

# The Messenger

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST UNION OF SOUTHEAST ASIA



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## Two Conventions Add Something New For Southeast Asia Union

**A** NEW first has taken place in the Southeast Asia Union. As near as we can tell, the Union Sabbath School department and Lay Activities department secretaries conducted the first Union-wide leadership council in our history.

It began on October 13th in the worship room at the Union office. Behind the speaker's desk sat one — a visitor to some but soon a friend to all. He was Pastor R. Curtis Barger, Associate Secretary of the General Conference Sabbath School department. He gave a short devo-

tional talk to get the convention underway.

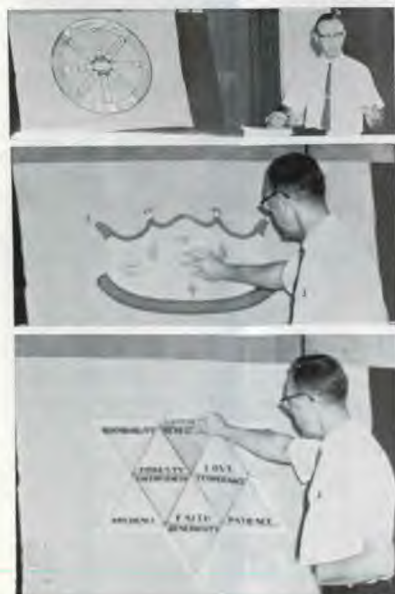
Pastor H. E. McClure of the Far Eastern Division Sabbath School department and representatives from all five missions in Southeast Asia union were also on hand. Arrangements for the four-day meetings were all handled by Mrs. Pauline Barnett, Sabbath School Secretary, SEAU.

Two days of careful planning with leaders of the various missions produced many ideas, notebooks

loaded with reminders and helps, questions answered and plans urging a forward movement, preceding a week-end program for all members of churches in the Singapore area. The College Chapel and Balestier Road Church were filled to capacity for the Sabbath appointments. And on Sunday, a goodly number were again in attendance.

At the Sunday workshop, Pastor Barger emphasized each talk with colorful and appropriate flannel-board illustrations. The goal devices

(Continued on back page)



LEFT: R. Curtis Barger, Associate Sabbath School Secretary of the General Conference, explains the use of goal devices at the recent Sabbath School convention.

BELOW: Sabbath School leaders who attended convention: From left to right: M. Gaban, Sabah; H. E. McClure, FED; P. Thien, Vietnam; R. C. Barger, GC; E. Sinaga, Sarawak; E. B. Smith, Thailand; Mrs. S. J. Lee, Malaya; and Mrs. P. Barnett, SEAU.





## THAILAND

### Voice of Prophecy Graduation

**P. G. Wick, President  
Thailand Mission**

ONE hundred and sixty students in the city of Bangkok had finished the new, "Way of Life" correspondence course. The V.O.P. staff did not know whether to have a graduation service in the church or not since these students were almost entirely non-Adventist. They had never been to our church. They were scattered all over the Bangkok area and no one had ever visited in their homes. Would enough of them come to make a graduation worth while? I failed to mention that 80 of them were in jail or a correctional institution which of course would keep them from coming.

By faith plans were made for a graduation and rally. Letters of invitation were sent to all who had finished the course and to many who were almost finished. Signs were painted, bulletins printed, and the program arranged. Would any of these graduates come?

Mr. Prayoon Maithrai, director

### Clothe the Naked, Feed the Poor

**Eldon B. Smith, Thailand  
Laymen's Activities Secretary**

THIS year brought the highest flood waters known in sixty years along much of the Mekong River Basin. Two areas were heavily flooded on the Thai side of the river, namely Nong Kai and Chiang-kong. Nong Kai was much the more extensive area and received the most

of the correspondence school, arranged the rally program which included three special musical numbers by the Bangkok San Church choir. There were some lively speeches and other special music. Diplomas were passed out to 46 graduates and each one was invited to attend church at our regular worship services.

Mr. R. L. Sheldon, Thailand Publishing House Manager, and his staff set up a book display in front of the church so that the new graduates and also many of our church members could see what religious books were available. The book display was a center of attraction and many interesting contacts were made.

We felt that the graduation service and rally were very successful. In the future more of these meetings will be planned.

publicity. Since we have no members in Nong Kai and our resources were no match for that large area, we left the relief work there to other organizations and turned our attention to Chiangkong, where we do have work.

Our local pastor, Brother Yotee, was away for a workers' meeting at the time the waters rose and was much concerned for the safety of our members and our church property, which is on the bank of the Mekong River. He arranged to make a trip into the flooded area in the company of Pastor Sopon of Chiangmai just as early as possible. The regular bus was able to take them to within 20 kilometers of Chiangkong, and within walking distance of the flood itself.

They soon hired a motor boat and anxiously continued their journey, passing over flooded rice fields, then flooded buildings and before long they were passing right over buildings one or two stories high—not by plane but by boat!

When they arrived at the town

RIGHT: Pastor P. G. Wick, President, presents diploma to one of the 46 graduates who attend the VOP rally. Below: Two young men who worked hard to earn their diploma.

BELOW: The book display prepared by the Thailand Publishing House was a center of attraction to the many visitors and graduates in attendance at the rally.







Shown above are a number of grateful flood victims who received help from our Bangkok workers and members.



Miss Thailand happily receives a check for 5,000 Baht, as E. A. Pender, Manager, presents it in behalf of the workers in the institution. Miss Vatana Chaijasate, center, looks on approvingly.

of Chiengkong, they were relieved to find that most of the town was on ground higher than the flood water. Pastor Yotee's house and the church were safe. So they immediately set out to find some of the members who lived in lower areas. They found their homes flooded and began to make inquiry as to where they had fled. They were directed to some nearby hills. Here they found some dejected-looking members, but they began to show a feeling of relief at seeing familiar faces. Though they had gotten their clothing out of their houses there had been no time to get the rice out of the granary (rice storehouse) and several families were facing immediate hunger. So the pastors went back to town and bought rice to tide these few families over until the water would recede.

When this report was received at the mission office our hearts went out to all those who lost their homes and crops and we determined to do what we could to help. An announcement of the need was made at the Ekamai Adventist English School and within two or three days the students brought in over 1500 pieces of clothing and 1100 baht to which the Mission added 3000 baht and requested the writer to go to Chiengkong and see what could be done to help the most needy.

We selected half a dozen villages and divided up the clothing accordingly. Then, in company with Pastor Yotee and our two nurses, Miss Vanna and Miss Sookoom, who are stationed at our Chiengkong Maternity Welfare Clinic, we began calling at these villages.

Just before leaving Chiengkong, I was discussing the needs of the

people with our nurses and they expressed the opinion that the people would need salt to eat with the simple greens they could raise, so we bought 500 packages of salt and gave to them.

Upon my return to Bangkok we purchased at a very special price nearly a thousand copies of Bible portions and shipped them to Chiengkong to feed the souls of the same needy people.

In the near future we will visit again and this time we can more readily distinguish the destitute from those who were more fortunate. And this time we will want to supply food to those families who are impoverished.

Then, just a few days ago another call came from Ubol, where the Moon River rose very high and several of our own families, along with others, had their homes washed away. Fortunately, more clothing had come in and more money too. So we were able to send 400 pieces of clothing and 1500 baht from the Ekamai Dorcas Society. I am sure that many of these unfortunate people are singing in their hearts, "Thank you, Friends!"

## Bangkok Hospital Donates to Flood Relief

E. A. Pender, Manager

THE funds provided by the Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital for the relief of flood victims are the direct result of the personal liberality of the staff and workers of the hospital. A contribution of 5,000 baht was received personally by Miss Thailand and made to the Bangkok World Flood Relief Fund.

The initiative and inspiration that brought success to this project came largely through the efforts of Miss Vatana Chaijasate.

In addition to the money provided, the staff and workers also sent 1,493 pieces of clothing and a number of pairs of shoes into the stricken areas of Chiengkong and Chiangmai. Miss Vanna Sukaratra, Dean of Women in the hospital's School of Nursing, made a personal tour north to supervise in the distribution of clothing and medicines. The hospital operates a clinic in this area.

## Former Missionaries Help Again

DR. and Mrs. Arthur Geschke of Fresno, California recently returned to the United States after spending two and one-half months in Haad Yai, Thailand, where Dr. Geschke did relief work at the Haad Yai Mission Hospital. Living in Thailand is not new to the Geschkes as they were here just before the beginning of World War II when they came to Bangkok to join Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Waddell and then went to Bhuket to pioneer the medical work there.

The Geschkes were able to go to Bhuket for their last weekend in Thailand and there met many old friends and former patients. They were thrilled to see the new hospital building and to learn how the work has progressed in Bhuket since they first opened the Bhuket Mission Clinic in 1940.

Dr. and Mrs. Geschke hope to return to Thailand soon to spend a full term of mission service.



## SABAH

### Sabah Youth Go Camping

**J. H. Lantry, SEAU**  
**Missionary Volunteer Secretary**

**N**EARLY EIGHTY youth from the Sabah Mission counted it a joy to be present as they disembarked from the boat to go ashore on the white sandy beaches of one of the islands of Jesselton harbour, for their youth camp, August 22-29.

Camping proved to be very simple, for they slept on the ground worked their craft projects on the ground, and ate on the ground. Even camp council each day, and the Sabbath services were at "ground level" with only a log between the campers and the sand.

Some of the staff, lead by Pastor R. E. Bartolome, had gone in ahead to erect some temporary "lean-to's" for housing. Zinc roofing was used, but the rest of the materials were cut out of the jungle nearby, to provide protection from the daily rains that all but nullified each evening's camp-fire program. Many other times during the daytime, the moisture descended too, making the scheduling of events hard to plan on.

As usual, the Sabbath services and functions of God's holy day, were the climax of the week-long activities, and especially when the campers witnessed the baptism of six of their group at the close of the Sabbath worship hour.



Shown above are the enthusiastic MV campers of the Sabah Mission. In spite of inclement weather they enjoyed a good camping season.

### From Darkness to Light

**G. Laung, Pastor Sabah Mission**

**G**AYA RATAU is a remote little village deep in the jungles of Sabah. The nearest civilization is a 2-hour's walk through perilous jungle paths and a five mile trip by land-rover.

Yet, all these natural handicaps do not prevent the Truth from penetrating into the hearts of the honest inhabitants of Gaya Ratau. We have a small modest place of worship in this village, erected several years ago by the believers there themselves. At the end of 1965 there were 31 precious names in our village church book, regularly attending the weekly services.

Last June the writer was sent to this village to hold a two-week public effort. Armed with "Hope For Today" lessons and filmstrips, I sought the fullest cooperation of our members there to make the

effort a real success. Every one eagerly and ably did his part.

Though rain was continually pouring down during much of the effort, (unfortunately the monsoon season arrived earlier than expected) yet our nightly meetings were well-attended. It was a real joy to see so many hungry and honest souls venturing the cold, wet and dark nights to come and satisfy themselves with the Bread of Life. Truly, the Light does shine and lightens the dark jungle.

Rains completely disappeared at the close of our effort. The jungle sky was cloudless, the air was filled with the fragrant aroma of God's natural beauties, when 3 souls stepped down into the clear mountain stream to be baptized.

Another 11 souls are at present receiving further instructions in the baptismal class, and we expect that they too will soon have their names recorded in the books of Heaven. Please pray for these precious souls.

This is a typical Sabah campers bunk. No roof, nor modern comforts. Yet a much looked-forward-to-experience.

The camp council is a high-light on the program. Here young people have gathered for a morning session.





# *Special Tithe Promotion Day—December 10*

*G. O. Bruce, SEAU Secretary-Treasurer*

**T**HE Union Committee has taken an action designating December 10, 1966, as Tithe Promotion Day. On this day special emphasis will be placed on the importance of tithe paying in all of the churches throughout the Southeast Asia Union territory.

Heaven has provided us with the tithing system in which all church members may have an equal part in supporting the work of God, a plan based on a percentage system that makes it equitable to all, rich and poor. The Spirit of Prophecy, Testimonies to the Church, Vol. III, p. 88 says, "God's plan in the tithing system is beautiful in its simplicity and equality. All may take hold of it in faith and courage, for it is Divine in its origin." Church members not only have the privilege of taking part in supporting the ministry through the paying of tithe, but they have a solemn obligation to God in this respect. Again from the pen of Inspiration, this time from Vol. IX, p. 249: "The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work. For a long time the Lord has been robbed because there are those who do not realize that the tithe is God's reserved portion."

When the children of Israel returned to the land of Canaan, God saw the importance of calling some men to lead out in the religious activities. Eleven of the twelve tribes of Israel were given an inheritance of land where they could settle down to raise their families. The Levites were ordained to be the priests, to minister to the spiritual needs of the people. They were not given a land inheritance, but were supported by ten per cent of the income from the other eleven tribes. With their temporal needs thus provided, they could spend full time in gospel ministry.

Today the work of God is carried forward in much the same manner. The ministers of the church are called to the preaching of the gospel. These men have been ordained to carry on the work of God, but they must be provided with funds in order that they might spend their entire time and energy in the ministry of the church.

In recent weeks we have been giving study to the financial needs of some of the missions within this territory and we have found that in some areas the tithe has actually decreased over the past year. With the constantly rising standard of living, it would seem that the trend should make an increase rather than a decrease.

We are coming to you with a special appeal to search your own hearts as to whether or not you are fulfilling your obligation to God and to the church in the matter of tithe paying. In these troubled hours of earth's history, when there is an almost impossible task to perform in taking the message of salvation to a dying world, the church needs not only your personal dedication, but it needs your financial support. As you consider your own personal obligation, remember the words of the Lord in Malachi 3:10, "Bring ye all the tithe into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."



# Personal Tithe Testimonies

True Heart-warming Experiences

## The Miracle of the Unharmed Wheat Field

Leonard C. Lee,  
Former President, Korean Union

WE were driving across the western plains of North Dakota on a bright July day when the very earth seemed to crawl with grasshoppers. Every few miles we had to stop our model T and clean them out of the radiator core, to keep the engine cool. Every speck of living green had disappeared from the fields where the wheat had waved tall and beautiful only a few days before. We turned our Ford off the main road to follow a country trail rutted deep in the prairie sod. Even the wheel paths were filled with crawling, jumping insects. We had to meet wave on wave of the flying creatures, an invading force against which man had been unable to defend himself. They were crawling all over the car, on our clothes, even in our pockets.

Suddenly, as we rounded a turn in the road and pulled into a driveway, the grasshoppers seemed to vanish. The car was clean, the road was bare, the grass was green. The garden near the house was lush with growing vegetables. Beyond the garden fence the wheat field bent before the breeze in waves of living green. This was the place we had come miles to see. This was the miracle farm, an island of safety from the hoppers, an oasis in the desert. I had heard about it, but I could hardly believe my eyes.

With other dusty and discouraged pilgrims who had lost their crops to the hoppers, we crowded the old man who owned the farm to hear the wonderful story.

"I've been a Christian for many years," the old man told us, "and wife and I belong to a little church that believes in paying tithe. We have given God one tenth of all our income because the Bible teaches that it is rightfully His. We have been fair to God, and He has always been more than fair to us. When we heard that the hoppers were coming, Martha and I got our Bible and read this text on our

knees."

The old man opened his Bible and read the text, Malachi 3:10, 11.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground."

The old man held out his Bible reverently, lovingly, "Martha and I held up that verse before God," he said. "We told the Lord that we had kept our part of the bargain. We had paid our tithe as faithfully as we knew how. We asked God to do His part, to keep His promise; and He did."

He could have saved those last three words. The house was on the highest part of his little farm, and we could see the devastation on every side. The destruction came right to the line fence.

I didn't understand it, but I went away from that place with a new conception of God. The idea that God would take the trouble to stop grasshoppers at a line fence was so startling I could hardly grasp it. I couldn't understand that God cared that much about human beings, even if they did pay tithe.

I had almost forgotten this experience when I started to farm for myself on my mother's farm. One Sunday in early spring some neighbor boys and I drove over to a country schoolhouse where a revival meeting was in progress. A Methodist Sunday-school missionary, by the name of Doty, gave a sermon on tithing. He showed how the whole world belonged to God in the beginning. It was God's by right of creation, even as we recognize that an invention belongs to the inventor, or an island belongs to the nation that discovers it. He pointed out that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was not only a test of obedience and honesty, but a symbol of God's ownership and sovereignty.

After the testing tree disappeared from the earth, God gave man the tithing system as a symbol of divine

ownership. "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's; it is holy unto the Lord." Leviticus 27:30.

The speaker showed how the tithe was used by God to sustain those who ministered in His name—the Levites in the days of Israel, and the ministers of the Bible in our day. He then read the same verses that I had heard the old man read when his farm was saved from grasshoppers. I had looked for that text in the Bible, but never found it nor understood it. Now it began to have meaning.

Mr. Doty showed how Jesus and Paul in the New Testament put their stamp of approval on the tithing system. Then he gave some illustrations of God's blessings upon those who were faithful in recognizing God's ownership and heaven's plan for the support of the ministry.

That meeting made a deep impression on me. I went home with some new thoughts and new ideals. I went out in the granary between the bins of seed grain and lay prone on the floor. I promised God that I would give Him a faithful tithe of all that He would give me in the harvest.

I was a boy in my teens starting out to farm with rusty tools that had not been used in years. The only horses I could afford were so old that one dropped dead before I got the plowing done. Some of the land was poor and stony and hadn't produced a good crop in years. Neighbors who had farmed the land on shares had tried only to get all they could off the land without putting any fertility back. The outlook was discouraging; at least the neighbors thought so. I clung to my belief that God would honor my promise and give me a good crop.

It wasn't too good a year, and most crops were under par; but my crops were the best in the neighborhood. Not outstandingly better, but still the best. I kept careful track of income and expenses, and at the close of the year I figured that by giving God the advantage of every doubt, I had made a thousand dollars. I owed Him a hundred dollars tithe. That was a lot in those days. I put God's money in the bank while I tried to find out how to give it to Him. That may sound strange, but it was a real problem to me. I would have liked to hand it to Him personally, but



I knew that was impossible. I knew God would use it to pay for the work of saving souls, for the support of the ministry; but I did not know how He did it.

About that time my mother married again, and my stepfather wanted to run the farm, so I let him have it and wondered what to do next.

One Saturday night a neighbor boy who was working on a big farm asked me to stay overnight with him. While in the home I looked around for something to read. On the parlor table was a copy of the Watchman magazine, a special Harvest Ingathering number. I read it from cover to cover. There was a ring of sincerity about it and a challenge that appealed to me. On the inside of the back cover was a little box containing an announcement and an invitation.

"If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause you may send your contribution to W. T. Knox, treasurer of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists."

I copied the address, and on Monday morning I went to the bank and sent a bank draft for one hundred dollars to the General Conference treasurer. I also sent a letter saying I would like to be a worker for God and win souls for Him.

I received a receipt and a letter, one paragraph of which I shall never forget. It said, "Not more surely is there a place prepared for you in the heavenly mansions, than there is a place designed on earth where you are to labor and work for God."

I did not find that place right away, but I never got over the feeling that I was a child of destiny. I felt that little paper had been put there for a purpose. God was telling me what to do with my tithe. I asked my friend where the paper came from. He said someone had left it at a Jewish tailor's. The tailor had given it to my friend's boss, who had taken it home.

I have always marveled at the patience of God. He planted the seed in my heart, then watched it grow. I buried myself in work, in adventure, in the great wilderness of the northwest of Canada and Alaska; but always I felt that was not the place God had designed for me.

One day, hurt and disappointed over a broken friendship, I picked up a copy of Present Truth in a depot reading rack. It had the name of a Seventh-day Adventist preacher, P. G. Stanley, and his address in Fargo, North Dakota. I read it

through, then spent a sleepless night in a hotel wrestling with God, as Jacob must have wrestled. The next day I went to see Pastor Stanley. He and Mrs. McClelland, a Bible instructor, encouraged me to prepare for the ministry.

I never cease to marvel at the way my life has been guided, protected, and enriched from the day I recognized God's ownership of all I have. The tithe is little to give back to God after all He does for us.

### Promises Fulfilled

I AM an evangelist who labours for the Chinese people of North Borneo. A young man attended our evangelistic meetings at Sandakan and also read the Signs of the Times in English regularly. He made up his mind to keep the Sabbath holy and to pay his tithe. He called on me one day and asked me how he should compute his tithe. He said, "My salary is \$80.00 and my living allowance is \$27.00 per month." "Then your monthly tithe would be \$10.70," I said. He has four mouths to feed from his small earnings as a wireless operator. To decide to return his tithe to the Lord was a real test. He was moved by the Holy Spirit to pledge loyalty to God in all things so started courageously to do so and to keep God's Sabbath faithfully. God is fulfilling His promises to bless and this young man is rejoicing in true Christian living.

W. K. S.

### A Sure Reward for Faithfulness in Tithes and Sabbath Keeping

I STARTED keeping Sabbath during the Japanese occupation. In those dark days, I realised that a man needs God to guide him. So I determined to let God lead, and according to His promise in Psalms 119:165, He gave me great peace, I had no thought for food, clothing and shelter. They were all supplied fully and in abundance.

When the British re-occupied Malaya, I thought I could not keep the Sabbath if I were to return to my office, for I had not yet heard of any one getting Sabbath off in the Government service. Having made up my mind, I resigned from the British Military Administration. My friends told me that I was making a great mistake. They had been expecting the British to return so that they could have a better day. I told them that my reward was

much better than they could ever expect, for I was seeking for a Passport into Paradise. I knew that in accepting Jesus as my Saviour one condition was obedience to God's law.

I started a partnership in Penang, and God blessed me in every way. I made a considerable amount of money even though I had no business experience.

When the Civil Government returned, I applied for employment and was stationed in a lovely hill station in Malaya. I was accepted on a month to month basis. I got my Sabbath off. Since then my family and I have been living and enjoying the "peace like a river" experience.

I have been paying tithe since the Japanese occupation. I was not a baptised member then and I had not been honest with God. Although the Lord had been very merciful to me and blessed me greatly, somehow, the money found its way out, and I never had much money nor goods though I was never in want. When I was at the hill station, I decided to prove the Lord according to what He says in Malachai 3:10. Of course, I expected the Lord to "pour out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." I became really business-like. I opened an income and expenditure book. On one side, at the close of the day, I put down all my daily income and on the other, all my expenditures. At the end of the month, I totalled the income side and gave one tenth of the amount to the church. The expenditure totals helped me to realise my monthly expenses.

I kept on month after month, but the window of heaven was not opened as I had expected. Then all of a sudden, on the 13th month, the Government decided that my service should be continuous and that I was entitled to the back pay which all Government servants were eligible to draw. Moreover, they had to pay me for the arrears of pay from the time I started work at the hill station, because they started me off with a very small pay. My salary jumped 70% and then 150%.

Those who have been to my house will realise how small the house is for all the blessings from God. Surely He will not forget His promises. He will "pour you out a blessing too that there shall not be room enough to receive it" if you will do His will. I have tried and tasted His blessings. You too will be richly rewarded.

T. A. K.



# Tithe Percentage Funds Help To Open New Work

**Editor's note:** During the past few years, tithe percentage funds have helped to open new work in several of our missions. The story on this page is but one of many that can be told. It should serve as an appeal to our hearts to be more liberal in our giving and above all to be honest with God.

## Seventh-day Adventists Refugees in Thailand

**A. V. Pangan, Thailand**  
**Publishing Department Secretary**

**M**ORE than twenty thousand Karen people from Burma have settled in northern Thailand in the past few years. As a matter of fact, there are more Karens than there are natives in that area. Some of them are refugees who have crossed the border during the last few months.

Eight months ago three of our

Adventist brethren from Burma arrived here after a week of arduous boat riding and treacherous hiking over the mountains. They stayed at the border between Thailand and Burma for twenty-four trying days. The Thai border police noticed their peculiarities such as not eating pork, nor wearing any jewelry, not smoking, nor drinking. After observing that they were truly Christian refugees, the border police took them to the immigration department in Mae Sariang. They were allowed to stay there as refugees.

Mr. Shwe Gyaw (George), 28, and his cousin, Mrs. Naw Kaw Po, 31, worked in our hospital at Rangoon for several years before coming to Thailand. Mrs. Naw Kaw Po's husband, Aye Lwin (Robert), had been a business student. Mr. and Mrs. Robert brought their two older children while the youngest was left with their relatives in Burma.

Mr. George is teaching English to some Thai officials for his livelihood, while Mrs. Robert is temporarily employed as a nurse at the Baptist Hospital at Mae Sariang.

One day, Job, age 5, asked his

mother as to why they did not have a Sabbath School like the one they used to have in Burma. His mother told him that if he would invite his friends she would start a Branch Sabbath School. The boy ran joyfully and told his friends about the idea. In less than half an hour more than twenty children gathered at the little rented house of the refugees. Since then, every Sabbath afternoon, Mrs. Robert has resourcefully and ably conducted a Branch Sabbath School. In addition, she gives Bible studies to many of her Karen neighbors.

**We have never given God anything  
until we have given Him something  
that has cost something.**



RIGHT: Mr. Shwe Gyaw (George) teaches English to Thai officials. Below: Mr. and Mrs. Naw Kaw Po (Robert) and two boys. One child was left with relatives inside Burma.

BELOW: Mrs. Robert is shown with her active and enthusiastic branch Sabbath School members. Every Sabbath new children join this group.





## VIETNAM

### Buddhist Priest Graduates From VOP In Vietnam

**Pastor Phan Thien, Departmental  
Secretary, Vietnam**

**MR. THICH**, a twenty-two year old Buddhist priest, was interested in learning something about other religions. Passing the Adventist hospital and mission one day, he decided to enter and talk to someone about Christianity. He met Pastor Do Binh, Publishing Secretary, and as a result he was introduced to the VOP secretary and became a student.

Pastor Thien, the secretary of the VOP and Home Missionary departments watched his progress closely. After six weeks he finished the entire course. On the day he came for his diploma several leaders from the Union office in Singapore were present in Saigon for committee meetings and were introduced to this young man.

Pastor V. L. Bretsch, SEAU Publishing Secretary, learned of this young man's interest in obtaining a Bible. A new Vietnamese Bible was purchased at the B & PA and presented to him as a gift.

He is now attending Sabbath School and church regularly. Three friends of his, all priests, have also enrolled in the VOP, through his encouragement and one has already finished the course. On a recent Sabbath he received his diploma.

Mr. Thich gave a very interesting testimony in the Saigon Vietnamese Sabbath School just a few weeks ago. He told how as a baby, he had been very, very sick. His mother took him to a temple and thinking Buddha could save his life, she dedicated him to the temple service, as Hannah with her son had done many hundreds of years ago.

Then came that time in his experience when his religion became dissatisfying to him. This prompted him to enter the mission compound where he first met Pastor Do Binh. As he concluded his talk he asked all present to please remember him in prayer, so that as he put it, "I



Pastor Bretsch presents Mr. Thich a new Vietnamese Bible as Pastor Phan Thien looks on.

can be saved by grace, through the precious love of Jesus."

Mr. Thich has read the Bible through four times. He is at present making a special study of the four gospels and Revelation. He expresses the desire to do whatever he can to preach the gospel of Jesus to others.

Would each reader of the Messenger please pray for this young man. It will not be easy for him to take his stand and be baptized. Yet, as Jesus said, "other sheep have I that are not of this fold." Surely Mr. Thich is one of these.

### Duc My Church Visit In Vietnam

**Ralph Neall, President**

**B**RAVING the dusty roads and danger of enemy encounter Pastor Duong Sau, DaNang church pastor, and myself made our first visit in recent months to the Duc My church, our mission's northernmost church. We were stopped several times and encouraged to carry weapons but we explained our reasons for not needing such help. Trusting in God for help we confidently pressed forward.

Brother Quoc Thai, Duc My's pastor, was happy to see us. He assured us of the confidence our members have in God. Near the church is a bomb shelter, built and paid for by funds from the General Conference. They have not had to use it yet, but a bullet hole in the

church roof is a reminder that the time may come soon.

Twenty SDA families of this church have been unable to attend services lately because their area is controlled by enemy forces. However, on this visit, nine of them arrived for Sabbath services. They reported that all of our members are safe. No one is sick nor has anyone died or been injured.

Sabbath afternoon we visited the Phu Hoa church. Some of our members in this area are not able to sleep in their own homes at night, for military operations are too frequent. On our return to Saigon we also stopped at Quang Ngai, where a new church is growing. Eight people were baptized recently as a result of evangelist meetings. In spite of political agitators who sought to break-up our meetings, the Lord over-ruled and everything followed on schedule. Please remember our work and workers in your prayers.

### Educational Plans in Vietnam

**R. E. Neall, President**

**T**HE VIETNAM Mission is working hard to upgrade its teachers.

Pastor Le Huu, who has been Voice of Prophecy speaker and acting principal of the Training School, has been sent to Philippine Union College for two years to finish the requirements for his college degree. He left in July, and his family followed a few weeks later.

Luong Ha, who is Registrar and Dean of Men at the Training School, has been authorized to take full college work this fall in Saigon University. He passed his Baccalaureate examination successfully this year, and when he obtains his college degree he will be a much greater help to the school.

The Training School opened a tenth grade class recently with three students enrolled. We plan to open the eleventh grade next year, and the twelfth the year after that. Better qualified teachers for these higher grades are our greatest need.

**Pastor Milton Lee writes that an average attendance of over 300 are coming to his Cholon effort in Saigon. Let us each continue to remember these meetings in our prayers.**



## MALAYA

### Penang Hospital Opens New Mother's Care Department

**T**HE mayor of George Town, Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew, officiated at opening ceremonies for an ultra-modern maternity department at Penang Sanitarium-Hospital, on Sunday, September 18.

The manager, Mr. Warren Runyan, served as Master of Ceremonies, and Drs. W. L. Hebard and R. O. Hann, as well as nurses and other institutional workers were on hand to greet the many visitors in attendance at the ceremonies.

Pastor H. D. Johnson, Treasurer, represented the Far Eastern Division, and he gave the welcoming speech to open the meeting. Pastor D. R. Guild gave a brief address highlighting the history of our medical work in Penang. Pastor S. J. Lee, President of the Malaya Mission, offered the prayer of thanks before Mayor Ooi cut the ribbon officially opening these new services for the public.

The mayor spoke many kind words in appreciation for past services the hospital has rendered to the community. He spoke of the good courage and vision of the board members of the hospital in



A large crowd enjoyed the opening ceremonies of the new mother's department at the Penang Sanitarium-Hospital. Pastor Guild, SEAU President, is here presenting a brief history of our medical work in this union.

planning the new facilities. He emphasized these words by reminding all those present that this new additional service was being inaugurated on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the first Adventist hospital at Battle Creek, Michigan, 1866.

The maternity suite consists of a seven-bed ward, a babies room name "Heirport," four two-bed wards, and one three-bed ward. Early the following morning, a new baby and his mother were first to use the new facilities and were given a private room with all the trimmings, a free service of the institution.

### Penang Home & School Fellowship Very Active

**Mrs. S. J. Lee, Secretary  
Malaya Mission H. S. F. O.**

**T**HE Penang Chinese Home and School fellowship was organized in 1964. Mrs. Stanford Wong is the leader. She is assisted by Mrs. Tan Keng Boon and Mrs. Lai. They meet regularly each month. A series of cooking classes have just been completed and such courses as: Home Nursing, First Aid and Christian Home Education are soon to begin.

Shown below is one of the new maternity rooms now opened at Penang Hospital. Room decorations and furniture are of contrasting colors. The hallway, as shown, is also very light and cheerful. "Heirport" sign can be seen on right hand side.







One of the largest number of Literature Evangelists in Malaya ever to gather at an institute enjoyed five days of cool mountain air at Cameron Highlands. Forty-six workers are shown here. The leaders of the Malaysian Signs Press, SEAU and Malaya Mission are seated on the front row.

## Literature Evangelists Gather at Cameron's For Annual Institute

**V. L. Bretsch, SEAU  
Departmental Secretary**

**F**ORTY-SIX literature evangelists and their leaders of the Malaya Mission gathered at a mountain hotel October 3-8 for sales study and spiritual refreshing. The cool mountain air was invigorating, as were the refreshing breezes of God's Holy Spirit upon every heart in attendance.

Brother S. S. Daniel, in cooperation with his associate in the publishing department Brother Y. C. Yap, had a well planned and carefully executed program. The mission officers lent their influence to the strength of the institute.

Pastor and Mrs. D. R. Guild spent the weekend with us and his spiritual messages thrilled every heart.

Pastor Jay Lantry brought nightly inspiration to the large group, many of whom are new literature ministers. Goals that will almost double that which has been done in 1966 were set for next year.

Pastor Daniel Lee, editor, and Brother Choo Yau Fong, manager, of the Malaysian Signs Press were on hand for the entire week's activities. They gave valuable instruction and encouragement. New books were introduced that will help to

strengthen our spiritual work. Brother C. K. Chan, B & PA manager, brought real help and information that our workers appreciated. Policy items and reporting procedures among other things were explained by Brother Chan.

The union publishing secretary led out in the sales training portion of the meetings and stress was especially given to house-to-house evangelism. Soul-winning was the theme of the entire week's program.

God is blessing our literature evangelists in SEAU and Malaya is no exception. The harvest is ready, and there is still much unworked territory to be entered. I'm sure there are others who will soon be taking up this important work. They will join with these who are already sowing the gospel seed and a rich harvest will result.

Malaya's literature evangelists have pledged themselves to 38 baptisms in '67; M\$423,000.00 in sales; an average of 10 VOP enrollments per week, per worker; and over 1000 pieces of free literature shall be distributed each week.

Surely 1967 will see great advance in literature evangelism throughout Malaya. Let us all join in prayer for these faithful workers everyday.

**Just so sure as you keep drawing out your soul's currency without making new deposits, the next thing will be "no funds." Soul deposits and checks must more than balance if we are to be spiritually dynamic.**

## SARAWAK

### Obituary

**P. R. Sibarani, Sec'y-Treasurer**

**P**ASTOR M. T. SIBADOGIL was born 25th of May, 1899 in Sumatra and died 19th of September, 1966 at Kuching, Sarawak, at the age of 67.

He started his ministry in 1925 in Medan, Sumatra, for a period of nine years before he was called to serve in the North Borneo Mission in 1934. He served that Mission for about thirteen years before he was transferred in 1947 to Tatau in the Sarawak Mission as minister and also in charge of the Mission Medical Boat on the Tatau River.



He was there for ten years and transferred to the Ayer Manis District in Sarawak in 1957, where he worked until his retirement in 1960. He was ordained to the Ministry in 1937.

After his retirement he and his family went back to North Borneo (Sabah) after having served the mission fields for thirty-five years. Even during his retirement years he was still active in missionary work and was in charge of the Kiulu Church.

Late in 1961 his health began declining slowly until this year in June he was flown from Jesselton, Sabah, to Kuching, Sarawak, for further medical treatment and also to be closer to his sons and daughters.

He leaves behind his faithful wife, ten children, two daughters-in-law, three sons-in-law and seventeen grandchildren. To them we express our deepest sympathy and condolence.



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### Something New For Southeast Asia Union

(Continued from page 1)

presented also showed leaders and teachers alike of their importance. Everyone present realized anew the importance of their responsibilities in the Sabbath School.

Pastor Barger not only gave valuable help to the strengthening of our Sabbath Schools on this visit, but he gave us new strength and confidence in God through his recent personal experience "Shipwrecked in South America." He told of how his life was spared, while that of a fellow-Sabbath School leader was lost below the waves of the sea.

Sabbath School evangelism is now more than ever, a household word among Southeast Asian Adventists. During the coming months many new branch Sabbath Schools, will

be organized. Departments of the regular Sabbath School have many more ideas to work with that will produce more inspiring programs and as the end result, we know there will be more souls won to Christ.

## Awakening the Giants

Doyle Barnett

"AWAKE thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." The church of God is an army of sleeping giants. But who is afraid of a great big giant as long as his boundless strength remains dormant and lifeless? The sleepless foe would, if permitted, make a supreme effort to destroy these giants while their senses are still paralyzed. But with an army of angels that excel in strength forming an almost impossible barrier he resorts to his hypnotic potions to render insensible their heavenly endowed faculties. The momentous question awaiting solution is: How can this magic spell be cast off and the sleeping giants awakened?

This was the point in question at the Lay Council in Singapore on October 17. As Union and local Missions lay activities secretaries considered this baffling problem it was realized that only creative power from above could apply the match and set the spark to fire the dormant energies of these mighty giants. Close study was also given

to methods and materials that could be used in harnessing God's army for battle-front action.

Although the council meetings lasted only one day, yet new insights were gained, new horizons discerned and far-reaching resolutions initiated. With singleness of purpose and one object in mind these dedicated men returned to their stations to exert their divinely endowed resources and set in motion God's great army of awakening giants. May it be that soon this ever increasing company of torch bearers with Christ lighted faces will march forth "into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Dear Reader, please, PLEASE join up with these forces and become a vigilant giant — NOW!

(Ed. Note: A second picture is not available for the Lay Activities Convention. All mission leaders are the same with the exception of Malaya. Pastor K. T. Chin is missing. Also Pastor Barnett's picture is missing and regretted.)

**LATE NEWS** ● A cable from Pastor Munson, Sabah Mission President, just arrived with the good news: "INGATHERING OVER 26 THOUSAND GOING FOR THIRTY." Hats off to Sabah for breaking the record of past years and for doing it in the minimum amount of time.

Mr. and Mrs. Ng Sui Koon and children have recently returned from Andrews University. He is teaching Bible and Mrs. Ng is taking charge of the Music Department, both in SEAU College.

