had to be supposed for the tuff, specimens of which were kindly examined by the Netherlands Indies Vulcanological Survey in Bandoeng, who reported that it probably came from "the big Toba-eruption", which was the origin of Lake Toba in Sumatra. Fig. 1 shows a stream-cut section of the deposits, but the underlying laterite cannot be seen.

In this and two other nearby gravel beds were found stone tools, typical specimens of which are shown in Fig. 2. The majority are made from pebbles of quartzite and most of them are unrolled or only slightly rolled. They comprise : (*A*) 'Chopper', with just enough flaking to make an edge. This is the commonest type. (*B*) 'Chopper', of very fine grained rock; the exact find-spot is shown by the cross in Fig. 1. (*C*) Hand-axe, triangular section, rolled, the only specimen found. (*D*) Hand-axe; the butt has been flaked to reduce the size of the tool.

The characteristics of these tools are that they are made from pebbles with the minimum flaking on one side only, and the cutting edge is always made by the meeting of a flaked surface with the unworked natural pebble skin.

The other types consist of flakes worked up into end-scrapers, hollow-scrapers and points, together with a large number of pebbles used as hammer-stones. The latter tools would seem to show that the place was a workshop and perhaps even a dwelling site.

As yet not enough specimens have been found to warrant detailed comparison with other cultures, and dating is not possible on palæontological grounds since no fossils were found. There does, however, seem to be an undoubted kinship with the Pajitan culture described by von Koenigswald from central Java[1], but it differs from it in the complete absence of bilateral flaking and in the greater amount of original pebble surface which is preserved. It may therefore be an earlier phase of the Pajitan culture. The commonest type (Fig. 2A) is very much like a Pre-Stellenbosch tool from South Africa illustrated by van Riet Lowe[2].

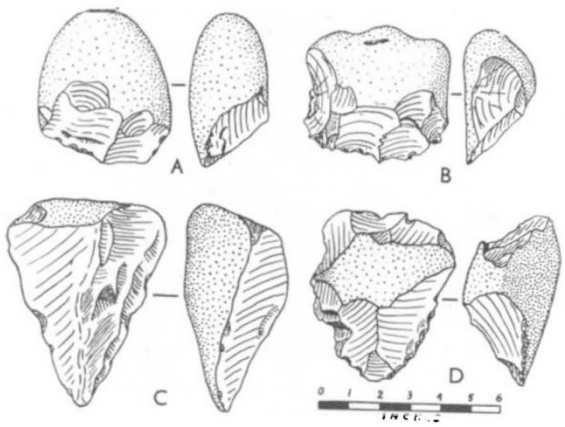


Fig. 2.

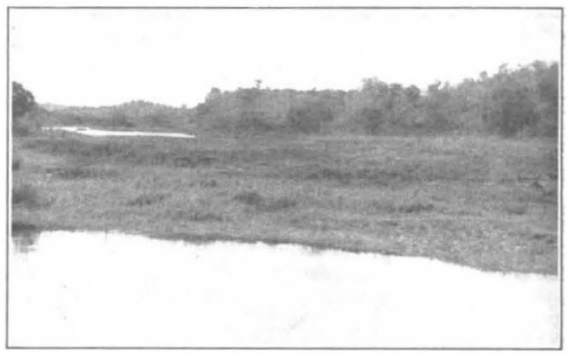
It is hoped to carry out further excavations in the near future, and in the meanwhile I propose the name *Tampan Culture* to describe the tools from this, the first Pleistocene archæological site to be found in the Malay Peninsula.

Raffles Museum, H. D. COLLINGS.
Singapore, S.S. July 29.

[1] "Early Palæolithic Stone Implements from Java", *Bull. Raffles Mus.*, Ser. B, 1, No. 1, 1936.
[2] "The Geology and Archæology of the Vaal River Basin", Geological Survey, Union of S. Africa, *Mem.* 35, Pl. VIII, No. 1.

Dry Crossing of the Nile

THROUGH the co-operation of Dr. Alexander Cruickshank, senior medical inspector of the Equatorial Province of the Sudan, and of my son, Lieut.-Colonel F. O. Cave, I am able to give some recent particulars of 'Wayland's crossing', or the dry crossing of the Nile. Dr. Cruickshank visited it last Easter and took photographs of it, one of which is reproduced herewith. The width of the river is about 80 yards, and the width of the crossing from its upstream to its downstream edge is approximately 250 yards.



WAYLAND'S CROSSING, EASTER 1938, LOOKING DOWN-STREAM. WIDTH OF RIVER, APPROXIMATELY 80 YARDS; DEPTH OF CROSSING APPROXIMATELY 250 YARDS.

In places the accumulated vegetation exceeded 10 feet in thickness, but at the edges it was loose and thin in places, and one of Dr. Cruickshank's porters fell through. But away from the edges, and presumably in some parts at the edges, it was thick enough for elephants to cross, for recent elephant spoor was found. On the surface there was a thick ash deposit left after grass and papyrus had been burnt. It would appear from Dr. Cruickshank's account that there are no signs of the crossing breaking up at present.

C. J. P. CAVE.

Stoner Hill,
Petersfield.
Aug. 24.

Distribution of the Polychæte *Ophelia cluthensis* McGuire

Ophelia cluthensis was described in 1935 by McGuire[1], who obtained her specimens from Millport in the Clyde, and more fully in 1938 by Brown[2]. It occurs in a narrow zone of sandy beaches just below high-water mark neaps, frequently to the extent of several hundred to the square metre. Besides being recorded from the Firths of Clyde and Forth, Wohlenberg[3] records its presence at Sylt, Germany. Specimens obtained by Fauvel[4] at Saint-Vaast, France, were described by him as young *O. limacina* but are considered by Brown to be probably *O. cluthensis*.

As a result of recent shore collecting I have now to record the species from South Wales and Ireland. The Welsh specimens were obtained from a small area of the beach at Lavernock in the Bristol Channel, about four miles along the down-channel coast from Cardiff. The salinity at high water at this point varies from 20 per mille in winter to 28 per mille in