#### Medical experts pinpoint psychological worry as the main cause

## DO NOT FEAR KORO.

Foo, medical superin-tendent of Woodbridge Hospital and Mr. Chenz Tong Fatt. Director of Primary Production in the Ministry of Na-tional Development.

Rumours

Since Oct. 28, when the rumours first became rife that koro was caus-ed by the eating of pork there was on an average 80 people daily calling at the outdoor dispensaries of govern-

medical experts today pin-pointed psychological fear as the main cause of the current Singapore koro "epidemic" — a retraction of the male sexual organ.

This was their official medical theory at a Health Ministry Press conference this morn-

widespread rumours over the past week that koro is caused by eating the pork of pigs recently vaccinated in a mass campaign to combat swine fever.

This has fed to almost a standstill in the sale of pork both in markets, eating stalls and restaurants.

#### No foundation

The panel emphatically declared that there was absolutely no foundation whatsoever that koro was connected with pork eating or the recent outbreak of swine fever as this fever only affected pigs.

#### SINGAPORE, Monday

As for the vaccina-tion, they said, it was only a combatant against swine fever and did not have any effect on other animals let alone human be-

The panel led by Dr. Ho Guan Lim. Per-manent Secretary to the Ministry and Dire-ctor of Medical Services. comprised:

comprised:
Dr. Yeoh Seang Aun.
Deputy Director of Medical Services: Dr. Gwee
Ah Leng. senior consultant, Dr. Yap Meow

ment hospitals claim-ing that they were suf-fering from the disease

None of these cases, Dr. Ho stressed, required any specific treatment. They were only assured that koro was not harmful and that it would cease in a few minutes.

None of the cases re-quired admission into hospital and above everything else none of them died.

Explaining the disease in more detail. Dr. Gwee, who has done research on the subject and published a paper in the Singapore Medical Journal in 1963, said.

"Koro is a Malay word and it is a disease of the mind. A person suffering from it is deluded into believing that the male organ would shrink into the abdomen resulting in death.

#### Injury

"So they try to stop the shrinking and in the process cause in-jury to the organ. In fact koro itself has no harmful effects and ceases in a few minutes if the afflicted person just ignores it."

Dr Gwee said that the main cause of the present "epidemic" in

'In fact any type of fear can cause koro. Another cause is cold climate, but the important thing to remember is that it is not harmful and if one gets it one should do just nothing."

Mr. Cheng said that the widespread rumours had had a very drastic effect on the saic of pork which could be flustrated by the slaughter of pigs at the abattof. - 1206 to 1400 a day before the rumours as compared with the present daily average of only 100.

#### Tin is heading for a record year

KUALA LUMPUR. Mon. Tim production this year is heading towards a post-war record according to latest Government statistics. The January-September output at 54.868 tons in only 14.821 tons short of last year's record-breaking total of 88.887 tons. If the average monthly production of 8.000 tons is maintained for the last three months of this year, a total output of 22.060 tons should be recorded — making 1965 the fourth best year in tim mining. An output of 82.000 tons was recorded in 1940, 29.400 tons in 1941, and 72.326 tons in 1929.

## A bid to break Meet monopoly

Chinese Chambers of Commerce today set up an eight-man working committee as the step towards breaking the ship-

ping monopoly.

The committee.
headed by Tan Sri
T. H. Tan, the ACCC
president, will hold its first meeting here

tomorrow.

The deputy chairman of the Malaysian Rubber Exchange Inche Abu Bakar bin Pawanchee.

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SHARIKAT AUSTASIA (M) SDN. BHD. KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.

and two Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce representatives were present at the ACCC meeting today.

Tomorrow, the new working committee will discuss the formation of a National Shippers Council along the lines that are already established in Singapore.

#### Information

This council, which will liaise closely with its Singapore counterpart, will review the whole situation and will arrange meetings with members of the Far East Preight Conference for cheaper rates.

It will comprise representatives from the Malay chambers of commerce the Indian chambers of commerce and the States of Malaya Chamber of Commerce. The working committee will consider collecting information on the number of ships owned by members of the freight conference, their routes and freight rates.

An ACCC committee member. Dato Chan Peng Hong, said that this information was necessary

to deal effectively with the monopoly problem.

Forms might be sent to all ACCC members asking them to get the necessary details.

Inche Abu Bakar said that careful planning was required to fight the freight conference which he described as "wellestablished and powerful."

But if there was proper organisation there was no reason why the freight should not be reduced.

#### Freight route

The mere fact that something, no matter how small, is being done will, I think, have some effect on the freight conference. The first obvious thing to do was for Malaysia to form its own shipping line, he added.

Countries along the freight conference route, such as Ceylon, Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia could then combine to make their positions stronger.

#### Naked boy, 16, and girl, 5

#### 10 THUGS EXILED

PENANG. Mon. — Police today exiled 10 thigs to various districts on the island and Province Wellesley for three years under the Prevention of Crime ordinance.

They were arrested by

the anti-secret societies branch and CID per-sonnel during a recent raid.

The thugs belong to Gang 101, Malay Gang, 8 Immortals and Gang 08.

### Straits Times Crossword



#### A Delightful Complexion

#### Bloom

give your complexion delightful dewy bloom.

... Margaret Merril

- 1. Bulbs that want reflectors?

- (6).

  23 Always: having twins? Rub one with soap? (8).

  24 One way to put 3 on a milky diet (8).

  25 A window into the BMA?
- 26 Healthy result of a blow un-der the can (4-4).

- bown

  1. Bird with a cough who gets half (3-7).

  2. Teerotal, as 10 was, and mired; (3-8).

  Favourie meal is perhaps goldfish; (6).

  Prospered in obedience to the command....(8, 6, 4).
- 1. Builds that want reflectors?

  (a):

  8. The current cost of an order?

  (b):

  9. A politician who doesn't go ditra vires is bate! (5):

  10. See 5 11. Do the women of the household stay young? (6):

  11. Do the women of the household stay young? (6):

  12. It blackens an island in 15's liace (4-4):

  13. Munic of many hands proverbially? (6):

  14. All the tiest of the 17 composer about to do nothing in return 4. 4!

  15. He's one with an epixile store the viewed with continue (5):

  16. Like 9 or 13. perhaps, in heaven the Bear's lost bit tail

  (6):

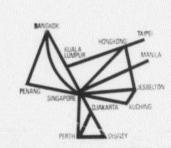
  17. Could one dye cure the viewing 18: (7):

  18. Could one dye cure the viewing 18: (7):

  18. Could one dye cure the view of a citage of a

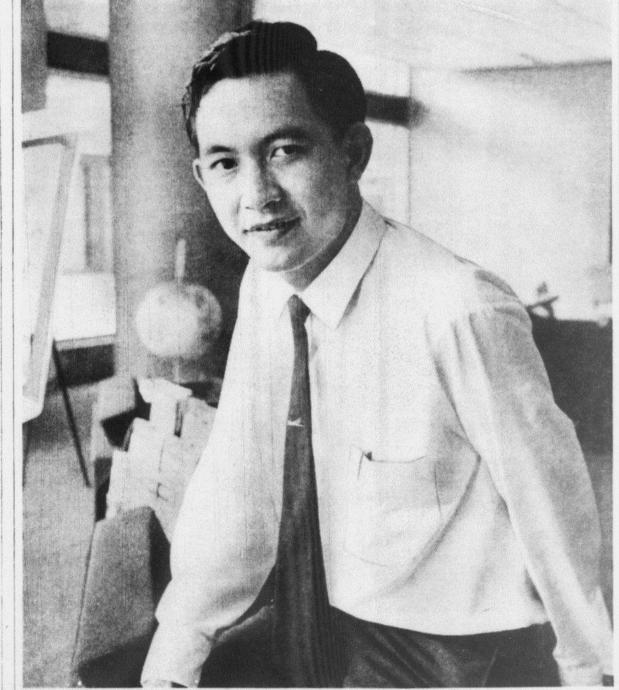
# Tony Tan...

he knows everyone in Jesselton!



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