

53/65.

GENERAL TEMPLER REOPENS EAST COAST
RAILWAY.

After twelve long years, a train rumbles across Malaya to the East Coast and General Templer is at the controls.

Christened the Golden Blowpipe, it stopped fifteen times for The High Commissioner to call at villages en route. At a gutta Percha plantation, the only one of its kind of commercial importance in the Commonwealth, a Malay woman chops off the leaves from which it is extracted.

The General talked to Malaya and Chinese villagers. Early in 1942 all bridges were blown up to stop the Japanese invaders. Communist terrorism hindered its reconstruction but now in General Templer's words it is a "cavalcade of confidence in Malaya's future".