

Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 4, Number 36

Public Evangelism in Taiwan Adventist College *"50 baptisms - God brought a revival!"*

Taiwan Adventist College (TAC) will soon celebrate 50 years. Old timers say that the institution had never offered a series of public evangelism on the campus for the community and maybe not even for the students. During 1999, pastor Norman Tu contacted me enquiring about the possibility of doing something on this matter. In November Mrs. Alice Magarang, the College president, formally invited me to attend a Spiritual Retreat of the faculty and staff in January, 2000, with the sole purpose of discussing an evangelistic effort, training, and praying together.

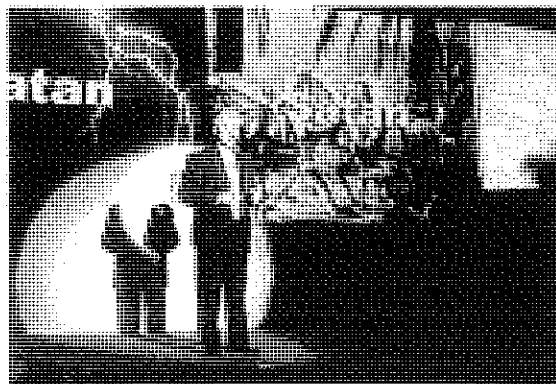
On January 28 - 30 I spent many hours in dialogue with all the faculty and staff. On Sabbath afternoon, I asked for volunteers to lead small groups, and to accept many specific responsibilities. I was highly impressed by their willingness to accept the challenge. They committed themselves to participate in an evangelistic effort for both the students and the community.

Virtually there are no Christians in the nearby village of about 5,000. More than 75% of the students of TAC are non-Christians. A few days later all the students of TAC were organized in small groups; sponsored by teachers and staff, these small groups met in varied places to study the Bible, to witness, and to pray. A true revival is always rooted in prayer and Bible study. TAC was praying for revival, and it happened.

On March 3 I met Dr. Robert Wong, Chinese Union Mission Ministerial secretary, at the airport. As we approached the College, I saw groups of students distributing handbills in the streets of different villages; I saw the College van announcing the meetings through

loud speakers; I saw colorful streamers announcing "Beyond 2000: The Way to Happiness." As I entered into the College church, I saw a giant screen of 10 x 4 meters with a finishing touch of beautiful classic pillars on both of its sides. I knew that TAC was doing something more than just praying.

On Saturday night we were thrilled to see villagers entering in our church to listen to the Word of God! When the program began, there was a wave of expressions of surprise among the students. This was the first time I used three computers and three video projectors using Power Point at the same time. In some instances there were giant pictures covering simultaneously the equivalent of three screens. The method proved to be interesting enough as to secure the interest of an audience mostly composed of teenagers. The impact of those Christian images will last for many years in the mind of those who attended the series. Night after night they came early to participate in a lively and uplifting song service. On Wednesday night, twenty-six adult villagers listened to the presentation of the Sabbath message.



Dr. Martin used three video projectors and three computers in his presentations.

All the messages were of doctrinal content and ended with direct appeals to accept Jesus as Savior. The use of "the principle of progressive decisions" helped many to express their convictions in a gradual form: from raising hands, to standing up, to coming to the front to confess Christ as Savior, to coming to the front after witnessing a sample baptism of two girls on Thursday night. Every night Dr. Wong and I went to classrooms and every night we went to dorms to have interviews with the students.

They asked many questions, mostly of doctrinal character.

On Friday night I made an invitation only to those who wanted to be baptized, and scores responded, including several villagers! One major obstacle was for the students to secure permission from their parents for them to be baptized. I saw the College president talking by phone with the parents of about ten boys, interceding for them. I saw the Dean of the Girls' dorm doing the same for fifteen girls. I learned that mostly every Dean was doing the same.

On Sabbath morning twenty-three were baptized. At the end of the baptismal ceremony I made a strong appeal from the water to those who were still struggling with a decision. Then I saw something really inspiring, the College president was walking through the aisles encouraging students to stand up for Jesus! Something amazing happened: groups of three, two, five, four students dared to walk on Sabbath morning to the platform and face a congregation of 500 as they requested to be baptized! On that Sabbath there was a potluck. However, I arrived very late. As I entered into the Girls' dorm, I saw many girls crying and sobbing over the phone, literally begging their parents for permission to be baptized. It was easy to identify who did not receive approval and who did. It was inspiring to see the courage that all of them demonstrated when they decided to follow Jesus!



The participants in the college chapel.

On Sabbath afternoon twenty-three more were baptized in the cold water of Sun Moon Lake. When I was finishing my final sermon on Saturday night, still two more students were baptized, for a total of fifty. A Bible teacher was radiant as she told me that most of the members of her class had been baptized! A professor and his daughters, three adult villagers, and three students from the nearby village were among those who surrendered to Jesus through baptism. Theology students were invited to maintain the interest of the villagers by visiting

them and applying in the village what they were learning in the classroom.

Taiwan Adventist College demonstrated what may happen in all our academies, colleges and language institutes, if their administrators, faculty and staff are committed to make their institutions an agency of evangelism. TAC is committed to continue with small group evangelism twice a week to review doctrines, to affirm the faith of the newly baptized, to encourage others to decide for Jesus, and to secure the indispensable follow-up: "After the first efforts have been made in a place by giving a course of lectures, there is really greater necessity for a second course than for the first." *Evangelism*, p.334. God brought a revival to TAC. May the Holy Spirit maintain the work which He began.

Carlos G. Martin, *Ministerial Association Secretary*

Great Responses Among Participants

BCS & ACTS 2000 Seminar in Taiwan

VOP Bible Correspondence School and ACTS 2000 Seminar was conducted on February 21-23, 2000 at the Taichung Church in Taiwan. This was sponsored by the Taiwan Mission (TM) and supported by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). There were around forty-five pastors every day including a few lay people. Almost all church pastors were present and the seminar looked like a ministerial council rather than just a promotional seminar.

Pastors Shin-Seng (Paul) Liu and Szu-Han (Jay) Chen, president and secretary-treasurer of the TM, organized and attended the seminar. The main seminar speaker was Dr. Tadaomi Shinmyo, Communication director of NSD; his translator (from Japanese to Chinese) was Dr. Daniel Lu, Departments Coordinator of the TM.

The first purpose of the seminar was to revitalize the Bible Correspondence School (BCS) in Taiwan, because the trend of the enrollment was significantly declining in the past several years. The second was to promote the BCS as the main method of the preparation for the ACTS 2000 satellite evangelistic meetings on September 29 - October 8, 2000 in the NSD territory.

The topics of the three-day seminar were, "Brief History of VOP," "Revival of BCS," "Study Methods," "Methods to Recruit Students," "Mailman Evangelism," "Visitation to

Taiwan VOP Headquarters (Field Trip)," "ACTS 2000," "ACTS 2000 and BCS," and "Equipments for ACTS 2000." The speaker used video tapes and computerized presentations in his lectures. A lot of time was spent for the mailman's evangelism since this method was new to most of the participants. He emphasized the importance of making each local church a branch of the BCS and involving as many church members as possible in the implementation of this in their churches. Further, he encouraged church pastors to use the lessons of the BCS as the main tool for preparing baptismal candidates before ACTS 2000.



Pastors Liu, Shin-Seng; T. Shinmyo and Chen, Szu-Han (from left) in Taichung, Taiwan.

The brand-new BCS lesson, "Amazing Facts" in Chinese, was introduced at that time. Almost all pastors ordered it for the mailman's method of the BCS. Additionally, an old series of lessons was given free of charges so that the lesson might be exhausted quickly and revised in the future. It was a great joy and rewarded moment for the speaker to witness the strong positive responses among the participants in their questions, comments, suggestions, testimonies, and decisions during the seminar. He is firmly convinced that something will take place in Taiwan this year through the Holy Spirit and the enthusiasm of the pastors and laymen.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

Coming Events ...

Youth Leadership Camp

September 7- 11, 2000
Hong Kong

Hong Kong - Macao Conf. Sabbath School Seminar

September 15- 17, 2000
Hong Kong

ACTS 2000 Evangelistic Meeting

September 29- October 8, 2000
Seoul, Korea

PREACH Seminar

October 3, 2000
Seoul, Korea

NSD & Union Officers Council/ Seminar

October 31, 2000
Ilsan, Korea

NSD & Union Officers Interviews

November 1, 2000
Ilsan, Korea

NSD Annual Council

November 2- 6, 2000
Ilsan, Korea

Taiwan Mission Youth Soul Winning Congress

November 10- 12, 2000
Taiwan

Taiwan Mission Stewardship Revival Seminar

November 10- 12, 2000
Taichung, Taiwan

Mongolia Attached Mission Field Annual Council

November 12- 13, 2000
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Japan Union Conf. Annual Council

November 19- 21, 2000
Yokohama, Japan

Korean Union Conf. Session/ Annual Council

December 5- 14, 2000
Seoul, Korea

Hong Kong- Macao Conf. Youth Leaders Retreat

December 15- 17, 2000
Hong Kong

Chinese Union Mission Session/ Annual Council

December 18- 21, 2000
Hong Kong

In 3 months the 57th GC Session!!

Theme: Almost Home

Date: June 29 - July 8, 2000

Venue: SkyDome, Toronto, Canada

Expected Visitors: 60,000



An outlook of the stadium, SkyDome

Women's Congress

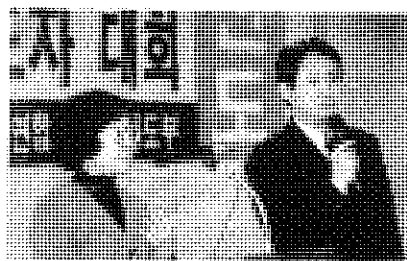
conducted in Togo, Korea

On March 10-11, 2000, the Korean Union Conference (KUC) conducted the second women's congress in the history of the union at Togo, in the Chung Nam Province. Four hundred and seventy participants spent a very inspiring weekend in reviewing the goals and functions of women's ministries, as well as equipping themselves for taking a more active role in the ministries of the church. In the relaxing atmosphere of the hot springs resort, the women were spiritually charged and empowered by an excellent program planned by Pastor Kim, Dae Sung, KUC Women's Ministries director - a program that included prayer bands, exciting reports by women from different areas, and a moving testimony by a former lady pastor of the Presbyterian Church regarding her conversion experience into the Adventist Church. What was very heartening to the women was that the KUC leaders turned out in force to support the event. The president, Elder Han, Sang Woo, delivered the sermon on Sabbath, while the treasure, Pastor Kim, Kwang Doo was there to take care of the expenses incurred.

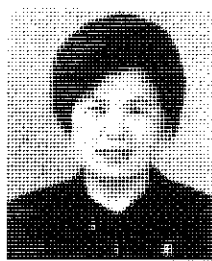
The Attendants to the 2nd Women's Congress in Korea



One of the highlights of the congress was the election of the new officers of the Korean Women's Association. The new president elected was Mrs. Lee, Young Ja, with Mrs. Song, Suk Ja, former president of the association, as the advisor. Three vice-presidents -- Park, In Kyung, Lee, Jong Hwa, and Jung, Young Ae -- and the treasurer, Kim, Jang Suk, completed the team which will lead out in Women's Ministries programs and activities.



Dr. Mary Wong (left) & Pastor Kim, Dae Sung



Mrs. Lee, Young Ja

Mary Wong, Women's Ministries Director

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Secretary	Richard Liu
Associate	Tadaomi Shinmyo
Treasurer	Robert Martin Moores
Associate	Jong Moon Kim
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