

CHAPTER I

A STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE BREAK-UP OF RUBBER ESTATES IN THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA

Two of the most common forms of break-up are those where a planting company sells off part of its estate, and thus "breaks-up" on the total acreage of the holding. Another type of break-up is when a piece of land under one registered ownership is broken-up into a number of small pieces.¹ This type of break-up is often subsequent to the former. A series of break-ups of a big acreage into smaller and smaller lots is another variation.

Information received from Johore, Malacca, Negri Sembilan and Penang is complete on the subdivision of estates.² This allows a fair comparison of the three southern estates with that in the north. Similar tables for Pahang and Perak are incomplete,³ and, therefore, their figures are eliminated in discussions of comparison between the different states.

Figures for the break-up of the type where portions of estates are sold off, were obtained for the States of Johore, Malacca, Selangor and Penang.⁴ The problem of this kind was not encountered in Perlis, Pahang and Negri Sembilan. Subsequent subdivisions are also shown in these tables, except in the case of Selangor.

1. This form of break-up is hereafter referred to as subdivision to distinguish it from the former type.

2. Tables I a - d.

3. Tables I f - g. The reason for this is given in the Chapter on Scope and Method.

4. Tables V a - d.

Subdivision of individual estates cannot be recorded as having

taken place entirely within a particular year.¹ However, to achieve consistency in presentation, subdivision is shown, in all cases, to have obtained the approval of the Commissioner for Lands and Mines. On this method of grouping, many instances of subdivision have not been completed as yet. It would thus appear that in Penang no subdivision took place in 1958 and in the first quarter of 1959 - in effect, the process is going on, but has not been recorded in the Land Office.²

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