell on them.

15th August

On the Wednesday morning we had our photographs taken with all the trophies we had won. In the afternoon we played H.B.S. for the gold cup and we were very unlucky not to have won it. The first half was good hard and fast football, but in the second half our stamina stood out to better advantage than theirs, for we played shooting in, in the last ten minutes. The game ended in a scoreless draw. We could do anything but score just before full time. We hit the crossbar, the uprights and also put a lot of shots outside altogether. When we got one inside the goalie seemed to be always there. The referee missed two penalties that would have won us the game and the H.B.S. players themselves said we were the better team, but still they would not play extra time or give us the cup. They said that we would draw for it later on and we drew a couple of nights after but they got the cup and they gave us a set of medals. After dinner that night we went to Hollywood, but there was hardly anyone there so we returned to bed calling the show a washout.

16th August

The next morning we went to see the proofs of the photos and after lunch went for a swim. We went to the manager of the Australian Films place and were entertained to afternoon tea, returning

to the hotel in time for dinner. After dinner we went to see an Australian Circus that was showing in town, having just arrived the day before. We met and talked with the circus people and they were very glad to see some of their own countrymen too. They gave us an invitation to the circus as often as we liked to go and had seats reserved for us whenever we dropped in. It was a very good show and we were pleased with it and promised to go again, for we were as pleased to see them as they were to see us. It is hard to talk to the Natives and sometimes equally as hard to speak to the Dutchmen, and it was very nice to be able to speak out and know that we were understood. We talked with the circus people for half an hour or so before the show started and then watched them perform, and it was fairly good. After the show we had another talk with them and invited them to our football games. They accepted the invitation and promised to come. They told us they had seen the advertisements and had seen us play our last game and that's how they knew we were Australian. After we had talked for about half an hour we went home to bed.

17th August

Next morning we had a late breakfast for we were late going to bed, and all felt as if there was not much else to do but sleep. We went for a trip round the town, which we enjoyed very much, during the morning, but there was nothing new about it for we had been round it before, and although very nice, it seemed a bit stale to us, Sourabaya being a shipping port and commercial place rather than a picturesque place. After lunch we went for a swim again in the bathing pool and here we derived our best enjoyment. It was so nice and cool in the water, and the climate so hot, that one couldn't help desiring to be in the water. When we came back we went to one of the promoter's places to have afternoon tea, Mr. Weskin's place. The boys had a very good time playing games and dancing, and we did not arrive home for dinner till ten o'clock, then most of us went to bed and read something or other.

18th August

On Saturday morning we just had an easy time looking round the hotel or buying things at a bazaar which was just around the corner from the hotel. We rested after lunch and at four o'clock we went and played the Excelsior Eleven, the result being that we won by three goals to one after a fairly easy game, for it was never in doubt from the start. After dinner we went to the circus and enjoyed ourselves very much, and also had another talk with the circus people.

19th August

We were late getting home so had a very lazy morning on Sunday. Some had a rub by two Natives who were supposed to be able to rub, and whom we had obtained in Semarang and took to Batavia. We left them there while we went on to Singapore and picked them up on the way back. They were not much good however, to keep a man in trim, but if we got a bit stiff it was something to get a rub of any description. After lunch I read a book I had started and at four o'clock went to play the pick of Java.

This game was a very good one, and I think the fastest that we had in Java. We were beaten by the odd goal in three, but were very unlucky to lose. I remarked before I think, that the referees kept on the touch line, and of course could not see half the things that happened, and that is really why we lost. A good decision would have been a draw, although we must give them credit for their win.

Their first goal was fouled, but it was on the blind side of the referee, so we must count it as a goal, but the second was off-side by four yards easily. Still we lost the game and they gave us a real good go for it, so we cannot growl at being beaten for we had everything our own way in all the other games.

After dinner we went to some big club where the big cup we had played for was handed over to the Java people. There were speeches and toasts drank and after about an hour we went on to Hollywood where the boys danced. We stayed there dancing until after midnight, well it was five to two when we arrived home.

20th August

We were tired on Monday morning so we just had a lazy morning going from one chap's room to another's talking. After lunch we went for a swim and had a good time for about two or three hours. We went to a place owned by a gentleman named Mr. Allom for afternoon tea and had a very good time. Mrs. Allom made some sausage rolls, baked nuts and tea, and all seemed to be the best we had ever tasted after the food we had all the way through. We stayed till nine o'clock, and so good was the Allom family we did not like leaving them. We thanked Mr. and Mrs. Allom very much for the very kind and thoughtful way in which they entertained us, also for the fine afternoon tea and then we had to go to Mr. Gordon's place where we spent a couple of hours. Mr. Gordon is one of the promoters, but after the good time and good things we had at Allom's place, we did not want much to eat or drink at Mr. Gordon's. Some of the boys had a dance or two, but the spring in the gramophone broke so they did not have many dances. After the gramophone broke there was nothing to do but sit and talk, and we very soon got tired of it and went home to bed.

21st August

We spent Tuesday morning getting some of our things autographed and reading. Just before lunch we had a meeting with the promoters regarding the money due us for the extra games we had played for them. They put proposals to us and we put some to them and they wanted to think them over so we were to meet them before dinner. We went for a swim after lunch and enjoyed it immensely and came home in good humour for the meeting. The promoters kept putting the main issue to one side and tried to cause arguments between the players and managers and when they failed in that, tried to cause a row between the players themselves. They would not come to the point or give us any satisfaction so we had to break the meeting up for dinner and meet them later. After dinner we strolled up the town but were very soon back again waiting for the promoters. They came very late, but would not come to terms under any conditions and I think they were just wasting time so as we would get nothing.

So the managers went to different members of the Java Association and the Burgermaster and arranged for the promoters to be there. At that meeting they admitted their liabilities but said they could not pay them, so it was then decided that the Java Association should control the gates and hand them over to us up to a certain sum. We were to take every penny till we got what the promoters should have given us. And, if there was a surplus, it was to go to the promoters. We all went to bed that night in a very discontented frame of mind.

22nd August

On Wednesday morning after breakfast we went to interview the promoters but we got no satisfaction whatever, they would not come to any terms at all. All they would say was that they would leave it to the boys, but they would not do as we suggested. They just said they had no money at all, so we just fell in with the Football Association and claimed the gates from the last two matches we had to play. We knew that they had money somewhere because they each had a car and servants and they all owned their own homes, and nice homes they wore too.

They only wanted to meet us to find out what we boys had to say regarding the money, for when we told them that we boys wanted every penny of it that we could get, they dropped us altogether. We returned for lunch and afterwards we were discussing the position among ourselves till it was time to go and play football.

So we went to play the Sourabaya Bond. It was a very poor game, far too one-sided to find any interest in any part of it. We won by five goals

to one and they scored just before the final whistle. We went home and after having a shower and dinner went to the Armenian Clab. There was only one of the promoters came to the club that night, and he hardly spoke to anyone. We spent a very quiet night and went home about twelve o'clock.

23rd August

We were up late next morning and I met a chap that was the captain of

- Chinese team. He gave me a souvenir and a picture of his team. He seemed
- decent sort of Chinaman and came and watched us play, and then came to the boat to see us off. We had packed all our clothes before lunch, except our football togs and we had them on. We sent the luggage away to the boat and then just loafed around till it was time to go and play.

We played a team called Thor and we only won by three goals to nil. We just took things easy this game and we hardly raised a sweat. After the game we went straight away to the wharf in our togs. We had to wait about an hour or more for the launch to take us to the New Zealand which was lying out in the stream. We had quite a few friends to see us off and wish us bon voyage.

The launch came and we said our good byes to the people who had come to see us off, and also to Java, and were then taken out to the boat. We had a bath and then a first class dinner. Afterwards we walked round the deck till we were tired and then went to bed and slept well.

24th August

On Friday morning we sang and played the pianola till lunch time. After lunch we held a meeting with the managers regarding the money we had in hand from the extra games. We had to leave everything in abeyance pending the game in Macassar. Then we had dinner and afterwards strolled the deck. As we strolled around I met a Newcastle jockey named Mahoney. I had a good long talk with him for he was not able to get about very well, having been smashed up in a race in Singapore. Seven horses had fallen on him and for several days his life was despaired of. The president of the Newcastle Jockey Club was with him, a Mr. Clayton.

25th August

We arrived in Macassar about half past seven Saturday morning. One of the Macassar officials, named Bleeker, came to the boat and met us, then took us into the town where we had refreshments. He then went with the managers to make some arrangements, and we left the hotel,

which was called Oranje, and walked through the town to the boat. After lunch we slept till three o'clock, then went to play the Macassar Eleven.

The game started off alright, but it got too much one-sided to be very interesting, and we won comfortably by four goals to nil. After the match they gave us a medal as a souvenir, and then we went back to the boat. The boat had pulled into the stream and we had to go out to it by launch. There was a good crowd at the wharf to see us off and wish us a good and safe journey home.

During the match we had two of our fellows hurt. Thompson, the left winger, sprained his ankle, and Deacon, the centre-forward, hurt his hip. We carried Thompson on board and Deacon had to be assisted, and we had to put Thompson to bed as he could not walk. The doctor came to look at his foot and gave us some stuff to put on it, and told us to keep him in bed and keep his foot propped up. We all enjoyed our dinner and strolled on the deck that night for it was nice and cool. I had a good talk with Mahoney before going to bed.

26th August

There were several Catholic Priests on board and they held a service early on Sunday morning. I was up late and had a lazy morning till lunch. After lunch we held a meeting to clear up our finance. The passengers held a sports meeting after dinner and formed a committee to arrange a sports programme. We strolled the deck and sat talking till very late.

27th August

On Monday morning we passed the island of Timor. At one time we were within two hundred yards of the shore and the depth of the water was over eight hundred fathoms, so we were told. It was a bright clear morning and we sailed along the coast till lunch time. After lunch we left the island behind us. I spent the rest of the afternoon rearranging my things. After dinner we strolled the deck for exercise and talked with the jockey, Mahoney. I went to my cabin early and after dressing my leg, which had been hurt at Macassar. I went to bed. I did not enter the deck sports, but just wanted to have a good rest all the way home, so read books from the ship's library.

28th August

On Tuesday morning I watched the deck games being played till lunch and read my book in my cabin till dinner time. Just after dinner we saw the New Holland pass on the way to Java. She is the sister ship to the Nieu Zealand. As they passed the passengers on both ships lined the rails and cheered while both boats blew their sirens. After the New Holland had passed on I sat talking with Mahoney till bed time. I used to like to talk with Mahoney, for he seemed so weak and could not join in anything like the others. He had been hurt badly about the legs, arms and head and could scarcely talk much. He seemed to be just remembering things again. His mind had been knocked blank through his fall and it was nice to be able to recall things about Newcastle to him and see him trying to place them until finally he could. It was also very pleasing to him for he used to like me to talk to him.

My life on board was running smoothly in the one groove. One day was so much similar to another. Up for breakfast, watch the deck sports being played off, have lunch, rest and read in the afternoon. Sometimes we would have a swim in the afternoon and again at night, but as we neared Australia the nights grew too cold, and when we rounded the Cape we abandoned the swimming bath altogether. After dinner we would stroll the deck for an hour or so, then play the pianola, or sit talking till bed time. I made good use of the ship's library while on board.

30th August

On Thursday I was up early to see Thursday Island, but there is not very much to see. There is a town on the island but we could not see it from the boat. The purser gave everyone a Customs Form to be filled in ready for when we landed. I spent the day in my cabin, as there was a strong southerly blowing, and filled in my form. One of the passengers tried to get up a concert and we thought we were in for some fun the following night.

31st August

After dinner we found that most of the boys were the only artists, so after giving a song or two the concert fell flat.

1st September

On Saturday one of our fellows won three finals and a second in the deck competitions. We very nearly won everything, both on the boat going to Java and the one coming home again. We had a fancy dress ball that night and two of our players dressed up as girls and another two as Natives from Java. One of the fellows dressed as a girl won first prize, and he looked well and deserved to win.

2nd September

The prizes for the deck competitions were given out on Sunday night at dinner and we had a nice evening afterwards, some of the passengers singing with the boys. They sang songs both old and new with comics and classics thrown in to liven up the place.

3rd September

On Monday morning early we arrived at Brisbane, but so slowly did we move up the river that it was ten o'clock before we were able to land, and we had to show our passports and see the doctor. Everyone on board passed through alright without any trouble.

All the team went for a day out in Brisbane. About four went with me and we went by train. Most of the others went by car and it cost them about four times as much as us. We went first of all into a restaurant and had a real good Aussie meal. Afterwards we went for a walk and we walked for miles I think. We bought some fruit and we caught the train back to the boat. We had dinner at seven o'clock just as the boat was pulling out from the warf. When we had finished we sat on the deck watching Brisbane fade away behind us. Most of us went to bed very early that night.

4th September

We were all up bright and early on Tuesday morning roaming around the ship, playing tennis and different deck games. After lunch I packed my bags ready for the morning and read some papers till dinner time. The Captain gave us dinner, and it was very nice too. He gave everyone a souvenir as a memento of the trip on the Nieu Zealand. After we had finished dinner we went on the deck and watched the dancing till it stopped and then we had a singsong amongst the boys. I think we were

just a bit too excited to go to bed so we sang and talked till early in the morning and finally dropped off to go to bed one by one.

5th September

I looked out to try and see Newcastle but I could not see it for I didn't know when to look, so I suppose I looked out too early.

We arrived at Sydney Heads about half past six on Wednesday morning, but it took hours before we were berthing at the wharf. We had to pass the doctor again and we were allowed to land about half past nine. Then we had to pass the Customs officials with our luggage and it was eleven o'clock before we were free again.

Aunty Zillah and Aunty Janet and Jean and Zillah were waiting for me on the wharf when I landed. So we all went to the station where I put my bags in till I wanted them again. Then we went to the Civic Reception taking Zillah with me. We were welcomed home to Australia and congratulated on the wonderful success we had during our tour through Java by Mr. Bruntnell, the Secretary of the Australian Soccer Association, and other different speakers. Our two managers replied and gave a brief report on abilities of the team and the characters, which I am pleased to say, was good. The captain of our team spoke a few words and I also had to say something.

We all got it over at last and we went to meet Aunty Zillah and Janet and cousin Jean, and then we went to see Aunty Zillah's place and to stay for the night. I had a quiet afternoon till after dinner time and then I sat up explaining and showing snaps to Aunty Zillah and Uncle Sam till just on twelve o'clock.

6th September

I was up late the next morning and spent a quiet time till after lunch. Then we went by bus to the station where I retrieved my bags and put them on the train. We said good bye to Aunty Zillah and off we came home.

We arrived here on Thursday September 6th, 1928. It all seemed to be like a wonderful dream.