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FAR EASTERN DIVISION

outlook

A Time for Children



A Time for Children

By Jane Allen



Remember when you went to Vacation Bible School. Regular school had been out for at least two weeks, and already you were bored with all the play you had anticipated months before. Skipping rope was monotonous. Nobody wanted to play hopscotch. Your bicycle had a flat tire. And your mother was tired of your whining, "What can I do now?" Your little brother had to take a nap. There weren't enough kids in the neighborhood to play baseball. Even your cocker spaniel responded with a sleepy yawn when you tossed his favorite bone across the yard.

Just when you wondered how you could possibly endure another week of holidays, your Sabbath school teacher announced Vacation Bible School. There would be songs, stories, crafts, and refreshments! For a lot of kids Vacation Bible School is the highlight of summer vacation. It was for me. For one week I didn't mind getting up early and making my bed before breakfast, and I didn't mind wearing shoes again. I still didn't like to have my braids





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combed everyday, but I could recite memory verses while my mother wrestled with the tangles.

Adventists have been conducting Vacation Bible Schools since the late 1940s and early 1950s. Thousands of Sabbath schools around the world extend their regular weekly programs once a year for about 10 days of children's meetings, usually held in the morning. This is a time many non-Adventist children look forward to too, because special effort is made to invite lots of visitors. This is just what the Sabbath school of the Dunman Road Church in Singapore did in June. It was the first time the church had held a Vacation Bible School in several years. Bernice Hafner, kindergarten leader, led out.

"Attendance averaged between 25 and 30," reports Miss Hafner, "but on two days it reached 50." Average attendance for Sabbath school in the children's divisions is 10 to 15.

More than half of the junior- and primary-age children who attended





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Vacation Bible School, were from non-Adventist homes. There were kids from Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, and Muslim homes. There were Chinese, Malays, and Indians. They made raffia baskets and Popsicle-stick pictures. They learned songs about Jesus and recited the pledge to their national flag. Pastor Pham Kow Seng presented health talks, one of the young men in the church directed games, and other adults assisted with Bible lessons, singing, storytelling, and crafts.

"You are very kind to invite us to Vacation Bible School," one little boy said at the end of the week. A little girl wondered if there would be a Vacation Bible School again in August since they would have another school holiday.

Those of us who watched their graduation program on Sabbath morning knew that it had been an exciting week for those children. They marched in proudly, stood in straight lines, sang with gusto, and most of them sat as quietly as possible during the short sermon. Then the big moment came when their names were called, and they walked up in front of everybody to shake hands with the pastor and get their certificates. One of the smallest girls was so nervous she forgot to shake hands. For a lot of those kids Vacation Bible School will be the highlight of their school holiday.



GC Recorded in Sight and Sound

Wish you could have been in Vienna for the General Conference session?

Church leaders, colorful costumes, choirs, bands and the joy of committed believers will all be captured in *Sights and Sounds*, a slide and tape report of the GC session.

The series of 70 slides and tape cassette commentary in English covers the main events of the 52nd World Conference. The slides are 35mm taken by a professional photographer. Sound and commentary is available either on reel-to-reel or cassette.

The set is available for US\$24.50 from Audio Visual Services, 1100 Rancho Conejo Boulevard, Newbury Park, CA 91320, U.S.A.

Whether or not you attended the General Conference session you will want this souvenir from Austria.

Missionaries Wanted

Filipino missionaries are needed to serve the church in Africa. Current needs are for a physician at the Ishaka Hospital in Uganda and a nurse for the Bongo Hospital in Angola. Interested persons should write to D. A. Roth, Assistant Secretary, Far Eastern Division, 800 Thomson Road, Singapore 11.



PR Man Receives Honorary Degree

J. R. Ferren, architect of the denomination's modern-day public relations ministry, received an honorary doctor of letters degree from John W. Cassell, president of Pacific Union College. Citing his "outstanding service to the Christian cause through skilled and dedicated work with the media of mass communications," PUC's academic dean, John Christian recounted highlights of Ferren's career in a citation read in a special ceremony which followed the college graduation in June. After 39 years of service with the Pacific Press Publishing Association, Ferren was invited in 1942 to become world press relations secretary of the Adventist church. His General Conference leadership in press relations was characterized by the development of an effective press relations ministry which grew from an essentially in-operative effort in 1942 to press relations secretaries active in nearly all the denomination's 3,000 churches in North America when he retired in 1954.

dateline

Jericho

Jericho was a flourishing city considerably larger than today's town when Christ visited it, according to an archeologist at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Reporting on the completion of excavations there, Bhud Netzer said the expedition found a sophisticated network of aqueducts. The expedition also found Herod's hippodrome, mentioned by the historian Josephus, and a swimming pool in which the priest Aristobolus III was drowned by order of Herod.

Sweden

Sweden hopes to develop a nation of nonsmokers, beginning with children born in 1975. Sweden's program is expected to include greater efforts to help people stop smoking and to prohibit smoking in public places. It will include accelerated antismoking campaigns in schools and maternity clinics, progressive restrictions on cigarette advertising and increased prices through higher taxes on cigarettes. The long-range program designed by the advisory committee to the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare, emphasizes the importance of children growing up in a nonsmoking environment.

Vacation Bible School is an exciting time for children around the world, and hundreds of youngsters are first introduced to the Lord Jesus through this means. The story of the Dunman Road VBS in this issue of OUTLOOK is typical of hundreds throughout the Far Eastern Division.

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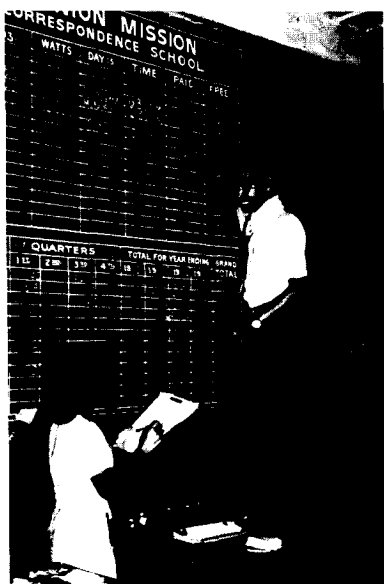
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central philippines

Voice of Prophecy Leads Many to Truth

The Voice of Prophecy continues to lead thousands of people to Jesus Christ every year. This is one of the tools of evangelism utilized in the Central Philippines. Last year 4,329 students enrolled in the various Bible courses offered. Some 3,002 took the English course, 425 took the Cebuan, and 902 took the Panayan course. Currently the CPUM Voice of Prophecy is broadcasting four programs,



Voice of Prophecy director, V. F. Bocala, records a quarterly report on the tally board of the Central Philippine Union Mission office. English instructor, La Verne Gulfan, reads the figures.

two from the city of Antique, another from Cebu City, and a fourth from Iloilo City.

V. F. Bocala is director of the Voice of Prophecy in Cebu, with a staff of three, La Verne Gulfan, English Bible instructor, Mrs. E. E. Donato, office secretary, and S. D. Obregon, Visayan Bible instructor.

east indonesia

Parents' Day Held at North Celebes Academy

"The educational program of North Celebes Academy depends upon three factors—students, teachers, and parents," Nathan Ruhupatty, speaker at the school's annual Parents' Day, told his audience. "If any of these factors is neglected, the program of the academy will fail," he continued.

Parents' Day, which actually extends over a weekend, included a Friday evening service by Phil Jones, Bible teacher at Mt. Klabat College, Sabbath services, many special musical numbers, recognition of outstanding students, and parent-teacher discussions.

Parent-teacher discussions ran the gamut from cafeteria food to school regulations and academic standards. These conferences have always proved very helpful and indicate that both the teachers and parents have a deep concern for their school.

With 213 students enrolled at

North Celebes Academy, the school has a teaching staff of 13. The students come from the North and South Minahasa Missions. Last year 94 percent of the students passed the government's senior academy final test, and every student passed the junior academy final examination.

japan



Tokyo Dedicates Tenth Church

The newest Seventh-day Adventist church in Tokyo, the Nishisugamo church, resembles a Swiss chalet, painted white with black trimmings, and potted flowers at the entrance. The two-story wooden structure with a seating capacity of 50, has a sanctuary on the top floor and a parsonage and multipurpose room on the ground floor. Dedication services for the new church were held on May 11 with Union President S. Kunihiro, presenting the dedicatory sermon.

korea

Laymen's Organization Helps Rural Churches

The Laymen's Association of the Central Korean Mission was organized about five years ago to support lay workers who are pastoring churches that have no regular pastor. Last year some 1,500 church members joined the association, and by paying a small membership fee, were thus able to send lay workers into twelve rural churches of the Central Mission. Sabbath school membership in these churches increased by 113 last year. The association has set a goal of 2,000 members for 1975. — *T. C. Kim.*

north philippines

Gospel Extends to Mangyan Tribes

"I sincerely believe that the Lord commissioned the Seventh-day Adventist church to preach the gospel not only among the civilized people of the world, but even among the tribal people of the mountains," states Oseas Rivera, teacher of the Mangyan tribes in the mountains of Paluan, Occidental Mindoro, Philippines.

It is interesting to note how the work has grown among the people of this tribe. Previously the only place to establish a contact with this tribe was the Lamont Mangyan Mission School in Olasan, Paluan. But today, the work among these people has branched out to several places.

On several occasions Rivera expressed the need for a motor boat with which to make visits to church

members and prospective members. The South-Central Luzon Mission was not in a position to buy a boat, however, the Lord provided this need through two donators. Andrew Dressler, Jr. of Subic Naval Base in Olongapo City donated the outboard motor while L. E. Smart of the Atlantic Union Conference contributed the boat.

"Instead of spending one day hiking over the hills and mountains to visit our new Mangyan believers in their respective localities, we spend only three to four hours traveling by boat," reports Rivera. — *Eduardo L. Dingoasen.*

We're on Vacation!

OUTLOOK will return to its regular size and format next month.

west indonesia

Baptisms Result from Health Education

The baptism of 12 new church members in Medan, Sumatra, can be traced back directly to a health education program.

Following the instruction of E. Liwijaya, health secretary of the West Indonesia Union Mission, the Medan Adventist Hospital launched a health program designed for people of various beliefs—Christian, Muslim, heathen. Nurse Nagari Sembiring conducted health education classes for former patients. After these classes, she requested a pastor to come and conduct Bible classes. When he reached the topics of smoking, drinking coffee and tea, and other temperance subjects, the members of the class had already accepted these principles during the health classes.

The 12 who were baptized after these sessions included five Muslims, three from other Christian groups, and four adhering to no particular religious belief. — *Rifai Burhanuddin.*



A group of Mangyans living in the mountains of Hinugasan, Paluan, Occidental Mindoro, Philippines, faithfully attend an Adult Branch Sabbath School conducted by the missionary teacher, Oseas Rivera, and the district pastor. These new believers are now living up to the true meaning of Hinugasa, their town, which means "washed," or "to be washed." The gospel of Christ has washed away the evil practices and sins from their lives.