

SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION

Messenger

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March/April 1989



Sing for Joy

"Sing for joy to God our strength;
Shout joyfully to the God of Jacob.
Raise a song, strike the timbrel, the
sweet sounding lyre with the harp.
Blow the trumpet
at the new moon,
at the full moon, on our feast day;
For it is statute for Israel, an
ordinance of the God of Jacob."

Psalms 81:14

■ NEWS BREAK ■

God's Hand in *Hymn Festival 89*

Hymn Festival 89, even before fulfillment, has already far exceeded the aspirations of its leadership in terms of witness, community fellowship, and Christian brotherhood. The other day while speaking with Mrs. Lim Chew Ker, the Director of Methodist ticketing for the Festival of Praise, she commented, "Who would ever have dreamed there would be such a response."

How could we have predicted that many more people than could ever possibly fit into the nearly 2,000 seating capacity of Kallang Theatre would request seats for Festival of Praise? How could we have known that nearly 500 individuals would sign up for participation in the event from nine Methodist churches, two Anglican churches, a Catholic church, a Christian Alliance church, and eight Adventist churches? How could we have known that over 30 pastors and church workers from a wide spectrum of Singapore's churches would register to participate in Hymn Festival 89's Professional Growth Seminar when for the last Preach-sponsored seminar there was only one pastor other than Adventist churches? How could we have known that God would use this event to open up before the public in the publications of our Methodist friends, just who Seventh-day Adventists are and what they believe?

Only God Almighty could have known all these things, and only He could direct the events that have already happened and those that will yet take place. In light of the potential and extent of this event, the tip of the iceberg only visible, I feel like a mere observer, but from my present vantage point, I thrill to see God's hand at work.

Comments such as these have come to me:

— *"I was especially interested when I learned it was an inter-denominational event. It is exciting to see Christians worshipping together."* — Anglican friend bringing her child to join in the junior choir.

— *"From historic times, music was offered to the world as a gift from the church. Today, the church is receiving that gift back from the world in a far inferior form. I was so excited at Hymn Festival 88 to see what a tremendous inspiration just plain hymn singing could be, that I felt we must do something to raise the standard again and inspire people to sing the great hymns of the past."* — Methodist pastor.

— *"We are enjoying these Friday night practices so much that we look forward to them all week long. Perhaps we could start on a Christmas program when this event is done."* — A retired Anglican school teacher.

— *"The fellowship has been great. We should do this again."* — Methodist friend.

— *"I'd like to know more about who you Adventists are and learn about your church history."* — A blind Anglican friend

— *"Can you share with me your church creed or doctrines. I need to educate my people as to who you are and what you believe."* — Methodist pastor.

By far, the greatest reward of HYMN FESTIVAL 89 has been the friendships formed with these children of God of other denominations; friendships not possible in any other capacity. I thank God for the privilege we have each had as Adventists to meet and work with these dear people and I pray that our friendship might continue to the Glory of God.

— *Loralyn Horning, Chairperson, Hymn Festival 89*

Hymn '89 Festival

Organised by **PAYA LEBAR METHODIST CHURCH** and the **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH of SINGAPORE**



Dr E. Harold Lickey is a graduate of the University of Indiana School of Music, holding a doctorate in voice performance. With his wide background of experience, he is in demand for adjudication, and conducting of Choral Clinics and Hymn Festivals.

Conductor: **Dr. E. Harold Lickey, D. Mus.**

Events	Date	Time	Place
Choral Clinic	Thurs 20 April	7.30 p.m.	PLMC
Festival of Hymns	Fri 21 April	7.30 p.m.	PLMC
Seminar for Pastors & Church Workers (Theme: "Dimensions in Worship & Music")	Tues 25 April	9.00 a.m.	PLMC
Festival of Praise	Sat 29 April	8.00 p.m.	Kallang Theatre

Change of Leadership at Three Missions

The Sarawak Mission, the Thailand Mission, and the Singapore Mission are changing leadership at the present time. Pastor Choo Wee Fong, President of the Sarawak Mission, for the past eight and a half years has just left to serve as pastor of The Asian Church in Melbourne, Australia. Pastor Wendall Wilcox, President of the Thailand Mission, for the past six years will leave in July to pastor a church in northern California. Pastor Geoffrey Pauner, President of the Singapore Mission, for the past two years leaves the first of May to study at Andrews University. The contributions of each of these men have been greatly appreciated. Southeast Asia will miss them and their families.

Pastor Dan Walter, former Ministerial Secretary of Sarawak Mission, assumed the position of President for the Mission on the first of April. He served in the same mission as Ministerial Secretary for five years. His fellow workers and the constituency of Sarawak Mission appreciate his service and leadership. They have found him a willing and dedicated worker and look forward to the future under his direction. Pastor Edmund Liah officially became the Secretary of the Mission, a position he has been filling the last year and a half as Acting Secretary.

Dr. Steve Bassham, Ministerial Secretary for the Southeast Asia Union Mission, will assume the position of President for the Thailand Mission this July. Though he has served now on the Union level for five years, he really claims Thailand as his home having previously served there for ten years, first in Bangkok and then in Chiang Mai. Dr. Bassham and his wife, Nancy, were instrumental in the beginning development of Chiang Mai Academy. Through the years they have helped many struggling young people gain a Christian education. The constituency and leadership of the Thailand Mission look forward to their soon return.

New leadership has not yet been appointed for the Singapore Mission. However, the Southeast Asia Union Mission leadership welcomes the new appointments to date and wishes God's blessing on the families who are leaving us.

— *Loralyn Horning, Managing Editor, Messenger*

Vietnam Mission Baptisms

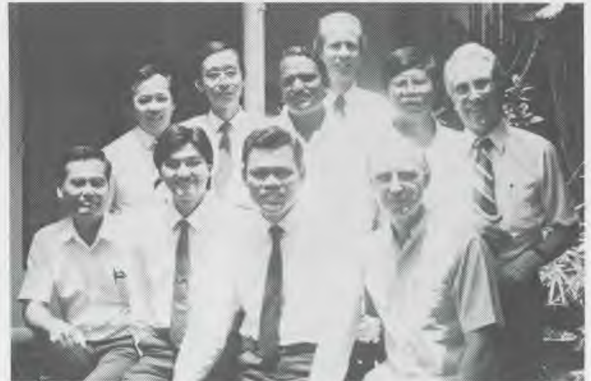
The 1989 baptismal goal for the Vietnam Mission is 600. A recent report from the SDA church leaders in the mission indicates that already 300 baptisms have been recorded during the first quarter of the year.

In many missions, the first quarter of the year is one of low baptisms. Praise God for the fervour of the members and the pastors of the Vietnam Mission. Though they face many trials, and hardships, their zeal for Christ is strong!

— *Communications Department, SAUM*

Publishing Leadership Annual Session

Publishing leaders from around the Southeast Asia Union Mission met together at the SAUM headquarters during March 19—24 for their annual convention. Pastor Russell Thomas and Pastor Howard Faigao from the FED and Pastor George Johnson assisted Pastor Randy Horning in presenting topics on leadership, training, and salesmanship.



Participants of the Publishing Leadership Annual Session.

The challenges that face these leaders of the Lord's paratroopers fighting His battles on the front lines are tremendous. Such times for fellowship and growth are vital to the success of these courageous men. God blessed the group with a good spirit of unity and enthusiasm for a finished work.

— *Randy Horning, Publishing Director, SAUM*

ProMusica Visits the Far East

From Singapore the choir divided into two sections. Half the group went to Sabah to conduct a Week of Prayer and share their music. The other half went to Sarawak to help build a jungle chapel in one of the villages. Dr. Gaban, President of the Sabah Mission, wrote to say that the students of SASS enjoyed the Week of Prayer presented by Pastor Dick Duerksen very much. In Dr. Gaban's own word she writes concerning the ministry of the group:

"The group presented a good program for this mission. Each morning they provided good music during the chapel talks and after that went to Bongol to help in the construction of the Bongol Church which is half way to Kinabalu National Park. Each evening they presented music concerts at Kota Kinabalu, Tenghilan, Tamparuli, and Goshen churches. The attendance was very good in each place. Their coming was a blessing to the work here."



Mr. LeRoy Peterson.

The group enjoyed the variety of experiences and people they encountered in each place. The Orient was a brand new experience for almost all the group except LeRoy Peterson, violinist, and his wife, Carol. LeRoy's parents worked in Singapore when he was a child. The sights and sounds of the Orient, rejuvenated all kinds of happy childhood memories for him.

Many thanks came from the singers and their faculty for the generosity and kindnesses shown to them. Likewise, we from Southeast Asia thank them for showing us Christianity in action. It was great to have them come.

— Loralyn Horning, Managing Editor, Messenger



The ProMusical group giving a concert at Balestier Road Church.

■ THAILAND ■

Refugee Evangelism

Ban Thad Refugee Camp in Prachinburi, North Thailand has an active Adventist group despite its closed camp status which means that no organization or agency can visit the camp except those agencies operating a specific project there. Many of the refugees are illegal and consequently find it virtually impossible to receive help for future placements.

Stationed in the camp is an Adventist Vietnamese leader, Lai Phuong Hanh, who has devoted her life to work among these displaced people. The work has progressed under her leadership to the point that in February a beautiful new church was built with funds donated by the Auckland S.D.A. Church. The opening ceremony was on March 15, 1989.

The building of this church is significant in light of the fact that very little outside physical assistance can be given. I applied to the Supreme Command office in Bangkok requesting a pass to merely visit this camp, but it was refused. Fortunately, a good friend in charge of giving passes in the Task Force 88 at Aranyaprathet managed to get passes for me two times after that.

We applied to the UNHCR to allow us to have a vocational project at Site 2 and start a language school at Ban Thad camp. Both requests were turned down. We have managed to supply the churches at Site 2 and Ban Thad with Bibles, Way of Life lessons, God Cares, SDA

— cont'd on page 6

The Whole Church Became SDA

In September 1988, Mr. Jamnan, a former Presbyterian pastor, came to see Pastor Pakdee, the Chiang Mai SDA Church pastor, and asked for Bible studies on the Sabbath truth. These studies resulted in the baptism of Mr. Jamnan and his wife in October.

The baptism of Mr. Jamnan stirred up interest among Mr. Jamnan's friends, so from January 4—11, 1989, Elder W. L. Wilcox was requested to hold an Adventist doctrinal seminar in Chiang Mai Church. Twelve pastors and leading members of several Sunday churches attended the seminar, and some of these men are now attending worship services in the Chiang Mai Church.

Following that, Mr. Sookjai, a former Pentecostal Church pastor who attended Elder Wilcox's seminar, requested the Thailand Mission to hold another doctrinal seminar and Five Day Stop Smoking program in his independent Mae Talob church in Fang beyond Chiang Mai.

The Thailand Mission sent Pastor Rangsit Itsaringkarn from Bangkok and Pastor Pakdee from Chiang Mai to join Pastor Peng, Fang district pastor, to hold this seminar from March 7—11, 1989. Then in the evening Brother Chamee Atakit, associate publishing director from Bangkok, was in charge of the Five Day Stop Smoking program for the villagers.



Those who made their vows for baptism.

Sabbath, March 11, 1989, was the climax of the seminar. Nine persons were baptized, and 18 persons, including Mr. Sookjai, the pastor, accepted the SDA truth by profession of faith. Mr. Sookjai, the Mae Talob pastor, made an announcement that "This Sabbath is the first Sabbath that this church meets according to the Bible truth. And from now on we are going to meet on the Sabbath Day, the real Lord's Day."

— Rangsit Itsaringkarn, Secretary, Thailand Adventist Mission



New members at Mae Talob with Brother Chamee and Pastor Sookjai on the left. Pastors Rangsit and Pakdee and Mr. Jamnan are on the right.

Phuket Adventist Hospital

In our busy schedule to plan for the progress of our institutions, we often forget to thank God for the way He has led us during the year. I do not want to be accused of not giving thanks to the Lord for His tremendous blessings on Phuket Adventist Hospital in 1988.

Never in the history of this hospital has it recorded a gain of over a million baht in a single year. This happened this last year when the hospital had an operative gain of Bt. 1,476,882.43. There is a God in heaven. The patient census has increased over 25% as compared to 1987. The patients are coming back to use our medical facilities, which shows they have confidence in our care.

1988 was a difficult year for our hospital. We had only two permanent physicians most of the time. However, we managed to have relief physicians during the second half of the year. During the first eight months of 1988 the hospital had four different administrators. Through all these difficulties God has still worked wonders. I have learned one very important lesson from this experience. God is no respecter of persons. He will bless us when we put Him first in our lives.

During 1988, 12 souls were baptized through the efforts of our chaplain department and through the witnessing of our staff members. God's work is progressing in this Buddhist land.

We still have our problems like physician coverage, but I am confident that God will not fail us now. This hospital is too good to lose. We solicit your prayers for the success of this hospital both financially and in soul winning during 1989.

— Ronald Koh, President, Phuket Adventist Hospital

Church Dedication Service

Sabbath morning, December 17, 1988, church members and friends gathered in front of the new Ekamai Adventist Church for its grand opening and dedication service. After the welcome given by Pastor Rangsit Itsaringkarn, Chairman of the church building committee, Brother Chalee Chuenchob, former principal of the Thai Ekamai School, offered the opening prayer. Pastor Sunti Sorajjakool, chairman of the fund raising committee, and Brother Komol Santimalapongse, supervisor of the church construction, cut the ribbon, and the 450 attendees entered the church to the beautiful singing of the Thai church choir.



Elder G. C. Johnson speaking for the dedication of the new Ekamai Adventist Church on December 17, 1988.

After Brother Komol Santimalapongse read the church history, Elder G. C. Johnson, SAUM president, preached the dedicatory sermon. Pastors Wendell Wilcox and Surachet Insom led out in the act of dedication, which was closed by the dedicatory prayer, offered by Pastor Sunti Sorajjakool. Special music was provided by both the Thai and the English church choirs.

During the service of appreciation, a thank offering was collected, after which Pastor Sunti Sorajjakool expressed appreciation to all who had participated in providing funds for the church building and furnishings. Elder W. L. Wilcox then offered a special prayer of thanks to God. Following this, two special numbers were sung by the Thai and the English church choirs.

At the close of this special service, a baptism of seven persons was held in the new baptistry of the church, officiated by Pastors Sunti and Surachet.

This new church has a beautiful half circular auditorium with balcony that seats about 450 people. A baptistry underneath the rear of the platform is visible from every seat in the church because of the inclined floor of the auditorium. When not in use, the baptistry is covered by



Exterior view of the new Ekamai Adventist Church.

the choir benches. There are five large Sabbath School rooms for the different children's departments on the second floor, plus a multipurpose hall that seats about 100 on the ground floor. Two apartments plus a guestroom are located on the third floor.

We are thankful to the Adventist Ekamai School for making it possible for us to dedicate this church debt free on December 17, 1988. We praise the Lord for this new facility in the great city of Bangkok from which the message of the love of God can be proclaimed to the millions of souls that live in this metropolis.

— Wendall L. Wilcox, President, Thailand Mission.

Refugee Evangelism — from page 4

Belief books and other religious materials. Bringing supplies to the camps is a big problem for me because Bibles and religious materials are prohibited, but God opens the way each time. We would be very glad if our members in Singapore would supply our refugee churches with felt sets and Bible games.

We have urgent needs in the camps and hope we can find some donations to help them. We need to build two more churches in Site 2, because the sections where our churches were located were moved to another area of the camp. Our members moved to the new sections in February, thus furthering the need for the new churches. Donrek Church members moved to one new section and Khao-I-Dang Church members moved to Ban Thad camp. Each church will cost about 25,000 Bahts.

— R. E. Bartolome, Director, Refugee Evangelism, Thailand

Magazine Power

The *Thai Health and Home* magazine is an entering wedge to Christianity, especially for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This magazine is a reality today due to the efforts of Pastor Randy C. Horning, when he saw the need for our Thai church organizations to have spirit-filled health literature as an entering wedge for witnessing.

Thai Health and Home has come a long way. It is now four years old with a circulation figure of 12,000 copies per quarter at a price of Baht. 5.50 per copy since its inception. It is recognised as one of the best health and religious magazines in Thailand.

Many favourable comments about the magazine have been expressed verbally as well as in written form. Brother Boonrat Moolkeo, Thailand Publishing House associate editor, has received the following letters from various individuals.

From a priest at Wat Mongkolvararam, Lampun

We need your *Health and Home* magazine in our library. It is a very good health and religious magazine.

From the librarian of Thammasat University, Bangkok

Your magazine is good for students and very interesting. It is a good source of reference.

From the director of the Full Gospel Bible Training Centre, Bangkok

Your magazine, *Home and Health*, is very informative both in health and religion, and is appropriate for students.

From the principal of a secondary school in Singburi

Your magazine is good and useful. Fitted for students and the general public.

From a student in Haadyai, Songkla

I became interested in Christianity through the *Health and Home* magazine.

From the Ministry of Public Health in Mukdahan Province

The content of the magazine is excellent. It has up-to-date medical information.

Many other people are also interested in the magazine. Up to now there are 39 institutional libraries that receive the magazine regularly every quarter. There are also 23 individuals currently subscribing to the magazine on a yearly basis.

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Bangkok Adventist Hospital News

A new Concurrent Computer 3312 using the popular Hospital Information System worth about 10 Million Baht was purchased recently by BAH. This ability to computerize all patient services has become necessary due to the high number of out patients each month. About 10,000 individuals are seen and cared for regularly.

Penang Adventist Hospital purchased the same system last year. Mr. Trichakr Tansuphasiri, the computer company's Vice President, plans to adapt the system to all 22 Adventist Hospital in Asia.



A new four storey School of Nursing building is near completion at BAH. The official opening ceremony takes place in May of this year. This 2500 square meter building will serve the expanding needs of the nursing school.

Formerly only a three-year nursing program was available; but in 1986, the curriculum expanded to the four-year degree. Suddenly the 1958 nursing school building seemed too small. Faculty and students were cramped for space, and a new building seemed the only solution. The building is paid for now, but an additional Baht 1,000,000 or more are needed to furnish chairs, desks, curtains, chalk boards, sound system, and other items.

— Loralyn Horning, Managing Editor, Messenger

A Letter from Thailand

One of the joys of working in the Southeast Asia Union office is receiving letters from the fields, giving us encouraging reports as to the progress of the work in that particular mission. The following is an example of a letter received from Wendall Wilcox, the president of Thailand Mission:

Dear Steve:

Just want to keep you informed as to what is happening in the work up here in Thailand and some of the actions of our recent committee meetings.

Betty Chin, the daughter of Pastor Chin Kong Loi, was here today for the first time to attend our committee as the new treasurer of the Thailand Mission. She is looking forward to coming here permanently the middle of April when she is released from her duties at Phuket Adventist Hospital. I talked to Pastor Johnson about this and he feels that it definitely can be worked out that way, so I think that's about what will happen. I am very happy that she will be coming in just a few short weeks to take up her permanent responsibilities as our treasurer.

Dr. Osterwal wrote the other day saying that he will be able to visit Thailand in 1990 to conduct an evangelism program in Bangkok. As you know, he is an expert in Buddhism. Our mission committee took an action today to officially request SAUM to pass on this call for service and to assist us in putting together a budget for the evangelistic outreach.

We are moving Pastor Sae Saeyang from Ban Vinai (the refugee camp) to the Chiengrai area. He will pastor the Chiengrai Church and the Mae Saruay Lahu group. His wife is a Lahu and he also speaks some Lahu.

Speaking of the Lahu tribe, perhaps you have heard of the outpouring of God's spirit in Mae Talob village following the conducting of a Revelation Seminar. (see "The whole Church Became SDA") This group of former Sunday Christians already have a church which they have asked to become an SDA church. In other words, they want to deed the property and building, etc. over to the SDA church as part of our sisterhood of churches. We only have one little problem. They do own a little debt on it and they are wondering

if we can somehow help them to pay off the debt so that they will not be obligated to their former Sunday organization. We are not sure yet just what all this involves, but we are working on this particular situation.

The Lord has brought a number of pastors from other denominations into our church during the last few years. Our challenge is to find financial provisions for using these good and dedicated pastors, who have often brought the majority of their congregation with them when they accepted the remnant message and were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

I am sure you will be thrilled to know that we have some interested people over in Laos, who have asked us to visit them. We have taken an action to ask Pastor Veerachi to go over there and visit them and give some encouragement. We are going to try to send some Lao Bibles and some song books and a few other things over to help people that have burned their spirit objects and want to become Seventh-day Adventist Christians. We will have to check our resources and see if we can find a budget for purchasing more Lao Bibles and song books.

One more item in closing, that is our baptism report for the first quarter of this year. We feel the Lord has really blessed and already I think we have some 120 baptisms reported for the first quarter, which is double what we had in the first quarter a year ago. We hope that we can keep this pace up and that there will be a good harvest of souls this year here in Thailand.

Please do continue to pray for us and for the work in this country.

*Sincerely yours,
W.L. Wilcox, President
Thailand Mission*

With encouraging letters like these, we have much to be thankful for. We continue to solicit the prayers of our church members for the outpouring of God's Spirit on the work in our missions and districts so that we may rejoice in the Harvest 90.

*— Dr. W. Steve Bassham,
Ministerial Association Secretary, SAUM*

■ SINGAPORE ■

Sabbath School Workshops in Thailand



Church members working on visual aids. Mrs. Penafiorida and two of her three sons are on the left.

"We need a Junior Sabbath School in Phuket, and I am willing to be the leader," stated Mrs. Ray Penafiorida at the time of a recent Sabbath School workshop. The workshop emphasized the need for junior Sabbath School divisions, and gave pointers on how to establish the department. Church members, including men, women and children, worked together making visual aid materials for all levels of children's Sabbath School division. Similar workshops were held both in Phuket and Haadyai. Plans were discussed for the forth-coming Sabbath School Congress to be held in Bangkok in October.

— Evelyn Griffin, Associate Church Ministries Director, SAUM

Magazine Power — from page 7

Many individuals have enrolled in the following Voice of Prophecy courses:

- Pathway to Health* lessons
- Way of Life* lessons
- Light of the World* lessons

From this report you can see that the power of the printed page is the church's most powerful means of witnessing outside of personal evangelism.

We solicit your prayer and support for the progress of this magazine.

— Johnny Rueh, Thailand Publishing House Manager

San Yu Week of Prayer



Pastor John Lee during a class visit.

Two different Week of Prayer sessions were held at San Yu High School during the week of April 4—7. One was conducted in Mandarin for the secondary students, the other in English for the pre-university students. Pastor John Lee Kam Hong from Penang and Pastor Ng Kah Seng of SAUC were the speakers.

Teachers took turns praying in two's before each meeting. Following each session students stayed back to pray with the teachers and speakers. The Spirit of God was poured out abundantly and about 90 students accepted Jesus as their personal Saviour.



Pastor Ng Kah Seng talking to the Pre-U students.

— Toh See Wei, Chaplain, San Yu High School

Effective Communication Workshops

Youngberg Adventist Hospital's administration kicked off the new year with a two day workshop on effective communication as the first in a series of in-service education for nurses and hospital staff. A total of 70 staff participated in the workshop held at the hospital conference room from January 18 & 19, 1989.



Workshop participants doing an exercise on communication.

Mrs. Ruth Simons, a Certified Social Worker and Psychotherapist from Queensland, Australia was invited as guest speaker during the workshop. According to Mrs. Simons, who has worked with nurses in various hospitals in Australia for over 15 years, enhancing one's skill in communication will certainly help to provide a better working environment in the hospital.

During her trip, she was invited by Penang Adventist Hospital to help conduct a public seminar on personal effectiveness and cultivating a pleasant personality. About 100 people attended, along with 50 nurses and staff in an in-house workshop. While in Penang, she teamed up with YAH Public Relations Director Jonathan Ng in presenting the following seminars for factory workers: Stress Management for 120 workers at Intel and Positive Parenting for 80 staff at Hewlett Packard. While in Singapore, a seminar on effective communication was presented at Southeast Asia Union college for the benefit of faculty members and the student body.

The hospital administration is very thankful for the services of Mrs. Ruth Simons who volunteered her expertise for the betterment of the hospital.

— Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director, YAH

Intensive Respiratory Care Training for Nurses

Another milestone in the development of human resources at Youngberg Adventist Hospital is the Intensive Respiratory Care Training for Nurses held at the hospital conference room from March 16 to April 27, 1989.

Under the able leadership of YAH Director of Nursing Services Ampai Aimsiri, arrangements were made for the coming of a Registered Respiratory Therapist Sylvia Barbosa, a staff of the respiratory therapy department, School of Allied Health, Loma Linda University, to serve as the instructor of the program. Sylvia graduated from Kettering Medical Center with an Associate Degree in Science and later completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Respiratory Therapy from Loma Linda University. She has served as a volunteer with Adventist Development and Relief Agency in the Philippines.



Participants of Intensive Respiratory Care Training.

A total of 40 participants enrolled for this program. Besides nurses from Youngberg Adventist Hospital, others come from the Gleneagles Hospital, The American Hospital, Mt. Alvernia Hospital, the Ministry of Health and from Adventist Hospitals in Hong Kong, Bangkok and Penang. Company representatives for various respiratory equipment were also in attendance.

The hospital administration is appreciative of the services rendered by volunteers like Sylvia Barbosa. We trust that 1989 will truly be a special year in the hospital's redevelopment program both in its physical plant and in human resources.

— Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director, YAH

First Marriage Re-Commitment Service

Fifty-four married couples attended the first Marriage Re-commitment Service held at Balestier Road SDA Church on February 25, 1989 at 4:30 p.m.

This meaningful and inspiring service was organized and directed by the Church Ministries Department of SAM. The objective of the service was to give an opportunity for married couples to renew their marital commitment to each other in the presence of God.

The theme "The Greatest Is Love" (1 Cor. 13:13) was beautifully designed and displayed in front of the wedding altar by Mrs. Goh Tong Seng (church member of Dunman Road Church) while Mr. and Mrs. V. F. Bocala of FED presented the Re-commitment service message.



Pastor and Mrs. V. F. Bocala, speakers of the service.

In the message, the speakers offered ten tips for a happy marriage. They are summarized as: 1) preserve your unity, 2) keep confidence, 3) uphold the self-worth of your spouse, 4) express your love and appreciation, 5) have an open communication, 6) give allowance for mistakes, 7) to every wife—keep yourself attractive, loving and lovely, 8) don't be over jealous, 9) take time for family togetherness, and 10) let God direct your life.

Receiving the message with renewed understanding of their marital relationships, all the 54 couples, whose years of marriage ranged from one year to 52 years, were invited to stand up to hold their spouses' hands and face each other while Pastor Bocala, Ministerial Secretary of the FED, presented the wedding vows. Each couple repeated "I do," thus indicating their reserved determination of commitment to each other.

Following the prayer of dedication, the husbands were supplied roses and certificates from the SAM officers. They gave these roses to their wives as token of their love for each other. Loving embraces together with the

signing of certificates sealed each couple's re-commitment to each other.

The couples then adjourned to Hotel Equatorial at 7.30 p.m. to have a candle-light buffet dinner. During the dinner, those united were invited to share their romantic courtship experiences. We enjoyed stories such as "The Faded Jean Romance" by Elder George Johnson and "The First Year of Adjustment" by Ong Kim Sina. Marriage counsel was given by Elder Gordon Balharrie from his 52 years of marriage experience. There was so much happiness evident during the meal. Climaxing the event, each couple held hands of his or her spouse as they sang together the beautiful song, "There's a world somewhere," led by Pastor Alfred Low. The occasion ended with a benediction of peace and blessing pronounced by Mr. William Chng, elder of Dunman Road SDA Church.

We pray that such a service as this one will strengthen the family life of our married believers so as to enable them to bear the testimony of the powerful transforming gospel of Jesus Christ to the church and community.



Mrs. Goh Tong Seng shared with the participants her 1st year of married life.

— Danson Ng, Church Ministries Director, SAM

Torch Presentaion Service

A light came to the Far East in 1888 in the form of Abram La Rue who sold Christian literature. Just 100 years later, in 1988, a centennial celebration was held in our Union to commemorate the blessings of God for the success in the Far East. A special brass torch was made specially for the commemoration service to rekindle the missionary spirit of Abram La Rue.

The Union Literature Ministries department has set aside a number of these commemoration torches for the literature evangelists who increased their sales in 1988 over that of 1987.



Recipients of the torch with Mr. Samuel Siew on the left and Pastor Geoffrey Pauner on the right.

Singapore Mission has four recipients who qualify for the torches. A simple, yet special presentation service was held on Monday, March 6th, 1989 in conjunction with the monthly literature evangelist meeting chaired by the mission's Associate Literature Ministries Director, Mr. Samuel Siew. Mission President, Pastor Geoffrey Pauner gave a short devotional challenging the literature evangelists to do more for God, after which he presented the awards to those who qualified.

It is the hope and prayer of the Literature Ministries Department that these centennial torches will continue to burn in the hearts of the literature evangelists that they may pattern their lives after the missionary and witnessing spirit of Abram La Rue.

— Samuel Siew, Associate Director, Literature Ministries, SAM



■ SABAH ■

Ordination in The Sabah Mission



Pastor George Lee Shung Chong and family.

On Sabbath morning, December 3, 1988, George Lee Shung Chong was ordained to the gospel ministry in the Kudat Church of Sabah which he has been pastoring.

Pastor Lee and his wife are originally from Sarawak. He completed his high school education at Ayer Manis School and joined the SDA work in January, 1981. Pastor Lee began his work pastoring the Marudi Church. He was married to Miss Choo Sui Tee on December 23, 1984. They have one son named Philip Lee.

Pastor Lee and his wife were called to pastor the Kudat Church in April, 1985. The church has been blessed richly during his ministry. In 1985, after an active evangelism program, there were 28 baptisms in Kudat. In 1986, ten were added to the church. In 1987 and 1988 to date, 10 souls and then 23 more souls were baptised into the Kudat Church. Every year, Pastor Lee led out in an aggressive evangelistic program.

Pastor George Johnson, president of the SAUM, preached the ordination sermon and offered the prayer of ordination at the Sabbath morning ceremony. Dr. Charles Gaban, president of the Sabah Mission, introduced Pastor and Mrs Lee and welcomed them to the gospel ministry. Dr. Edmund Siagian, the secretary-treasurer of the Sabah Mission gave the charge. Mrs. Connie Gaban, director of Shepherdess International for the Sabah Mission, welcomed Mrs. Lee to being a pastor's wife after the ordination charge.

Pastor Steven Gunggut, Pastor Mansor Ginggaing, CM director of the Sabah Mission, and Pastor Martin Ya'ang, publishing director of the Sabah Mission, also participated in the ordination service.

— George C. Johnson, President, SAUM

Dorothy Finds Jesus

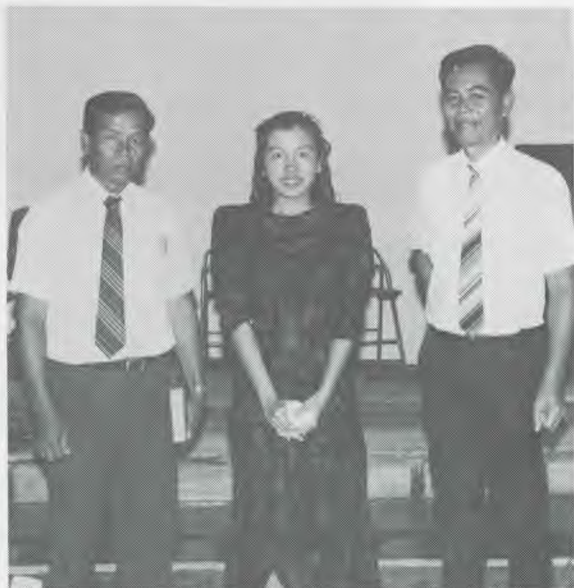
I thank the Lord for this opportunity to give a testimony on how I became a Seventh-day Adventist.

I come from an active Roman Catholic family. In fact, I was a prospective sister for the church. I became a Roman Catholic when I was 15 years old. A month before my baptism into the RC Church, something very frightening happened to me of which at that time I could not understand. Several times I dreamed that I was reaching out to Jesus, but I could never reach up to Him because He was too big and too far for me to reach.

When I was baptized into the RC Church and became active in it, I never really understood my purpose of becoming a Catholic nor did I understand the way they prayed and studied the Bible.

In 1986, a change started in my life. That year I entered nurses' training school. It was then and on through 1987 and 1988 that I began to question much with regards to the organization and leadership of the RC Church. Through these years I continued to dream many times that I saw Jesus weeping with teardrops of blood. His face appeared sad as He looked at me.

I became more and more confused. I prayed that the Lord would show me the way of truth. Then one day He led me to meet a young man, Mr. Augustine Johnny. Augustine faithfully held Bible studies with me and taught me how to be a real Christian. At first I was much opposed to what he taught me.



Dorothy (center) is glad to be a Seventh-day Adventist Christian.

One day, I was attacked by hysteria. This started when I challenged the teaching of the Bible and prayed the RC and charismatic way. From then on, every time I challenged the teaching of the Bible or prayed the charismatic way, the attack came upon me. This continued for several months, until I accepted the reality of it. I decided to study the Bible with my whole heart and become a Seventh-day Adventist Christian.

On February 4, 1989, three days before my birthday, I was baptised into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, inspite of much opposition from my family. I thank the Lord for leading me to the Kitabu Seventh-day Adventist Church elder, Mr. Herman Salim, and also for Pastor Martin Ya'ang and Mr. Augustine Johnny, and all the Kitabu SDA Church members. All of them have contributed much in making my baptism a success.

— Miss Dorothy Mary Duncan, Kitabu SDA Church, Sabah



Japanese in Sabah

Two Japanese groups came to our Sabah Mission during March to help with different projects. One group associated with the ADRA organisation worked with Mr. James Lai on a well-drilling project. The other group from Japan Union College went to Damai. They helped construct a school building while at the same time conduct an evangelistic effort. Three Japanese pastors came with them—Pastors Kinju and Higashide, the Church Ministries director and associate director, respectively, and Pastor Kawagoe, a pastor of one of Japan's large SDA churches. The crusade concluded on March 21 with 34 people baptized. The group contributed close to US\$10,000 for the Damai crusade and building project.

We appreciate the services of these two groups from Japan very much. And pray that God will bless them in further service for Him.

— Charles S. Gaban, President, Sabah

First Junior Pathfinder Camporee



The Junior Youth Instructors and Directors.

The first Junior Pathfinder Camporee held February 3—7, 1989 at Pantai Permai Digot, Kelawat, Kota Belud was an immediate success judging from the response given by the junior campers and their directors alike. While their friends celebrated Chinese New Year at home, 230 junior pathfinders from all over the state spent four days getting to know God through various activities.

The junior camporee idea arose out of necessity. Due to such a large number of pathfinders, no one place could accommodate all the young people at one time. Thus, the idea of having two camporees, one junior and one senior, developed.

The program for the camporee was centered on the theme: "Let It Shine!" It was encouraging to see the counselor shepherding their juniors each morning and evening in their devotional period and spending time with them during relaxing hours, talking with them. Honors such as: canoeing, swimming, skin diving, marine invertebrates, and mammals were taught. There was campfire every night, and excellent fellowship.

Vespers on Friday evening was extra special with Dr. Edmund Siagian, the mission's secretary-treasurer, as the guest speaker. Dr. Charles Gaban, the mission's president gave an appropriate challenge during the Sabbath worship. On Sunday morning an Adventist member of Parliament (Malaysia), the Honourable Mr. Maidom

Pansai, challenged the youth before declaring the opening of the camporee. When the final gathering was called on Tuesday morning, February 7, the juniors were reluctant to leave.

It was an experience worth remembering. Great blessings from the Lord were experienced by the juniors as they were challenged to move forward to shine for Him in their villages that many may learn and accept Christ before He comes.



Dr. Charles Gaban preaching to the Junior Youth during the Junior Youth Camporee.

— Daniel Bagah, Church Ministries Associate Director, Sabah

■ AWR-Asia ■

AWR Grows Churches in Asia

A thrilling report of how God is building churches through AWR-Asia was printed in the February issue of AWR-Asia News. A portion of this report is reprinted here that you might like-wise share in this good news ...

Most letters to AWR Asia come from individuals, and often families. Recently, however, an increasing number of groups of people have written to tell of their joy in joining other believers in worshipping together, sometimes around a radio set, listening to AWR.

Three home churches have been reported in China. One man invited friends to church in his front yard. The group of about 30 people listens to the AWR-Asia broadcast in Mandarin, which includes song service, Sabbath School and church. Some people walk for 4½ hours to attend this service.

Near one of China's large cities, a young man, not an Adventist, heard the Sabbath morning services, became very excited, and invited friends to listen. Now a sizeable group meets in his home each week.

In another big city suburb, a businessman, also not an Adventist, heard the Sabbath services, and began inviting friends to listen with him. A group now meets in his home every Sabbath to hear the Word of God.

From North Sumatra in Indonesia, a listener writes, "There are four families of us that always listen to your station, and we hope to promote and invite our friends to listen. We would like a program schedule." It was in this area of the country where baptisms were first reported as a result of the AWR broadcasts. The group organized at that time now has plans to build their own church, the first Adventist church in their village.

An Adventist physician making visits to remote villages in the Philippines reported that in several places groups of people gathered to listen to AWR-Asia on what sometimes was the only radio in the village. In one village a man hooked up an amplifier to his radio so the rest of the village could hear better!

"There must be other groups that we haven't heard from yet," says AWR-Asia Manager Allen Steele. "We must depend on the Holy Spirit to direct people to our radio frequency, and He obviously is doing that. We ask AWR supporters to pray that many people in Asia will respond to the Holy Spirit's call." — AWR-Asia News (February 1989)

My Best Run

As I enjoyed my first few days in Guam back in June of 1988, I couldn't help thinking, "It doesn't get any better than here in Paradise." And now, as days have rolled into weeks and months, my opinion really hasn't changed. I love the people and work at AWR-Asia.

My dream of becoming a student missionary to Adventist World Radio-Asia actually started the end of my senior year at Far Eastern Academy in Singapore. I hadn't chosen a career goal, but my interest in radio, writing and speaking helped me decide to study communication.

Then, after two years at Andrews University, my prayers were answered: an SM call was open to AWR-Asia, and I was accepted. Thanks to the support of friends and relatives, I got the ticket to Guam to work as production coordinator.

What does that job title mean? I start out each weekday reading the paper. Finding news about Asia is important because it's the heart of "AWR Magazine," a half-hour English news program that I write and produce each week. "Listener Mailbox" is another exciting program which I am responsible for. Not only do I select letters for it, but read them over the air. Besides this, I make sure all English programs are good quality, and have the proper addresses before they air. One day each week, operations is my responsibility. This means keeping the station on the air, cueing tapes, checking broadcast quality, and monitoring computers and transmitters. Whatever the responsibility, it's satisfying—and sometimes sobering—to think I have a part in preparing programs for an audience of millions of listeners.



Student missionaries serving at AWR-Asia on Guam. Darcy Smith is on the left of picture.

Darcy Smith, a junior communication major at Andrews University and son of Pastor and Mrs. Calvin Smith, former staff of Southeast Asia Union Mission and Southeast Asia Union College, respectively, is working for a year in the program of Adventist World Radio-Asia on Guam.

Adventist World Radio Asia

Comments from Listeners' Letters
Compiled March 1, 1989

"I am one of your faithful listeners. Though I live so far away in the north of Manchuria, I still tune in to your program from 7 to 10 p.m. every day. I learned a lot of truth from your broadcast. I am anxious to be a good Christian. Please send me a Bible and study guide. I want to use the Bible to wake up the people here who have been sleeping in ignorance for the past 40 years. We all know there is only one God and HE can bring us peace and happiness." — **China**

"Almost every day I tune in to your service. I like to hear your broadcasts because KSDA serves me the good news of Christ Jesus. Every time I hear your broadcast, I feel something excellent in my heart." — **Indonesia**

"I am a Muslim and I believe in Christ and Christianity, and I want to get information on Christianity. Please send your program schedule." — **Pakistan**

"I was impressed, and highly appreciated the program you had about Jesus second coming. I would not like to be caught unaware when the Saviour comes for the second time, therefore I request that you send me books, magazines and pamphlets on prophecy." — **Kenya**

"I am very interested in your broadcast the Voice of Prophecy, and would like to get more details regarding this. Please send me some scriptures as early as possible." — **Sri Lanka**

"Please help me in my Christian life: how to study the Bible, how to pray, to be victorious over temptation. I can share the Word of God with my friends, neighbors and people in the hospital because I would like to work for Jesus now." — **Mauritius**

"I am so glad to know that our mission has its own radio station on Guam. Praise the Lord for fulfilling this great plan. I am a faithful listener, please send your program schedule." — **Sabah, Malaysia**

"Today I heard for the first time your station. It's sensational how strongly such a far away station can be received here in Europe!" — **East Germany**

"I am thankful for your radio programs and messages. I listen to your programs in all the Indian languages. I am thankful for your care and love to me. I am an insignificant beggar Christian, 56 years old, and I get consolation and fellowship from your programs." — **India**

"I heard you today, and will certainly be listening in again. As a Lutheran, I of course enjoyed hearing the hymns. The Adventists have a local FM radio program in Oslo, and my family listens to it quite often." — **Norway**

"I traveled to the Eastern USSR recently and heard AWR-Asia at 2100 UTC. It was early morning here, but I still remember my excitement after hearing the ID, and it is similar to what I regularly tune in to at home. And that is why I would like to thank you for bringing us the voice of hope and good will wherever we may be in this crazy world." — **USSR**

"I enjoy listening to your lesson discussion every night. I am a new Adventist, just baptized in November 1988. I believe that by sharing your Bible course, it will strengthen my faith in the Lord Jesus." — **Papua New Guinea**

"I was tuning my radio and heard a voice talking of Christ and the story of His betrayal. I decided to write to you to know more about your religion, worship and prayer, because the talk made me believe that Jesus is in your ministry." — **Nigeria**

"I am one of your regular listeners, and admire your faithful spirit. It is hard to get a Bible here; I would like one." — **Chinese student in North Korea**

"I am a non-Christian boy. Please send me a Bible so that I can learn about Jesus." — **Papua New Guinea**

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Romans 10:17

Note: From March 6, 1987 to February 10, 1989, 14,060 letters were received from 93 countries.

*An evening of celebration in
praise of God with the
inter-denominational family
of God.*

FEATURING

USA Guest Conductor/Tenor Soloist—Dr. E. Harold Lickey

■ Local Church Choirs in Mass ■ Mass Children's Choir ■

High School Symphonic Bands from Penang and Singapore

■ Handbells ■ Local Soloists and Small Groups

Festival of Praise

April 29, 1989 ■ Kallang Theatre ■ 8.00 p.m.

Organised by **Paya Lebar Methodist Church** and the **Seventh-day Adventist Church of Singapore**.

*Hymn '89
Festival*

Adventist International Institute of Advance Studies (AIAS)

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES — 1989

Extension Courses

MOUNTAIN VIEW COLLEGE — (May 3—June 14)

MA — EDUCATION

- Administrative Accounting — H. Foster (May 18—30)
- Organizational Theory and Behavior — G. Babcock (June 1—13)

MA — NURSING

- Nursing Theory and Concepts — I. Longway (May 18—30)
- Organizational Theory and Behavior — G. Babcock (June 1—3)

MCLA

- Old Testament Prophets (Daniel) — Z. Stefanovic (May 4—16)
- Administrative Accounting — H. Foster (May 18—30)
- Organizational Theory and Behaviour — G. Babcock (June 1—13)

MPH

- Theology of Health — R. Rafanan (May 18—30)
- Environmental Health — A. Haynal (June 1—13)

UNIVERSITAS ADVENT INDONESIA

— (May 31—July 12)

MA — EDUCATION

- Administrative Accounting — H. Foster (June 1—13)
- Organizational Theory and Behavior — G. Babcock (June 15—27)

MA — NURSING

- Nursing Theory and Concepts — I. Longway (June 1—13)
- Organizational Theory and Behavior — G. Babcock (June 15—27)

MCLA

- Administrative Accounting — H. Foster (June 1—3)
- Organizational Theory and Behavior — G. Babcock (June 15—27)
- History of Mission — W. Vyhmeister (June 29—July 11)

MPH

- Theology of Health — R. Tauran (June 1—3)
- Environmental Health — A. Haynal (June 15—27)

MBA

- Health Care Finance — D. Johnson (June 1—13)
- Denominational Accounting — (June 15—27)

KOREAN SAHMYOOK UNIVERSITY

— (June 28—August 9)

MCLA

- Organizational Theory and Behavior — G. Babcock (June 29—July 11)
- Administrative Accounting — H. Foster (July 13—25)
- Archaeology and the Old Testament — Y. Kobayashi (July 27—August 8)

THEOLOGICAL STUDIES — 1989

Extension Courses

TAIWAN ADVENTIST COLLEGE — (March 8—May 3)

MPS

- MSSN 600 Church Growth — E. Beck (March 9—21)
- CHMN 508 Worship and Church Music — R. Roth (March 23—April 4)
- CHMN 527 Church Leadership and Administration — V. Brown (April 6—18)
- CHMN 606 Dynamic Sermon Design and Delivery — S. Chiu (April 20—May 2)

SILANG CAMPUS (PHILIPPINES) — (April 5—May 18)

MPS

- CHMN 508 Worship and Church Music — R. Roth (April 6—18)
- THST/CHIS 600 History and Theology of the Sabbath — G. Fernandez, J. Lee (April 20—May 2)
- OTST 630 OT Prophets: Isaiah — Y. Kobayashi (May 4—16)
- NTST 564 Pauline Writings: Hebrews — H. Treiyer (May 18—30)

BANGLADESH ADVENTIST SEMINARY

AND COLLEGE — (May 3—May 31)

MPS

- CHIS/THST 600 History and Theology of the Sabbath — G. Fernandez (May 4—16)
- CHIST 574 Development of SDA Theology — G. Fernandez (May 18—30)

UNIVERSITAS ADVENT INDONESIA

— (May 31—July 26)

- MPS
HLMN 504 SDA Theology of Health — R. Tauran
(June 1—13)
NTST 560 The Parables of Jesus — Z. Stefanovic
(June 15—27)
MSSN 540 History of Mission — W. Vyhmeister
(June 29—July 11)
CHMN 564 Public (Field) Evangelism — B. Soemarna
(July 13—25)

UNIVERSITAS KLABAT — (May 31—July 26)

- MPS
NTST 560 The Parables of Jesus — Z. Stefanovic
(June 1—13)
HLMN 504 SDA Theology of Health — R. Tauran
(June 15—27)
CHMN 464 Public (Field) Evangelism — B. Soemarna
(June 29—July 11)
MSSN 540 History of Mission — W. Vyhmeister
(July 13—25)

KOREAN SAHMYOOK UNIVERSITY

— (June 28—August 9)

- MPS
CHMN 564 Public (Field) Evangelism — B. Johnson
(June 29—July 11)
NTST 564 Pauline Epistles: Romans — H. Treiyer
(July 13—25)
OTST 610 Archaeology and the OT — Y. Kobayashi
(July 27—August 8)
THST 630 Contemporary Theology — R. Karlman
(July 27—August 8)

SANIKU GAKUIN COLLEGE — (June 28—August 18)

- MPS
NTST 564 Pauline Epistles: Romans — H. Treiyer
(June 29—July 11)
CHMN 564 Public (Field) Evangelism — B. Johnston
(July 12—20)
CHMN 527 Church Leadership and Administration
— V. Brown (July 21—August 2)
CHMN 555 Pastoral Care and Counseling
— S. Tabuchi (August 4—17)

LAKPAHANA ADVENTIST SEMINARY & COLLEGE

— (August 23—September 20)

- MPS
THST 507 Revelation-Inspiration & E G White
Writings — J. Lee (August 24
—September 5)
THST 614 Doctrine of Man — J. Lee
(September 7—19)



Good Bye

The time has come for me to say "Good bye" to each subscriber of the SAUM *Messenger*. This is the last issue in which I have the opportunity to serve you. It has been most rewarding sharing with you as Managing Editor of this paper for the past five years. I will miss the thrill I have always felt as I have typed reports of God's providence and leadership from each of the missions. Our family returns to the United States this May for my husband to complete his studies at Andrews University. May God bless us each while we are apart, and may He keep our commitment to Him and each other strong towards the finishing of the great work still to be done in Southeast Asia. Our prayers are with you.

Sincerely yours for a finished work.

*Loralyn Horning,
Managing Editor,
Messenger*

OBITUARY

Wilton Henry Wood
1906 — 1989

Wilton Henry Wood, born 25th, July 1906 in Takoma Park, Maryland, died on the 9th of March, 1989 at Loma Linda, California.

Wilton served first with his parents and later with his wife, Minnie Iverson, in the Far East for over 40 years. As a child, he lived with his parents first in Jamaica and later in Shanghai, China. After graduation from college in 1932, he and his wife taught at Far Eastern Academy in Shanghai until the war forced them home. Later they returned to the Orient in 1946, and taught in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Philippine Union College, Southeast Asia Union College, and San Yu High School. In 1952, they returned to the States to teach at Columbia Union College and Andrews University, where he served as head of the Education Department until his retirement in 1972. He and wife retired at Redlands, California. During these last years, Dr. Wood remained very active serving in the Adventist Amateur Radio Network until the time of his death.

The Woods never had any children of their own. Instead, they became foster parents to many struggling students during their many years of educational work. We in the Far East are saddened to learn of Dr. Wood's passing. The dedicated service of Dr. and Mrs. Wood is still well remembered and appreciated. We offer our sympathy to Mrs. Wood and look forward to the glad day when Jesus will come to restore our love and friendship.

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