

# Forestry Alumni in British North Borneo

Marcelo Udarbe, '22, Tayug, Pangasinan, at present Jr. Assistant Conservator of Forests, Sandakan, North Borneo, on furlough for six months on full pay, arrived in the Philippines on March 6, 1951, and expects to return to duty on September 1. While in the Philippines, he plans to study lumber grading as practiced in the Bureau of Forestry. It is revealed from Mr. Udarbe that Mr. Jose Agama '41, of Orani, Bataan, is one of the three Assistant Conservators of Forests in Borneo, and the only Asiatic in that rank. Mr. Agama, however, is enjoying European privileges in travel and allotment.

As revealed by Mr. Udarbe, the present pension scheme in British North Borneo is a very liberal one. The pension quotient is 1/600th for every month of service completed. The basis for computation is the average pensionable yearly salary received actually during the last five years of service.

$$\text{Expressed algebraically, } P = \frac{M \times \$}{600}$$

which P represents yearly pension; M, the number of months served; \$, the average pensionable yearly salary received actually during the last five years of service.

As a rule, retirement is compulsory at the age of 55 years. The best age to join the service is at 25, so that by the time 55 years of age is reached, the employee shall have served 30 years, at which time pension will be more or less 1/2 of the last monthly salary. Services by a three year-contract, renewable thereafter, may be availed upon, depending upon the demand of the service and the health of the officer concerned. The pension scheme also allows the pensioner to reduce his pension by 25 per cent and get that amount multiplied by 120 months (10 years) in one

lump sum to start with. Mr. Udarbe contributes to the Pension Fund 5 per cent of his basic salary every month from the time he joined the service up to this time.

Mr. Udarbe also revealed that the following graduates of the College of Forestry are in the British Colony: eight, working in the Forest Department, Sandakan, Borneo, namely: Agama, J. '14; Melegrito, F. '23; Udarbe, M. '22; Fabia, M. P. '48; Nobleza, L. N. '35; Muñoz, M. '50; Corpuz, F. N. '50; Alabazo, J. C. '50, and five are in private companies, namely: Julio Sales '25, employed in the Borneo Abaca Co., Tawao, North Borneo; Apostol, L. '22 and Orolfo, P. '23, both employed in the North Borneo Trading Co. and Mr. Basilio Agullana '26; and Mr. Esteban, E. C. '48, employed by the British Borneo Timber Co., Sandakan, North Borneo. Mr. Alabazo is a recent arrival in Borneo from the Philippines.

Mr. Agustin Collado, from Cagayan province, after many years of service as chief clerk of the Forest Department, Sandakan, North Borneo, is now retired and running his own private land in Polatimbang Island, within Sandakan Bay, North Borneo.

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The one thing worse than a quitter is the man who is afraid to begin.

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The same wind snuffs candles yet kindles fires; so, where absence kills a little love, it fans a great one.

—Le Rochefoucauld

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My interest is in the future because I'm going to spend the rest of my life there.

—Charles Kettering

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Experience is not what happens to a man. It is what a man does with what happens to him.

—Aldous Huxley