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## Man-Eating Extraordinary.

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### Man-Eating Extraordinary.

MR. O. F. Stonor, of Kuala Kubu, writes to the Malay Mail as follows:—Those interested in Ulu Langat will have read, doubtless with some alarm, the startling suggestion, contained in your issue of July the 27th, that no less than nine man-eaters are at large in the vicinity of Kajang.

Poor, peaceful, sleepy, old Kajang! This is indeed a rude awakening.

But, with all due respect to your anonymous informant, I venture to think that the danger has been greatly exaggerated. That there is a man-eater in the district is, unfortunately, only too certain, but the supposition that each of the deaths that has occurred during the past nine or ten months has been caused by a different tiger is, to say the least, highly improbable.

Of your informant's reasons for such a conclusion only one is stated, viz., that man-eating tigers are unlikely to cover a large extent of country in their depredations.

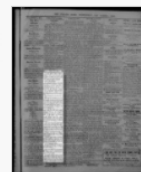
Such a supposition is hardly borne out by history.

Man-eaters are, fortunately, rare in this country; but the notorious Rawang man-eater of 1895 was known to cover a stretch of something like 14 miles along the main trunk road. Cases occurred in quick succession at points many miles apart. Yet the killing of a single tigress near Sungei Chul put a complete and final stop to the fatalities.

Nor was the Enggor man-eater of 1898 by any means particular in confining operations to a limited area.

It is generally supposed that a tiger, having once killed and eaten a human being, becomes a more-or-less confirmed man-eater. Yet, if your informant's supposition is correct, we are asked to believe that each of the nine alleged man-eaters of Ulu Langat has accounted for one victim and no more. It is, roughly speaking, about ten months since the first case of the series occurred,

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not far from Cheras; and we must therefore assume that each man-eater in succession has abandoned the experiment after his first kill!

All the recent cases in Ulu Langat have occurred, again roughly speaking, within a radius of about five miles from Kajang. This can scarcely be considered an extraordinarily wide beat for a tiger; and I am prepared to lay a modest wager that the destruction of a single authenticated man-eater will put an effectual stop to the whole business.

In the case of the Rawang man-eater the Government reward was, if I remember rightly, increased to \$100, and a further reward was offered by one or more of the leading Chinese.

A peculiar feature about the first few cases in Ulu Langat was that the tiger's first meal consisted, in each case, of the head and one foot of his victim, and not of the parts usually attacked; whether this peculiarity was noticeable in all or any of the later cases I am not aware.

Ruddings, the jockey, who was bitten by a mad dog at the same time as Holley, has now, we hear, gone to Saigon to undergo the Pasteur treatment.

At the First Police Court this morning a warrant of extradition was granted by Mr. Ebdon against a Chinaman named Yeow Shew who is wanted at Ipoh on a charge of alleged murder.

THE regular monthly meeting of Lodge "Royal Prince of Wales," No. 1555, E.C., will be held in the Freemasons' Hall this evening at 8.45 o'clock, when a farewell reception will be given to Wor. Bro. Boteler, I.P.M., who is leaving Penang at an early date. Any visiting brethren are cordially invited.

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