

The Messenger

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The Story of "Engkarueh", Sarawak

By Richard C. Hall, President,
Sarawak Mission

The name Engkarueh has become a very familiar one around Ayer Manis School. Early in 1964 it was reported that some Seventh-day Adventist teachers in the little government school at a village out near the Indonesian border had started a branch Sabbath School and wanted help. This village was Engkarueh and is very difficult to reach. To get there one must go by bus up the rough dirt road into a sort of no-man's-land where the Security Forces are holding off the Indone-

sian guerillas that would like to have all of Sarawak. After leaving the bus it is a 3½ hour walk over the mountains to the village. Or if one is fortunate enough to have a long boat with a motor he can go up river from Serian, near Ayer Manis School, for 2½ hours and then walk over a steep mountain for about 2 hours.

Even with the difficulty getting there, Pastor Ortner (principal of Ayer Manis Training School and the teachers and students began

going to Engkarueh to conduct a branch Sabbath school. The interest seemed to be genuine and sincere so for a year groups have gone whenever possible even at time of heavy rains when it seemed impossible.

The chief announced that the whole village wanted to be freed from spirit worship and become Seventh-day Adventist Christians. This was really wonderful news. The village then called for a teacher but our mission had no budget to send one. A call was made for help to build a meeting place. Again no finances were available from the mission budget. As the interest continued to grow the requests became more urgent.

Some of our missionary minded friends in America had sent some special gifts to our mission and the committee voted to use this to help support a qualified layman to go to Engkarueh and see if he could build a church and organize the village into a company.

Brother Martin Sasun, a former teacher in an Adventist Mission School, and Anam, a graduate from Ayer Manis, were sent in with nails and aluminum for roofing. It all had to be carried over the rugged steep mountains.

It wasn't long until a report came that they, with the help of all of the village people, had built a house for Brother Sasun's family so his wife and children walked in to be with him.

Very shortly a call came from Pastor Ortner and me to come for a visit and on February 12 we made the trip up the river. We took medicines, dental instruments for pulling teeth, a small gasoline generator, a 16 mm movie projector and some movie films that had been previously taken in their village and



The Engkarueh Church



New Engkarueh Church building

of our mission work in other parts of Sarawak.

When our leaking long boat arrived at the walkingpoint a crowd of people were waiting for us. They had come to escort us and to carry our things over the mountain to their village. There were so many people that there wasn't enough items for them to each carry something, so some were just escorts.

Before reaching the village it began to rain. It rained so hard we could hardly see. The path was

slippery and muddy and we slipped, fell and slid down the steep mountain trail. When we were still a mile away we could hear the gongs and drums beating out a welcome, and when we reached the village everyone was there to greet us.

Friday evening we started up the generator and showed our mission films and some pictures of themselves. This was a real thrill for them to see people in villages like their own, dirty and steeped in spirit worship, become Christians and be

baptized. This gave them added hope and purpose in becoming Christians.

Sabbath morning the rain had stopped and the sun shone. Proudly the people led us away from the filth of the village and showed us the church they had built in a beautiful clearing in the jungle beside a quiet stream. The green trees all around were glistening in the morning sun. It was a scene I shall never forget! They shower us a new clean location near the church where they plan to build family houses. Then they will destroy the filthy old long house where all live under one roof. They told us that during this year they are going to completely rid their village of the pigs.

It was a real thrill to see them dressed in clean clothes and walking through the jungle to their new church to worship their God that they have so recently found, but still a greater thrill to see the church filled. In front was a platform built of jungle poles and floored with split bamboo. The roof was shining new aluminum, the posts were large strong pungle poles walled up with split bamboo. **THEIR CHURCH!** I have seen churches in America that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, but never have I seen one more beautiful in its primitive beauty. Best of all is to hear them say, "It's God's House, Our Church!"

(Continued on page 7.)

Soul-Winning is a Work of Faith

By Jan Hutaaruk, Penang Malay Church

I found that soul-winning work is a work of faith. My goal was set as 12 souls for 1964. I never reached even one third of it in each of the previous years. My average was just about two souls each year. The Malay work is quite hard. "Confrontation" even makes it more difficult. My nationality and citizenship are not very favourable in view of the present tension. I could not see how I could reach even half of my goal. Some of my experiences in 1964 could even have weakened my zeal in soul-winning activities.

On September 4, 1964, I visited a Malay kampong for a Bible study

with a Malay V. O. P. student who invited me to visit him. I went there with two friends. It was reported to the Security forces the next day, and on the two following days, police and military units rushed to the spot in trucks to comb the area. When my friends knew about it, one of them reported to the police about our visit there and when every detail of the report coincided with our visit there, the two day search was called off.

About four weeks later police set road blocks at many junctions in Penang to capture me. They had received a report about an Indonesian with his Malay colleague who

moved around touring the kampong area in a car marked Sk 7970, to distribute what they presumed to be Indonesian propaganda to weaken the Malaysians. (At that time I carried a huge stack of magazines and religious pamphlets in my car). On our way home we came to the road-block. The car in front was not stopped, but when it came to my turn and I slowed down, I heard them say as they spotted the number plate of my car, "This is it, this is it", and they immediately cleared the road. I asked what was it all about. "There is something in which you are involved" they said, "follow us to the Police station right now".

We followed the police van to the Central Police Station. When they asked about my nationality and examined my Identity Card,

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E. A. Brodeur Sales Crusade for Truth

The Southeast Asia Union publishing department conducted a Sales Crusade For Truth from September 1 to December 31, 1964. The literature evangelists throughout the Union put forth almost super-human effort to scatter our truth filled literature far and near. The results were astounding! During that short four month period, 54 precious souls were baptized from their contacts, M\$240,791.46 worth of literature was sold, and 10,889,400 pages of literature was placed in the homes of non SDAs, as a witness to the soon return of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

The highest honor for outstanding achievement during the Sales Crusade For Truth went to Lee Boon Choo, literature evangelist of South Thailand. Brother Choo compiled a total of more than 900,000 points. His best month was December when he sold 228 STEPS TO CHRIST and 228 GUARDIAN OF (To page 6.)



Shown above from left to right are Abel Pangan, associate publishing secretary of the Thailand Mission; Palmer Wick, president of Thailand Mission; Lee Boon Choo holding the Necchi sewing machine; John Bernet, publishing secretary of the Southeast Asia Union; and David Chung, publishing secretary of the Thailand Mission.

Special Dedication Service

On January 10, 1965, a special dedication service was conducted for a new Klimsch, Praktika dark-room camera, size 20" x 24", which was recently installed at the Malaysian Signs Press of Singapore. Those who took part in the service are pictured above. They are left to right, G. O. Bruce, secretary-treasurer of the Southeast Asia Union; H. W. Bedwell, president of the Southeast Asia Union; E. A. Brodeur, publishing secretary of the Far Eastern Division; John Bernet, publishing secretary of the Southeast Asia Union; and Choo Yau Fong, manager of the Malaysian Signs Press. With this new equipment they will be able to take care of all their offset plate requirements and at the same time go into color separation work. This new piece of equipment along with all the accessories cost US\$12,000.00. We wish to thank the General Conference publishing House Rehabilitation and Expansion committee who so generously appropriated one-half of this amount.

The Malaysian Signs Press first began production in 1920. For forty-five years now, it has faithfully done its part to spread the gospel

in this part of the Lord's vineyard. At present, they print literature in three different languages-Chinese, Malay and English.

The manager, Choo Yau Fong, has been with the publishing house for twenty-six years. He reports that during 1964, 5,577,747 pages of message filled literature were sent

out into the field.

The Malaysian Signs is one of the three publishing houses operated by the Southeast Asia Union of Seventh-day Adventists.

—John Bernet,
Publishing Secretary,
Southeast Asia Union.

New camera for Malaysian Signs Press



Twenty-five years ago, in October, 1940, on the beautiful island of Bhuket, South Thailand, the grand opening of the Bhuket Mission Clinic was held in a former school building on Dibook Road. On February 9, 1965, another grand opening—the new Bhuket Mission Hospital—was held on the same lovely island just outside the city gates on the way to the mainland.

Attending the opening were officials from the Southeast Asia Union and the Far Eastern Division, from the Thailand Mission and the Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital, and from even as far away as Hong Kong, as well as many of the islanders. Doctor Ralph Waddell, medical secretary of the Far Eastern Division and who had helped begin the old clinic years ago, was chairman of the program and welcomed the guests. Khun Pleng Viti-amyalaksana, assistant manager of the Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital and one of Thailand's veteran workers, was the translator. Pastor H. W. Bedwell, president of the Southeast Asia Union, offered prayer, translated by Pastor John Harris, chaplain of the Bhuket Mission Hospital. Then the history of the hospital was given by Dr. Frank Crider, formerly a doctor at Bhuket but now medical director of the Haadyai Mission Hospital, and Mr. Virapongs Hongsyok. Short speeches of appreciation were made by Dr. Paul Watson, medical director of Bhuket Mission Hospital, and Pastor Palmer Wick, president of the Thailand Mission.

Special honor was given to those who had an outstanding part in the history of the clinic: His Excellency the Governor of Bhuket; Mrs. Tan Cheng Her, widow of the donor of the old clinic building; Mr. Huck Lein, eldest son of the donor of the new hospital site; and Mr. C. B. Scott, who has been a strong supporter of the clinic and many times helped out financially and other wise when the clinic was in strait circumstances.

Dr. Effie Jean Potts-Ketting sang the dedication song, "Bless This House," and Pastor C. P. Sorensen, president of the Far Eastern Division, offered the dedicatory prayer. His Excellency the Governor of Bhuket made a speech extolling the work of the missionaries in the growth of Thailand, and then he cut the ribbon—red, white and blue for the colors of the Thai flag—officially opening the new Bhuket Mission Hospital. After this the guests were taken on a guided tour of the hospital.

The thirty-five-bed hospital is a one-story terrazzo building whose spacious lobby leads to the outpatient department, business offices, and the pharmacy, laboratory, X-ray room, and hydrotherapy rooms. There are two doctor's suites. A modern surgery suite includes rooms for major and minor surgery and delivery. Attractive patient rooms and wards are located in the wing with a centrally located nurses' station, as well as chaplain's office, central supply, and utility rooms.

Bhuket Mission



The insert compares the old clinic building with the new Bhuket Mission Hospital. The clinic was first opened in May, 1949.



Hospital Opening



Photo above:
The governor of Bhuket cuts the ribbon as Dr. Waddell and H. W. Bedwell watch.

Erection of the new hospital all began with Ingathering and colporteur work some twenty-five years ago, as Pastor R. M. Milne and others called on the good people of southern Thailand. In 1940 a Chinese man by the name of Tan Cheng Her convinced the early mission workers that they should let Dr. A. E. Geschke come to Bhuket to start medical work, for Mr. Tan had a school building all ready for the doctor to use—rent only one tical a year, and which has never been collected!

On December 8, 1941, Dr. Geschke and his family were forced to flee by boat from the Japanese Imperial Army. After the war, Dr. Frank Crider and his family reopened the mission clinic in 1949



A rear view of the hospital wing containing the rooms and wards.

and spent the longest period of service at the clinic of any doctor—ten years. During this time in 1951, when Dr. Crider had to relieve in Bangkok at the Bangkok Sanitarium & Hospital, Dr. R. C. Gregory held clinic in Bhuket one day a week, arriving by plane from near by Haad Yai at three or four o'clock in the afternoon, seeing patients until midnight, operating until dawn, and returning to Haad Yai in the morning. During the Crider's furlough in 1953, Dr. Erwin Winton and family took over. After the Criders again left on furlough in 1959, Dr. James L. Webster arrived with his family and ably filled the need of a surgeon in the clinic and also supervised the construction of the two mission houses being built. When the Websters went on

furlough in 1961, Dr. Ronald Van Arsdell and his family arrived. The hospital patient load was climbing steadily when Dr. Van Arsdell was called to work in Bangkok in 1962 and Dr. Paul M. Watson and family replaced him. The need of a second staff doctor became more and more urgent and Dr. Van Arsdell returned to the Bhuket Mission Clinic. As of this writing, the hospital staff consists of Drs. Paul M. Watson, and Samuel and Effie Jean Ketting, the Kettings having joined the staff when the Van Arsdells returned to America in 1964. Mr. A. C. Roda and family of the Philippines also joined the hospital staff in 1964, Mr. Roda working as business manager and his wife capably filling the position of director of nursing service.

From left to right: Dr. Paul Watson, medical director; Mrs. P. Watson; A. Roda, business manager; Mrs. Roda, director of nurses; Dr. Effie Jean Ketting; Dr. Sam Ketting.



As the guests at the opening compared the shining rooms of the new hospital with the inadequate old clinic building, all rejoiced that they now have available facilities which are clean and sanitary, as a hospital should be. Although the old clinic served admirably many years, no amount of scrubbing could ever make it appear clean and antiseptic. No longer will patients suffer from the noisy bustle of the city below, and the loud insistent pounding of hammers against anvils of two busy blacksmith shops, for the new location is in the quiet countryside. No longer will personnel have to dodge pouring rain as they go about their duties. No longer will patients have to be carried bodily upstairs after surgery or delivery, for the new hospital has halls and doors wide enough through which beds and wheel chairs can be pushed. No longer will patients be bothered with flies and mosquitoes, for the new clinic is screened.

But most of all, the staff of the new Bhuket Hospital looks forward to the relief from sin which many patients will find during their stay in the hospital, for the less crowded conditions of the patients will lend to more effective visiting on the part of Chaplain John Harris and

The graduate and practical nurses of the Bhuket Mission Hospital. Mrs. A. Roda, director of nurses, and Miss Aikeat (left to right) are holding the flowers.



his two national assistants, Damrong Wongsang and Sangiam Mises. Influencing patients to accept Christ has always been the goal of the hospital, and many of the forty-seven persons baptized in Bhuket during 1964 had their first contact with the gospel in the hospital.

The people of Bhuket have given liberally in order to make the new hospital possible, and it is the prayer of the hospital staff that the new Bhuket Mission Hospital will prove to be a real blessing for God and for Thailand in making man whole—spiritually as well as physically.

Evangelism at Haad Yai (From page 8.)

Pastor Gumjorn's wife also has plans for starting a series of home nursing studies with the aid of her group of nurses beginning soon. These are especially for the young adult group making up a large part of our night audience. Viewing the 4 separate meetings of the series as a unified whole shows us how much the varying interests of different age groups and cultures are being met, and in addition, utilization of the tabernacle to the greatest extent our personnel can muster.

This 4th night as the writer sat listening to the sermon the same questions came to mind as at the first. How will it all end? How are these people who are hearing Christ preached for the first time going to overcome past history and present influences and prejudices? Seeing the interested faces, and seeing the hands raised high in answer to the question, "How many persons were here last night (and each night)? settled some problems. No doubt there is a good continuing interest in the meetings. In such a cosmo-

politan and worldly wise city as this there are still souls searching for light. With the prayers of all as well as work by all of our group, we fully expect not only God's blessing on the services but fruit in the harvest time as well

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The Story of "Engkarueh", Sarawak (From page 7.)

ling climb the next morning.

The thrills for the trip were not over yet. We could hardly believe our eyes when 55 people, men, women, boys, and girls accompanied us back over the steep mountain trail to help carry our things and see us off down the river in our boat!

ENGKARUEH! A new company is born into the Kingdom of Grace. Let us go forward in faith and pray that it will soon grow into an organized church for the Kingdom of Glory!

Sales Crusade for Truth (From page 3.)

HEALTH. These books contained 156,160 pages. Brother Choo was awarded a new fully automatic, Necchi sewing machine from the SEAU for his outstanding achievement during the Sales Crusade.

The sales crusade was named in honor of Elder E. A. Brodeur, the capable publishing secretary of the Far Eastern Division.

The total colporteur sales for the SEAU for 1964, amounted to M\$ 581,124.77. This is a gain of M\$ 58,751.27 over 1963, and a 286% increase over four years ago. Our bookmen throughout the Union are having unusual success these days. As the old saying goes, "there's always room for one more", so we cordially invite you to join them in their joyful witness for the Master.

—John Bernet,
Publishing Secretary,
Southeast Asia Union.

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Soul-Winning is a Work of Faith
(From page 2.)

I replied that I am 100% Indonesian and that my accent reveals it. Then they kept us waiting long while they decided what to do with us. We were not given anything to eat nor were we allowed to go home for supper or to get food at a nearby restaurant. My friend was examined much longer than I and I was worried about his answers. He was a good prospect for baptism and I am not supposed to convert a Malay Muslim. But thank God he answered wisely when he said that he came to study with me of his own will. He is now a baptized member. When they found that I was not involved in what they had suspected, they allowed me to go home, but I waited until my friend to get through with his ordeal. My wife was waiting supper for me and was worried why I did not return home. She had telephoned to the police whether my car met any accident. She soon found out when we arrived at home and I told her what had happened.

Two days later I parked my car near a bridge on my way to Kedah. A report was lodged to the nearest police station that I must be an opium smuggler. Soon a customs officer with his company rushed to the spot with a hope of making another successful seizure of opium. But they were mistaken and perhaps disappointed.

When the news was published in the *Utusan Melayu* about the conversion of over 200 Muslims to Christianity, a newspaper reporter and a photographer came to my home to find out whether I had anything to do with the conversion of those Muslims. They took my picture. My reply was that I would be one of the happiest men on earth if the 200 Muslims were my converts.

Police Special Branch has now kept for investigation a file of letters which I have written to three Malay friends in Perlis. Because of an occasional visit I had made with these friends and meetings in their investigation and threatened these homes, the Detectives have made an investigation and threatened these friends that they will lose their job if they do not tell the true story about me and my work in visiting them. They confiscated my letters found in their homes and they are now filed at the police station. As I am aware of it, I make my letters

more evangelistic in context in case the detectives might carefully read it and so get to know the gospel story.

In spite of these experiences, I had 13 souls baptized in 1964 and with the Lord's blessings I have reached my soul-winning goal. Kindly pray for my work and safety in winning more souls this year, and I shall go on in faith.

The Story of "Engkarueh", Sarawak
(From page 1.)

I counted 320 in Sabbath School that morning and Brethern Sasun and Anam led out in a good service. The children sang until the surrounding jungles literally rang! I was happy to be asked to preach the first sermon in their new church and to dedicate it to the Lord. I couldn't help but pray and thank God for the faithful people in the homeland that had made this pos-

sible through their sacrificial giving to missions, and God's people around the world that support this great work of dispelling the darkness of heathen witchcraft and superstition and in its place give them the glorious light of the Son of Righteousness.

The afternoon was spent in doing all we could to relieve pain and suffering of the people who need medical care. They were very patient and appreciated what was done for them, especially those who had painful teeth removed.

After sundown more moving pictures from the Sarawak Information Service were shown to the delight of all. To climax the evening we showed them the moving pictures of themselves again. When the noisy little generator was silent we went to bed on our airmattresses to get the needed rest for the gruel-

(To page 6.)

SPECIAL DAYS AND OFFERINGS 1965

	OFFERINGS	SPECIAL DAYS
June	5 Home Missions	Home Missionary Day
	12 Messenger (Union)	
	19 Christian Education	
	26 Church Expense	
July	3 Home Missions	Medical Missionary Day
	10 Midsummer Mission (G. C.)	
	17 Christian Education	
	24 Church Expense	
August	31 Voice of Prophecy	
	7 Home Missions	Home Missionary Day
	14 Messenger (Union)	
	21 Christian Education	
28 Church Expense		
September	4 Colporteur Tract Fund (Mission)	*Literature Evangelist Rally Day
	11 Missions Extension (G. C.)	
	18 Pathfinder Club	
	25 Church Expense	
October	2 Home Missions	Signs Campaign Oct. 2 - 9
	9 Church Expense	
	16 Christian Education	
	23 Temperance	
November	30 VOP Correspondence Schools	Stewardship Day
	6 Home Missions	
	13 Annual Sacrifice (G. C.)	
	20 Christian Education	
December	27 Church Expense	S. S. Visitors' Day
	4 Home Missions	
	11 "Messenger" (Union)	
	18 Christian Education	
	25 Expense	Temperance Day
		Neighborhood Evangelism
		*Week of Prayer — Nov. 6 - 13
		Home Missionary Day

* Special programs to be provided.

Sabbath School Investment Days

March 13
June 12

September 11
December 11

The second Sabbath of the third month of each quarter is to be Investment Day in Sabbath School in which an investment program is to be given and Investment offering for that quarter is to be received.

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Evangelism at Haad Yai

By F. N. Crider, M. D.

"Where did you say you are going?"

"To the Better Life Auditorium



on 4th street where that preacher is to talk about the end of this world, of course. Haven't you heard of it yet? He will speak every night except Thursday and Friday for many weeks."

Many people from the railroad city of Haad Yai, South Thailand were making their way to the tabernacle that first night of the meetings, the 27th of March. The writer and other interested members of the team sat watching them enter, a few at first then more and more. The attendance that first night was only about 250 (partly because of an unseasonal storm a half hour before the meeting began). A second service translated into Chinese by some of our church members for those who do not understand the Thai followed the first lecture.

The tabernacle has seats for 280, some chairs in reserve and standing room sides and back.

The program for the first night consisted of a good song service by Brother Mun from Phuket; health talk by the writer; announcements, presentation of literature, and the sermon by the leader, Pastor Gurn-jorn Sriratprasas.

The second night with all seats filled and some of the standing room taken proved a good morale boost. Mrs. Ura Spiratprasas, wife of our church pastor, gave the health talk. Brother Uao of Ubol, the presentation and prayer; with Brother Boonlert, the hospital chaplain assisting.

The third and fourth nights also saw good audiences attending (the main problem being to exclude small children). Members of the team rotated duties according to the outlined schedules with the hospital nurses taking the health talks and those who had had plat form duties working elsewhere. The organist, ushers, black light assistants, projectionist and door attendants performed yeoman service each night keeping a good atmosphere for the timely sermons.

More than 130 children have come to the morning session held for them specifically by Mrs. Ura, Mrs. T. C. Chin, Mrs. Crider and others who are free at the time to help. This helps the small ones to feel they have a program similar to the service they miss in the evening. With the gospel being given in more simple form, they remain more interested.

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