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For all Dentures, including
the new Acrylic Resins

Steradent

Reckitt & Colman (N.Z.), Ltd.,
Pharmaceutical Division,
Bond Street, Dunedin St.53

Be certain of BREAST-FEEDING

—take Lactagol. Regular use of Lactagol will ensure and maintain the supply of breast milk throughout the entire feeding period. Lactagol also increases the quality of milk lacking in nutritive value. Expectant mothers find Lactagol of great benefit too—it helps build up the body in preparation for natural breast feeding later.

41 Milne Terrace,
Island Bay, Wellington,
5th May, 1943.

Lactagol Ltd.,
Dear Sirs,

I have no hesitation in stating that Lactagol is all you claim it to be. To be able to feed my second child and still have an ample supply of milk is an absolute God-send, when I think of the trouble I experienced with my first child. I could only feed my first child for three weeks when I was forced to use artificial foods which were extremely expensive and very troublesome to prepare; and to think that I would probably have saved myself all that if I had only known of your product. Proof of the pudding is in the eating, and I can offer no better proof than the fact that my second child who is now eight weeks old has been breast-fed by myself all the time—and has during that period averaged a gain per week of ten ounces.

As for myself I have never felt better in my life nor so full of life and I am absolutely confident that I shall remain that way and be able to supply my own milk for as long as is necessary. I give, without reserve, all the credit to your splendid product Lactagol.

It is only because I am so grateful for the benefits I have enjoyed from the use of your product that I am writing this letter and I assure you that this is a most unusual departure for me.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. M. James.

LACTAGOL

FREE: For sample of Lactagol, together with useful booklet for expectant or nursing mothers, write:

Lactagol Ltd., Dept. L.2, P.O. Box 977,
Wellington.

Sold by all chemists. Prices 2/6, 4/9 and 8/6.
E. T. Pearson & Co. Ltd., Mitcham, Surrey,
England. 10.4

SIAM IS PLEASANT TO LIVE IN

PARTLY on a successful search for a holiday and partly on a not successful search for textiles suitable for tropical wear, Charles Letts, an Englishman from Siam, has just spent two and a half months in New Zealand. Before he left by air for Sydney last month he recorded a talk at IYA and I met him there and listened while the talk was played back. He began by saying that he had worked in Siam for several years before the war, that he had worked there during the war years as a member of a prisoner-of-war gang on the Burma-Siam death railway, and that he had stayed for a year after he was released in August, 1945, by Allied forces.

"What were you doing during that year and why did you choose New Zealand for a holiday?" I asked him.

"The first six months after the end of the war I spent in headquarters staff with the allied occupation forces—I went into the war in the Volunteers as a private, but they gave me a commission to help and after that I spent six months helping to re-establish the Legation."

"Because you speak Siamese?"

"Yes, partly. Not a great many speak the language and very few speak it fluently. I can tell you I can find myself in difficulties—I'm quite aware I have my leg pulled sometimes."

"And then why New Zealand?"

Siam Needs Our Milk Products

"First, it's very easy to get at. Second, there were the good mountains and glaciers and lakes and fishing and so on that attracted me. And of course I was particularly interested in building myself up—not that I had a very bad time under the occupation except that I had malaria 46 times. But still New Zealand is pretty attractive, you know, in spite of the odds and ends of rationing you have.

And in addition to all those reasons I had a semi-official one of wanting to find goods to supply our markets in Siam—light textiles in particular, with an eye on milk products as a side line. Unfortunately there's nothing doing because you've no textiles to export but wool—and of course that's far too heavy for that climate. But I do hope you'll start sending milk products when your commitments allow it."

Mr. Letts is now on his way back to Bangkok to continue working with his firm, which deals with tin and general imports. When I asked him how he came to be in Siam in the first place he told me the abbreviated story of his life: left school and rolled round Europe, read economics at London University, but gave it up, worked on the docks and worked at selling things and roamed about Europe in between times; and finally decided it was time he settled down, so took a job with his present firm and worked first in Singapore and then in Bangkok. He describes Siam as a wonderful place in which to live, as cosmopolitan as Shanghai, but without the "social nonsense" of Singapore. And he adds that each nationality in the European community in Bangkok is effectively kept in its place by the combined others and the whole community acts in the manner of a guest—of the Siamese. This, says Mr. Letts, makes Siam a so much more pleasant place to live in than it would be if one European nationality held eminence at the expense of the others.

"The King is sincerely and deeply loved by his people, but he has now become practically a constitutional monarch instead of the all-powerful head of the State that he used to be, say a hundred years ago. Of course the hill people, all the politically illiterate people of the back-country, still regard him as their ultimate leader and probably still think that appeals to the head men of the villages go eventually to the King in person. Political propaganda hasn't



CHARLES LETTS
Our mountains attracted him

spread very far, although just before the war radio was going ahead like nobody's business—for instance, radio sets were supplied to the headman of each family group and there were some quite clever talks put over when efforts were being made to take some of the French Indo-China border States—efforts which were nicely helped along by the Japanese."

Kindness to All Creatures

"But you say the Siamese didn't help the Japanese much."

"No, it was all very limp and half-hearted. The Siamese are inspired by their Buddhist creed of kindness to all creatures; for instance, they succoured and helped us when we were working as prisoners of the Japanese, and now they are just as full of pity and as ready to help Japanese prisoners. But the resistance movement, trained and organised by British officers parachuted into Siam, was very effective. The Empire troops, by the way, have been very popular in Siam since the end of the war. They recently held a farewell party and invited 800 Siamese guests, but 1,600 turned up."

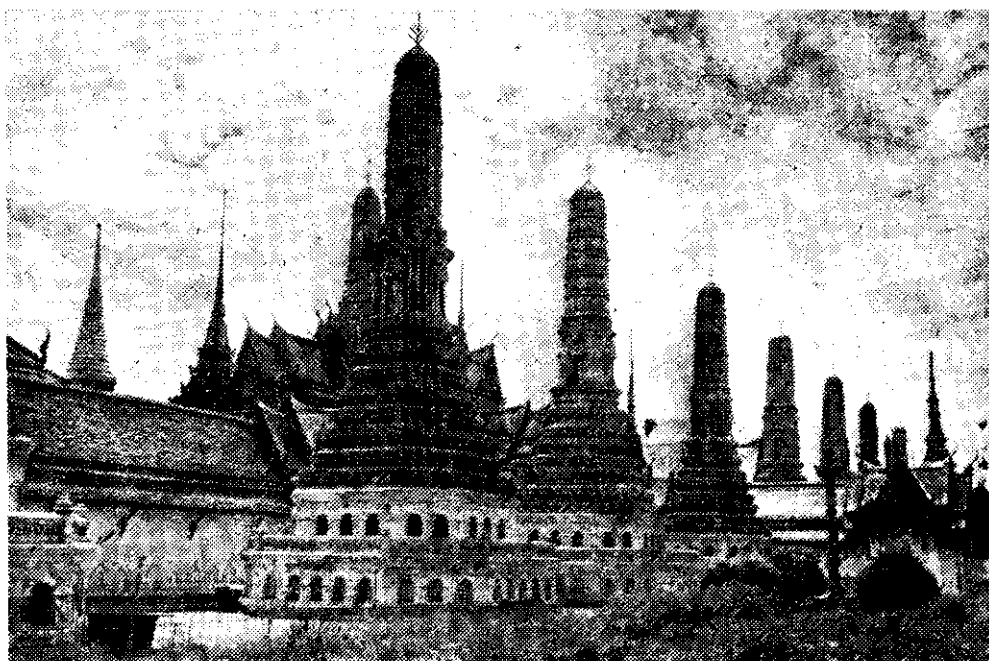
"You say that the population of 14 million includes at least two million Chinese and that immigrants are coming in from China all the time. Are they still coming?"

"Goodness me, yes. Say a ship has a quota of 250 Chinese immigrants, you can be sure it will limp in with at least 600. They are just pouring in and will keep on doing so."

"Because the living is so much easier?"

One Suit of Clothes

"Partly that and partly the presence there already of members of their families. You have to remember that they are poor, the coolie class as a whole. They've really got nothing to wear—the woman goes out to work in the family clothes and the old man shivers at home; she comes home and hands over the clothes to him and he goes (continued on next page)



The Temple of the Emerald Buddha, Bangkok. All small statues are made of gold and silver and the whole temple is valued at seventy million American dollars