

SOUTHEAST ASIA UNION MESSENGER

July-August, 1986 M.C.(P) No:142/2/86

*She
Gave
It
ALL . . .*

Mrs. Charles S. Gaban

FIRST MURUT WITCH DOCTOR JOINS SDA CHURCH

At the conclusion of an evangelistic effort held in Kampung Mapila in May 1986, five persons of the Murut tribe were baptized. Among them were Gumampan Umbang, a powerful witch-doctor, and Ketua Kampung Dugai Kondion, the village chief and his wife.

cont. on page 2



Gumampan Umbang, the witch doctor, displays her TUTUBIK.

. . . Are We?

NEWSBREAK

cont. from cover page

Following Harvest 90's principle to "Reach the Unreached", Pastor Saiking Omar and his wife, Jeanie with the help of a few believers had begun Bible studies in the village of Mapila in Sook, Sabah. It was in this newly-entered area that they met the witch doctor.

Prior to her baptism Gumampan Umbang, the witch doctor, decided to surrender all her witch-craft "equipment" (called TUTUBIK) to Pastor Saiking. It must have been a difficult decision. Indeed it was a tremendous sacrifice on her part to give up her only source of income.

She said, "I used the power of the TUTUBIK to give treatments to the people who came to me. I could earn from \$10 to \$200 for each treatment."

When asked how she became interested in the Seventh-day Adventist truth, she told of the dream that she had on the night after the pastor's second visit. In her dream, a young man came to her house and said, "Remove the TUTUBIK from here. If you allow anyone to pray in this house, the power of the TUTUBIK will be lost."

When she awoke, her first thought was, "If my god is great, it should not be afraid of prayer." However, she could not forget the pastor's prayer. More and more she felt that there is a God more wise and powerful than her TUTUBIK. Finally, after much study and prayer with the pastor she made the brave decision to give up her witch-craft, despite sorrowful pleas of the whole village not to abandon her belief.

With the joy of Christianity reflected in her face she said to the pastor, "In the past, people have offered \$1000 to buy my TUTUBIK, but I've refused them. Now for the sake of my new found Saviour, I willingly give it to you free. I am convinced of God's great love and power."

Sook SDA Church members and many others of Sabah are responding to the challenge to Reach the Unreached.

Mrs. Gaban is the wife of President Charles Gaban of Sabah Mission.



Village chief and wife and the former witch doctor pictured with Pastor Saiking and children.

Harvest 90 Needs You!

HARVEST 90 PLANS FOR THAILAND

The Thailand Mission is currently involved in a variety of programs aimed at fulfilling the Harvest 90 goals.

In evangelism, there are 37 regular efforts by pastors, 84 lay efforts, and 22 Voice of Youth meetings planned for 1986. Also, 25 Vacation Bible Schools are scheduled this year.

A team of twelve workers is working toward establishing churches in the large cities of Thailand (See "Thai Literature Ministry Moves Ahead" page 8.)

Several new books and magazines will soon be printed for work among the Buddhist people of Thailand, and more materials are being prepared in the attempt to reach the Buddhist population.

**Wendell L. Wilcox, President
Thailand**

RECORDS FOR THAILAND RADIO WELCOME

The radio department of the Thailand Mission greatly appreciates the used phonograph records so generously donated by members around the Southeast Asia Union Mission. These records will play an important role in the radio work in Thailand.

More records are still needed, both sacred and good secular music. Any members who have records which they could contribute may send them either to the Thailand Mission office or to the Southeast Asia Union Mission office c/o Elder George Johnson.

Danny Pung, Thailand Mission

CALVIN SMITH LEAVES SAUM

Pastor Calvin Smith and family left Singapore on May 30, 1986, bound for the Michigan Conference (USA) where Pastor Smith will be engaged in full-time on-the-job training of laymen.

Pastor Smith served for seven years as the Communications and Lay Activities Director of the Southeast Asia Union Mission. He was also the director of the Voice of Prophecy.

Early in his ministry, Pastor Smith served in Canada and the United States in the areas of lay activities and lay training. He has also served as Lay Activities director in one of the African Unions. He is an experienced soul winner and dedicated Pastor who has won the respect and love of many workers and members in Southeast Asia.

During their stay in Singapore, Pastor Smith's wife, Virginia, taught in the education department of Southeast Asia Union College. Their two children, Jennifer and Darcy, will both be studying at Andrews University in the United States.

Pastor Smith will be remembered by many as an "apostle" to the churches in this Union. His example of personal commitment to soul winning encouraged many workers and lay people to do their part for God. The Smiths will be greatly missed in Southeast Asia.

George C. Johnson
President, SAUM



Pastor and Mrs. Calvin Smith, and Darcy.

WEST MALAYSIA



Dr. Russell Standish.

STANDISH ASSUMES P.A.H. PRESIDENCY

Dr. Russell Standish, a veteran medical missionary to the Far Eastern Division, arrived back in Southeast Asia in April, 1986 to assume the presidency of Penang Adventist Hospital. He succeeds Pr. John Lee, who had served in Penang since 1981.

As a young missionary, Dr. Standish served at PAH for six years. He was sent by the hospital to take his specialty training as an internist. Many of his patients in Penang continue to remember and respect him for service which he rendered to them from 1967 to 1973.

Following a period of five years back in his homeland of Australia, Dr. Standish served at Bangkok Adventist Hospital from 1979 until early 1984. He was an outstanding leader in that institution. During his tenure of office at BAH, the hospital began to redevelop and gain strength financially. BAH is now the premier hospital in Southeast Asia.

Following his service in Bangkok, Dr. Standish served for approximately two years as the medical director at Enton Hall in England. His arrival back in Penang was welcomed by PAH staff and by members of the community who love and respect him.

George C. Johnson
President, SAUM

NEW PRESIDENT FOR WMSM

With the departure of Pastor Joshua Mok to South China Union as Union Secretary, as of November 1985, the search for a new President to be at the helm of WMSM began. After much input from the Pastors and the WMSM Executive Committee, the Union Executive Committee appointed Pastor David Leoh Hee Tan as the new president for WMSM on December 18, 1985.

Pastor David Leoh is one of our most senior and experienced workers in this mission. He has served 19 years in the denomination, 2 years as school teacher, 11 years as church pastor and 6 years as departmental director. Before his appointment as president of the West-Malaysia Singapore Mission, he served as the Health/Temperance Director, Associate Lay Activities Director in-charge of Community Service work, as well as pastor of the Kuala Lumpur Chinese Church.

— **Pastor Danson Ng, Associate Secretary, WMSM**



Pastor David Leoh Hee Tan.



John James Chan, Associate Publishing Director, WMSM.

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHING DIRECTOR FOR WEST MALAYSIA

John James Chan became the third associate publishing director for the West Malaysia/Singapore Mission in May, 1986. His enthusiasm is expressed in his words of appreciation for the trust placed in him. "I will need your encouragement, but I will do my best to share my experience with others. I pray that I can be of some help to God's work."

John Chan joined the church at the age of 22 while working as an artist in an advertising company. He was so excited with his new hope in Jesus that he started work as a literature evangelist. But somehow he just didn't feel comfortable with the work initially and so quit almost immediately and went into the taylor business.

As time passed he decided to try canvassing again part time. For a time it worked, but as the taylor business grew he found less and less time to colporteur. Infact, before too long he seemed to have no time for his personal devotions. Honest at heart, John began to worry about the way things were going.

"What shall I do, Lord?" he prayed.

Without delay, the God who loves to answer His childrens' earnest prayers came to John in the night by way of a dream.

"I want you to become a full-time literature evangelist, John. I will be with you."

John responded by promising to follow his Lord all the way.

That was in 1978. During the past eight years many blessings have come John's way. While working as a literature evangelist, he met and married Lim Gek Choo, also working as a literature evangelist. Together they enjoy their daughter, Chan Pei Sie, five years old, and son, Chan En Ze, eight months.

Today John thanks the Lord for his happy family. He has had many trials, but he rejoices in God's marvelous grace that has brought him through to victory in Jesus.

— **Randy Horning, Publishing Director, SAUM**

SINGAPORE



Pastor Jonathan Ng (second from right) sharing the plan with Inspector N. H. Koh of National Police Cadet Corp.

ANTI-DRUG ABUSE BADGE SCHEME COURSE

Members of uniform youth groups from secondary schools in Singapore participated in Anti-drug Abuse Badge Scheme Course sponsored by Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association held at SANA auditorium during the June school holidays. The numbers of youth who participated totalled 3,000. Participating uniform youth groups consisted of: Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Red Cross Cadets, Boy Briadges, St. John Ambulance Cadets, National Police Cadet Corp & National Cadet Corp.

Pastor Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director of Youngberg Adventist Hospital and recently re-elected Honorary Secretary of SANA Panel of Speakers for 1986-87, served as a guest lecturer during the program. Pastor Ng has been involved in the anti-drug abuse campaign since 1973 and is an active volunteer officer with SANA.

The main objectives of this course, which started 10 years ago, is to inform young people of the harmful effects of drug and inhalant abuse and to prepare them to serve as transfer agents of this information to their fellow youth. The course consisted of lectures, group discussion, role playing, poster-making and keeping a logbook on the contacts they have made with other young people. Those who pass the examination will be awarded an Anti-drug Abuse badge which they proudly wear on their uniform.

**Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director,
Youngberg Adventist Hospital**



The Breathe-Free Plan Team (left to right) Dr. Fred Hardinge, Dr. Elvin Adams, and Pastor Stoy Proctor.

FIRST BREATH-FREE PLAN A SUCCESS

Singapore became the first place in the Far Eastern Division to host the revised Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking, called the Breathe-Free Plan, which was co-sponsored by Youngberg Adventist Hospital and the Pinetree Club on May 29, June 2 - 6, and June 10, 1986.

Dr. Fred Hardinge, YAH Health Education Director, served as co-ordinator of the program while Dr. Elvin Adams, General Conference Associate Health Director, and Pastor Stoy Proctor, North American Division Health and Temperance Director, were the main speakers.

A total of 52 smokers registered for the program, and 35 of them attended the sessions faithfully and claimed victory over the habit during the last session which was the family night. At that session, family members expressed their appreciation over the success of the program.

The new plan emphasized the positive aspect of behavior modification and has many advantages over the previous program which has a 25-year success record with over 15 million graduates.

**Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director,
Youngberg Adventist Hospital**



All smiles over Dad's success during the family night of Breathe-Free Plan.



Dr. Baldev Singh lecturing on heart disease and lifestyle habits.



Mrs. Han Siew Lan, a volunteer, doing a cooking demonstration during the Nutrition Seminar.

NUTRITION SEMINAR AT YAH

An average of 50 participants took part in a Nutrition Seminar at Youngberg Adventist Hospital on May 8, 15, 22 and 25, 1986, with Health Educator Peggy Chaw as the main speaker and Dr. Clarence Ing assisting.

The first three sessions were lectures on nutrition and balanced diet. At the fourth session, which was on a Sunday, participants watched several cooking demonstrations. Then had lunch together to taste the recipes. Volunteers from the local churches were invited to share their expertise.

Nutrition Seminars are becoming popular in Singapore where people are increasingly health conscious. The hospital administration was pleased with the encouraging response and hope to have similar seminars scheduled for the benefit of the general public.

— **Jonathan Ng, Public Relations Director,
Youngberg Adventist Hospital**

HEALTH EXHIBITION SCREENING IN YISHUN SINGAPORE

The Adventist Better Living Centre's Community Services, in conjunction with the Nee Soon R.C.'s, organized a health exhibition cum blood pressure and glucose screening at Block 141 Yishun Street 72 on July 6, 1986.

The event received tremendous response from over 300 people of all age groups in the Yishun Community. Volunteers from the Youngberg, S.A.U.C., Chinese, Dunman, and Balestier churches measured the participants' heights and weights, blood pressure, the blood glucose levels, estimated life expectancy, and counselled them on health matters.

Proper lifestyle and nutrition topics were stressed by health talks presented by Mrs. Lorilyn Horning and Dr. Baldev Singh. During the afternoon the pleasant aroma of vegetarian cooking presented by Pastor Matthew Yuen, Mrs. Teo and Mrs. Choo from Chinese church, enticed the crowd's taste buds.

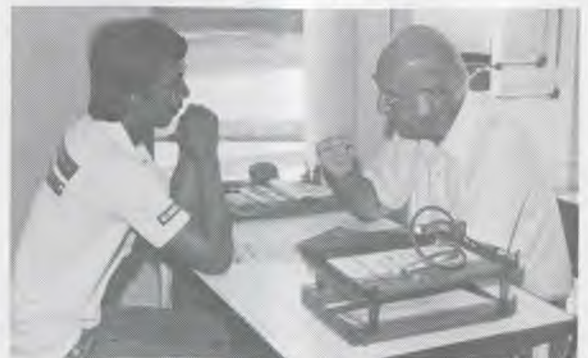
A 77 year old man, upon receiving counselling, decided to give up smoking. He turned in a pack of rolled Chinese cigarettes to the counsellor to signify his decision.

About one in every four visitors indicated interest to sign up for the PATHWAY TO HEALTH correspondence course.

Out of the 330 participants, 17 asked for information regarding the Smoking Cessation Clinic conducted by Youngberg Hospital and 13 were discovered to have abnormal blood pressure and blood glucose levels. They were subsequently advised to consult their respective family physicians.

The ABLC's Community Services wish to thank all those who contributed toward the success of the event.

— **John Tan, Administrator, SDA Community
Services, Singapore**



Dr. Delmar Johnson counselling an individual.

THAILAND



Haad Yai Mission Hospital staff.

HAAD YAI HOSPITAL OPENS CITY CLINIC

On April 22, a new clinic opened in downtown Haad Yai, under the redevelopment program at Haad Yai Mission Hospital. Several special guests attended the inauguration ceremony, including the Mayor of the city and Dr. Ron Gregory, who had founded the medical work in Haad Yai many years ago.

Also present for the occasion were Dr. Ron Brody, President of Bangkok Adventist Hospital, Pastor G. C. Johnson, President of the SAUM, and Mr. Chuwat Kootanasan, Manager of Haad Yai Mission Hospital.

The medical work in Haad Yai actually began in a clinic and served the city before there were any hospitals or other large medical facilities. After Dr. Gregory saved the life of a man given up to die by other physicians in the area, word of the excellent care available at the clinic spread, and soon Dr. Gregory began to have in-patients as well.

For some time now, the old clinic has been closed, since it was only rented and needed renovation. Recently, however, Bangkok Adventist Hospital, assisting with the redevelopment program of the hospital in Haad Yai, purchased a shophouse in a very busy area of downtown Haad Yai. The building has been remodeled to contain a doctor's office and waiting room on the first floor, a potential dental clinic on the second floor, and areas for health education programs on the third and fourth floors.

One stop-smoking program has already been held at the clinic. Although in the early weeks of operation about six to eight patients came each day, attendance is increasing and sometimes reaches nearly 30 in a day. Having the downtown clinic has not noticeably diminished the OPD visits at the hospital.

George C. Johnson
President, SAUM

LESTER HAWKES LEADS BAH WEEK OF PRAYER

"Fidelity, prayerfulness, and faith in God catapulted Daniel to the highest honor in one of the greatest world empires ever to exist on the earth," stated Pastor Lester Hawkes, BAH Church Pastor, during the BAH Week of Prayer held April 21-26. "Never has there been any more spectacular demonstration of what a simple man — and a hostage at that — can become if he chooses to honor God at all costs in any circumstances."

During the final message, on Sabbath morning, Elder Hawkes presented the Judgment Day as a day to be desired and longed for. It is a day when the all-knowing and all-loving Lawyer in heaven's courts will present each case. With God the Father as the all-caring Judge, with Jesus Christ as the Lawyer, and the watchful angels loyal to their charges as the witnesses, it is impossible for an individual to lose his case. It is just necessary to choose to believe and accept Jesus as a personal Saviour and friend.

Following the church service, the BAH Church enjoyed fellowship at a well-attended potluck lunch. During the dinner, Mr. T. Y. Billones, BAH Vice President for Financial Affairs, expressed thanks and appreciation to Pastor and Mrs. Hawkes for their ministry to BAH and wished them God's richest blessings as they returned to Australia on May 4.

Pr. Penafloreda, BAH Chaplain



Pastor Lester Hawkes.



Twenty-eight employees received awards for having served BAH for many years.

THAI LITERATURE MINISTRY MOVES AHEAD

From the quiet campus of Methang Academy ten young men, smartly dressed in new clothes and carrying new bags filled with books, headed for the cities along with Pastor and Mrs. Songrit Detjitrak (Udom K.)

The four Thais, four Hmong, and two Lahoo are crowded into a shophouse in Saraburi, 120 km. northeast of Bangkok. They have dedicated a year of their lives to the literature ministry in the cities of central Thailand.

All have their assigned territories. Working carefully to be sure no one is passed by, they make frequent call-backs, praying for God's help, for strength, and for courage to do His will. Together the group have morning and evening worship, singing songs of praise, giving testimonies of experiences they have had, and thanking God for the success He has given.

Working together, these young men and Pastor and Mrs. Songrit hope through this new adventure to raise up a church to the glory of God.

— Jerry Potter, Publishing Director, Thailand

BAH CELEBRATES 49TH ANNIVERSARY

Employees and guests of BAH met on May 8 to celebrate the 49th anniversary of the hospital.

Workers from various departments presented a "birthday" gift of 44,167 Bhat for the building fund. In addition, Khun nai Kamthorn Vejsutas, long-time patient and staunch supporter of BAH donated 100,000 bhat for the building fund. These generous gifts are greatly appreciated.

That afternoon, 28 employees received service awards. Among them, twelve have worked 20 years, four have worked 25 years, nine have worked 30 years, and four have served 35 years. The loyalty displayed by these veteran employees has greatly added to the stability of BAH.

Most important, God has greatly blessed and guided during the past 49 years to make BAH what it is today.

— BAH Public Relations Office



Twelve-member team of young Literature Evangelists.



Mrs. Kamthorn Vejsutas.

SARAWAK

MORE LAY PASTORS TRAINED IN SARAWAK

Fourteen men, including two village chiefs, have recently completed a lay pastor training program. The first such training session, held last year, has helped to provide lay leadership to support and supplement the work of the pastors, most of whom have several churches to care for.

Most of the 14 trainees this year are from the Roban and the Julau River areas. The work of the SDA church in the Roban area began with an ADRA health project about two years ago. Since then, interests have appeared in scattered villages throughout the district, and a number expressed a desire to attend the lay pastor training session. At the end of the program, three men were baptized from the Roban area and two from the Julau River district.

The lay pastors received both theoretical and practical training during the sessions. They learned many of the how-to's of the traditional services of the church, including how to prepare communion bread and bake it in a make-shift dutch oven.

The men constructed their own communion trays, and made picture puzzle blocks to help children see Sabbath as a special, happy day.

An especially interesting aspect of the training session was the teaching of several newly-developed indigenized programs, including a harvest Sabbath, the first fruit and the blessing of the seeds ceremonies, and a newborn baby presentation.

According to Iban custom, when a baby reaches seven days old it should go for its first bath. There are, however, some unacceptable pagan aspects to this custom, so the Indigenization Committee of the mission has developed a baby presentation ceremony, conducted when the baby is seven days old. Coincidentally, the daughter of one of the village chief gave birth early in the training program, so when the baby girl was seven days old the class had a real hands-on experience, learning to conduct the presentation.

Pastor Gilbert Tan and Daniel Walter, with the assistance of SAUM Ministerial Director W. S. Bassham, have led out in the lay pastor training programs, with aid from the FED Unusual Opportunities funds.

— Daniel Walter, Ministerial Secretary, Sarawak

MAKING. . .

Communion Bread



Pastor Gilbert Tan demonstrating how to make the Communion Bread.



Pastor Gilbert Tan demonstrating how to bake the communion bread in a make-shift dutch oven.



The baked communion bread is coming from the make-shift dutch oven.



Village Lay Pastors participating in "hands on training" of how to conduct a Communion Service.

Sabbath Toys



Village Lay Pastor making a block puzzle as a special Sabbath toy for his children.



The children can hardly wait until Sabbath to be able to play with their special Sabbath toys!

Communion Juice Trays



Church Elder, Gemong ak Brayon of Ng. Lusu, Julau River, drilling the holes for his communion tray.



Village Lay Pastors fitting cups into the communion trays they have made.

CELEBRATING. . .

Baby Dedication



Pastor Gilbert Tan, instructing Village Lay Preachers in conducting the Baby Presentation service, Central Sarawak.

Baptism



Five Village Lay Preachers baptized at the conclusion of an intensive three-weeks training in Central Sarawak. The three on the left are direct results of the Mission's Health Project in the area.

SABAH**AT REST...****VISITOR'S DAY IN
KAMPUNG TAHURI**

The 16 Sabbath School members of the SDA Church in Kampung Tahuri celebrated Visitor's Day on the 13th Sabbath of the first quarter. District pastor Guodoh Bendah presented the sermon to the members and their 34 visitors from the surrounding churches. After the service the members and visitors enjoyed light refreshments and fellowship. The members hope that their church will function as a true light in the village and that more friends from the surrounding churches will enjoy fellowship with them.



Church members of the Kampung Tahuri Church.



Mrs. Quah Paik Hoah.

Mrs. Quah Paik Hoah

MRS. QUAH PAIK HOAH, first Dean of the Bangkok Adventist Hospital School of Nursing, and head of each domestic department of the hospital at some time during her 38 years of service to BAH, passed to her rest on December 26, 1985 at the age of 90 years.

Mrs. Quah's grandfather was the governor of Ranong Province. He had received from the King of Thailand the fourth highest honored title bestowed by a monarch at that time, that of "Praya Damrong". This brought great wealth and honor to the already wealthy governor and all his family.

As the only daughter of the governor's only daughter, Mrs. Quah was a great favorite of her father and grandfather. She was given whatever she desired, and from the time she was 12 years of age servants did everything for her, including dressing her. Yet because of her passion for learning, she was given the best education available in an English convent school.

Later she married Mr. Quah Tian Lok in Penang. They had five children. One day she took her sick son to a recently opened clinic in Penang. There Dr. and Mrs. Earl Gardner gave her a "Signs of the Times" magazine. In that magazine she found answers to perplexing questions, especially, "Why are there so many gods to worship?" She soon became a devout Seventh-day Adventist.

Having traveled to Thailand to care for a sick uncle, Mrs. Quah was stranded there without her family during the Japanese occupation of Thailand prior to World War II. After many efforts her children were finally restored to her, but she was not allowed to return to Penang. All her worldly possessions were confiscated, and thus she began an entirely different kind of life.

In 1947, Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Waddell reopened the medical work in Thailand, and needed a dean for the School of Nursing. God guided them to her, and thus began "Mother" Quah's adoption into the BAH family, which lasted uninterrupted until the day of her death. Her years at BAH were characterized by total selfless service for others and a very simple lifestyle. From her door went a steady stream of food and other necessities of life for those in need.

Three surviving daughters reside in Los Angeles, USA. One daughter, Mrs. Charin, worked for many years as head of Medical Records at BAH. She also has 15 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Neil Thrasher



Mrs. Anna Nakies Turambi with husband (far left), daughter Rita, and son David.

Mrs. Anna Nakies Turambi

MRS. ANNA NAKIES TURAMBI was born in November, 1938 and passed away April 15, 1986 in Kuching, Sarawak, after a long battle against cancer.

Mrs. Turambi graduated from Teachers Training College in Kuching. Following her graduation she began her teaching career at the Simboh Adventist Village School. Through the years she taught also at the Overseas School on the Silang campus of Philippine Union College, at Ayer Manis School, and at Sunny Hill School, where she was teaching prior to the terminal stage of her illness. She taught in Seventh-day Adventist schools for a total of 27 years.

In addition to her school teaching, Mrs. Turambi remained active in church work, especially in the children's Sabbath Schools. She loved children and was loved by them in return. During her illness, many of her former students brought flowers to her.

Mrs. Turambi was the beloved wife of Wim Simon Turambi, who teaches at Sunny Hill School in Sarawak. In addition, she leaves two children: Rita Anne, 23, a teacher at the International Tuition School, Kuching; and David Leslie, 21, a student at Philippine Union College.

———— Michael Tan, student, SAUC

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"For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first."

1 Thessalonians 4:16