

MALAYAN UNION MISSION NOTES OF PROGRESS

Vol. 12 August, 1941 No. 4

A VISIT TO NORTHERN INDO-CHINA

By R. L. Hammill

In company with Brother R. H. Howlett, I have just finished a tour of the northern part of the Indo-China field. After spending our hill leave together at Dalat, the Howlett family returned to Tourane with Mrs. Hammill and me. From Tourane we visited the various churches in this part of the field.

At Duc My we spent several days encouraging the believers and counseling regarding our new church building there. We hope that this new building will be ready for use for the biennial mission session which will be held this fall. The Duc My believers now constitute our largest congregation in Indo-China. Although we have had believers in this village for several years, we have just received permission to locate a native preacher there. One of the most promising graduates of our Bible school is now located as pastor among this faithful and energetic group. For several months there have been a group of people awaiting baptism there, and during the next visit of Elder Moon this service will be performed, thus augmenting our membership considerably.

On our church lot at Tourane, we have just completed a new national house for our evangelist. Made of brick, plastered inside and out, it is indeed a credit to our property here.

After Brother Howlett had recovered from the ill effects of a sunstroke, the Howletts and I journeyed on to Hanoi, where one of the Bible school graduates was just beginning his ministry. While there, it was decided to move our chapel to a new and more promising location. The Howletts returned to Saigon after a few days, while I stayed in Hanoi for a week to conduct evangelistic meetings. Because I am not yet able to preach in the Annamese language, Brother Te, our mission colporteur leader, assisted me as interpreter. As a result of the meetings, there were several people who expressed their desire to follow the Lord. We expect to have a group prepared for baptism there also after several months. The new worker is taking hold of the work well, car-

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sept. 6—Home Missionary Day
27—Elementary Schools Offering
13th Sabbath Offering—
Mission fields of Northern European Division
October 4—Home Missionary Day
25—Spirit of Prophecy Day

rying on the evangelistic meetings five nights a week.

Although the work is progressing in this part of the field, yet we feel the need for greater power from above to adequately fulfil our duty of bringing the gospel light to every creature. We request the prayers of our brethren to this end.

UP AND DOWN

By R. M. Milne

In the fourth quarter of 1940 the lay members of the Malayan Union actually broke all records. Our Union has been bringing up the rear for so long in percentage of members reporting that I could scarcely believe my eyes when I read the Far Eastern Division Home Missionary report. We act-

ually climbed up to the first place, above our sister Unions. Here is how it looks.

Malaya	73%
Philippines	66%
Netherlands E. I.	57%
Chosen	51%
Japan	36%

My jubilation was very short lived however, for when I made out the report for this first quarter I find that of our 39 churches and companies in this Union only 28 had reported, of 1630 members only 861 reported. The remainder either did nothing for the Lord, or failed to encourage us with their report.

It is too late now to help ourselves for the first quarter has gone forever, but the future is ours. Will not each one determine that so far as he is concerned our field will not be the tail-ender.

Other items are

18,776 pieces of literature given away
334 missionary letters written
2,205 persons helped
3,314 missionary visits made
2,259 Bible readings given

These figures show a small gain over the first quarter of last year on every item save one—letters written.



All the students of French Indo-China Training School, 1940-41

KLUANG EVANGELISTIC EFFORT

By J. M. Nerness

Kluang is a thriving small town in the central part of Johore state. Because of location, it has been looked upon as being a desirable place for the capital city of that country. It is in this place that the Malay States Mission committee felt that work should be opened in an intensive way. At one time, we did have organized churches at Segamat and Batu Pahat but these have been closed for several years. Now many of our good people live isolated in Johore from their fellow believers of like precious faith. Prompted by a conviction that in the heart of this great Malay state the light of the Advent hope should burn brightly, the brethren agreed to send Brother and Sister Y. C. Wan there in April of last year to prepare the field for a public effort.

Supported by a special grant for evangelistic help from the Malayan Union and with the co-operation of the Penang Sanitarium in the release of Brother D. Liem to lead out in the campaign an effort was started on April 1st of this year. Brother Stamford Wong joined the group of workers thus completing a strong evangelistic company. It was intended that a tabernacle be used in which to conduct the meetings, but war conditions prevented. However a small chapel was attractively arranged in a shop house which served very well. One can imagine the feelings of the workers when as they were distributing announcements inviting the public, policemen brought word that the meetings could not be started. Only a few hours remained until the time appointed for the opening lecture. The director was called and after consultation with Government authorities permission was given to proceed.

The hall proved to be too small from the beginning as capacity audiences came to hear the truth night after night throughout the entire three months of meetings. Many crowded the sidewalk outside and squeezed into the aisle inside to hear the message. This in itself is a tribute to the careful planning that was given to appropriately present our great message. The subject of the night previous was reviewed the evening following by Brother Wong.

The interest was created and dealt with effectively from the beginning. Services were conducted in Cantonese which seems to be understood by the population there generally and Bible studies

were given by the three brethren in their own dialects, namely Hakka, Hokkien, and Cantonese. Over twenty were enrolled in these special Bible classes and completed a text book of 28 studies.

In an effort to leave an enduring work, the workers recommended but eleven of the large class for baptism on July 1st. feeling that it was best for others to study farther. Word has now come that others of the remaining number who were not baptized at that time are now ready to take this step.

A large percentage of those accepting the truth are direct from heathenism and representing several different walks of life. Young people, students in school, tradesmen, and a clerk were amongst those baptized. The group indicated that both young and old, rich and poor were appealed to and that the conviction of the Spirit fell on all alike.

Only eternity will reveal the complete results of these meetings. Already some have been sent from their homes. Five young people attending a school have been ordered to withdraw from the school because they would not attend on the Sabbath. Possibly the greatest achievement has been the demonstration of the fact that public evangelism bearing Heaven's seal of approval can be carried on successfully for the masses of Malaya and that there are many who will face inconvenience to come night after night to drink deeply of the water of life for this time.

Brother and Sister Wan are now left alone with this company in Johore. Brethren Liem and Wong have returned to Penang where they are planning to open another series of such meetings. Please pray for those new in the Faith and our workers that effective plans may soon be laid and carried out to enter larger unentered fields "while it is day."

THE MALAYAN SEMINARY

By F. R. Millard

With both its dormitories and most of its classrooms filled to capacity, the Malayan Seminary is enjoying not only one of its biggest but certainly one of its best years. The enrolment has now passed the four hundred mark and we are forced to turn away many applicants. While a large student body does not necessarily make a good school, the fact that an ever-increasing number of students seek admission to the Seminary does indicate that its reputation is good and that it must

have something worth coming for. We believe that the strength and good name of the school can be measured by the degree to which we are carrying out the principles of our system of three-fold education.

First in importance of these principles is the moral or religious phase of our work. We are trying to surround our students with a Christian atmosphere and ever to hold before them the highest of Christian ideals. This is done not only through our well-organized church and our enthusiastic and very successful Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer Society, but in the school homes and the classrooms as well. As a result of this influence in the school, a large number of students were led to give their hearts to Christ. Last year fifteen were baptized and over thirty are now studying in baptismal classes.

The mental side of our work is not neglected in the Seminary. While we are striving to raise our standards still higher, we are glad for the degree of success that has been attained. We hold a certificate of efficiency from the Department of Education in Singapore and have been given a high rank among the private schools of the city. Out of a class of thirteen who sat for the Cambridge examinations last year ten were successful. Five of these are now studying in our training class. We are hoping for a larger class of advanced students next year for it is from this group that we look for workers to fill the many calls from the field.

The physical or manual phase of our work has done more than anything else to draw favourable attention to our schools in all parts of the world. It is unfortunate, therefore, that we have had to close down our weaving plant for a lack of materials. While we are still giving enough work to enable forty of our students to earn all or part of their way, we feel the need of building up school industries. This is being given serious study now.

Since the beginning of the present school year a number of changes have been made in the school staff. Prof. and Mrs. Minchin returned to Australia in April and Josephine Tan went with them to take some advanced school work. To fill these vacancies and to provide for new classes, F. R. Millard was called to the principalship and Mrs. R. M. Milne, Mr. John Richard, and Washington Sitoemorang were added to the staff. We now have a total of sixteen full-time teachers in addition to workers in the school home and in the business

MALAYAN UNION — HALF YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1940 and 1941

REPORT OF TITHES AND SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS

(All items in local currency)

Mission	TITHE		Percentage		SABBATH SCHOOL		Percentage	
	1940	1941	Gain	of Gain	1940	1941	Gain	of Gain
B. N. Borneo	909.07	1,290.21	381.14	42%	293.22	363.98	70.76	20%
F. I. China	2,122.27	3,624.62	1,502.35	41%	155.79	271.50	115.71	74%
Malay States	7,291.30	7,864.39	573.09	8%	2,723.23	2,864.17	140.94	5%
Sarawak	644.95	859.88	214.93	33%	312.11	405.62	93.51	30%
Thailand	1,624.39	2,060.34	435.95	27%	502.42	574.54	72.12	14%
Total	12,591.98	15,699.44	3,107.46	25%	3,986.77	4,479.81	493.04	12%

N. B. Please note that for the second consecutive month there is a gain in every item.

Leonard F. Bohner, Treasurer.

office. This is a group of well qualified teachers and we believe that the school will continue to grow and prosper under their efforts.

We are living in serious and troubled times and we feel to thank God for the peace and quiet He has given us here in Singapore. We can carry on our work without interference or serious handicaps and we believe that God will continue to watch over and protect us so that we may carry on and realize the purpose for which this school was established.

MALAY STATES MISSION DEPARTMENTAL NOTES

By R. A. Abdy

At present there are four Home Commission societies doing all that they can to foster the work of Christian home-making in the churches. I realise that we have only touched a little bit of this work. My prayer is that in some way the Lord will lead us step by step to the accomplishment of this task.

Our Home Missionary Department is developing with fourteen regularly reporting churches and companies. There is strong reason to believe that this number will be increased in the near future through the formation of three new companies of believers: at Kluang (Chinese), at K. L. (Telugu) and at Siputeh (Chinese).

The four churches at Penang (English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil) and the English Church in K. L. are regularly conducting Bible classes for the purpose of training our lay members to become active and successful soul-winners.

It is very encouraging to notice the great zeal and warm enthu-

siasm prevailing among our lay-members. Our Telugu lay preachers at Teluk Anson badly need some old S. S. picture rolls including pictures on "creation" for their active lay preaching work. Who can help? Please communicate with Pastor Moses, 3111 Laxamana Road, Teluk Anson, Perak.

"Our greatest need is to be wholly filled by the Holy Spirit and to arouse, organise, train and lead into service every member in every church and company until evangelism and soul-winning will become the key note on the lips of every worker and member and the burden of prayer at every family altar."

In the Y. P. M. V. Department there are nine active societies with a membership of 584, the highest we have ever had if I am correct. It is a joy to notice the steady advance of the M. V. work.

If all goes well we shall have fine investiture services this year. According to our latest reports 323 members are intensively preparing for the greatest "events" of the M. V. year.

The Seminary is busily conducting Bible classes for a number of young people who want to accept the Truth as a result of the M. V. week of prayer. Two of our M. V. members at Teluk Anson are regularly holding meetings and are able to gather good crowds.

Two young people of our Senior M. V. Society in Penang have decided to be baptised soon. They are taking Bible studies every Wednesday evening.

Reports show that our dear young people have distributed 12,986 tracts for the first 6 months of this year. Let us as leaders of churches remember the strength of the youth and organise them for service and prepare them for their place in the coming Kingdom.

INVESTMENT

By L. B. Tamboenan

Malayan Seminary Sabbath School
Superintendent

Somehow, when we think of Investment,

*We think of what we must do;
But have you stopped to consider
What the Lord has invested in you?*

This verse was plainly written on a blackboard placed before the members of the Seminary Sabbath School on the Investment Day, March 8, 1941. It was a happy day.

Through the suggestion of the officers of the Sabbath School, Mrs. C. Tambenan kindly consented to have her baby son Edmund, to be an investment baby; so it was announced that members could make pledges for every pound the baby would gain during the stipulated time, Feb. 1—March 1, a period of 29 days. A member suggested that in view of the short period, the pledge should be on every ounce instead of every pound; so it was.

When the time came to find the weight of the baby two lady members went to weigh the baby. Feeling was tense when they returned. It was announced that the baby had gained 58 ounces, a daily gain of two ounces for the period. All gave what they had pledged and the total raised for investment was \$47.15.

Faithful members of the Seminary Sabbath School, although not present then, sent their offerings. We were cheered by Brother Chin Ken Tai's example. He was hundreds of miles away, but he did not fail to do his part.

May God bless the investment baby—May God bless the Sabbath Schools all over the earth.

NOTES OF PROGRESS

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LEONARD F. BOHNER—EDITOR.

NEWS NOTES

During the vacation period at the Malayan Seminary several of the students are canvassing for books and magazines and several of them report good success in disposing of our literature.

Pastor Lake writes that the new school building at the Sunny Hill School in Kuching, Sarawak, is nearing completion. This building will provide space for class-rooms which are greatly needed at the school.

The Harvest Ingathering Campaign has already started! Good news is already coming in which promises another successful year in 1941. Shall we not as individual members ask the Lord to enable us to reach many persons with the good news of salvation as we go to them for their financial help.

Pastors Moon, Phang, and Youngberg arrived in Singapore on August 9 returning from attending the General Conference session at San Francisco. These brethren report an interesting and inspiring Conference. They had the privilege of meeting there several former missionaries in the

Malayan Union Mission, among them being Pastor and Mrs. L. V. Finster, Pastor and Mrs. L. B. Mershon, Pastor J. G. Gjording, Brother Roger Altman, Pastor Albert Munson, Pastor Fordyce Detamore, Dr. J. E. Gardner and family, and Brother A. J. Werner.

Pastor Youngberg proceeded to British North Borneo by the steamer leaving Singapore August 16. His family are remaining in the United States for the present.

Pastor L. I. Bowers is now back in Singapore after serving as director of the British Borneo Mission during Brother Youngberg's absence on furlough. Brother Bowers recently made a trip to Kuala Lumpur and Penang in connection with arrangements for the translation of a new book which will be published in Malay as soon as possible.

The Hammill and Howlett families have gone to Manila from French Indo-China and are remaining there temporarily until it is possible for them to proceed to other assignments of labour.

Pastor Abel reports that the new school building at Ubol, Thailand is nearly finished and that it is going to be an attractive serviceable school building.

The month of July was the biggest month in all the history of the Bangkok Clinic from the standpoint of financial income as well as in the number of patients treated. Dr. Waddell and his family have left for their furlough and Dr. G. G. Innocent is in charge of the Bangkok medical institution.

Dr. D. P. La Tourette is associated in the responsibility of directing the work.

Brother Bowers reports that before he left Borneo construction work was well along on the little dispensary building at the Dusun Training school. This school is going forward in a strong way. Pastor Sibadogil is the principal.

MALAY STATES NEWS

Record enrollments are being experienced in our two Kuala Lumpur schools. The Mountview English school has had to turn away applicants since its limit of 75 has been reached. The Te Sin school has 175 enrolled in its morning classes. In the afternoon, classes are conducted in language study for those who wish to attend from other schools.

A baptismal service was conducted in the Ipoh Chinese church. Three candidates were baptized. These were led to the Truth by two of our loyal laymen co-operating with our worker there, Brother Y. F. Choo.

Five were baptized recently into the K. L. Chinese church. Again, our laymembers have been instrumental in bringing the interested ones into contact with our worker, Brother Liew Yun, who completed their preparation for baptism.

Pastor Moses reports the baptism of one sister on July 5th in Teluk Anson and that others are to take this step into church fellowship soon.

Brother M. Siregar who is engaged in the preparation of a series of tracts for those who read Malay has sent in the material for his first tract.



The teaching staff and students of Malayan Seminary — 1941