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NUMBER FOUR

# D. R. Guild Assumes Leadership Southeast Asia Union

AT THE time of the recent General Conference session held in Detroit, Michigan, Pastor H. W. Bedwell was appointed as Secretary of the Far Eastern Division. Pastor Bedwell has given strong leadership in the Southeast Asia Union during the last three and one-half years as President. Prior to his appointment as President, he served for one year as Secretary-Treasurer. Pastor and Mrs. Bedwell and son Darrel will be missed by the Union staff and the workers throughout the Union as they take up their new responsibilities.

On July 21, 1966, the Far Eastern Division Committee appointed Pastor D. R. Guild as President of the Union. Pastor Guild is not new to the field, having served here for the past eight years. He brings to his new position a wealth of experience as pastor, evangelist, departmental secretary, and author of two books, WE CAN HAVE PEACE and RICH REVELATIONS OF JESUS.

Pastor Guild was born in Los Angeles, California, and graduated from La Sierra College in 1946. Following graduation he worked as pastor-evangelist in the Southern California Conference for twelve years before accepting a call to Singapore to serve as Pastor of the Balestier Road English church and Ministerial Secretary of the Union in 1958. In 1961 he was relieved of his pastoral duties to spend full

time leading out in the Ministerial, Radio-TV departments. About the same time he was asked to direct the activities of the Singapore Voice of Prophecy Bible school. While on furlough in the United States in 1964 Pastor Guild earned his Masters degree at Andrews University where he graduated Magna Cum Laude.

Along with his departmental work he has found time to conduct large evangelistic efforts in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, and Jesselton along with smaller efforts in other towns throughout the Union field. Pastor Guild has manifested a real



interest in developing a strong ministry and a spiritually strong laity. His counsel has been appreciated at workers' meetings and revivals throughout the Union during his years of service here.

Mrs. Guild has been in charge of the English section of the VOP Bible School for about seven years. The Guilds have two girls, Genene and Rosanne, both students at the Far Eastern Academy in Singapore. I am sure that the workers and laymen in the Southeast Asia Union will join in praying for God's blessings on Pastor Guild and his family as he takes over the leadership of this field.

-G. O. Bruce, Secretary-Treasurer, Southeast Asia Union

#### **STATEMENT**

(After the Division Committee had elected Pastor Guild as Union president, Pastor Bruce called together the Union staff, the mission presidents and the other Union committee members who had come to Singapore to help with making the selection. At that time Pastor Guild made a statement which is here condensed.)

"When the Union and Division leaders were meeting together to discuss filling the presidency of our Union, I knew God was so manifestly present in the meeting that whatever the outcome we must accept the decision which would be made.

(Continued on page 8.)

# Sarawak Has First Home Council Graduation in Southeast Asia

MY BOY doesn't want to go to school—should I insist that he goes?" "My child doesn't want to eat vegetables"—or, "my child tells lies, can you give any suggestion?" "Since my child goes to school he doesn't think he should have to work when he is home for the holidays-what should we do?" Such were the questions discussed after lesson in meetings of the Home and School Fellowship groups in Sarawak. Each parent appreciated the counsel given and attendance was excellent. Most of the members could not read, so when the leaders brought counsel from the Spirit of Prophecy it was something they had been searching for.

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When "Home Series 'C'" was started in the Pasier-Kakai Dayak group, two other church groups started also. When the course was completed, many begged for "just one meeting to cover anything we may have missed some other time." Then when that meeting was over they begged for just "one more lesson" again and again until as many as four to six extra meetings were held.

When Miss Nellie Ferree and Pastor Jay Lantry, the Home and School Fellowship secretaries of the Division and Union offices in Singapore, were in Sarawak for Teachers' Institutes, three groups were ready for graduation. Sabbath, April 9, Mrs. Gloria Keizer and her assistant, Robert Dias, presented the Pasier-Kakai group of 31 for their certificates.

A graduation service was held with Miss Nellie Ferree and Pastor Jay Lantry as guest speakers. A ladies duet sang a special song, Mr. Reginald Raden, her assistant, tory prayer, Mrs. R. C. Hall, Sarawak Mission Home and School Fellowship leader presented the certificates, and Mrs. C. A. Ortner gave the benediction.

The following Friday, April 15, Miss Ferree, Mrs. Ortner, and Mrs. Hall hiked for nearly 2 hours to Lanchang where Mr. Nelson Mater



Graduation group at Kakai-Pasier. Left to right, front row: Vera Ortner, Jean Hall, R. C. Hall, Jay Lantry, Miss Ferree, Gloria Keizer.

presented his group of 45 to receive their certificates. After a short Vesper service, Miss Ferree gave added council and commendation to the grandparents, parents, and future parents that had gathered to receive their certificates.

Sabbath morning, April 16 at Tarat not all were present to receive their certificates as during the rice harvest season many are so far away, that they do not return to the village for Sabbath, but just rest in their field houses. Miss Nellie Ferree gave further counsel and congratulated them on their achievements in a short talk after Mrs. Hall told a story to the children to illustrate their part in a happy unity in the home. Mrs. Vera Ortner and Mr. Reginald Raden, her assistant, presented the group of 44 and those present marched forward to receive their certificates.

We feel that the Home Council lessons are a great blessing to those parents as well as to other parents around the world. How grateful we are to those who have prepared the lessons.

-By Mrs. R. C. Hall



Graduation group at Lanchon.



Graduation group at Tarat.

If I neglect prayer for a single day, I will lose a great deal of the fire of faith.

- Martin Luther

## Ordination in Borneo

By D. R. Guild

GINDUK LAUNG is the third national minister to be ordained to the gospel ministry in the Sabah Mission on the Island of Borneo. After teaching for eight years, Pastor Ginduk entered pastoral work in 1960. He is a successful district leader in the Sabah Mission, a dedicated soul-winner.

R. E. Bartalome came to Sabah as a missionary from the Philippines in 1960. In that year he graduated from Mountain View College in the South Philippines. He has been principal of the Sabah Training School, a district pastor, and since 1963 has been the educational and missionary volunteer secretary of the Sabah Mission. This year, while carrying at the same time his departmental work, he has conducted a village effort in Kiulu from which more than fifty have been baptized, and another thirty are preparing for baptism.

Assisting in the ordination were H. W. Bedwell, former president of the Southeast Asia Union; G. O. Bruce, secretary-treasurer; George Munson, newly elected president of the Sabah Mission; S. F. Chu, secretary-treasurer; Paul Eldridge, former ministerial secretary of the Far Eastern Division; Jay Lantry, educational secretary of the Southeast Asia

Union, and the writer.



WHEN SHE discovered that she was talking to a Seventh-day Adventist, her facial expression changed. Then, with a sharp voice, she scolded: "I don't understand why your church teachings forbid eating pork and to attending school on Saturday. By refusing to do these things my niece has brought many troubles into our home life."

As our faithful colporteur was puzzling over how to give a tactful answer, a girl of about twenty entered the house with her schoolbag. He soon discovered that this was the niece the angry lady before him was complaining about.

This schoolgirl never met one of our pastors, nor one of our church members, until this colporteur happened into the home. But she had taken the Voice of Prophecy Bible course. And she had conscientiously



Left to right: G. W. Munson, Sabah Mission president, H. W. Beuwell, former Southeast Asia Union president, Paul Eldridge, Far Eastern Division president, Ginduk Laung who was ordained, J. Lantry, Southeast Asia Union educational secretary, R. E. Bartalome who was ordained, S. F. Chu, Sabah Mission secretary-treasurer, M. Gaban, an ordained national minister who gave the welcome.

followed what she had been lear-

ning

When her aunt had left the room, the girl confided: "I have been in the Christian Missionary Alliance Church for eleven years now, but I did not know the truth until I began to study the VOP lessons. Thank the Lord for sending me the truth! In spite of all the persecution from my aunt, by the grace of God, I have obeyed the teachings of the Bible. . . . I long to have an Adventist pastor come and study the Bible with me and baptize me. Can you help me?"

A few months ago one of our colporteurs brought this thrilling story to our Voice of Prophecy office. In response to this Macedonian call, we immediately asked Brother Le-Hoang to go and study the Bible with Miss Xuyen and prepare her for baptism.

On baptismal Sabbath, May 14, Miss Xuyen travelled the 300 kilometers from her home to Saigon and was baptized in the watery

grave by Pastor Le-Huu, our Voice of Prophecy speaker.

-By Pham Thien

# The Triumph of Bible Truth

HE was very solemn. He never asked about Jesus. He never asked a question during the Bible marking classes. But, when the



classes came to a close, he testified, "I have found the truth through this Bible marking class, and I have decided to follow the truth."

This man was recently baptized as a result of a Bible marking class conducted by Nguyin Hoang, a young minister of the Viet Nam Mission. Through a three month home-visitation program, Nguyin Hoang was able to gather 11 people into three Bible marking classes. Eight of the eleven, including the man who gave the above testimonial, have now been baptized.

-By D. R. Guild

# Laymen's Activities Department Sparks Advance By Dan Guild

THE Laymen's Activities department of the Southeast Asia Union is on the March. During the past few months training schools have been conducted in all but one of the local missions and before this issue of the Messenger goes to press that mission will also have concluded their school.

In the absence of Pastor Barnett, the regular secretary of this department, Pastor Guild, as acting secretary led out in the meetings. Associated with him were men from the General Conference and the Far Eastern Division. Pastor L. A. Shipowick, FED, attended all of the meetings.

In Vietnam thirty-five delegates, representing every church in the mission, were in attendance. Some were stopped for questioning as they crossed combatant lines, but all arrived safely.

One of the largest schools was held in Thailand. Over sixty laymen and workers felt the inspiration and power of their institute. Near the close they pledged themselves to



Pictured above are those that attended the classes at the lay evangelism school conducted twice weekly at the Balestier Road Church in Singapore. T. K. Chong, the pastor, organized the school. (Pastor Chong is fifth from the right on the second row.)

triple the number of baptisms in Thailand in 1966.

As a result of Lay Evangelism Leaders' Training Schools having been conducted in each of the five missions within the Southeast Asia Union—Vietnam, Malaya, Thailand, Sabah and Sarawak (both on the island of Borneo)— lay training schools are now being conducted in nearly every church in the union.



#### Special Notice

Pastor Milton Lee will soon open evangelistic meetings in Saigon for the Chinese of that area. Let us remember these meetings in our prayers.



Pictured here are the leaders and delegates who attended the Vietnam Lay Leaders' Training School.

Instructors are seated in second row.



### The Canvassing Work is a Most Successful Way of Saving Souls

LITERATURE is one of the best means of leading others to Christ. Literature can be distributed to villages and remote places, and thus bring the gospel to those who do not have the opportunity of knowing the truth by other means. In this way the seed of truth is sown from door to door.

In the year 1950, through the help of our veteran colporteur, Elder Liaw Hon Phin, who sold me a book and who asked me to join the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School, I found the true church of God. After studying the Bible through the Voice of Prophecy, I dedicated myself wholly to the Lord and became a colporteur for the purpose of winning souls. At the time I was under the direction of Pastor Chin Kong Tai and during the past twelve years of colporteuring, I have been following the instructions of the Bible: "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine." —Ecclesiastes 11:6; 2 Tim. 4:2.

By the grace of God and the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit, I have been successful in winning fourteen souls to the Lord. These 14 brothers and sisters are: Lam Tian Mei in Negri Sembilan, Lam Kai Hong in Pontian Kechil, Ann Wan Kai in Kemanan, Chong Yew How and his wife in Bagan Datoh, Lian Teck, Tan Yong Mei, Wong Wan Ying, Leong Choo San, Liew Ah Yeow, Wong Fong Kiew, Yap King Eng, Yan Yock Eng, Fong Siew Heng in Ipoh. Among these fourteen people there are two who have accepted the call of God to become colporteurs.

I hope that our fellow workers, brothers and sisters, will pray for the work of the Literature Evangelist until the gospel is spread to all the world so that our Lord's second coming may be hastened.

-Yap Ming, (Ipoh)

#### Literature for the Blind of Southeast Asia

By V. L. Bretsch

THE Christian Record Braille Foundation of Lincoln, Nebras-ka recently make a contribution of children's literature to three chapters of the Blind Association of this area.

In Penang, Mr. Warren Runyan, manager of Penang Sanitarium-Hospital made the presentation. Pastor V. L. Bretsch visited the Malayan chapter's headquarters in Kuala Lumpur. And Mr. Choo Yau Fong, manager of Malaysian Signs Press made the presentation in Singapore.

Those receiving the materials revealed their happiness. Expressions of gratitude have also come to the Union office by mail. Requests have come for adult braille literature and plans are being made to bring Desire of Ages and others of Mrs. White's books into these Association's libraries. Thus another important avenue has opened to preach the gospel.



Mr. Runyan is seen handing the Braille children's books to some of the blind children of Penang. Books included Bible stories and nature books in beautiful color for children whose parents are blind but read Braille, so children can see as parents read.



#### How a Schoolboy Led His Classmate to Christ

By Jan Hutauruk

HIS heart had been burning within him to share his faith ever since attending the Lay Evangelism Leadership Training School in Port Dickson. He did not know how to give a Bible study. But there was something he did know how to do: he befriended one of his classmates. Then he enrolled him in the Voice of Prophecy Bible course and invited him to take Bible studies at the pastor's home.

On the May 14 baptismal Sabbath this faithful missionary saw his friend baptized in the Penang Malay Church along with 5 other Voice of Prophecy students.

What a mighty work can be done through the combined efforts of a dedicated laymen, the Voice of Prophecy Bible school, and the church pastor!



## Nothing Too Precious to Give

By Robert H. Pierson, President, General Conference SDA

THE TRAGIC drama is moving swiftly to its climax. The long, painful journey is over. Abraham and Isaac stand alone upon Mount Moriah—their hill of heartbreak. The altar has been erected, the wood laid carefully upon it. The hour of agony has come. With trembling voice the old man unfolds the message he has received from God but a few days before. An amazed Isaac learns the fearful truth—he is to become his father's sacrifice.

Easily the youth could escape, but the son of promise yields himself in willing submission. Tenderly Isaac seeks to comfort his old father, encouraging him to bind the cords that will secure him to the altar.

His heart crushed with an anguish only a father's heart can know, Abraham holds Isaac close to him in a last sad farewell. The obedient youth lies, a willing sacrifice, upon the cold altar. The grief-stricken father lifts the knife that will take the life of his son—his only son. Suddenly his nerveless arm is stayed. A voice of authority filled with love speaks:

"Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from Me." Gen. 22:12.

You know well the thrilling climax of this glorious story of faith. The place of expected tragedy became Jehovah-jireh, a spot where the man of God learned again that "the Lord will provide."

What a drama! What a faith! What a sacrifice! What an ending! What an object lesson for you and me living in 1966! Thou "hast not withheld thy son, thine only son" from Me! Abraham was willing to give his most cherished possession as a love offering to God!

Of this proffered sacrifice the servant of the Lord says, "The lesson was given to shine down through the ages, that we may learn that there is nothing too precious to be given to God." ("Our High Calling," page 191.) "Nothing too precious to be given to God"—this

is the lesson every true child of God must learn now.

Nearly nineteen centuries later the God who stayed Abraham's knife on Moriah participated in another drama of love and heartbreak. On Calvary, God's own arm was raised above His own Son. Now there was no substitute. This time the cruel blow fell. "God so loved the world, that He gave"—gave His most precious gift. He gave His Son. He gave His only Son—the Son of His love, His equal, His delight, His constant companion from eternity.

God gave that only Son as a sacrifice. Jesus did not undertake His mission of mercy only as a messenger of peace. He did not live to preach, to help, to heal, and then to return to heaven a conquering hero, unscathed. God gave His Son to a life of reproach and ignominy—a life of shame. He gave Him to the vilest death a man could experience—death upon a cross.

"God suffered with His Son. In the agony of Gethsemane, the death of Calvary, the heart of Infinite Love paid the price of our redemption."—"Steps to Christ," page

What a lesson of love! What a lesson in giving! What a lesson of sacrifice! "There is nothing too precious to be given." God did not stop short of giving what He expects us to give—everything!

#### Object Lessons in the Mission Field

From our vantage ground here in the mission field we missionaries see many object lessons of selfrenouncing love. Here on my desk is a letter from Linda, a young missionary wife and mother, written while she was on furlough. "It isn't easy to leave our parents," the letter says. "All of them are ill; my mother has cancer; my father is afflicted with heart trouble. My husband's mother, aged eighty-four, has just broken her wrist. But as long as the field is open in Africa we feel that we should go back." They are back now, God bless them, carrying on for God-their second term of mission service in

this great continent. Linda and Bill have learned that nothing is too precious to be given to God.

Don and Helen learned the same lesson a few years ago when their three-year-old daughter was suddenly taken from them on a lonely mission station deep in the jungle of central Congo.

"Do you know what it is like to see the most precious possession you have snatched from you in death?"

Don wrote later, "Do you know what it is to be alone, thousands of miles from home and loved ones, at a time like this? There she lay, looking like a little angel. Her little body was at rest at last. We were too stunned to understand, too shocked to cry. I bent over and kissed her good-bye until we see her in heaven some day."

"Nothing too precious to give." Would you trade places with Linda and Bill, or with Don and Helen? Is it not easier to drop a dollar or a thousand dollars into the offering plate than to give your own flesh and blood to help finish the work of God? Heaven gives each one of us an opportunity to share in the blessings of preaching the third angel's message to every kindred, tongue, and people. Some are called to leave home and loved ones, to give of their talents and means in lands afar. Others have the easier role to play, giving of their means week by week in the homeland. Both are equally important! But both are not equally easy.

#### Urgent Needs of the Work

There are so many urgent needs in the work of God today—both at home and abroad. I know, for I have had the privilege of serving many years in both sections of His vineyard. I know the struggle some of our conferences in the homeland experience in building their churches, in maintaining their institutions, and in expanding their work. They labour under tremendous pressure.

Here in the mission field we are constantly confronted with financial heartaches. Here is a letter that came to me only yesterday. Forty souls in Tanzania are waiting for baptism. The African pastor's meagre travel budget has been exhausted, and he cannot travel the long distance to baptize those eager new believers.

When I visit our leper colonies I can't sleep at night-my bed is too comfortable; my blankets are too clean; I am too warm. Somehow, those shivering scantily clad dark bodies sitting or sleeping on the cold, hard earth without adequate blankets haunt my fitful slumber. Those scaly stubs where fingers once had been, those missing toes, those puffy cheeks, those appealing, blood-shot eyes-how can I ever forget them? These people need our prayers, it is true, but they also need our money to provide them with blankets and good food!

#### If We Had the Love of Christ

The servant of the Lord says, "If God's people had the love of Christ in the heart; if every church member were thoroughly imbued with the spirit of self-denial; if all manifested thorough earnestness, there would be no lack of funds for home and foreign missions; our resources would be multiplied."—"Selected Messages," Book 1, page 82.

When I read these words I searched my own soul and became convinced that I have not given as I should, as the lateness of the hour demands, or as I will by God's grace give in the future. I want to give as one who truly believes that Jesus is coming soon, very soon. I want to hasten that coming by my gifts as well as by my life. Love, self-denial, blankets, travel budgets, needs in the homeland and in the mission field-there is no question but that they are inextricably bound up together. You and I both need to remember that "there is nothing too precious to be given to God."

"How much means is expended for things that are mere idols." the servant of God challenges, "things that engross thought and time and strength which should be put to a higher use! How much money is wasted on expensive houses and furniture, on selfish pleasures, luxurious and unwholesome food, hurtful indulgences! How much is squandered on gifts that benefit no one! For things that are needless, often harmful, professed Christians are today spending more, many times more, than they spend in seeking to rescue souls from the tempter."--"The Ministry of Healing," page 207.

O God, stir us today! When are we going to wake up? When are we going to understand that the end of all things is at hand? When will we realize that the souls of men and women in the Americas, in Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and in the islands of the seas are more precious than extravagantly furnished homes and overstocked wardrobes—more precious than all the creature comforts this world contains?

May God haste the day when both you and I will be willing to give as fully dedicated men and women living on the threshold of eternity should be constrained to give! When our lips pray, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus," may our wallets and our cheque books echo fervently, "Amen! Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" Let us support the cause of God both at home and abroad as we have never done before!

"There is nothing too precious to be given to God."—"Review and Herald."

(Taken From Australasian Record May, 1966.)

#### Tithes and Offerings Not the Property of Any Man

"YOU WHO have been withholding your means from the cause of God, read the book of Malachi, and see what is spoken there in regard to tithes and offerings. Cannot you see that it is not best under any circumstances to withhold your tithes and offerings because you are not in harmony with everything your brethren do? The tithes and offerings are not the property of any man, but are to be used in doing a certain work for God. Unworthy ministers may receive some of the means thus raised, but dare any one, because of this, withhold from the treasury, and brave the curse of God? I dare not. I pay my tithes gladly and freely, saying, as did David, 'Of thine own have we given thee.' A selfish withholding from God will tend to poverty in our own souls. Act your part, my brethren and sisters. God loves you, and he stands at the helm. If the Mission business is not managed according to the order of the Lord. that is the sin of the erring ones. The Lord will not hold you responsible for it, if you do what you can to correct the evil. But do not commit sin vourselves by withholding from God his own property. 'Cursed be he that doeth the work of the Lord negligently,' or deceitfully." Special Testimonies, Series A, No. 1, p. 27.



TELOK ANSON TAMIL-ENGLISH EFFORT: In August, Pastor D. R. Guild, our Union president, joined with Brother Benjamin P., pastor of the Telok Anson church, in conducting an evangelistic effort in Telok Anson, Malaya. The church was packed to capacity nightly for the first week as Pastor Guild presented the messages. Brother Benjamin is continuing the meetings, using the Bible marking method and the "It Is Written" motion pictures. Pray for Brother Benjamin and for all of our evangelists who are currently holding evangelistic efforts in our Union.

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Editor ..... V. L. Bretsch

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#### Editorial Note:

With this issue of the Messenger there comes a change in the editorial department. Pastor Bedwell is now the FED Secretary. The SEA Union committee, by the suggestion of our new president, Dan Guild, has asked V. L. Bretsch to take this responsibility. Pastor Guild will serve as consulting editor. It is hoped that the same good cooperation from the field will continue. We would like to give equal space to every department and mission in order to strengthen our work through the columns of the Messenger. Please send all pictures and stories to Pastor Bretsch.

#### (Continued from page 1.)

"I am overwhelmed with the confidence the brethern have placed in me and with the responsibility that has been placed upon me.

"I want to be a good leader. I hope to be able to continue to nuture the same team spirit that Elder Bedwell has instilled in our leaders throughout this Union. We will miss Pastor Bedwell and his counsel and guidance.

"Last night I read this comforting Bible promise: 'It is God who makes us competent administrators.' (2 Corinthians 3:5, Phillips.) With-

out God's help and guidance, and without the competent help and leadership of Pastor Bruce, Pastor Kong, our Union departmental leaders and office staff, and our mission presidents and institutional leaders and their staffs; I would not be able to accept this appointment. Pray for me that God will make me a competent, above all, a spiritual leader."

#### What Others Have Said. . . . . . .

THE popularity of radio and television is not confined to America. Australia and Brazil each have about one and a half million television sets. India, with a population of 461,000,000, has only 750 sets, but Japan has 13 million. But radios are found everywhere. India has over two million radios in use. Pitcairn Island, one of the most isolated places on the globe, will soon have its own radio transmitter, an operation of the government. Tom Christian will be trained as chief operator and the station will reach South America and the islands of the South Pacific. -Cues.

The faith of a Cook Islander who prayed and led his companions in singing hymns while they drifted for 63 days across 2,200 miles of the Pacific Ocean has been recognized by the British Commonwealth. Teehu Makimare, one of the three survivors of what is probably the longest ocean drift without provisions, accepted the Stanhope Gold Medal from the Royal Humane Society for his courageous leadership in the drift. Teehu, a devout Adventist, was one of four members of his church who, with three others, were caught by a tropical storm and blown miles away from their home in the Cook Islands. After 63 days of aimless drifting in their frail craft, they were tossed onto a coral reef of an island in the New Hebrides. —On the Air. (Taken from Columbia Union Visitor, June 1966)



Elder and Mrs. D. R. Guild, Genene and Rosanne.