

THAILAND

A String Of Miracles

The Lord has richly blessed the work in Thailand recently. New churches have been organized, new buildings completed, and new groups raised up.

KUNSA CHURCH ORGANIZED

One of our Hmong churches under the leadership of Pastor Prasert Raotao has grown rapidly the last few years. It is located way up in the mountains of north central Thailand, about a 2-hour drive from the Chiangmai Academy. Since it has developed well, and has sufficient leadership among its members, the mission committee voted to have this company organized into a church. This was done on Sabbath, February 21, 1987, with a charter membership of 40. Many more will eventually become members when their letters of transfer and other complications are worked out. This becomes the 25th organized church in the Thailand mission, out of about 110 groups worshipping on a regular basis.

THAILAND COLLEGE GROUND BREAKING

On March 8 a long awaited and eagerly anticipated event took place. This was the ground-breaking for the Thailand College, Muak Lek campus. The first building to be erected is the home that will house Brother Wayne Hamra and family, who was recently appointed by the Mission College Board to be the developer of the Muak Lek College campus.

We were happy to have our Union president, Elder G.C. Johnson, give the devotional at the groundbreaking ceremony. Many others took part in the service, such as Mr. T.Y. Billones of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital; Sompong Srisawat, Treasurer of Thailand Mission, Pastor W.L. Wilcox, president of Thailand Mission; Dr. Roger Nelson, and many others. With God's blessing, we are looking forward to now moving ahead with the erection of a number of the college buildings. Plans are also being laid for the actual beginning of classes for the training of ministerial workers in June of 1987 in temporary quarters. Let us remember this fledgling institution in our

prayers, that it might become a mighty instrument in the hand of God for the finishing of His work in Thailand.

A well has already been drilled that provides an adequate supply of water, and temporary electricity has been arranged for the present needs.



Ground breaking ceremony at Muak Lek for the Thailand Mission College, March 8, 1987.



Some of the participants at the official ground-breaking at Thailand Mission College were Mr. T. Y. Billones from BAH, Mr. Sompong Srisawat, Treasurer of Thailand Mission; and Mr. Komon Tan, Treasurer of Adventist English School. Also pictured is Mr. Poh Sing Peng, newly elected assistant treasurer of the Thailand Mission.

BY W.C. WILCOX

NEW GROUPS OF BELIEVERS

The last of 1986 saw a new group of believers begin meeting in Sattahip, Pattaya, in southeast Thailand. This was the first group ever to meet in this part of Thailand and hold regular services. Already about 20 people have been baptized here, and a new church building is almost completed. A series of evangelistic meetings is beginning here before the end of March, under the direction of Bangkok Adventist Hospital. The previous minister of this group of Christians has also become a member of the Adventist Church.

We were thrilled to find another group of believers just forming in northeast Thailand in the city of Udon Thani. About 6 weeks ago word was received that a group of Christians in Udon Thani wanted to study the Sabbath truth. Pastor Keow Ayuperm, the nearest pastor, was asked to visit them. Regular studies were started with them, although Pastor Keow lives over 300 kilometers away from this group. On a recent Sabbath, when Pastor Wilcox, President of the Thailand Mission was visiting this group, more than 50 people were present. An evangelistic series is being conducted by Pastor Keow there in Udon Thani, and we pray that there will be a good harvest of souls. A house is presently being rented where this group can meet in this large city in northeastern Thailand.



Group of new believers at Udon Thani.

NEW CHURCHES AND BUILDINGS DEDICATED

In October of 1986 our new church in Northern Thailand at Tungsai was dedicated to the Lord. It is one of our Hmong churches in that part of Thailand Mission. Presently a series of meetings is being held for our laymen, with the help of Pastor Hu (Veerachai). Each evening this new church is packed with eager listeners as the messages are given. The crowds are so large they cannot all be accommodated in the new church. Many listen from outside and at the windows. Let us pray earnestly that the Spirit of God will move in a mighty way on the hearts of the people of this area.

On March 21 a large new multipurpose building was dedicated in Chiengkong, Thailand. This beautiful edifice was made possible by the help of interested people in the United States, foremost among whom were Drs. Roger and Ethel Nelson. A large number of members as well as friends from the city of Chiengkong gathered on Sabbath morning for this special opening program. Pastor Sopon Jaiguar, acting associate Church Ministries director of the Thailand Mission, gave the welcome. Pastor Subin of our Chiengkong church, gave the opening prayer, and Dr. Ruchee of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital, presented the history of the building. Miss Wanna Sukanatra, who is director of the SDA Clinic in Chiengkong, explained the purpose of the building.

Pastor Wilcox unveiled a beautiful name plaque, and the ribbon was cut by Dr. Roger Nelson and Mrs. Audrey Wilcox. Everyone was pleased to see the building named "Nelson Hall" in honor of Drs. Roger and Ethel Nelson,



Preechar Sengkichai was a former Bible Worker for another church before joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Udon Thani. His wife Pien, and two children are shown with him.

MIRACLE EQUIPMENT

Thailand Publishing House

Eleven pieces of equipment were dedicated for service at the Thailand Publishing House on April 17, 1987. It is not often that equipment is dedicated to the Lord. However, Mr. Swan, the Far Eastern Division Associate Publishing director, feels that the dedication of publishing house equipment is of vital importance.

"The power of the printed page is the church's most powerful means of evangelism outside of personal witnessing," remarks Mr. Swan, "thus it should be dedicated to service".

April 7, 1987 was a milestone for Thailand Publishing House. A print press, perfect binder, folder, platemakers, sewing machine, and sticher were among the items dedicated. This new equipment, purchased by the Thailand Publishing House with help from friends around the world, will bring smoothness of operation, high technology, and efficiency needed.

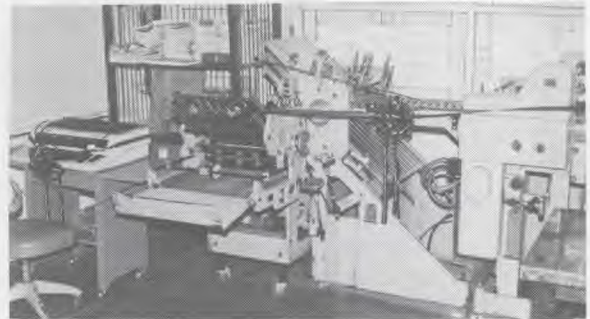
This is a new day for Thailand Publishing House. As late as 1981 the publishing house, established in 1963, was facing real difficulties. The financial picture was discouraging and almost all of the equipment was old. Today only two pieces of older major equipment are still in the publishing house.

In spite of the heavy cost of updating, the financial condition today is the best it has been in years. This is due to the blessing of God and the excellent leadership of the manager, Mr. Johnny Rueh.

With a vision of leadership the Thailand Publishing House management voted on the day of dedication to continue its modernization program. The next step is to purchase, hopefully yet this year, a computer, laser printer, scanner, and appropriate software for electronic typesetting.

Thailand Publishing House manager, Mr. Rueh says, "It is exciting to see God's blessing to this publishing house. We face a great challenge in Thailand with its 50 million population of a less than 4% Christian minority. We must turn to the printed page with its mass media potential. God has enabled us to enlarge our production capacity while lowering our cost. It is our prayer that friends will help us realize our dream and need for computerized typesetting equipment."

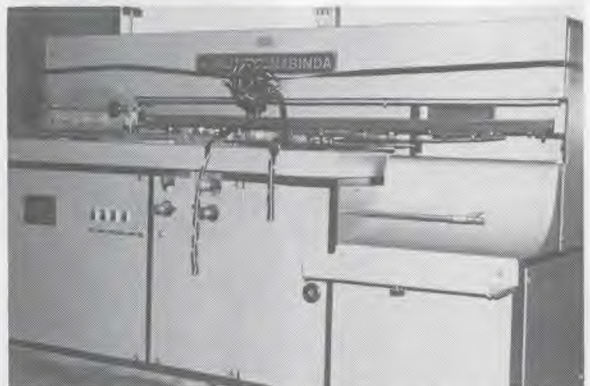
Randy Horning, Literature Ministries Director, SAUM.



Special electronic typewriter being used for part of typesetting needs. Buckle folder—used for small sheet folding jobs.



Left to Right: Mr. Johnny Rueh, Thailand Publishing House Manager; Mrs. Rudi Henning, Pastor Rudi Henning, Associate Publishing Department, General Conference; Mr. Don Swan, Thailand Publishing House, Technical Advisor and Far Eastern Division Associate Director of Publishing Department.



Minobinda Perfect: Binder—for gluing together and putting on the cover of proper back books.

STUDENT LITERATURE EVANGELISTS

Student Literature evangelists from Mae Tang Academy just completed their tenth round of literature distribution throughout the city of Chiangmai. These students of Thai, Karen, and Hmong backgrounds, have discovered that the financial returns as SLE's surpass any other type of work they might engage in.

The program twice a year consists of 15-30 students selling the Thai Health and Family Journal and additional small books on various topics. The program is two weeks each during the months of April and October. The sales have continued to grow and have not gone down as many expected. The people of the city have learned to expect the students. It is this type of distribution of Christian literature and development of friendships that leads to changed lives.

— Randy Horning, Literature Ministries Director,
SAUM



Jerry Potter, Thailand Mission Literature Ministries Director, with Student literature Evangelists, Chiangmai, Thailand.



A sampling of the literature used by the students.

WEIGHT CONTROL CLASS

The 15 members of the current weight control program at Bangkok Adventist Hospital have gradually come to realize that maintaining ones ideal weight is a multi faceted discipline. For a period of 10 weeks, participants come to the hospital at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. They spend the first hour in both stretching and aerobic exercise. Frequently the group can be seen circling the 3 mile route around the Kings Palace.

By then everyone is wide awake and ready to absorb material on physical fitness and exercise taught by Miss Nid Poomsuwan, nutrition by Mrs. Cari Hammonds, and the behavior change by Miss Somporn Piboontanavanich. Time is allowed for small group discussions where members get to know one another better, work on value clarifying strategies, and find answers to their many questions.

The noon dismissal provides a perfect opportunity for the class to taste the food samples from cooking demonstrations done earlier in the sessions by dietary personnel.

Many participants have expressed gratitude for the emphasis on simplicity and vegetarianism.

One young man who is donating funds to help the BAH Health Education Department develop a nutritive value booklet for Thai foods, expressed a desire to know more about the Christian God he feels led him to BAH to seek help with his weight problem.

Cari Hammonds, M.P.H., Bangkok Adventist Hospital



Weight Control Participants at BAH.

WEST-MALAYSIA

MIRACLES STILL HAPPEN AT PENANG ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

Sometimes we are so concerned with the finances and structures of our medical institutions that we overlook the day by day miracles of healing wrought by our loving Heavenly Father.

Miracle #1

A Tamil man who is a retired hospital assistant from Sungai Patani Hospital was admitted to that institution with severe pneumonia and congestive cardiac failure. After a week of treatment he was transferred to our hospital under the care of Dr. Tee Seng Wee. Shortly after the admission, his condition deteriorated ever further and further and indeed he suffered a cardiac arrest. It was necessary to defibrillate his heart with an electric shock and to provide appropriate intravenous medication during this critical period. I must say that the nursing staff and the medical staff of this hospital responded extremely well to this emergency but despite all their efforts the passage of oxygen to the brain was so limited that the patient experienced cerebral anoxia (insufficient oxygen entering the brain cells) and this initiated almost uncontrollable convulsions. Because of the condition of the patient it was obvious that his prognosis was extremely grave. A number of medications were utilized in order to stop the convulsions but none of these proved effective. Finally it was necessary to paralyze the patient in order to control and properly ventilate him, with an advanced ventilation system. The patient remained on the critical list for several days and required artificial ventilation during this period. However I am happy to say that the patient has now made a satisfactory recovery and is most grateful for the efforts which have been made on his behalf. His daughter, who is the wife of a physician, has also expressed great appreciation for the combined efforts of the intensive care nurses, the medical officers, surgeon, internist and anaesthesiologist who worked very diligently on this

patient. Our staff was able to direct the family to God as the source of the patient's recovery.

Miracle #2

On Friday, 27th of February, I admitted to PAH a patient with a perforated duodenal ulcer. Naturally this required immediate surgery to repair the hole in the small bowel. However I found that the severity of the symptoms had been such that the patient had experienced an acute inferior myocardial infarction (heart attack). Furthermore the patient, who was a known diabetic but who had taken no medication for one year, was found to have a blood sugar of over 45mmol/l (normal under 6). It is known that the mortality rate for surgery during an acute myocardial infarction is at least 50% and the added complication of severe uncontrolled diabetes made the prognosis extremely grave. Furthermore it was known that the patient had been previously treated for congestive cardiac failure thus indicating that even prior to the heart attack his heart muscle was in a very poor condition. We were able to eventually obtain control of his diabetes but naturally we were reluctant to take the patient to surgery because of his medical problems. Nevertheless on the afternoon of the following day the patient's condition deteriorated so markedly that despite the manifest dangers it was agreed that Dr. Danny Oh would operate on the patient. Remarkably, the efforts of Dr. Arumugam in anaesthetics and Dr. Oh in surgery were such, under God's blessing, that this patient survived this procedure and made a good satisfactory recovery.

BY RUSSELL STANDISH

Miracle #3

We later admitted a critically ill Sindhi woman who had also perforated her duodenal ulcer. However, the diagnosis was somewhat obscured by the fact that the patient had no history of a duodenal ulcer and on x-ray was found to have a gall bladder full of numerous stones, which at first were thought to be the source of the serious condition in which the patient was found. Much effort was placed in attempting to improve her condition. Her blood pressure had dropped to precipitous levels and despite the use of medications, it was well nigh impossible to restore it to a level which would make surgery safer. She deteriorated to such an extent that, in consultation with the relatives who were naturally extremely anxious about her condition, it was agreed to take her to surgery knowing that she had less than 50% prospect of survival. I am just so pleased to report that God, who blessed us with the other cases, once again blessed the work of our surgeon, anaesthetist, operating room staff, intensive care unit staff and other members of the hospital team to such an extent that the patient is now home and well once more.

Miracles Daily

Almost daily we are receiving patients whose condition requires an extraordinary amount of medical, nursing, and paramedical skill. I have every confidence that God and His angels are standing beside us as we treat these patients. We have been so pleased to see the incredible success against high odds. I believe that each one will join us in praying for the continued welfare of our patients for we have a God-given responsibility to offer them the very best in medical care in addition to the spiritual guidance which I believe is being given in this institution. Furthermore, I believe that we can feel justifiably proud of the expertise now available within our hospital. Having been associated with this institution for two decades. I can say without any reservation that the skills and knowledge of the nursing, medical, surgical, and paramedical staff have never been equalled in the history of this institution. The increase in the number of patients who are coming to this hospital to receive our care, indicates that this fact has become understood within our community.

Dr. Russel Standish is the administrator of the Penang Adventist Hospital.



Crusade speaker, Pastor S. Money, displaying a fountain pen given to him as a gift from the crusade team. Looking on is Pastor V.N. Joseph, PJK the crusade coordinator.

HARVEST MEETINGS AT LANGKAP, PERAK

In April, 1987 a harvest series of meetings were conducted at Langkap, 18 miles from Teluk Intan at Lower Perak District. An average of about 60 visitors attended the meetings. Most of them had their initial contact with our truth from the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School in Singapore.

Eight souls have indicated their desire to be baptized soon at a waterfall near Bidor, some 15 miles from Langkap.

Regular Bible studies are being conducted at the meeting place, the M.C.A. hall of Langkap, every Sunday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Three laymen, Mr. James, Mr. Peter, and Mr. Alex, all from Langkap were chosen to lead out in the work there. With the support of the laymen, a church will be planted there in the near future.

A big thank you to the Voice of Prophecy for softening the hard souls for many years in Langkap where now, after many years, a successful harvest has been reaped.

—Pastor Samuel Money, Associate Church Ministries Director, WMSM



Part of the crowd that lingered after the crusade meeting was over.

SINGAPORE**NEWSTART 10****A MIRACLE****God Brings The Guests**

God again demonstrated His providence and care in many different ways, during Youngberg Adventist Hospital's most recent **NEWSTART WELLNESS SEMINAR**. As we prepared for the program and prayed for the guests who would attend, it was interesting to see how the contacts were made. The Holy Spirit worked on different ones to persuade them to attend. We can talk to the prospective guests but it is the Holy Spirit who persuades and convicts. It is beautiful to see how He works on different individuals and brings them. Many prayers were answered in gathering together the guests for the program.



Ready to enjoy one of many delightful yet very healthful meals.

SBC And "The 10 O'clock Show"

During the previous programs, there were inquiries from the Singapore Broadcasting Corporation about the content and format of the seminar. Several of their program researchers attended portions of the previous seminar to see if there was something that might be of interest to the Singapore television audience. During the weeks that preceded the 10th seminar, SBC called to say that they had been given approval to do a short feature on the **NEWSTART** Seminar on a portion of "The 10 O'clock Show." Details were worked out and scheduling

for the videotaping of parts of the Seminar were arranged so that camera crews would be available for the parts of the program to be featured.

Finding one of the guests who didn't mind being televised for part of the program, showing the treadmill electrocardiogram and fitness testing was not as easy as we had first thought. But again the Lord provided a willing friend, Kenneth Lim, who also decided to attend as a participant in the Seminar. Ken had two friends that he wanted to join the group. He had prayed that they would be willing to attend and the Lord answered his prayer when they told him they were planning to attend.



Kenneth Lim, willing volunteer.

LIFE - The Complete Test

The tenth **NEWSTART** Seminar was held at the Garden Hotel from March 15-19. The Lord blessed with 14 delightful guests. This is the largest number that have ever joined one program. It was exciting to watch them learn and grow as they began to follow the "Guidelines for Living" that they were taught. Their response was enthusiastic.

BY CLARENCE S. F. ING

As an added feature of this program, the hospital now includes a stress or exercise electrocardiogram along with the LIFE (Lifestyle Inventory and Fitness Evaluation). LIFE is a computerized health and fitness profile which includes a heart profile, fitness profile, stress profile, nutrition profile, health attitudes profile, safety profile and correlates this with the results of the physical and laboratory examinations to give an overall Life-style profile. This information along with the answers that the guests give to a comprehensive questionnaire is put into a computer. The results are given to each individual participant along with recommendations to help them live a more healthful lifestyle. The participants of the program like this aspect of the program very much. When their results are ready the physician sits down with them and goes over their individual results. He gives his recommendations for improving their lifestyles.



The group gathered to watch a food demonstration while the SBC camera men stand by to film the process.

“The Sunday Times”

The Lord helped arrange another interesting feature. During the week prior to the program a reporter from “The Sunday Times” called and said that she was interested in some information on the **NEWSTART** Seminar. The interview was carried out over the phone and information given, along with names of previous guests. The details of the final article were verified several days before the program started. We were told that the article might appear in Sunday’s paper. The morning the seminar started the article was in the paper telling about the seminar. It was exciting to share the article with the guests as we gathered to begin the seminar at 10 am that Sunday morning.

God Does The Advertising

During the week, the crew from SBC filmed the group while they were exercising, attending lectures, watching food demonstrations, eating in the dining room. They filmed a hydrotherapy demonstration and parts of a physical examination and stress electrocardiogram. Participants of previous programs were interviewed about the benefits that they had received and how they had improved. The program as it was presented was very complimentary to the **NEWSTART** Seminar and through this means we hope that other people will be introduced to Youngberg Adventist Hospital’s **NEWSTART** Seminar. There have been inquiries about the program after the telecast and we are thankful to the Lord for arranging this publicity so that more souls can be found for His kingdom.

God works in wonderful and marvelous ways to spread the Good News of salvation, including arranging for newspaper articles and television programs about His “Guidelines for Living.” In the past we have tried to arrange for articles in the papers through different individuals. There have been some articles. We have hoped and prayed for the possibility of something on television. When the Lord decides it is time, He arranges the publicity and things fall into place. He is a great and wonderful God and it is a joy and honor to work for Him in searching for souls.

Bible Studies And Baptisms Request

On the last night of the Seminar, all of the guests are invited to attend a Bible study group which meets on Tuesday evenings in our home. Most of the participants are previous guests of the Newstart program. The first Tuesday night, seven new people joined the study group and it has continued to grow since that time. Some of the guests only came one time but four of the last group have been attending regularly. One who was coming previously has invited a friend, so now the group has increased to 11 regular members with another two on Thursday evening. Eleven of the thirteen people regularly attending have attended the **NEWSTART** Seminar. Of the two that haven’t attended, both are planning to join one of the Seminars in the future.

Thus far with the blessings of the Lord, there have been four baptisms directly related to the **NEWSTART** Seminar; one of the guests and her husband, father of the husband, and friend of one of the guests.

Praise His Name

We thank and praise the Lord for His blessings and continue to pray for the outpouring of His Spirit so that the other guests that are currently studying will also give their lives to Him. Seeing these precious souls give their lives to the Lord and be baptized brings great joy and happiness to all of us who have had a part in working with this program. We are thankful the Youngberg Adventist Hospital has had the vision and foresight to embark on this type of health evangelism. It truly is an effective way to find souls for the Lord.

Clarence S. F. Ing is a Opthamologist and General Practioner at Youngberg Adventist Hospital.

Little Things

*It's just the little homey things,
The unobtrusive, friendly things,
The "won't-you-let-me-help-you" things
That make our pathway light—
And it's just the jolly, joking things,
The "never-mind-the-trouble" things,
The "laugh-with-me, it's funny" things,
That make the world seem bright.
For all the countless famous things,
The wondrous, record-breaking things,
Those "never-can-be-equalled" things
That all the papers cite,
Aren't like the little human things,
The everyday-encountered things
The "just-because-I-like-you" things
That make us happy quite.
So here's to all the simple things,
The dear "all-in-a-day's-work" things,
The "smile-and-face-your-troubles" things,
Trust God to put them right!
The "done-and-then-forgotten" things,
The "can't-you-see-I-love-you" things,
The hearty "I-am-with-you" things
That make life worth the fight. ★*

YAH PRESIDENT RECEIVES AWARD

Youngberg Adventist Hospital President Ken Reimche was presented with the Art Sihvon Memorial Award in recognition of his gentle insistence on and commitment to the achievement of quality in special care by the Saskatchewan Association of Special Care Homes, Canada on April 7, 1987.

In the citation, Association President Cliff Dunvald praised Mr. Reimche for his leadership in the association as chairman of the pastoral care committee from 1974 to 1981 and as president of the association from 1981 to 1982. "Ken's characteristically open mind, unflinching courtesy and his quiet diplomacy earned respect for the association. Because of his clear vision and his high standards, the integrity of the association was always upheld," said Mr. Dunvald.

Along with his many responsibilities as Administrator of Sunnyside Nursing Home, Mr. Reimche was a member of the Executive Committee of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists.

Mr. Reimche answered the call and moved to Singapore in 1985 and has been a blessing to the hospital and the church family. We would like to congratulate him for his achievement and pray that the Lord will richly bless him in his ministry here in Singapore.

**Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director,
Youngberg Adventist Hospital.**



Mr. Reimche (right) receiving the award from Mr. Dunvald at the Annual Convention.

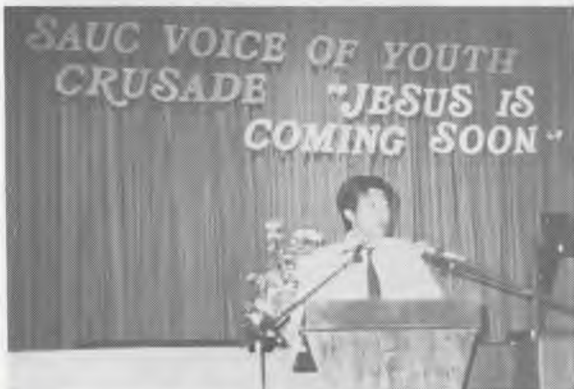
SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION COLLEGE

Voice of Youth Crusade...

The Voice of Youth Crusade, organized by the students of Southeast Asia Union College under the leadership of Wong Kok Boon was held from March 26 to April 3, 1987 at the College Auditorium. The theme was "JESUS IS COMING SOON!" Two youth speakers delivered the sermons each night. Special music with slide presentations was rendered each night making the programme very enjoyable. The speakers discussed contemporary issues and made personal testimonies as to why they were presenting the messages so urgently. A young person said, "The programme was so interesting that I was not even aware that the time had passed by so fast."

On the sixth night of the Crusade which was dedicated as "TESTIMONY AND THANKSGIVING NITE", students and those who attended the meeting shared their testimonies and gave thanksgiving to the Lord.

Sixteen people responded to the altar call given on the



One of our youth speakers, Chan Shee Wai.



The campers posing for a photograph.

last night by brother Chan Shee Wai, a first year B. Th student. Nine expressed their desire to have Bible study, and seven wished to be baptized. Follow-up meetings and Bible studies, how to conduct Bible studies and call for decisions, are conducted every Sabbath evening and afternoon.

The Spirit of God has indeed moved among the participants and the congregation during the meetings. We thank God for this harvest and may He continue to guide us to bring more souls into His family.

...And Bible Camp.

The 5th Annual Bible Camp organized by Southeast Asia Union College was held from April 30 to May 3 at the St. John's Island. The theme for the camp was "How to be victorious in your Spiritual Warfare?" For the first time, an invitation was extended to other Seventh-day Adventist Church members in Singapore. This gave church members and college students an opportunity to fellowship and share with one another.

Dr. Valentine Teo, a medical doctor and an active Seventh-day Adventist elder from Kuching, Sarawak, presented his message in five sessions. The topics and issues discussed were very vital to the Christians in preparation for the Second Coming of Christ. Emphasis was made on Ellen G. White's writings which were considered as the "lesser light pointing to the greater light (Bible)." A lively question-and-answer session at the end of each message allowed participants to have their doubts cleared.

Dr. Koh Kang Song, president of the College, gave the morning devotions and the Sabbath sermon on the Magnetic Christ, the Unavoidable Christ, and the Satisfying Christ successively.

Tapings of the messages including the manuscripts are available at a nominal charge. Seventeen people have ordered the tapes and eight have expressed their desire to purchase a set of "Testimonies for the Church" by Mrs. E.G. White.

Testimonies both in songs and words were shared on Friday night during Vespers making it a very special Sabbath night.

A camper responded this way, "I was surprised by the camp. It was, however, a happy surprise. I was expecting to have fun and fellowship with people but I did not expect to have a spiritual feast as well." We hope and pray that the campers will be spiritually charged to be committed Seventh-day Adventists.

— Susan Lim, General Studies Student, SAUC

SARAWAK**BLESSINGS NOTED****SARAWAK MISSION SESSION**

The Sarawak Mission of Seventh-day Adventists conducted its sixth triennial session at Sunny Hill S.D.A. School, Kuching, April 3 to 5, 1987. Of the total 118 official delegates who attended the Session, 77 were laypersons representing as many as 61 churches in the mission field. Sabbath, April 4 saw even a greater number of people on site. More than 200 believers worshipped the Lord on this particular day in three different congregations within the school premises.

The classrooms provided lodging for the delegates; the visual aid room was used for the committee meetings; and the auditorium was the venue for the general session. The theme used for the Session was HARVEST TIME. It was indeed time for harvesting crops throughout Sarawak. The theme, therefore was a significant one. The stage was uniquely decorated. The backdrop carried the theme. The two green banana plants on the two sides of the rostrum, and some yellow paddy plants on the dias, were skillfully kept in normal standing position. These indicated the ripe crops that are out in the field waiting to be gathered in. Further, on the stage were some bags and baskets which contained grains, fruits, and vegetables, signifying the ingathering of harvests. This significant display aroused a deep realization in the minds of us all that the spiritual field is "white" and it is time to harvest for the Lord.

In his keynote address G.C. Johnson, President of Southeast Asia Union Mission, challenged all the workers and laity to rise to the occasion and do the Lord's work with greater effectiveness so that there would be a rich harvest of souls for the heavenly kingdom.

Choo Wee Fong, President of Sarawak Mission, recounted the progress of the work that has been made during the last triennium. The village lay pastor training program has so far trained 30 laypersons who are now very active in our churches. Another 15 are being currently trained. Results so far have been very encouraging. Dead churches have been revived; interests have been gathered in; tithes and offerings in churches with trained VLP's have increased by two fold; more lay efforts were being held. Last year in November a layman,

who was greatly concerned about a dying church, conducted, with the help of other laymen, a series of revival meetings for 10 nights. As a result, that particular church was revived and 12 people were baptized.

Our Pathfinders continue to be a strength to our churches. They are seen as guards of honour when VIP's arrive at Kuching Airport. The Ministry of Youth is now aware that we are a different people. Whenever activities are scheduled on Sabbath our pathfinders do not show up.

During the past 3 years 12 churches and lambshelters were built or renovated. Just as members live in better and better homes it is only right to expect that our places of worship become better and better too. The initiative rests with the local congregation and it is then that there is more of a feeling that the churches are their very own.

Reports of the Harvest 90 Program were presented by the District Pastors on behalf of the 12 districts. These were very encouraging and enlightening. The special numbers rendered by various individuals and choirs added special blessings to the program. The Plans Committee discussed some important items, one of which is the construction of a new mission office. The Session accepted the proposition to raise \$300,000.00 for this project. The input by the delegates in the Plans Committee contributed to the emergence of some good decisions for the overall church growth in Sarawak Mission.

One of the major Nominating Committee recommendations that was subsequently voted in the Session was the induction of Saul Nyungga, Miri District Pastor, in to the team of the Church Ministries Department, to be in charge of Sabbath School and Lay Activities. He was also assigned the Communication Department.

G.C. Johnson, C.Y. Wu, T.G. Staples, S.K. Das, Peter Wong, Geoffrey Pauner, and David Wong, who assisted in the various committee meetings were present from the Southeast Asia Union Mission.

S.K. Das, Administrative Fellow, SAUM

SHEPHERDESS INTERNATIONAL SAUM

Meet Our Coordinators From...



Mrs. Connie Gaban

Sabah

Mrs. Connie Gaban is the wife of Dr. Charles Gaban, president of the Sabah Mission, and mother of three grown children. Mrs. Gaban has worked faithfully for many years as a teacher. During her husband's study leave to Andrews University she decided to study towards her Master's degree in Education. She completed her goals and returned with her husband to continue in their service for the Lord. Presently she is teaching English fulltime and coordinating the Shepherdess activities for the Sabah Mission.



Mrs. Srirat Sorajjakool

Thailand

Mrs. Srirat Sorajjakool, the wife of Pastor Sunti Sorajjakool, former president of Thailand Mission from 1974-1983, was elected to be Shepherdess Director of Thailand Mission.

She has served in the Thailand Mission Sabbath School/Child Evangelism and Home and Family for 4 years. Before beginning her work in the mission office she taught mission schools in Bangkok as well as Ubon for about 30 years.

She enjoys working and helping young people.

———— **Dr. Nancy Bassham, SI Coordinator, SAUM**

SABAH

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY SEMINAR

The bi-annual SAUM Spirit of Prophecy Seminar was conducted, April 2-5, 1987, at the Sabah Adventist Secondary School in Tamparuli, Sabah. Guest speakers, Pastor Elbio Perreyra and Dr. George Rice of the E.G. White Estate at the General Conference, were present.

These men discussed two types of Biblical inspiration. The first is presented in the writings of Paul and Peter. In 2 Tim 3:16 are found the words, "All Scripture was given by inspiration." And in 1 Peter 2:21 Peter suggests that men spoke and wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. This model of inspiration describes God's often used method of working with mankind.

The second model presented is based on an indepth study of Luke 1:1-4. The method used by Luke would today be called research. He claims to have had no visions or dreams, but rather that he researched and talked with eye witnesses. From this body of information he wrote out the material to Theophilus, thus benefitting all of us.

Both the prophetic and research models of inspiration help us in understanding the nature and the development of the writings of God's unique gift to the SDA church in the form of the Spirit of Prophecy.

Several other subjects discussed in the SOP were covered during the weekend seminar. Questions were raised, and good answers given. Such a favorable response to the seminar resulted that comments such as, "I wish we could do this every year," "I have a new perception of the value and place of the SOP," and "I wish I would have understood this before" were elicited from the participants.

———— **Randy Horning, SOP Coordinator, SAUM**



Delegates to the Spirit of Prophecy Seminar, Sabah.

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who did so much to make this dream come true. Several items of special music were presented both before and after the dedicatory sermon by Pastor Wilcox.

This beautiful property was purchased many years ago by the sacrifices of a number of individuals. It is located right on the banks of the Mekong River, looking across into Laos. At the close of the service two precious souls were baptized in the Mekong River by the author, Pastor Wilcox.



Presently located on this piece of property are the medical clinic, operated by Bangkok Adventist Hospital; a lovely Adventist Church; a kindergarten of around 130 children, operated by the church under the direction of Mrs. Lee Crisp; and now the new multipurpose building that will house the kindergarten and be used for outreach programs for that part of Thailand.

New churches that are nearing completion in the Thailand Mission are the new church in Chiangmai, Sattahip (Pattaya), Ban Mai Pattana, and Khao Toh in southern Thailand. The Ban Mai Pattana church was built by a group of volunteers from Japan Missionary College, and was dedicated on March 25, 1987.

Two new buildings at the Adventist Ekamai School in Bangkok are just being completed to give more classroom and administration space. Also a new cafeteria is well on its way to completion at Chiangmai Academy.

The three hospitals in Thailand have also just recently completed additions or are presently working on new facilities. These include a new outpatient facility and new clinic in Haadyai; the new physical therapy and auditorium at Phuket Adventist Hospital; and the renovation of the



Nelson Hall dedication at Chiangkong, March 21, 1987.

physical therapy department as well as the new beautiful wing at Bangkok Adventist Hospital. Early June has been slated for the opening of this new facility along with the 50th anniversary of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital June 3-5, 1987.

We are grateful to the Lord for His many blessings, and for the forward progress of His work in Thailand. We pray that through all these new facilities there may be an abundant harvest of souls.

W. L. Wilcox is the President of Thailand Mission of SDA

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question "why?" Jesus pointed out to them that the prince of this world, i.e., Lucifer, was very active. That the world might know that Jesus' love for the Father was greater than His fear of death, he said to His disciples, "even so, I will act" and without flinching He looked into the face of death even the death of the cross. The Bible tells us that at this time Satan as a roaring lion is walking about seeking whom he might destroy knowing that his time is short.

If we are going to be angry, let us be angry with Lucifer. If we feel like cursing, let us curse the devil for he is the enemy of God and His children.

All who are engaged in the work of God are at enmity with the world; are at enmity with the powers of darkness. We are engaged in a war, but that the world may know that we love the Father; we follow His commandments; we arise and do His work. Although our brothers in the Philippines were struck down, they did not go down in defeat but in victory. We pray that God will comfort our brothers and sisters in the Philippines and renew their courage that those who have died in the service of God will not have died in vain.

— **Wm. Steve Bassham, Communication Director,
Southeast Asia Union Mission**

AT REST

IN SYMPATHY

The Southeast Asia Union Mission would like to extend its deepest sympathy to our brothers and sisters of the North Philippine Union Mission for their tragic loss through the death of their Union President, Nestor Arit; Union Secretary, T.V. Barizo; and the Union driver, Pedra Torre.

Once again, we are reminded that we are in the midst of a great controversy between Christ and His angels and Lucifer and his angels. According to the information we have received, these Union officers along with others were travelling in a van returning from the Northern Luzon Mission Triennial Session held at the Northeast Luzon Academy when their vehicle was hit head-on by a large logging truck coming from the opposite direction at an approximate speed of 80 km/h. It is a miracle that any of those in the van survived. In addition to those who died in the accident, there were also injured Pastor Alberto Regoso, Church Ministries Director; Mrs. T. V. Barizo, Associate Education Director; Efinite Macalintal, Treasurer; C.M. Jimenez Sr. Health Director; and Jasper Malalis, Associate Treasurer.

Immediately the question comes to our mind, "How could God let such a thing happen?" Some are even tempted to be angry with God. The statement is often heard "It is not fair!" and, of course, this statement is

correct, i.e., it is not fair! But then we must ask ourselves, who ever said sin is fair? We know obviously that we live in a sinful world. Any look at the six o'clock news will bring home this point. We do indeed live in a sinful world and sin is not fair. Although we are not of the world, we are in the world, and therefore we are subject to the unfairness of this sinful world.

At times we like to sing the song, THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD. It is a nice song, but it is not theologically correct. It would be better to say THIS WAS MY FATHER'S WORLD. At the present time the prince of this world, according to the Bible, is Lucifer. It was not fair that Jesus should die on the cross, but He came to a sinful world and was subject to the injustices of this sinful world. Jesus said to His disciples shortly before His death on the cross, "Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me. But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence." John 14: 30 & 31. It can easily be seen here that Jesus was preparing His disciples for the shock that would come as a result of the injustice which Jesus would experience. They would be discouraged; their faith would be low; they would

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Choo Yun Fatt.

Pastor Y.F. Choo, aged 86, passed to his rest on December 22, 1986 following a road accident in Butterworth, West Malaysia. He pioneered the work among the Chinese in the East Indies Union, and continued thereafter to serve the Chinese congregations in various locals throughout Southeast Asia.



Tsai Shak Yin.

Mdm Tsai Shak Yin, aged 94, passed to her rest on March 7, 1987 in Sandakan, Sabah. This faithful Seventh-day Adventist mother from China at the age of 33 and soon thereafter widowed lived to see her children to the third generation grow up to serve the Lord.

— Choo Wee Fong, President, Sarawak Mission

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