



## First South Philippine Union Mission Biennial Session

BY V. M. MONTALBAN

The first biennial session of the South Philippine Union Mission was held in the newly-enlarged auditorium of the East Visayan Academy at Bulacao, Talisay, Cebu, February 19-28, 1953. Seventy-five delegates were in attendance at the first session. This number was later increased to 85, exclusive of the non-delegate attendance which ranged from 200 to at least 700 on the two Sabbaths of the session. In attendance at this meeting were the following: R. A. Anderson, D. A. McAdams and G. M. Mathews of the General Conference; W. A. Nelson, president of the Canadian Union Conference; the officers and departmental secretaries of the Division and E. L. Longway. These brethren brought to us encouraging, stirring and challenging messages that gripped the hearts of those who attended the meetings.

Our membership on December 31, 1952 was 24,924. During the biennial period more than 5,000 souls were baptized in this union. Important plans were

made during the biennial session for the continuance of a strong evangelistic program during the next biennial period.

In the wake of government curtailment in the operation of schools without government permits, they considering such schools to be illegal, a recommendation was passed to ask the union committee to give study to the possibility of calling our church schools "religious study groups" or "study groups," and our teachers to be called "tutors." It was also recommended that we admit only Seventh-day Adventist children to these "study groups." Policies were adopted to strengthen the educational work in this union.

The goals set for the publishing department during the session are as follows: 265 full-time colporteurs by the end of 1953, this number to be increased to 350 by the end of 1954; literature deliveries for the union, 390,542.00 pesos.



*East Visayan Academy in Cebu City, Philippines, Where the First Biennial Session of the South Philippine Union Mission Was Held*

Separate incorporations for the South Philippine Union Mission and the Mountain View College were set up to meet the legal technicalities affecting our work as it regards property holdings.

A solemn ordination service in which five workers were set aside for the sacred work of the gospel ministry brought to a close the first biennial session. With these five brethren added to our number of ordained ministers, we now have a total of 28 ordained ministers in this union, not including those now on sustentation.

Several shifts affecting the missions and institutions were made. The only change in the Union departmental secretaries was the shifting of P. D. Rocero from the educational department to that of being the Bible teacher at the Mindanao Mission Academy, this at his own request. L. L. Quirante, who is expected to return from the States this year, was asked to be the educational secretary of the Union.

One of the actions passed at the close of the session was a resolution of appreciation for the help

and assistance of our Far Eastern Division officers and departmental secretaries; for the valuable instruction, counsel and help given us by Pastors R. A. Anderson, D. A. McAdams and G. M. Mathews during the ministerial, colporteur, and elementary teachers' institutes which they conducted in our field before and during the biennial session; for the devoted services of Pastor E. M. Adams in the South Philippines during the first year of our Union while he was serving as field secretary in the Philippines; for the broadcasts of Pastor R. E. Dunton; for the liberal gifts from Mr. and Mrs. F. R. LaSage to the Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital and the Mountain View College; and for the services of our brethren and sisters who had done their part in making the meetings enjoyable and profitable.

Following the holding of this our first biennial session, which was preceded by the Ministerial Institute, our workers went to their respective fields of labor filled with the determination to let the light of truth shine brightly, each doing his part in the great endeavour to win souls for the kingdom of God.



## Union Mission Officers Reporting



### Looking Back Two Years

BY G. DE GUZMAN, *President*  
*South Philippine Union Mission*



The first two years of the existence of the South Philippine Union Mission are replete with marked evidences of God's blessings and guiding hand. Our mission is composed of large and small islands and these are scattered over an area of 200,000 square miles. This makes travel in our territory expensive and extensive. Of the four missions in the Union,

the East and West Visayan Missions are considered old missions. Northern and Southern Mindanao Missions are comparatively new missions. New as they are they are already self-supporting missions. Immigrants are pouring into Mindanao by the hundreds every week from the Visayas and even from as far away as Luzon.

Within this biennial period of 1951-1952 we had 5,478 baptisms and 27 churches were organized and added to our sisterhood of churches. We have today 290 organized churches aside from the many companies which must be looked after and supervised. Some of these churches are visited only once a quarter and those at the greatest distance only once a year. Our people are becoming more and

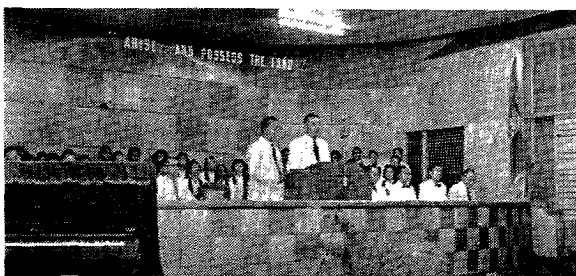
more conscious of chapels and they have a great desire to have decent-looking chapels. Oh, how we wish we had at our disposal sufficient funds with which to answer the many requests for aid in building chapels.

Within our Union territory are found Filipinos of different creeds and religious persuasions. We have the Christian Filipinos which constitute the overwhelming majority of our population. We have the Mohammedans and the pagan tribes living in the mountains of Zamboanga, Davao, Cotabato, and Bukidnon. We are glad to report that our program of evangelization includes these pagan tribes and the Mohammedans in our midst. A mission school has been established for the Subanos, a pagan tribe in the mountains of Zamboanga.

Samal is an island south of Davao. It is inhabited by a pagan tribe called Samal. We are glad to report that this tribe has been entered and that the message is finding a ready response among the people of Samal. Three persons were baptized last year.

The Bagobos are perhaps the most advanced among the pagan tribes of Mindanao. They are the most colorful. They delight in wearing bright clothes and putting on a lot of jewelry. Four were baptized last year from among this tribe. These have joined the energetic lay preachers in Southern Mindanao.

The Aetas are a black, short, naked people. A lady colporteur sold some books to those who had a little education. After learning of our doctrines, they petitioned the office to send them a teacher. They promised a schoolhouse, more than 100 children, a house for the teacher and they would share the expense of the board.



*Pastor G. de Guzman Reporting to the Delegates*

Another lady colporteur is having good success among the Moros. A friendly Moro priest, who is very well educated, has travelled a great deal, having made a pilgrimage to Mecca, bought an English Bible, *Bible Readings*, and *Steps to Christ*. He wants to study our doctrines. Our colporteurs claim that the Moros today are the best buyers of our religious books. Our lone clinic in Dansalan City is doing good work in overcoming religious prejudices among the Moros against our message. The Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital is almost complete and ready to open its doors for medical missionary work.

We are now on the threshold of the glorious realization of our dreams some three years ago. We believe that God definitely directed and guided us step by step in the acquisition of that vast tract of government agricultural land—more than 2,000 hectares—on which the college for the South Philippine Union has been located. Professor A. L. Bartlett and Engineer C. L. Martin are shouldering heavy responsibilities in starting the Mountain View College in Bukidnon. It is indeed a pioneering enterprise.

With faith in God, we face the future with courage and optimism. We are confident that the work will triumph in spite of some forbidding circumstances.

## Report of the Secretary-Treasurer

BY V. M. MONTALBAN

For accounting and statistical purposes the separation of the Philippine Union Mission into two unions took effect on January 1, 1951. However, the actual administration of the North and South Philippine Union Missions was not effected until May 1, 1951, the date fixed for all moves of the personnel.

The South Philippine Union Mission was housed for one year and seven months in a rented building at 112 Gorordo Avenue, Lahug, Cebu City. Later two lots were purchased, size 3,266 square meters, at a total cost of 35,233.26 pesos. The new office building cost 40,999.04 pesos, including equipment and furnishings. Our gratitude goes to the General Conference and to the Far Eastern Division for the financial help, including base appropriations and relief, which we have received, making it possible to own land, building, and equipment for the prosecution and operation of the work at the headquarters of our work here in Cebu City.

The visits of typhoons *Wanda* and *Amy* in 1951 damaged or destroyed 76 chapels—58 in East

Visaya and 18 in West Visaya—worth 95,000 pesos. In addition to this, academy buildings and B. & P. A. books were badly damaged, not to mention the adverse affect on the economic condition of our people and the tithe income of our missions in 1952.

The operation of the ministerial internship plan in our union has brought untold blessing, particularly to the Southern Mindanao and West Visayan fields where three interns are laboring.

Every dollar received in the South Philippine Union Mission for the 1952 operation of the work came from the following sources: 35 cents, tithe; 36 cents, specials; 27 cents, appropriations from the Far Eastern Division; and two cents came from miscellaneous donations. In turn the dollars received were expended on the following basis: using one dollar as the total, 42 cents were spent on workers' salaries and expenses; 34 cents, buildings and fences; 11 cents, general expenses; six cents, tithe percentage sustentation; five cents, administrative expenses; and two cents, departmental expenses.

The tithe received from the members of the South Philippine Union Mission during the years 1951 and 1952 amounted to 752,323.12 pesos. During this same period of time 170,486.50 pesos were received in offerings for missions. This was a per capita giving of 19.28 pesos in 1952 and 20.58 in 1951.

"If all both rich and poor, would bring their tithes into the store-house, there would be a sufficient supply of means to release the cause from financial embarrassment, and to nobly carry forward the missionary work in its various departments.

"God calls upon His people to awake to their responsibilities. A flood of light is shining from His word, and there must be a meeting of neglected obligations. When these are met, by giving to the Lord His own in tithes and offerings, the way will be opened for the world to hear the message that the Lord designs it to hear. If our people had the love of God in their heart, if every church member were imbued with the spirit of self-sacrifice, there would be no lack of funds for home and foreign missions; our resources would be multiplied; a thousand doors of usefulness would be opened; and we should be invited to enter. Had the purpose of God been carried out in giving the message of mercy to the world, Christ would have come, and the saints would have received their welcome into the city of God."

*Review and Herald*, Dec. 24, 1903.



*Attentive Delegates Listen to Inspiring Reports*

## *Local Mission Presidents Reporting*

### **Northern Mindanao Mission**

—E. A. CAPOBRES, *President*

The Northern Mindanao Mission was organized in 1950 with a membership of 4,312. At the end of 1952 the membership was 5,451. During the three years since the mission was organized, there have been 1,855 baptisms. We are endeavoring to operate our work on a self-supporting basis.

The Sabbath School Department is an excellent source for the conversion of souls. It is also a great source of income for the support of missions. Our 150 Sabbath schools with a membership of 7,863 gave during the year 1952 23,543.04 pesos for the support of missions.

During the eruption of the Hibok Hibok volcano in Camiguin Island, our home missionaries gave help in the form of clothes, rice, dried fish, beans and medicines. The governor of the province and the Red Cross officers from Manila were greatly impressed by our humanitarian activities. The recent flood in Iligan City took the lives of more than 100 people. The Dorcas Society went into action quickly and they distributed rice, dried fish, and clothes to the value of 300 pesos.

Our Subano brethren in the jungles of Eastern Zamboanga could not get cash when out soliciting during the Ingathering so they got rice, chickens, and eggs. Though the Subano church has only 19 members, they raised 131.20 pesos during the Ingathering of 1951 and 1952. These brethren have recently come out of heathenism.

In 1951, four evangelistic teams launched out in public efforts in different parts of the mission and as a result six new companies were organized. Recently we sent two evangelistic teams to hold efforts in the province of Surigao, an unentered field. Fifty-three souls were baptized. During the past two years 1,207 souls have been baptized.

### **Southern Mindanao Mission**

—A. Z. RODA, *President*

In the vast territory of this mission with its many language barriers, we have only a small group of workers and they are located as follows: one evangelist and one intern in the district of Zamboanga and the Sulu Archipelago; one ordained minister and one evangelist in the vast province of Cotabato; and a lone evangelist in the large province of Davao. At the mission headquarters we have ten workers who take care of the administrative and departmental work. In addition to taking care of their particular duties, we often have to ask them to do pastoral and evangelistic work.

We have an ever-enlarging group of teachers and these are in charge of 19 church schools, one accre-

dated elementary school, a mission school for the Bilaan and a new Junior Academy. We also have an ever-widening circle of brave pioneers—the faithful colporteurs numbering 71 in all.

During the first year of the history of the Southern Mindanao Mission, 1950, eight churches were added to the original number of 35. Up until the close of 1952, 17 more churches had been organized. Today we have 60 churches and 78 companies.

Through the combined efforts of our evangelists, colporteurs, teachers and lay preachers in the field of evangelism, 1,175 souls were baptized during 1951-52, bringing our total membership to 3,968. If we include the baptisms up to January 27, when 45 more persons were baptized, our membership now is 4,038. This means that we have more than doubled the membership of the mission since it was first organized in 1950.

Our colporteurs sold during the past two-year period nearly a quarter of a million pesos' worth of truth-filled literature. This achievement alone convinces us that God is finishing His work.

So earnest and devoted are our Sabbath school members that the whole field is today organized into district associations. It is thrilling to see their tokens of accomplishment—their banners—and to look at them in their comely uniforms.

Last year, through the strong determination of our brethren and by their backing us up with buildings and cash, we were able to open our Junior Academy with an enrollment of 236 students.

Our young people, organized into 135 MV societies with a membership of 3,229, are bearing the brunt of the battle in the field in the colporteur work and in lay evangelism. They rendered help in different ways to 70,489 people during the past two years. Our young people, when they meet crucial tests, stand firm as the Rock of Gibraltar for the truth.

The Southern Mindanao Mission has been self-supporting since its organization three years ago. God has blessed this mission financially and spiritually and for this we are exceedingly thankful.

### **East Visayan Mission**

—P. B. GONZALES, *President*

There are six provinces and scores of small islands, nearly all of which are inhabited, in the East Visayan Mission. It is interesting to note that several of our large churches are located on small islands.

Through our concerted efforts and by the help of God, we were able to baptize 898 souls in 1951 and 901 in 1952, a total of 1,799 for the biennial period. The membership of the mission is 6,714, a ratio of one member for every 610 population. Our total working force numbers 219, including our 103 lay preachers.

Twelve major evangelistic efforts were held during the two years under consideration. Scores of cottage meetings were held by our lay preachers. The effort held in the Voice of Hope tabernacle in the populous city of Cebu resulted in the baptism of 35 souls. This outstanding evangelistic campaign was carried on by Pastors M. G. Yorac and C. M. Basconcillo. A church was raised up in Abuyog, Leyte, through the efforts of Pastor Gulfan and Brother E. Dicen. Pastor Banez baptized more than 40 souls as the result of his meetings in Ipao and Calbayog City, the center of the Catholic hierarchy on the big island of Samar. A goodly group of believers was raised up in Larena, Siquijor. A terrible swarm of locusts stripped the Island of Masbata. The report is that the locusts are there to stay. These calamities have greatly affected our income. We had a drop in tithe of more than 28,000 pesos as compared with that of 1951. We want to reiterate our deep and sincere appreciation to the General Conference, the Far Eastern Division, and to the South Philippine Union Mission for their generous aid during our time of need. Through typhoon-relief funds, our spacious dining hall at the Academy and many churches throughout the mission have been rebuilt.

**West Visayan Mission**

—D. C. SABRINE, *President*

As we review the activities of the West Visayan Mission during the past two years, we face the realization that as to material things our work has gone down but we have gone forward in adding precious souls to the fold of the Master. We have had a net gain in membership of more than 1,000 souls. Our membership at the end of the last quarter of 1952 was 8,798. Our baptisms for the two-year period totalled 1,362.

The year 1949 was a peak year in mission finances. Since then there have been business reverses and our mission has been frequented by typhoons and floods. Nevertheless, under the blessing of God, we were able to report a total tithe of 185,165.98 pesos. Our degree of self-support dropped from 94 percent in 1949-1950 to 86 percent in 1951-1952. This is based on our operation from local funds alone, exclusive of non-operating income.

The past two years have been years of great bless-

ings from God over His work in general but in particular the publishing work in the West Visayan Mission. Our colporteurs have penetrated hitherto untouched territories with the third angel's message. We have an average of 55 reporting colporteurs and they report deliveries totalling 157,141.93 pesos. They also report 119 baptisms. The total income to our Book and Periodical Agency for the two years amounted to 86,920.39 pesos which is a net gain of 311.40 pesos.

We are glad to report that our goal of 2,500 pesos, set by the Union Mission as our share of the campaign for funds for our Mountain View College, has been reached and more too. We have raised among our churches, teachers and workers 5,139.70 pesos in pledges with 236.00 in cash already turned in. We hope to double our goal in cash by the end of the campaign, March, 1953. Most of the workers and teachers each pledged the price of a hectare as their donation to the campaign.

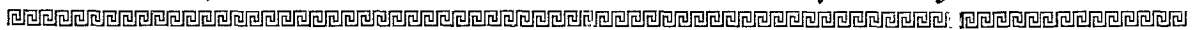
We have 3,380 young people scattered about in our mission and they are doing their work of soul winning. At Sta. Barbara, during a cottage meeting conducted by the brethren, a certain group of five intoxicated young men harassed the speakers during the meeting. They asked a lot of questions. The discussion lasted until midnight. The group decided to find out for themselves about the truth of the doctrines presented. One of the boys stole a Bible from a Protestant library. The leader of the group asked his parish priest to lend him a Catholic Bible. After a careful study and comparison of the two Bibles, they concluded that the Adventists had the truth and the gang leader stood firm in his convictions. Persecutions and oppositions arose but he remained faithful and he is now a deacon in the nearby church. He accompanies the youth leader when he goes to the nearby barrios to do missionary work.

Formerly we had but one academy. Now we have a Junior Academy in Magallon, Occidental Negros. In this school the elementary grades and two academy grades are taught and six teachers are employed.

The field adventure days have gained a foothold in our churches. Two hundred and eighty-three gospel teams have been organized and 5,520 homes have been visited. Thirty-five have become interested in our truth through the work of our Dorcas Societies.



*Department Secretaries Tell Of Progress*



**Radio and Voice of Prophecy:**

Broadcasts over DYRC and DYH2, Radio Stations in the City of Cebu, started on September 9, 1950. Recently the programs were shifted to Class A time, 7:30 to 7:45 Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Our radio evangelism was a means of attracting large crowds to our public evangelistic effort in the

Voice of Hope Tabernacle in Cebu. Thirty-five souls were baptized as a result of this effort.

In connection with our radio work, we have opened a Bible Correspondence School, "Tingog Sa Paglaun," as it is known locally. At first the school was confined to the Cebuan-speaking people.

On March 15, 1952, the Voice of Prophecy Bible

Correspondence course in English was added to "Tingog Sa Paglaum."

The cost of each radio broadcast is 39.38 pesos on Class A time. In 1950 the cost was 13.23 pesos per broadcast.

—M. G. YORAC, *Secretary*

### Press Relations:

One editor of a Cebu newspaper was surprised to learn that our real name is *Seventh-day Adventist* or *Adventists* and not *Sabadista*. We must acquaint our newspapers with our real name.

We have made contact with every newspaper in the city of Cebu and they all know where our Union headquarters are located. All are friendly to us.

The leading newspapers in the City of Cebu gave 50 column-inches of space to the Seventh-day Adventists for news about the biennial session.

Last year 50 column-inches of Seventh-day Adventists news were printed in Cebu papers.

—D. M. HECHANOVA, JR., *Secretary*

### Publishing:

The 200 or more colporteurs in the South Philippine Union delivered 733,412.44 pesos' worth of literature during the biennial term.

Four hundred and sixty-nine souls were won to Christ through the efforts of the 200 or more colporteurs.

On August 16, 1952, eighty-eight souls were baptized by A. Z. Roda, president of the Southern Mindanao Mission, 73 of whom were the direct results of reading the book, *Great Controversy*. The books had been sold to them by Colporteur Sagadsad.

Allowing the average of five people to a home, we have in the South Philippine Union one colporteur for every 47,333 people or 9,466 homes.

Colporteurs in S. P. U. pay cash for their books and, if they have an account at the B. & P. A., they pay ten percent of their deliveries to apply on said account. This plan is known as the "Ten Percent Savings' Plan" and the "Cash and Carry Policy."

—F. M. BAYONA, *Secretary*

### Home Missionary:

There are 655 Missionary Societies in the South Philippine Union and they have a membership of 24,907.

During the past two years, 132,271.12 pesos have been raised in the Ingathering campaigns.

Seventy-two Training Light Bearers Classes were organized during the past biennial period and 864 certificates for Lay Bible Instructors were issued.

Eighteen lay preachers' institutes were conducted throughout the Union and 897 lay preachers' certificates were issued by the Home Missionary Department.

One hundred and sixty-one laymen's institutes, rallies, and conventions were conducted.

—P. R. DLAZ, *Secretary*

### Medical:

In the industrial city of Iligan, some 20 miles from the Lakeside Clinic, our major medical institution, the Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital, is nearing completion. F. T. Geslani, M.D., is the medical director.

At Cebu, the center of our work, we envision the makings of a second medical institution, the Miller Clinic. The establishment of this clinic should largely be credited to the foresight and generosity of Dr. H. W. Miller.

A total of 9,200 out-patients registered at the Lakeside Clinic during the years 1951 and 1952.

The Lakeside Clinic contributed 25,000 pesos to the building fund of the Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital. The Lord has blessed the Lakeside Clinic financially. Its spiritual contribution cannot be measured in pesos.

—R. T. SANTOS, *Secretary*

### Missionary Volunteer:

The young people of the South Philippine Union have a special project—that of evangelizing the Mohammedan Maranaos of Lanao. A. B. Savilla is the missionary and he is supported by the prayers and offerings of the young people. During the past biennial period they have contributed 5,328.58 pesos to this worthy project.

Six outstanding investiture services were held during the biennial term. On these occasions the following classes were represented: *Master Guide*, 34; *Guide*, 100; *Companion*, 248; *Friend*, 597; 243 were invested in the Pre-Friend Classes.

We have six active Medical Cadet Corps in the South Philippine Union. The following certificates have been issued: Junior Red Cross First Aid, 132; Standard Red Cross First Aid, 248; Advanced Red Cross First Aid, 248; Red Cross First Aid Instructor's Course, 13.

During this biennial term, 13 MV rallies have been held in the four missions of this union. Regional youth conventions were held in three local missions.

—J. R. OBREGON, *Secretary*

### Education:

The school year 1952-53 opened last July with 2,767 pupils enrolled in the 91 elementary schools. Ninety-nine elementary teachers are employed.

Two new junior academies were opened this year in addition to the three recognized academies already in existence.

The total enrollment of the five academies is 864 and 39 teachers are faithfully doing their work.

During the past biennial period, 163 elementary pupils and 98 academy students were baptized, a total of 261 souls converted to the truth.

The college and academy Ministerial Association in Maticao sponsored cottage meetings last December and as a result 26 souls were baptized.

Government officials have spoken of our schools in these terms: "an academy good for vegetarianism

and a school well suited for character building," "the best institution in the whole Mindanao area," and "the only vocational school in Cebu with its excellent poultry project."

Our elementary teachers are nearly all products of the Philippine Union College Extension in Manticao.

The preferred transitional curriculum for all Seventh-day Adventist high schools which was approved on June 20, 1951, by the Bureau of Private Schools, provided vocational training for our youth. Today extensive studies are given in horticulture, poultry raising, arts and trades for boys and home economics for girls.

—P. D. ROCERO, *Secretary*

**Sabbath School:**

Eighty-seven Sabbath school conventions were held during the past biennial period.

In 1952, 101 branch Sabbath schools were conducted with a membership of 634.

Sabbath school members in the South Philippine Union gave a total 162,054.88 pesos in mission offerings in 1951 and 1952.

As a result of the Sabbath School Centennial Anniversary program, 285 "missing members" were reclaimed.

According to reports received, 4,748 Sabbath school members were baptized this past biennial period.

—P. R. DIAZ, *Secretary*



## Introducing Two New Institutions



### Mountain View College

By V. L. BARTLETT, *President*

The greatest evangelistic challenge facing the Seventh-day Adventist church in the Philippines is that of educating the 20,000 youth coming from Adventist homes in these islands. Philippine Union College, established by God-fearing men under divine direction, has made available a type of education most necessary for the preparation of one class of workers—the professional group. At the Mountain View College in Mindanao in a more rural location something is being done toward the development of a more balanced educational program.

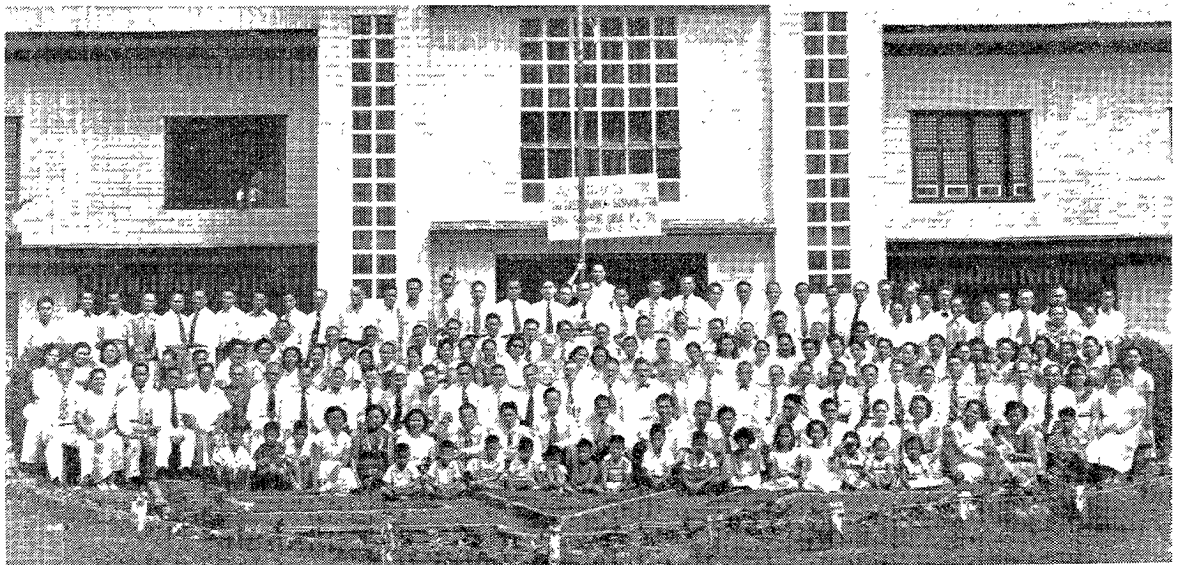
On December 23, 1951, we were advised by the Director of Lands that we should begin immediately to occupy the land in Bukidnon which had been vacated by the squatters. Thus it was that on January

1, 1952, two tractors and two trucks were moved to the new college site. Brother Abesta, two boys, and I made up this first party. On January 15, eight more boys and Pastor Mary joined our group.

We were granted land in Bukidnon by the government at a cost of 25.00 pesos per hectare on August 4, 1952, and we now have in our possession full title to the property, subject only to our making payments during the next ten-year period.

We purchased and installed a Corinth No. 2 saw-mill. This we felt would be satisfactory for our beginning operations. After some delays, the forest concession was granted on October 25, 1952.

Pioneer Hall, a building of bamboo barely large enough to accommodate 25 boys was soon overly crowded. Homes for the supervisors were quickly constructed of bamboo with grass roofs. A temporary bamboo chapel was likewise built, as well as



*Delegates and Others in Attendance at the South Philippine Union Session*

tool sheds to protect the 65,000 pesos' worth of equipment. In August, as some lumber became available, a small cafeteria was constructed and room was thus made for the boys to sit down while eating.

We are now producing between 8,000 and 10,000 board feet per week. We have standing orders for lumber delivery that it would take us the next six months to fill.

After having met the problem of planting our rice and corn, we soon faced the unavoidable responsibility of harvesting without loss. Our corn harvest began in August. Up to the present time we have sold more than 1,000 pesos' worth, and, although we have been using it as our basic food for five months, we have left on hand about 4,000 pesos' worth. We have harvested about 1,000 cavans (2,130 bushels) of palay (rice in the husk). From our first crop of peanuts planted on January 15, 1952, we harvested 96 sacks. We should harvest about 2,000 or 3,000 cavans during March and April. Soy beans seem to give promise of being our best income-producing crop. From the seeds that have been planted, we should be able to gather enough seed to plant about 30 hectares.

We have experimented in the raising of all kinds of native garden products, such as pechay, radishes, cabbage and okra, as well as full-sized American tomatoes, Chinese peas, carrots, lettuce, etc. In order to make possible the harvesting of our abaca (Manila hemp), we have purchased an abaca-stripping machine.

We are very happy over the arrival of R. C. Hill on February 13, 1952. We are now looking forward to greater developments in our farm program. C. L. Martin was called to our college with the express thought in mind that he would develop our hydro-electric plant.

In order for us to conduct classes in Bukidnon this next school year, we will need two dormitory wings, twelve classrooms, a cafeteria and an elementary school. These must all be constructed before May 15. We are happy for the financial standing of our

school at Manticao. With an enrollment of 136 students, we have been able to operate without loss. We believe that we have reason for encouragement as we look forward to combining our Manticao organization with our Bukidnon project for this coming school year.

## Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital

BY F. T. GESLANI M. D.  
*Medical Director*

The Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital is only a seven-month-old baby but under the blessing of God she has shown all the attributes of a healthy child. She has survived the critical period of her life.

About the middle of last year, a temporary clinic was operated in downtown Iligan on a half-day basis at first. The purpose of this was to introduce ourselves to the public in preparation for the opening of the hospital. There was nothing attractive about the place at all. Our clinic occupied two small, bare rooms with very limited, if not borrowed, supplies and facilities. The amazing thing in our experience was that each succeeding month proved itself better than the previous one.

Since its beginning, the clinic has been self-sustaining. More than that, it has prematurely assumed its role as a supporting and contributing small clinic. Practically all of its monthly profits have gone into the hospital construction. In its short span of life, it has accounted for some 12,000 pesos. This money has come from petty clinic services without the benefit of surgical and hospital fees. Last month was our banner month—2,000 pesos in cash receipts. There were more than 3,000 patient visits. Eighty percent of these were non-Adventists. Perhaps these contacts would not have been made were it not for the medical ministry.

The most urgent and pressing of all needs is the completion of our hospital building and for it to be equipped with the most essential facilities so that our services may be the most effective.

## Doubling the Membership in Four Years South Philippine Union Mission

Mission	Membership Jan. 1, 1950	Membership Dec. 31, 1952	Membership Dec. 31, 1953	No. Needed to Double Membership in 4 Years
East Visayan Mission	5,203	6,714	10,406	3,692
West Visayan Mission	6,934	8,792	13,868	5,076
Northern Mindanao Mission	4,143	5,451	8,286	2,835
Southern Mindanao Mission	1,980	3,967	3,960	( 71)
South Philippine Union Mission	18,260	24,924	36,520	11,596

The super goal in baptisms for 1953 is 11,596, however 3,500 is the goal for this year—very much less than the General Conference double-your-membership goal. We look forward to the outpouring of the latter rain to the end that the doubling of our membership may become a possibility and a reality.

—V. M. MONTALBAN



## Appointments

### East Visayan Mission:

*President* P. B. Gonzales  
*Secretary-Treasurer* Z. B. Cahilig

### Northern Mindanao Mission:

*President* E. A. Capobres  
*Secretary-Treasurer* M. M. Claveria

### Southern Mindanao Mission:

*President* A. Z. Roda  
*Secretary-Treasurer* P. S. Arriola

### West Visayan Mission:

*President* D. C. Sabrine  
*Secretary-Treasurer* M. M. Zamora

### Union Departmental Secretaries:

*Sabbath School and Home Missionary* P. R. Diaz  
*Educational and Parent and Home Education* L. L. Quirante  
 (P. D. Rocero has been retained in this department as Acting Secretary)  
*Missionary Volunteer, Medical Cadet, and Temperance* J. R. Obregon  
*Medical* Dr. R. T. Santos  
*Ministerial and Religious Liberty* G. de Guzman  
*Publishing* F. M. Bayona  
*Press Relations and Picture Librarian* D. M. Hechanova, Jr.  
*Radio* M. G. Yorac

### Members of the South Philippine Union Mission Executive Committee:

G. de Guzman, V. L. Bartlett, F. M. Bayona, Z. B. Cahilig, E. A. Capobres, P. R. Diaz, S. S.

Flores, F. T. Geslani, P. B. Gonzales, D. M. Hechanova, J. R. Obregon, G. Y. Ornopia, A. A. Poblete, L. L. Quirante, A. Z. Roda, D. C. Sabrine, R. T. Santos, M. G. Yorac, V. M. Montalban.

(Note: P. D. Rocero has been retained as a member of the Executive Committee until the arrival of his successor.)

—V. M. MONTALBAN

## Ordination Service

BY G. DE GUZMAN

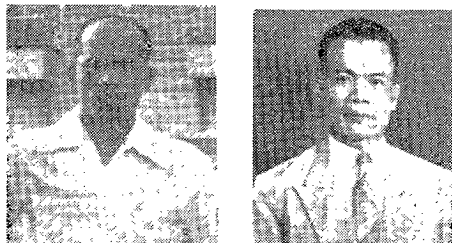
An ordination service was held in the spacious auditorium of the East Visayan Academy in Cebu on February 28, 1953. On this occasion five workers of the South Philippine Union Mission were set aside for the sacred work of the gospel ministry. This ordination service brought to a close the first biennial session of the South Philippine Union Mission.

Twenty-three ordained ministers from this Union and three visiting ministers from the Far Eastern Division participated in this solemn rite of ordination. Pastor E. L. Longway, at present connected with the Far Eastern Division, led the congregation in earnest supplication for God's blessing upon this solemn meeting. The Voice of Hope quartet sang the beautiful song, "When I Met My Saviour," after which Pastor A. Z. Roda, president of the Southern Mindanao Mission, gave a brief sketch of the services given our cause by each of the men to be ordained. Pastor C. P. Sorensen preached the ordination sermon, setting forth the high and exalted calling of the gospel ministry. Pastor V. T. Armstrong offered the ordination prayer. Pastor G. de Guzman, president of the Union Mission, read the charge, and Pastor E. A. Capobres, president of the

WORKERS ORDAINED AT THE SOUTH PHILIPPINE UNION BIENNIAL SESSION



Upper, Left to Right: Teoderico B. Tortal, Francisco Cabansag, and Rosendo Cuizon.  
 Lower, Left to Right: Florencio Arroqante and Arsenio A. Poblete



Northern Mindanao Mission, extended the hand of welcome to the newly ordained ministers. A spirit of cordiality, mixed with the feeling of solemn responsibility, prevailed as the 26 ordained ministers gave the hand of fellowship to five fellow ministers of the gospel. We shall list herewith the names of the five men who were ordained and tell a bit about their experience in the work.

Arsenio A. Poblete has given more than 15 years of service for our young people. He has been a teacher, preceptor, and principal in our academies and also in our college in Manila. At the present time he is the principal of our Mindanao Mission Academy in the Northern Mindanao Mission.

Francisco Cabansag has been in the work for more than 20 years. He has served as evangelist and travelling nurse. He will serve as an evangelist in the Southern Mindanao Mission.

Florence Arrogante has spent more than 10 years in direct evangelism in the East Visayan Mission. At the present time he is connected with the Southern Mindanao Mission as Sabbath school and Home Missionary secretary.

Rosendo Cuizon is a nurse by training but he has a great burden for preaching. He has spent 10 years in the medical ministry. He is now being assigned to the East Visayan Mission to serve as a full-time evangelist.

Teoderico B. Tortal has been in the organized work for 20 years, first as a church school teacher and later as an evangelist in the West Visayan Mission.

With the ordination of these five men to the ministry, we now have 28 ordained ministers in the South Philippine Union, not including those who are now on sustentation.

Our hearts were stirred and solemnized as Pastor H. W. Peterson brought home to us again a realization of our tremendous responsibilities in this critical hour of earth's history. Following this we were led in a prayer of thanksgiving by Pastor Pohan.

As we reviewed the record of the past three years, our hearts were thrilled to note that the church membership had grown from 15 to 53, and of that number 15 were formerly of the Moslem faith.

Our thanks are due our members as we report the following financial attainments during the three years. Tithes and offerings received are as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tithes</i>	<i>S. S. Offerings</i>
1950	M\$4,509.93	M\$ 872.50
1951	5,983.14	1,258.40
1952	7,848.10	1,500.59

The Dorcas Society of the Malay church has had a large part in bringing about the success which the church has enjoyed. Distress has been alleviated for many both within the church and among non-believers. Through the contacts made in this ministry, some were led to accept the message. The Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer Societies have long been organized to "share their faith" through visiting, distribution of literature, securing enrollments for the Voice of Prophecy, and by bringing cheer to the sick and the distressed.

As we face the gigantic task of giving the gospel of the kingdom to the Malay-speaking people of this country, we sense our own inadequacy for the work. However, we are of good courage for we look to Him in faith whose promises fail not. We are assured that He will finish the work and that He will be with us always "even unto the end."

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**MALAYAN UNION MISSION**

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*Secretary-Treasurer* ..... C. C. Cleveland  
*Postal Address*: . . . 399 Upper Serangoon Rd.  
 Singapore, Asia.

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**NORTH PHILIPPINE UNION MISSION**

*President* ..... M. C. Warren  
*Secretary-Treasurer* ..... R. C. Mills  
*Postal Address* ..... P. O. Box 401  
 Manila, Philippines

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**Malay Church Celebrates Third Anniversary**

BY DJAMAAN SOELAIMAN

Saturday night, April 4, 1953, was the occasion of a very simple but impressive thanksgiving service followed by a program of music. The happy occasion was the third anniversary of the Singapore Malay church. In addition to the members of the church, fellow believers from the English, Chinese and Seminary churches, Voice of Prophecy students and a host of friends were present and entered heartily into the spirit of the occasion. It was thrilling to see that throng of people enter the church at Balestier Road and among them were several prominent Moslems. Every seat in the English church was taken and many were standing. An inspirational program had been carefully planned and R. A. Pohan led out in this.

**Precious Moments in N. P. U.**

BY ETHEL YOUNG

To know a school one must see it in action. Believing this, V. R. Jewett, educational secretary of the North Philippine Union Mission, Miss Nellie Ferree, director of elementary education at Philippine Union College, local mission superintendents, and the writer visited many schools in action in that union mission the early part of this year. The days were filled to the brim. Every precious moment counted as we observed classes, held teachers' meetings, surveyed school plants, met with the parents in promotional work, spoke to the students and church members, heard stories of miraculous conversions and evidences of the Lord's guidance, traveled to new locations and enjoyed the wonders of nature in the North Philippine Union.

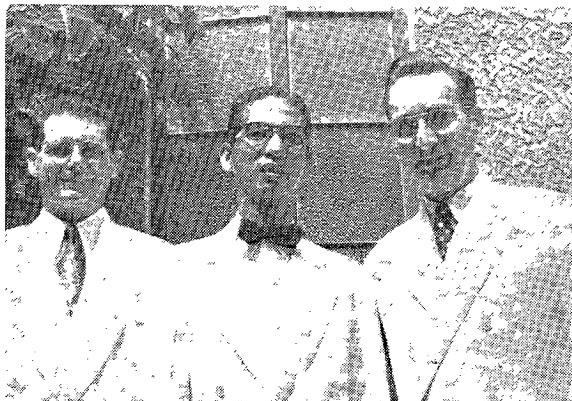
There was just one thing wrong with this itinerary—the precious moments were not long enough! At each place we visited, we wished that it might have been possible to stay longer. But even in this hurried program there seemed to be a parallel to the need and the urgency of promoting Christian education in the Philippines. More than half of the young people in this new republic are not enrolled in our own denominational schools. What a challenge! If we could only realize that it is as it were but for *one precious moment* that we are able to conduct church schools, academies and colleges. Let us never forget that it is but for a very short time that we have the youth in our hands. For a little while there is a desire to learn, an urge to accomplish each one's part in the fulfillment of the third angel's message in this part of the world.

"In the closing scenes of this earth's history, many . . . children and youth will astonish people by their witness to the truth, which will be borne in simplicity, yet with spirit and power. They have been taught the fear of the Lord, and their hearts have been softened by a careful and prayerful study of the Bible. In the near future many children will be embued with the Spirit of God, and will do a work in proclaiming the truth to the world. . . . They will do a work in the world that not all the powers of evil can counteract." *C.P.T.*, pp. 166, 167.

What about it in your family, your church, your community? Are all the children in?" Time is fleeting! During this precious moment in the lives of our youth let us prepare them for the days ahead and their part in the finishing of the work.

"Behold, I come quickly." Let us act today!

"While we should put forth earnest efforts for the masses of the people around us, and push the work into foreign fields, no amount of labor in this line can excuse us for neglecting the education of our children and youth." *CPT* p. 165.



Three Young Men Ordained at the North Philippine Union Biennial Session. Left to right: B. B. Buck, R. P. Alinsod and R. C. Mills

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## SOUTH PHILIPPINE UNION MISSION

President . . . . . Gil de Guzman

Secretary-Treasurer . . . . V. M. Montalban

Postal Address . . . . . P. O. Box 3

Cebu City, Philippines

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## Lighters of Candles

BY ETHEL YOUNG

The first thing God did for this world was to say "Let there be light!"

It is every teacher's duty that he be a lighter of candles. These candles are small candles—the lives of the pupils who sit in the teachers' classes year after year. Many of these candles never become more than just small candles, but now and then a teacher looks back and sees some small candle become a beacon light which leads humanity nearer heaven.

During the month of February, it was the privilege of the writer to hold elementary teachers' institutes in each of the missions of the South Philippine Union Mission. The many teachers came to these institutes eager for help. It was the privilege of the following to be present at these institutes and to endeavor to help fill some of these teachers' needs: G. M. Matthews, associate secretary of the General Conference department of education, W. O. Baldwin, educational secretary of the Division, Pelagio Rocero, educational secretary of the South Philippine Union, Miss Priscilla Jimenez, director of elementary education at Mountain View College, local mission educational superintendents, and the writer.

I wish it were possible to retell here the soul-thrilling story of each teacher as related at these institutes. I wish you might hear their fervent voices as they shared with us a little of the light from the candles of their schools. You would enjoy meeting people who, with God's help, build buildings, wade rivers, plan and promote church school self-help-projects, direct adult education classes, teach mission schools, and who have helped 261 young people give their hearts to the Lord and be baptized these past two years. You would enjoy meeting men and women who conduct branch Sabbath schools and Training Light Bearers' classes in addition to teaching their daily, heavy load of classwork.

At the close of the institutes, I had the special treat of making my first journey to Bukidnon to see the site of the Mountain View College. Oh, the vastness and the grandeur of the place! It seemed significant to me that the neighbors of the college have already named it "The School of the Light." We arrived at the college at night, and miles before we reached the present temporary buildings, I saw the lights on the hill shining through the darkness and the rain. As we crossed the vast plains and wound up the sides of the mountains, it seemed to me there was so much darkness all around me. The darkness seemed impenetrable. Yet ahead shone forth lights from "The School of Light,"—more candles in this world of darkness.



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**MANILA EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS**

In a letter under date of April 22, 1953, F. W. Detamore writes as follows about the meetings being held in the Flight of Time auditorium in the city of Manila:

"Thirty-two took their stand last Sabbath afternoon, including two laywers. This makes a total of 253 who have thus signified their intentions. Last Friday 41 were baptized which makes a total of 143 baptisms. Brother Turner and his baptismal committee are doing the very best they can. Our Filipino workers are proving very capable and certainly very loyal.

"Only seven more weeks to go. It will be wonderful to be with the folks back home again. Oh, how I hate to leave the Orient!

"Many thrilling experiences and victories are now manifesting themselves here. The girl who has been taking care of my laundry, etc., has been a strong Catholic but she has been coming to the meetings. Yesterday afternoon she took her stand and last night her folks threw her out of the home and said they would have nothing more to do with her. One of our S. D. A. families took her in.

"We are seeing some wonderful miracles. A Catholic lady was longing for greater light. Last August she had a dream. She saw a strange building, the like of which she had not seen before. A little later she was told that there was a special blessing awaiting her on Saturday. Each Saturday she went to the Catholic church for a special season of prayer, seeking that special blessing. The Spirit also impressed her with the fact that it is wrong to eat pork. (She did not know this from the Bible and she told me this before I had ever spoken on unclean foods.) Walking along the road one day, she found a discarded handbill which led her to our meetings. Immediately she recognized the auditorium as the building she had seen in her dream. She has taken her stand and is preparing for baptism. One could write a book on miracles seen and heard of in a series of meetings such as we are holding."—C.P.S.

**FROM HERE AND THERE**

● Pastor K. Tilstra, who for so many years labored in the Indonesia Union Mission, has accepted a call to serve as the president of the Netherlands New Guinea Mission.

● Four of our union missions have held their biennial sessions since the beginning of this year, namely Indonesia, North and South Philippines and Japan. One of the outstanding events at each of these meetings was the ordination to the gospel ministry of 25 workers, overseas and national. One year ago at the time of the Korean Union biennial session, five of our national brethren were set apart for the gospel ministry.

● The year-end statistical report for the Division has just gone to the General Conference. The figures it contains are very revealing. We will mention only two of the same. During the year 1952 a total of 7,430 persons received the rite of baptism. This brings the membership of the Far Eastern Division to 62,110.

● Dr. G. H. A. McLaren, medical director of the Warburton Sanitarium and Hospital, has accepted a call to the Youngberg Memorial Hospital. Dr. James Nelson, who was connected with the Penang Mission Hospital, has likewise been invited to be one of the staff physicians at the Youngberg Memorial Hospital.

● We welcome to our Division office personnel Misses Mavis Branton and Phyllis Lewis. They arrived from Sydney, Australia, on the 6th of May. When they accepted the call to come to Singapore they were both employed in the Australasian Division office. Our appreciation to said Division for sending us two such fine and capable young ladies.

● Two families from the Malayan Union compound will be leaving Singapore within the next few days. Pastor H. W. Peterson and family are leaving on their furlough. They will go via Europe and at Collonges, France, their oldest son, Leroy, will join them. He has been attending the French Adventist Seminary. Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Bond and Carol Lee are also homeward bound. They, too, will visit Europe en route. To the two families we say, "Good flying and happy landing!"

A cable has been received from R. M. Milne telling of the tragic death of Mrs. J. E. Sandness. We have as yet no particulars only that she was killed in a bus accident. The little son of M. Prayoon was killed in the same accident. We truly extend our sympathy to Dr. Sandness and the four children, to Brother and Sister Prayoon and to the parents and other relatives of Mrs. Sandness, all of whom are in the United States.