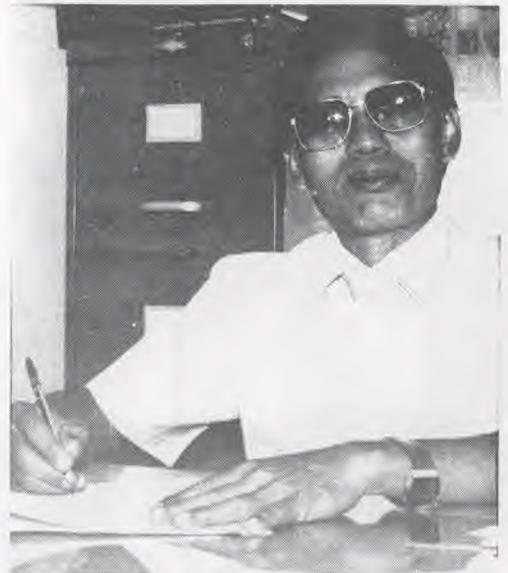


The southeast asia union Messenger

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The first six printed issues of **Health and Family** on display



Pastor Rungsit, Editor of the **Health and Family** magazine.

“... Greatest Thing Happening in Thailand”

Rationing magazines! “That’s right! The chaplains at Bangkok Adventist Hospital are having to ration out a popular new journal to the eager recipients. It is difficult to keep up with the demand! The response has mushroomed beyond all expectation since March, 1984, when 50,000 copies of the brand new **Health and Family** magazine first rolled from the press at the Thailand Publishing House.

In recent years, there has not been a single SDA Thai magazine to meet the health and family needs of the over 50 million Thai people. So when the idea first surfaced, everyone wondered what the public’s response would be. But to Randy Horning, Publishing Director of SAUM, it seemed like a venture that ought to be pursued.

Carefully he had compared the underlying factors in the evangelistic spread of the Seventh-day Adventist church with the Buddhist religion of Thailand. One thing undergirded their progressive thrust; publications! It



Thailand Publishing House

cont. on page 3

IN FOCUS

First Bible Conference of BAH

Bangkok Adventist Hospital's first Bible Conference was held at Wangjakapong, Huahin, Thailand January 3-5, 1986. President George Johnson encouraged the group to incorporate a spirit of Bible study, prayer, and witnessing to others into their daily life program. Chapters from Steps to Christ discussing prayer were handed out. Groups of twos and threes could be seen regularly around the camp after that, praying together. On Sabbath afternoon four young people were baptized on the beach amid the big waves. A beautiful spirit of oneness prevailed.

— **Pastor N. M. Penaflores**, BAH Chaplain



Young people praying by twos or threes became a regular scene around the camp.



Krisana joins the newly baptized young people in the BAH Church.



Pastor George Johnson baptizing Amornchai amid big waves in the gulf of Thailand.

"He who has learned to pray has learned the greatest secret of a holy and happy life."

William Law, Christian Perfection, 1726



Pastor Johnson together with the four baptized young people.

cont. from cover page.

seemed to Horning that there was a definite need for a new magazine, despite the difficulties that must be surmounted. Then he read, "You strike too low, brethren, you are too narrow in your plans." CM p. 146. The words blazed across his mind. They spurred him forward. "Let's shoot for the stars," he began to urge.

After much negotiation, prayer, and planning it was decided to mail out 50,000 free copies to residents in the city of Bangkok. Anxiously workers at the publishing house began watching the mail for some sign of response. It was not long in coming! Requests for the Voice of Prophecy's health and Bible courses began to multiply on the editor's desk. The stack grew to 1,000, then to 2,000. The second 50,000 free issues went out. Again requests for more information poured in. The response mushroomed to 4,000 with about 76% requesting either Bible or health lessons.

People seemed to like it! A monk wrote, "Your articles are practical. Even though we are of different religions, I am willing to support your good magazine."

"Some one handed me your magazine. I find it hard to believe that I can get such a good magazine for free. I have applied for the 'Pathway to Health' and 'Way of Life' lessons. Thank you very much for producing such a good magazine," commented one.

A businessman added, "I would like to order this for my workers."

A university librarian requested, "Please register our library on your subscription list. It is not only good for the family, but the students as well!"

"May I reprint your vegetarian article to use as a handbill for customers at my supermarket?" queried a manager.

"It's so good I don't want to miss a single copy!" reflected another.

The response was turning out better than hoped for. Various Seventh-day Adventist institutions in Thailand began buying the magazine and distributing them. Just one, two-line advertisement on the back page of a local newspaper resulted in over 2,000 new additional requests.

By the time five issues, totalling 145,000 copies, had been distributed and 5,102 cards, letters and requests had returned, President Wendell Wilcox of Thailand Mission, exclaimed, "This is the greatest thing that has happened in Thailand." Truly the day is soon coming when over 1,000 daily converts will trace their first contact with Jesus to the printed page. (*Colporteur Ministry* p. 151). The Prayer of the Thailand Mission and Publishing House staff is voiced in this one subscriber's thoughts. "I hope this worthwhile magazine will continue forever." May the wish come true to the glory of God!

— Loralyn Horning,
Managing Editor, Messenger

"And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord." Ps. 40:3

New SDA Hymnal Comes to SAUM

This last November most of the Singapore churches and the Penang SDA Church voted to adopt the new Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal to enhance their worship services. This beautiful new volume replaces the current book of 44 years. The new section of this book includes 369 hymns from current hymn writers, gospel, and early Advent hymn collections. More hymns that celebrate our distinctive doctrines have been added. The organization and readability of the entire volume is of a much higher standard. The indexes and responsive reading sections have been expanded and revised. It is truly a masterpiece of praise compiled by dedicated men and women to the glory of God.

An order for 950 copies was mailed to the Review and Herald Publishing House before the \$9.95 special price closing date went into effect. However, the book has sold so well that the press can not keep it stocked. Thus, SAUM churches must wait for the next printing sometime in March.

The Review and Herald Publishing Association notified the Singapore Adventist Book Center manager, Mr. John Ho, that the order was large enough to cover shipping costs to Singapore. Thus, Mr. Ho would like to announce that if anyone still wishes to obtain a copy of this outstanding new worship book he may still order during the months of February and first of March and thereby have it added to the present pending order to be shipped sometime in May. The current price since December is US\$12.95 per copy, however, for all new subscriptions.

Anyone wishing to place an order should state his color preference of black, brown, blue or burgundy. Anyone who wishes to have a special name printed on the front, lower right hand corner for an additional US\$2.50 should indicate what name is to be used.

—Loralyn Horning
Managing Editor, Messenger

HIGHLIGHTS ON THAILAND

New Bangkok Church Groundbreaking

December 6, 1985 witnessed the groundbreaking ceremony of the first fully-Thai congregation Seventh-day Adventist Church. For months plans and blueprints were formulated. Fill dirt was hauled into the site. At 3:00 p.m. that Friday afternoon, a large crowd gathered on the fill dirt in front of the Thailand Mission office to participate in the special service. The Thai Ekamai Adventist Church and English Ekamai Adventist Church have joined hands to make the venture possible.

—Wendell L. Wilcox, President, Thailand Mission



Groundbreaking for new Ekamai SDA Church, December 6, 1985.



Pastor and Mrs. Lester Hawkes.

The Hawkes Are Still Flying

No, we did not mis-spell the word. These are the Hawkes not the hawks. And they are still flying strong. Pastor and Mrs. Lester Hawkes swooped into Bangkok, Thailand and settled into their temporary nest at the Bangkok Adventist Hospital where they are serving together to meet the needs of the hospital church.

The Hawkes short-lived retirement began the end of 1984. Before long they responded to the SOS call in Thailand. Both pastor and Mrs. Hawkes graduated from the Sydney Adventist Hospital General Nursing course. Pastor Hawkes also graduated in Theology. He comes to us with much experience in evangelism, both in Australia and in the mission field. The Hawkes have been very active over the years in opening new work in various parts of Papua New Guinea. They have built hospitals, schools, and churches while in mission service. The first nurses trained in Papua New Guinea were their students.

Later the Hawkes accepted a call to Pitcairn Island to care for both the spiritual and the medical needs of the people. On another assignment, Pastor Hawkes, cared for five departments for the Bismark-Solomons Union Mission with headquarters in Rabaul, New Britain. He kept up a grueling pace there for eight years. In between service time in the mission fields, Pastor and Mrs. Hawkes served in Australia in a range of situations, sometimes pastoring, sometimes on the Conference staff. We are happy to have the Hawkes join our BAH mission staff.

— W. S. Bassham, Ministerial Secretary, SAUM

A Day of Victory

"You should not be a Christian!" The words sounded in Krisana Aroonpan's ears. What should she do? She felt so confused. Her father was about to be ordained as a Buddhist priest, her parents and Buddhist friends were pressuring her from all sides to stay out of Christianity, and yet deep in her heart she felt it was right. Or was it?

She could remember how previously she had so blatantly articulated her hatred of the mere idea of Christianity. Her family and friends felt confident that her strongly determined personality would never embrace the Christian lifestyle, so they had been willing for her to attend the nursing school at Bangkok Adventist Hospital.

But now what was this happening in her heart? Did God have other plans for her? It almost seemed as though He did. Carefully He had arranged for her to room with Uraiporn. Every morning and evening Krisana watched Uraiporn reading her Bible. She witnessed how her roommate was always happy, especially when she was participating in church activities. Krisana had grown just a little bit curious. When Darunee and Pruksachat, her classmates, discovered that she could sing they invited her to lead out in the singing during church service.

During the second Week of Prayer conducted by Pastor Johnson, Krisana fell sick and could not attend the services. But Pastor and Mrs. Johnson and their little girl, Samena, kindly visited her many times. She was very impressed with the love and concern she was shown by all her Christian friends. Gradually she began to think that Christianity might not be so bad after all.

But when she was invited to attend the Bible Conference of January 3-5 she hesitated. She really did not want to go. In fact, she was not sure she liked the idea at all! That same weekend her father was to be ordained. She wanted to go to her home in Songkla. But again God intervened and she found herself on her way to Bible camp instead.

To her surprise, Krisana found herself enjoying the activities and Bible studies very much. At the baptism of her three friends she seemed to see them imbued with divine joy. She suddenly longed to join them, but hesitated to ask. The next day, however, during the return trip to Bangkok, Pastor Johnson spoke to her about being baptized. The now weak fragments of confusion suddenly seemed to melt away. What did it really matter what her family and friends would think? In her heart she knew she really did want to follow her Saviour. With a flash of joy she committed herself right there to Him and decided to be baptized the very next day. Thus, January 6, 1986 became Krisana's joyous victory day.

— N. M. Penafloida, Chaplain of BAH



Krisana Aroonpan with Pastor George Johnson.

Chiangmai Adventist Educational Center During 1985

This last year the "Thailand Educational Center" changed its name to "Chiangmai Adventist Educational Center." Chiangmai Adventist Academy and the Hilltribe Training Center, the two schools which make up the educational center, continue with their same names. Chiangmai Adventist Academy meets the needs of students in grades 6-12, while the Hilltribe Training Center offers night classes covering four levels of education from grades 1-10. It ministers primarily to community adults who have had no previous opportunity for education.

Each year two weeks of prayer are conducted. Last September, 54 students responded to Pastor Bernie Donato's call to Christ. A rich harvest is also expected this February during Pastor Steve Bassham's spiritual week of emphasis.

This past year the new boy's dormitory, housing 72 students, ran at full capacity. Plans are under way to build a new cafeteria and then remodel the existing cafeteria into a girl's dormitory to help relieve their over-crowded conditions. The new year's total enrollment for the two schools comes to 330 students, an all-time high. The M-6 class is made up of 43 students all willing to accept SDA employment, except one. The ministerial program maintains a high degree of popularity with 46 students from among the M-4 to M-6 classes.

Another four and a half rais of paddy land is being purchased behind the school to enlarge the crop production area once the Swiss dam is built the first part of this year. A doctor's house near the clinic is nearly completed. This medical unit will provide valuable community services, as well as excellent training opportunities for the students. We ask your prayers as we continue to work to improve these twin institutions for the glory of God.

—Wayne Hamra, Treasurer, Chiangmai Adventist Education Center

Captions on BAH During 1985

The Ministry of Education invited the Health Education Department to conduct health programs and physical check-ups for nearly 3000 school teachers of the Ang-Tong province. During the first session, 650 teachers came from various towns around the province. They asked many questions concerning Seventh-day Adventists. It was a wonderful opportunity to share Jesus. The programs will continue through the first part of 1986.

A state university graduate student attended a health lecture at BAH a few months ago and first heard about the Seventh-day Sabbath. During the ensuing months she thought often of this new idea. Finally she returned in December to Miss Sansri's office to inquire more about the Sabbath. Today she is studying to be baptized.

About 65 Sikh men attended a health lecture concerning diabetes and heart disease following an invitation made one morning at their Sikh Temple. The men enjoyed themselves so much that they invited the health-education department personnel to return to their temple to draw blood samples, to check blood sugar level, and talk to those who had missed the previous program.

Miss Velda Sansri was awarded the "Alumnus of the Year Award" by the International Institute of Health this last year. She was chosen as the first recipient of this honor in recognition of the outstanding work she has done to promote health education in Thailand during her seven years as health educator at Bangkok Adventist Hospital.

In November, Miss Sansri and her associates were invited to lecture to over 5,000 students during a very important Buddhist holiday ceremony. They felt it was a great honor to share the Seventh-day Adventist health message with so large a group of young people.

— **Edwin Timple, Public Relations Officer, BAH**

Thailand Chaplain Association Retreat

The annual Thailand Chaplain's Association enjoyed a retreat at the Ocean Training Center in Pachong, Thailand, the end of November. Miss Somporn Pibultanavanich, a BAH Chaplain and main lecturer, discussed ideas on good mental health and death. "It is necessary," she said "to die to self so as to profit the life and be useful to God." Chaplains Penafiorida, Miss Urai Chaitip, Miss Pranee, and Miss Vilai Boonsook from BAH and Miss Amporn Aesaku from Haadyai each contributed to make the outing a profitable experience for all present.

— **Pastor N. M. Penafiorida, BAH Chaplain**



Sikhs Community Health Program conducted by Health Education Department of BAH.



Miss Velda Sansri, BAH Health Educator.



Miss Velda Sansri (Center) with Miss Raveewan Kumsa-ard on the right, posed with the Student Association officers of Raidumnern Commercial College after the lecture given.

HIGHLIGHTS ON WEST MALAYSIA/SINGAPORE

Singapore SDA School to Acquire New Home

On January 20, 1986, the Land Office and the Ministry of Education handed over the former Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School premises to the Seventh-day Adventist Primary and Secondary School for a nominal rent of \$1 per month. This amazing lease will extend for five years, during which time the present SDA School will be rebuilt.

Principal Teo Seng Kee contacted Mr. Rajaratnam of the Land Office last July requesting the use of the former school grounds. His simple request spiraled into a series of difficulties. Approval needed to be obtained from the Ministry of Education, the State Planners, the State Evaluators, and the Land Office Commissioner. Other organizations came in to compete for the property. Mr. Teo prayed earnestly!

Just as it seemed all the hurdles had finally been crossed, a Member of Parliament requested the property for his own purposes. Then the Ministry of Education stated a desire to withdraw the offer of the premises altogether. Finally Mr. Teo was informed that should they get the property the annual rent would be \$279,000. "Whatever are we going to do?" wondered Mr. Teo. Earnestly he and his associates again went to the Lord. This time the Lord answered beyond their fondest hopes.

"You can rent the school for just \$1 per month," Mr. Teo was told during his next visit to the city planners. "What? Only \$12 a year! Only \$60 for five years! Mr. Teo and the SDA School were thrilled. God had worked several miracles to make it possible to even acquire the use of the property and now this, rented for almost nothing! How good the Lord had been!

The only need now is to renovate these premises into a useful complex. The SDA school faculty appeal to all to pray earnestly for the success of the project, and to help, where possible, in the renovation process with personal finances and man power.

— Michael Lim, Vice Principal, SDA School.



Miss Tan, an official from the Ministry of Education, is handing over the keys to the former Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School to Mr. Teo, Principal of SDA School. Present at the occasion (left to right) Mr. Rajaratnam (Land Office Commissioner), Mr. Mok, Miss Tan (Ministry of Education Official), Mr. Samuel Teo, and Pastor Danson Ng.



A beautiful school, but in much need of repair

Singapore Holds A Community Nutrition Instructor's Course

Approximately four members from each of Singapore's seven churches attended a Community Nutrition Instructor's Course, January 5-14, held at the Thomson Road Chinese Church. Ms. Peggy Chaw, director of the SAUM Health/Temperance Department, coordinated the program.

Those who attended seemed to appreciate the ideas Dr. Everett Witzel, Mrs. Mernie Johnson, Dr. Clarence Ing, Ms. Peggy Chaw, and Dr. Fred Hardinge shared with them. These instructors discussed the nutritional make-up of foods, the problems involved with food fads, how to organize community cooking classes, and specific counsels from the Spirit of Prophecy. Requests came for more such courses, so that more members might be able to understand the way to Total Health.

— Josephine Loh, Member of Dunman Road Church

Southeast Asia Union College Reports

The evening of November 23, 1985 Southeast Asia Union College conducted its thirty-fifth graduation exercise. Of the 28 class members, eight graduated in absentia. Twenty-three graduated with the equivalent of a four-year degree. Altogether, six countries were represented by the class from such widely separated areas as Korea and Ethiopia. Almost half (48%) of the class came from Malaysia, one fourth (24%) from Thailand. Eighty-three percent of the class are members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and forty-eight percent plan to enter denominational employment immediately. Other statistics about the class which may be of interest are given in the table.

Class of 1985	
39%	Men
61%	Women
31%	Business Administration
24%	Education
17%	Office Administration
17%	Theology/Religion
10%	General Studies

It is anticipated that from now on the affiliation program with Walla Walla College will play an important part in our graduations. Although no student has yet graduated under this program, we expect a number to do so next year.

At the present time SAUC is affiliated with Walla Walla College in the major areas of Business Administration, Business Education, and Elementary Education, plus a minor in religion. It is expected that other areas will soon be approved.

— **Dr. Ralph Jones, Academic Dean, SAUC**



Dr. and Mrs. Dave Thomas with their daughter Heather.



Dr. Hollibert Phillips.

Loŕe Two — Gain One

On December 17, 1985 Southeast Asia Union College bid farewell to Dr. David Thomas and his family. Dr. Thomas is Assistant Professor of Education at Walla Walla College and for the last quarter of 1985 served SAUC as curriculum consultant under the affiliation agreement with Walla Walla College. His specific areas of expertise were education, mathematics, and computer.

Mrs. Thomas and daughter Heather were also with Dr. Thomas during his stay in Singapore. Heather attended the grade school, while both Dr. and Mrs. Thomas helped in the academic program at the college.

Southeast Asia Union College has greatly benefited from and appreciated the help given by Dave and Nancy and will count them as good friends of the institution.

Dr. Hollibert Phillips, Dean of the Graduate School, chairman of the Department of Philosophy, and Professor of Education and Psychology at Walla Walla College, arrived on the campus of SAUC on December 28. He is the fourth teacher to come from Walla Walla College under the affiliation program. His main area of contribution will be in the area of Philosophy. We welcome him to the Far Eastern Division and especially to Southeast Asia Union College.

— **Dr. Ralph Jones
Academic Dean of SAUC**

Welcome and Farewell at YAH

Mr. Joshua Goh, the newly appointed Vice-president for Financial Affairs of Youngberg Adventist Hospital, arrived recently from the United States to take up his duties. Mr. Goh, a Singaporean, graduated from Philippine Union College in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science degree in medical/technology. He worked in the laboratory department after graduation and was promoted to department head in 1975. In 1981, he left for the United States where he received a Master of Business Administration degree at Andrews University and completed his residency at Hinsdale Hospital. The Goh's have a daughter, Joelle, age 5 and son, Junior, age 2.

Dr. Fred Hardinge holds a Doctor of Health Science degree from Loma Linda University and is also a registered dietitian. He comes to Youngberg with rich experience having served as church pastor and conference departmental director. He has more recently served as a teacher at the International Institute of Health in the Philippines and Associate Health Director of the Far Eastern Division. While serving the Far Eastern Division, Dr. Hardinge is at Youngberg on a part-time basis as Director of Health Education. Dr. Hardinge and his wife, April, have a daughter, Kara, age 10, and a son, Brent, age 8.

Dr. W. B. Watts is the latest specialist-physician to join the Youngberg family. He received his medical training from the University of Western Australia and received his M.B.B.S. degree in 1968. He specialized in family practise. He served at Hong Kong Adventist Hospital for six years before coming to Singapore. Among patients, he is known as the Cantonese-speaking doctor. Dr. Watts and his wife, Leigh, have two daughters, Annelise, age 9, and Cherie, age 12. We welcome these families to Singapore and trust that their ministry will be a rewarding one.

Mr. Peter Foo has accepted a call from the Far Eastern Division headquarters where he will serve as the Director of Legal Services. Mr. Foo first joined Youngberg Hospital in 1959 as an account clerk and since then has served as cashier, patient business manager, public relations and development director, and assistant administrator. In 1984, he was appointed Vice-president for Financial Affairs. With 27 years of his life spent in service to the hospital, Mr. Foo will be greatly missed by his fellow workers.

— **Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director, YAH**



Mr. Joshua Goh and family at Singapore Changi Airport.



Dr. and Mrs. Fred Hardinge with daughter Kara and son Brent.



Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Watts with daughters Cherie and Annelise.



Mr. Peter Foo (second from left) and his wife, Dolly at the farewell party.

HIGHLIGHTS ON SABAH AND SARAWAK

Sabah Mission Plans Toward Greater Days

The Sabah Mission experienced the blessings of God as its 83 organized churches and 69 companies added 517 new members into fellowship during 1985. During the year there were 53 lay evangelistic efforts, 15 youth outreach programs, 24 efforts by credentialed pastors and six by Union Departmental directors and guest evangelists. The Child Evangelism Department reported 19 Vacation Bible Schools during the year.

As generous as these efforts might appear, these hard workers have raised their sights even higher for 1986. Their goal is to have 97 lay efforts, 39 youth efforts, and 75 pastor and department-coordinated programs. The baptismal goal for the churches in the 30 districts is set at 1,550.

During Harvest 90's five year span, Sabah's heightened level of evangelistic outreach plans to push into several yet unreached groups of people. Cassette-recorded sermons, video cassettes, Voice of Prophecy lessons, Bible studies, and crusades will be used to provide the vehicle for reaching these people from Bisaya, Lundayoh, Tatana, Lotud, Dumpas, Tambanua, Tidong, and Banggi for the Saviour. An earnest interest in your prayers is requested as this extended endeavor is undertaken.

— Charles S. Gaban, President, Sabah Mission

"The Lord presents before His finite creatures no impossibilities. God's people are to be filled with holy joy, that its radiance may shine forth from them, brightening the pathway of others. What power, what peace, what joy the soul may have that is united with Christ!"

Ellen White, Review and Herald, May 17, 1906.

Miri Enjoys Another Crusade

Following the November/December Miri Evangelistic Crusade conducted by Pastors Saul Nyungga and Ng Gan Theow, three individuals joined their Lord in baptism. A Catholic Nun came faithfully to hear the messages. Twelve are being followed up with "Bible Speaks" lessons.

— Saul Nyungga, Miri Church Pastor.

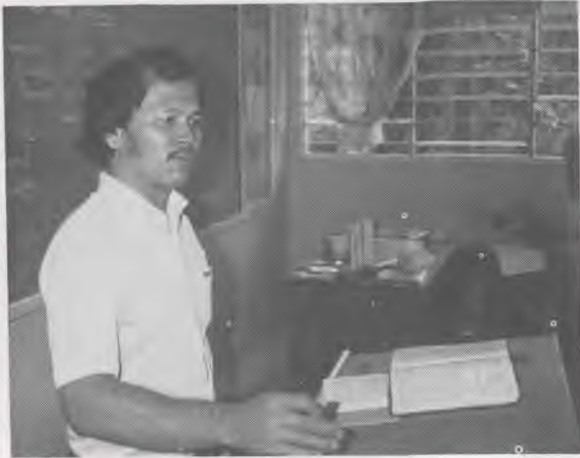


Catholic Nun receives a Bible from Pastor G. T. Ng.



Baptismal candidates with Mrs. Saul Nyungga (far left), Pastor Saul Nyungga (far right), and Pastor G. T. Ng (back).

Village Lay Pastors of Sarawak



Pastor Lawrence Banyle lecturing to the village lay pastors.

Thirteen villages in the Bediuh Sadong area sent 15 leaders to be trained in the Sarawak Mission's new Village Lay Pastor program. The program is an experiment funded by the Far Eastern Division's Unusual Opportunities Fund. With scores of "Macedonian callers" appealing from all parts of Sarawak, and a pastoral staff already overloaded with an average of eight churches or groups each, the Mission has determined it expedient to follow God's plan to train active laymen to be effective workers.

First, participating village groups choose their future leader by following guidelines set by the Mission. The chosen man must possess a true Christian character, have leadership talent, be respected by the villagers and the church members. A serious consideration is that he must be permanently settled, not planning to move to the city soon to find better pay. High level education is not a prerequisite.

This Village Lay Pastor (VLP) candidate then must attend a three-week training session conducted by Elder Daniel Walter, Ministerial Secretary, and a selected staff. The training is intense—seven hours per day, seven days per week, but designed to be very practical. The men learn and practice conducting prayer meetings, communion services, offering prayer and anointing services for the sick, preaching in near-by churches and making home visits, and doing evangelistic work.

Teaching materials are purposely designed to be inexpensive and tailored precisely for villages where illiteracy predominates. Typical is the "Flip Chart", a sort

of miniature picture roll designed and introduced by Elder Maitland DiPinto in connection with his Health Projects. There it has proved very effective in teaching specific lessons. Flip Charts have only outline drawings which each VLP colors himself, thus making it a very attractive and effective device for "keeping the story moving."

For evening recreation during the training seminar, the men complete projects such as: new, beautiful offering bags and communion sets for their churches, and special "Sabbath Toys" for their children. They want to make Sabbath a special day to look forward to by having something appropriate just for that day.

Already, since the first group of Village Lay Pastors finished their initial training on December 8, 1985, very positive results are being felt in the villages where these 15 men are working. Their first step is to effect revival among the church members. They expect that when great things are attempted for God, one can expect great things to happen!

The plan for these Village Lay Pastors is to gather them together for a week-end once every other month to gather reports from them and to continue to introduce new materials and training to them, over a three year period.

The next training sessions will be among the Iban villages. The first will commence in April this year at Roban to serve the Roban/Julau/Lubok Antu districts. Then in November/December another training session will be held at Ayer Manis School to serve the Iban districts between Sri Aman and Serian.

All Village Lay Pastors receive certificates and become Associate Members of the Mission Ministerial Association. Part of their dedication to helping finish the Lord's work in Sarawak is demonstrated by their willingness to do this service with no earthly compensation. Surely the Lord will have rich rewards for each of them when we reach the Heavenly shores!

— Daniel Walter, Ministerial Director, Sarawak



Village Lay Pastors of Sarawak.

Pasir SDA Church Experiences Growing Pains

The baptism of many new members into the Pasir Church of Sarawak caused over-crowding. Now each Sabbath morning extra benches must be carried on to the front porch for the youth Sabbath School class and then back into the church for the comfort of mothers and children. The old church, built in the days of Richard Hall, doesn't have enough doors and windows to allow the latecomers even a peek at the speaker! In December, the members decided to rally around their church elder, Stanley Boncho, as the sons of the prophets around Elisha, and build themselves a new church before the new year.

Following the laying of the foundation on November 25, the church members organized themselves into rotation groups. Each day a volunteer group of 20 members met with the church elder and one experienced builder. Men, women, and children worked together pushing wheelbarrows of sand and gravel, carrying cement buckets, and hoisting planks and materials.

Though no spectacular miracles occurred like floating axe heads, the concrete and steel structure rising from the ground next to the old church was a true inspiration. The M\$100,000 church will have a balcony bringing the seating capacity to over 300, two new Sabbath School rooms, and a functional platform and baptistry.

The enthusiasm of this group has been so contagious that even community people and members from neighboring churches have joined to help raise this monument to the worship of our God!

— **Pastor E. Sinaga, Pasir, Serian, Kuching**

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The group of candidates with Pastor E. Sinaga (far left) and Pastor Choo (far right)



Pastor Dan Walter squatting in the forefront inspecting the laying of the foundation of the new church with the church elder and a native builder looking on.