

**GOLDEN
GUIDE**

to
**South and East
Asia**

1961

BURMA

BURMA, of all the South East Asian countries, offers the tourist a unique holiday. In the past, years of rebellion and insurrection made her chary of encouraging tourists, with the responsibility that they would entail. Tourism is still, therefore, uncommercialised and you will find few of the "attractions" that other, more experienced, countries often arrange solely for the visitor's benefit.

You will find instead more personal service, and an interest in your wishes that should give you a closer glimpse of the real life of the country, as well as more than compensating for any shortcomings.

In a stay of one week, you can visit Rangoon, Mandalay and Kalaw (the Southern Shan State) and see the leg-rowers of Inle Lake, while still remaining within reach of the modern conveniences of life: though these will tend to be adequate, rather than luxurious.

For a longer stay, you should be prepared at times, if you travel to other towns, to do without modern toilet facilities and to find European food unobtainable. But you will often see country of unrivalled beauty and have a glimpse of many different peoples living in their traditional manner. Bare, clean, accommodation can be found in any town or village and

Chinese food is always available. The cost of a holiday undertaken in this way is extremely low, especially if you are prepared to travel by bus.

Buddhism is the religion of the majority of the peoples and, undoubtedly, one of the strongest memories you will have will be of the gilded spires of the pagodas against the rich blue sky. This and the peoples, many of whom still wear their traditional clothes and in themselves represent nearly all the races that have spread across South East Asia and travelled to the islands of Polynesia.

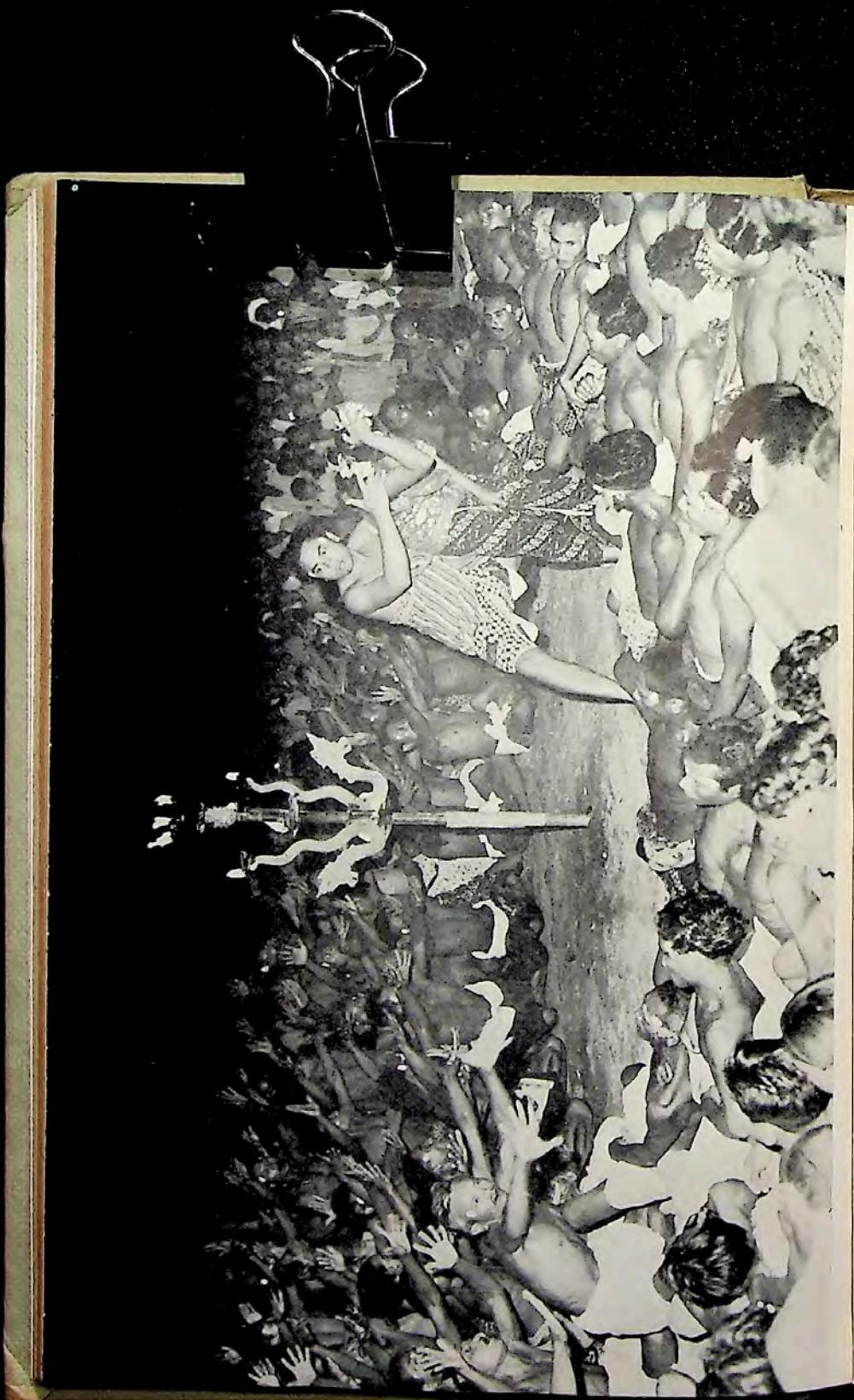
1. Entry

MOST tourists enter Burma by air at Rangoon (Mingaladon airport, 15 miles from downtown). There is also an air service from China, via Kunming, which lands first at Mandalay, where tourists may also enter the country.

A number of shipping lines call at Rangoon from Europe, India and places East. One of the most interesting routes is from Singapore and Penang calling at Mergui, Moulmein and then Rangoon. There are also scheduled passenger runs to and from Calcutta.

Entry over land frontiers has long been forbidden, but it is hoped that by January 1961 at least two routes may be open.





Special arrangements must be made through the Government Tourist Bureau and considerable (1 to 3 months') notice given.

From Siam: (A) Chiengmai, Tachilek (border), Mesai, Kengtung, then at least 4 days to Rangoon. (B) Mesod (border), Myawadi, Moulmein, Thaton, Sittang River crossing, Pegu, Rangoon.

From India: (A) Dibrugarh, Ledo (border), Pangsa Pass, Ledo Road (Stilwell Rd.) Myitkyina, Bhamo and through Shan State. (B) Jorhat, Kohima, Imphal (border), Tamu, Kalewa, Shwebo, Mandalay.

From China: Although overland trade with China may develop, it appears unlikely that China will open its frontier to overland tourists. Route: Kunming, Lungling, Wanting (border), Kyukok, Lashio, Mandalay.

Airline Offices in Rangoon
(Telephone in brackets)

Air France, 61 Lewis St. (10736).
BOAC, 622 Merchant St. (14922).
Czechoslovakia Airlines, C/o UBA.
Cathay Pacific, Sule Pagoda Rd.
AII, 533 Merchant St. (12410).
KLM, Sule Pagoda Rd.
PIA, 510 Merchant St. (10538).
PAA, 186 Phayre St.
SAS, 577 Merchant St. (15923).
Thai Airways, 186 Phayre St.
UBA, 104 Strand Rd. (14566). Ask for itinerary of visits to Pagan, Mandalay, Myitkyina and Inle Lake.

Shipping Line Offices in Rangoon
Bibby Line: Steel Bros., 622 Merchant St. (14100).

BISN: Mackinnon Mackenzie, 83/91 Bo Aung Gyaw St. (15441).
Burma Five Star Line: 34/42 Strand Rd. (10022).

East Asiatic: 577 Merchant St. (10735).

Hansa Line: Burmese Agencies, 245/249 Sule Pagoda Rd. (14422).

Henderson Line: as for Bibby Line.
Indo-China Steam Navigation: as for Bibby Line.

Mitsui Line: Let Ya & Co. Ltd., 49/53 Phayre St. (14298).

United Liner Agencies of Burma: Imperial Bank Building, 1/15 Sule

Ape Dance, Bali, Indonesia.

Burma

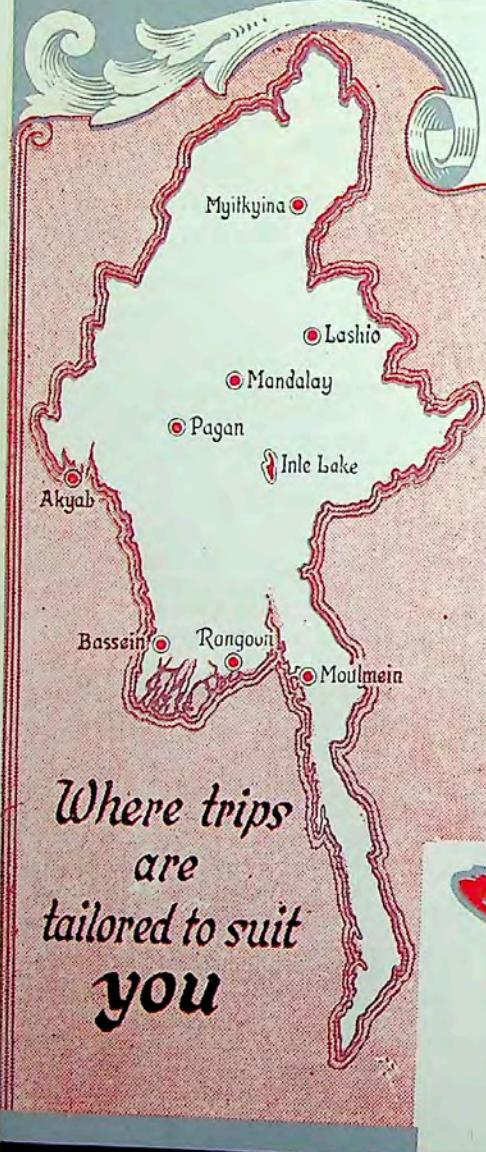
Pagoda Rd. (14636), Cable: ULINERS.

I. VISAS: until 1960 it was often a troublesome and laborious business getting a visa to enter Burma. The procedure has been considerably simplified. As a tourist you are entitled to a tourist visa and when applying make it quite clear that you are *not* asking for any other kind of visa. Tourist visas may be obtained at any Burmese Mission abroad (list below): if Burma is unrepresented, apply to a British Mission. A transit visa costs *Kyats* 5 (valid for 10 days), a Tourist visa Ks. 15 (valid for 3 months).

No visa is required if (a) you wish to stay less than 72 hours and (b) you have a confirmed onward booking: officially, the confirmed onward booking is not essential so long as the Union of Burma Airways or some responsible citizen



Gilding the prow of the Yaunghwe State Barge.



P. O. Box. 1543

LET US
BURMA

TOURS
by
ROAD
RAIL
RIVER
and
AIR

Tourist
LIMI
TED

RED CROSS BUILDING
RANGOON34. STRAND ROAD,
BURMA.

SHOW YOU

BURMA

GENUINE BURMESE
ARTS AND CRAFTS

*Silks, Silver, Bronze, Ivory, Wood,
Lacquer, Jewellery and Precious Stones*
from our Souvenir Shop

BURMA GIFT

BEST FOOD IN TOWN

WITH
Soft Light and Sweet Music
Relax at the Bar

THE ENVOY RESTAURANTCABLE:— ENVOY
PHONE: 13299

Dagon Pure Drinks



AERATED WATERS & CORDIALS

ORANGE SQUASH	LEMON SQUASH
PINEAPPLE	LIME JUICE
TONIC WATER	LEMONADE

ZEE

All made from pure Fruit Juices and pasteurized
Cane Sugar to B. F. Standards.

Special terms for Retailers, Hotels,
Clubs, Embassies, Restaurants Etc.,



Dagon Pure Drinks Ltd.

Tel. 30063

Cables: DAGONDINK
343/349 U. WISARA ROAD, RANGOON.

is willing to act as your guarantor. The Immigration Department has yet to be convinced that this regulation exists.

At present, if you arrive without a visa and are permitted to stay 72 hours, you *cannot* then apply for an extension, but must leave the country. It is hoped that this will soon change.

Departure after a short stay presents no difficulties, so long as you have your foreign exchange form. But if you leave after more than a month you must have a Departure Form (D form). This is easily obtained, but see that your travel agent has remembered to get it for you (he needs one full working day).

Burmese Missions Abroad
Missions have cable address "UNIBURMA".

Australia: "Industry House", National Circuit, Barton, Canberra, A. C. T.

Cambodia: 131, Rue Pasteur, Phnom-Penh.

Ceylon: 53, Rosmead Palace, Colombo—7.

China: 36, Tung Chiao Min Hsiang, Peking, or Consulate-General at Ta Tung Hsing Tsun, Kunming.

Denmark: Nyhaven 5, Copenhagen.

France: 60, Rue Ampere, Paris 17e.

Germany: Am Hofgarten 1-2, Bonn.

Hongkong: 705/706, Jardine House, 14-15 Pedder St.

India: 109/48, Diplomatic Enclave off Naya Marg, New Delhi, or Consulate-General at 12, Dalhousie Square, Calcutta, and Consulate at "Nalanda", 6 Rutland Gate (1st St.), Madras.

Indonesia: Djalan Hadgi Agus Salim, 55, Djakarta.

Ireland: 21, Molesworth St., Dublin.

Israel: 40, Gasgoftim St., Tel Aviv.

Japan: 22, Kitamachi Takanawa, Shiba, Minato-ku, Tokyo.

Malaya: Federal Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

Pakistan: 30-B, S.M.H. Society

Burma

Malir Naka, Karachi 3, or Consulate at 35/36, Jinnah Ave, Ramna, Dacca, and 67, Jamal Khan Rd., Chittagong.

Singapore: 15, St. Martin's Drive, off Tanglin Rd., Singapore 10.

Thailand: 132, Sathorn Rd., Bangkok, and Consulate-General at 320, Phra Poklao Rd., P.O. Box 620, Chiengmai.

U.S.S.R.: Ulitsa Gertsena, 41, Moscow.

U.A.R.: 24, Rue Mohamed Mazhar, Zamalek, Cairo.

U.K.: 19A, Charles St., Berkeley Sq., London W.I.

U.S.A.: 2300, S. St. N.W. Washington, D.C. or Consulate-General at 888 Madison Avenue, New York and at San Francisco.

Yugoslavia: Keneza Miloza 72, Belgrade.

Foreign Missions in Burma
E=Embassy. L=Legation. C=Consulate.

Australia (E): 88 Strand Rd., Corner of Strand Rd. & Lewis St., Telephone 15711.

Belgium (C): 622 Merchant St., Telephone 12284.

Cambodia (L): 65 Windsor Road, Telephone 31955.

Ceylon (L): 34 Fraser St., Telephone 12066.

China (E): 1 Pyidaungsu Rd., Telephone 12087, and also a Consulate-General at Lashio.

Czechoslovakia (L): 326 Prome Rd., Telephone 30515.

Denmark (C): 577 Merchant St., Telephone 10999.

Finland (C): 44 Phayre St., Telephone 14711.

France (L): 102 Halpin Rd.

Germany (West) (L): 32, Park Rd., Telephone 12477.

Germany (East) (C):

India (E): 545/547 Merchant St., Telephone 15933 and also a Consulate at Mandalay, Telephone 69.

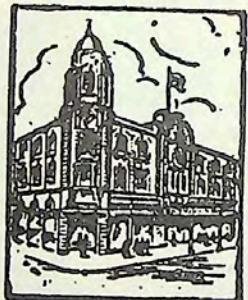
Indonesia (E): 90 Rosebank Rd., Telephone 12089.

Israel (E): 97 36th St., Telephone 14188.

Italy (L): 343 Prome Rd., Telephone 30478.

Japan (E): 39 Golden Valley, Telephone 30688.

ROWE & Co. Ltd.



The Leading

DEPARTMENTAL STORE IN BURMA

Established 1866

416 MAHABANDOOLA STREET,
RANGOON.

Nepal (C): 104 Sanchaung St.,
Telephone 30432.

Netherlands (L): 97 University
Avenue, Telephone 30655.

Norway (C): 622 Merchant St.,
Telephone 14100.

Pakistan (E): 88 Phayre St., Tele-
phone 14788 and also Vice-Consulate
at Akyab.

Philippines (L): 34 Cheap Road,
Telephone 15850.

Poland (E): 36 Golden Valley,
Telephone 30564.

Portugal (C): 465/469 Maha
Bandoola St., Telephone 15722.

Rumania (L): 7 Mission Rd., Tele-
phone 15891.

Spain (C): 550/552 Merchant St.,
Telephone 14177.

Sweden (C): 15 Sule Pagoda Rd.,
Telephone 14888.

Switzerland (C): 198 Strand Rd.,
Telephone 12768.

Thailand (E): 91 Prome Rd.,
Telephone 12471, also Consulate at
Kengtung.

U.S.S.R. (E): 52 Prome Rd., Tele-
phone 12427.

U.A.R. (E): 129 Boundary Rd.,
Telephone 31068.

U.K. (E): 80 Strand Rd., Tele-
phone 15700, also BIS at Mandalay,
Telephone 406.

U.S.A. (E): 581 Merchant St.,
Telephone 11755, also Consulate at
Mandalay, Telephone 555.

Vietnam (North) (C): 97 Boundary
Rd., Telephone 30509.

Vietnam (South) (C): 111 Leeds
Rd., Telephone 15401.

Yugoslavia (E): 39 Windsor Rd.,
Telephone 30127.

II. HEALTH: usual international requirements.

III. MONEY: the Burmese
Kyat (which is also divided into 100
Pyas) is officially valued at Ks. 13.33
to £1 sterling and Ks. 4.75 to
US\$1: i.e. Ks. 1 = 1s. 6d. sterling
or 21¢ US. On the open market
the *Kyat* is (under)-valued at Ks. 26
to 35 to the £1, or Ks. 10 to 15 to
the US\$, depending on place and
time.

The tourist should note that he is
only allowed to bring Ks. 100 in
Burmese currency into the country,
and is strongly recommended not to
be caught contravening the currency
regulations, either by bringing in
more *Kyats*, or by exchanging
foreign currency with unauthorized
dealers.

When you arrive you will be
asked to declare your foreign ex-
change (cash, cheques, drafts etc.)
and the amount of *Kyats* you have
(Ks. 100 maximum per person).
This information will be entered on
a special form. This form must be
produced whenever you cash
cheques etc. at authorised foreign
exchange dealers. It will then be
endorsed. The form must be hand-
ed into Customs as you leave—
don't lose it! 25% of foreign
currency exchanged can be recon-
verted on departure.

A hair-cut costs a man between
Ks. 1 and 1.50, with tip 25
to 50 *Pyas*. As a general rule
any price that has been
arrived at by bargaining includes
the tip (taxis, for example) and
nothing more need be given except
as a sincere token of good service.
In hotels: although a service charge
is added, a *Kyat* to servants whom
one has never seen before, but who
miraculously appear on your
leaving, can be given—and 2 to 5
Kyats (depending on length of stay)
to the room boy.

Circuit Houses: for one night,
about Ks. 3 to the butler and odd
Kyats to anyone else. If things get
out of hand, give the butler between
Ks. 5 and 10 (depending entirely

TOURISTS**When visiting BURMA****THE LAND OF THE GOLDEN PAGODAS***please do not fail to look in at***"THE RUBY HOUSE"**

Nos. 112-113, West Wing, Main Building,
Bogyoke Market, Rangoon, Phone 15319,

**where you will find displayed a
wide variety of World famous**

MOGOK PRECIOUS STONES**such as**

**RUBIES, SAPPHIRES, STAR RUBIES, STAR SAPPHIRES,
MOGOK SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES AND JADES**

and also

pure Burmese hand woven Silks, Shan Bags,

and

Pure Burmese Silverware.

on service) and firmly tell him to share it out. This is quite acceptable and you need not leave in haste. General rule: less occasions require tips than in the States or Europe and 25 Pyas goes quite a long way—but not always.

IV. CUSTOMS: duty free allowances include 50 cigarettes, 2 oz. tobacco, one bottle of alcohol, one bottle of perfume, one still camera and two rolls of film, one movie camera and one roll of film. There are, at present, no restrictions on the export by tourists of articles of *genuine* tourist interest.

V. THE MOTORIST: entry by land frontier is at present forbidden, but enquiries should be made to the Government Tourist Bureau. Entry by sea (or air) with your car is as simple as most countries, so long as you have the standard *Carnet*, and other international documents, issued by motoring associations.

The Automobile Association has an office at Mayo Marine Club Building, 55-61 Strand Rd., Rangoon. Motorists are strongly advised to get in touch with the AA before arriving to obtain latest information on regulations and conditions.

Petrol costs Ks. 2.20 a gallon in Rangoon but prices vary up-country depending on distance from refineries. No rationing. At present, no concession prices for tourists. The Burmah Oil Co. have published an invaluable guide, *The Motor Roads of Burma*, price Ks. 1, which, though a little out of date (last edition 1948), marks all petrol pumps, gives distances and road conditions and can quickly be

brought up to date by local inquiries.

Spare Parts are in exceptionally short supply: bring the more likely needs with you. Tyres are exceptionally difficult to obtain and very expensive.

to go

ALL BUDDHIST pagodas and monasteries are sacred, and on seeing the ambiguously worded notice "Footwearing Prohibited", you should either remove your shoes and socks (the wearing of over-shoes, as in some mosques, is not acceptable) or else relinquish your intention of paying a visit. The prohibition technically includes the whole enclosure and particular care should be taken not to give offence or embarrassment.

Having paid this respect, you may note that sanctimoniousness has no place in Buddhism: you may take photographs, rest, converse and even, perhaps, contemplate in the coolness of the pagoda, as well as feel free to smoke and take soft drinks. If at times the artistic beauty of a pagoda falls short of expectation, the calm and serenity of its hall will more than make up for the heat and dust encountered on the way.

Some areas in Burma are still insecure. Before making long journeys into the countryside, inquiries should be made from your hotel manager or travel agent.

Most hotels include a 10% service charge and there is, at present, a

U B A

WELCOME TO BURMA LAND OF PAGODAS AND PALMS

FLY BY UBA

THE MOST POPULAR AIRLINE IN SOUTH EAST ASIA
UBA HAS INTERLINE AGREEMENT WITH MOST OF THE
AIRLINES OF THE WORLD AND ITS VISCOUNT SERVICES
OFFER ECONOMICAL FARES BETWEEN BANGKOK AND
CALCUTTA VIA RANGOON WHICH IS GATE WAY TO
WEST AND FAR EAST.

SEE BURMA WITH UBA DC 3 DOMESTIC SERVICES TO ALL PLACES OF TOURISTS' PARADISE IN BURMA

CONTACT:—

BURMA — UNION OF BURMA AIRWAYS BOARD,
104, STRAND ROAD, Rangoon.
Phone:—14457, 14566, 14804.

BANGKOK — UNION OF BURMA AIRWAYS BOARD,
135/18 SURIWONGSE ROAD,
Bangkok, Thailand
Phone:—35052.

CALCUTTA — UNION OF BURMA AIRWAYS BOARD,
8/2 ESPLANADE EAST
Calcutta, India.
Phone:—23-1624.

10% hotel and restaurant tax on accommodation, food and drinks. These additional, and obligatory, charges should therefore be added to the prices given below. The Government is considering exempting the tourist from the 10% tax.

Burma residents drink, without hesitation, all the bottled drinks by well-known manufacturers (certainly those advertised in this section) as well as Chinese tea (wash out the cup first with hot tea) from small wayside cafés.

Beyond the few major cities and towns, flush lavatories are the exception, although the situation is improving. Lavatories without flush are usually designated below as "simple". Always carry lavatory paper with you on journeys.

This is the first year of planned tourism in Burma: we are therefore giving here what may prove to be a *pessimistic* picture of conditions.

Travel Agents in Rangoon
Airways Agencies, 549 Merchant St. (15218/10440), Cable AIRGENTS.

Asian Express Co., 510 Merchant St. (10538), Cable AERIEL.

Burma Tours & Travel Agency Ltd., 119 A Sule Pagoda Rd. (15982), Cable BURTOTA.

Mandalay Tours & Travel Service, Strand Hotel (11459), Cable MANTOURS or VIPTRAVEL.

Olympic Tours, 157 Bo Aung Gyaw St. (10323), Cable ADONIS.

Rangoon Overseas Travel Agencies Ltd., 548 Merchant St. (10913).

The International Tourist & Trading Co. Ltd., 596 Strand Rd. (12234), Cable VOYAGE.

Tourist (Burma) Ltd., 34 Strand Rd., also runs Burma Gift and the Envoy Restaurant (13299), Cable ENVOY.

U Tharrawaddy Maung Maung Agencies Ltd., 636 Merchant St. (12804), Cable BELAIR.

Rangoon has been the capital of Burma since 1885 and has an

estimated population of 800,000. It lies along the Rangoon River, 21 miles from the sea. In the latter half of the 19th century, it developed into one of the largest Asian seaports, but suffered very considerable damage during World War Two.

The main shops, cinemas and business houses are within a comparatively small area bounded by the river (Strand Road) to the South and West; the main railway line to the North; and Pazundaung Creek to the East. This part of the city was laid out in the 19th century on a grid pattern. From here the industrial area stretches along the river as far as Insein, to the North.

The city is dominated by the Shwe Dagon Pagoda, one of the most sacred shrines in Asia, believed to contain relics of Gautama Buddha and of the three Buddhas preceding him. The Shwe Dagon may be reached by taxi (Ks. 2 to 3) or by bus (30 Pyas) from Strand Rd. The best time to visit the pagoda is in the early morning from 6.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. or in the late afternoon from 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. — especially in the hot season, since the platform affords no protection from the sun.

A lift has been built at the East Entrance; this is a pleasant way to reach the platform of the pagoda, a wide expanse surrounding the main pagoda, and itself surrounded by smaller shrines. There is a fine view of the city from the top of the lift. From the platform four covered stairways, lined with shops selling religious and secular objects, lead down from the hill.

"HOTEL KALAW"

The best summer resort in the Union of Burma.

The Ideal Hotel situated 4297 ft. above sea level in the midst of beautiful pine forests.

Comfortable and quiet rooms with Hot and Cold baths and modern sanitation. Excellent Cuisine.

Tennis Court in Hotel premises and also there is Golf Club nearby.

Excursions to Pindaya Cave, Inle Lake, Taunggyi, etc. can be arranged.



The Pagoda stands on Singattura Hill, the last hill of the Pegu range. The base of the pagoda has a circumference of 1,420 feet and the *stupa* rises 320 feet above the platform. It is entirely covered with gold leaf up to the Plantain Bud. The Bud, from 1900, has been sheathed in gold plates measuring 1 foot square. There are 8,688 plates each worth over £100 at today's prices. At the very top of the Bud, on the Vane and Hti (umbrella), are some 5,448 diamonds and over 2,000 other precious and semi-precious stones.

There are far too many objects of interest in and around the pagoda to mention and a guide-book (from all tourist agencies) is essential. Of particular note is the large bell in the N.W. corner which was carried off by the British as a trophy of war but fell into the Rangoon River while being loaded on to the ship. It resisted all attempts to raise it—and, on the request of the Pagoda Trustees, was given back to the Burmese providing they could raise it. It was raised, by the simple, but effective, method of diving and tying bamboos to it until it floated!

Scott O'Connor in *The Silken East* writes of the Shwe Dagon:

"It can be compared only with the great shrines of the earth. And if in many obvious aspects they surpass it, in one it surpasses them all; for everyone of them, with all its beauty, is covered in some form of roof, whereas in the Shwe-dagon there is architecture which has learnt how to make of its

dome a dazzling firmament . . . the blue sky and the stars by night are the vaulted roof."

The Sule Pagoda, in the centre of the city, contains a representation of the Sule *Nat*, the legendary guardian spirit of the Shwe Dagon Hill. The Botataung Pagoda, Strand Road, contains a small museum of more interest to the initiate than to the casual observer.

A morning or afternoon's drive may be spent in a visit to the Kaba Aye (World Peace) Pagoda, built under the inspiration of Prime Minister U Nu, as the venue for the 6th Buddhist Synod. The Kaba Aye Pagoda lies about 7 miles from the city centre along Kokine Road. On the way lies the Kambawza Palace, once the residence of a well-known Chinese family. The Kambawza is built in Chinese style and after a number of vicissitudes is now an Annex to the Strand Hotel.

At the Kaba Aye your eye is first caught by the Great Cave in which the deliberations over the definitive text of the *Tripiṭaka* (the Three Baskets—the Buddhist equivalent of the Christian Bible) were held.

You will, however, regret that the Kaba Aye displays little of traditional Burmese craftsmanship or beauty. A building in a mixture of modern and Burmese styles has recently been completed and will house a Buddhist Library that is to be of international interest.

On leaving the Kaba Aye, you should return by Prome Road to see Inya Lake, one of the two most beautiful lakes to be seen

The IDEAL TRADING HOUSE *Limited*

608 Merchant Street
Rangoon

Phone: 10248, 11200.
Cable: IDYLHOM

P.O. Box 1304.

Serves you in many ways:-

IDEAL NURSING HOME — with its facilities for in-patient (Maternity, Surgical and Medical) and out-patient treatment, Laboratory under fully trained staff and with fully equipped operating theatre.

IDEAL DRUG HOUSE — retail sales of all kinds of medicines, including BPI, and imported tinned provisions, toilet requisites and surgical and scientific goods.

IDEAL TRADING HOUSE — with the following agencies:-

MEDICAL

- (a) Pfizer (1849) — Science for World's well-being — with Antibiotics, Vitamins, Hormones and Specialities.
- (b) Searle (1888) — with many research products, including the new products, Enavid, Nilevar, Mornidine and Aldactone.
- (c) Latema — with their specialties, including Sulfarlem and Sulfarlem Choline.
- (d) Aspro Nicholas — with their specialties, including Megimide, Daptazole, Amapax, Menopax, Eneril etc.
- (e) Boehringer (1885) — with their fine products, Aleudrin tablets and solution, Preludin, Buscopan and Dulcolax.
- (f) Delagrange — with their specialties Crena, Sedo-Carena, Sibevit, Dodaneurine, Dodethionine.
- (g) B. P. I. — full range.

SURGICAL

- (1) Ethicon — with their finest surgical sutures.
- (2) Reichert — with their Precision Microscopes.
- (3) Down Brothers — Surgical Instruments & Appliances.
- (4) Becton Dickenson — Original B-D Syringes, Needles and Stethoscopes, parts and accessories.
- (5) Don Baxters — Intravenous Plastic Sets. etc.
- (6) William Warne — Hospital Rubber Goods.
- (7) Gowlands — Diagnostic Sets.
- (8) Perry — Rubber Gloves.
- (9) Divilibiss — Automizers and Nebulizers.
- (10) Maico — Hearing Aids.
- (11) Pyrex — Laboratory & Scientific Glasswares.
- and other medicines, and surgical goods and appliances.

in Rangoon. You will also pass Rangoon University and should ask the driver to take you to the University grounds.

Some two or three miles after the University you will pass close to the President's House and may, if you wish, sign the book and request permission to see King Thibaw's (1878-85) Throne. You are advised, however, to ask your tourist agent to inform the President's staff so that you will be expected and given a convenient time at which to pay your call.

One mile from the Strand Rd. is Bogyoke Market, named after General Aung San, the architect of Burmese independence. It is well worth a visit for its display of Burmese silk, precious stones, silver, lacquerware and wood carvings, as well as other goods of local manufacture.

On the open space opposite Bogyoke market will be found the Night Bazaar (5 p.m. until after midnight). It is one of the delights of Rangoon with its many stalls selling the cheaper local and imported goods, and its numerous eating places selling Burmese, Chinese and Indian foods. If you worry about germs, choose a whole roast chicken and prevent its being chopped up.

A Museum is at Jubilee Hall (about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from Bogyoke Market), but it is not to be recommended to the casual sightseer, since the display of exhibits suffers from their being only temporarily housed in the Hall: and, as their arrangement is haphazard and their descriptive labels frequently in Burmese only, a visit is more

frustrating than pleasurable. Any one who has a deeper interest, however, may make arrangements through the Government Tourist Bureau and may be assured of personal guidance around the Museum by one of the staff.

There is a School of Classical Dancing: a visit may be arranged through the Government Tourist Bureau.

Htaukkyan (21 miles) is the largest of the Second World War Cemeteries in Burma. It holds the graves of some 27,000 British Commonwealth and Allied Soldiers and is beautifully maintained.

At present only the Strand and, on a smaller scale, the Tourist Tavern offer full tourist facilities. Other cheaper hotels include the Railway, Orient and Green. A large new hotel has now been completed six miles from the city centre, beautifully situated by the Inya Lake. The President, an airconditioned cinema, is also said to be opening a hotel.

STRAND HOTEL (Strand Road, Telephone 11533, Cables STRAND DHO). 101 rooms and 3 suites at single Ks. 30 to 35, airconditioned Ks. 40 to 45; double Ks. 45 to 55, airconditioned Ks. 60 to 75; suites airconditioned Ks. 85 single, Ks. 100 double—prices include breakfast. European, Chinese, Burmese and Indian cuisine, tourist shop, excursions arranged, guides, money changed.

KAMBAWZA PALACE (inquire at Strand Hotel).

Tourist TAVERN (37 Golden Valley, Telephone 30616, Cables TAVERN). 23 rooms at single Ks. 25 to 30, airconditioned Ks. 35; double airconditioned Ks. 45 to 50—prices include breakfast. European cuisine (Chinese to order), sailing and swimming.

RAILWAY HOTEL (Burma Railway Station, Telephone 13899, Cables RAILHOTEL). Single Ks. 25, double Ks. 45 including breakfast. Dining room and bar, Burmese,

AVA BANK LIMITED

(Incorporated In Burma)

526-528, Merchant Street, Rangoon

ALL BANKING TRANSACTIONS IN BURMA & ABROAD

Telephones:

Cables:
AVABANK RANGOON

15279
10024
11971
11826
14099

It costs no more

- Calcutta
- ★ RANGOON
- Bangkok

to see the LAND of the GOLDEN PAGODA
on the world's major airline routes

Strand Hotel, Rangoon
most rooms airconditioned
known for its fine service

Chinese, European, Muslim cuisine, min. Ks. 5. Tours etc. arranged, money changed.

ORIENT HOTEL (256-60 Sule Pagoda Road, Telephone 11140, Cables CAFETARIA). 14 rooms at single Ks. 12, double Ks. 24—no breakfast. Some rooms to be air-conditioned. Restaurant on ground floor, European & Indian cuisine.

INYA GARDEN. No details provided by management, but rooms said to be airconditioned. Also a night club.

YMCA (326 Maha Bandoola St., Telephone 12110, Cables BURMAY). Largely residential, advance booking recommended, Ks. 7.50 per night, Ks. 40 to 75 per month.

YWCA (119 Brooking St., Telephone 12108, Cables MAIDEN). Single with bath Ks. 10, double Ks. 6—special monthly terms from Secretary.

Rangoon restaurants include: **AYE NANDA** (plain European & Chinese food, airconditioned, ground floor of the Green Hotel), **CONTINENTAL** (corner Sule Pagoda Rd. and Bogyoke St., opposite railway bridge, Telephone 13408, European set lunch Ks. 5.50, no choice, but excellent value, tea and coffee all day, closed evenings, no alcohol), **ENVOY** (Red Cross Bldg., Strand Rd., Telephone 13299, entirely air-conditioned, Italian Chef, lunch, teas, dinners, bar, music), **NANTHIDA** (run by, and opposite, Strand Hotel, snacks, milk shakes, beers & liqueurs, Moderate prices, overlooking Rangoon River), **STRAND HOTEL** (dining room open to non-residents, minimum charge Ks. 5, average Ks. 10).

Chinese Restaurants: the **KWAN LOCK**, 67 22nd St. (Telephone 14996) and the **NEW OI HKUN**, 75 Latha St., Telephone 13618, specialise in elaborate meals to 24 hr. order (suckling pig, bird's nest soup, etc.) and waitresses who will feed customers with choicest morsels and wipe fevered brows. For a good casual meal, try the **HAI YUAN** (University Avenue), **BANKOK**, **NAM SIN**, both 8th mile, Prome Rd. The **SHANGHAI** (Latha St.) is also recommended to the connoisseur and will

prepare specialities given notice.

For really good cooking, Chinese restaurants prefer their clients to arrive by 7.30: they tend to close by 10.30. For a late meal (Chinese or Indian) in Bohemian surroundings, try the night bazaar.

Night Clubs: sophisticated night life is not to be found in Rangoon. There are a number of places that appear to cater more for the merchant navy, e.g. The Happy Voice and The Lido Dancing Academy, on 40th St. The Inya Gardens (respectable, no hostesses) by Inya Lake and the Mayfair (hostesses and local cabarets) offer dancing out of doors during the dry season.

Bassein is some 35 minutes from Rangoon by air (dep. 07.15 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays) and by river launch. It is one of the major ports of Burma, although 75 miles from the sea. The Inland Water Transport Board (IWT) runs a daily service leaving Rangoon at 7.00 p.m. through the Twante Canal and the many branches of the Irrawaddy, arriving Bassein at 1.00 p.m. on the next day. There are 3 modern diesel vessels and one, less comfortable, steam vessel. The diesels have 6 double cabins first class, single fare Ks. 38.60, plus Ks. 3 reservation. Food extra, simple European food if specially arranged with the cook. Lavatories flush, but choose the one nearest the Commander's cabin.

There is not a great deal to be seen in Bassein and the tourist with little time in Burma might fly in by the morning's plane, view the town and leave by the mid-day boat arriving back in Rangoon at 5.30 a.m. (passengers may sleep as long as they like after arrival, though disembarkation noises are not slight). The

RANGOON OVERSEAS TRAVEL AGENCIES LTD.

(R. O. T. A. L.)

ACCREDITED IATA AGENT

**MODERN TRAVEL IS MOST PLEASANT & EXCITING !!
BUT COMPLICATED —**

**LET US HELP YOU MAKE ALL ARRANGEMENTS
AND SOLVE YOUR TRAVEL PROBLEMS
AT NO EXTRA COST.**

**CALL AT
548, Merchant Street,
Rangoon.**

PHONE 10913.

Cable address: "ROTAGENCY" P.O. BOX 1502.

ANY ONE VISITING BURMA

JAMIE MAUNG MAUNG LWIN'S

(P.A.T.A. News Correspondent & World Wide Tour Specialist)

OLYMPIC TOURS

**ASSURE YOU OF A REALLY
ENJOYABLE TIME**

**YOU SEE EVERYTHING WORTH
SEEING WITHOUT WORRIES.**

OLYMPIC TOURS

157, Bo Aung Gyaw Street,
Rangoon, Burma. Cable Address: "ADONIS RANGOON"

boat trip gives an exceptionally fine view of the Delta and the people who live there.

Tourists are not recommended to travel to Moulmein by train, as conditions at the time of writing are insecure, but an interesting day's trip may be made on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday by leaving on the early plane and returning from Moulmein at about 3.00 in the afternoon on the plane that comes from Tavoy.

There are a number of particularly interesting pagodas, and elephants may be seen at work in the timber yards. A guide should be arranged from Rangoon.

Some 40 miles south of Moulmein lies Thanbyuzayat where there is a cemetery for British Commonwealth and Allied Soldiers still in the course of construction. The headstones tell a pathetic story of the number of young men who fell victims to the building of the "Death Railway".

Pegu (50 miles) may be visited by road or rail and will provide interest for a day's visit. It is best to leave Rangoon about 7.00 in the morning, so as to avoid the heat of the day, and return to Rangoon by about 5.00 in the evening.

By train, this will mean:

3 UP		↑ 32 Dn. 4 Dn.	
06.40	Rangoon	Mixed Express	
08.13 ↓ Pegu		16.40 19.40	
		14.40 18.11	

By car the journey takes about 2 hours.

Pegu is said to have been founded in A.D. 573 and was at one time capital of the Talaing

kingdom. It was the major seaport of Burma, and many 16th and 17th century travellers commented on its magnificence and size. The town was destroyed by one Burmese King (Alaungpaya, in 1757), and rebuilt by a successor (King Bodawpaya, 1782-1819). However, with the changing of the river course, Pegu has never regained its former greatness.

Shwemawdaw (Great Golden God) Pagoda lies east of the railway station. It is said to contain two of the Buddha's hairs and so is among the most venerated shrines in the country. It appears to be almost as large and as high as the Shwe Dagon (320 ft. high) but in fact rises only 288 ft. above its platform. The pagoda was almost completely destroyed by an earthquake in March, 1930, but was rebuilt at the beginning of the 1950's. Murals along the main entrance steps depict the destruction and the stages of reconstruction.

The Shwehinthagone, behind the Shwemawdaw, has a high roofed platform over the remains of a pagoda (no shoes) and offers a good view and ideal spot for picnic lunch. Shwethalyaung, the Reclining Buddha, 181ft. long and 46ft. at the shoulder, lies 1 mile west of the railway station (by taxi, maximum return fare Ks. 5). The Reclining Buddha was forgotten after the 1757 destruction and only discovered by chance, completely over-grown, by a railway contractor; it is now fully restored.

Nearby, the Kalyanisima (Hall of Ordination), built in 1476 by the Talaing King, Dhammadheti, con-

BURMA
off the beaten track
The latest discovery
of the Orient



**Tourist Information
Airways Agencies**
Members:—WATA, ASTA, PATA, TOTAL.
549, Merchant Street
Rangoon. Cables: "Aigrents"

**VISITORS FROM
ABROAD**

Rangoon's Most
Beautiful Hotel

**TOURISTS'
TAVERN**

*Rooms with or without
Air-conditioning await you*

*Clean, Airy, Modern,
Conveniently located in the
heart of beautiful
Golden Valley.*

Address: 37, Golden Valley, Phone: 30616
Rangoon.

tains 10 large tablets with Pali and Talaing inscriptions. Kyaikpun, 2 miles down Rangoon Rd., contains four 90ft. high Buddha figures seated back to back.

You can stay at the Pegu Circuit House, on the Mandalay side of town, north of the road, take the left turning (coming from Rgn.) at IBP petrol pump. Bedclothes and net provided, fans, clean and simple.

Rangoon to Mandalay: there are daily flights (advance booking normally required), and fast trains as listed below, with restaurant cars and sleepers (night trains). No alcoholic drinks are served on trains. Train fares: Upper Class Ks. 48.70, berth Ks. 12, reservation Ks. 2, Ordinary Class Ks. 17.50.

Daily Service

11.00	15.00	20.30	↓	Rangoon	↑	08.30	06.00
20.30	06.00	12.45		Mandalay		11.00	14.00

By road: leave by Mingaladon (15 miles); after Htaukkyan (21 miles) take right fork (clearly sign-posted)—left fork goes to Prome; Pegu (50 miles)—a pleasant way to avoid heavy early morning traffic is to leave Rangoon at lunch-time, view Pegu in the afternoon and sleep at Circuit House); Nyaunglebin (98 miles) take the left (dog's leg) before the railway line (*not* clearly sign-posted) otherwise you will find yourself lost in the Pegu Yomas; Pyu (142 miles); Toungoo (175 miles); Pyinmana (244 miles)—Circuit House not recommended); Yamethin (299 miles)—a pleasant Bungalow to Siesta in about 1 mile left of the road facing the railway

line); Pyawbwe (312 miles); Meiktila (338 miles) just before town, in sight of the lake, a sign-posted right fork leads to Kalaw; Meiktila Circuit House on the lake side, from Rangoon keep left at BOC pump, eventually cross bridge and take immediate first left, then second right, Circuit House on right, if full, there is a Highway Dept. Bungalow nearby; Kyaukse (402 miles), Mandalay (430 miles).

Mandalay (altitude 248 ft.) is one of the best known cities by name in the world, yet it is only a hundred years old. Its construction was started on the orders of King Mindon in 1857 and he moved his government there in 1860. It remained the capital of Burma until 1886. It has a population of 180,000 and covers 25 square miles. It has a very low rainfall of 30 ins. a year and is exceptionally hot, dry and dusty during the summer months.

Railway Hotel: Single Ks. 30, double Ks. 45 (2 beds in single room), all have shower and flush lavatory and some are air-conditioned; food Ks. 25 per day, trains from 4.00 a.m.

Tun Hla Hotel: not far from South Moat Rd. Single Ks. 15, double Ks. 30, flush lavatories, no air conditioning, no trains, food simple and good, has a very good reputation among Burma residents.

Circuit House by S. E. corner of Moat, up to standard.

Travel in Mandalay by taxi, 3-wheeler or pony-cart.

Mandalay Hill (774 ft.) rises abruptly and alone out of the plains to the northeast of the Old Palace. Nearby is Kyauk Tawgyi, built by King Mindon (after the Ananda Pagoda, Pagan). The

You will be proud of
your linen, suits and dresses

cleaned by—

RANGOON LAUNDRY SERVICE

(The Laundry that takes care of your clothes & health)

34 Signal Pagoda Road, Phone 15697.
Rangoon.

"LOTUS" AND "WUNDAPRIN"
TRADE MARKS ARE WELLKNOWN

for their quality prints
WUNDA TEXTILE DYEING & PRINTING WORKS,
34 Signal Pagoda Road,
Rangoon. Phone 15697.



Gems Direct From The Mines

BURMA GEM HOUSE

EXPORTERS OF: BURMESE GEMS, CURIOS,
ARTS & HANDICRAFTS.

132, SULE PAGODA ROAD,
RANGOON.

Telephone: AUTO, 10179
Telegram: GEMHOUSE



E. M. de SOUZA & CO., LTD.

465-469 Maha Bandoola Street, Rangoon.



Wholesale, Retail and Manufacturing Chemists

Established 1878 — A 100% Burmese Public Company —
Agents for Leading Suppliers.

Buddha figure was carved from a single block of Sagyin marble, and it is said to have taken 10,000 men 13 days to move it from the canal to the pagoda site. The 90 figures around the pagoda represent disciples of the Buddha.

Sandamani Pagoda, east of the hill, marks the site of the graves of the Crown Prince and members of the Royal Family executed in 1866 after an attempt had been made on King Mindon's life.

Kuthodaw (Royal Bounty) Pagoda, also known as the Maha Lawka Marazein Pagoda (after Shwezigon at Pagan) was built by King Mindon in 1857. It is here that the 729 white marble tablets (*Vinaya* 111, *Sutta* 410, *Abhidhamma* 208) stand, carrying the definitive edition determined by the 5th Buddhist Synod in King Mindon's reign. Close by stand the ruins of the great Atumashi Kyaung (The Incomparable Monastery).

The Shwenangaw Monastery was originally part of the palace rooms where King Mindon and his chief Queen Setkyadevi spent much of their lives, removed by King Thibaw to the present site and given as a monastery. It contains a replica of the Royal Throne, the couch King Thibaw used when visiting the monastery, some glass mosaic and magnificent wood-carvings.

The Royal Palace was a Royal City within the city of Mandalay. It is in the form of a square with each side over a mile long. The Walls, with very fine watch towers and gates, are over 27ft. high and 10ft. thick, surrounded by a moat 225ft. wide and 11ft. deep.

After annexation, Fort Dufferin, Government House and an English Club were built within the Palace Walls. The Fort was retaken from the Japanese on March 21, 1945. During the fighting the Palace caught fire and was burned down—an immense artistic loss, as it contained much of the greatest Burmese wood-carving.

Shwe Kyimint Pagoda, built by King Minshinsaw (1167) in the centre of Mandalay, and therefore far older than the city itself, contains the original Buddha figure consecrated by the King and also other valuable and historic objects.

The Mahamuni Pagoda or the Arakan Pagoda, the most famous of all the Mandalay pagodas, lies to the south of the city. The main Buddha figure is believed to be of great antiquity and was brought from Mrohaung, the capital of Arakan, by King Bodawpaya in 1784. From his capital, Amarapura, the King built a brick road, remains of which can still be seen, to the Mahamuni. Other spoils of war include the bronze figures of warriors, lions and a three-headed elephant. The warriors are said to cure you of disease if you rub the appropriate part of the bronze figure.

Amarapura (City of the Immortals), a few miles south of Mandalay, can be reached by taxi. It was founded by King Bodawpaya in 1781, and the remains of the old walls, pagodas and tombs may still be seen. There is a flourishing silk ("Mandalay" silk) and cotton weaving industry in the town.

Behind the town there are a



Making parasols in Burma.

chain of lakes bordered by exceptionally fine trees. U Bein's Bridge, constructed of teak from the deserted palaces of Ava, is now over 200 years old and stretches for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile across one of the lakes. It leads to the Kyaikdawgyi Pagoda where the remains of murals in the oil Burmese style of painting are to be seen.

Ava is another former capital, now deserted and difficult of access. Enquiries should be made in

Mandalay.

Also a former capital for a brief period from 1322 A.D., Sagaing is easily reached from Mandalay by the magnificent mile-long Ava road and rail bridge, the only one across the Irrawaddy. The Sagaing hills along the river bank are encrusted with monasteries and well worth a visit. The town was much damaged by an earthquake in 1956. 3 miles beyond is the Kaunghmudaw Pagoda (1636),

built in the shape of the then queen's breast, or so the story goes. Other pagodas in the town include the Tupayon (1444) and the Ngadatkyi (1657).

Mingun lies 7 miles north of Mandalay, on the far side of the Irrawaddy and is accessible only by river. It is famous for its bell, the largest hung bell in the world (except for one in Moscow, which has cracked). The Mingun Pagoda, planned by King Bodawpaya (1781-1819) was never completed; the first storey of this gigantic edifice is all that is to be seen—450 feet square and 162 feet high, it was designed to be 800 ft. high. From this episode perhaps derives the Burmese proverb—"The Pagoda is finished and the country is ruined".

By far the most important and impressive historical monument in the country is the ruins of Pagan, the first capital of a united Burma, which reached its zenith in the reign of King Anawratha (1044-77). The city flourished from the 10th century to the 14th and may,

perhaps, have been visited by Marco Polo—certainly a contemporary Chinese description of Pagan is in existence.

By road: from Chauk to Pagan (about 23 miles) the road crosses watercourses, unsuitable for a saloon car. It is best to hire a jeep at Meiktila or Chauk, at Ks. 40 (or less, if you are good at bargaining) plus cost of petrol. Allow a minimum of 5 days for a visit starting from and returning to Meiktila. Tourist (Burma) Ltd. are proposing to start a coach service from Mandalay in 1961.

By air: fly to Lanywa (ask BOC, Rangoon, permission to cross the Irrawaddy in their launch) or Pokokku, and catch the IWT boat (times uncertain). It is difficult to estimate to within a day or so when it will be possible to return. An airfield is under construction at Pagan and it is hoped to open it in March, 1961.

By river: take an IWT boat from Mandalay, very approximately 12 hours (simple conveniences) a delightful trip, calling at villages and towns on the way. NB: believe no one about the time or place of departure of the boat except the IWT office.

A hotel is being built at Pagan, meanwhile there is a good Circuit House (flush lavatory, fans, bed linen and nets provided, Ks. 3 per

WELCOME TO BURMA

Come and see a fascinating, beautiful and historic land, and become friends with a charming, pleasant and friendly people.

Write to

BURMA TOURS & TRAVEL AGENCY LTD.

CABLE — BURTOTA	
POSTAL }	Address—119A Sule Pagoda Road, Rangoon,
BOOKING }	P.O. Box 672.
PHONE — 15982.	

day, Ks. 21 all board). Nyaung-u at the northern end of the bow of the river also has a Rest House, very simple but pleasant, but take bedding.

No attempt will be made here to describe Pagan: you must buy a guide, preferably "Pictorial Guide to Pagan" by U Lu Pe Win, former Director of Archaeological Survey. Pagan is comparable to, but entirely different from Angkor Wat. Photographs can give no idea of the magnificence of the more than 5,000 pagodas (there are said to have been over 13,000 before Kublai Khan destroyed the city in 1287), and their excitement and greatness is unique.

When visiting the lesser known pagodas carry a torch and stout walking stick against snakes—especially the Russell's viper, usually safe unless trodden on.

If returning by road, visit Mount Popa, the home of two famous *Nats* (Shwepyin-gyi and Shwepyin-nge). Excellent ARDC House (previous permission from Rangoon needed) with electric light, flush lavatories and newly constructed bungalow of a sweet smelling wood.

Maymyo (named after a Captain May) is reached by a spectacular drive of 42 miles rising from 248 ft. at Mandalay to 3,519 ft. in Maymyo itself. A former hill-station, it is now the summer residence of the President of the Union. Frequent jeep (7 or 8 persons) and bus services at Ks. 3 per person—or hire a jeep taxi.

The Botanical Gardens have a fine collection of orchids; all exhibits are clearly described. Visit the market early between 5.30 and

8.00 a.m. to see Shans and Danus in their traditional dress.

Hotels: CRADDOCK COURT and KANDACRAIGH are both to be Government-run, details from Govt. Tourist Bureau. B. T. BROS. HOTEL, Single Ks. 15 (share bath), double Ks. 25 (own bath), food extra, advance booking required, Telephone Maymyo 35, Cables COFFEE MAYMYO.

The Gokteik Gorge (milestones 80-93), an amazing steel girder bridge (2,260 ft. long and 320 ft. high), carries the railway across a natural limestone rock bridge 550 ft. high over the Gorge. The road descends and ascends the Gorge, so take care both for your own and others' driving!

Lashio (175 miles) is the largest town in the northern Shan States, 116 miles from the China border, with a 60% Chinese population and a (Communist) Chinese Consulate-General. CIRCUIT HOUSE, Ks. 8 per night incl. bedding; food extra. Exceptionally hot in April. Train from Mandalay takes 1 day. Aerodrome.

Hsenwi (207 miles) has no springs and, like most places in the Shan States, its own particular charm. From Kutkai (223 miles) to Muse (285 miles) the road runs parallel to the China border. Five miles out of Namhan the road crosses the Shweli River on a Bailey suspension bridge.

At Bhamo there is a Circuit House where the butler will provide meals. From here an IWT boat can be taken on a most interesting journey along the Irrawaddy to return to Mandalay.

Boats leave every even-numbered day and arrive at Mandalay on the 4th day. Stop at Thabeikkyin for Mogok. From Bhamo to Myitkyina (108 miles) a moderately good fast road (Stilwell Road) runs and the only delay is at the ferry just south of Myitkyina.

Myitkyina is the capital of the Kachin State and can be reached not only by road, but also by rail (2 days from Mandalay) or by air. There is a golf course and the Pidaung game reserve west of the town: main species to be seen are gaur, banteng, elephant, sambar and tiger. There is excellent game and fishing at the confluence of the two rivers, Tangpre, that then form the Irrawaddy. Hunting trips can be arranged in this wonderful part of the country.

The Circuit House and Bungalow are both comfortable but simple.

Mogok can be reached by IWT boat from either Bhamo or Mandalay, disembarking at Thabeikkyin. But it is reported that transport is difficult to arrange for the 60 mile drive: arrange this through your tourist agency. It can also be reached by road, leaving the Mandalay-Lashio road at Kyaukme (108½ miles)—Mogok is then a 78 mile drive.

From Mogok come some of the finest rubies in the world, and a brisk trade is done with London and Paris. It is a flourishing town in an extremely beautiful and secluded valley, fronting a large lake. Rubies, sapphires and other stones can be seen being bargained for in eating shops. The would-be buyer and seller hold hands and

through special clasps and pressures communicate offers and prices, thus keeping the terms of their bargaining secret from onlookers. The stones are cut and polished in small workshops. There is a PWD Bungalow.

The Southern Shan States are of particular interest to all visitors: they are easy of access for those who have only a few days (self-imposed timetables can be kept to) and for those who have more time they provide some of the finest hill and plateau scenery in South East Asia.

Kalaw (4,340 ft.) is the centre for those who look for modern conveniences. It is a town among pine-covered hills 78 miles from Meiktila with a comfortable hotel, and from it can be reached a number of places of interest.

Hotel Kalaw: Kalaw, S.S.S. Cable "Hotel Kalaw" (Rangoon Office: S. Ahmed & Sons, 216 Bo Aung Gyaw St., Telephone 10747). 25 rooms, no airconditioning, but central heating. Single Ks. 37 to 45, double Ks. 60 to 70 (incl. full board). Cuisine: Burmese, Indian, European. Excursions (packed meals can be ordered) to Kalaw-Pindaya Caves at Ks. 40 to 45; Kalaw-Inle Lake, Taunggyi and return Ks. 45 to 50 (prices are for taxi, 4 persons). Silverware, textiles, curios available.

From Kalaw drive to Aungban (6 miles—all mileages from now on are from Kalaw) and before the petrol pump take the road branching north to Pindaya (24 miles), capital of Pangtara State. The caves have a multitude of carvings and Buddha figures. At the entrance is a richly gilded pagoda. The steps are dangerous in the wet season.

From Aungban keep straight on over the railway line to Heho (25 miles, aerodrome to left of road) and Shwenyaung. In Shwenyaung take the right hand turn to Yawng'hwe, then 7 miles.

A request to visit the Yawng'hwe Haw (Residence of the Yawng'hwe Saopha) may be made on arrival. Boats, to spend day on the Inle Lake, may be found at Yawng'hwe for Ks. 50 (party of up to 10). The Inle Lake is famous for its leg-rowers (who are Inthas and not Shans) and floating islands. The pagoda at Nam-hu contains five Buddha figures which over the centuries have been so frequently gilded that they have almost become balls of gold. There is a special festival at the end of September or early October.

A bungalow in the centre of the lake is excellent for picnics, and food can be obtained—but take your own bed linen. Swimming is very pleasant and quite safe in spite of the weeds visible on the bed of the lake.

Taunggyi (44 miles, 4,675 ft.) is the seat of the Shan State Government, but as there is a constant influx of officials prior permission must be obtained to stay at either the Circuit House or PWD Bungalow.

The Kengtung (326 miles) road is often not passable in the wet season. Kengtung is the largest of the Shan States (about the size of Wales) and its borders march with Siam, Laos, and China. Kengtung town, with its old walls, ancient scarlet-painted monasteries, the lake fringed with palms and a

white pagoda, is one of the most picturesque towns in the Union: it has an aerodrome.

The language spoken is a dialect of Shan, Hkun, close to Siamese. There is a Siamese Consulate. At the bazaar, held every five days, many peoples belonging to different racial groups collect. The Circuit House is more comfortable than most, and excellent Chinese food can be had in the town.

3. General Information

I. WEATHER: there are three seasons, Winter (the pleasantest of all, from November to February), Summer (March, April and part of May) and the rains from the end of May to October.

The best tourist season is from the beginning of November to the end of March. In Burma Proper light tropical suiting is all that is needed throughout the year, although in some years there is a cold spell for between 2 and 10 days at the end of December or the beginning of January when a cardigan or European-weight jacket may be comfortably worn.

In the Hills (Shan State etc.) from October onwards the nights become chilly and fires are welcome by December. The temperature can fall to below freezing point. Tweed suits or other European-weight clothes are in some years essential between December and February.

	Winter			Summer			Rains		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
Rangoon	67/88	74	3"	75/95	75	2.3"	76/86	88	97"
Mandalay	58/84	—	3"	75/98	50	1.6"	77/91	80	28"
Maymyo	45/73	86	5"	60/83	65	3"	66/77	86	52"
Myitkyina	55/76	85	3"	65/88	65	3"	74/87	86	78"

1 = Average Min/Max Temperature °F.

2 = Av. Humidity (09.30 B.S.T.)

3 = Rainfall Total for months.

II. DRINK: for Scotch Whisky, small peg, prices vary and it does no harm to ask when ordering: the Strand Hotel charges Ks. 3.50, but some hotels don't hesitate to charge Ks. 6. English gin is Ks. 3 up to (exorbitant) Ks. 5.50 per peg, but you will have to expect up-country hotels to charge more than Rangoon.

Mandalay Gin (well worth a try, only diplomats can afford to turn their noses up at this) is Ks. 1.50 to Ks. 3.0; Mandalay Rum can be tried, but Mandalay Whisky is a less certain bet.

Imported beer should be unavailable, but Mandalay Beer (German brewer) is exceptionally fine and costs per pint bottle Ks. 2 (Strand) to Ks. 5.50 (an up-country hotel). Ks. 2.50 should be the maximum paid in Rangoon, while up-country any seemingly exorbitant charge in hotels can only be countered (transport charges are high) by buying a bottle in the town.

III. TRANSPORT: taxi prices in Rangoon vary according to size and what the taxidriver thinks you

will pay (the Government promises to re-introduce meters). Yellow Top Taxis and "Jeep" taxis are the cheapest, pay Ks. 5 per hour or part, and by the day Ks. 40 to 50 (absolute maximum)—but by the day you pay for petrol.

IV. SHOPPING: rubies, sapphires, pearls, opal, jade and moonstone, can be purchased in Rangoon: try those advertised to ascertain market rates. Other Burmese specialities include gold and silverware; lacquerware; teak, ivory and mother-of-pearl carvings etc; silks and cottons; Bassein parasols; basketwork, and oil and water paintings.

"Mandalay" Silk, 36 ins. wide, costs Ks. 8 per yard plain and Ks. 15 up patterned. Inle Silk varies between Ks. 10 and 15, but can be bought in the Shan State for less. Shan Bags, depending on size and quality, cost between Ks. 5 and 15, but when bargaining assume you are being offered a Ks. 5 bag! Burmese Cotton, mercerized, is Ks. 5.50, for a heavier weave Ks. 5, most attractive and makes ex-

Burma

cellent dresses and cushion covers.

Shops in Rangoon

Rowe & Co. Ltd. (Departmental Stores) 416 Maha Bandoola St. Telephone 14599, will hire guns for big game, hunting or fowling.

Barnett Bros. Ltd., 143/149 Sule Pagoda Rd. Telephone 12711.

Burma Cold Stores Ltd. 142/144 Sule Pagoda Rd. Telephone 10375.

Burma Gem House, 132 Sule Pagoda Rd. Telephone 10179.

Burma Gift, Red Cross Building, Strand Rd., will stock all articles of tourist interest, develop films, expects to arrange shipment of any purchases to destinations abroad with minimum of formalities.

Ruby House, 112-113 West Wing, Main Bldg. Bogyoke Market, Telephone 15319.

Shwe Mya Stores, 141 Anawratha Street, Telephone 19242.

V. LANGUAGES: you will get a long way with English, and not very far with other European languages. Main languages of the Union are Burmese, Arakanese, Shan, Kachin, Chin, Karen, Chinese, Hindi, Madras etc.

VI. HOLIDAYS & FESTIVALS:

Peasants' Day	January 1	Sunday
Independence Day	January 4	Wednesday
Union Day	February 12	Sunday
Full Moon of Tabaung	February 28	Tuesday
Resistance & Arzani Day	March 27	Monday
Maha Thingyan Holiday	April 12-15	Wednesday to Saturday
	April 16	Sunday
Burmese New Year	April 28	Friday
Full Moon of Kason	May 1	Monday
May Day	July 1	Saturday
Bank Holiday*	July 19	Wednesday
Martyrs Day	July 27	Thursday
Full Moon of Wazo	Date to be notified	
Bakri-Id	October 24	Tuesday
Full Moon of Thadingyut	Date to be notified	
Dewali	November 22	Wednesday
Tazaungdaing Festival	December 2	Saturday
National Day	December 25	Monday
Christmas Day	December 31	Sunday
Bank Holiday*		

* Not a Government Holiday.



Independence Day is celebrated with a march past (military and civilian) in the morning and in the evening Burmese *zats* (theatrical plays and dances) which last all night long. On Kennedy Point, the Royal Lakes, Rangoon, there is a funfair, open for 7 days.

Thingyan, the Burmese New Year Celebrations, is the time when Burma really goes on holiday for 3 (at least) days. From the ancient ceremony of springing water on the heads of one's elders, as a token of respect, has now developed a free-for-all in the streets (fire hoses included). Don't expect to stay dry, everyone knows that an expensive camera shouldn't get wet and will respect this, so long as you don't try to stay dry as well—and no temper, even if they are your best clothes, otherwise you're in for a real soaking!

If the Water Festival is unrestrained jubilation, the Full Moon of Thadingyut (October), which celebrates with lights the end of Buddhist Lent, is one of the most beautiful and enjoyable festivals in the year. Every house is illuminated and the streets of the major towns shimmer with myriad coloured lights.

Tazaungdaing, a second light festival, follows a lunar month after Thadingyut. With the rains completely gone a festive mood takes hold of the people and on

this night everybody celebrates. In Rangoon, visit Lanmadaw, for *zats*, Chinese and Indian conjurers, foodstalls, side-shows, and wonderfully happy crowds. Also Shwe Dagon after 8.00 p.m. for weaving.

VII. FURTHER INFORMATION: the following details of Government offices in Rangoon may be useful:

G.P.O., Strand Rd. (nr. Strand Hotel) (14133).

Central Telegraph Office, 125 Phayre St. (15499).

Police Headquarters, New Law Court Buildings, Strand Rd. (15511—emergency 11111).

Immigration, Phayre St. (10882).

Customs, Strand Rd. (14533).

Dir. of Information, 22/24 Phayre St. (12564).

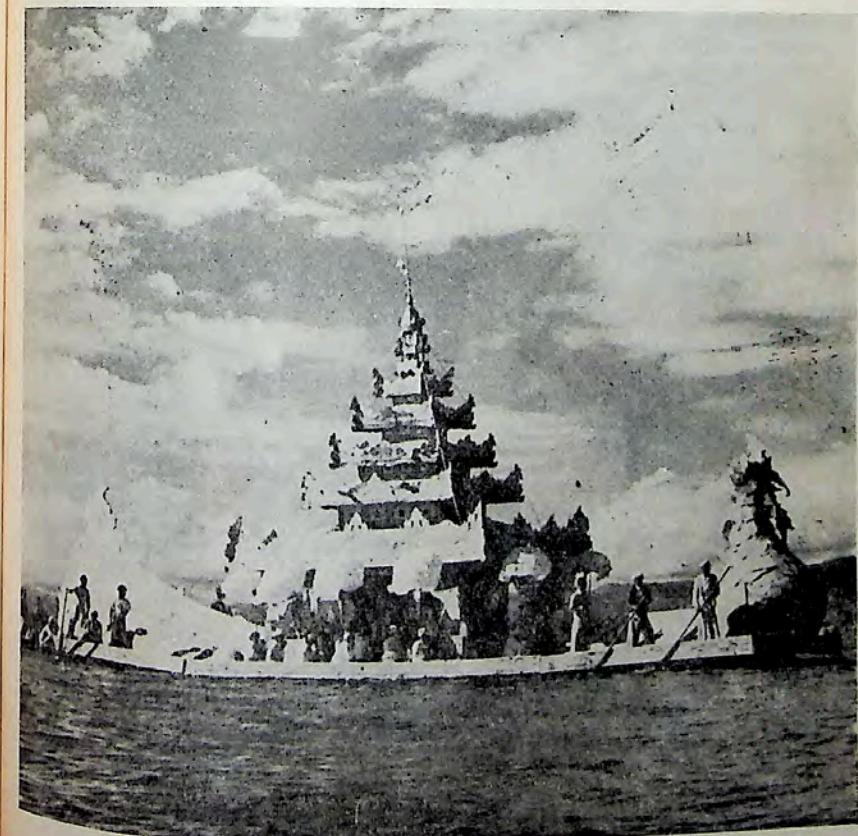
Port of Rangoon, Phayre St. (13122).

Inland Water Transport Board, 50 Phayre St. (14055).

Union of Burma Airways Board, (14566).

Burma Railways, (14027). Mingaladon Airport, (40111).

Burma



The Yawnghwe State Barge on Inle Lake, Shan States.

