

LAY EVANGELISM  
SPECIAL



# The Messenger

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Chief Ryong, an active layman from Sarawak's Tatau River district, tells about his visit to the United States where he told to millions in personal appearances and on radio and TV the story of his conversion from a headhunter.







## Devil Tries To Outwit Sarawak Laymen

by J. B. Th. Umboh

Lay Activities Secretary, Sarawak Mission

OUR Putah laymen planned an effort in the village of Temong Mawang on July 9, but it had to be cancelled. You may wonder why

this happened. Well, the old devil was trying to interfere with this great soul-winning plan. One day the village witch doctor suddenly and without forewarning announced they were beginning a village-wide, nine day spirit feast called Gawai Manuk. All the village people are heathen and our laymen with drooping spirits set aside their well laid plans for a lay effort.

I had conducted a three day lay training class for our Putah church members. They became enthusiastic and their spirits were high. Nine laymen were assigned to present the message for fifteen nights. They were ready to begin their attack when they got the news of the heathen festival. They felt the enemy had outwitted them. They realized they needed more time to organize and prepare for a concentrated attack on this bulwark of darkness. Their lay effort began soon after the festival ended on July 15.

This is just the beginning of our lay efforts in Sarawak. Ten lay efforts are planned. Our laymen in Sarawak are ready to work for God.



### LAYMEN ON THE MARCH

Sarawak lay preachers are moving forward with the growing Advent Movement. 1969 opens a new era in lay preaching. Many other dedicated and willing laymen are ready to forge ahead. Sarawak's Mission leaders are endeavoring to harness the unlimited energy of scores of willing and eager laymen.





# Youth Raise Up A New Church

by Philip Goh

Missionary Volunteer Leader  
Singapore Balestier Road Church

FOR over a year the young people and adult lay workers of the Singapore Balestier Road Church visited hundreds of homes in Queenstown with the gift Bible plan. Pastor Bertochini, the Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Far Eastern Division, persuaded us that we could gather a harvest of souls from these many prospects and inspired us to launch a Voice of Youth effort. Our youth were waiting for such an opportunity and eagerly accepted the challenge.

Immediately the MV Committee appointed a director for the crusade, set up working committees and made plans. When the youth of the church learned of the plan, they became excited with interest. They were ready to do whatever work was assigned them. The enthusiasm of both national and overseas youth was aroused and they joined together in a united attempt to reach other youth through the power of the gospel. Speakers were selected and the appointed time soon arrived for the crusade to be launched.

The day the meetings began an army of youth workers, members of the Pioneer Explorers Club, was mobilized. They transported and set up all the evangelistic equipment—public address system, piano, screen, projector, tables, signs—in the Community Hall of Queenstown. Then when everything was ready they eagerly waited for the



Ong Meng Jip, one of the youth speakers, makes a call for surrender to God. Without hesitation a large number of youth quickly rose to their feet and marched to the front.

people to come. They were not disappointed but saw the attendance increase each night.

With keen suspense these enthusiastic laymen waited to see what would happen when youth speakers called for those in the audience to take their stand for Christ. When sixty-four young people unashamedly marched to the front in response to these calls, the hearts of these lay workers filled to overflowing with joy. They had heard of such things happening in other places, but now it was happening before their eyes in Singapore among youth of various races. What a thrill!

Our young people had been trained to be counselors, and immediately after the public part of the meeting they visited with these prospects privately encouraging and assuring them with Bible promises and admonitions.

When it was discovered that near-

ly all of those who took their stand were students of the Gift Bible Evangelism program, we realized the importance of solid ground work in personal contacts before public meetings begin. Seeds must be sown before a harvest can be reaped.

Following this series of nightly meetings our youth continued weekly Friday night meetings and Sabbath services for these new believers. Seven weeks after the Voice of Youth Crusade began, a new church was opened in Queenstown in rented quarters. The first fruit of this crusade were baptized on June 14—nine precious souls. Many more are preparing for baptism.

Enthusiasm and zeal in working for Christ are contagious, and we are convinced that more effort should be put forth to not only inspire and arouse our youth but to harness their spirited energies.

These twelve youth were baptized on June 14. Most of them publicly took their stand during Voice of Youth Crusade.



A Sabbath morning church group at the newly established Queenstown English Church. The fruit of youth evangelism in Singapore.







## Sarawak Laymen

by D. M. Barnett, Secretary  
Southeast Asia

**A**ll afternoon Thursday three hundred eager laymen from the jungles of Sarawak had registered for the Sarawak Laymen's Congress in the Sarawak session they waited intently. Some of them, however, were not enough to repay them for the sacrifice by coming long.

They didn't have to wait for the last meetings Pastor J. Division Lay Activities Secretary to indicate the number of Bible to give and the number of souls direct to Christ in 1969. Ten from 25 to 150 souls, a total.

During another meeting to work for Christ in house-lay efforts. Not only did they by standing; they also registered their names on a list.

Four days after the inauguration of Ayer Manis School following encouraging reports.

"We wish that you could studies since the Laymen's all that you see is the hard work the people's faces as they come good experiences that God has 200 more sets of The Bible.

Our Sarawak laymen are hunting for the lost and dying in the work in Borneo. This more lay workers in all of







## y Congress

### Lay Activities Department Union Mission

They filed in until more than 100 from the hot and swampy area gathered to attend the first Lay-ak Mission. At the opening of the messages to begin. Wondered if they would learn the loss of time and labor they had to endure to such a meeting. It took a long time to find out. During one of the messages, A. Shipowick, Far Eastern Secretary, asked our lay workers to study the scriptures they would pledge to study. They would endeavor to win souls. Each pledged to win 452.

The entire audience pledged to do house visitation and public prayer. They expressed their commitment by signing their commitment by signing "Send Me" scroll. Pastor C. A. Ortnor, Union Mission in Sarawak, wrote the

and see everyone giving Bible lessons. Sometimes I think I don't and never see the joy on their faces back happy because of the lessons given them. Please send us Bible lessons.

are deeply in earnest about the work from the jungles and finish. The spirit is possessing more and more of Southeast Asia.





## Day by Day Witnessing

by layman Tang Swee Keng

A talk given in the Church  
Missionary Service at the Singapore  
Balestier Road Church

A few years back a Seventh-day Adventist young man was undergoing a teacher-training course at a public college. In a college class he had a lady lecturer who taught English Language and Literature. During class discussions on poems and prose passages bearing on religious themes, the lecturer seemed to lead her students to think about God.



This Vietnamese brother (above) is one of the outstanding lay workers in Vietnam. Besides this baptismal group of 13 candidates (below) Layman Nguyen has been instrumental in directing 57 other souls to Christ.

At one time she asked a question: "As time goes on, will there be a religious revival in the world, will more and more people turn to religion in the future?" The question reminded the Adventist student of Bible prophecy, of the events in the religious world in the last days of which he had read in the book **Great Controversy**. He felt that this lecturer had religious thoughts and ideas which were quite close to the truth, perhaps, she might be seeking for the truth. The Adventist student wanted to do something to help her. He wanted to witness for Jesus and lead this soul to Him. But how? Well, he thought, perhaps I can lend her a copy of the **Great Controversy**. But what shall I say when I hand her the book? So the Adventist student thought and planned.

While thinking and planning, he continued to attend church every Sabbath. One Sabbath, to his surprise, he saw the lecturer in the church. Since he was a new member he made inquiry from an acquaintance and found out that she was a member of the very same church that he was attending. What a surprise! The lecturer was a Seventh-day Adventist and her student was thinking of how to present the message to her.

Then it dawned on the Adventist young man that the lecturer had been witnessing for God during her teaching. When opportunities opened up, she guided the minds of her students to God. He saw that it was her plan to arouse their desire to

seek Him and to find the truth. What an inspiration it was to this Adventist young man when he realised that his lecturer was playing her part in leading souls to Jesus even in her place of work.

Brothers and sisters, this is a good example of witnessing for Jesus. Besides doing missionary work on Sabbath, let us remember that missionary work can be done on the other days of the week. While going about our daily work, in the home, factory, workshop, office, school or in whatever place we have our employment, let us watch for opportunities to lead souls to Christ. Mrs. White says:

"But in whatever calling a Christian is found, he has his work to do for the Lord in representing Christ to the world. Whatever may be our occupation, we are to be missionaries, having for our chief aim the winning of souls to Christ. If this is not our interest, we rob God of influence, of time, of money and effort. In withholding our heart's service from the Lord, we fail to benefit our fellow men, and thus rob God of the glory that would flow to Him through the conversion of others." Home Missionary Leaflet No. 9, "An Appeal to Our Churches on Behalf of Missionary Work," page 7.

Each day before setting out to work remember that you are a missionary for God. Pray to Him that He will help you lead a soul to Him.

Earlier this week a sister of our church was on her way to attend

Mrs. Emma Risetter conducting an English Bible class with a group of youth in Phuket, Thailand. Mrs. Risetter, now 79, says her greatest joy in life is in working for Christ. She is one of Thailand's outstanding lay workers.





lectures at the teachers' training college. This young lady was baptized about a year ago and she was filled with a desire to serve Jesus. As she sat in the car on her way to the college, she prayed silently, "Dear Lord, Help me today to witness for Thee to at least one person."

That very morning, in the midst of a class period, her lecturer asked, "How many of you are Christians?" Up went the hands of all the Christians including this Adventist student. The lecturer questioned each of the students about their religion. When he came to our sister, he forgot about the others and had a discussion with her on her beliefs. What an opportunity this was for her to witness to her lecturer and to her fellow students! In the course of the discussion, her lecturer requested, "Pray for the salvation of my soul."

Fellow believers, let us pray that our Lord may use us to direct others to His kingdom.

## STOP PRESS

### Lay Efforts for 1969

Sarawak	-- 12
Sabah	-- 25
Thailand	-- 14

Sabah laymen (below), after attending a two week lay training school, are loaded with missionary supplies and equipment. Eagerly they return to their stations to put in practice the things they have learned.



## News Notes

● **CHANGES in Hospital Administrators:** Dr. G. C. Ekvall, the Division medical secretary, has been appointed medical director of the Thailand Medical Institutions for one year on a loan basis during the absence of Dr. George Wiesseman. Charles Harris Jr., formerly manager of the Saigon Adventist Hospital, has taken up his duties as the manager of the Youngberg Memorial Hospital. E. A. Pender, formerly manager of the Thailand Medical Institutions, will take up his duties as the manager of the Saigon Adventist Hospital on September 1. Harold Robieson, formerly the treasurer of the Thailand Medical Institutions, has taken up his duties as manager of the Penang Adventist Hospital. Royce Thompson, the manager of Bella Vista Hospital in Puerto Rico for the past eleven years, has accepted the call to be the manager of the Thailand Medical Institutions and is expected to arrive in September. Jon Gephord of the Glendale Adventist Hospital has been called as treasurer of the Thailand Medical Institutions.

● **Wedding Bells:** Edward Poey married Tlangchagliani on June 17 at Roorkee SDA Church in India. Alice Sormin married Maarten Cornelis Key in Canada in July. Herbert Sormin married Susan Sunipa Supanunt in Bangkok in August. Jonathan Ng married Doreen Yeo in Singapore on August 3. John Lee married Sumitra Tangvararat in

Singapore on August 17. Dr. Joyce Tan married Dr. Frederick Bradshaw in Los Angeles, California on April 12.

● **Le Thoan Tho** has been appointed as the treasurer of the Vietnam Mission, replacing Charles Harris Jr. who is now the manager of the Youngberg Memorial Hospital.

● **Three students** were graduated from Southeast Asia Union College in the first summer graduation in the history of the college. Mrs. Marian Simmons of the Far Eastern Division educational department was the commencement speaker.

● **Dr. and Mrs. Galen Coffin**, veteran missionaries who previously spent eleven years at the Youngberg Memorial Hospital, returned in July. A large crowd of friends and hospital workers were at the airport to welcome the Coffins after an absence of three years during which Dr. Coffin specialized in Anesthesiology.

● **Dr. John Tsai** son of Samuel Tsai the secretary-treasurer of the Malaya Mission, accompanied by his wife, recently visited his parents. **Dr. Arthur Kong** son of K. T. Kong the secretary of the Union, accompanied by his wife, recently visited his parents.

● **Dr. Ben Youngberg** a son of G. B. Youngberg pioneer missionary to Borneo, after whom the Youngberg Memorial Hospital is named, arrived in Bangkok recently and has taken up his duties as an obstetrician at the Bangkok Sanitarium and Hospital.

Pastor and Mrs. J. B. Th. Umboh and his family recently arrived in Kuching from Indonesia. Pastor Umboh is the new Sabbath School and Ministerial Secretary of the Sarawak Mission. Prior to coming to Sarawak pastor Umboh served in Indonesia as a mission president and union departmental secretary. —Herbert Sormin, Public Relations Secretary, Sarawak Mission.





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Mr. A. B. Timple, former factory superintendent of the Philippine Publishing House, recently arrived in Bangkok to take up his new duties as manager of the Thailand Publishing House. Mr. Timple has worked for twenty-one years in the Philippine Publishing House. The Thailand Mission and the Thailand Publishing House are happy to welcome the Timple family.

—Palmer G. Wick,  
President Thailand Mission



The Saigon Adventist Hospital is crowded inside and out. Give liberally on September 27 to the thirteenth Sabbath offering a part of which will help to build a new hospital.



## Red-Letter Day

by Paul H. Eldridge, President,  
Far Eastern Division

**S**ABBATH, September 27, should be circled in red on every calendar in the Far Eastern Division. Every Thirteenth Sabbath is important. But this one is a red-letter day because it is ours.

Once in about every two and a half years the Far Eastern Division is designated to receive the benefits of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering Overflow. Now, in the third quarter of 1969, our turn has come again. This means that on September 27 the eyes of Seventh-day Adventists around the world will be looking our way.

We appreciate this attention. We are eager to hear the results. The projects that have been designated to benefit from this offering are depending on these funds.

Interesting stories, accurate reports, tapes, pictures, articles, letters, and unique devices have been put to work to make this the largest offering ever taken on a Thirteenth Sabbath. Most of this promotion has been directed to North America.

How about our churches right here in the Far East? Do our members know what the projects are? Do they realize that increasing their gift this Thirteenth Sabbath will have an immediate and direct benefit to our field? Have you made a special personal effort to emphasize the importance of this offering?

Word has reached us that some of our workers and lay members have promised to give one day's wages for Thirteenth Sabbath. What a blessing would follow if every member in the Far Eastern Division participated in this plan!

## Singapore Layman, C. M. Lee, Dies

**L**EE Chong Miow was born at Chiehyang District, Kwantung, China, on February 1, 1884. After receiving his education in China, he came to Singapore in 1902 where he accepted the Advent message.



In 1911 he married Miss Chan Teck Shoon and not long after returned to Shanghai where he served as editor of the Chinese Signs. From 1914 to 1916 he did evangelistic work in Singapore.

For health reasons he transferred to Kuching in 1916 and established a photo studio. In 1921 he returned to Singapore and became a very successful business man.

He was greatly admired by his fellow believers for his zeal and sacrifice for the Lord's work. He donated the property for the Singapore Chinese Church, built a new church on the property and deeded it to the Mission.

After a prolonged illness Mr. Lee passed away at his home in Singapore on July 4, 1969, leaving to mourn his loss are his wife, one son, and four daughters.