

Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 2, Number 11

Like Streams of Light *Emphasis of Publishing Work*



As I was preparing for the upcoming Division-wide Publishing Advisory, I came up with some interesting material on how the Three Angels Message was first started in different parts of the world. And here is the list:

Africa-Indian Ocean Division:1888 by a Literature Evangelist

Euro-Asia Division:1888 by a Literature Evangelist

Inter-American Division:1887 by a Literature Evangelist

Northern Asia-Pacific Division:1888 by a Literature Evangelist

Southern Asia-Pacific Division:1888 by a Literature Evangelist

South American Division:1879 by a Literature Evangelist

South Pacific Division:1885 by a Literature Evangelist

Southern Asia Division:1893 by a Literature Evangelist

Trans-European Division:1878 by a Literature Evangelist

The work of nine out of the twelve World Divisions was started by literature evangelists. If we consider the work of the North American Division and two other Divisions somewhere along the way, the contribution of literature evangelists cannot be ignored. We may trace North America's work to the Advent movement, William Miller and Joseph Bates, but James White's small start with the publishing work in the beginning really helped in the establishment of the worldwide work. At one time the Publishing work and the General Conference were synonymous. Any country with more active literature evangelists is a place where our work in general is advancing prosperously.

On November 18, 1848 when Mrs. White had the vision on Publishing work she told her husband, "You must begin to print a little paper and send it out to the people. Let it be small at first; but as the people read, they will send you means with which to print, and it will be a success from the first. From the small beginning, it was shown to me to be like streams of light that went clear round the world." (Life Sketches, p. 125.) Since then almost 150 years have passed, and God's messenger's vision is fulfilling before our eyes everyday.

Now we are at the end of time, our Lord's coming is close, even at the door. Even with all the modern technology such as Radio, TV, satellite and Net Evangelism, in order to prepare a people to meet their God we still need literature evangelists to finish the work. It is just like modern warfare. The war may be ended within a short period of time with push button high technology, but foot soldiers are still needed to occupy the enemy's territory.

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division is planning for its first Publishing Advisory on the 20th - 22nd of April, 1998. The main purpose is to call the attention of Adventist leaders to how the published message will meet the urgent needs of the 1/4 of the world population who live in our territory.

With our limited resources, we are willing to try translating and publishing EGW's complete book series, 45 books in total, into NSD's three major languages. To bring unity to SDA churches, there is no other means better than giving the message directly from the pen of God's messenger.

The translation of the SDA Bible Commentary is another ambition of the NSD Publishing Department. SDA's have rich literature resources for nurturing and reaching out but the 25% of the world population in our division cannot be benefited without making greater efforts for translation.

It is a tremendous challenge to the NSD, but with God's help we can start the long process. It would be a great honor for anyone who is willing to contribute his or her resources to make these two projects a reality.

Your donation of love will last until eternity. Because of these two series of publications hundreds, even thousands will be ready to welcome the soon coming Lord.

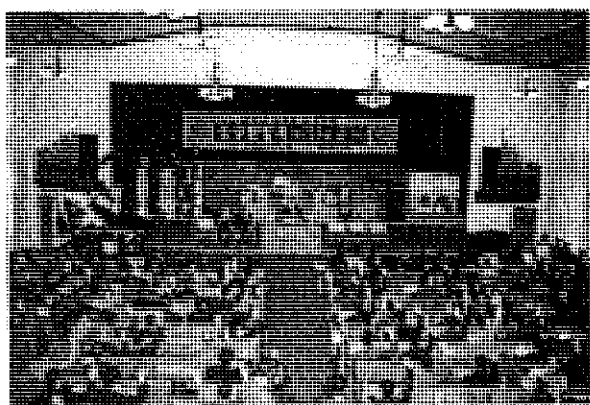
Richard Liu, Secretary & Acting Publishing Director

Church in Korea

Growing Despite Economic Crisis

Though Korea's economic crisis is severely impacting the nation, the Seventh-day Adventist Church still anticipates growth, according to church officials.

"To date we have reports of 6,500 baptisms for 1997 which brings the Adventist membership in Korea to 145,000 or one in 310 of the total population, worshipping in 670 churches," said B.S. Um, executive secretary of the Adventist Church in Korea.



East Central Korean Conference Session, January 7-9, 1998 at Seoul Adventist Hospital Church

K.D. Kim, treasurer for the church, reported that tithe income for 1997 (funds given to support the church's ministry) had increased by 18 percent over 1996.

This has occurred despite the dramatic fall in the foreign exchange value of the Korean Won which has meant significant price increases on imported goods, as well as lay-offs and pay cuts by both private and state employers.

The economic situation, however, is affecting the Church's employees. No salary increases are planned for 1998, and no new hirings of office staff. Pastoral staff numbers will only be slightly increased in spite of the growth in membership. Foreign workers who receive their wages in local currency will be particularly

hard hit, since their salaries have dropped by almost half in relation to major world currencies.

However Adventist Church leaders in Korea remain positive, and have a "good and courageous spirit" for the future. This attitude is clearly demonstrated by S.W. Han, president of the Adventist Church in Korea, who declared his strong desire to establish a medical school at the Adventist-owned Korean Sahmyook University during the East Central Korean Conference Session on January 8, 1998.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, Communication/PARL Director

We Expect for 1998

From Departmental Directors

1. Expectations
2. The Biggest Events
3. What I would like to say to all our church members.



Sabbath School/Personal Ministries/ Stewardship
Director : Hong, Myung Kwan

1. Sabbath School/Personal Ministries (a) Through the SS/PM directors Certification Seminar for the unions, local conferences/missions, the directors will be trained to lead Sabbath School and Personal Ministries in a more effective way.

(b) Small Group Evangelism training will be given to the SS/PM directors and lay leaders throughout the year.

(c) Sabbath School Program Helps will be distributed to the Unions to improve Sabbath school programs.

(d) Pictorial Aids and Personal Evangelistic Bible Study Lesson will be produced and distributed. People will be educated to use them effectively and efficiently. Thus they will understand the importance of personal evangelism when they reach out to others.

Stewardship Stewardship Leaders Certification Seminar will be a special activity in order to have the church leaders fully understand the biblical knowledge of stewardship, and inspire them to greater efforts as God's stewards.

2. Sabbath School/Personal Ministries SS/PM Directors Certification Training
Date: April 13 - 16 Venue: Hong Kong

Adventist World Radio

From Listeners' Letters



● I have listened to your broadcasts for more than a year. My interest grows everyday. I know that your programs are teaching me many good things. Thank God! - Mr Wong, China -

● I congratulate you for your programming which is of great spiritual value as it talks of Jesus Christ and His words that offer life. I think I have never heard anything like this before. - Maria, Costa Rica -

● AWR has attracted millions of listeners through its interesting and wonderful programs. Your staff is very graceful and organised in presenting the programs. - Egypt -

● We are regular listeners to your English programs. They are very, very beautiful and we like them very much. - Kaunik, India -

● I can hear your program very clearly in my part of Iran. I benefit greatly from your beautiful and hope-inspiring programs. I pray that God will grant you success. - Iran -

Experience the Power of God's Word



● I want to congratulate you for your programs. I think it's one of the best in Central America! - Francisco, Mexico -

● Our whole family enjoys your program, 'Voice of Hope'. We want to have the Holy Bible along with other Christian literature. - Baby, Pakistan -

● I tuned my radio to your broadcast. The program was a sermon about salvation, baptism and the crucifixion. The news touched my heart and the heart of those in the room with me." - Lazo, Nigeria -

● The programs have been very helpful in my spiritual journey. I am a sailor and when at sea I feel lonely at times but with your company on the program I feel at home. - Karo, Papua New Guinea -

● I am a 28 year old living in the eastern part of Russia. I heard your radio program and it touched me deeply. I've never heard someone speaking about God like you. The knowledge you gave me, the new words about Jesus are so exciting! - Tseta, Russia -

● I am a seventeen year old boy who listens to your radio program. I have found much blessing through your program. I'm praying for you that God's blessings may be with you as you preach the Good News to every nation. - Edmund, Tanzania -

Pastor's Meeting in Taiwan

Hong, Myung Kwan, Sabbath School/Personal Ministry Directory and David Parks, Ministerial Association Secretary of the NSD were the featured speakers at a Pastor's meeting in the Taiwan Mission, January 19-22, 1998. The meeting was held at the Mission office in Taichung.

Pastor Hong presented a series of lectures on Small Group Ministry with opportunity for the pastors to spend time in groups to practice and experience the principles he presented. Pastor Parks gave a series of Biblical studies on the Gospel Commission found in Matthew 28:18-20 and also shared additional information about the Net '98 evangelistic program.

David Parks, Ministerial Association Secretary

Thanks from Editor

● We recently received two letters from the USA. Mrs. Edith Smith wrote as follows: "We just received the News & Views (Vol. 2, Num. 11). ...I read it all... My heart has always been with the Far Eastern Division. ... We paid for the first machine to help broadcast the Voice of Prophecy in Korea." Dr. & Mrs. A. V. Wallenkampf had been at the Baesa campus of Philippine Union College in 1972-1976. In the letter Mrs. Wallenkampf says, "Perhaps there may be someone in your office or elsewhere in the Division who remembers my husband as their teacher in the Seminary ... Unfortunately, my husband is very ill and has been for some time with a terminal illness." May the Lord sustain and bless these former missionaries.



A Significant Event of This Year

Religious Liberty Special in Korea June 12-13, 1998

"If we do not have religious liberty, we can not worship God freely."

- Celebration : 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Purpose : Maintaining & Expanding Religious Liberty
Programs : Messages, Reports, Lectures and Music
Guests : John Graz and Bert B. Beach from General Conference
Attendees : Delegates from Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong etc.



*Dr. John Graz,
Director of Public
Affairs and
Religious Liberty*



*Dr. Bert B Beach,
Director of
Inter-Church
Relations*

Part 1: Religious Liberty Symposium

Time : 9:30 - 15:00 on June 12 (Friday), 1998
Venue : Korean Sahmyook University

* This program is focused on both Adventist and non-Adventist people. The tone of the meeting will be some what scholastic. We will invite other religious leaders and political leaders. This occasion will be a tremendous opportunity to share our faith with others.

Part 2: Festival of Religious Liberty

Time : 14:00 - 16:00 on June 13 (Sabbath), 1998
Venue : Seoul Adventist Hospital Church

* This program is especially focused on Adventist people.

Steward Ship Stewardship Certification Seminar
Date: May 29 - June 6 Venue: Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong

3. The absence of the Holy Spirit is the reason our spiritual condition is so weak today. It is the factor that makes the decided difference between the early church and the present church.

When we think of China, one anxious thought may be raised in our minds; how in the world can we reach all the villages of that great country? Approximately one fifth of the world population lives in China. All kinds of human organizations, equipment, technology, knowledge and wisdom might be of some help, but are not powerful enough to complete God's plan. The mission never can be finished by human beings, but it can be by the Almighty GOD's power.

Therefore, our priority in life for the bright year of 1998 should be to satisfy the following conditions as His sincere servants.

(a) Let's have a daily devotional time with the Holy Spirit and prepare our hearts for His presence.

(b) Let's be reaching out to our neighbourhood's. Let's be ready to share the bread of Life with them.

Youth Ministry

Director : David Wong



The primary focus of youth ministry is the salvation of our youth. It is, therefore, the purpose of the Youth Department to facilitate and support the ministry of the church in winning, nurturing, holding, and reclaiming its youth by -

- Providing youth with a Bible-based foundation that will enable them to develop a life long relationship and commitment to the Lord;
- Leading youth to understand their individual worth in Christ and to discover and develop their spiritual gifts and abilities;
- Equipping and empowering youth for a life of service within God's church and the community;
- Ensuring the integration of youth into all aspects of church life and leadership in order that they might be full participants in the mission of the church.

In order to approach these challenges in a viable and logical manner, four major youth ministry *emphases* have been chosen for this quinquennium.

1996 : SPIRITUALITY - Developing and maintaining a living and meaningful relationship with God.

1997 : LEADERSHIP - Involving and leading out in the life and work of the church.

1998 : MISSION - Participating in the finishing of God's work on earth.

1999 : STEWARDSHIP - Committing totally to God in the use of time, talents, energy, influence, and finance.

It is important to note that each of these emphases will build on the one that precedes it so that at the end they will become a total approach, leading and preparing the youth to be the Lord's effective witnesses for the 21st century, if time shall last.

Thus, it is clear that the Youth Department will emphasize *YOUTH in MISSION* in 1998. It is our expectation that the Adventist youth, with spiritual fortitude and leadership skills acquired from the nurturing and training during the previous two years, convicted by His message and convinced of their responsibilities, will consider it a matter of great urgency to proclaim the everlasting gospel. These youth, being an integral part of the remnant church, will be challenged to be part of the mission of God's church. It is therefore the intent of youth ministry in 1998 to help youth find joy and satisfaction in such service and see it as both a privilege and a responsibility. All the youth ministry-related events that have been planned for this year will aim to fulfil the goal of making *mission* the lifestyle of every young man and young woman in the Adventist Youth movement.

Do you know? No. 1

This year, 1998, is the 110th Anniversary of the beginning of the NSD mission, because Abram La Rue, the first Seventh-day Adventist missionary in Asia, came to Hong Kong in 1888. On his way to Hong Kong he stopped in Japan. It is good for us to make some plans for reminding ourselves about the beginning of the work in this Division.

Do you know? No. 2

This year, 1998, is the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of human rights. This special anniversary began on December 10, 1997 and will culminate on December 10, 1998. Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations is as follows:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance."

ADRA Japan Feeds Mongolian Street Children

The temperature of Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, in the mid-winter is very cold. It is minus 30 centigrade even in the day time, and it becomes minus 40 centigrade at night. In such severely cold weather two representatives from ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) Japan arrived in Mongolia on January 23, 1998 to feed 500 street children in Ulaanbaatar. Stephano Tsukamoto, Director of ADRA Japan, planned to stay for one week and a young Japanese volunteer, Watanabe, planned to stay nearly three months for monitoring the distribution of food and winter clothes.

It is estimated that there are around 4,000 street children in Mongolia since the political changes in the country which occurred in 1991. The ages range from two to sixteen and they are living by begging, doing small jobs, and stealing. During the winter season they survive in manholes under the ground. According to Tsukamoto, as he went to see the street children in the Ulaanbaatar station, about 60 children were in the area. Since the station was closed in the evening, they went into manholes. Then Tsukamoto himself followed them and entered into a manhole where they stayed. It was an awful place of smelling badly with high humidity even though the temperature was only plus 10 centigrade. Having no opportunity to have education or health checks, many of them have health problems including venereal diseases. ADRA Japan was asked to help these children by the National Center for Children in Mongolia.

With the cooperation of ADRA Mongolia, ADRA Japan has made a detailed plan for this project. They are going to distribute 180,000 meals and used or new winter clothes and blankets for street children. While ADRA Japan was responsible for food (US \$ 50,000), ADRA Canada and US were responsible for clothes and blankets. When Tsukamoto met Mr. Kubota, the Ambassador of Japan to Mongolia, at the Japan Embassy in Ulaanbaatar, he was asked by the Ambassador to plan for a Japanese ADRA staff member to stay in Mongolia so that the Japan Embassy might cooperate with some projects more strongly in the future.

ADRA is a service organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church. There is just one Seventh-day Adventist Church in Mongolia that was organized at Ulaanbaatar with 26 charter members on October 11, 1997. According to Tsukamoto, however, there were already about 45 people who came to worship on January 31, 1998 and most of them were young people.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, Communication/PARL Director

Experience the Power of God's Word

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Secretary	Richard Liu
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Youth, Adventist Chaplaincy

David Wong

NEWS & VIEWS

Editor Tadaomi Shinmyo

Assistant to Editor Eileen Kim

Contributing Editors:

Japan Masaru Kawagoe

Korea Jung Kwon Chun

South China Island James Wu

East Asia Asso. Robert Wong

We Welcome Your Reports to
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Editor

Northern Asia-Pacific Division
Sam Hee Plaza (5th floor),
66 Chuyop-Dong, Ilsan Gu,
Koyang City, Kyonggi-Do,
Republic of Korea 411-370

NEWS & VIEWS February 1998