

# The Messenger

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



VOLUME SEVENTEEN

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NUMBER THREE

## A Call to Prayer

By Robert H. Pierson, President  
of the General Conference

A FEW weeks ago at the Autumn Council a world-wide program of revival and evangelism was adopted and launched by the leaders of the church. If this great program of spiritual emphasis and evangelistic impetus is to succeed, God must do something wonderful for us. Resolutions, no matter how sincerely or beautifully written, will never create a revival in the hearts of men and women. Rhetoric will never compel church members and workers to go forward in a great soul-winning thrust. We must receive power from above.

If this power of the Holy Spirit is to fall upon us, we must first of all fall upon our knees! A world-wide Circle of Prayer must become the power station for our revival and evangelistic advance. Revival has never come to God's people in any age without earnest, intercessory prayer. It will not come now unless all of us—workers and members alike—are completely in earnest and seek the Lord more perseveringly than ever before.

If a million and a half Seventh-day Adventists around the world will begin to pray earnestly for revival and for souls, God will give His people both. "From the secret place of prayer came the power that shook the world in the Great Reformation." —The Great Controversy, p. 210. The same God will bring a stirring reformation among us as a people today if we, too, tarry in "the secret place of prayer." When the revival and reformation come, the outpouring of



the Holy Spirit in latter-rain power will follow!

Brethren and sisters, members of God's remnant church around the world, I invite you to join with your leaders at General Conference headquarters in a great worldwide Circle of Prayer. Every weekday morning at eight o'clock in our headquarters chapel we will be praying for certain individuals throughout the great harvest field. This list will change, or be added to every day. We will also be praying for specific needs or undertakings—evangelistic efforts, requests from workers and lay members around the world, those who may be sick or have special problems. We will be praying for revival in our own ranks, and for the soul-winning programs of our own Gen-

eral Conference staff members that will soon be getting under way. There is much to pray for!

Won't you join us? In your own home, in your church, in your conference offices, in your union or division offices, in your institutions—won't you set aside a special time each day when you will pray for specific needs? Pray for revival, and for the evangelistic crusades in your community and around the world. "Have times set apart for . . . prayer." —The Ministry of Healing, p. 509. The Saviour has assured us that if even two of us "shall agree on earth as touching any thing" and we ask, "it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 18:19). What will happen if a million and a half earnest, revived Seventh-day Adventists start praying for a finished work both inside and outside of the church?

"Help them by your prayers," the messenger of the Lord says, "and let them know that you do it." —Ibid., p. 493. From the General Conference Circle of Prayer letters will go out to the ones for whom we will be praying each day. This word will reach them well in advance of the appointed day so they can join us as we petition God in their behalf. It is possible that you may receive such a letter.

In fields where a Circle of Prayer such as this has been undertaken, God has wonderfully worked on behalf of His people. Large numbers of souls were won. The sick were healed. Members in danger





Chinese Church reports first baptism as result of Union plan of quarterly 11th Sabbath baptisms. Revival and Evangelism rallies continue and full reports from all our missions will appear in the Messenger as soon as they are complete.

of their lives were spared on the very day they were prayed for. Difficult problems were solved. Gods' people were blessed. He will work for us the world around if we will all seek Him with all our hearts.

Read our Lord's intercessory prayer recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John. How fervently Christ besought His heavenly Father for the souls of men!

"This Saviour, who prayed for those that felt no need of prayer, and wept for those that felt no need of tears, is now before the throne, to receive and present to His Father the petitions of those for whom He prayed on earth. The example of Christ is for us to follow. Prayer is a necessity in our labor for the salvation of souls. God alone can give the increase of the seed we sow." —Testimonies, vol. 4, pp. 528, 529.

We are to pray for those who feel no need of prayer, weep for those who feel no need of tears. No doubt you have such individuals in your homes, in your neighborhoods, in your districts—they need your prayers, your tears! Christ is our example!

For whom shall we pray? Pray first for yourself that your life may be patterned after the life of Jesus and that you will be an active soul winner for Him. Pray for the unconverted juniors and young people of Adventist homes in your church. Pray for unconverted husbands and

wives, and the sons and daughters of your church members. Pray for those in your baptismal classes. Pray for the thousands of people throughout the world who are taking the Bible correspondence courses, and mention by name those in your district who you know are studying the message in this manner. Pray for any unbelievers attending your church services. Pray for your pastor, especially when he is holding an evangelistic effort. Pray for the lay preachers in your vicinity who are holding efforts. Pray that a spirit of service may possess your whole church and imbue it with power for soul winning!

But we must pray long and earnestly if the blessing we seek is to come! "To pray without soul-hunger and living faith, avails nothing." — Gospel Workers, p. 260. "Those who are unwilling to deny self, to agonize before God, to pray long and earnestly for His blessing, will not obtain it. Wrestling with God—how few know what it is!" —The Great Controversy, p. 621. "Your petition must not be faint, occasional, and fitful, but earnest, persevering, and constant." —The Ministry of Healing, p. 510.

You say you are very busy? Then pray while you work. Listen — "We may commune with God in our hearts; we may walk in companionship with Christ. When engaged in our daily labor, we may breathe out our heart's desire, inaudible to any human ear; but that

word cannot die away into silence, nor can it be lost. Nothing can drown the soul's desire. It rises above the din of the street, above the noise of machinery. It is God to whom we are speaking, and our prayer is heard." —Gospel Workers, p. 258.

"Every saint who comes to God with a true heart, and sends his honest petitions to Him in faith, will have his prayers answered." —Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 120. "True faith and true prayer—how strong they are! They are as two strong arms by which the human suppliant lays hold upon the power of Infinite Love." —Gospel Workers, p. 259. "Prayer and faith will do what no power on earth can accomplish." —My Life Today, p. 15.

Paul says, "Never stop praying" (1 Thess. 5:17, Phillips).\* "Let every breath be a prayer." —The Ministry of Healing, p. 511. Now is the time for us as God's people to be on our knees in more meaningful prayer than ever before. The revival must come. The soul-winning advance must become a reality. The work must be finished—soon! You can help by your faith-filled prayers! Won't you join our worldwide Circle of Prayer every day at a regularly appointed hour?

#### World-Wide Circle of Prayer

**I**N response to the call by our General Conference president for a World-Wide Circle of Prayer, the Southeast Asia Union staff gathers each morning at 8 o'clock for prayer. During these special prayer seasons we pray for specific requests from one of our missions. We also pray for specific individuals within that mission territory. On Monday we pray over special requests in behalf of the work in Vietnam, Tuesday—Thailand, Wednesday—Sarawak, Thursday—Malaya and the Singapore Voice of Prophecy, Friday—Sabah. Will you join us each morning at 8 o'clock. There is power in united prayer.

—Daniel R. Guild, President SAUM

#### FLASH!

**Baptisms in Southeast Asia Union for the first quarter of 1967 total 109. An increase of 77 over the same period of 1966.**





First Lamb Shelter — Togop Church, Sabah Dedicated Sabbath, March 4, 1967.



Smiling faces reveal the joy of members who contributed to the erection of the "Lamb Shelter".

### "Operation Lamb Shelters"

"Suffer little children to come unto me" are words spoken by Jesus that are familiar to all of us. These words form the basis of a real challenge to the leaders of the Sabbath School department especially.

The Union Sabbath School department, under the direction of Mrs. Pauline Barnett, in cooperation with

others in the Union and local Missions, have come up with an idea that is going to sweep our Union like wildfire. It is called "Operation Lamb Shelter". The idea is to find willing donors who will contribute funds to build Sabbath School classrooms for our children in churches around the Union where

heretofore there has not been any such facility provided.

Maybe someone reading this column will find it in his or her heart to sacrifice enough to build one of these shelters. Mrs. Barnett will be more than happy to explain the whole plan to you, if you will contact her. Why not do it today?



Feeding the little "lamb" leads to junior baptismal classes like this.



Hundreds of children in a one room church like this are waiting for a "Lamb Shelter" of their own.

Following the Sabah Biennial Session, a Church Officers' Council was held. This picture reveals the quality of fine leadership which our churches in Sabah enjoys.

Pastor Munson shakes hands with five retired pastors at the Sabah Biennial Session. P. Leopold, D. P. Siagian, J. T. Pohan, L. S. Sibarani and M. Aglan, have served a total of 169 years for their Master.





# SARAWAK

## "Messenger" Replaces "Charley" in Sarawak Skies

"OLD CHARLEY" was as faithful as could be. Pastor Hall guided him through skies in Laos and Thailand on numerous occasions. Then when transferred to Sarawak, they continued to work together. Until a little more than six months ago.

Then one day, when attempting to land on a brand new village landing strip, the unfortunate thing happened. The ground was not as hard as the villagers had thought. Upon touching the ground, the plane flipped on its back. However, as bad as it was, it was not in too terrible a condition.

Plans were made to bring it out by helicopter for repairs. Flying about four hundred feet above the ground, a helicopter crew guided "Old Charley" towards home. But again tragedy struck. The sling holding the main fuselage slipped and the plane fell crashing to the ground. Parts were buried in six feet of mud. It was a total wreck.

That was a sad day for Pastor Hall and our workers in Sarawak. But "all things work together for good", and although we do not know the reasons why these things come as they do, plans were soon underway to raise funds for a new plane.

March 24, 1967, will be remem-

A large crowd of nearly two hundred gathered under fair skies to witness the dedication of the Southeast Asia Union's new airplane, the "Messenger", which is now serving our people in Sarawak.



Pastor Paul Eldridge, Far Eastern Division President, gives dedicatory address as the new Union airplane for Sarawak enters mission service.

bered as the day that the "Messenger" took "Old Charley's" place. Nearly two hundred gathered to witness the dedication of the new plane. Representatives from the Far Eastern Division and Southeast Asia Union were on hand to participate in the service.

Pastor G. O. Bruce, a flyer himself, acted a master of ceremonies. Pastor H. D. Johnson offered the opening prayer. Dr. Merle Peterson, Union medical secretary, reviewed the benefits of aviation in mission medical work. Pastor Hall spoke of those friends in the states who gave generously to make possible the new plane.

Pastor Paul Eldridge spoke appropriately of the value aviation has brought to our work in the Far East. He gave the main address

The "Messenger" leaves the hanger for the first time.

of the day. Pastor H. W. Bedwell offered the dedication prayer.

Soon after the ceremony had ended, the Malaikat (which means Angel) or Messenger (in English) took to the air at Pastor Hall's command and is now in service over Sarawak helping to take up the work where "Old Charley" was forced to lay it down.



This is Pastor Sammy Lee, the new Sarawak Mission Evangelist and secretary of the Ministerial and Sabbath School departments. He and his family visited a few days in Singapore recently on their way from Djakarta to Kuching. He has formerly served in the North Celebes where in 1966, the Lord added over two hundred new members to the church as a result of Pastor Lee's ministry.

This is one of the first groups to take a ride in the new plane. After the ceremony, Pastor Hall made a 3 hour and ten minute flight to Kuching, the headquarter's city of our Sarawak Mission.





## THAILAND

### Temperance on the Island of Bhuket

Pastor John F. Harris

SEVERAL months ago the Bhuket M.V. society sponsored a temperance contest in order to generate interest in the cause of temperance. Some excellent posters and speeches were made for which awards were given. Then we began to reach out to our neighbors.

Contacts were made with local school officials offering to them a program of three films, "Verdict at 1:32," "Time Pulls the Trigger," and "One in 20,000."

The response was very gratifying. Some three thousand signed the temperance pledge indicating they would not smoke or drink.

We were not satisfied, however, as we felt more of the public should have opportunity to see our excellent temperance films, so contact was made with the provincial governor and permission granted for us to operate an open-air theatre at the New Year's provincial fair. But this was not all. We were given free space for an area 32 feet wide and 40 feet long, and also free electricity! We were made aware of the Lord's leading.

The fair lasted for eight nights. The benches were packed with people and there was very little standing room as hundreds crowded in again and again to view the famed cancer operation and the other movies no less than sixty times.

We had wondered how temperance films would compete with the other fair attractions. To our left was a shooting gallery. On our right they were throwing darts and dancing. A little way from us a bingo game was in progress. We were like a little island amid a sea of tobacco and liquor. There were many other P.A. systems going at full volume, but we had one (and this is a must) that was second to none. We never lacked for a crowd, and we now know that our films will compete with other fair attractions.

The "Five Day Plan" opened the



Bhuket Hall used for Temperance Films

following week above our outpatient clinic. Sixty were present on the opening night. Thirty on the second night. Twelve on the third. But to our gratification the trend reversed on the fourth night back to seventeen and finally twenty-three came on the last night. Fourteen went through the full five days without smoking. For a follow-up program, all who attended are being visited in their homes to help assure their successful break with the habit. Dr. Paul M. Watson and Pastor John F. Harris conducted this "Five Day Plan" in the Thai language.

One young man who completed the "Five Day Plan" was asked how many packs he smoked per day. He replied that he ordinarily smoked a pack a day, but when he gambled the rate increased to two or three packs. So when he quit smoking he also decided to stop his gambling as well. His coffee had to go, too, since he noticed that coffee stimulated his desire to smoke. And then we learned that

he had not quit his habits during the "Five Day Plan", but from the moment he saw the films at the fair.

May God be praised for this young man's testimony and for the many victories gained in Bhuket in recent weeks.

### Thailand Features Children in Sabbath Services

THE annual Children's Day in Thailand is one of the most loved national holidays and recently it fell on Sabbath. Elder Sunti Sorajjakool, pastor of the Bangkok Sanitarium Church, took advantage of the opportunity to make it "Children's Day" as well at the church.

The Sabbath school was ably conducted by the older children in both the Thai and English languages, with the cradle row, kindergarten, and primary classes supplying the special music.

A unique feature of the 11 o'clock service was the Cherub Choir of the Ekamai Church in new white choir robes with large red bows, directed by Mr. Rudy Ruiz, music teacher at the Ekamai Adventist School. At the end of the service, it was a spiritually-moving experience to see the parents of more than twenty-five babies and children congregate at the altar to dedicate their little ones to God and His service.

The children of the Bangkok area were featured in a Sabbath morning service at the Hospital Church. The "Cherub Choir" is pictured here as they presented a message in song.





## VIETNAM

### Prime Minister Holds Private Conference With Adventist Ministers

AT the time of the Vietnam Biennial Session, General Nguyen Cao Ky, Prime Minister of the Republic of Vietnam, granted a thirty minute audience to a delegation of ten Adventist ministers including one of the officers of the Far Eastern Division.

It all came about as a result of the Prime Minister's daughter entering our Saigon Adventist Hospital as a patient in early January. Her father came to visit her several times and on one occasion he said to one of the hospital attendants, "you certainly need more space here and a quieter location."

Pastor H. D. Johnson, Division Treasurer, thanked the Prime Minister for his confidence in our hospital and assured him that we are making definite plans to rebuild the institution in a better location. A set of photos showing the architect's model of the new hospital was presented to the Prime Minister by Doctor F. A. Mote.

In reply, Prime Minister Ky agreed to give his support to our project. He mentioned his apprecia-

tion of the work Adventists are giving to his people. In conclusion, Pastor Pham Thien, departmental secretary, offered a prayer asking God's blessing upon the Prime Minister and his country.



Prime Minister Ky, of the Republic of Vietnam, cordially visits with Pastor H. D. Johnson, Treasurer of the Far Eastern Division, and with Pastor D. R. Guild, President of Southeast Asia Union, at his Saigon office recently.

### SPECIAL DAYS AND OFFERINGS -- 1967

#### JUNE

- 3 Home Missions
- 10 VOP (Union)
- 17 Christian Education
- 24 Church Expense

#### JULY

- 1 Home Missions
- 8 Mid-Summer Offering (G.C.)
- 15 Christian Education
- 22 Church Expense
- 29 VOP Correspondence School

Home Missionary Day  
Voice of Prophecy Day  
Union-wide Baptismal Sabbath

\*Medical Missionary Day



Pastor Wong Yew Seng, right rear, baptized these six people in the Cholon, Vietnam, church, on Sabbath, Feb. 25. This is the second baptism which has resulted from the effort held by Pastor's Milton Lee and Wong Yew Seng in Cholon last year. Twenty-four persons were baptized on December 17, 1966.

## MALAYA

### Flood Relief Offerings

WE are happy to announce that the flood relief offering of February 11 amounted to a total of M\$3,300.00. Our church members have been very liberal, contributing M\$1,145.00 to the total and the Union and the Division the balance.

A check for the total amount was presented to the Minister of Welfare Services, Kuala Lumpur, Tuan Haji Y. B. Capt. Abdul Hamid Khan Bin Haji Sakhwah Ali Khan.



Pastor S. Tsai, P.R. Secretary of the Malaya Mission presents a check for M\$ 3,300.00 and a copy of the book "Seventh-day Adventists Today" to the Minister of Welfare Services, Tuan Haji Y. B. Capt. Abdul Hamid Khan Bin Haji Sakhwah Ali Khan, at Kuala Lumpur on March 3, 1967.

In addition to this check, ten boxes of relief clothing collected from our church members in Kuala Lumpur to help the flood victims of Malaya were also presented.

Every year the east coast of Malaya is visited by floods, but this year the flood was exceptionally severe and caused untold destruction and sufferings among the kampong people. We are thankful for the willing response of the Division, the Union and our members in Malaya to this appeal for help.

—S. J. Lee, President





The above three pictures depict a little of the damage caused by the recent floods in eastern Malaysia. The Malaya Mission, with help from the Union and Division, has done what it could to help alleviate as much suffering as possible with generous contributions of money and clothing.

## Branch Sabbath Schools Win Souls in Perak

Pastor Benjamin,  
Bagan Datoh Church

TRAVELING is not easy for many of our members in the Bagan Datoh—Telok Anson churches and yet everyone is anxious to work for Christ. Therefore, the pastor with his automobile is a very vital part of lay evangelism plans in this area.

After holding services in one church on Sabbath morning, while enroute to the other church in the afternoon, church members are picked up and taken to one of six branch Sabbath schools. Faithfully they carry on until later in the evening. After his second service, the pastor then returns to carry his people back to their homes.

This plan requires patience and careful planning but it pays dividends. Recently, as a result of this work, two young men, aged 20 and 30, were baptized. Coming from devoted Hindu families, and with much opposition from within their homes, these two gave their hearts to Christ.

I strongly believe that Branch Sabbath Schools are an avenue of service capable of changing unwilling hearts into vessels of the Lord.

## Students Will Enter Medical School Soon

TWO Malaysian students attending Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, were recently accepted at Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Loma Linda, California.

Sze Ching Lee, son of Pastor and Mrs. S. J. Lee of Kuala Lumpur, is a chemistry major who has excelled in tennis, ping pong, and badminton while at Union College. Miss Elsie Swee-Yet Wong, daughter of Wong Shan Shon, a Chinese physician from Penang, is a biology major. While attending Southeast Asia Union College in Singapore, Miss Wong was vice-president of the Teachers of Tomorrow Club and secretary of the Associated Student Body.

Following their May 1967 graduation from Union College, the two will begin their four year medical training in September 1967.

Pastor D. R. Guild, SEAU President, and Brother Gilbert Gurusamy, Thailand Mission secretary-treasurer, paid a visit on our church members in Vientiane recently. A worker is being sought to work for these and others in southern Laos. A school is especially needed at present.





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## SAUC Reports

**D**R. & MRS. Melvyn Yeo and baby daughter recently spent a two-week vacation with his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Yeo Joo Seng, in Singapore after completing his medical studies at Loma Linda University. Dr. Yeo graduated from Southeast Asia Union College in 1957, taught in the same college for one year, and then left for the United States in 1959. He received his M.D. in 1965 and has now been accepted into the University of California for residency in surgery.

Mr. Ng Sui Koon, Bible and Speech instructor of Southeast Asia Union College, recently conducted Weeks of Prayer for our three



Dr. and Mrs. Melvyn Yeo and baby daughter, with his mother.

schools in Sabah and Sarawak. He spent a profitable three weeks in that area giving spiritual counseling to the students and getting them to realize the importance of a Christian education.

The 1966 Cambridge Overseas Results were released in early March, 1967. Southeast Asia Union College is happy to report a good percentage of passes in spite of the fact that many in the group have had a background of Chinese education and had only switched over into the English stream a year or two before attempting the Cambridge examination. 9 students received Division I certificates, 17 received Division II certificates, 12 received Division III certificates, while the rest received the General Certificate of Education. 8 failed to make the grade. Of those who received a GCE pass, several could have gotten Division I certificates had they passed in their English Language paper (this paper represents the greatest barrier among our Chinese-educated students). We are especially happy to report that eight out of the nine who received Division I certificates are Seventh-day Adventists; the

other one is the daughter of the Thai Consulate General.

The new school year for the college section of Southeast Asia Union College began on March 14. The enrollment is encouraging and we are glad that so many young people have begun to appreciate Christian education. The college has widened its offerings and has a highly-qualified staff to back up its educational program.

## Southeast Asia Has Large Representation at Philippine Union College

### P. G. Miller, Dean of Faculties

**T**HE Union of Southeast Asia is sending more students each year to Philippine Union College. When registration for the first semester of the 1966-1967 school year was completed, thirty-one students from Southeast Asia had enrolled. Thus, of the total of fifty-five overseas students, one-half were from this one union.

The thirty-one students were distributed as follows:

Singapore .....	6
Thailand .....	7
Vietnam .....	9
Malaya .....	9

Three of the officers of the Overseas Students' Association come from Southeast Asia, namely — David Khoo, President; Huyah Baha, Vice-President; and John Kositchaimongkol, Treasurer. The students from Southeast Asia are doing well in their studies and are participating actively in the religious and social activities of the campus.

Thirty-one students representing our Union are attending Pacific Union College in Manila this year. Six are from Singapore; Thailand has seven representatives there; nine are from Vietnam; and nine represent Malaya.

