



Tidings From Indo-China

V. T. ARMSTRONG

President of the Far Eastern Division

The Indo-China Mission with its millions of Cambodians, Anamese, Tonkinese, besides the Moi and Lao peoples, making a total population of over twenty-five million, is one of the most promising fields of the Far Eastern Division.

Our work among these people has met many obstacles. Full liberty to work in some sections has not been granted in the past. Political unrest at the present time makes it impossible to travel through most of the territory. Because of these conditions some of our churches cannot be contacted and have not been visited since before the war. Through the years two of our missionaries laid down their lives in this mission land. Others who labored in the field were loved by the people and had done much in mastering the languages. These were forced from their posts by war and prevented from returning because of health reasons.

Robert Bentz and family have served nearly ten years in the field and were the only Seventh-day Adventist missionaries permitted to remain in the field during the war. Their labors during these years have been appreciated. God's hand of protection has been over them during all their hard and dangerous experiences. Much literature has been published during the war years by the small publishing house started previous to the war. Sister Bentz labored successfully to get the maternity home in Cholon under way. This institution has carried on in rented quarters. With the cooperation and help of the church in Cholon the maternity home has been successful in winning many friends for the work besides giving financial support to our work during the years when funds could not be supplied for mission budgets from the General Conference. Brother Bentz and family plan to leave for France on their much needed furlough as soon as transportation can be secured.

L. G. Storz and wife arrived in Saigon in February from Manila where they served nearly a year in the Philippine Union College until additional help came and permits were secured to enter Indo-China.

E. H. Wallace arrived in March and spent some weeks in the field while his family remained in Singapore until it seemed opportune to proceed to Saigon. We are glad these two families are now in the field. Brother Wallace has been appointed mission director and Brother Storz, secretary-treasurer. R. A. Figuhr and family are now on their way to the field and should arrive soon. These families spent a year at

the Seminary in Washington studying the French language before coming on to the field.

For several weeks the workers and members had waited for the mission session when the work could be organized and plans laid for the future. The business session of the mission was held in the rented quarters at Gia-Dinh, May 25-26. P. L. Williams, J. M. Nerness and V. T. Armstrong were present at the meeting and spent several days before and after the meeting with the workers and committee in studying the problems and making plans for the growing work.

Most of the former national workers have been contacted since the war and as far as is known have survived the war. Two of the colporteurs are missing and although nothing is known of them we hope they are well and faithful.

The needs of this field are great. We need a well-equipped publishing plant to supply the literature for the field. A good start has been made but this branch must be strengthened.

A training school is also a very urgent need. Until a force of well-trained workers can be placed in the field many wonderful openings for the preaching of the message must go unanswered.

If permission could be secured for our doctors and nurses to enter this field our medical work would meet a very hearty welcome and could be a great blessing to the people.

There are great stretches of unentered territory. Nothing has been done for the Moi people as yet and their needs must always weigh heavily upon the hearts of the church in Indo-China.

If we had the workers to launch a public evangelistic effort in Saigon and had a suitable place in which to hold the meetings large crowds could be assembled to hear the message.

Over the entire field political unrest and uncertainty are making it hard to work and business cannot be resumed. Notwithstanding these unfavourable conditions we were happy to have reports of baptisms in many places. Thirteen were baptized on May 24 in Saigon. The workers and members need our prayers. May God richly bless the church and may the day soon come when every part of the field can be entered and the work under the power of the Spirit be finished.

Philippine Union College

A. N. NELSON

President, Philippine Union College

In spite of the long delay in the arrival of the American teachers, Philippine Union College recently completed another successful school year. Twenty-five senior and junior college students and thirty-four academy students were graduated. The conferring of degrees and presentation of diplomas by President Andrew N. Nelson (interrupted by a sudden shower) Sunday evening, April 20, climaxed the week-end of commencement activities.

Thursday evening, April 17, the seniors presented their class night program and Friday evening Pastor A. A. Alcaraz, of the Central Luzon Mission, led in the consecration service. Pastor M. E. Loewen arrived from Singapore just in time to give the Baccalaureate sermon Sabbath, April 19, and Dr. Nelson was chosen by the class as Commencement speaker.

In an impressive ceremony Sabbath afternoon, golden cords were hung for nine of the graduating class who were already under appointment to their fields of service. A number of the others plan to continue in school for additional preparation. Saturday night all enjoyed a band concert held on the lawn.

In lieu of an annual, a thirty-four page issue of the "College Voice" commemorated the activities of the school year, especially of the senior and junior classes.

During the year the college staff experienced a marked increase. December 26, 1946, the first of the new American teachers arrived on the S. S. General Meigs. They were Pastor and Mrs. J. Wilson Rowland from Union College and Miss Irene Wakeham from Pacific Union College. Pastor Rowland is the head of the Bible department and Miss Wakeham heads the English department.

The S. S. Marine Lynx on January 7, 1947, brought the president and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. A. N. Nelson; business manager Robert Cone and family from Atlantic Union College; Professor Carl Jones and family from Washington Missionary College, he to head the science department; ex-internees Harlyn L. Dyer and family, Professor Dyer to head the commerce department and Mrs. Dyer to act as dining room matron; and Miss Nellie Ferree from Southern Missionary College to direct the elementary teacher training program. The arrival of this group brought relief to acting president Alva M. Ragsdale and permitted him to assume his duties as Union Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary. Likewise Pastor L. G. Storz, who had been pinch-hitting as Bible teacher, was permitted to proceed to his field of labor, Indo-China.

Delayed because of visa difficulties, Professor and Mrs. Earle Hilgert arrived on the S. S. General Meigs on February 15, he to head the history department and she to teach French. Still later Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Nieman came on the S. S. Marine Lynx. Mr. Nieman heads the department of vocational education and supervises the mechanical industries and Mrs. Nieman teaches the American children on the compound. By the middle of March the faculty was complete except for Miss Phyllis Naude, who will head the department of Nursing Education. She is expected to arrive before the end of July.

To further increase the efficiency of the college staff, four of the Filipino teachers completed the work for the Master of Arts degree at Far Eastern University and were graduated April 6. Mr. L. L. Quirante,

principal of the high school, Mr. R. C. Imperio, biological science teacher and Mr. Reuben Manalaysay, head of the education department, majored in education while Mr. B. O. Bautista, treasurer, majored in business administration. Pastor R. A. Pilar has just received his Master of Arts degree at the Theological Seminary in Washington, D. C. and is returning in July.

Near the close of the school year, Mr. A. A. Poblete, Bible and Tagalog teacher, was called to head the new Mindanao academy and he was replaced by Mr. P. Romulo from the Union Mission. Mrs. Romulo replaced Mrs. Poblete as dean of women.

Forty-six student were graduated from the sixth grade by the elementary department. Because of the large elementary enrolment, the first four grades have had to alternate in the use of two rooms, one grade using the room in the morning and the other in the afternoon. To improve this undesirable situation a new two-room unit is now being constructed so that each grade will soon have its own room. Not only the boys and girls will be benefited, but also the teacher-training students as well.

As a result of the baptismal class conducted during the year, twenty-nine students were baptized on Sabbath, April 12.

The first post-war catalog, now in the hands of the printers, announces a number of significant changes for the coming year. To reduce the previously unreasonable student load, the college is changing from the semester to the quarter system, expecting the normal student to attend all four quarters, with one full month of vacation. To utilize to the utmost both classroom and industrial facilities, academy classes will meet in the forenoon and college classes in the afternoon. Serious effort is being made to give each student a balanced work-study load, enabling him to carry his school work efficiently and at the same time gain industrial experience and financial support by physical work. Several of the courses are being lengthened and all are being strengthened in order to provide well-trained, capable workers to fill the many calls from the field.

At present an earnest group of 175 students including a large number of elementary teachers, are attending the seven and one-half weeks summer session. Prospects are good for an excellent enrolment when the new school year on the new program gets under way July 11.

General Meeting North Celebes Union

G. A. CAMPBELL

*Secretary, Publishing Department
Far Eastern Division*

The North Celebes Mission of the Netherlands East Indies is proving to be another bright spot of missionary endeavor in the Far Eastern Division. With a population of approximately five hundred thousand they report some five thousand Sabbath School members. The ratio of believers per population is much higher than anywhere else in the Far Eastern Division.

The first general meeting of the North Celebes Mission since the beginning of World War II was held at Tondano, Minahasa from June 13-17. The seating of delegates revealed that two hundred sixty delegates representing fifty-six churches were in attendance at the first business meeting of the session. Four workers, as

well as many delegates, from the various islands within the territory of the mission were unable to attend due to lack of transportation. Eighteen new churches were brought into the sisterhood of churches for that field. Several more churches have been raised up and will in due time be added to the growing list of churches in that interesting and fruitful field. At the close of 1946 there were three thousand and ten members in this mission. The message is going in a wonderful manner in the various sections of this field, even in the far flung corners of this scattered territory.

On the first Sabbath of this general meeting there were over fifteen hundred in attendance. How these dear believers can sing! Church choir after church choir rendered special music. Some songs written especially for the occasion were sung by various groups. When a call was made for those who had never been members of the church to take their stand for Christ and His truth, ninety-nine responded. These joined the baptismal classes and will become members of this rapidly growing mission family.

The war years did not stop the work of the Third Angel's Message for it was reported that about fifteen hundred were baptized during the intervening years between the general meeting in 1941 and this meeting now in session in 1947. At the 1941 session there were reported fifty-eight churches, while at this time we were told that there are now seventy-six. Surely this is a substantial growth in spite of the obstacles of war and the occupation of the land by an enemy opposed to the advancement of the Truth, and in many places even forbidding church gatherings of any kind. To the question, "How many have been punished by the Japanese army for refusing to work on the Sabbath?" hands were raised all over the congregation. This indicated the steadfastness of our believers to the Truth in the North Celebes Mission. Surely prospects for phenomenal growth in this field are very favorable.

One of the great needs is for a training school in which to educate the large number of earnest young people and to train them as workers for the last day harvest. Serious consideration is given to locating land and establishing such a school. It is hoped that in the near future a fullfledged training school will be in operation in this field.

Pastor C. P. Sorensen and the writer represented the Division at this meeting. The Netherlands East Union Mission was represented by Pastor D. S. Kime, Acting Superintendent of the Mission and M. G. Laloan, the Home Missionary, Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer Secretary for the Mission.

Malayan Seminary

J. H. LAWHEAD, *Principal*

The work of training our youth in this institution was quickly re-established after the liberation of the colony of Singapore following the capitulation of Japan. Some classes were held during the last months of 1945 and a faculty was brought together for the opening of the regular school year on the fourteenth of January, 1946. All classes from Primary I through Standard V were well filled and the total enrollment was two hundred and forty.

Brother Ngo Beng Lim and his faculty did excellent work during this first full year following the liberation. They were acutely conscious of the need to offer classes in the upper Standards and laid plans to that end. When the current school year began on the thirteenth

of January, three additional Standards were included and are well filled. The Senior Cambridge or School Certificate course, will be offered next school year which will open about the middle of January, 1948. The enrollment to date this year is three hundred and thirty with good prospects for a larger number next year.

The preceptress and matron, Sister C. H. Hwang, and the preceptor, Brother Leonard Lesiasel, are doing commendable work under difficult circumstances. The girls' dormitory has been fully repaired but the kitchen and dining room facilities are inadequate. At a recent Malayan Union Committee meeting it was voted to build a modern kitchen and dining room. This work is to take precedence over other school construction work.

For the first five months of this year a flat rate of thirty dollars a month was charged for board but on the first of June the cafeteria system was begun. The food is served at cost and it is still possible to have tasty and healthful meals for one dollar a day. Some of the students are spending more because a wider variety of food is offered including imported fruits and other scarce items. The cafeteria plan is so well liked that it has been decided to use it in the new dining room.

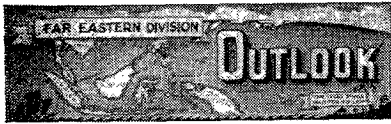
The preceptor is also the work superintendent for the fifty-two boys, each of whom devotes one hour's work daily to the school. Some students work in the carpenter shop making school desks and tables and do necessary minor repairs to the buildings while others give their time to beautifying the grounds. These were left in an unsightly condition when the military moved out.

All of the machinery used in the towel making and the metal working industries was carried away during the war and thus far it has not been possible to replace it. Woodworking machinery is now being secured in the United States by Brother Paul Coleman who is to join our staff late this year as a teacher and as director of industries.

Most of the books in the Seminary library were destroyed. However, there are now almost three thousand volumes on the shelves. Many of these were contributed by friends in Singapore and in the United States. Several boxes of books were shipped to our library from the Missionary Volunteer collection in Washington, D. C. All of these books are now being catalogued by the Dewey-Decimal system with a three-card index file to be installed next year.

While rapid progress has been made toward bringing the Malayan Seminary up to the high standard it held before the war, it is clear that much remains to be done. The Union Committee and the School Board are working to strengthen the faculty, to repair and refurnish the buildings and to erect the so-much-needed dining room and kitchen. The Malayan Union is united in the belief that there is an important work to be done by this school in preparing workers to answer the urgent calls for trained and consecrated youth to labor in the cause of God in this part of the Lord's vineyard. The entire faculty is fully dedicated to the accomplishment of this high purpose for our Seminary.

In the May issue of the OUTLOOK the names of Eric Ristau, V. L. Nieman and H. L. Dyer were omitted from the list of the workers now in the field. We appreciate having this called to our attention and sincerely regret the omission.—Editor.



VOL. 33 JULY, 1947 No. 3

Published monthly as the official organ of the FAR EASTERN DIVISION of The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 800 Thomson Road, Singapore, Asia.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 CENTS (US)

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The First Bulletin

We were happy to receive in a recent mail the *Philippine Union Colporteur Evangelist*, Volume I, Number 1. This is the very first Publishing Department bulletin that has come to this office since the beginning of the war. We welcome this news letter for it indicates the rebirth of the publishing work in the Philippine Islands. We are most happy to note the message of this first edition of the *Colporteur Evangelist*. We believe under the leadership of Eric Ristau and his loyal Field Missionary secretaries that we are going to see a great forward movement in literature distribution in the Philippine Republic.

In a letter received from Eric Ristau, the Union Field Missionary secretary, we are pleased to note the revival of the literature ministry in that field. We take the liberty of quoting two statements from his letter:

"Several students are out for the summer. One of them, working in the Mountain Provinces, has already sold more than 1,100 pesos worth of our large books. He has a 5,000 pesos deposit with each order. He is selling *The Great Controversy* and the *Medical Counselor*. The former sells

for 11.00 pesos and the latter for 18.00 pesos.

"At our regional meeting in Ligao (Southern Luzon Mission) we signed up more than sixty colporteur prospects. They appeared to be the cream of the mission. I am told that this is the greatest interest ever manifested in that mission in regard to our colporteur work."

G. A. CAMPBELL

From Here and There

The Philippine Islands government has postponed the compulsory military training program for one year. However, at the Philippine Union College they are going ahead with plans to offer the Medical Cadet training this year and will require all the college young men to join the corps. Professor Carl T. Jones will be the director in this work. He is well qualified for this having worked with several corps in the Columbia Union Conference and Washington Missionary College.

On Tuesday afternoon, June 10, Mrs. V. T. Armstrong, assisted by the other lady residents of the Division compound, was hostess to four American ladies from Singapore. They were: Mrs. Paul R. Josslyn, the wife of the American Consul General, Mrs. M. Richardson, the wife of the Vice-Consul, Mrs. G. Arnold, whose husband is a representative of the Goodyear Rubber Company and Mrs. E. Nally of the United States Information Service.

At a recent meeting of the Malayan Union Mission Executive Committee the name of the Penang Sanitarium was changed to that of Penang Mission Hospital.

Miss Elizabeth Rogers writing from Penang reports that the hospital was closed for several days while new equipment and machinery brought by Dr. Gardner was installed. They are very busy caring for the many patients who come to the clinic and also to the hospital.

Word has come to the Division office that Pastor A. E. Gibb has responded to the call from the Philippine Union Mission to serve as radio evangelist in Manila. He will be spending a little time with the Voice of Prophecy before sailing for the Orient.

There is still no direct contact between the headquarters office and the fields of Japan and Korea. Pastors Armstrong and Williams left Shanghai by plane for Tokyo the ninth of June. We eagerly anticipate news from those fields when these brethren return to the office.

Pastor B. P. Hoffman has recently conducted a ministerial institute in Japan. They had an excellent meeting and all the workers felt greatly strengthened and refreshed through this meeting. Pastor Hoffman is spending a number of months in Japan.

Due to a breakdown in the machinery at the Malaya Publishing House the publication of the June OUTLOOK was delayed. Before the war the OUTLOOK was published by the Malayan Signs Press but they have not as yet been able to replace the equipment lost during the war years.

On Sabbath, June 21, at the Penang Road English church, we had the privilege of hearing Pastor Merle Manley, the director of the Burma Mission. He and Mrs. Manley and their two children are on their way to the States for their furlough. They have spent seven years in India.

Miss Beatrice Gore, who has served two seven-year terms in India, is spending a few days at the Division compound. She has been in the States for the past two years and is now on her way to Rangoon, Burma, where a new medical institution is being established. Miss Gore is a graduate of the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital nurses' training course.

Missionary Volunteer Corner

Forty-five teachers, who are attending the summer session of the Philippine Union College, are working diligently on the requirements for the *Master Comrade* classification. Professor Ragsdale, the Missionary Volunteer Secretary for the Philippine Union Mission, and Miss Nellie Ferree, who is in charge of the Teacher Training department at the college, are assisting the students in this endeavor. A large class under the direction of Professor Ragsdale will qualify for the vocational honor in star study.