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# MALAYAN UNION MISSION NOTES OF PROGRESS

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No. 13

## SAFE GUARDING THE CHURCH

By V. T. Armstrong

We are living in a time when every one will be tried and tempted. Satan's purpose is to deceive. The safe way to meet his deception is to be fortified with true knowledge. We are told that only those who are intelligent students of the scriptures will be able to withstand his deceptions. It is also essential that we know what is in the Spirit of Prophecy. One of the methods used by the enemy is to misquote the *Testimonies* given the church by the Spirit of Prophecy. While the Bible is to be our guide and counselor, the Spirit of Prophecy is also given to us to emphasize and make more plain the truths of Holy Writ. Those who fail to study the *Testimonies* are easily deceived. Some of this class will not develop a faith in the Spirit of Prophecy and will therefore not be prepared for the deceptions in the world in the last days.

Others will hear the *Testimonies* misquoted and will be misled because they will think the *Testimonies* teach something they do not say and which, in fact, would be contrary to the teachings of the church.

Should some individuals say, The Bible teaches "All Seventh-day Adventist ministers are to be destroyed by the Lord prior to his coming and that one half the church membership would be cut off", it would not be believed. But should the same person say, "The Bible and *Testimonies* teach the above", there are some who would believe it. Not so many years ago just such an assertion was made and many people were deceived. Why? Because they had not studied the *Testimonies* and did not know that the above statement was false.

Knowledge is a safe guide. We need to know the teachings of the Spirit of Prophecy. New light will come to the people of God and the *Testimonies* tell us just how it will come. Do you know how it will come? Do you know what the *Testimonies* teach the church for this momentous time? We need to know for ourselves and thus be fortified against the snares of Satan. It would greatly strengthen our churches if our

## CHURCH CALENDAR

October and November, 1939

- Oct. 7—Home Missionary Day  
28—Spirit of Prophecy Day  
Nov. 4—Home Missionary Day  
11—Colporteurs' Rally Day  
19-25—WEEK OF SACRIFICE

people generally would spend more time studying the *Testimonies* and receiving the counsel God has given the church through this agency.

## BANGKOK CLINIC SPARED

By Dr. R. F. Waddell

The clinic had a miraculous escape recently. About ten o'clock one night a fire started in one of the shops across the street. Within a few minutes the entire block was going up in flames. The wind was blowing the fire toward the Clinic and it looked as though it might go up too. The patients all became panicky and were stampeding, most of them walked out, and those that couldn't were carried out by their friends. The nurses tried to telephone me but the line was out of order. Finally a Chinese friend of ours happened to see the blaze, came to our house and awakened us. We went to the Clinic with due haste (60 miles an hour), but found the place deserted except for our faithful nurses and dressers who were busy carrying water to soak down the roof laundry, pulling down chicks, and watching to see that looters did not break in.

Fortunately the wind began to change and drove the flames in the opposite direction, and the clinic was spared. Within five hours the conflagration had razed and gutted 4,000 shops, wiped out several square blocks and inflicted damage estimated at well over 2,000,000 ticals.

We are all very thankful to God for His protecting care over us. Many people came to the clinic this morning to enquire as to the institution's safety. One rich old man came hurrying over very early and seemed so glad to know that all was well. He, although a heathen, exclaimed, "Your God protected you from that awful fire".

## WHAT WE MAY KNOW OF COMING EVENTS

By E. H. Emmerson  
Associate Professor of Religion,  
Pacific Union College

As one meditates after listening to the news as flashed from the many radio stations in these days of distress and perplexity, he cannot but question what is to be the outcome of it all. He seriously asks, "What does the future hold in store for us?"

We may not be able to outline the exact course of the various nations in the present dilemma, but one thing is certain; we need not be in darkness concerning the coming events. We are "children of light." For as a "light that shineth in a dark place" the rays of prophetic instruction light up the pathway of the future to each and every one who diligently studies the instruction God has given through His Word and the Spirit of prophecy. The Bible prophecy outlines in general the experiences before us, while the Spirit of prophecy unfolds them more specifically.

We marvel that the disciples, in the light of the Saviour's plain prophecies were unprepared for the closing scenes of His earthly ministry. That we are imperiled by the same dangers today is made plain in "Great Controversy" page 594 in the following words:

"In the prophecies the future is opened before us as plainly as it was opened to the disciples by the words of Christ. *The events connected with the close of probation and the work of preparation for the time of trouble, are clearly presented.* (Italics mine) But multitudes have no more understanding of these important truths than if they had never been revealed. Satan watches to catch away every impression that would make them wise unto salvation, and the time of trouble will find them unready."

*We Need Not Be Ignorant*

Do we know these events and the experiences needed in preparation for the close of probation as it is our privilege to know them? Or are we allowing ourselves to be dupes to Satan's devices so that the time of trouble will find us unprepared?

We need not be ignorant concerning the future events or the preparation needed, for God has instructed us more earnestly now than ever before as the following statement clearly shows: "In ancient times God spoke to men by the mouth of prophets and apostles. *In these days He speaks to them by the Testimonies of His Spirit. There was never a time when God instructed His people more earnestly than He instructs them now concerning His will, and the course that He would have them pursue.*"—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, 661. (Italics mine).

#### *If Not, Why Not?*

Are we availing ourselves of the privilege that is ours? Do we possess the various books in which the instruction concerning the future experiences of God's people are clearly presented? If not, why not? Of if we possess them, are we diligently studying them in order that we may not be in darkness concerning the impending conflict and the preparation needed to stand victoriously through it all?

The two books that present the most direct and detailed account of the coming events are "Early Writings" and "Great Controversy." They clearly present the union of civil and religious powers, and what such a union will mean to those who stand firm for God's revealed will. Within their pages is outlined in no indefinite language, the place spiritism with all its deceivableness, signs, lying wonders, and miracles will hold in the great scheme of the adversary of God's truth and people. There we will find clearly revealed just what the image of the beast is and when and how it is formed, the work it will accomplish and what our personal relation should be to every device contrived to accomplish our downfall.

But more than this, and even more important to us, is that in these two books is clearly presented what we should be doing *now* in this time of apparent peace, in order that we can be ready to stand as victors in the trying days before us. Also great and precious promises of assurances of God's care for every one of His true children are so positively set forth that in the very knowledge of them our faith and courage will be greatly strengthened. Vivid pictures of the final outcome both to the sinner and the saint, are portrayed in these two important and wonderful volumes.

#### *The Coming Crisis*

The following statements quoted from "Great Controversy" will

help us realize the importance of knowing what God in His compassionate love has given us in view of the closing scenes of the controversy:

"The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger,—a faith that will not faint, though severely tried. The period of probation is granted to all to prepare for that time."—"Great Controversy," page 621.

"Those who delay a preparation for the day of God cannot obtain it in the time of trouble, or at any subsequent time. The case of all such is hopeless."—*Id.*, page 620.

"Are the people of God now so firmly established upon His word that they would not yield to the evidence of their senses? Would they, in such a crisis, cling to the Bible, and the Bible only? Satan will, if possible, prevent them from obtaining a preparation to stand in that day. He will so arrange affairs as to hedge up their way, entangle them with earthly treasures, cause them to carry a heavy, wearisome burden, that their hearts may be overcharged with the cares of this life, and the day of trial may come upon them as a thief."—*Id.*, pp. 625-26.

Shall we allow Satan to so arrange our affairs that we will not take time to read and study the words of counsel and warning God has so graciously given us in His word and in these books which shed such detailed prophetic light upon the experiences of the future?

#### THAILAND NEWS

By A. P. Ritz

For several months Brother Sitanggang, our Batak worker in the Southern part of Thailand, has been calling for Brother Kon Vui-leong and me to come to visit him and to baptise some interested ones. Hence we went South on the 22nd of July and after examining some of the candidates decided to baptise two, a Chinese man and his wife.

On Sabbath, July 29, we had a brief service in Yala, after which a number of us went by bus to a lovely place by the river. Here was a most suitable place for the sacred ordinance to be administered, shut off as it is from any who might not understand what we were doing. Here we were privileged to bury this couple with their Lord in baptism.

There is apparently a wonderful opportunity before us in the South and we believe that this brother and sister are but the first-fruits of a goodly harvest of souls in that section of our field. How our hearts ache for more labourers. We could well use a score of consecrated workers, and should by all means have another foreign missionary family or two. Then too, as Brother Kon and I visited portions of the South in the interests of our Harvest Ingathering funds, we were again most forcibly impressed with the marvelous opportunity and the most urgent need for a medical work there. There are hundreds of well-to-do Chinese and many scores



Baptism in Yala, South Thailand. Candidates in centre with sarongs. Left end, Brother Sitanggang. Right end, Chinese doctor, Yala, who is a member from China. Brother Kon next to him.

REPORT OF TITHE AND SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS  
MALAYAN UNION MISSION—JANUARY—AUGUST, 1938 AND 1939

(All items in local currency)

Mission	Tithe		Loss or Gain	Sabbath School		Loss or Gain
	1938	1939		1938	1939	
British Borneo . . . . .	769.38	1,172.14	402.76G	351.16	388.48	37.32G
French Indo-China . . . . .	987.66	1,320.29	332.63G	343.61	255.12	88.49L
Malay States . . . . .	8,550.51	8,397.35	15 <sup>3</sup> .16L	3,083.51	2,958.89	124.62L
Sarawak . . . . .	846.89	670.87	176.02L	287.07	298.85	11.78G
Siam . . . . .	1,053.20	1,465.64	412.44G	532.47	524.39	8.08L
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>12,207.64</b>	<b>13,026.29</b>	<b>818.65G</b>	<b>4,597.82</b>	<b>4,425.73</b>	<b>172.09L</b>

L. F. Bohner, Treasurer

of Europeans, to say nothing of the multiplied tens of thousands of merchants, small estate owners, and coolies, and some hundreds of thousands of Malays, all without any proper medical help. For four years a very influential Chinese gentleman has been pleading with us to accept land as a gift from him on which to build a clinic and hospital. We know not how much longer he will continue to believe us when we tell him of our desire to place a doctor there.

Brother Sitanggang works on alone and waits. Due to the strong dislike which the Malay people have for Christianity he has not been able to do much for them. They have even threatened his life. But he works on as best as he can for the Chinese and others who can speak English or Malay. We solicit your prayers for Brother Sitanggang and his family, as well as for more labourers for South Thailand.

A SUCCESSFUL WORKERS' MEETING

By B. T. Lan

July 31st, marked the closing day of a very helpful Workers' Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, the headquarters of the Malay States Mission. Four full days were spent in discussing and planning for more active and aggressive Evangelism in the future.

Pastor V. T. Armstrong, the Division President, Pastors, E. A. Moon, V. E. Hendershot, Mr. H. W. Jewkes were the visiting Brethren, and much of the success of the meeting was due to their help and counsel.

All the regular workers of the Malay States Mission were in attendance. In addition Brethren Daniel Liem of Penang Sanitarium and S. N. Siregar of the Seminary Church were present.

The Lord has been very near to us and a sweet fellowship was manifested throughout the meet-

ings which is a sign of big things expected to be accomplished in the near future.

Every one promised, under the blessings of the Lord to work harder than ever before for a larger evangelism, for raising local talent among the lay members, for opening more stations, etc., which we believe all are possible with the help of the Lord.

Consecration services and testimonial meetings as well as report periods were items of interest. Every one enjoyed expressing his views pertaining to the ministry of the WORD. What a privilege to be present at such a meeting!

Not a word of complaint nor murmuring was heard which is but a token of the high spiritual tone of the meeting for which we were grateful.

The Union meetings in Sabbath School, M. V. Society, Home Missionary and Divine Service during the Sabbath July 29, gave us an inspiration. The English Church, the Chinese Church and the Telugu Church of Sungei Way were uniting in worship which I believe will be a lasting and sweet memory to all of us.

We are looking for a new day in the Malay States Mission. Pray that many more souls be won into the Light in this great mission field.

BIBLE STUDY

By V. T. Armstrong

1. What will be the conditions of the remnant church that Christ comes to receive?

Answer: Eph. 5: 27—A glorious church without spot or wrinkle, holy and without fault.

2. What is one thing given by God to help the church?

Answer: 2 Tim. 3:16, 17—His word is profitable. It makes the church perfect and ready for every good work.

3. What gifts have been given

the church?

Answer: 1 Cor. 12:28-31—Among these gifts is prophecy.

4. What is the purpose of these gifts?

Answer: Eph. 4:11-13—To make the saints perfect and edify the church.

5. By what means has the church been preserved in the past?

Answer: Hosea 12:13—By a prophet.

6. Is the remnant church to have the gift of prophecy?

Answer: Rev. 12:17 and Rev. 19:10—The gift of prophecy will be in the remnant church.

7. What condition obtains in the church when prophets are obeyed?

Answer: 2 Chron. 20:20—Prosperity comes.

8. Are the testimonies given the church to take the place of the Bible or to give new light?

Answer: Testimonies Vol. 5: 665. "The written testimonies are not to give new light, but to impress vividly upon the heart the truths of inspiration already revealed. Man's duty to God and to his fellow-man has been distinctly specified in God's word; yet but few of you are obedient to the light given. Additional truth is not brought out; but God has through the Testimonies simplified the great truths already given, and in his own chosen way brought them before the people, to awaken and impress the mind with them, that all may be left without excuse."

9. What admonition comes to us as the end draws near?

Answer: Testimonies Vol. 5: 654. "As the end draws near, and the work of giving the last warning to the world extends, it becomes more important for those who accept present truth to have a clear understanding of the nature and influence of the Testimonies, which God in his providence has linked with the work of the third angel's message from its very rise."

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## NOTES OF PROGRESS

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LEONARD F. BOHNER—EDITOR.

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### NEWS NOTES

Word has been received that a daughter—Dorothy—has been born to Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Davidson. With Dorothy's father our star "Life and Health" literature evangelist she surely should have all the benefits of health education. Congratulations Brother and Sister Davidson.

After serving the Seminary for two years as Preceptor and instructor in the Advanced School Brother Martin G. Laloan tendered his resignation which takes effect October 1st.

We regret to report that Brother Quay of our Penang Adventist School is seriously ill with typhoid. Let us pray for his speedy recovery.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Teluk Anson Telugu Church is the first in group to meet their goal in Harvest Ingathering. Pastor Moses spent a few days there encouraging our believers and leading out in Harvest Ingathering.

A NEW SABBATH SCHOOL'S birth is reported by Brother Wong Kiat Sam. He says "I am pleased to tell you that last Sabbath (September 2) I went to Kampar and established a Sabbath School which meets at 4 p.m. The number present was 14. The service was held in the Chinese Maternity Hospital and everyone was glad as well as interested. I hope in time to come, many people will accept the truth. Please pray for us concerning this matter."

"OVER THE GOAL" is the message that comes from the K. L. Chinese and English Churches. The Lord put liberality into the hearts of those solicited and a good spirit prevailed throughout the Harvest Ingathering Campaign.

GOOD NEWS comes to us from our isolated believers in Pontian Kechil, Kluang, Prai, Batu Pahat, Muar and Segamat. These be-

lievers were visited recently by Pastors Nerness and Phang who report that in each case our Brethren were found to be of good courage in the Lord and striving earnestly to bring others to a knowledge of the Truth. In Muar, Brother and Sister Leicester have interested a doctor, his wife, and two nurses in the message and are faithfully studying the truth with them. At Batu Pahat, our people meet faithfully from Sabbath to Sabbath under the leadership of Brother Lee who is operating a private school. This loyalty on the part of these isolated believers is being blessed of the Lord. "If you are truly consecrated, God will, through your instrumentality, bring into the truth others whom he can use as channels to convey light to many that are groping in darkness."—*Testimonies Vol. VII, p. 63.*

New Branch Sabbath Schools during Third Quarter are: Kuala Lumpur Malay, Penang Tamil, 26th Mile (Bagan Datoh) Telugu.

THE HOME COMING of two former believers is reported by Brother Wan Yun Chong. He tells of how two of our believers who had left the Truth several years ago to join the True Jesus Mission have now returned and are rejoicing again in the Blessed Hope.

### INGATHERING PROGRESS

With only the work among the Chinese finished the Harvest Ingathering goal for French Indo-China has been exceeded. With the workers pressing on we are assured of a good overflow.

In Siam they are approaching the halfway mark toward their high goal. One man that donated twenty ticals last year gave two hundred when approached this year. The Clinic and our two good schools up there are rapidly breaking down prejudice.

According to information that Pastor Campbell brought back from Borneo Pastor Youngberg and the workers there are hard at Ingathering work.

Kuala Lumpur district went over their quota in a week. With Pastor Milne now in Penang we expect that in a few days Penang will be over-the-top and then Ipoh will be next.

### PASTOR NERNESS OPENS EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN

Before a group of more than eighty, Pastor J. M. Nerness started an evangelistic series in the Kuala Lumpur church, Sunday evening, October 1st.

Speaking every evening in the week with the exception of Saturday night Pastor Nerness will present over the period of the next few months our distinctive message for this time.

The newspapers in Kuala Lumpur have been very liberal in the use of newspaper space to report and publicize the meetings. Let us remember whenever we have meetings to be sure and give the newspapers a resume of the subjects presented. At the most several hundred will hear the spoken word, thousands have access to the daily newspapers.

### SINGAPORE AND PENANG CHANGES

Sabbath, September 23rd, new pastors appeared in both the Penang and the Singapore English churches. Professor V. E. Hendershot has moved to Singapore with his family for evangelistic work in this great cosmopolitan metropolis of the Orient. The Penang Road church was crowded for his first two sermons.

Professor and Mrs. H. W. Jewkes and daughter are now living at 140 Burmah Road, Penang, taking over the duties formerly carried by the Hendershots. Until the end of the year Professor Jewkes will also carry his secretarial work. Requests for supplies and any questions regarding departmental work should be forwarded to Brother Jewkes at Penang.

As these workers take up their heavy responsibilities in these new cities we bespeak for them the prayers and the hearty support of the members of the respective churches.

Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labour wears, while the used key is always bright.—*Benjamin Franklin.*

The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well; and doing well whatever you do, without a thought of fame.—*Longfellow.*

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**PREPARE NOW — WEEK OF SACRIFICE IS COMING!**

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