

NOTES OF PROGRESS

Vol. 9

April, 1939

No. 9

**M. V. PROJECT
SARAWAK MISSION AND ITS
SPECIAL NEED**

By M. P. Sormin

We express our heart-felt thanks to the Missionary Volunteers within the territory of the Malayan Union Mission for the help that they have given us last year to support the Dyak evangelist among the land Dyaks, thirty-seven miles from Kuching, the capital of Sarawak. We are happy that we can maintain him during this year by the surplus of last year's gift. The readers of the "Notes of Progress" enjoy, I am sure, to read about the evangelistic activities of brother Rueh through the pen of Pastor J. T. Pohan who has intimately laboured and associated with this brother.

Again this year we are indeed grateful to know from Prof. H. W. Jewkes, the Union M. V. Secretary that "Sarawak is the honoured field." The M. V. Project for the current year goes to the Tatau River, another section of our field, two days' journey by steamer northward, from the Capital, where we are working among the sea Dyaks or the Ibans, as they are called.

It has been nearly nine years since our work began in that section of the field. At this time of writing we have only brother E. Sinaga, one of the former ministerial students of the Malayan Seminary, accompanied and helped by brother U. R. Manju, one of our Dyak believers.

We are told that "the medical missionary work" is "the right arm to the third angel's message." It is also an apening wedge to our evangelical work. Long houses could have been visited and evangelized by our workers and more people, who are suffering from various kinds of diseases, could have been treated with free treatments; if we could only have our special need, A BOAT, the M. V. Project for this year. This is a field of opportunity to serve the long houses without any interference from any other denomination, a field which is within our sphere of influence. It is quite imperative then, to have the right

**CHURCH CALENDAR
April and May**

April 1—Medical Missionary Day
April 22—Missions Extension Day
May 6—Home Missionary Day

boat, in the right place and in the right time.

Brother E. Sinaga and his associate use a small sampan, run by an outboard motor, as a means of communication with our believers, interested ones, and to those who still grope in darkness. This is often unseaworthy during bad weather. It is really inconvenient for them to carry the work with such a mode of transportation. However, during the last five months they have given 1697 treatments in spite of this inconvenience, as they preached Christ and Him crucified to those benighted people. Many more treatments could have been given if we had had the boat.

The project, for this boat, has been set at \$300.00 to be raised by the Missionary Volunteers. Of course, such an amount could hardly buy a boat as large as the former missionary boat, "Sriban," but that amount and other private gifts with the engine of the "Sriban" which we still have, will be enough, to fill our urgent need. But we can hardly do anything without the \$300.00. We are indeed privileged to depend upon our Missionary Volunteers and those who are connected with them in the Malayan Union. Would you not do your best during this year to do your "bit" to make this project a success? We appeal to you, our young people. My mind goes to the Chorus of "Do your bit" No. 84 in Junior Song Book which is a favourite chorus to every M. V.

*"Lift a bit, help a bit, as you
onward go;*

*Care a bit, pray a bit, keep your-
self in tow;*

*Lift a bit, give a bit, all the
journey through;*

*And it will surprise you all the
good your bit may do."*

We depend and count on you dear young people of this Malayan

Union. If every youth sings the above chorus with vim, force, and power, and remembers us in our special need, by giving his or her "bit," the project will surely be materialized.

We earnestly pray that God may abundantly bless the young people everywhere as they help us in our work along the Tatau, where thousands are waiting to hear the gospel truth that we love so dearly.

**1939 "VOLUNTEER" SONG
(Tune M. V. Songs No. 75)**

There's another task to do,
There's a work for us to do;
And the Master calls for you
Volunteers! Volunteers!
Rally to the building plan,
Shout the word, "We can, we can!"
Volunteers! Volunteers! Volunteers!

CHORUS:

Christ before us, Christ behind,
Christ on every side!

For the rescue of mankind,
(The) "Volunteer" will glide
Volunteers! Volunteers! Volunteers!

Who will give a dollar more?
Who will swell the growing store?
M. V. soldiers to the fore.
Volunteers! Volunteers!
We will work with all our might,
Work! for victory's in sight.
Volunteers! Volunteers! Volunteers!

**MISSIONS EXTENSION DAY
By L. I. Bowers**

The day set apart for Missions Extension this year is the twenty-second of April. During the years many of our institutions in many parts of the world have been greatly benefited and assisted by funds received through the Missions Extension plan. If a complete list could be given here it would be very revealing and would indicate that many a struggling institution has been helped over a hard place.

What is our objective in this years offering? A very proper question, and it has a very appalling answer. The second largest school in our union—Ubol, Siam—is practically without industrial equipment. Last year the commit-

tee in Siam granted a very small amount of money for a ruling machine. It is hoped that quite a nice industry can be created in making note books. This takes but a small investment to start with, but it does take some capital. As the work goes on it will take more equipment. They are also in urgent need of a paper cutter which will cost several hundred dollars. Until this can be obtained; even this small industry will be handicapped.

Those who have watched industrial work for students grow and develop know that before much can be accomplished some investment must be made. There is a real inspiration in seeing things grow and develop; and for those who have invested this interest becomes very real.

April 22 is your opportunity to invest in a good enterprise. Let us all do just as much as we can this time for the Industrial enterprise of the Ubol school!

IMPRESSION OF KUCHING

By Tan Kia Ou

I have just returned from Sarawak, well pleased with what I saw there. Kuching is a pleasant place, with fertile soil and an agreeable climate. The landscape is beautiful and interesting, like a great garden.

Our Mission began work there more than twenty years ago, and the faithful and earnest labours of those early pioneers has laid the foundation of the present growing work. The third angel's message has been proclaimed all about Kuching, and we now have two churches and two schools there, with a total attendance of more than 200. Of this number, 80% are Chinese. While this total is not large, yet they are earnest and active. Our mission is well known and well respected in Kuching. This is truly the Lord's doings in shedding forth His beams of light.

There is one very interesting and laudable characteristic of the church members at Kuching. They have come into the church by families, and at the Sabbath services we see father, mother and the children all there. This is remarkable and perhaps unique in mission experience, and approximates more nearly the Lord's ideal for His children. If other churches and companies could reach this standard, how much quicker the work of God would move forward.

Just now Kuching has no regular evangelist, but the teachers of

the Sunny Hill School, in their spare time and Sabbath afternoons, unite with the church members in teaching the gospel, visiting the interested ones and holding Bible studies.

Sabbath, the 25th of Feb. was a special day for the Kuching church. The members had united in a "clean-up campaign," which had come to a close the day before. Their homes and grounds had been swept clean of all dirt, cobwebs etc. and all were ready for the visit of the Inspection Committee. On Sabbath afternoon a group of teachers and workers set off by bicycle to inspect the homes. We found the members happy and smilingly awaiting our arrival. This shows the spirit of close co-operation among our members there. It was a small thing but the object lesson taught was important. So should we prepare our lives and hearts, having them swept clean of the debris of sin and be ready and waiting our Lord's return. I hope other churches and companies may take a hint from our Kuching brethren.

From the above mentioned items I have come to the conclusion that Kuching is a fruitful field and that more workers should be sent to reap a rich harvest of souls.

It is a pity, though, that with such a promising field, that we have no full-time evangelist. I hope all will pray the Lord that in the near future He will open the way for a talented, energetic full-time worker to foster these interests.

Colporteur News

Our colporteur work in Sarawak is smaller than in some other places, for three reasons,—(1) the territory is small, (2) not so many are able to read, (3) the mission has fewer colporteurs there.

Every year however Colporteur Wong Chiang Ming has paid them a visit and sold the Chinese Signs through the field with good success, also some books. Our star Malay colporteur, Baginda, has also spent sometime there selling the "Chehaya," but we have had no resident colporteurs working throughout the year, so we have no big report to give of the colporteur work there.

Lee Kui Ming has recently come from British North Borneo to sell in Sarawak. He has been selling for two or three years and came originally from South China. He is a very warmhearted, earnest worker. In Kuching he took over the Chinese T. B. book to sell and in five days had sold more than 600 of these small books. He

plans to sell all Sarawak with this book and then go back again over the territory with another book. Thus he will have several months' work in Sarawak. We wish for him God's blessings as he labours there. Let us remember him in our prayers.

A SURVEY OF PROGRESS

By C. C. Huang

I like to think of the Malay States Mission as situated in a land flowing with milk and honey—tin and rubber—very similar to the Ancient Canaan. But ever since the world depression which had its beginning in 1929, this wealthy country was so severely affected economically that it had literally become the Palestine of today. As a result the literature sold in this mission had decreased steadily year after year. Until the year 1937 when we began to see some increase in sales, and we thought then that the economic depression was all past. We also thought that the world had turned its corner, and that everything was going to be rosy again. We were eagerly hoping that 1938 might be a golden year unprecedented in the literature sales of this mission. But we were soon confronted with another difficulty! Because in this country the Chinese people who are our principal customers have had to contribute so much to relief funds that they have almost lost their purchasing power. We are very grateful to God however, that our total sales in 1938 was \$20,432.46 as compared with \$16,454.87 in 1937—a gain of 20% approximately. That this remarkable progress has been made under such difficult circumstances is no mere accident. It is very evident that God has been showering His richest blessings not alone to our faithful colporteurs but also to the literature ministry in this field.

During the past few months in 1939 we have already conducted two institutes: The first one was held in Kuala Lumpur from January 16-21, when fourteen experienced colporteurs were gathered together for reviewing of salesmanship and reviving of spirituality. We were very fortunate in receiving much helpful instruction and encouragement from Pastor Franklin, Associate Field Secretary of General Conference, and Pastor Campbell Field Secretary of the Far Eastern Division. Pastor Milne, Pastor Tan Kia Ou, Brother Kon Vui Leong, Brother Tran Ngoe Te and the writer were also present

REPORT OF TITHE AND SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS

Malayan Union Mission—January 1938 and 1939

(All items in local currency)

Mission	Membership		Tithe		Gain	Sabbath School		Loss or Gain
	1938	1939	1938	1939		1938	1939	
British Borneo	295	319	85.99	107.56	21.57	35.87	47.67	11.80G
French Indo-China	245	258	80.50	121.68	41.18	43.51	21.94	21.57L
Malay States	922	922	732.58	1084.18	351.60	330.52	341.55	11.03G
Sarawak	102	108	77.24	82.56	5.32	33.48	26.60	6.88L
Siam	127	124	107.29	142.19	34.90	68.12	36.72	31.40L
Total	1691	1731	1083.60	1538.17	454.57 42% Gain	511.50	474.48	37.02L 7% Loss

L. F. Bohner, Treasurer

and helped to make the institute successful. As overused tools need resharping, so these veteran colporteurs were exceedingly happy to have their wit whetted and their souls refreshed in this institute. The second one was a brief 2 day convention in which four new recruits participated. It was conducted in Singapore from the 20th to the 22nd of March. Pastor Tan Kia Ou and Brother L. I. Bowers were the principal instructors and the writer was the chief interpreter.

It is our earnest prayer that the last message of God's mercy may soon reach the very ends of these benighted Malayan lands through the efforts of our faithful colporteurs.

MALAYAN SEMINARY

By G. H. Minchin

This year we have passed an enrollment of 300, but, better than that, we are glad to be able to report that we seem to have an exceptionally good type of students. Several parents have sent their children to us because of the good recommendations given by older students. One Chinese gentleman told me, on placing his boy in the school, that a high official in the Chinese Protectorate office in Singapore had told him that the Seminary was certainly the best place that could be found for his boy in all Malaya. Recently we have received from the Singapore Education Department a Certificate of Efficiency stating that we are recognized by the Department as being an Efficient School. This followed several visits from the Inspector of Schools during which he investigated our class work, curriculum, and records, as well as the teachers' qualifications.

We are glad for this recognition from the outside, chiefly because it demonstrates that if we persist in upholding our denominational principles in our schools, as the Seminary has endeavoured to do, the world at large will in time appreciate those principles.

Our Training Courses are carrying on in a strong way this year also. Pastor Phang Yin Hee is giving valuable help to the Ministerial students by conducting the class in Pastoral Training. The Ministerial students are helping in the effort being conducted at Tampenis Road and are planning to carry on other practical evangelistic work during the year. The Normal students are getting considerable experience in teaching in several of the classes of the school. In this way no students will be graduated from the Seminary who have not had a good practical training for their work. In

addition to this, of course the large part taken by the students in such activities as the Sabbath School, the Y.P.M.V. Society etc., give training of the best kind.

The weaving Department is having a good year. Just recently we received from the Johore General Hospital the largest single order for towels that we have ever had—sufficient to keep us busy for the greater part of the year. It has been necessary for us to take boys from other work and put them in this department.

At the time of writing the new Domestic Science room is almost ready for use, and classes will begin next term. It is our plan to give work of a very practical and useful nature, such as will fit our young people to take up the work of home building in the best way. The course will include such items as cooking, sewing, furnishing a house, and budgeting for a family, having in mind of course the particular needs of our people here in the East. This class, under the direction of Mrs. Bohner, should prove to be one of the most helpful and most popular that the school conducts. Already there have been a large number of applications from girls who wish to join this class, and not a few boys have requested that something along this line be done for them also. It is our hope that in due time no student will be graduated from this school who has not had a certain amount of practical instruction in the domestic arts. Any suggestions that our friends in the field might have to offer as to what they think are the most important things for our young people to get in a course such as this would be much appreciated.

The Seminary staff and students are of good courage, and in these trying days join with our workers and members throughout the field in consecration to the great task that has been set before us.



Colporteur Institute in K. L.

NEWS NOTES

It gives me untold joy and pleasure to report that two of our bookmen were coupled up within a period of three months. The 26th of December, 1938, was the happy day when Pastor G. A. Campbell wedded Bro. C. A. Davidson to Miss Elizabeth Richards. And Bro. Huang Chiang Min entered into family relationship with Miss Helen Chang on March the 26th, when Pastor Phang Yin Hee officiated. Both of these grand occasions took place in our Penang Road Church, Singapore. We wish them great happiness and prosperity in their newly organized homes.—C. C. Huang.

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Published monthly by the Malayan Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, 399, Upper Serangoon Road, Singapore, S. S.

LEONARD F. BOHNER—EDITOR.

CHALLENGE OF DAYBREAK IN ISLAM

By Baginda Soangkoepou

God wants men who think great thoughts and see great visions in relation to the kingdom of God and the finishing of His work. God wants extraordinary men today to do a work very much out of the ordinary in order to finish His work among the Moslems. Today we have more than three million Mohammedans in our field, and thousands of them who have never heard about our present truth.

As we believe literally that we are in the very closing days of earth history; shall we not pray for more colporteurs to bring the message to these prejudiced people?

I often imagine the difficulties and the discouragement of Elijah. He found out that it is useless to do any effort for the children of Israel, because of their fanaticism and hatred against his message, so he ran away to save his life to mount Horeb. God came to visit him and said, "What doest thou here Elijah?" Elijah answered God and said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts, for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant. . . ." The Lord wanted him to go again, and told him that there were thousands of the children who had not bowed down unto Baal.

Similar to this experience, in view of the difficulties to work among the Moslems, many people are reluctant to go and complain that it is useless to do any effort among the Malays, but who knows, but that there are thousands of people who are honest and sincere in heart to find the truth.

Let us examine some of the similarity between Mohammedanism and Christianity, yet the difference is very great. Islam says, "There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is the prophet of God." The Mohammedans believe only in a God who is above them whereas we Christians believe in the Trinity; that is God the Father, the Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost are one. The Mohammedans believe in brotherhood, because they believe in the same thing, but they would never call God the

Father. So their idea about God is contrary to the teaching of the Bible. So our God is not the same God as the Mohammedan Allah.

Mohammed is the prophet of God. Mohammed boasts by saying, "I am the prophet of God." He claimed to be the last prophet and took the place of Jesus, and introduced the new book (Koran) and a new way of life. All the prophets of God, write the same in purpose, and in views. Now let us examine the teaching and the spirit of Christ and Mohammed, whether they are the same in purpose and idea. Christ's teaching is to go to all nations and to teach them. When they believe, they will be baptized in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost; and His spirit is to love your enemies, to bless them that curse you, to do good to them that hate you and pray for those that dispise you.

THE HOME COMMISSION AT THE SEMINARY

By Mrs. G. H. Minchin

On March 8, during the chapel period, we held our first meeting of the Home Commission, with an attendance of 140. The greater part of those present were students.

Mrs. Armstrong, the Division secretary for the Home Commission, was present and spoke on the importance of studying the problems connected with home making.

Mr. Jewkes, the Union secretary, further presented the need for such a study, and told something of the plans for the future work of the organization.

Once a month there will be separate classes for the boys and girls, and alternating with these the classes will be combined. In this way the studies will be given every two weeks.

A person expecting to take up a certain profession must train for it. He must study the different phases of the work. A doctor must spend years in training and practice before he is permitted to handle the surgeon's knife and perform a delicate operation on a human body. A mechanic must spend years in studying the intricate working of various types of machinery before he is capable of taking a complicated mechanism apart and put it back together again. So it is with all the professions.

But, somehow or other, people

will start on their life work of making and ordering a home with little or no training at all. And it is for this purpose that our Home Commission classes have been organized.

Combined with the study of "Makers of the Home," it is the plan to give instruction in first aid in the care of the sick. It is also planned to give helpful hints on food and a well balanced diet.

The success of the nation and the prosperity of society depend upon the homes. So let us strive to perfect our homes after the divine plan.

REJOICING IN PENANG

By V. E. Hendershot

On the 12th of March, we held a baptism at 4 p.m. at beautiful Batu Feringghi. Five persons followed their Lord in baptism. Two were Roman Catholics and three Lutheran Protestants. We rejoice in this addition to our members in Penang. About six months ago we had an addition of twelve by baptism. Our total therefore for the last six months is seventeen. We rejoice especially because we are entering a number of Roman Catholic homes with the message. We rejoice also because of a renewed interest among the Tamil people. One Tamil sister baptised this time has known the Truth since the first year we came to Penang in 1931. At last she has given up her jewelry and rejoices in the Truth. She is the mother of a Queen's Scholar and an Assistant Official Assignee, Singapore.

We feel that the plan of holding a series of lectures in the church building is splendid. With faithful follow-up work, it is productive of a good harvest of souls. Remember Penang in your prayers.

NEWS NOTES

Brother Robert Bentz and Sister Martha Koempel were united in marriage recently in Phnom Penh. Sister Bentz, is a graduate nurse and served for some time as one of our missionaries in Morocco. Brother Bentz writes that his little son Raymond has returned home much to his joy.

Pastor F. A. Wyman Superintendent of the Upper Burma Mission was a recent visitor in Singapore. He is returning to his field of labour.