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MALAYAN UNION MISSION

NOTES OF PROGRESS

Vol. 12

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No. 3



ELLA MAE CHATTERTON BOWERS

*Death stands above me, whispering low
I know not what into my ear;
Of his strange language all I know
Is, there is not a word of fear.*

Ella Mae Chatterton was born in Lockport, New York, on New Year's Day, 1891 and passed to her rest on the evening of June 22nd, 1941, in Jesselton, British North Borneo.

Accepting Christ and baptized at the age of eighteen, she completed the Normal Course at the South Lancaster Academy and entered the teaching profession, her chosen life work, to which she gave many years of conscientious service. For several years she taught church schools in what is now the Southern New England Conference, during the summers assisting in tent efforts as a Bible-worker.

On June 1st, 1916, she was united in marriage with Lyman I. Bowers. The newly married couple sailed on August 1st of the same year for missionary service in the Orient. After nine months in Shanghai, where Brother Bowers was the treasurer of the Signs Press, a transfer took them to Chosen for fifteen years of missionary labor. While in Chosen, Sister Bowers cared for her two daughters and assisted her husband in his heavy duties in Seoul as Union Treasurer and Manager of the Chosen Publishing House and later in Soonan where he was the Industrial Manager of the Soonan School.

In 1932 another move brought the family to Singapore where Sister Bowers lived for nine years during which time she was on the staff of the Malayan Seminary. Early this year, she again obeyed the call of "Go ye" and left of a few months service in Borneo to relieve some fellow missionaries for furlough.

It was after less than six months in Borneo and just a few weeks before she was due to return to Singapore that the fatal attack of Benign and Malignant Tertian Malaria struck low our faithful missionary worker. Pastor and Sister Bowers had been living at the Training School, twenty some miles out from Jesselton when on Monday evening, June 16th she had a slight chill. Tuesday evening she drove into Jesselton with her husband who had several days work to do at the mission headquarters. She was indisposed for the rest of the week but as the symptoms seemed to point to Dengue fever which she had some months previously neither she nor her husband suspected anything more serious. They spent Sabbath together having a pleasant time reading the "Review" and "Youth's Instructor" with sundown worship as usual. That evening her temperature increased and she seemed to slip into a coma. Microscopic examination Sunday morning showed that she was suffering from a combination of two serious types of malaria. Two physicians did all that they could to no avail.

Pastor Bowers, her husband, who was alone with her at the end tell us "she ceased her restlessness, opened her eyes, fixed her gaze toward the heavenly home and slowly breathed her last. I was glad to be able to be with her and help right to the last and I hope to be the first one after she greets her Saviour to welcome her in the glad morning so soon to come. A faithful soldier has fallen in battle and this time it was my comrade. God bless her for she was a loving and devoted wife and a precious mother."

Due to the distance and lack of transportation none of our foreign workers were able to attend the funeral which was conducted, in Malay, by Pastor M. T. Sibadogil, principal of our North Borneo Training School. Pastor Bowers read several passages of scripture and spoke of his hope in a resurrection and in the soon coming Saviour. The service held in the European cemetery at Jesselton was attended by many of our national workers and believers, several British officials and other friends all of whom rendered sympathetic help.

Left to mourn Sister Bowers loss are: her husband; two daughters, Mrs. Naomi Munson and Miss Betty Bowers, both of Angwin, California; her father and mother, Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Chatterton of South Lancaster, Mass.; two sisters, Mrs. P. L. Baker of Stoneham, Mass., and Mrs. Helen Hunt of Boston; a brother Mr. Bert Chatterton; along with many friends, fellow mission workers and former students.

LEONARD F. BOHNER.

WITH OUR SCHOOLS

By H. W. Jewkes

May I take you from Borneo westward through Sarawak to Singapore and then up country through Malaya, Thailand, and thence east into French Indo-China. Let us see what our educational institutions are doing.

Sandakan is our starting point. The name of the school Sam Yuk means three-fold education. A fine name and a good school. Here Brother Han Lap Chong teaches fifteen boys and girls. Of these nine are children of Seventh-day Adventist parents; reason enough in itself for having a school, isn't it?

Now come to Menggatal where Brethren M. Silalahi and Peter Leopold carry the responsibility of training, according to the latest official report, forty-six enthusiasts. Here again we find a good percentage of Adventist children. Ten of them are members of the church. A sign of progressive activity is indicated by the regular M. V. Meetings.

Just a few miles down the road we come to Telibong, where the new training school is located. Brother Sibadogial and Brother Mangara Hutabarat are leading out in the training of some seventy-five students. The school was opened last October and has proven a blessing in many ways already.

Next we will stop at Kuching, Sarawak. The Sunny Hill school is living up to its noble reputation. Miss Gloria Tan, the principal, reports an enrollment of one hundred and twenty-six. This school teachers up to and including Junior Cambridge. They not only educate through books but the practical side is developed also. Reported industries are agriculture and carpentry. The new school building which is nearing completion is a demonstration of leadership and ambition in reality.

Years ago the Ayer Manis school was founded out at the 37th mile. Though official reports are very, very scarce we have heard that a good work is still being done. Brother Pohan, who also carries forward the evangelistic work in that district is in charge of the school.

Coming to Singapore we find at headquarters Malayan Seminary, founded in 1924 and still going strong. The enrollment to date is 390. This is our training school in Malaya and we ever look here for young men and women who are ready for service in the cause of truth. Professor F. R. Millard and his corps of fifteen teachers continue to hold high the standard

CHURCH CALENDAR

August 2—Home Missionary Day
9—Harvest Ingathering Rally Day
Sept. 6—Home Missionary Day
27—Elementary Schools' Offering
13th Sabbath Offering—Mission fields of Northern European Division

Week of Sacrifice

July 26 — August 2

"Be Faithful"

1938	—	SS\$1,513.02
1936	—	1,417.79
1940	—	2,164.87
1941	—	? ? ?

of Christian education, training boys and girls to be men and women upon whom responsibility will be placed to carry the gospel to the end of time.

Kuala Lumpur, in the heart of Malaya, has two flourishing schools. The Te Sin school under the leadership of Brother Tan Keng Boon continues to train the young Chinese boys and girls of that great city for usefulness. Plans are being laid for the enlarging of the school so that we may draw from here as the needs continue to press in for Chinese workers. The enrollment this year is one hundred ninety-eight. work is being carried on in a fine way. Every year we have an Investiture service for the Te Sin boys and girls.

Right under the eye of the Malay States Mission director is operated the Mount View English school. This is an elementary school having three teachers. Brother Choo Sing Fatt is the principal. They report an enrollment of seventy-nine enthusiastic boys and girls.

Going north for 259 miles we come to Penang, beautiful island of the west coast of Malaya. The Adventist Elementary school in its third year of existence has already made a reputation that is enviable. Brethren Poong Yun Yin and S. N. Lai are the leaders in the school. As a matter of fact there are two schools this year. The Chinese section being named Sam Yuk. Here we have a fine group of boys and girls that have indeed been enthusiastic Volunteers. They have already had two

Investitures this year and are planning on another in the near future. The enrollment this year is fifty-six.

Thailand! We stop in Bangkok at the Adventist English school. Brother Nai Prachurd is the principal. He and his two hundred eighty-eight boys and girls give us a hearty welcome. There has long been an urgent need for more space here for the school but they are going forward hoping for the best, and using every space available. The latest official report reads, "We are happy to note that the school is full to overflowing."

Now come to the end of the railway line and beyond in the East of Thailand. The Ubol Mission school continues to break records. This school also is full to overflowing. The principal Brother Puie has done and continues to do a fine piece of work. The latest news is, "The new school building is nearing completion and we hope to move in by the middle of August. It will be a great blessing to the school as everyone is waiting anxiously for that memorable day. I am hoping that sometime during this year we can have a big celebration at the new school." We always appreciate extras and here is more news. "You will be interested to know that our first Girl's school has opened in Ubol. The authorities would not allow us to keep our first matyome grades in the same school with the boys. I do not know what we can call this school, but it is the beginning of a new thing for our Mission in Thailand."

Passing over the troubled border we come to Omon in French Indo-China. The school here is conducted in the basement of the church building. Not a school bell can be heard but the jungle drum calls the three score and more boys and girls to the school each day. Though without the privileges of a Christian education, the teachers are faithfully carrying forward the educational programme.

The last stop on our journey is Gia Dinh. The French Indo-China training school has just recently had its first graduation. Of the sixteen students enrolled ten are this year entering the organized work. The confidence placed in these young people is well expressed in the following sentence from the principal. "I sincerely believe these new students are going to change the appearance of our work here." The untiring efforts of Brother Howlett are bringing forth results.

The educational programme is onward. Never was there a

MALAYAN UNION MISSION — Five months ending 31st May, 1940, 1941

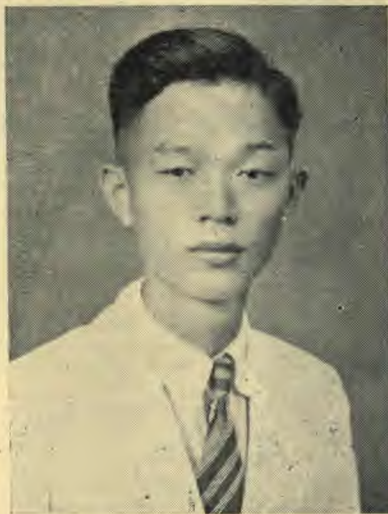
REPORT OF TITHE AND SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS

(All items in Local Currency)

Mission	TITHE		Gain	Percentage of Gain	SABBATH SCHOOL		Gain	Percentage of Gain
	1940	1941			1940	1941		
B. N. Borneo	775.14	968.38	193.24	25%	223.38	245.26	21.88	10%
F. I. China	2,122.27	2,346.32	224.05	11%	155.79	175.73	19.94	13%
Malay States	5,763.78	6,578.29	814.51	14%	1,999.91	2,157.14	157.23	8%
Sarawak	526.97	712.60	185.63	35%	246.25	330.80	84.55	34%
Thailand	1,298.53	1,700.53	402.00	31%	343.51	420.33	76.82	22%
Totals	10,486.69	12,306.12	1,819.43	17%	2,968.84	3,329.26	360.42	12%

Leonard F. Bohner, Treasurer.

greater need for trained men and women to carry forward the message. Courage, teachers, until the task is finished.



Brother Chau So

TWENTY-ONE DAYS IN PRISON

By R. M. Milne

Colporteur Chau So has just been released from prison and arrived in Malaya for a few days rest.

It appears that while going from shop to shop canvassing for the Chinese SIGNS OF THE TIMES the police became suspicious and arrested him. They accused him of collecting funds for China and without trial put him in prison.

As soon as the office heard of his misfortune representation was made to the proper government office but even then it took three weeks to get him released.

In prison he was immediately put to work. His first job was to empty the night soil and clean all the toilets for 500 prisoners.

Then he had to work in the garden. This heavy work was almost too much for him. Besides this, the food was terrible, only coarse rice cooked with dirty ditch water, and a few greens. Desperately hungry though he was he had to force himself to eat.

In these days of nervous tension and distrust of strangers our colporteurs are in constant danger. The devil is doing all he can to hinder the work of the literature evangelists. These faithful workers need the prayers and sympathetic support of all fellow-believers.

UNPROMISING SITUATIONS TURNED TO YIELD OUTSTANDING RESULTS

By S. N. Siregar

SITUATION I. "I have only five minutes for you," said the Officer Commanding the Police (O.C.P.), as I approached him with our Malay health book. I assured him that I needed no more than three minutes. "Every cent we can spare, is needed to go to the war fund, and, I am sorry, I can't do anything for you. As to the Malay staff here, they don't care to read. They prefer pleasure to reading." I assured him that there was something in the views he expressed; however, I wished to find out for myself, if he would allow me to go around, to which he said that he had no objection.

I soon created an interest for the book among the corporals at the guard room, and secured four orders. Three months later coming to the same place, I secured four more orders. After the holidays were over, one day, I was very surprised to receive a letter from the Sergeant-major for a collective order for sixteen five-dollar books. Thus, in a seemingly unpromising place, I have placed 24 copies of our Malay books.

SITUATION II. It was a rainy morning. Inclination had a good excuse for spending the day in my room in the hotel. However, various considerations made me to decide that I must make use of the only day in that town. I decided to employ a rickshaw. I had to use one six times that day, besides taking a bus on two occasions. What came out of that rainy day?

My first rickshaw brought me to a place where I received \$2.50; my next one, brought two orders of \$3.00 each; my first bus brought me a \$5.00 order, and the next rickshaw brought me to a place where I secured orders to the amount of \$18.00. I was indeed very thankful for fighting against inclination and making use of that rainy day.

Among the last men I secured orders from, was a prominent member of the District Teachers' Association. The association, he told me has about 300 members, and he expressed the view that other members would no doubt be interested in such a book as I had to offer. About six weeks after my return home, I received an order from him for 20 books, and some time later for five more books. Thus as a result of that rainy day's work, I have thus far received \$154.00 orders with only one refusal.

As an institutional worker, I want to say that it is good to be in the field with our denominational literature during the holidays. It affords a much needed change of surrounding, it gives first hand information about peoples, their language, their customs, their national characteristics and general attitude of life. The very nature of the work opens a good opportunity to meet people of all ranks, talking to them of the work of our people, and of placing in their hands something that may turn the course of their life heavenward.

NOTES OF PROGRESS

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LEONARD F. BOHNER—EDITOR.

NEWS NOTES

A baptism of eleven was held recently in Kluang as a result of the Chinese evangelistic effort. More are preparing for baptism.

The students of the Sabah Training School, North Borneo, during school vacation are going out into the mountains of that country in evangelistic endeavours for their own people.

Pastor Ngo Eng Hwa, who arrived this month from South China will spend some months here in Malaya placing Chinese "Ministry of Healing" in the homes and shops.

The second edition of the Malay "Way to Health" is now being bound.

The latest word is that Pastors E. A. Moon and Y. H. Phang are on their way back to Singapore and are expected to arrive early in August. Pastor Phang made a trip to the East coast of the United States travelling more than six thousand miles.

Miss Esther Lee, a graduate of the Shanghai Sanitarium, is now with the Penang Sanitarium.

TWO NURSES TRAINING SCHOOL STARTED

We have long planned for the day when we would have a Nurses Training School in this Union. After years of waiting, we not only have one but two. Penang Sanitarium started its Training School first with Miss Lucille Thornley as Superintendent. Shortly later Bangkok Mission Clinic got its Training School under way with Miss Ruth Munroe in charge. According to last reports Bang-

kok had more than twenty students enrolled.

It would be well if our workers encouraged young women who had sufficient educational background to enroll in one of these schools for training in this most important field of missionary service. Write to either Miss Lucille Thornley, 465, Burmah Road, Penang or to Miss Ruth Munroe, 629, Suriwongse Road, Bangkok, Thailand.

WITH OUR COLPORTEURS

It is surprising how well some of our colporteurs are doing in certain sections of the field that have done practically nothing in the past. Word just in from a town in Sarawak tells of many subscriptions for the English magazines, *ORIENTAL WATCHMAN* and the *SENTINEL*, in addition to the usual Chinese Signs and books; also, of a real interest on the part of many to study the Bible and an earnest request that our colporteurs remain there to instruct them fully and establish a church.

A lay-preacher of another church, hoping soon to join fully with us, is meanwhile preaching the message to his congregation and friends. He obtains his sermons from our papers, tracts and books. A petition signed by many interested ones requesting a worker and opening of meetings has been sent in to the mission office.

Colporteur Davidson had just returned to Singapore from the most successful trip ever made to the Malaya East Coast.

Colporteur Cheung Chau So has taken over 200 subs for the Chinese SIGNS in Penang already,—this is about twice as many as last year.

The *SENTINEL* circulation is still going up, thanks to the earnest efforts of Brother Chin Kong Tai. While working around his home near Ipoh he started meetings among his non-Christian relatives and neighbours. Between 50-50 crowded in to listen and the interest is so genuine that weekly meetings are being continued for them by Brother Chu Yun Fatt and Dr. Wong To On. Many honest souls are seeking for light and when workers of the literature ministry are earnestly seeking for souls many opportunities are found to lead men to the Saviour.

WEDDING BELLS

By Ruth M. Munroe

On June 10, a pretty and impressive ceremony was held in the Bangkok church, when Pastor R. P. Abel united the lives of two of our young people. The bride was Miss Helen Phang, a graduate nurse of Shanghai, now supervisor of the Clinic, the groom, Mr. Kang Nin Fu, formerly of Mukden, who joined our hospital staff a few weeks ago as bookkeeper.

The church was beautifully decorated with potted plants, palms, and blossoms. Mrs. D. P. LaTourette, at the piano, played several appropriate selections which ended with the Wedding March, as the party made their way to the altar. Mr. J. T. Ee sang, "At Dawning," just before the bride entered on the arm of her father, Pastor N. T. Phang. The bride wore a white, lace dress and Beverly Waddell, in yellow organdie held the train of the veil. Carolyn LaTourette, dressed in pink organdie, was flower girl and went before the bride, dropping flower petals along the way. Miss Lily Lim was bridesmaid and the best man was Mr. Teo Mui Hua.

After the ceremony the guests attended a Chinese feast, held in one of the down town restaurants. Mr. and Mrs. Kang will continue their work at the Mission Clinic and we pray that God will richly bless them as they begin their life together.

EDITORIAL

With the exceptions of the Sister Bower's obituary and the story of Brother Chau So's imprisonment this issue of the "Notes of Progress" fully lives up to its name.

We find steady progress educationally as reflected in increased enrollments in all the school according to Brother Jewkes article. The good news of the success attending our colporteurs is encouraging. Every Mission shows a gain in Tithe and Sabbath School offerings as compared with the first five months of last year which is particularly gratifying as 1940 showed a good gain over the previous year.

Reader, decide now to do your full part in this year's Week of Sacrifice Offering. The greater the sacrifice the greater the blessing.

WEEK OF SACRIFICE — DO YOUR PART
