

# The southeast asia union Messenger

March-April 1980, M. C. (P) No. 345/1/80

PEOPLE—SOUTHEAST ASIA'S BIGGEST POTENTIAL

WITNESSING WINS—GET INVOLVED!



PAGEANTRY AT GC '80



LOVE BACKSLIDERS BACK

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# Meaningful Human Relationships

Linda Koh, M. A.  
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We are a social beings. Our whole lives are colored by some social interaction. Our current behavior is often influenced by our relationships with other people.

Yes, PEOPLE! People are of great importance in God's sight. If you are searching for the heart of the Holy Scriptures you will find it not in legal codes or intellectual ideas but in human relationships.

Jesus found this so important that He told the rich young ruler that the greatest commandment of all was to love God with all his heart and his neighbor as himself.

God comes first. And people are next in importance.

The troubles in the world are troubles between people. Whenever society is disrupted, whenever there is tension and war, it is because there has been a rift in human relations. If everyone were at peace with everyone else, the world would be a delightful home. Thus, if we wish to succeed in the business of living, our first step is to have compassion for human beings, and learn to get along with people in our life.

In a nutshell, here are 6 principles to help you find satisfying human relationships—in getting along with others:

1. *Cultivate all the friendships possible*

The more friends, the better. Unfortunately, it is becoming increasingly difficult to do and view enough of this right kind of thinking. So much of the emotional and romantic has been allowed to creep in and color our thinking.

2. *Take the Initiative to be Genuinely Interested in People*

Brave the storm and do take the first step of getting acquainted, of helping others and getting involved.

3. *Be Appreciative and not Criticize*

The law of spontaneous gratitude fulfills a human basic need. Probably all of us would do better if we received more appreciation. Yet, many of us lack the perception to find in our acquaintances qualities worthy of compliments.

Sincere appreciation given goes a long way to boost one's morale and nothing kills one's ambitions as criticism.

But mark the difference between appreciation and flattery!

4. *Smile and spread cheer along the way*

The ancient Chinese have a wise saying, "A man without a smiling face must not open a shop." A smile "creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friends. It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and Nature's best antidote for trouble."

**MORE → 12**

Correction: Jan-Feb. page 12, Dennis Gibbs organized "Bibles for Indonesia". Editorial Assistants: Mae Mehling, Jim Zachary, Paul Essig and Juanita Bissell.

# APRIL 12 FOR WORLD-WIDE SDA PRAYER & FASTING

Sabbath, April 12, has been designated as a day of special prayer and fasting in behalf of the General Conference Session in Dallas, Texas, April 17-26, 1980.

We should pray that God will guide in the selection of leadership for His church in the General Conference Session. We must also intercede with God in behalf of the world church that He will overrule in all of its affairs so that His name may be glorified, and His work be quickly finished in the earth.

"Many are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in," T. 6:71.

We need to pray most earnestly that God will move in by His Holy Spirit and do a mighty work among us so that the Latter Rain might come in abundant showers.

"I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions: Joel 2:27, 28.

Let the whole church devote this entire Sabbath to "a solemn assembly," and let every age group gather for prayer and the earnest study of God's Word. All may participate in this worldwide circle of prayer.

**PRAY**—That God will spare His people from the increasing tide of evil and prepare them for His 2nd coming.

—For the return of the many backsliders

—For the salvation of our children and youth.

—For selfless love and unity in the home and in the church.

—For our schools as they prepare our children and youth for useful service for the Lord.



*Focal point of SDA World interest for the 1980 General Conference is the Convention Center in Dallas, Texas. The round building is the Arena for business sessions and the Grand Hall, left, for Sabbath services. Lower view shows the interior of the Grand Hall for over 25,000 people. Lower right, Elder and Mrs. H. M. S. Richards, Sr. featured at this GC.*



—For our medical institutions and their Christian witness.

—For our publishing houses printing heaven-sent messages.

—For our Christ-centered churches as they engage in the greatest soul-winning outreach in history.

Let each family read Acts of the Apostles, chapter 4, during Friday night sundown worship, April 11—*N. R. Dower*



*Elder and Mrs. H. M. S. Richards were given a special cake at the banquet held in Los Angeles on August 26 in honor of his 85th birthday. The decorations featured three angels and a microphone.*



## Prayer Overpowers The Devil

About a 5-minute boat ride in a motorized canoe up the Gaat River, off the Balleh River, which is a tributary of the mighty Rajang, there is a pagan longhouse called Rumah Bala. Neighboring Nanga Sibiru where our work had started, this longhouse had a family of four who had lost their father.

It was July 1978 and our Branch Sabbath School group decided to visit this longhouse. When we arrived we were told about a 16-year-old girl who was possessed by the devil. It had been going on for a month. Whenever she was possessed she said that she saw some people coming to hurt her so she would try to escape. At these times she had superhuman strength. Two strong men could not hold her. Then she would become very weak and foam formed around her mouth.

That day, she was very weak. She had not taken much food since she became sick and part of her body was very painful. All of her right side was paralyzed. Her eyes were red and she could not see clearly. Many witch doctors had been called in to help her but all in vain.

Hearing about our arrival, her mother invited us to pray for her distressed daughter. We entered the longhouse and sat around her. She was sitting on the floor and was leaning up against her rolled bamboo mat by the wall. We sang songs and prayed and then Matthew, my husband, related the story of Jesus casting out the devil from the tormented boy in Mark chapter 9 and told her that Jesus still has that power today.

We left that place after prayer



*From left, Joebenny Keli, Matt and Jenny Bandan enact a scene from Sarawak's headhunter past.*

believing that our Lord would manifest His love and power and when we returned a week later found that the afflicted girl was healed and still is today. The family is very interested in our truth. In fact, her brother is now a member of our Sabbath School at Nanga Sibiru. Please pray for us. We need your prayers so that we may help many needy souls along the Rajang River and hasten the coming of our precious Lord Jesus. — *Jennie Bandan*

## Delivered From Harm

Coming home after partying with his friends in town, Benson was dangerously drunk. He searched for his older child, a girl of 9, intending to cut and injure her. She jumped out of the house to save herself and unfortunately broke an arm. Realizing the danger, the mother gathered all four children and headed for a canoe on the river to escape for their lives. Some kind helpers at the scene aided the frightened family in their flight for safety. The wife, expecting a long separation, rowed to Julau town and later to Luau where they found shelter with a brother.

It was April of 1977 and Sondra Snider and Sharon Gulley from the Far Eastern Academy came to con-

duct a Vacation Bible School in Luau. The four children joined the others in the VBS in due course and their mother started attending the village church on Sabbath. At the VBS Graduation the four children and their mother listened eagerly to the many stories and other items that were presented. It was a day of great excitement for all the children and their parents. But danger lurked.

One evening Joebenny Keli, the T.E.E. student pastor, heard a 40-horsepower outboard engine come churning upriver from Julau. Who should appear but Benson searching for his wife and four children. Finding out that she and the children had come to the SDA church, he was enraged and promised to kill the pioneer pastor and burn his house and the church. That night, a faithful little boy named Ngelambong, ran through the pouring rain to warn Joebenny. Poor Helen, Joebenny's sweet wife, was very nervous until Attie Gara, another T.E.E. student, came to her husband's assistance. Joebenny is a man of peace, but he made ready the big war knife which was used during the days of the headhunters 2 generations ago.

With cramps in the stomach and sweat pouring from head to toe, the brave men awaited the attacker's assault. Suddenly they heard the canoe's engine start as it headed back for Julau. Benson was not

**MORE → 5**



## Persecution Brings Results

"I am not going to tolerate division in this longhouse," said the chief in disgust, "that means that we have to cling to our customs; no Christianity will be permitted to have her footing and no church will be erected in this village, do all of you understand?" he continued.

The problem began in 1969, when Anyan a young enthusiastic man from Pasir Nangka married Lanja from Stulan, an Adventist village. After their marriage, Anyan determined to be faithful to their cherished faith; kept the sabbath and the church's teachings.

Then in 1975, their spirit revived when Pastor Bill Cochran came and challenged them to witness for God. First they approached their relatives and friends. By God's grace their appeal was heeded and eventually a Sabbath School was formed.

When the chief realised that the new religion was rapidly spreading among his people, he was alarmed, but despite his disapproval, more and more souls were won to Jesus Christ.

Two series of evangelistic meetings were conducted resulting in the baptism of 40 souls. A total of 100 Sabbath School members attended every Sabbath and met in a crowded house of the church elder.

Pastor Nangka needs your prayers so God will soften the hearts of the chief and other heathen families in the longhouse. When God's work prospers a jungle chapel can be erected here in the near future.



## God Has 1000 Ways . . .

The Beluran Effort was certainly most encouraging and inspiring. This is a new area for 1979. There has never been a pastor, a member or a branch Sabbath School in this district. Then God opened a way for his work. One man took pity on us and said that he and his wife would like us to hold meetings at his house. We were thrilled to accept the invitation. During the first meeting, we had to tear down the partition of one of his rooms because there wasn't enough room. I was very reluctant but he was willing to let us remove the partition. Then the next night more people came and once again there wasn't enough room for them. So he asked me to take out the wall separating the kitchen and we extended the front porch as well. Now that we had more space, more people came. In fact about 85% of the people in that village came including the Evangelical Mission pastor and his family, and some government officials. I think the devil was not very happy because so many people came to our meetings. He worked hard to stir up the people. Some grouped themselves together to disturb, but the owner said, "I am the owner of this house. I have been here every meeting and I do not have anything against these Adventist teachings. In fact I have never heard any teaching that is as clear and good as the teachings of the Seventh-day Adventists. If you people are really planning to disturb these meetings, watch out! I am not afraid to face you all." We were really touched by this brother's decision.



*Courageous house owner*

One day, word reached us that three men were preparing to come and hurt us. The people told us to be very careful as one of the three was a big man. It was also rumoured that even four men could not challenge him. We brought this problem to God and on the appointed night we were extra careful and watchful with prayer.

Morning found us all safe. The news came that the three men could not carry on what they had planned that night as a big boil had grown on the big man's foot making it impossible for him to even walk. *God has a thousand ways to protect His own.*

As a result of our meetings, 10 persons requested baptism on the last night and more than 20 asked for Bible studies. Our district pastor, Padir Juman, is doing the follow-up until a baptism date is set. We look forward to seeing the real fruit of this effort and more precious souls saved by God's grace.—*Pastor Ginduk Laung*

### DELIVERED ← 4

pressing home his attack but was retreating downriver. They thanked the Lord for delivering them once more from the hands of a wicked man influenced by Satan, that devouring lion. Surely the goodness and mercy of the Lord is still with those who fear and honor Him in times of trouble.—*Joebenny Keli*



## THAILAND

### ADVENTISM PREMIERES IN LAHUU AREA

"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Cor. 12:9.

It was already late in the afternoon one Sabbath, and some teachers and students of Chiangmai Adventist Academy were relaxing for a few moments after returning from a Branch Sabbath School in a nearby village. All of a sudden a student came hurrying up to the house. He was a young Lahuu tribesman who had come to the Hilltribe Training Center to become literate in the Thai language. He told us that a certain woman in his home village was giving birth to her first child and that she had been in labor since Friday morning, nearly 36 hours ago. He asked us to go and help her and perhaps drive her to the hospital if that proved to be necessary. Unfortunately our school nurse, a very fine midwife, was away at the time. So we wondered if a couple of teachers and students should go but then perhaps stand by helplessly, unable to be of any real assistance. The village was a 1½ hour drive by Landrover and then another 45-minute walk into the hills beyond. Was it really worth it to even try to help? We were in a quandary as to what we should do in this case.

But we went, really more a gesture of our concern than for any assistance we could render.

When we arrived, the poor woman still hadn't delivered and so we did something that we *could* do for her—we prayed to our God on her behalf. Then we started making a sling out of bamboo poles and



*On Landrovers, a pyramid of students gets set for village witnessing.*



*Lahuu Tribe Branch Sabbath School*

blankets for use in carrying her during that 45 minute walk back to the car. But within 15 minutes the baby made his appearance! and once again God had shown His power in our extremity when we are unable to do what needed to be done.

This incident made a profound impression on the people of this village and they thanked us over and over again. But we had to answer them that although we hadn't been able to do much our powerful God had helped them. Subsequently our reception in this village has been warmer and warmer each time we go to visit them. They even asked if we could transport them to our church in spite of the distance and we have begun to visit among them in their village on a more regular basis. How thankful we can be that God can be glorified even by our limitations! Praise His Holy Name!—*Wayne Hamra*



*1st SDA Lahuu, Chai Long, right, with Drs. Steve & Nancy Bassham and Wayne Hamra, left.*

### THAILAND ACADEMIES CONDUCT WITNESS TRAINING SEMINAR

Late '79 a Witness Training Seminar was conducted at the joint Adventist Ekamai School and Adventist English School in Bangkok Thailand. Pastor Calvin Smith, SAUM Lay Activities Director gave the keynote address. The instructors were Educational directors; Dr. Ottis Edwards, Far Eastern Division; Dr. Steve Bassham, Thailand Mission; Pastor Arthur Bell, Administrator for both schools and Abel Pangan who coordinated the seminar. More than 70 teachers and students attended and received certificates at the close of the seminar.

The Witness Training Seminar was linked with the Adventist Eng-  
*More* → 8



Front view of HaadYai Mission Hospital

## HMH Celebrates Silver Jubilee

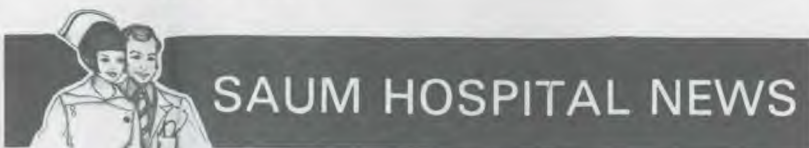
HaadYai Mission hospital celebrated its 25th anniversary in a grand fellowship party at the hospital multi-purpose sports square mid year 1979. The affair marked another milestone of active service by a group of dedicated workers who have committed their lives to the ideals and objectives of HaadYai Mission Hospital. For many years HMH has gained recognition for its loving concern in providing the best quality of patient care not only here in HaadYai but in the vast South Thailand.

Willie Donato, Administrator, welcomed the more than 200 employees with their families who attended this grand celebration and Mrs. Amporn Eiawsakul, Chaplain, offered the invocation.

Other numbers of the program included a musical rendition by Lariza Taylor, student missionary and teacher of the English Language Center; a brief history of HMH given by its builder and first medical director, Dr. Ronald C. Gregory; **MORE → 9**



Sakda & Dr. Gregory



## HOSPITAL TO THE RESCUE



Dr. Sam Ketting & Cheung

Cheung Chieu Lit, 53, second engineer of the Panama-registered "Paragon", was conveyed by a PPC pilot launch from the ship to the Church Street Pier. An ambulance was on hand to rush him to the hospital.

A hospital officer, Mr S. Vellu, said he received a distress call from the ship's agent at about 12.10 p.m. Its emergency medical relief unit, comprising, Mr. Vellu, Mr. Victor Chuah and a senior surgeon, went in a launch at about 3.30 p.m. The ship was anchored two miles off Muka Head.

The surgeon, on inspecting the sick man, said he required immediate medical attention. He believed Cheung was suffering from kidney stones.

This is the fourth time this year that the Adventist Hospital's emergency unit had "rescued" sick seamen from foreign ships. Meanwhile, the Harbour Master, port health authorities, Immigration Department and the ship's Hong Kong office had been informed of the incident.



## Ubon Outreach by BAH

Many of you may have heard that Bangkok Adventist hospital has sent a doctor and two nurses to remote areas every month. On behalf of the Thai, I would like to say a word of appreciation to BAH for spending much money for medicines, time and effort to help the sick and needy there. It takes 3 hours ride on muddy, bumpy roads to reach this place in Ubon. The doctors take turns going there to spend a month each.

This new service program started with Drs. Chockchuan and Supachai. Last October it was Dr. Thrasher's turn and he was accompanied by Miss Krong Keaw and me who had been previously. We took the train from Bangkok reaching Ubon in time for breakfast the next morning at Pastor Cliff Maberly's house. It



Cliff Maberly & family

was comforting to read 1 Peter 5:7 and know that all travel and work worries can be left with our caring God.

We visited 2 villages with Pastor **MORE → 8**



Our Mr. Pleng & Dr. Standish

## 1st SDA Thai Retires

Mr. Pleng Vitiamyalaksana, assistant administrator of Bangkok Adventist Hospital, retired on December 31, 1979 after 50 years of uninterrupted service in God's work in Thailand. Khun Pleng, as he is affectionately called by fellow workers in the hospital, was the first Thai to be baptized into the church in 1928.

Soon after his baptism, Mr. Pleng started denominational service as a teacher in the Bangkok Mission School. Among his students in the mission school were young people who later became leaders of the church, including Pastor Sunti Sorajjakool who is now the presi-



Teacher Pleng & Student Sunti

dent of the Thailand Mission.

When Dr. Ralph Waddell started the Bangkok Mission Clinic on May 10, 1937, Mr. Pleng was asked to join the hospital family. He was the right hand man of Dr. Waddell, struggling with the pioneer missionary in all the work related to the expanding clinic.

World War II brought difficult



BAH Outreach Clinic to Ubon villages



Sopon

Vanna

## UBON ← 7

Mun, one on Friday and the other on Sunday. The villagers were so happy and grateful for the medical care by the nurses and a doctor and also for the spiritual help by the pastor. Each time a health lecture emphasizing cleanliness of the body, house and environment preceded the clinic. So many would attend that our medical team had to call a halt for the night. Then films were shown on the life of Jesus and the marvellous things that God has created. Everyone retired tired but happy.

The villagers provided us with Asian-size beds so poor Dr. Thrasher had to sleep with his legs sticking out. The house was small and the odor was strong from the buffaloes kept underneath but nobody complained. We sympathized with the needs of the villagers and began planning for proper animal pens, toilets and other improvements. The combined prayers and help of faithful SDA believers will accomplish much for this outreach in Ubon.—

Vanna Sukhanetr

## WITNESS ← 6

lish School Week of Spiritual Emphasis. At present 62 students are taking up special Bible studies under different teachers as part of the follow-up program.

Following the seminar at Bangkok, the team of instructors proceeded to Chiangmai Adventist Academy where the Witness Training Seminar was attended by all the teachers and students. 25 persons, including five villagers were baptized shortly after and as part of the follow-up program, 13 Branch Sabbath Schools are now being conducted. According to Dr. Bassham, the new thrust to the Branch Sabbath Schools is the visitation program. While younger students are working with children, certain older students are visiting the homes in the area and are working among the parents and older people. We know God will bless personal visitations in His Name.— Abel V. Pangan, Adventist English School







BAH's capping of 33 nursing students shows "Florence Nightingale" center, (Mrs. Jongkol-nee C., Dir. of nursing Service).

PLENG ← 8

times to our work in Thailand. With missionaries interned or departed, Mr. Pleng was left to be in charge of the mission clinic. Together with other faithful workers of the clinic, Mr. Pleng was able to continue operating the clinic without significant interruption. In fact, the clinic was able to support the mission staff through the war years and at the end of the war, a contribution of 2000 Baht was given to the International Red Cross for relief work.

Mr. Pleng was the first person to cable the General Conference after the war requesting the church leaders to send medical missionaries back to Thailand. In 1949, land was purchased for the construction of the hospital building at the present location. Before long, a School of Nursing was established.

For the past 43 years of Bangkok Adventist Hospital, missionaries came and went. But Khun Pleng has been here all the time. He held important positions in the administration of BAH, including purchasing manager, personnel manager, assistant business manager and assistant administrator.

His retirement does not mean he will be gone from the scene of action. He will continue on as our administrative advisor of the hospi-

tal. We expect Khun Pleng to give many more years of service in retirement. — *John K. Lee*

HMH ← 7



Chaplain Amporn, Mrs. Gregory & Ann Donato

introduction of the guest speaker Viwat Kimmarkthong, HaadYai Health Dept. director, by Dr. Victor Seralde and an interesting Chinese folk dance performed by Mayuree Chee, OPD Cashier.

Other highlights included an award for veteran worker, Mr. Luar Poomsuwan of 30 years denominational service.



Dr. Mercy



Dr. Vic

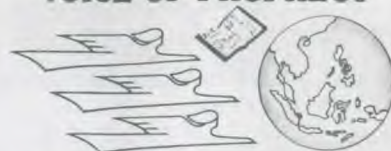


W. Donato



Nai Luar

VOICE OF PROPHECY



THE MISLAID VOP CARD!

1962 was a bad year for Mr. Chai Yong. His business was on the decline and his father's Buddhist funeral sapped his financial vitality. To top all that, an annoying skin disease plagued him and he had to face great responsibilities to support 11 children! To end his life seemed to be the only solution to his many problems.

At this crucial moment, only his faithful wife Lee Fong, (now deceased) was the sole Christian in the family that could bring him comfort. Mr. Chai needed *Someone* to sustain him. His wife persuaded him to read the Bible, starting with Psalms 55:22. "Cast your burdens on the Lord, and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved." From then on, aside from brooding over his sickness he took an interest in the Bible.

He was baptized into a Christian Church the following year. Then his search in the Bible became more earnest in 1964 when one of his daughters picked up a V. O. P. enrollment card from her classmate and carelessly laid it on his desk. Out of curiosity, he enrolled himself for a Chinese V. O. P. course. he finished many courses under the close guidance of Miss Chow, a lady instructor working in the V. O. P. office.

Several years later his desire to switch to Adventism was realized. Meanwhile, he faithfully attended the nearest and only SDA church in Johor Baru (Malaysia), 32 kilometers from his hometown of Kulai. His



## W. MALAYSIA- SINGAPORE

wife and the three younger children accompanied him to church almost every Sabbath. In 1966 he sent one son to S. A. U. C. to continue his secondary education and 2 years later, his third daughter, attended college there.

Both the son and daughter though anti-Christian at first, were baptized in 1967 and 1968. Two weeks later after his daughter's baptism, Mr. Chai was also baptized.

From 1969 onwards, a branch Sabbath School was conducted every Sabbath afternoon in Mr. Chai's house. Pastor S. F. Chu, Chin Chow Khoo, Lee Tsai Teik, Earl Anchant, Pastor Leng K. T., Lynette Lim, Alfred Low, Ong Mei and few other SAUC students pioneered the work in Kulai. About 20 children from the nearby homes attended the interesting sessions. Also a special Bible class was conducted for the benefit of some older folks, including Mr. Chai's wife and his 80 year-old mother.

In November of 1969, Mr. Chai's three younger children and his 80 year-old mother were baptized together. The younger Mrs. Chai was accepted into the SDA Church by profession of faith and years later three other children also joined the

church. As the interest increased, Sabbath School and church services were held in Mr. Chai's place every week. By 1974 the establishment of Kulai SDA Company with 24 members was a reality.

This thirst for truth of the Kulai people persisted especially among the youth and an added attraction was the social gatherings for them also. Under Tham Yoon Ching's leadership, a Pathfinder Club was formed for youth benefit and finally, today, they have landed themselves in Mr. Chai's oversized garage. Even a garage can seem a perfect place of worship when the spirit of the people present yearns for the truth of God.

Today, under the leadership of Pastor K. T. Leng, the church members of Kulai are grateful for 10 years of light all because of a misplaced V. O. P. card! God's truth shall not return unto Him void!—  
*Sim Sew Moi*

## "Little Brightness" Beams Big Light

Not even the threat of chopping his legs off could stop 16-year-old Albert Seah Peng (in Chinese, his name means "Little Brightness") from attending our MacPherson House Church. Praising the Lord for giving him the strength to win his trials of faith, Albert recalled that

after his baptism a year ago he told his mother that he had become a Christian. On hearing this, she was furious and warned him: "Stop going to church or I will chop off your legs!" She also threatened to send someone to follow him to church and "get even" with the pastor who baptized her son and turn the church "upside down".

Despite these threats, "Little Brightness" continued to keep the Sabbath and went to church regularly. This was the start of his persecution. Albert was treated like an outcast in the family. His mother "accused" him of being an unfilial son in front of visiting relatives. To stop her son from going to church, she tried without success to hide his trousers and throw away his Holy Bible and other religious publications. In desperation, she consulted a Chinese medium.

After his baptism, Albert had food problems at home. As his family used pork oil, he ate out. His mother told him: "The medium said you do not dare eat the food at home because you were afraid to commit sin." The medium also advised her not to allow her son to attend the church as he would cause "confusion" in the home. He said: "Sometimes, I had to go without lunch or dinner when I had not enough money. So I had to survive on titbits." Then he became thinner and thinner. His faith in God and constant prayer paid off. At last he found a source of income as a newspaper delivery boy.

There was also another incident he could not forget. A few days after his mother had consulted a medium, she ordered him to drink a glass of water mixed with the ashes of an amulet, saying this would help him pass his secondary school examination. Otherwise, he would fail in his examination. When he refused to drink it, she threatened to pour it over his face. In resisting her,



*The happy Chai Family*



*Gallant Albert Seah*

he also prayed silently and fervently to the Lord for His help and protection. Amazingly, he managed to convince her that he would study more diligently without drinking it. Later, he was proved right. He was the second top student in his class examination.

The next night after the amulet-ash threat, Albert felt uneasy as he lay on his bed. He could hardly open his eyes. Suddenly, he became numb. He felt a spirit was trying to take possession of his feeble body. At the same time, he was conscious for he could hear his mother talking in the sitting-room. He said: "When I prayed in Christ's name—'God, please cast away this feeling'—the eerie feeling just disappeared." When confronted by the same evil force again, Albert prayed wholeheartedly: "God, please cast away this evil and never let it come near me again." "Immediately I was relieved," he stressed.

Second youngest in a Taoist family of three girls and three boys, Albert recounted that during his kindergarten and primary school-days, he used to attend a Methodist Church near his flat. However, he did not understand the real meaning of Christianity. In June 1978, he received some Christian literature which interested him. Later, he met a classmate who brought him to the MacPherson House Church which observes the Sabbath. His visits to the church then were infrequent.

It was in October 1978 when he began his Bible study under Brothers Jimmy Toh and Wee Hun Been, both of whom were ministerial students. Discovering the Sabbath truth, he had to solve some problems—parental objection and getting his resignation accepted by the Officer-in-Charge of the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC). "At first, my resignation from the NPCC was rejected, but after an intensive prayer, I again approached the same



On permanent return to North America is YMAH's Dr. Alwin Parchment, his wife Jill, MESSENGER Editor, and daughter Lisa after 3 years of faithful services in SAUM.

officer and he allowed me to leave the NPCC," Albert said. "One day when I opened one of the cupboards in my home, a book fell out. It was a book on baptism which belonged to my eldest brother. I knew then the importance of baptism." This incident triggered off his desire to be baptised as a Seventh-day Adventist. He started to pray earnestly for the Lord's guidance. Meanwhile, he wanted to ask a member, about his baptismal date, but he was nervous. Instead, Brother Andrew initiated the question: "When are you going to be baptised?"

Finally Albert was baptised by Dr Wong Yew Chong, the Academic Dean, at Southeast Asia Union College's SDA Church. Previously, his mother had a poor impression of Christians because she had seen the unbecoming behaviour of some of them.

Directing his appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Terry Quek and their family (pioneers of MacPherson House Church) for helping him in his hour of need, Albert said: "After the Queks had visited my mother, she had a better understanding of Christianity. Now I pray that my mum and the rest of the family will be converted to our faith soon."—*Lim Tiong Wah*



Vincent Chee at Macpherson House Church



Preparations for the **Festival of Faith** were started two years ahead of the actual date early December 1979.

The Festival was actually not just a Youth Congress, but rather it was our definite goal to literally 'take Baguio for Christ'. On two of the afternoons we went out in pairs or threes visiting the residents of the city and inviting them to our evening meetings. Singing groups from various parts of the Division, including our guests, the King's Heralds, went out to the many university campuses and gardens to sing and witness to the people. This provided a wonderful opportunity for the delegates to get acquainted with one another as well as witness for Christ.

In addition, there were sixteen workshops, conducted by experienced instructors. Some of them included:

- EVANGELISM by Pastor Leo Ranzolin
- OVERCOMING BARRIERS to WITNESSING by Pastor H.M.S. Richards Jr.
- USING the SWORD of the SPIRIT by Dr. L. Hardinge
- TEMPERANCE OUTREACH and PHILOSOPHY by Pastor Bernie Donate
- BRANCH SABBATH SCHOOL EVANGELISM by Pastor Manalo
- HOW to GIVE BIBLE STUDIES by Pastor James Zachary
- CHRISTIAN MUSIC by Pastor

Jim Ayars (one of the King's Heralds)

Other programmes featured included the pageant parade when delegates appeared in their national costumes, a history of the pioneering work in the various missions, a variety concert by the Ambassador Singers from PUC and the Gymnasts also from PUC.

The trip was most enjoyable with the weather cool and the people of the Philippines friendly.

It was definitely an experience never to be forgotten of fellowship, inspiration, training and witnessing. Every youth present could feel that he belonged to one big family that has one great motto "Ye are my witness. GO YE!"—*Wong Kum Meng*



## HUMAN ← 2

### 5. Practice Christian courtesy at all times

"True courtesy is doing something for somebody that nothing under the sun will make you do it except out of love."

Courtesy is thoughtfulness, it is kind and refined words, it is being a good listener when someone is talking and if you want to be happy, practice some uncommon courtesy.

### 6. Have a Positive Attitude toward all People

Solomon said, "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly." It is only when you take the first step to like others that others like you reciprocally.

Dr. Arthur Bietz pens the principles of friendliness that attract people as:

- Foster interest in others without being inquisitive
- Return on time things that you borrow
- Increase your knowledge of people and places
- endeavor to be a good loser
- Notice opportunities to help others in practical ways
- Demonstrate Christian courtesy at all times
- Leave yourself out of the hero's role in your stories
- Include casual acquaintances in your life
- Never say things that would embarrass others

*Top, in the U. S. Dr. Nord Nation & refugees. mid. Dr. R. Gan & J. Wong aid refugees in Australia. Lower, refugees join LLU church*

Eliminate from your life gossip, envy, exaggeration

Show genuine appreciation for tasks well done

Speak distinctly and kindly

And what sets friendships apart? Affinity of mind and heart, love much more than just a token, thoughts understood yet unspoken, a common bond, a mutual goal, an understanding heart and soul, a hand outstretched in time of need, a thoughtful and a friendly deed.

These little things that mean so much are strokes of friendship's velvet touch!

## Miraculous Escape

When I was a youth of 19 years I had a very unusual experience. One night as I was rather tired, I went to bed at about 11 o'clock. Around 3 o'clock in the morning I awoke and to my astonishment found that flames were burning up the edges of the mattress and the wooden frame I was sleeping on.

I woke my grandmother and took her out of the house, returning as soon as possible to put out the fire. That took me about half an hour. Later I realized that it was neither the heat of the fire nor the smoke that caused me to wake in the nick of time. I think that it must have been my guardian angel from the Lord that roused me.

I remember reading an article by Dr. Billy Graham, the evangelist, stating that Satan can start mysterious fires and that he himself has experienced this at least once in his lifetime.

I have experienced at least half a dozen other incidents in which I was nearly killed, but this is the most memorable and I shall never forget it. God has truly preserved my life to this day that I might testify and glorify our Father which is in heaven.—*Anthony Tan*