

# *The southeast asia union* **Messenger**

Nov - Dec 1984 M. C. (P) No:75/2/84

S  
A  
B  
A  
H

A  
N  
D

S  
A  
R  
A  
W  
A  
K



"Let them praise the name of the Lord" - Ps 148:5 (Tamparuli, Sabah)

I  
N



T  
O

H  
I  
M



"With singing lips my mouth will praise you." - Ps 63:5.



"Make a joyful noise to God" - Ps 66:1—with electronic keyboard.



"I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name." - Isa. 25:1 (Rani Church)



"Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet" - Ps 150:3 (Sabah Adventist Secondary School brass band).

## FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

The youth in Southeast Asia have taken a quantum leap into youth evangelism this year. This is reflected in the two Festival of Praise conducted in Sabah and Sarawak Missions in October.

Sabah Mission kicked off the first Festival of Praise with a capacity crowd of 700 at the auditorium of Sabah Adventist Secondary School. The delegates might have come from churches far and near, but they had only one purpose, to praise God for what He had done through them in their evangelistic program. The audience sat spellbound listening to 32 thrilling first-hand witnessing experiences and 74 superb musical numbers during the unforgettable weekend in Tamparuli.

Since the beginning of this year, over 21 Voice of Youths have been conducted all over the mission, resulting in 104 baptisms. Another three were being conducted almost simultaneously during the Festival of Praise in Naringnang, Kelawat, and Mang Kupa churches.

Not to be undone, Sarawak youth conducted 10 Voice of Youths so far this year and reaped 102 souls. Eighteen were baptized during the Festival of Praise at Ayer Manis School auditorium. Many of the crusades were held in the schools by dedicated youth leaders — *G. T. Ng, Youth Director, SAUM.*



"Praise the Lord with the musical instruments I have provided." - 1 Chronicles 23:5.



FED Youth Director, B. U. Donato, conducts the Festival of Praise baptism.



"Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King." - Ps 149:2



After mastering 25 sermons, Wilthee Philip (Sabah) tells how he organized his own VOY with the help of other youth in the church.



Aidah Bingku (left) tells Sabah Mission Youth Director, Pastor Tommy Golotoh, how she invited her Christian friend to VOY each night. Her friend was baptized in May.



Dohiah Mosigo, a former Catholic, from Tombongon District, Sabah, tells how he dreamed of bring drunk on the Broadway with thousands of people. Suddenly a rope dropped from the sky and he held on to it. He felt assured God was leading. Later he attended a VOY conducted in his area and was subsequently baptized.





Brought up in a divided home where mother is an SDA and father a member of an evangelical Church, Ritha Moidum of Koung Malaam Church (Sabah) relates how she witnessed to her angry father who forced her to join his church. "I believe God has a plan for dad. I will keep praying for him," she said. Relenting somewhat, her father attended a recent VOY, during which Ritha was one of the speakers.



"I was extremely nervous when I spoke during the VOY. My legs were shaking, and when my legs shook, my pants shook with them too," says Geda Labut, one of the leaders in the Penrissen 15-night VOY (Sarawak). He was trained by veteran pathfinder director, Watson Ho. They were plagued with frequent black-outs during the crusade. Sometimes car headlamp had to be used to illuminate the meeting hall.



Sarawak Youth Director, Pastor Lawrence Banyie, in his Festival of Praise T-shirt says, "Thank God for what He has done through us this year. Let us be on fire for God again next year." As of September this year, Sarawak youth have conducted 10 VOYs resulting in 102 baptisms.



A challenging message presented by Pastor Donato during the Sarawak Festival of Praise in Ayer Manis School auditorium. His translator is Chemaline Osup, one of the active youth leaders in the mission.



Ambrose Linang, teacher and pathfinder director at Tun Abdul Rajak College, Sarawak, leads out a planning session with his students for the program next year. Ambrose is currently training new youth leaders Rowin Siju and Tan Too Khiong to strengthen his evangelistic outreach. They prepare about 15 persons for baptism annually.



"We are making plans to conduct three VOYs in 1985. With God's help, we will succeed," says George Polimum of Keyangat Church (Sabah). George and his fellow youth conducted one this year, resulting in 8 baptisms.



Pastor Jaulin Galung (Sarawak) may not be young, but he believes in young people and what they can do for Jesus. His success formula is:  
VOY + VOP + VBS + = SOULS



Pathfinder director of three clubs, Rodney Ranvis testifies, "I often pray to Jesus for power. Without Him, I can't do a thing." Two weeks before the Festival of Praise, 44 souls were baptized as a result of two VOYs conducted this year.



## W. MALAYSIA

### EXCITING AND PRODUCTIVE NEW FORM OF EVANGELISM

Think of it. Twenty-seven attended an evangelistic Bible camp for only five days. The immediate result: one baptism, three decisions for baptism, and fourteen decisions for Christ, plus twenty-six revived members anxious to do greater things for the God who became very real to them through the experience.

This is exceptional for the city of Singapore. It could happen in other cities of Southeast Asia as well.

The secret of success seemed to lie in the friendship and bond of love formed between dedicated members and non believers who were together constantly. Instead of just being at a night meeting where little personal friendship could develop, they were in close continual fellowship day and night in fun and play, work and study. There was time to pray together. There was time for sharing of personal testimonies and experiences in addition to three spiritual messages presented daily.

In accord with the counsel of God, members were given the opportunity during the church service to tell of "blessings received because of blessings imparted." (7T. p. 18, 19). On June 30, Youngberg pastor, Quek Boon Chuan, turned the worship service into a thrilling testimony meeting. I was very much impressed and spiritually uplifted as I listened to spontaneous and heartfelt gratitude to God expressed by participants in the Bible camp. It was vibrant - not put on. Several expressed that they did not want to go and take part at first. Roland Chin said, "I'll go now, but after this, I am going to retire from such activity." During the camp he stat-



ed, "I experienced the love of God and His spirit working with us. We can't retire, we must unite and work with God." And his wife, Susan, expressed how she was blessed as camp cook.

Peter Ramdas expressed his feeling so well: "There was a love so tremendous that nothing could separate us regardless of age. We were not evangelists, preachers, but just ordinary people. It reminded me of the disciples who were just fishermen. . . . A glimpse at the response to the call on Thursday night reminded me of the upper room. The whole camp was an expression of love, coming from leaders, members, and interests alike." He challenged the Youngberg membership: "We can experience the same thing now. We don't have to go to an island."

Here are personal testimonies from 3 other Youngberg participants: Chan Shee Wai, team leader and assistant camp commander, said, "I experienced the power of God when I took on the role of the assistant camp commander, team leader and speaker. God spoke through me by the Holy Spirit. As a result, I stood up for Christ when He inspired me to make an appeal during the last night of our crusade. Not only the interests were moved by the Holy Spirit, but also the members experienced a personal revival."

Ya' Shu Hwa, team leader, said, "Love was the over-riding factor in the camp. Doubts and distrust were

## SINGAPORE

dispelled. In its place were sincere questionings with strong desire for the truth and heart-to-heart sharing over many problems, fears, and doubts that many young Christians would have to face. It was through this personal way in the camp that I witnessed the most beautiful prayer of my life. It was expressed with heartfelt tears, yet pure, sincere, and childlike. It was from a young convert who had just accepted Christ."

Maria Lim, team leader, said, "I recommend an evangelistic camp for those who feel 'sleepy' in their faith and need a revival, because they will surely experience some spiritual warfare that should awaken them. Also, they will get the privilege of being used by God. For example, I was the first speaker after lunch and God gave me the novel idea of drawing a blue heart on my face to illustrate sin and the need of the commandments as a mirror for helping us to cleanse it. If it were not for this "out-of-the-blue" idea, most of them would have been nodding and agreeing with everything I asked whether it made sense or not." Yes, the five-day Bible camp can be an exciting and productive form of evangelism under the blessing of the Holy Spirit. Why not try in your city or village? — C. L. Smith.

from page 5

make 1985 a dynamic year for Child Evangelism. Our children are well-worth the cost of time and energy. — Dr. Nancy Bassham, *Child Evangelism Director, Southeast Asia Union Mission.*



## SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION MISSION



SENDS

A MESSAGE FOR THOSE WHO LOVE CHILDREN:

Last year at the Southeast Asia Union Mission annual meetings in 1983, the Union Child Evangelism Department proposed a recommendation to the annual committee members to appoint a Child Evangelism Superintendent (the designation was later changed to Child Evangelism Coordinator.) Since then many churches within the missions of Southeast Asia Union Mission have strived to select an individual within their church who can do the organizing and leading of the children's evangelistic programs.

Who is the Child Evangelism Coordinator?

A person who loves children, who has a burden in:

(a) bringing up the young members of the Seventh-day Adventist church (namely from Cradle to Earliteen) in such a way that they will remain true to our church.

(b) helping the young people to dedicate themselves and to remain personally faithful unto the Lord all the days of their lives.

(c) sharing the good news of our Lord Saviour with other children in the community.

Child Evangelism Coordinator must be a person who is a true leader. The one who not only can motivate himself/herself to dedicate his/her life to the Lord in all aspects but can motivate others to do likewise. He must learn to set Child Evangelism realistic goals for his church but at the same time be able to dream the impossible dream.

To be realistic, the Child Evangelism Coordinator must be able to organize Child Evangelism in his church in such a way that the plans look so attractive to people that they are willing to say "yes" and join in with the programs for the children in the church. When was the last time someone in your church stood up front and laid out Child Evangelism plans for the year and an "amen" rang out good and clear from the church members?

The goals are determined by the purpose. The purpose is in turn derived from the needs. But you may say, what are the Child Evangelism needs of my church? You surely will find your needs as you survey with your team the local church situation with respect to your children. So we recognize that first we must feel the need of having a Child Evangelism Coordinator for the church, then we must clearly understand the role and duties of the Child Evangelism Coordinator, the next step is to motivate the church board to appoint a person who desires to serve the Lord in his capacity.

The Child Evangelism Coordinator is the main person (in Counsel with the pastors) who will see the needs for Child Evangelism programs in the church and will help set up realistic goals. He will work hand-in-hand with the



Photo: (Front row, left to right) Edmund Liah (Sarawak), Jupitah Gaban (Sabah), Srirat, (Thailand), Nancy Bassham (SAUM). (Back row) Pat Bailey (FED), Martin Ya'ang (Sabah), Dorothy Walter (Sarawak), G. T. Ng (SAUM)

Seven Sabbath School Directors and Associate Directors from Southeast Asia Union Mission attended a Sabbath School Director's Tri-Union Seminar in Bali this past summer. They were joined by 23 other directors from West and East Indonesia Unions. Stimulating daily sessions were led by Pastor Howard Rampton, General Conference Sabbath School director; Pastor Bob Grady, Far Eastern Division Sabbath School director, and Mrs. Pat Bailey, Far Eastern Division Associate Sabbath School director.

pastor, the church leaders and members and especially the Child Evangelism mission director. We need to train the newly appointed Child Evangelism Coordinators so that they will feel comfortable with their assigned duties. Most people are willing to assist—if they know exactly what to do and how to go about doing it. We know that many Child Evangelism mission directors are planning to hold seminars for their Child Evangelism Coordinators. Some of the suggested topics needed in the seminars are:

- (1) Goal Setting
- (2) Motivation
- (3) Christian Leadership
- (4) How to organize Child Evangelism program in the church etc. etc.

Friends, let us do all we can to

cont. p. 4



## THAILAND

### BAH OUTREACH TO UBON

On August 4-7, 1984, Miss Urai Chaitip and Pastor Narciso Penaflorida, BAH chaplains, travelled 752 kilometers by train to Ubon Rachatanee, Northeastern part of Thailand. This trip was part of the department's follow-up ministry initiated by Miss Urai's contact. Their objective was to visit Mrs. Boonthaeng and family and to strengthen their faith in God.

Mrs. Boonthaeng used to work with Thailand Mission 17 years ago, but because of unknown reasons she left the mission work and worked on her own. She later opened a kindergarten school which prospered and continued to work for God in her own way. She had 85 followers, fifty lived nearby for which she built a church, and then supported the rest at Hong Tein, some 80 kilometers away. Although they kept Sunday instead of the true day of rest, they were taught Seventh-day Adventist beliefs taken from materials of the former Thailand Mission president, Pastor Sunti Sorajjakool.

When the visiting group arrived at Mrs. Boonthaeng's place, she showed how a typhoon miraculously blew down the church's front signboard. This incident, she admitted, helped her to return to the true church. She said, "This time I will put a new signboard and it will read, Seventh-day Adventist Church." She also narrated how she announced publicly her decision to break away during a Sunday Church rally, and follow the dictates of her conscience. Some of her former church leaders tried to win back their strong leader without success. She stood firm in the truth she once possessed.

We praise the Lord for Mrs. Boonthaeng's reconversion and



Some of Mrs. Boonthaeng's (Sunday Church leader reconverted to SDA - 8th from right with blue dress and with eyeglasses standing at the back row) members taken in front of her church. The person with necktie at extreme left is Pastor Mun Lansri, Thailand Mission District Pastor in Ubon.



Pastor Narciso Penaflorida, BAH Chaplain delivering the Lord's Supper message in Mrs. Boonthaeng's church built on her own property for the Sunday-keeping members. Miss Urai Chaitip, chaplain, translating to Thai.

#### "YOU WILL DIE"

... were the words of the witch doctor. But the young boy of ten years to whom they were spoken did not die. He became very much alive for God. Today he superintends twenty-one growing groups of Seventh-day Adventist members scattered across north Thailand, a very large percentage of whom are the direct results of God working through him. Two recent trips, one of some two weeks working in the Hmong village with no one to communicate with but Pastor Rungsit Saejang, brought to light the following thrilling story of God's miraculous workings. It is an example of what could happen anywhere, anytime.

steadfastness and as a result, we have now 42 of her followers received into church fellowship at Ubon SDA Church. Let us remember these new found believers in our personal prayers. — *Pastor Narciso Penaflorida, Chaplain, Bangkok Adventist Hospital.*



Pastor Rungsit Saejang (left) with 3 brothers - former witch doctors.



Happy transformed former witch doctor who is church elder at Bonmai.



Rungsit was from a village and family of spirit worshippers in north central Laos. His father died when he was five, leaving him to the care of his mother and grandmother. When he was ten, missionary Dick Hall visited his village of Nom Mong, played a record and left a manually operated record player and twenty-eight message-filled records with the village headman. (The record had, incidentally, been translated from Pastor Hall's manuscript and prepared by a Catholic brother).

The headman's interest was questionable, but ten-year old Rungsit was captivated. The Holy Spirit impressed him as he cranked out the message of the love of Christ and listened intently everyday. One night he had a vivid dream of Christ's coming. Many others were going to Heaven but he could not go near Jesus. He had dirty thoughts. He ran away.

Then he became very sick. The spirit doctor told him "your dead father wants you to die and be with him. If you do not want to die, sacrifice pigs and a buffalo to your father." He did, but the sickness persisted. One day blood appeared on Rungsit's head. There was no evidence of where it came from. He was very afraid. The witch doctor said, "You will die." More animals were sacrificed. In addition to the buffalo, pigs, and many chickens, dog, which the spirits considered very dirty, were killed. Over the period of a year, more than twenty animals were killed, but to no avail.

Against the wishes of his mother, Rungsit decided to go see Pastor Hall. He couldn't walk. He ate almost nothing for many months. He certainly could not walk through the jungle for the required two days journey. But he decided "I will go. If I die, I can die on the way." His

cont. on p. 9



Lively discussion during witness training at Bonmai Church.



Some of new Hmong believers baptized by C. L. Smith at Panokkok.



Pastor Rungsit among his members - Tumsai.



Tumsai church witnessing class.



# news release

SOUTH PACIFIC

## HONOLULU STATION AIRS VOP DAILY TO ALL OF SOUTH PACIFIC

Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and islands of the South Pacific now hear the English-language Voice of Prophecy daily broadcast over 50,000-watt station KAIM in Honolulu.

The VOP recently bought two 15-minute time periods, Monday through Friday, on KAIM — at 3:30 p.m. and at 1:00 a.m.

The broadcast at 1:00 a.m. takes advantage of the skywave, a natural phenomenon that allows a high-powered station to reach great distances. In addition, radio signals generally travel very well over water, so most of the South Pacific can hear KAIM at night.

The Station reports it receives more mail from Japan than any other location outside Hawaii, but listeners also write from Samoa, Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, and the Solomon, Mariana, Carolina, New Hebrides, Gilbert, and Marshall islands.

Because of the difference in time zones, all of these locations hear the program between 8 p.m. and midnight. Countries west of the international date line receive the broadcast Tuesday through Saturday rather than Monday through Friday.

Recent reports from China bring encouraging news:

In one large city, between 300 and 400 new believers wait to join the church. But there is no convenient baptistry where they can be immersed. Prayers are requested that soon a church building will be given to our people so regular services, including the ordinances, can be conducted by an Adventist minister.

In one province, nearly 4,000 have been baptized since 1979, and five or six new chapels have been built.

A brother went to visit a relative and was asked to speak to the believers. At first he spoke for one and a half hours. That was not enough, so he spoke for another one and a half hours. Still they wanted to hear more. After the third hour and a half of speaking, he became so hoarse that he was forced to play a cassette in order to satisfy the listeners. While there he baptized 60 persons, and believers wept when he departed.

In a section of South China, 250 candidates were baptized at one service as the result of the work of just one dedicated sister!

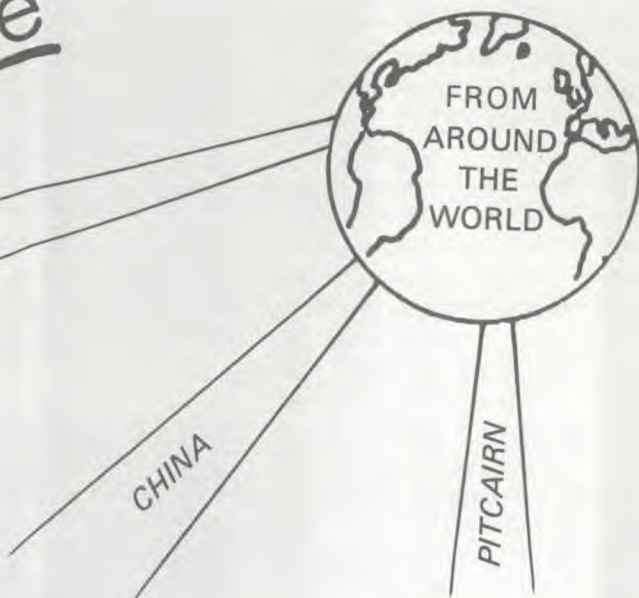
## FIRST WEDDING OF TWO NON-ISLANDERS ON PITCAIRN

Two Americans made history on Pitcairn Island on Sunday, October 28, when they exchanged wedding vows in a ceremony in the Seventh-day Adventist Church there, according to Tom Christian, the island's chief radio officer. He spoke by shortwave with Eddie Pullen, studio engineer for the Voice of Prophecy radiobroadcast in Newbury Park.

Jerry Miller and Mary Wagenblast, both from the Portland, Oregon, area, are the first non-island couple to be married on the tiny South Pacific island that is home to 50 descendants of the H. M. S. Bounty mutineers who settled there in 1790.

Miller and Wagenblast had been dating before Miller, a skilled carpenter, traveled to Pitcairn Island last February to construct a new home for Tom and Betty Christian and their four daughters.

After arriving March 4 on Pitcairn, Miller kept in touch with his friend by shortwave radio. A few weeks ago, he proposed over the airwaves and she said yes.





Their marriage day might still be months away had it not been for another historic "first" for Pitcairn, as there is no regularly scheduled transportation to the island from anywhere.

Fortunately for the sake of romance, 30 Norfolk islanders decided to visit Pitcairn and made arrangements for a trip that required a commercial airline from Norfolk Island to Tahiti, a charter aircraft from Tahiti to the French military outpost of Mangareve Island, and finally a two-day charter boat voyage the last 30 miles to Pitcairn.

Most natives of Norfolk and Pitcairn Islands are related. During a drought and over-population crisis in 1856, the British government evacuated all 187 Pitcairners to Norfolk Island, and abandoned the penal colony. Some 43 persons returned to Pitcairn between 1858 and 1864, but the majority remained on Norfolk. This year's tour to Pitcairn by 30 persons from Norfolk is the first such visit to either island by a large group from the other.

When Miller learned of the pending trip by the Norfolk islanders, he and his fiancée made plans for her to join the tour group. Their first request for a visiting permit was turned down in New Zealand, which supervises Pitcairn's governmental affairs. A second request was approved, however, and Mary Wagenblast flew to Papeete, Tahiti, where she met the Norfolk entourage and continued with them to Mangareva and finally to Pitcairn. They arrived on Pitcairn on October 24.

Following their wedding, Jerry and Mary will remain on the two-square-mile island for several months. Jerry still has to complete the construction project, and the couple want to spend Christmas there. They also plan to celebrate Bounty Day on January 23, when the islanders commemorate the

burning of the H. M. S. Bounty in 1790. The mutineers destroyed the British ship to avoid being discovered and brought to justice.

After January 23, Jerry and Mary will take the first available south-bound ship to New Zealand and then return to the United States. But because few ships visit Pitcairn, the "first available" one might come many weeks later. The couple say they don't mind. They will enjoy their unique situation as long as it lasts.

#### "YOU WILL DIE"

cont. from p. 7

mother was adamant that she didn't want him to become a Christian. She said, "don't come back." But two young friends of about twelve agreed to go with him.

Miraculously when they started walking, his body became strong and he had no problem on the two-day journey. Rungsit especially remembers Mrs. Hall praying for him. He said, "in one week I was completely well and I have never been sick since." (He is now thirty-six)

Rungsit indicated to Pastor Hall by sign language that he wanted to learn to write. After one month in Nam Tha, Laos, Dick Hall flew him to the bamboo mission school at Chiengkong, Thailand. After two years of study, he was baptized. His family was very angry when informed by his friends of his baptism, so he did not return home until after eight years of schooling (four in Chiengkong and four in Chiangmai), at which time he was cordially received. After spending two more years in teacher training in Bangkok, he worked in Laos one year building a school. Pastor Rungsit was called by the Thailand Mission to work with Pastor John Dybdahl to open a new tribal center at Mae Teng.

The question was how to get students. Rungsit's brother was at that time in charge of Hmong broadcasts on Chiangmai radio. Rungsit made four five-minute announcements on the radio and twenty-one responded from widely scattered areas of north Thailand. All twenty-one of these were baptized after one year's study. Eight are now pastors.

Five of the current seven organized churches among the Hmong were started when Pastor Rungsit accompanied his students to their home villages during the school vacations, preached, and taught the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ. Bonmai is one of the five churches. The first picture of this story shows Pastor Rungsit (left) with three leaders of the Bonmai church. They are three brothers of a family of five brothers who were all former witch doctors. One of those happy transformed brothers is the church elder at Bonmai.

During the lengthy time, it was my privilege to work together with Pastor Rungsit in establishing witnessing classes among the twenty-one groups of Hmong Adventists. I was very much aware of the power of God at work. As I watched Pastor Rungsit move among his people, the thought came, "He is like a saviour to them." I was reminded of the work of Jesus in the villages of long ago. Certainly, his friend, Jesus Christ, has been using him in a mighty way to point the way to the Saviour of mankind. A humble man raised by God from a predicted death by the forces of evil, to bring spiritual life to hundreds and perhaps even thousands in the future - this is a testimony to the miraculous power of God. — C. Smith.



## ANOTHER BAPTISM AT YOUNGBERG

Since the early part of this year, Chaplain Jonathan Ng of Youngberg Adventist Hospital and Bible Worker Esther Khor have been visiting with a former patient, Mr. H. S. Tan in his home. On several occasions, Mr. Tan was urged to surrender his life to the Lord following studies on the Lord's mercy and care on the suffering ones.

Mr. Tan, who was suffering from terminal cancer of the colon, was admitted to the hospital recently when he requested for baptism. An anointment service was conducted on September 27 with the assistance of Pastor Matthew Yuen of Singapore Thomson Road Chinese SDA Church. On October 3, Mr. Tan passed away peacefully and was cremated on October 5. The funeral service was simple and meaningful. Mrs. Tan and the children were very much impressed by the love and support given by hospital staff and church members during their period of bereavement. — *Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director, Youngberg Adventist Hospital.*



Photo shows (left to right) Bible Worker Esther Khor, Mrs. Tan, Pastor Matthew Yuen welcoming Mr. H. S. Tan to Christian fellowship and Dr. Robert Steete at the anointment service.

## S U B A D D I T I O N

## AT YOUNGBERG ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

### RETIRES AFTER FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Mr. Yuen Peng Kong, Head of the Maintenance Department of Youngberg Adventist Hospital, retired at the end of July, 1984 after 40 years of faithful service for the denomination of which 24 years were spent at Youngberg.

Immediately after his conversion to the Adventist church, Mr. Yuen joined the maintenance crew at Penang Adventist Hospital and later moved down to Singapore and worked at the workshop of South-east Asia Union College before joining Youngberg Hospital.

During the farewell party, Mr. D. L. Dunfield, hospital president, presented a pewter plaque as a token of Mr. Yuen's faithful services rendered to the hospital. — *Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director, Youngberg Adventist Hospital.*



Photo shows Mr. D. L. Dunfield presenting a plaque to Mr. Yuen Peng Kong (right).



Photo shows the maintenance crew bidding farewell to their chief.

Thank you, Mr. Kong!



## SAM GOVINDASAMY'S SEARCH FROM gods TO GOD

As a boy of eleven living in Malacca, Malaysia, I was a very active Hindu often assisting in the temple services. The work was wrought with fear. My father instructed me that when I took the censer of incense before the gods I must knock on the door before opening it. If I did not, the god would see me and poke out my eyes. If I knocked, he would close his eyes. I was very afraid.

Malacca is the place where I had my first encounter with the Voice of Prophecy. I was about fifteen years of age. I was thrilled when school friends told me that the Voice of Prophecy lessons could be sent free to all who desired it. I was especially happy to know I would receive a diploma! With the diploma in mind, I pursued the lessons with great joy.

I was overjoyed when the lessons came to an end and the coveted diploma became mine. But the joy did not last long. I soon realized that the diploma would not secure me a job in any place. Disappointment welled up within me. In disgust I tossed the whole thing aside. My desire for temporal benefits left me blinded to the "Pearl of Great Price" shining through the lessons.

Years later and far from home, I found myself restless and lonely without any real achievement in life. I began to wonder if there was more to life than mere survival. While working in a restaurant in Singapore, life became unbearable. What is life? What is peace? What is survival all about? I wondered. Questions plagued me day and night. I sought refuge in the religion of my forefathers. But somehow, all those activities did not fill the vacuum in my soul. Then one day I was fired from my job for defending a youngster who was cruelly treated by an elderly employee of the



*Brother Sam Govindasamy and his family.*

restaurant. The plaguing questions about life now haunted me more. Life became a burden.

I decided to return to Malaysia. In Johore Baru I took up work in a rubber estate as a watchman. Once again the providence of God brought me in contact with the Voice of Prophecy. Friendly Pritam Singh, himself a student of the Voice of Prophecy, introduced the lessons to me. Someone seemed to speak to me urging me to study the lessons. So I enrolled.

Halfway through the lessons I felt a longing to study the Bible. VOP instructor, Janet Arulpragasm, sent me a Bible at the earliest opportunity. Sometime later, Pastor Nathaniel Lian came looking for me. Among the stinking smell of soaking rubber, he studied the Bible with me and Pritam Singh. Convinced that my search was at an end, I decided to give my life to Jesus. On December 31, 1972 my now close friend, Pritam Singh, and I were baptized.

To God be the glory for the way He led me into His fold. I owe much to the Voice of Prophecy and its dedicated, soul-burdened instruc-

tors. Thank God for Pastor Nathaniel Lian who resisted the temptation to give up the Bible study due to the stench of soaking rubber and continued to woo me into God's remnant church. Praise the Lord and to Him be the glory. I cherish a very special place in my heart for the Voice of Prophecy and seek to support it in every way I can by God's grace.

Shortly after my baptism, I worked diligently for an Adventist ink-maker. I worked very long hours. I thought more business would produce more tithe for the cause of God, but I was spending virtually no time with God. Then one night God gave me a dream in which I saw a tall man holding a stick high in the air. Behind him was a cave from which light was emanating and people were entering it. He said to me, "Repent, and come inside!" Three times he repeated it. This dream impressed me that I must spend time with God and become a part of His evangelistic work. Shortly after this I became a literature evangelist. I now have had the



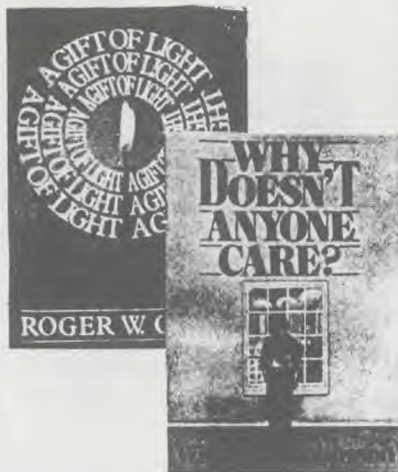
privilege of working nine years in selling largely religious books.

The Lord has enabled me to place over five thousand *Steps to Christ* in the homes along with *Great Controversy*, health books, et cetera. My life has been filled with thrilling experiences of God's blessing and guidance. One outstanding experience came when I gave Bible studies to a family in Johore Baru. Only the son was converted. However, he attended Southeast Asia Union College and is now the pastor of the Johore Baru church where I was baptized. I truly wish to praise my God who has done all things well in leading me out of the presence of many gods to serve Him who is altogether lovely.

Pastor Calvin Smith concludes these thoughts penned by Brother Govindasamy, now assistant publishing director of West Malaysia, by reporting on the Ipoh VOP rally and crusade conducted by Pastor John Willmott of India. He says that it was truly a privilege to work with Brother Govindasamy during this time. He was taking his vacation time to assist in contacting VOP students and backsliders for God. His whole purpose in living is to win souls to his precious Saviour. He truly is one who practices the presence of Jesus. I found him to be a man who is in constant communication with heaven. The Lord richly blessed our ministry together as we assisted several backsliders to return to God's family.

He has generously given forty dollars a month for the last four years out of his modest income to support the VOP work. He plans to continue this generosity towards the VOP work until our Lord returns. Pastor Smith finishes by saying, "The Voice of Prophecy is in great need of your help at this time. We trust that God will inspire many others to likewise give generously for its upbuilding."

## DESIGNED ESPECIALLY FOR THE ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF REAPING



Would you like to introduce your friends to Ellen White? *A Gift of Light*, by Roger Coon, tells the fascinating story of Ellen White's life and explains the influence of her writings on the Seventh-day Adventist Church. You'll enjoy reading it yourself. And it will provide easy-to-read information to your friends.

Many people today are asking questions about the meaning of life. In *Why Doesn't Anyone Care?* William Johnsson, editor of the *Adventist Review*, shares answers to questions such as Why do good people suffer? Why are homes breaking up? Why death? Keep several copies on hand for sharing with those you meet.

ORDER BOOKS  
THROUGH THE  
ABC AND  
SHARE THEM  
WITH YOUR  
FRIENDS



## The southeast asia union Messenger

Published bi-monthly as the official organ of the Southeast Asia Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, 251 Upper Serangoon Road, Singapore 1334.

Yearly Subscription Price \$2.50 (U.S.)

Editor ..... Lucy Ho  
"Correspondents" throughout our Union field are:

### MISSIONS:

Sabah .....  
Sarawak ..... Lawrence Banyie  
Thailand .....  
W. Malaysia-Singapore ..... Samuel Money

### INSTITUTIONS:

Southeast Asia Union College ..... Don Sahly  
Bangkok Adventist Hospital ..... R. Brody  
Haad Yai Mission Hospital ..... R. Bartolome  
Penang Adventist Hospital ..... S. Vellu  
Phuket Mission Hospital ..... R. Caagbay  
Youngberg Mem. Adv. Hospital ..... Jonathan Ng  
Chiangmai Tribal Center ..... Dennis Tidwell

1984 M.C. (P) No:75/2/84

### SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION MISSION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS DIRECTORY

G. C. Johnson ..... President  
C.Y. Wu ..... Secretary, Religious Liberty  
T.G. Staples ..... Treasurer  
H.H. Kong ..... Assistant Treasurer  
Peter Wong ..... Auditor  
R. C. Horning ..... Publishing  
Dr. Steve Bassham ..... Ministerial Secretary  
Ng Gan Theow ..... Sab. Sch., Youth  
Temperance  
Nancy Bassham ..... Child Evangelism  
Geoffrey Pauner ..... Education & Stewardship  
C.L. Smith ..... Lay Act., Communication, VOP

### SABAH MISSION

President & Secretary ..... Charles Gaban  
Treasurer-Auditor ..... Edmund Siagian  
P. O. Box 7, Tamparuli, Sabah, East Malaysia

### SARAWAK MISSION

President & Secretary ..... Choo Wee Fong  
Treasurer-Auditor ..... Ather Singo

P. O. Box 41, Kuching, Sarawak  
THAILAND MISSION  
(INCLUDING LAOS)

President ..... W. L. Wilcox  
Secretary .....  
Treasurer & Auditor ..... Sompong Srisawat

P.O. Box 11-234, Bangkok, Thailand

WEST MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE MISSION  
President ..... Joshua Mok  
Secretary .....  
Treasurer & Auditor ..... C. B. Lim

166-A Jalan Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur 06-26  
Selangor, Peninsular Malaysia