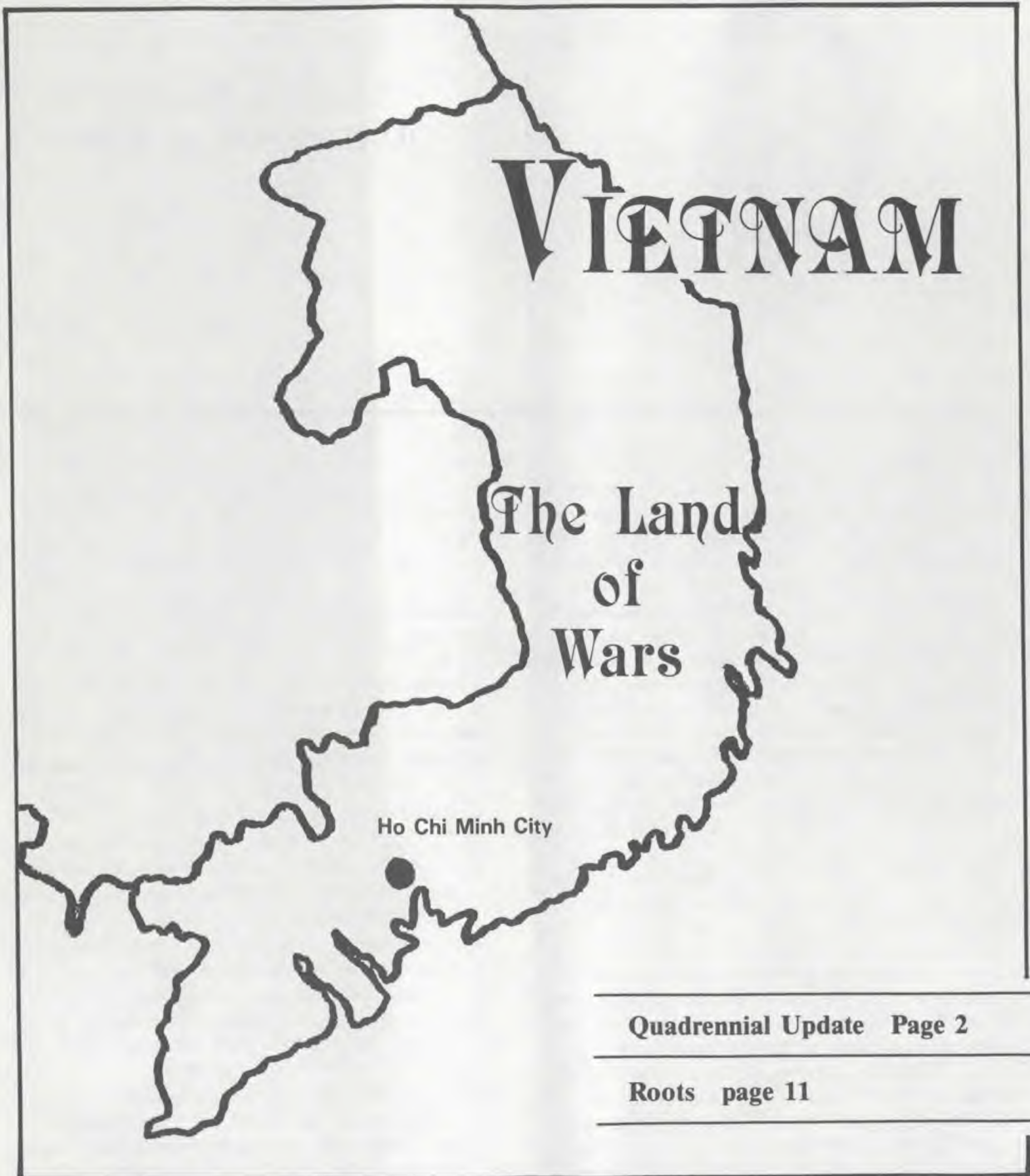


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AT YEAREND



SAUM PRESIDENT'S QUADRENNIAL REPORT

George C. Johnson

On Friday evening, November 18, at 7.00 pm, Pastor George Johnson, the president of the Southeast Asia Union Mission spoke to the assembled delegates of the 10th Quadrennial Session of the Union field. The meeting convened in the worship room in the SAUM office.

Pastor Johnson spoke of the experience of Israel as they prepared to enter the land of Canaan. Taking his scripture text from the 13th chapter of Numbers, he compared the attitudes of the 12 spies who went to Canaan at Moses' command. Today, we only remember the names of two of the men — Caleb and Joshua. All of the others have been forgotten. The task before all of them appeared impossible to Israel. In human strength and human wisdom, Israel was doomed to failure. Only as Caleb and Joshua laboured in God's strength could they speak confidently of success.

The doubts expressed by the ten spies indicated their lack of faith, sin and distrust of God. They needed to realize by faith as Caleb and Joshua did, that God's name is *Jehoshua* — which means "Jehovah is Salvation." To the extent that we think we ourselves can finish the work or defeat the enemy we also sin. Only by trust in Jehovah can we be assured of success in completion of our task.

The Israelites always prided themselves on being the children of Abraham. Abraham was loved by God because he believed God. In the very trait which recommended Abraham as a trusting child of God, the ten spies and so many of the Israelites failed.

God asked Moses in Numbers 14:11, "How long will

this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed unto them?" God today wants to take His people across Jordan to the Promised Land. Do we believe His promise to lead us and to give power to finish the work? Do we really anticipate His soon coming? Are we preparing for translation and for the speedy conclusion of God's work on earth?

Pastor Johnson went on to recount God's blessings to His work and workers in the SAUM during the past four years. Some of the highlights of his report are:

- ★ SAUM membership in the third quarter of 1984 was 34,773. (This included 700 refugee members.)
- ★ SAUM membership in the third quarter of 1988 was 45,726. This included 5,035 refugee members.)
- ★ From July 1985 to June 1990, the SAUM baptismal goal is 15,175 souls. Excluding refugee baptisms, the SAUM has reached 36% of the goal.
- ★ The country of Brunei has been entered by Adventist believers during the past four years. Two groups of believers meet from Sabbath to Sabbath. A literature evangelist regularly makes visits to Brunei and sells SDA literature there. Recently, a Pathfinder club was started in Kuala Belait.
- ★ During 1988, SDA leaders made two visits to the country of Vietnam. ADRA has initiated projects in co-operation with the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Our Union leaders have been

able to re-establish contact with the Vietnam Mission leadership. Though they cannot be present in the Union Quadrennial Session, they have sent their greetings to the assembled delegates in Singapore. Baptisms in Vietnam have recently totaled 180 souls in 1988. There are now over 3,000 baptized members in the Vietnam Mission.

- ★ The West Malaysia-Singapore Mission was divided January 1, 1988 to make two new missions. The Peninsular Malaysia Mission (PEM) with headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, and the Singapore Mission (SAM), with headquarters in Jurong, Singapore, are a reality now. Church work is progressing actively in both these areas, and the church and financial support are growing in each country.
- ★ A number of major building projects were started or completed during the quadrennial period. Among these are:
 - The Sabah Mission office is completed.
 - The Sarawak Mission office is starting construction.
 - Many churches, Jurong in Singapore is the largest. The Ekamai Thai Church, the Tamparuli Sabah Church are also major projects. There are many small and large churches across the Union which have been built.
- ★ The Health Conditioning Center in Muak Lek, Thailand which will be a model for Health Conditioning and Health Education not only for the SAUM but for the entire FED, has been initiated. Building work has begun and should be completed within about a year.
- ★ The Thailand Mission College — now a four-year nursing program, but to become a multi-discipline liberal arts college — is started. In spite of many problems with finance, faculty, staff, etc., the college is now a reality. Approximately 200 acres of land now comprise the campus about two hours' drive from Bangkok. Over 100 students are now studying in a four-year program in the department of nursing. The Mission College will open its doors to students on the Muak Lek campus in June 1990. Presently, 18 students (16 men and 2 women) are studying in the Ministerial training class on the AES campus. It is planned that the Ministerial training program will ultimately become the Theology program of the Mission College.
- ★ A developer for the food industries to be started by the SAUM is now in Thailand and has started development of a food factory.
- ★ A great deal of improvement in equipment and building has taken place at the publishing houses and hospitals throughout the Union field.

- ★ Haadyai Mission Hospital has been rented out to a private medical group. Though this action caused many regrets, it has saved the church and the hospital considerable financial loss. An SDA chaplain is now working at the hospital, though it is operated by non-SDA doctors under a different name.
- ★ The last quadrennial has been an era of lay training. This year — 1988 — we celebrated the commemoration of 100 years of SDA work in the FED. In the example of Abram LaRue, many lay people are being trained for service today. In the Sarawak Mission and in the Thailand Mission, specially funded projects have been initiated to give lay persons skills which will enable them to serve and lead in their churches. In increasing intensity, the good news of salvation by faith in Jesus and righteousness by faith is being preached in every corner of the union.
- ★ AWR Asia media broadcasts reaching the very corners of the SAUM are now being broadcast from Guam. Radio ministry in Bangkok, Thailand and in Kuching, Sarawak are ministering to the citizens of those areas. Broadcasts from stations in Indonesia now reach most of Malaysia. The chaplain of the hospital in Haadyai broadcasts in Thai to the region of Southern Thailand. Over 100 souls and a new church have resulted from the chaplain's ministry alone! Planning is now underway for radio broadcasts into Vietnam, in English to Singapore and in English, Chinese, Bahasa Malaysia into Malaysia from the Indonesia enclave of Batam.
- ★ The last four years have been a time of increasing self-support. This has not been entirely by choice but because of necessity. There is local stewardship — more local tithe, offering and alternate sources of financing for the church today than existed in 1984.
- ★ Conference status for several of the SAUM missions is now being discussed. Sabah, Singapore and Peninsular Malaysia are within distance of candidacy for conference status. The next triennial period may see some of these plans brought to fruition.

The last four years have been a time of God's blessing, but what did He really want to do through and with us? We can see His hand in so much of what has happened. What were His plans? Does He want us in Heaven now? Was it in His plan to have completed the work?

Numbers 13 and 14 direct us to look back and count God's blessings and then look forward trusting in God's promises. We must never count on our own strength or wisdom. In doing God's work, **Jehovah is Salvation!** With Him leading us and His people in SAUM, we can cross the Jordan and enter Heavenly Canaan. Let us move forward and take the land, because it is ours in His strength! ■



Thomas G. Staples,
Treasurer

Treasurer Tom Staples presents a thrilling report on SAUM during this current 1984 — 1988 quadrennium. Tithe income has continued to improve at a 1.9% annual increase throughout all the missions. The consolidated tithe for the five missions and Union was US\$1,275,204 in 1987, the best year to date for this quadrennium. This is significantly important in light of the new restructuring of FED subsidies during this period. Under the new plan $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ % of gross mission tithe is now returned directly to the missions within the SAUM, while the remaining $7\frac{1}{2}$ % is retained by the Union as a pooled funding source to attempt to maintain the subsidies formerly provided by the Division.

Many improvements have occurred within the Union, missions and institutions, leaving the SAUM in a much better state financially at this quadrennium year-end. All five missions now do their accounting procedures on IBM PC compatible computers. This has improved greatly the uniformity and consistency of financial reporting. A fax machine network is currently being established throughout the Union. Several new building projects have been completed or are in progress during this quadrennium: a new mission office each for Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore; improvements and additions for both Youngberg and Bangkok Adventist Hospitals; the college for Thailand. Several institutions previously making serious operating losses annually have now turned around, thus painting a much brighter picture for the future of such places as: the Thailand Language Schools and Penang Adventist Hospital.

The present watchword in church planning is "global strategy". This means that the resources of money and personnel previously allocated to further aide development of existing church activities and growth are now being steadily withdrawn and allocated to meet major new challenges in areas such as: the Eastern bloc countries, the Socialist countries of Asia and the vast population of the Islamic world. To us in Southeast Asia,

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C. Y. Wu,
Secretary

Secretary C. Y. Wu reports that in 1917 the total membership throughout the whole Malaysian Union, which covered the present SAUM and two Indonesian Unions, was only 337. Today it stands at 40,691 plus another 5,035 refugee members not included in this statistic. Today we operate educational institutions, publishing houses and hospitals. It sounds impressive; however, affluence has its drawbacks. The Harvest 90 goal for SAUM is 15,175. During the last 13 quarters of this 20 quarter period we have only achieved 36.2% or 5,493 individuals out of the total goal of 15,175 new members. Various things hold the churches in SAUM back from fully realizing its goal, but we pray that God will continue to open the way before us that His name may be proclaimed more widely throughout this Union.

During this quadrennium new avenues of ministry were tried by various missions in an effort to reach out more effectively. **Sarawak** capitalized on training local lay pastors. Thus far, 62 lay pastors have been trained to take care of local churches and do evangelistic work in their areas. **Singapore** conducted a Hymn Festival at the largest Presbyterian Church in the city. It was so well received that presently a second Hymn Festival is being planned in conjunction with the Methodists for April 1988. It will be held in the largest theatre in town and publicized as a nation-wide event. **Thailand** experienced amazing church growth, despite it's Buddhist majority, through lay and medical evangelism. Several new churches came into existence. **Sabah** has captalized on evangelistic crusades throughout its area. Colporteurs and lay members have sought more directly to enter previously unentered areas. **West Malaysia** conducted a Preach Seminar which seemed very successful in breaking down pre-conceived prejudices from non-SDA clergy. Evangelistic meetings proved the most successful in bringing new members into the truth. A total of 300 souls were baptized during 1985 — 1987. This is a 47% increase over the previous two years for West Malaysia. ■

C. Y. Wu, Secretary, SAUM

THAILAND**HELP FOR THAILAND'S FLOOD VICTIMS**

While people from around the world were still enjoying their delicious left-overs from their 1988 Thanksgiving feasts, the people of Southern Thailand were thankful just to be alive as they waited on roof-tops, in boats, and made their way to any available higher ground to escape the flood waters of Thailand's worst natural disaster in recorded history.

Late November brought rains and floods unprecedented in the history of Southern Thailand. Hundreds of thousands were left homeless and hungry, as the rising torrents washed away their farms, their houses and destroyed all of their belongings. Nearly three quarters of a million villagers were affected by the floods and 430,500 houses were destroyed. The number of casualties is now rated at over a thousand and is still climbing. Whole families were swept away and drowned.

First reports of the disasters came to fellow church members in newspaper and radio reports. For a period of time all rail, road, and even air traffic was suspended to Haadyai, the principal city of South Thailand. Phones, power supply and water service was out of order. Within hours of restoration of the telephone service, SDA workers in Haadyai phoned a first-hand report of needs and recommendations to ADRA personnel. This enabled ADRA to respond in a rapid manner to the disaster.

In such an overwhelming disaster, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) joined hands with other relief organizations to bring help to these flood victims. ADRA Thailand together with the Bangkok Adventist Hospital, Thailand Mission and Southeast Asia Union Mission were able to request ADRA/FED and ADRA International to put together a package of over US\$40,000 for the purchases of food and medicines.

The Thai government requested the ADRA team to assist with the distribution of food and medical treatment



Student missionary helping clean up the Haadyai Church

in the Surat Thani area which was one of the hardest hit by the flood. Eight volunteers in the food distribution team and eleven in the medical team (including one doctor and four nurses) went to Surat Thani on December 1. The food and clothing team, together with the medical team, soon made their presence felt in the disaster area as they brought aide and comfort to the victims. Elder Johnson, the president of Southeast Asia Union Mission stated, "Our first priority is to save lives and bring relief to our Thai brothers and sisters. Later when the flood waters recede, we will want to go in again and have a look at our own churches, our hospital and our school to access the extent of damage sustained."

We would like to commend the ADRA and BAH teams for their quick action and loving concern to help restore smiles in the Land of Smiles.



Destitute flood victims with at least the luxury of a horse and buggy.

PHUKET MISSION HOSPITAL CHANGES ADMINISTRATION

During the past year, Phuket Mission Hospital has operated under the direction of three administrators. Mr Victor Duerksen, a retiree was the administrator and CFO (Chief Financial Officer) at the beginning of the year. When he left for home in California, Mr Nantoo Banerjee took over as the Acting President and CFO. During his tenure, the hospital computerized various aspects of its financial operations.

The search for an administrator culminated with the selection of Ronald Koh of Penang Adventist Hospital. Ronald served as a member of the administration as Personnel Manager. He also recently completed the AHS/A sponsored Master Degree in Health Administration offered in Singapore. His wife is a nurse who completed her training at Bangkok Adventist Hospital. Ronald moved to Phuket in early August and took up duties as the new president of the hospital.

Shortly before Ronald's arrival, Miss Betty Chin, daughter of Pastor Chin Kon Loy who pastors the Bangkok Chinese Church was appointed the Chief Financial Officer. Betty has had experience working at the Thailand Publishing House as their accountant. She has recently returned from Spicer Memorial College where she completed an MBA Degree.

Phuket Mission Hospital has continued with a development program with help from AHS/A and the SAUM Union Health Care Board. Financial operations during 1988 have been positive, although the institution has been chronically short of doctors. Both Dr Ray Penafloida and Dr Neal Thrasher are on their medical staff where the latter serves as the Vice President for Medical Affairs. A search continues for an additional Thai physician who can share the work load of these two dedicated missionary physicians.

God has blessed in the selection of the two capable new national administrators for Phuket Mission Hospital. We believe the future is bright for the hospital as Ronald Koh and his team lead the hospital staff in service to the community and in the proclamation of the "Good News" through the medical ministry.

— George C. Johnson, President, SAUM

RECENT ACTIVITIES AT PHUKET MISSION HOSPITAL

On Sabbath afternoon September 10, Phuket Adventist Hospital conducted a free community service at Rawai, a small district of Phuket. This community consists mostly of Thais of the Muslim faith.

The twenty member staff consisted of a doctor, a dentist, a health educator, five nurses, a chaplain and other hospital staff and church members.

On arrival we were greeted by eager villagers. The community leaders had arranged for us to use the kindergarten to see the patients. While setting up our doctor and dentist clinics, the receptionists were busy registering the patients who came in different age groups.

Dr. Thrasher saw over 180 patients within four hours. Pharmacy prescriptions were well over 600. Dr. Twijnstra saw 28 dental patients and extracted 34 teeth. None were turned away. Those requiring further treatment were asked to go to the hospital. In between waiting to see the doctor and dentist, Miss Piamboon Tang, our Health Educator gave instruction on how to care for the teeth.

We were happy to be of service to this Muslim community. Though we may not be able to preach Christ to them, we can reflect to them what Christ has done for us. They have requested us to visit another Muslim village next time.

We are extremely grateful to Great Eastern Drug Company for providing the medicines for use in the free clinic and a sales representative who was present, too.

Again on September 20 - 22, our Health Education Department held a HEARTBEAT Program. Over 60 people participated with laboratory tests and Canadian step tests. The results were shared with the participants on October 2, after which a lecture was given by Dr Penafloida concerning Heart Disease. Piamboon Tang, our Health Educator, gave a follow-up lecture on nutrition on October 16.

Due to our shortage of staff, we especially appreciated the SOS help of Dr Frank Crider from the States during the months of September to November of this year.

We continue to seek avenues for actively marketing our hospital and services to the community in a further effort to reach the people of Phuket with the gospel. We enlist your prayers on our behalf.

— Ronald Koh, President, Phuket Adventist Hospital

GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONIES, HEALTH CONDITIONING CENTRE AT MUAK LEK

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the proposed Health Conditioning Centre to be built by Bangkok Adventist Hospital at Muak Lek took place on Monday, November 14, 1988. Approximately 100 people from Bangkok Adventist Hospital, the Thailand Mission, the SAUM, the FED and the General Conference were present at the occasion. Dr Ronald Brody, the president of BAH, Pastor George Johnson, President of SAUM and the local provincial representatives from the town of Muak Lek spoke at the ground-breaking celebration. Following the ground-breaking, the staff from Bangkok Adventist Hospital served a delicious meal.

The conditioning centre will be built on a knoll overlooking the valley with fruit orchards and farms. Bangkok Adventist Hospital, Adventist English School and Thailand Mission College now own over 200 acres.

The complex will contain 25 double-occupancy rooms, a kitchen/dining room, treatment rooms, a meeting hall, a site for a future swimming pool and a great deal of natural beauty in the location and scenery. Walkways will be planned on the large campus so visitors can walk and exercise while they are guests of the centre.

Construction of the complex will take approximately one year. The architects for the project are represented by Miss Anderson, who designed the new Pleng wing at BAH. On-going Newstart Programs and other lifestyle change events will be scheduled so the center remains active and busy throughout the year. The centre will be the first of its kind in the country of Thailand, the Southeast Asia Union Mission and indeed in the entire Far Eastern Division. It is hoped that the centre at Muak Lek will serve as a model for other SDA medical institutions in the Far East.

It is hoped that the Health Conditioning Centre will take the medical ministry at BAH back to the very basics of Seventh-Day Adventist medical missionary work. Emphasis will be on prevention rather than mere cure. Another step has been taken toward showing the people of Thailand the plan of Jesus for abundant living.

— **George C. Johnson, President, SAUM**

HEPATITIS-B SCREENING AT BAH

In a break away from more traditional Health Education programs, BAH recently conducted a Hepatitis B screening program followed up by a vaccination clinic.

Realizing that Hepatitis B virus is endemic in Thailand and that as high as 10% of the population are carriers, the Health Education department staff felt such a program would help appraise the public regarding their risk of infection.

The first phase of the program was the blood sampling where registrants were also exposed to a poster exhibition of the disease, its incidence, spread and prevention.

At the time the results of the lab testing were relayed, a movie and slide presentation about Hepatitis B, along with a question and answer session also took place. Each person was then counseled individually about whether or not he needed the immunization based on the lab reports.

Appointments were made for immunization. Departmental staff administered the injections the following week.

Individuals, totalling 545 persons, participated in the program, 140 of whom were hospital employees. Testing for employees in high risk areas was paid for by the hospital.

— **Cari Hammonds, Health Education Dept., BAH**



Model of proposed Health Conditioning Centre.

KUDAT CRUSADE HARVESTS SOULS FOR CHRIST

October 1 is a special day that the believers of Kudat Seventh-day Adventist Church will long cherish. Twenty-three souls were baptized in the South China Sea by Dr. David Wong and Pastor Shupinar Koubong as a result of the "Blessed Life Crusade".

More than six months before the crusade, Pastor George Lee, the church pastor and organizer of the crusade, and the members of his church laid the groundwork by organizing several teams to give Bible studies, hold cottage meetings, and visit Voice of Prophecy students. These were often followed up with VOP lessons.

During the crusade many of the interests were brought to the meetings by members who used their own vehicles to transport them to the church. It was quite a sight to see people coming to the meetings in vehicles of all sizes and shapes, such as lorries, vans, pickups, and even a jeep from the World War II days. As a result of the faithfulness of these members in bringing others to Christ, great joy was experienced in witnessing the church packed with people eager to hear the good news from night to night.

The crusade speaker, Dr. David Wong, the Church Ministries Director of Southeast Asia Union Mission, was very much impressed by the students' involvement in the crusade. One high school student, himself a Kudat Church member, brought many of his schoolmates to the meetings. He was instrumental in giving them Bible studies and in leading them to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. One of the students who was baptized at the end of the crusade decided to become a lay preacher and share the love of Christ with the people in his village.

After working untiringly in the crusade and experiencing the thrill in witnessing the changed lives of those who accepted Christ, a church leader aptly commented: "I am filled with gratitude for God's blessings and leadings in this crusade and in our church. There has been a great deal of unity and love among our members. I expect great things to happen as the church works toward the goals of HARVEST 90."

— David Wong, Church Ministries Director, SAUM

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL BAPTISMS

Miss Pat Gustin, the Director of the Thailand English School (ELS), recently reported a Bible camp held at Cha-Am for church youth, AES students and ELS students. Six non-Christian students attended this meeting and all were favorably impressed by the Christian emphasis.

In early September, a former English Language School student was baptized at the BAH Church. A report from California indicates that another former ELS student is being baptized in the United States. Bible studies for other students who wish to be baptized in the near future are going on. A Bible Camp for more evangelistic outreach among the ELS students is being planned now for early February, 1989.

Though the ELS program has been financially weak for a number of years, the financial picture has also brightened during 1988. The ELS has been able to repay a substantial portion of its long-term debt and has received matching-fund assistance from SAUM and FED. Combined enrollment at the Haadyai and the Bangkok Schools now stands at over 450 students.

This encouraging report of both soul-winning and financial success is a great boost to the morale of the ELS. Please continue to remember, in your prayers, this soul-winning agency which reaches out largely to the non-SDA youth in Thailand.

— George C. Johnson, President, SAUM



The 23 baptismal candidates posed with Dr David Wong, Pastors Shupinar Koubong and George Lee, and Elders Chong Shui Liu and Peter Chong before their baptism.

SABAH

"SOWING LOVE IN SABAH, NOW!"

"Maranatha! Maranatha!" This form of greeting introduced by Pastor Ba Khin, Youth Director of the Far Eastern Division, became very popular during the third Sabah-wide Youth Congress held at Goshen from August 3—7, 1988.

The highlight of the Congress came on Friday night with the presentation of the story of Abram La Rue, the persistent seaman-missionary. There was a hush in the vast auditorium as the aged Abram La Rue, played by Pastor Ginduk Laung, hobbled across the dimly-lit stage, then knelt and poured out the desire in his heart to sow the seeds of the gospel truth to the millions in the Far East and the Pacific isles.

At the close, Dr. Charles Griffin, Church Ministries Director of the Far Eastern Division, held high a flaming torch before passing it to Dr. David Wong, of Southeast Asia Union Mission, who in turn passed it on to Dr. Charles Gaban, President of Sabah Mission. Youth leaders from the churches came forward and lit their torches and then marched back to their own groups. As the song "This Little Light of Mine" was sung, members of each group lit their candles from the group leaders. Soon the whole auditorium was brightly illuminated by the glow of hundreds of flickering candles. It was a beautiful sight with each light held high as everyone sang, "I'm going to let it shine!"

Sabbath attendance went way past the 2000 mark. Following the sermon by Dr. Charles Griffin, Elder Ba Khin baptized seven young people. In the afternoon, the people braved the torrential rain to attend the songfest.

Sabah's Adventist youth have pledged to work with the pastors and other lay members to "Sow Love in Sabah, Now!" The target is to double this year's number of baptisms by the end of next year.

— Shupinar Koubong, Youth Director, SAUM



Pathfinders and leaders of Brunei

1st PATHFINDER CAMP IN BRUNEI

About 15 children of Brunei attended a weekend Pathfinders' Camp on September 17-19. Camping outdoors was a first-time experience for the children, but they enjoyed it very much.

The children learnt to cook their own meals and looked smart in their uniforms and caps. Various activities and classes were conducted for them including marching and drilling, Bible studies, pantomime and games.

The camp was sponsored by their mothers who were just as excited as their children.

A session about parenting was conducted by Dr. Hulman Sinaga for the adults present, while Colin Choo co-ordinated the program and was assisted by George Sangkin, the Kota Kinabalu District and Zone Pathfinder Director.

At the close of the camp incentive prizes were given away for the various activities conducted.

— Colin Choo, Literature Evangelist, Brunei

THE WORK IN LAHAD DATU

This year the Sabah Literature Evangelists were very fortunate to have Pastor Randy Horning, Publishing Director of Southeast Asia Union Mission, unite and work with us in Lahad Datu. It is in this area where crimes are often committed by foreigners. It is such a dangerous place that many of our members as well as non-members have warned us to be extra cautious, as they can sense the danger of working from house to house here. However, together with Pastor Horning we canvassed even in the area where police considered it "black area". It is called "black area" because it is here where thousands of refugees from the Philippines are located. The police believe that the people who often commit crimes here come from the "black area". However, so far no evil incident has befallen anyone of us. This, we believe is because of the protection provided by God upon His faithful children who are doing His work.

Last month I was in Lahad Datu again for one week to work with the ten literature evangelists stationed there. At the end of my visit, on Sabbath, October 22 1988, I had the privilege of baptizing 16 candidates who had been studying the Bible with the district pastor, Malek Enggang. Two of the candidates were Filipinos, children of our Filipino members who have come over to Sabah with the purpose of hunting for jobs.

Please remember our pastor and literature evangelists who are working in the dangerous areas in the East Coast of Sabah, and include them in your prayers.

— Martin Ya'ang, Publishing Director, Sabah

ROOTS

by Huu Lee



VIETNAM

Vietnam, an independent, socialist republic has an estimated population of approximately 60 million. A majority of Vietnamese would identify themselves as Buddhists (generally of the Thai-Tibetan from the Theravada), although Confucianist, Taoist and underlying native faiths and practices may also be involved in any given groups or individual's experience. The Roman Catholics have claimed 2.2 million adherents, which may not be far from the number of practicing Buddhists in the nation.

In 1975, there was an estimated 300,000 Protestants in Vietnam. The population of Vietnam is predominantly Vietnamese, ethnically, but also includes Chinese, Montagnards and Khmer. The basic unit of Vietnam society is the family, both its paternal and extended forms.

Vietnam, as a nation, lies north and south on a peninsula in Southeast Asia. To the east and west are China and India. Neighboring countries to the west are Kaampuchea, Laos, Thailand and Burma; to the north is China.

The Beginings of Adventist Work: 1914—1929

As early as 1914 and at various times in the 1920s, Chinese colporteurs, some led by R M Milne and K O Tan from South China Union, sold Adventist literature to the Chinese population in urban centers. In connection with the work of these colporteurs, a Sabbath School was conducted in a private school. After the departure of the colporteurs, these meetings were discontinued.

The First Missionaries Arrive: 1929—1937

By the early 20th century, a considerable number of local people had converted to Christianity through the work of Catholic missionaries over the previous half century.

The first Adventist missionary family, the R H Wentlands from the US, disembarked at Saigon harbor on October 2, 1929. They were greeted by Louis Julien, who, together with Mrs Andre Deler, were the only two French Adventists in Vietnam at the time as far as is known.

On the following Sabbath, a regular Sabbath School was organised, composed of three adults and two children. Before the year closed, the first church had been

History of the Seventh-day Ad

formed with five charter members.

Wentland wrote five tracts on the subjects of the Second Advent and the Sabbath. In 1935, with funds donated by E W Farnsworth (one of the very first Adventists in New England in the 1840s) shortly before his death at the age of 88, the tracts were printed and began to be spread across the land.

As a result of reading these tracts, Tran Ngoc Te, then living in Cantho, became the first Vietnamese convert, and later the first native evangelist. He was baptized in October 1931. By 1933, he had conducted a series of evangelistic meetings in Cantho and neighbouring towns and had made some converts before he moved on to Lonxuyen.

F L Pickett and his wife arrived in 1930. Pickett and Wentland built a church at Tinh Bien, on the border of Vietnam and Cambodia. A small beginning in the work for the tribespeople, Montagnard aborigines, was affected in Dijiring in 1938.

In 1937, the SDA work was organised into a Mission within the Malayan Union. The fledging work in Vietnam took the name of *La Socieie des Missions Adventists de France en Indo-China*.

World War II Brings Isolation: 1941—1947

With the outbreak of World War II, the American missionaries — were evacuated from the field, only, in some cases, to be imprisoned by the Japanese before they arrived home.

During World War II, Vietnam was isolated from the rest of the world as a result of attempts by the Japanese to occupy the land. The Mission headquarters, in turn, was isolated from the local churches because the roads, bridges and railway links had been destroyed by airstrikes. The community suffered through a painful divided existence, one part in the zone controlled by the resistance government, the other in the zone nominally controlled by the French government.

“Postwar” Brings War of Liberation for Vietnam: 1947—1954

In 1947, E H Wallace, L G Storz and R A Figur, arrived in the country to encourage the work. Peace had returned to much of the world, but in Vietnam the War still raged and the church continued its divided existence.

In the area now actually controlled by the French military forces, the missionary territory available for Adventist work expanded to some of the cities in the South, then to the central highlands, to Danang, and even to North Vietnam. New churches were established in Saigon, a church was organised in Dalat, and the message was spread into the mountain tribes around the

Adventist Work in South East Asia

city.

Rehabilitation work occupied much of the available time and talent. A property in Phunham, a district of Saigon, was acquired and the Mission headquarters, the central Saigon Church, and the Printing Shop were established there. The Workers' Training School operated sporadically during these years.

The first Adventist church school was in Saigon during this time. A number of young people were sent abroad for training. On their return, some of these graduates became key workers for the church.

The Voice of Prophecy radio broadcast, with Huu Lee as speaker and the Bible Correspondence School were also established. Advances were made in medical ministry. Colporteurs, some of whom became martyrs, helped to push the edge of the work ever outward.

War of Liberation Becomes Civil War: 1954—1975

When, following the Geneva Accords, Vietnam was partitioned in 1954, the movement of refugees back and forth from North to South not only posed serious problems to the governments, but also confronted the church with new tasks.

While the communist North barred all evangelical work, the nationalist South opened the door for all creeds. All barriers between so-called "free zones" and "occupied zones" were eradicated in the South and the Church was free to evangelize throughout the territory.

For the first time in a decade, the Vietnam Adventist body was integrated and united in the South. Although it was now confined to half of the land and population, the church actually had more territory to evangelize at this time than it had ever had before.

The rehabilitation of church and school buildings damaged by the wars and the reorganisation of Sabbath School and churches was soon under way. Peace did not come, and the unpredictable outbreak of hostilities from place to place during the ensuing two decades was a serious obstacle to the work, but it began to expand and grow, nevertheless. All of the departments contributed to the comparative prosperity of this time.

In 1955, large-scale medical work began for the first time in Vietnam with the opening of Saigon Adventist Hospital. Its growth and expansion were continuous during these years. Beginning with a 38-bed capacity, it was 100% occupied, almost from the beginning. Plans were laid for a larger building.

A larger site on the outskirts of Saigon was purchased in 1956. Construction began in March 1972, but was never finished. In 1973, Saigon Hospital was transferred to a 325-bed US Army Hospital leased by the US Government. The Heart Team led by Ellsworth Wareham

of the Department of Surgery in the School of Medicine at Loma Linda University in California, USA, performed 63 open- and closed-heart surgeries in this setting during their first visit. They returned the following year and performed 40 operations. These developments brought goodwill to the Adventist Church.

The Hospital included a School of Nursing which trained dozens of Vietnamese nurses. These and scores of other medical workers played their role well as the "right arm of the message." In 1975, they began monthly medical-dental visits to remote villages and offshore islands. Dental clinics were also held in such war-torn sites as Danang, My Lai and Quangngi and on a regular schedule, at a war victim village with 20,000 inhabitants. Hospital employees conducted Sabbath School and Vacation Bible Schools in connection with these clinics.

During these two exciting decades, evangelistic efforts were conducted at several places in the South, with good results. Prison work, done principally by lay-persons, was begun in 1966. Sixteen prisoners were baptized before the year was out and 66 had completed the Bible Correspondence Course.

In 1967, 48 prisoners were baptized. R H Pierson, president of the General Conference, was visiting Vietnam at the time. "This has been a high day in my trip to the Far East," Pierson commented. "This is a scene I shall never forget."

Areas unreachable by preachers and colporteurs, such as North Vietnam, were reached by the Vietnam Mission's radio broadcasts, which began in 1954 with one station. All ten national stations were eventually carrying the Good News to all corners of the land, even to listeners in the neighbouring countries. The programs were rated by station directors as the best of those available.

The colporteur roster of Vietnam Mission was consistently the largest and strongest in the Union. More than 50 colporteurs were often reporting at one time (the all-time peak was 104, in 1963) and they required not only a publishing secretary, but also two assistants as well. Three river launches were used to reach remote villages. A Heidelberg Giant and then a Solar offset press, a Polar paper-cutter, and a stitching machine were kept humming in order to supply this army.

Branch Sabbath Schools sprouted everywhere. Twenty flourished in Saigon and its suburbs alone, in homes, schools, restaurants, alleys and inconceivable places. The most extraordinary — possibly the most extraordinary in the history of such things — was conducted in a Buddhist orphanage, in which over one thousand children took part.

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SABAH

KENNETH — BAPTIZED SECRETLY

Kenneth Chan has studied in Sabah Adventist School from form three to form five. Before coming to SASS he had been quite a naughty boy and never wanted to stay at home. He always wished to be out with friends. His studies were neglected, because too much time was spent in front of the television and with his friends.

This was the reason why he was brought to study in an Adventist School. At first he felt uneasy with such a new environment, but after some time he became used to it. He got acquainted with Adventist friends, he stayed in the dormitory and got used to the spiritual activities of the school. Some time later he decided to take special Bible Studies under one of his teachers.

A week of prayer was conducted last month, during which he decided to be baptized without his parents' acknowledgement. "My parents would not allow it if they were asked, because they are very strong Buddhists," he said. He requested to be baptized somewhere away from the school. He was then baptized during the Kota Belud district weekend camp at Melangkap, more than thirty miles from the school.

He is determined to face his parents one of these days with the love of Jesus. "I want to show that I am a changed child who loves them and Jesus loves them too," he said. Kenneth is now finishing his studies in Sabah Adventist Secondary School this year and hopes to enter into one of the Adventist Colleges next year.

— Shupinar Koubong,
Associate Church Ministries Director, SAUM



Pastor Shupinar Koubong, Kenneth Chan (center), Mr Daniel Baga—Youth Director for Sabah Mission beside the clear flowing river of "Panataran".

SAUM STEWARDSHIP SEMINAR IN SABAH

A Union-wide Stewardship Seminar was held in the Sabah Mission Headquarters at Tamparuli on September 11 — 15.

We are indeed very grateful to Elder Don Crane from the General Conference for his time in sharing the true concept of Stewardship and the many vital facts involved in it. We thank Dr Charles Griffin from the Far Eastern Division who accompanied him and made the seminar possible. Everyone left with the desire to implement what was taught in their respective districts. Great accomplishments will be seen in the church when stewardship is understood in a correct way.

— Shupinar Koubong, Stewardship Director, SAUM



The Group that attended the Union-wide Stewardship Seminar.

STEWARDSHIP SEMINAR BY EXPERIENCED MINISTER

Elder and Mrs. Eric Armer of South Africa spent five weeks during the summer conducting stewardship seminars in the various missions in Southeast Asia Union Mission. Pastor Armer, a retired minister, is a man of very broad experience and has served in various capacities on the conference, Union and Division levels.

The Southeast Asia Union Mission was grateful for his willingness to come share from his wide-experience in stewardship. His simple, spirit-filled message brought great blessing to the churches he visited. Those in attendance at his seminar came to understand that Stewardship when rightly understood will stir up the hearts of church members to realize their true position as stewards of God.

Thank you Pastor and Mrs. Eric Armer for your help.

— Shupinar Koubong, Stewardship Director, SAUM

SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE RESPONDS TO ARMENIA TRAGEDY

Singaporeans are doing their part for the earthquake victims in Armenia through the ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY (ADRA). Aeroflot has agreed to fly collected supplies free.

We often read of aid channeled from the superpowers to help disaster victims in third world and developing nations. Now help is flowing from Singapore, a small country, to help one of the superpowers. Singaporeans were shocked by the media coverage of the Armenia earthquake.

ADRA has appealed to the Singaporean community to respond to this human tragedy. In many churches around Singapore, the pastors appealed to their members to reach out to their brothers in the Soviet Union with their demonstration of love and sympathy.

Mr George Johnson, the Director of the Singapore based ADRA for Southeast Asia commented, "We have established contact with Aeroflot and worked out an agreement that Aeroflot will transport by air-cargo to Moscow and Yerevan, free of cost, all items donated through ADRA for the earthquake victims. I am happy to report that many individuals and firms in Singapore have come forward to give generously to the Armenian people.

When asked more specifically concerning ADRA's plan for assistance, Mr Johnson replied, "We now have in hand from the embassy of the USSR a list of medical supplies which are urgently needed in order to care for the injured victims of the disaster. Cash donations which are made to ADRA will be used to purchase medical supplies which the disaster relief workers can use. Food, clothing and cash are presently being collected at the Seventh-day Adventist Headquarters at 251, Upper Serangoon Road (Tel: 285 7281) in an attempt to get the

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Mrs Viola Jones sorting clothing for Armenia Tragedy.

INTRODUCING NEW STAFF AT YAH

Dr. David McFadden, M.D., a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, is the new specialist-physician and director of health education services at Youngberg Adventist Hospital. Dr. McFadden graduated from Loma Linda University School of Medicine in 1973 and took up residency in internal medicine at Kettering Medical Centre. From 1977 to 1986, he served at Taiwan Adventist Hospital where he learned to speak Mandarin fluently. During the last two years, he was at Loma Linda University doing a residency in preventive medicine and completed his Master of Public Health degree program. With him are his wife, Karen, sons: Jeff, 15, who studies at Far Eastern Academy; Joel, 13 and Jevon, 10 who are both at the elementary school. We welcome the McFaddens to a fruitful ministry in Singapore.

Miss Ampai Aimsiri is the new director of nursing services. She graduated from Bangkok Adventist Hospital School of Nursing in 1967. She furthered her studies at Philippine Union College where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry in 1972. After that she taught at the School of Nursing until 1976 when she left for further studies at Loma Linda University. She completed a Master of Science degree in Biochemistry in 1978. She worked at LLU Medical Center for 12 years and during the last few years she had the privilege of training Intensive-care Unit nurses in Beijing at the invitation of China-Japan Friendship Hospital. Ever since her arrival, Miss Ampai has been very busy with in-service education programs for the nursing staff. With her strong nursing background and her ability in speaking Mandarin and many local dialects, she will impact the hospital's services in the community.

Dr. Wesley Youngberg came to Youngberg Adventist Hospital as an intern of the Doctor of Health Science program of Loma Linda University for a period of three months. His main responsibility was with the health education department. While here, he also helped to teach a class in sports medicine fitness which served as an in-service education for the hospital staff. He is a distant relative of the late Pastor Youngberg and therefore had special interest in visiting Pastor Youngberg's grave in Kuching and the house that he built on the Tatau river in Sarawak.

— Johnathan Ng, Public Relation Officer, YAH

BAPTISMAL SERVICE FOR HOSPITAL PATIENT

A baptismal service was performed by Pastor H. C. Hwang, Principal of Singapore San Yu High School and Elder of Chinese SDA Church, for a patient, Mdm Koh Gek Khing, on October 11, 1988.

Mdm Koh was very much impressed by her physician, Dr. Delmer Johnson, and nurses who looked after her during her hospitalization. After many visits and Bible studies by Mrs. Esther Khor, a staff member of the chaplaincy services, she requested for an anointment service which was performed by Chaplain Jonathan Ng. After that, she felt much better and when her physical condition improved, a baptismal service was arranged for her from the Chinese SDA Church which would become her home church after her discharge from the hospital.

Her daughter, Molly was very thankful for the help given to her mother both physically and spiritually by hospital staff collectively. After her baptism, Mdm Koh continued to enjoy peace of mind and the comfort of the Holy Spirit until she rested in the arms of the Lord a week later.

Praise the Lord for hospital ministry and the collective efforts of hospital staff in caring for the needs of patients like Mdm Koh.

— **Johnathan Ng, Public Relation Officer, YAH**



Mdm Koh (center) with YAH President, Ken Reimche, Dr D. Johnson, Pastor H. C. Hwang and Mrs Esther Khor during the baptismal service.

1st SINGAPORE MISSION LITERATURE EVANGELIST ANNUAL CONVENTION

There were a lot of mixed feelings when the Literature Evangelists of Singapore Mission attended the 1st Annual Convention at Pasir Ris Chalets, Singapore from September 21 to 25, 1988. There were feelings of joy that the Singapore Mission has achieved its own identity, but then there were also feelings of sadness that their fellow Literature Evangelists from Peninsula Malaysia Mission were not with them. As the meetings convened, however, everyone realized that there is greater warmth in a small group. A feeling of unity prevailed when the mission officers and the various directors of the mission departments spoke on how we can cooperate and work together as a team. SAUM Literature Ministries Director, Pastor Randy Horning, shared the finer points of salesmanship.

The climax of the Convention came when FED Literature Ministries Director, Pastor Russ Thomas, preached during the Sabbath worship service. He told interesting stories of Literature Evangelists around the world, spoke on the importance of the Literature Ministry, and finally drew the congregation to the foot of the Cross.

Awards were given out on the final night to those who excel in their work and Mission President, Pastor Geoffrey Pauner, led out in the commitment service to conclude the 1st Singapore Mission Literature Evangelist Convention.

— **Samual Siew, Associate Publishing Director, Singapore Mission**



Singapore Literature Evangelists with Pastor Randy Horning and Pastor Russell Thomas.

SAUC ROUND UP

Week of Spiritual Emphasis

September 25 to October 8 — Southeast Asia Union College experimented with a different approach to the Week of Spiritual Emphasis by combining with the Student Association Crusade. The series ran a total of 14 days. However, there was less interruption to the regular class schedule. Pastor Albert Phua, an alumnus of SAUC, was the speaker. He entitled the series — 'Making the Right Decision'. Throughout the meetings, students, staff and friends were reminded of the many decisions needed each day. None of these decisions however, are as crucial and important as is the decision for Christ. Where one aims to spend eternity is determined by what our decision about Christ is. All were encouraged to make the right decision for Christ now, while there is still time.

Community Service

The months of October and November were active months for the Student Association. The students went to the local elderly folk's home, visited with the residents and gave them gifts. The night of September 5 the residents in the home were taken to the Potong Pasir Centre where the students of SAUC presented a cultural program. Many residents of Potong Pasir also attended. This was one of the students' ways of 'letting the light shine' in this community.

Graduation

Twenty students graduated on November 26. Of this group, sixteen finished the 4-year degree program.

— Ralph Jones, Academic Dean, SAUC



SAUC faculty, graduating class and costumed ushers and usherettes.

FESTIVAL OF THANKS

Singapore Mission picked a significant day, October 22, 1988 to celebrate the Festival of Thanks. Thanks be to God for leading the work in Singapore and for the Jurong Church Building Complex.

Our sincere thanks also goes to Dr Chan Shun for his generous gesture in giving a substantial sum of S\$250,000 through the Chan Shun Foundation. Mr Frank Yeung, the secretary of the foundation, handed the cheque to Pastor Geoffrey Pauner, the President of the Mission on this occasion.

Expressions of thanks were also given by three other speakers, Geoffrey Pauner, President of Singapore Mission; George Johnson, President of SAUM and Larry R Colburn, Administration Field Secretary of FED.



Pastor Geoffrey Pauner receiving check from Mr Frank Yeung.

Those present appreciated very much the spiritual message from Dr Chan Shun, which was read by Mr Frank Yeung. Indeed we in this mission should emulate the plea by Dr Chan Shun to give glory to God in all our success and business ventures. Faithfulness to the Lord is Dr Chan Shun's main thrust.

The meeting was graced by three singing groups — Thomson Road Chinese, SAUC and the Reflections. Light refreshments ended the happy occasion.

— Geoffrey Pauner, President, Singapore Mission

7th ICPA WORLD PREVENTION CONGRESS

The 7th World Prevention Congress of International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency (ICPA) was held at Brisbane City Hall, Australia from September 4 to 8, 1988. A total of 350 delegates from 60 countries participated in this world congress of ICPA, which is a non-governmental organization affiliated with the World Health Organization and the United Nations.

The Singapore delegation included Dr. Hal Butler and Dr. Ed Holm, Director and Associate Director of Far Eastern Division Health and Temperance Department, respectively, and Pastor Jonathan Ng, Director of Chaplaincy and Public Relations of Youngberg Adventist Hospital.

At the Congress, Dr. Hal Butler served as chairman for a workshop on "Understanding the Influence of Temperance Associations", while Pastor Jonathan Ng presented the following papers: "The Singapore Success Story in Fighting Drug Abuse" at the workshop on "New Prevention Measures in the Far East" and "The Church's Responsibility for Prevention" at another workshop.

This Congress with the theme of "Prevention Now— for Life and Leisure" is classified as a bicentennial activity of Australia and was declared open by the Lord Mayor of Brisbane. The newly elected ICPA president for 1988-89 is Dr. Winton Beaven of Kettering Medical Center, while the new ICPA Executive Director is Thomas Neslund, who took over from Dr. Ernest Steed who retired after serving 22 years as ICPA Executive Director.

— Jonathan Ng, Public Relation Officer, YAH



Singapore delegation to 7th ICPA World Congress: (left to right) Pastor Jonathan Ng, Dr Hal Butler, and Dr Ed Holm.

W. MALAYSIA FIRST STRESS MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

Penang Adventist Hospital conducted its first Stress Management Seminar as a community service sponsored by the Health Education Department at the hospital auditorium on October 8 and 9, 1988 with a total of 135 participants.

This seminar was coordinated by Health Educator John Lai with PAH President Dr. R. Standish and Medical Officer Dr. Mah Wai Chien as speakers. Pastor Jonathan Ng, Director of Chaplaincy & Public Relations of Youngberg Adventist Hospital, Singapore was invited as guest speaker of the seminar. Pastor Ng has done numerous workshops on stress management in Singapore and with his years of experience in counselling, he was able to bring home to the audience the importance of revising self-talks, relaxation, processing one's feelings and other strategies in stress management.

While in Penang, Pastor Ng also presented a short seminar on the same topic to the staff of Hewlett Packard at the invitation of its industrial nurse who attended the earlier seminar at the hospital.

There is real need for similar seminars in Penang and the hospital administration is very pleased with the overwhelming response from the general public.

— John Lai, Health Education, PAH



Stress Management Seminar speakers: (left to right) Dr Mah Wai Chien, Dr R. Standish, Pastor Jonathan Ng & Pastor John Lai.

SARAWAK

LAYMAN ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

From the month of July 27 to August 6, 1988 Pastor Saul Nyungga conducted layman on-the-job training in Igum, Serian District, for five churches including Tarat Mawang, Tarat Sibala, Rayang and Bunga.

Every evening the laymen were given the opportunity to teach a baptismal class, and at night they observed the delivery of a sermon by Pastor Saul Nyungga. All of them were given responsibility throughout the entire crusade.

Pastor Saul pointed out that everyone will have to make a decision either to follow Christ or to disregard Him. At the end of the crusade, 27 souls were baptized. One of them was Nyalang ak Goh, a witch-doctor, with his two children. For ten long years he wanted to become a Seventh-day Adventist, but he could not get rid of his witchcraft. Finally that night when an altar call was made, he made up his mind to follow Jesus.

The laymen are doing the follow-up and some more baptisms will follow before the year 1988 is over.

— S. Nyungga, Associate Church Ministries Director, Sarawak Mission

JALAU MEMBERS DONATE BELIAN POSTS

The Seventh-day Adventist Church members in Julau worked hard last year to cut 97 pieces of belian posts (5 X 5) to use as pilings for the new Mission office. Pastor Gilbert Tan led out in this workbee of two weeks of hard work with chainsaws and the moving of cut lumber from hilly areas. For a time the belian posts were stored under the house of our church leader at Ejit, Abom. When our building plans finally got under way, permission was sought to move these belian posts from Ejit to Kuching. All 97 pieces arrived on August 25. There was much excitement at the mission office as the 97 pieces of belian posts were dropped from the 10-ton lorry. Now the belian posts stand right beside the fence and are a continual reminder to all who pass that the building of the new office building will begin soon. These belian posts also show the love of our members in Ejit for their church and indicate very clearly that they want to have a part in completing this new office building sometime in 1989. From far and near donations in cash or kind are beginning to come in to the Mission office as our members and friends begin to see that concrete steps are being taken to start building this much needed office building to represent the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sarawak.

— Choo Wee Fong, President, Sarawak Mission



Pastors D. Walter and Saul Nyungga baptized 27 souls in a clear water fall in Tarat Village.



Mission President, Pastor W. F. Choo unloading the belian posts together with mission staff and SHS students.

VOY CAMPS BRING FRUIT

Four Voice of Youth Camps were conducted during the second term school holiday, with a total attendance of 310 youth. Youth, totalling 41, were baptized at the end of the VOY Camps. These VOY Camps were the climax of the youth witnessing activities in Serian, Kuching, Simunjan and Pantu Districts for the past seven months of 1988.

Elder Ba Khin, Associate Church Ministries Director for the Far Eastern Division, and Pastor Shupinar Koubong, Associate Church Ministries Director of Southeast Asia Union Mission, participated in three of the four VOY Camps.

The philosophy behind the VOY Camp is to encourage Adventist youth to witness for Christ in school and in the community. Each Adventist youth serves as a bridge to bring his non-Adventist friends to church and help him get acquainted with the Adventist lifestyle. During the VOY Camp, an Adventist youth is to bring at least one of his non-Adventist friends and be a constant witness to him at camp—in Bible study classes, in games and social activities, in worship services and in the tent where they stayed together. Thus, through his influence he introduces Jesus Christ to his friends and helps them to accept Him as their Saviour and Friend.

— Edmund Liah, Church Ministries Director, Sarawak Mission



The 11 young people that were baptized on the Bako National Park VOY Camp.



The 16 young people that were baptized on the Samtabong VOY camp.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

— SARAWAK

The Sarawak Mission just celebrated two major events which happened just 100 years ago in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination's history.

One hundred years ago, a General Conference Session met in Minneapolis, Minnesota. During this General Conference Session the great truth of righteousness by faith was brought out in clear light by a doctor, E. J. Waggoner and Pastor A. T. Jones.

Secondly, a self-supporting and aged colporteur, Abraham La Rue, landed in Hong Kong and began selling books and distributing Seventh-day Adventist literature in 1888, thus becoming the first Seventh-day Adventist missionary to the Far East.

The Centennial celebrations began Friday evening in the Pasir (Serian) Church with pioneer workers E. Sinaga, J. Maung, Miss Rosy and Hardy Anton relating short experiences of pioneering the work here in Sarawak during the "night of the pioneers".

Guest speaker on Sabbath morning was Dr. Russell Standish, President of the Penang Adventist Hospital and representative of the Southeast Asia Union Mission. His sermon was entitled, "Watchman, What of the Time?"

Members of the Pasir Church provided a fellowship lunch for the many visitors.

The afternoon program began with Pastor Dan Walter recounting the story of Abraham La Rue. Following that a group from Kuching Church put on a dramatic reenactment of the highlights of the 1888 General Conference. The weekend's celebrations served greatly to strengthen the faith and confidence of the believers as they saw how God led in the past and will continue to lead victoriously to the end.

— Daniel Walter, Ministerial Secretary, Sarawak Mission



Pioneer workers, Miss Annie, and Pastor E. Sinaga, lighting the torch of Pastor Choo Wee Fong, President, during the Centennial celebrations, Pasir Church, Serian, Sarawak, October 1, 1988

ROOTS CONCLUDED

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In 1975, the Mission was operating 16 church schools in its 22 churches, with a total enrollment of 4,430 students from Kindergarten through Grade 12. The Church schools enrolled hundreds of children from non-Adventist homes and hundreds of them were eventually baptized into the Church. The schools also helped to ground children from Adventist homes and to train them for the work of the cause.

During the early 1970s, Vietnam Mission successfully operated an institution, unusual compared to those in other countries. It was called **Co-nhi Tai Gia** in Vietnamese, which means "Orphans Reared in Homes." Through this program, orphans received subsistence aid while staying in their homes and being reared by relatives, friends or single parents. Funded by philanthropic groups in Australia and the US, it supported about 400 orphans for various periods of time. Many of them and some of their sponsors found their way into the Church through this project. Some of the orphans were granted scholarships in the Adventist schools.

As the agonizing latter days of the Vietnam War arrived and the temporary closing of organized Adventist work in Vietnam drew near, the house organ of the Far Eastern Division of the Seventh-day Adventist, **The Messenger**, dated July/August, 1975, stated:

"Because of the heavy fighting in South Vietnam during recent weeks, only 8 of our 22 churches are now in areas not controlled by the Vietcong.

Only two church schools are still operating in the Mission. Many of our workers in the captured areas have come to Saigon. ... One teacher in Danang was unable to come. Six Montagnard pastors and 22 colporteurs are known to be behind Vietcong lines. Following the departure of Pastor R H Wentland, Jr, the Mission called a constituency meeting to elect national leadership. They voted to ask Le Cong Giao to serve as Mission President, Le Huu as Secretary and Ly Ba Hoi as Treasurer."

Under the heading "Work Officially Closed in Vietnam," a later edition of **The Messenger** reported that on "April 20, 1975, R S Watts, Southeast Asia Union President and D A Roth, Division Associate Secretary, arrived in Saigon."

As the fighting between the forces of the North and the South and their allies reached a climax during the next few days, it was decided to close the hospital on April 24. Attention was then turned to evacuating key mission and hospital personnel. As it had been in 1941, evacuation was once again the fate of those who were dedicated to the Adventist cause in Vietnam.

The end had temporarily come for the organized work in Vietnam in 1975. About a month after the evacuation of the mission leaders from Saigon, the remaining

church elders, pastors and teachers met to select a new mission committee and new leaders. Under their direction, the SDA Church has continued to grow.

Thirteen years later in 1988, the Lord's work continues in a more subdued way. Many churches are closed. Public evangelism is not allowed. The hospitals and schools are nationalized.

Today, the Phunham and Cholon churches in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) are still open, alive and prosperous. The work among the mountain tribes goes on. At Kamoutee, 57 persons were baptized on December 27, 1987 and 96 people from R'Chai and Dame churches were baptized on January 10, 1988. In 1988, the Vietnam Mission has reported baptisms totalling 180. ■

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first relief shipment to Aeroflot for their Wednesday flight to Moscow."

Hundreds of kilograms of warm clothing have begun to arrive at the ADRA headquarters in Singapore along with tinned and packaged foods and cash donations, some as high as one thousand dollars from a single individual. Many churches in Singapore have begun to collect money, non-perishable food, clothing, blankets, etc., to ship to the USSR for the victims of the earthquake as a means of showing their love.

Mr Johnson stated. "When people are hurting and your heart is touched, you quickly forget about sectarian, racial or political differences. What we can see here is an example of people helping people, expecting nothing in return.

— W. Steve Bassham, PRO for ADRA

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this means that we will need to become increasingly independent on appropriated subsidies and much more self-sufficient.

Our Union treasurer closes his report by saying that "as we accept the challenge to stretch toward self-sufficiency over the next six to seven years, let us also plan to strengthen and improve our giving for needs abroad. Many growing financial challenges face the church in years ahead. However, we can be assured that God will continue to provide through His faithful stewards, as He has done in the past, the necessary resources to accomplish His purpose and will. May we each one commit ourselves to full partnership with God." ■

— Thomas G. Staples, Treasurer, SAUM

AWR SCHEDULE

March 26, 1989

SINGAPORE TIME	METER BAND	FREQUENCY
ENGLISH		
12 Midnight	25	11 980
8 AM	19	15.125
10 AM	16	17.865
6 PM	31	9.465
CANTONESE		
11 AM	16	17 865
4 PM	19	15.225
MANDARIN		
4 AM	41	7.365
5 AM	41	7.365
6 AM	25	11.700
7 AM	25	11.700
8 AM	25	11.700
9 AM	25	11.700
10 AM	19	15.225
11 AM	19	15.225
12 Noon	19	15.225
1 PM	19	15.225
2 PM	19	15.225
3 PM	19	15.225
5 PM	25	11.980
6 PM	25	11.980
7 PM	25	11.980
8 PM	25	11.980
10 PM	25	11.980
11 PM	25	11.980
INDONESIAN		
6 AM	19	15.125
7 AM	31	9.465
THAI		
7 AM	19	15.125
INDIAN*		
12 Midnight	31	9.830
11 AM	31	9.830
12 Midnight	Sun/Tues/Thurs/Sat: Hindi, Mon/Wed/Fri: Telugu	
11 AM	Sun/Wed/Sat: Tamil Mon/Thur: Malayalam Tue/Fri: Marathi	

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HONG KONG ADVENTIST HOSPITAL REQUESTS:

Physiotherapist and Dietician needed for busy 100-bed hospital in exciting Hong Kong. Successful applicants will be graduates of appropriate education/training programmes with previous hospital experience. Please send resume with recent photograph to:

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