

Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 3, Number 24

Dr. Jan Paulsen

New Leader of World Church



We rejoice over the installation of the new General Conference (GC) President, Dr. Jan Paulsen. He has been my personal friend and colleague for many years. Recently he played a great and excellent role for the birth of Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). He was chairman of the GC Survey Commission on the bifurcation of the Asia-Pacific Division and of the Transition Management Committee for creating of the NSD and the Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD). Even more recently he visited Taiwan and Hong Kong to listen to the voice of local and Union leadership including lay leaders as chairman of the GC Survey Commission for East Asia Association (EAA) and South China Island Union Mission (SCIUM). He has served as Chairman of EAA in 1995 and 1996. He will attend the inaugural session of the new Chinese Union Mission in June, 1999.

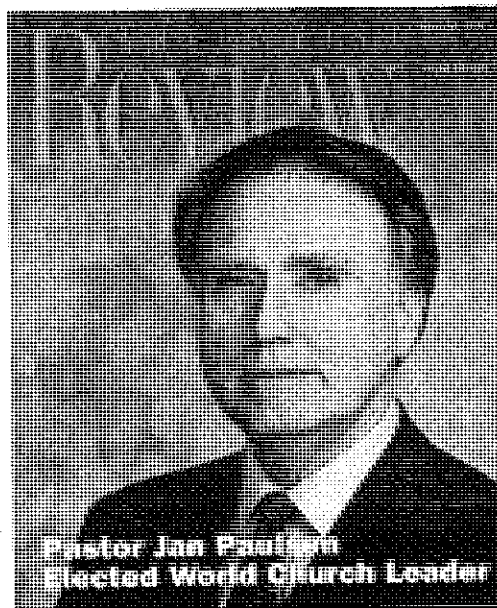
Being a Norwegian, Paulsen becomes the first European and the second non-American to be the president of the world church. It is said also that he is the first GC President having an earned doctoral degree which he earned at Tubingen University in Germany in 1972.

Since he had started denominational service as a ministerial intern in Norway in 1954, he has been serving the church at home and in mission field as a pastor, department director, Bible teacher, college president, and division secretary. He has served for 12 years as the president of the Trans-European Division until he was elected as one of the General Vice-presidents of the GC in 1995.

More than any other good qualities he has he is a spiritual man and a dedicated leader. He is an open and broad-minded administrator. I am sure the Lord will use him in a mighty way at this very significant time of earth's history, the closure of the second millennium, and even beyond.

I cannot finish my article without mentioning a few lines about the contributions Elder Robert Folkenberg has made to the world church during the last eight and a half years. It is regrettable indeed that he has to resign from the office of the GC President in the middle of his term. However, he chose to resign not to bring any more negative effect on the church because of the litigation filed against him by Mr. James Moore, his personal business associate.

During his administration the church has experienced rapid membership growth, from six million to ten million. Some 13,000 new congregations were established in the formerly unentered territories through the Global Mission initiatives. Had not his innovative vision the global evangelism utilizing cutting edge technology, especially through a satellite transmission network might have been delayed at least several years. Our division owes him a lot. The creations of the NSD and SSD, and the incorporation the EAA territory into a regular division organization, are the result of his far sighted vision.



New!! NSD Web Site: <http://www.sdansd.org>



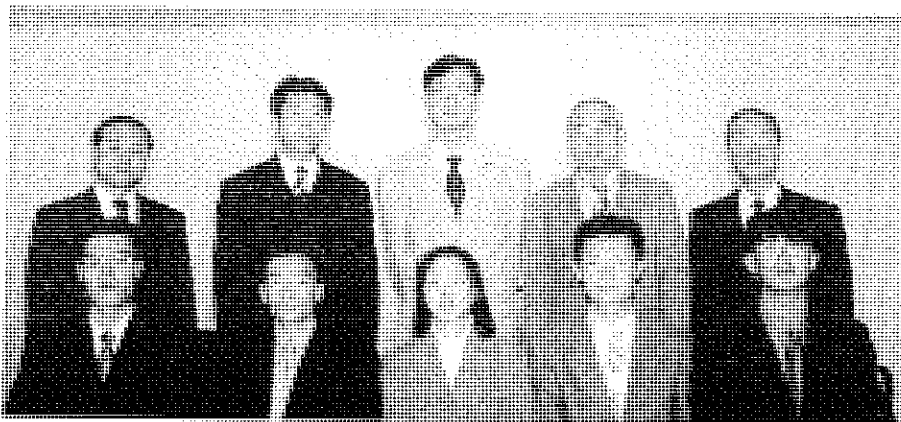
Elder Robert Folkenberg (left) visited Korea on August 23, 1998 and shook hands with Elder Han, Sang Woo (Korean Union Conference).

More than any other world church leaders, he has visited almost every corner of the world to encourage, oversight, preach the Word of God, and bring unity among God's family. His tireless itineraries were richly blessed. He will be remembered as a visionary and energetic leader.

P. D. Chun, *President*

Eight Korean students went to China.

for language study sponsored by NSD

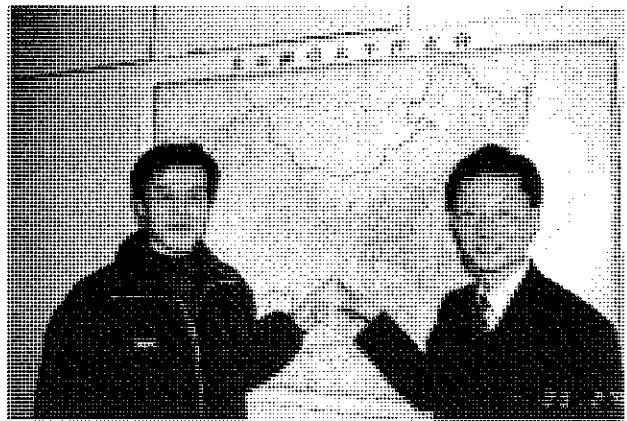


Seven students of Korean Sahmyook University with the NSD leaders. (One female student is not shown here.)

Officers of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) had an idea to send several students of Korean Sahmyook University to China for learning the Chinese language. Of course, the university was glad to hear this proposal and recommended some students who would be able to get scholarship from the NSD.

On October 19, 1998, there was an interview between the NSD leaders and the seven university students. The purpose for the sponsoring organization was to know those students who applied to the scholarship.

Elders P. D. Chun (President), Richard Liu (Secretary) and Myung Kwan Hong (Sabbath School/Personal Ministries Director) met six male students and one female. They were all single young people, ages 23 to 26. Their major in college was same. Two males were graduate students. They must have been faithful, smart and healthy. Later one more female student studying at on another university applied for the program. Her major is Chinese Tourism and Translation. She is 22 years old.



Two students going to Chengdu, China

On November 23, 1998, the NSD Administrative Committee took an action to select and sponsor those eight students to study in China up to 2 to 2.5 years under the condition of signing the Memorandum of Agreement provided.

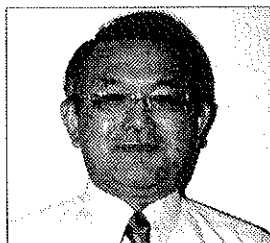
After having an orientation program for them, two male students left Korea to China on February 23, the remaining six students departed on February 25, 1999. The students were divided into groups of two.

In China four groups enrolled in universities in different cities. They went to Changchun, Tianjin, Wuxi and Chengdu. Although these cities are unfamiliar to them, they seem to have no fear. They are young and brave by the grace of God and they will be able to understand, read, speak and write Chinese.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

Report of Education Department

Harvest from Schools



On any given school day, almost one million students attend a Seventh-day Adventist school, College or University somewhere in the world. In a ministry that involves 5,500 educational institutions and more than 46,000 teachers, our denomination operates the broadest, unified, church related international system of education.

In the Northern Asia Pacific Division, KUC, JUC, and SCIUM, about 18,510 students attend Adventist schools, colleges or university. We have 54 educational institutions and 974 teachers in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. The KUC operates the broadest, unified church related education. The JUC and SCIUM operates the solid and uniquely unified church related education with common and particular educational issues that should be coped with and overcome.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your prayer and support toward those served, (namely, teachers, parents and church leaders) who are considered very precious and important. The Education Departments of the NSD and UNIONS find their purpose of redemption and restoration fulfilled. They also serve and coordinate the workplaces with pertinent strategies in cooperation with school, church and institutional leaders.

The Education Department shall advance and safeguard a distinctive SDA philosophy of education as described in the Spirit of Prophecy.

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The real source power of evangelism throughout the Division is and has been Adventist education. I would like to solicit your continued prayer and support for Adventist education. We educate workers who support our churches and institutions. In 1998, there were more than 2007 baptisms in our schools, colleges, university and language schools in our Division. We are thankful for the blessings from God on dedicated teachers, pastors, and students. Your continued prayer and support is solicited.

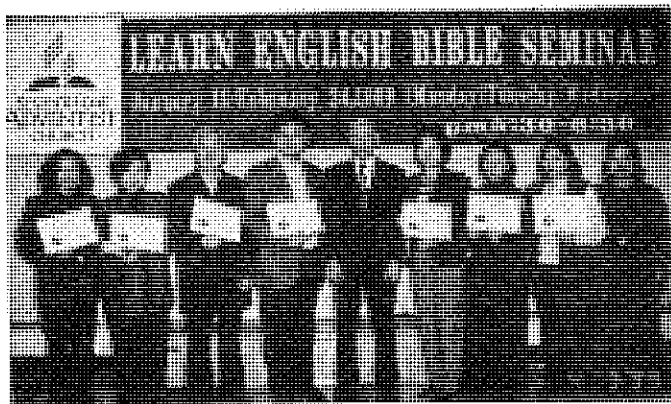
Masaji Uyeda, *Education & Language School Director*

Remnant Students for Remnant Church *Learn English Bible Seminar*

On January 11, 1999, over forty people came to the opening meeting of the Learn English Bible Seminar. Young and old, Presbyterians, Methodists, atheists and non-Christians came. The majority of the attendance were professional people such as business executives, bankers, an opera singer, and a minister.

They came to improve their English vocabulary and develop a correct way to express themselves in simple clear English. Each one was given a New King James Version English Bible. This was their textbook.

Every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening at 5:30, the seminar was held in the large annex chapel of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division office building. Every attendee was given a printed English lesson that had Bible quotations on Bible doctrines, including the Sabbath and the Mark of the Beast. To help them remember the texts Mnemonics was included.



Speaker, Elder Bertochini (center), and students holding their certificates of the seminar.

Currently we are conducting the follow-up Bible Study class. There are seven men and women who are interested in the Three Angel's messages and the remnant church. No doubt they will soon be baptized. God bless them and their families.

Soon the Lord will come to take us all home to heaven. What a day of rejoicing that will be when I can introduce them to you at the gates of heaven. Praise God for giving us the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

Gilbert Bertochini, *Ministerial Association Secretary*

NSD Evaluation Preparation *by former missionary couples*

During the month of February Elder and Mrs. Clinton Shankel and Elder and Mrs. Milton Thorman were guests of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). They came to give special assistance to the NSD staff in developing and preparing the document that will be needed for the upcoming General Conference evaluation. Once every quinquennium the General Conference plans to evaluate the progress of the church work in every world division. The NSD will have their evaluation from April 28 to May 3, 1999.

The Shankels and Thormans have spent a number of years serving in the Far Eastern/Asia-Pacific Division in Singapore. They are, therefore, very familiar with the work in the NSD as they also served this area when it was part of the former combined division. They had formerly worked with many of the current NSD staff who had also served in Singapore.

Working and fellowshiping together once again with the Shankels and Thormans was a privilege and pleasure for them and their friends in the NSD. The work that they accomplished was greatly appreciated by the NSD. They have returned to their retirement homes in the USA, but part of their hearts and lives remain with the NSD. Their prayer is that God will continue to bless and guide the onward progress of His work in this division and its great challenge of reaching the one and one half billion people for Christ.

Editor



Elder & Mrs. Shankel (left) and Elder & Mrs. Thorman

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