

# MALAYAN UNION MISSION NOTES OF PROGRESS

Vol. 12

December, 1941

No. 6

**PROGRESS OF THE WORK IN  
SARAWAK & NORTH BORNEO**

*By E. A. Moon*

With Professor Millard I left Singapore on the 24th of October for a visit to our mission fields on the island of Borneo.

The opening ceremonies for the new building at the Sunny Hill School were held October 27. Invitations had been sent to a large number of people representing the European, Malay, Chinese and Indian communities in Kuching. A large gathering of guests were present at the programme. Speeches were made by Pastor Lake, Professor Millard, by the Director of Education for Sarawak, and by the writer. After the prayer of dedication had been offered the Chief Secretary of Sarawak officially opened the new building on behalf of His Highness, the Rajah, by cutting the ribbons which had been stretched across the opening of the building. A microphone and loudspeaker were provided for the occasion by the leading radio shop of Kuching. This made it possible for the large group of visitors seated on the lawn in front of the building to hear all the speeches. Following the official opening the people were invited to inspect the various rooms, after which light refreshments were served. During the serving of the refreshments a short programme was rendered by some of the students of the school.

Our mission has been complimented by a number of leading residents of Kuching on the excellent building which has been provided at the reasonable cost of less than seven thousand dollars. The school enrolment is around 180, with eight teachers. Our educational work at Sunny Hill has a good reputation among residents of Kuching and among the government officials. The Sarawak Education Department is especially pleased with the programme of industrial work which is being carried on at the school. During recent months several orders have been filled for school seats and desks for schools in Kuching.

Out at the Ayer Manis School we found Pastor Pohan carrying on a busy programme of school

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

- Dec. 20—Christian Stewardship Day  
27—Elementary Schools' Offering  
13th Sabbath Offering to S. Africa Division  
January 3—Home Missionary Day  
February 7—Christian Home Day

work and training classes for our Dyak young people.

Brother Millard returned to Singapore and I went on to Jesselton to visit Brother Youngberg and the other workers in the British Borneo Mission. Brother Youngberg had arranged a programme which kept us busy every minute of the time we were in that field. Three or four churches were visited as well as our new training school for the Dusun young people and our older school at Menggatal. The building programme at the training school is nearly completed with some work still to be done on the boys' dormitory and on the little dispensary building. Pastor Sibadogil, the principal of the school, reported that there were about forty boys and girls attending the regular classes at the school.

This new school which was opened only last year is much appreciated by our Dusun brethren in that field, and we believe there are excellent prospects that the school will grow and increase in usefulness to the field. Some time was spent in a meeting of all the workers who were able to gather in the school chapel and one evening was spent in a meeting of the mission executive committee. Brother Silalahi was just taking over the responsibilities of the work of the secretary-treasurer of the mission from Brother Siagian who has for many years carried on this work in a satisfactory way but whose tenure of office has long since been completed. The afternoon before I boarded the steamer to return home I took time to visit the grave of Sister L. I. Bowers who laid down her life in Borneo a few months ago. She is resting in the beautiful Christian cemetery at Jesselton.

**A FIVE WORD WAY  
REDUCED TO ONE**

*By L. I. Bowers*

Rodger Babson, well-known economist, speaking of his father, said: "As a result of his influence and example, I have never borrowed a dollar in my life, either for business or for personal reasons. I know from a lifetime of observation that the borrowing of money, either by an individual or by a corporation, can result in terrible consequences. Indebtedness of any kind, whether of a social or a financial nature, is best to be avoided."

This quotation brought five words into my mind; "Borrow, Debt, Owe, Pay, and Restore." So I opened my concordance to see what the Bible had to say about a subject like this.

OWE. I find that this is used only once. "Owe no man anything, but to love . . ." Rom. 13:8.

BORROW. A calamity it was in the time of Elisha when the ax head was lost, and one exclaimed, "Alas, master! for it was borrowed. Solomon says that the "Borrower is servant to the lender" Prov. 22:7. David suggests the trap that many borrowers come to in these words; "The wicked borroweth and payeth not again." Ps. 37:21.

PAY THY DEBT. "Go sell the oil, and pay thy debt. 2 Kings 4:7. These first four words appear but very few times in all the Bible, but there is one which is used more often.

RESTORE. "If the wicked restore the pledge, give again . . . he shall not die." Ezek. 33:15. If one takes the trouble to look up a few texts on "Restore" it will be both interesting and instructive reading. In many cases more than the original amount was to be restored, and in the case of a "Holy" thing which belonged to God there was to be added to it 20%.

Spurgeon said that before he married he made one firm decision, and that was that in his new home "DIRT, DEBT, AND THE DEVIL" would be kept out.

It is my firm conviction that it is possible to follow Romans 13:8, "Owe no man anything," and then the other four words will need no



attention as far as we are concerned. The five word way will be reduced to a simple one.

### HOME COMMISSION WORK IN KUALA LUMPUR

*Mrs. Maria C. Abdy*

Our Home Commission group at Kuala Lumpur was organized a little over a year ago and I am glad to say that the Lord has richly blessed us. Amidst all the problems we have we are making progress in parent education as well as other phases of the work. We enjoy our meetings very much; everyone including myself, is receiving many blessings from the studies. I do firmly believe that the seed sown in our meetings will bear good fruit.

It is interesting to note that fathers enjoyed the meetings so much that they asked if they might come again. We invited them to come regularly as we do believe that the responsibility of the home rests on the father also and I tell you the brethren help a great deal in the work too.

Some young people too are regular attendants of our meetings and they appreciate the counsels and studies given.

We appreciate the special meetings held by Mrs. Goh of the Penang Sanitarium in the interest of home and health.

We are contemplating to work harder than ever and so we have recently organized classes for making simple garments for children, cooking and baking.

It is now proposed to hold a regular mothers' prayer band and to add singing practise to our regular programme and for this our people have promised to stay for fifteen minutes at the close of the regular exercises. Learning our songs by heart will help our

church meetings and will cheer the homes as well.

I am glad to say that we are of good courage and feel that we should work harder than ever realizing that time is short, no doubt shorter than we think.

May our heavenly Father bless the Home Commission Work in Kuala Lumpur and all over the world.

### A TRIP TO MALAY STATES SABBATH SCHOOLS

*By S. F. Chu*

Let me take you on a tireless journey to visit our Sabbath Schools. Imagine that you are now at Kuala Lumpur, our headquarters, and that you meet our 97 members in their respective Sabbath Schools at 140 Bukit Bintang Road, Peel Road, Sanitary Board Coolie Lines and the home of Brother Santiago de Cruz. You will find that all the members are doing their best to promote our Sabbath School work.

Leaving Kuala Lumpur we are to travel north by train. Here we are at Tapah Road Station. We take another train which takes us to Teluk Anson where our Sabbath School is a little away from the railway station. May I introduce you to Pastor Moses and our Telegu members? I am sure you will enjoy meeting with the 30 members and hearing them sing the wonderful gospel songs in Telegu. They are all doing their best to be faithful.

We must hurry on as Pastor Moses is going with us to Bagan Datoh by bus. On both sides of the road to Bagan Datoh coconut palms greet us. The bus speeds and before long we are happy to be at our chapel in a coconut estate. Here we find that 20 faithful brethren and sisters meet in

a neat chapel to study the word of God.

It's time for the Tapah Road train to leave for Ipoh. Our train stops at Ipoh where our regular Sabbath School is at K7 Jalan Pasir Puteh. "Work, work your thoughts, and therein see" 73 loyal members meeting and rejoicing in their respective schools at K7 Jalan Pasir Puteh, the home of Brother Chin Kong Tai, Siputeh, and the Chinese Maternity Hospital, Kampar.

Now we must wing our thoughts to the beautiful island of Penang where we have to spend one whole Sabbath day to meet with our members of the Chinese, Tamil, Malay and English Sabbath Schools at 140 Burmah Road. All the 142 members are co-operative in promoting every phase of our Sabbath School work.

So quick is thought that by now we find ourselves at Bahau where we meet Brother Samuel and the Sabbath School members, 20 in all, who are faithfully holding the Sabbath School banner.

Here we are at Sungei Way where our neat chapel is near the railway station. I am happy to introduce to you Brother Lazarus our lay elder and the members. We are thankful that though there is no worker located there at present most of the 35 members are faithful in attendance and doing all they can to help our work.

Our trip takes us further south and now we are at Kluang where we meet Brother Wan Yun Chong and the believers at 24 Jalan Lambak. We are happy to note that all the 18 members are taking an active part in the work.

At last we have reached our terminus, Singapore, where we have 7 Regular, Branch and Home Division Sabbath Schools. After our visit to these schools the impression you get is that all the 349 members are active and are an example to us for faithful service.

As our time is limited I have not been able to take you to visit our scattered members at different parts of the Peninsula. I solicit your prayers for them.

Before I bid goodbye to you I would like to say that we thank the Lord for His bountiful blessings upon our schools and our members for their loyalty and faithfulness. Prospects for our Sabbath Schools are bright. We request you to pray for us "that we will measure up to see a great advance in membership, in the study of the word of God, and in offerings for the advancement of the work." *Au revoir!*

Home  
Commission  
Group  
at  
Kuala  
Lumpur





## MALAYAN UNION — TEN MONTHS ENDING — 31st October, 1940 and 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	1,781.26	2,222.69	441.43	25%	479.05	575.58	96.53	20%
F. I. China	4,058.56	6,489.57	2,431.01	60%	324.85	530.17	205.32	63%
Malay States	12,612.57	13,456.22	843.65	7%	4,283.07	4,637.64	354.57	8%
Sarawak	1,125.98	1,464.38	338.40	30%	474.94	606.00	131.06	28%
Thailand	2,747.99	3,428.41	680.42	25%	861.82	972.47	110.65	13%
Totals	22,326.36	27,061.27	4,734.91	21%	6,423.73	7,321.86	898.13	13%

N. B. Gains all along the line for the fifth consecutive month.

*Leonard F. Bohner, Treasurer*

MALAYAN SEMINARY  
INVESTITURE

*By A Leonard Lesiasel*

It was my privilege to work with the Young People's Society of the Malayan Seminary this year. It is made up of young men and women, little boys and girls and adults. The most interesting feature of the Y.P.M.V. Society is the Progressive Class Work. In it old and young can join hands, climbing up the ladder of attainment.

The greatest "event" of the Malayan Seminary Volunteer organization took place on Friday night, November 28. The little boys and girls were very much excited. They had been looking forward to this day with great anticipation. At 7:15, Padimoen Sibarani, the society's chorister, led out in the singing with Agnes Tan at the piano. The platform was nicely decorated with M. V. banners—the Society's Aim and Motto on one side and the Pledge and Law on the other. In the centre, a big blue astronomy chart was hung with some constellations visible thereon. To the left and right of the chart were some common birds of Singapore, and also one or two flowers required for the Companion Class. Just below the chart the M. V. Vocational Honours banner was hung.

The candidates assembled in the adjoining room and when the congregation sang "O Friends of Mine" they marched out and took their respective places on the sides of the rostrum. On the platform were Mr. W. P. Bradley, the acting M. V. Secretary of the Far Eastern Division; Mr. L. F. Bohner, the society's leader, and also the acting M. V. Secretary for the Malayan Union; and the writer. It is good to see the young and old take part.

After a few short introductory remarks, the leader gave a talk on

"The Young People and the Progressive Class Work." He related a personal experience of his, 25 years ago which marked the birth of the Progressive Class Work. During this period of twenty-five years or so thousands of young people were brought to the knowledge of the Truth.

The meeting was then turned over to the respective classes: Sunbeams, Light Bearers, Friends, Companions, Comrades and Master Comrades. First the candidates repeated in unison the J. M. V. Pledge and Law. Then a representative for each class recited a passage of Scripture such as Luke 18:16, John 8:12, Psalm 23, John 14:1-3, Psalm 19 and Revelation 14:6-12. We were very thankful to have Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Bradley with us. They favoured us with a special duet entitled "If You Love Him."

Following this the assistant leader led out in the demonstrations of various nature studies such as Astronomy, Trees, Flowers and Birds. These things were created to beautify the earth and through them we can learn to know the mighty Creator of heaven and earth. We are told in "Testimonies" Vol 7, pp. 76, 77 that "Nature is God's physician. The pure air, the glad sunshine, the beautiful flowers and trees, the orchards and vineyards and outdoor exercise amid these surroundings, are health-giving."

After the leader had certified the efficiency of the candidates, Mr. Bradley delivered the charge followed by the presentation of Insignia by him assisted by other Master Comrades. At the conclusion of the presentation Pastor Moon offered a prayer of consecration. As a response to this prayer, song No. 58 in the "Missionary Volunteer Songs" was sung.

"I would be true, for there are those who trust me;

I would be pure, for there are those who care;

I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;

I would be brave, for there is much to dare."

There were 36 Sunbeams, 16 Light Bearers, 20 Friends, 25 Companions, 9 Comrades, and 8 Master Comrades. Yes, and 24 Senior Reading Course Certificates, 45 Junior and 37 Primary, and 50 Vocational Honours earned. A good record! But I believe the Seminary can do even better next year.

I take this opportunity to thank all who have given their time and help to the Progressive Class Work. If it is a success let us all rejoice, but let us remember there is always room for improvement.

## AN APPEAL TO OUR YOUTH

*By Moget Siregar*

Canvassing for God's literature is the highest order of missionary work. There are many who are hungry for the bread of life but have not the privilege of getting it from God's living preachers. For this reason, canvassers are wanted to go to every place and home where the preachers cannot go.

My brother Anwar Bey, and I had the great privilege of spending our holidays canvassing in the State of Pahang among the natives. It gives me great joy to see the Islam people receive our Christian literature. The great wall of prejudice is broken and we pray that through the literature many Mohammedan people may be found in the kingdom of God.

The call is to every devoted Christian youth to give his service and find joy in doing his honest part to bring to every home "God's Silent Messengers." The harvest



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**NOTES OF PROGRESS**

Published once in every two months by the Malayan Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, 399, Upper Serangoon Road, Singapore, S. S.

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E. A. MOON—ASSO. EDITOR.

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is great. Now is the time to respond to the call and definitely say, "Here am I, send me."

NOTE.—This is the second time Brother Moget has been in the field. He has had good success with our health book. I was told that he is looking forward to the time when the Patriarchs and Prophets in Malay will be ready. We do hope that there will be a number of our promising youth responding to the call.

The bulletin of the Seventh-day Theological Seminary for 1941-42 has been received. It gives the objectives of the school, requirements for graduation, and other valuable information, and also outlines the courses offered for the coming summer, winter, and spring terms. The summer term of nine weeks begins June 17.

The Seminary is a graduate school for Seventh-day Adventist workers,—ministers, teachers, editors, Bible workers, missionaries, and others—and is filling a long felt need in strengthening the work of the Advent Movement.

We are told that "the true minister of Christ should make continual improvement," that "the afternoon sun of life may be more mellow and productive of fruit than the morning sun. It may continue to increase in size and brightness until it drops behind the western hills."

Seventh-day Adventists have been made "the depositories of sacred truth to be given to the world in all its beauty and glory," and surely as workers we should "penetrate deeper and deeper beneath the surface," that we may be able to do this.

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**WEEK OF SACRIFICE**

	1940	1941
B. N. Borneo	192.16	215.61
F. I. C.	152.28	129.71
Malay States	1,167.01	948.15
Sarawak	148.85	128.44
Thailand	504.57	436.87
	2,164.87	1,858.87

Have you had a share in the 1941 Week of Sacrifice?

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**NEWS NOTES**

Elder E. A. Moon has returned from his extended tour through Sarawak and British North Borneo and has reported good progress in all lines of endeavour. We wish to direct your attention to his article elsewhere in this issue.

Elder L. I. Bowers has found it necessary to be hospitalized for several days with a skin infection. May we all unite our prayers to our Heavenly Father that he may soon be restored to health in order that he may carry on his various duties.

We know that you, with us, will give thanks to our Creator as you study the financial report of tithes and offerings in this issue. Surely the Lord is blessing His people in these troublous times and they in turn are returning to Him a portion of that which He has entrusted to them. Many times we are bored by statistics, but we're sure that as you study the report for this month, and notice a gain in every item, that you will be led to exclaim, "How wonderful are Thy works, O Lord!"

Brother Bohner left Singapore December 4 for a trip to Thailand, where he will lay future plans with the brethren there.

Surely our prayers should be poured out to our Leader that our medical, educational, and evangelistic work may be carried on with even more aggressiveness even in these trying times.

Mrs. R. H. Howlett and the two little girls sailed from Manila for San Francisco on October 24 on the s. s. "President Taylor." Brother and Sister Howlett decided this move as the State Department in Washington had refused to validate her passport for Singapore. Brother Howlett arrived in Singapore on November 18 on the s. s. "President Van Buren" to take up his new duties in connection with the treasury department. Brother and Sister R. L. Hammill and Sister R. H. Howlett left Saigon on August 8 for Manila. The Hammill family are now residing in Manila, Brother Hammill is looking after the Home Missionary and Sabbath School Departments for the Philippine Union Mission until he can get permission to return to his work in the Malayan Union.

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**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

NOW is the time to do missionary work! While the hearts of men and women are asking, "What do these things mean?" Let us help to answer their question by pointing them to the God who made the heaven and the earth. Tell them that He is coming soon, and that NOW is the time to repent and turn to Him.

For the accomplishment of this work, the Union Committee has recently made available for free distribution all tracts in the Press. These are in three languages, Chinese, Malay, and English.

Order now either through the Malay States Tract Society or direct from the Press and use as many as you can. These will be sent entirely free to you. NOW IS THE TIME!

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**THE "WIN ONE" PROGRAMME**

By Steen Rasmussen

The church of Christ has been organized for active, fruitful soul-winning service. God calls for every church member, young and old alike, to enter into partnership with Him for service and sacrifice. All must be burden-bearers for the Master. His mission is our mission. We are called to Him to be fishers of men. Every new member added to the church should be one more agency for carrying out God's great plan for the proclamation of the gospel to every creature.

Like a mighty army the church of God is to move forward to certain triumph. The glorious heights of final victory rise before us and the call of the hour is for a deeper spiritual experience on the part of every child of God and more faithful and loving service in behalf of those who are still without the light of the message of truth given to us to carry to all the world.

Let every member in the fear of God seek to win a new member to Christ through prayer and personal effort. May God place a deeper burden for the perishing upon every believer, and may we all be stirred anew with the fact that time is short, that the enemy knows he has but a short time, and that the night cometh when no man can work. And at the same time, remember that all the hosts of heaven stand ready to co-operate with us in the finishing of the work. And may we anew sense somewhat the value of a soul, and go forth in the power of the spirit to bring them one by one to the foot of the cross, where they may find salvation.