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Literature Evangelism

“The Importance of the Canvassing Work is Kept Ever Before Me!”

—Mrs. E. G. White

Reaching the Heart of your Prospect

H. W. Peterson,
Publishing Secretary
Southeast Asia Union

Man is a religious being. The heart instinctively seeks for a God. Religion has been defined by Tolstoy as the relationship which man fixes between himself and his God, and morality as the outward manifestation of this inward relation.

Recently, one evening I took the opportunity to visit a Dale Carnegie class in Public Speaking in Singapore. The usual pattern of having each class member give a short talk was followed. The subjects all centered around some incident in their personal lives. Although many different faiths were represented, nearly every one spoke of the efficacy of prayer and the part it served in their personal lives. This convinced me that we need not hesitate to speak on spiritual themes when canvassing, because every man has some emotional desire toward which a sales talk can be directed. The literature evangelist is engaged in a type of work that involves the heart as well as the intellect. Since the heart is the center of the emotions, it is of the utmost importance that the heart of the colporteur be in tune with heaven. He needs to be daily converted to God so that his words and deeds may be a

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Pastor H. W. Peterson, Publishing Secretary, Southeast Asia Union

savor of life unto life. A prospect is quick to detect whether a salesman's motives are pure and unselfish or not.

Proper technique involving the science and art of Christian Salesmanship can be mastered by diligent study and application of the mind. While we cannot deny the importance of convincing arguments and sound technique in persuading a prospect to buy, the preparation of the heart is of greater value. “No one can be a successful soulwinner till he him-

self has settled the question of surrender to God.” C. E. p. 49.

The reasons why many have failed in the literature ministry is that they were not fully surrendered to God; they were not genuine Christians, nor did they know the spirit of conversion. They may have mastered the sales talk and used good technique involving the art of salesmanship, but failed because they lacked heart preparation. However, when all our thinking and feeling, which involves both the mind and conviction of the heart, are fully beamed in a positive way toward God, they present an unbeatable combination.

When the literature evangelist yields his mind and heart fully to the control of the Holy Spirit, he will receive spiritual stamina and courage to meet every problem in the right spirit and reach a higher plane in Christian service. It is not enough that the colporteur be convinced this is the very work the Lord would have him do, but he must also feel in his heart the burden of unselfish service to his fellow men.

World conditions are such today as to bring fear, anxiety and concern into the hearts of the people. Many are in deep trouble and perplexity and have none to whom they can look for comfort and encouragement. The literature evangelist whose heart is in tune with heaven will be able to

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enter into the joys and sorrows of the prospect and experience the emotions and feel with the heart his problems and trials. He who has discovered this secret, and put it into practice has found the key to a successful literature ministry.

Faith begets faith. Love begets love. A heart in which our Saviour has first place will overflow in tender compassion for others. Often it is not the persuasive, convincing arguments in a sales talk that induces a prospect to buy, but rather the sympathetic understanding, the friendly, cheerful attitude flowing from a sincere humble heart of love for others. Aim at the mind, master the reasons why the prospect should purchase the book, as you give your canvass, but do not forget to aim at the heart. The prospect's brain receives the logical reasons why he should buy, but his heart feels the need to purchase the literature in order to have a happier home, protect his loved ones, and help his children develop good characters. Here is your opportunity to direct your sales talk to the emotional desire inherent in every person. It may be a desire for a happier successful life, or a deep concern over a health problem. Yes, aim at the heart. An individual seldom raises any objections over something he wants emotionally.

The intellect and the heart of the literature evangelist, and the mind and heart of the prospect are the mental and emotional factors around which the sale revolves. A consecrated, intelligent colporteur will have no difficulty combining the mental and spiritual appeal to the intellect and emotions of the prospect.

In the Union of Southeast Asia with its multiple languages and races, and millions of people who have no knowledge of Jesus and His saving power, we need to pray earnestly for wisdom and understanding hearts so that our words and actions will win hearts for the kingdom of God.

Faith and Courage

Y. H. Phang,

Assistant Publishing Secretary
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The keynote of all our work for God should be faith. In the book of Hebrews we read that without faith it is impossible to please God, "For he that cometh

to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him". Christians the world over will testify that God does reward those who "diligently seek Him." Great and mighty things have been accomplished by men and women of faith throughout the ages. We serve the same God today. If we exercise the same faith as those heroes and heroines of bygone days, we may be assured that God will accomplish great things through us.

Caleb and Joshua were outstanding examples of faith. They were among the twelve sent to spy out the land of Canaan. All of them agreed that it was a good and fertile land which flowed with milk and honey. However, ten of them did not believe they could ever possess the land because of the giants and of the impregnable walls. But Caleb and Joshua, who had explicit faith and confidence in God and His promises said, "Let us go up at once; we are well able to take it." As colporteurs, let us not look at the giants in the land nor at the walls of difficulties found in the pathway of duty, but rather like Caleb and Joshua of old, be men and women of faith and courage.

In this work, we will sometimes meet with discouragement, but let us remember the promise, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28.20. Let us look heavenward, and believe in God's promises, which never fail.

In order for us to succeed in the work of literature ministry, we need to have faith; faith in God, in the prospect and in ourselves. Have faith also in the literature we are selling, that somehow God will use it to win souls to His kingdom. The reason why so many fail in the colporteur work is that they lack faith.

Courage is also a qualification which is vital to the success of those engaged in the colporteur ministry. We have a proverb in Chinese which illustrates this point. "If you do not enter the tiger's lair, how can you expect to get the tiger's cub?" It means that to get what we want, it is necessary for us to venture and take the risk. In order to have success in our work we must have courage. Courage and success are inseparable,

therefore let us develop courage.

When Joshua took over the leadership in Israel, he perhaps wondered if he would be successful, but the Lord assured His servant with these words, "Be strong and of a good courage, be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee, whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:9.

Great reformers like Martin Luther, and John Knox had many difficulties to surmount and many obstacles to overcome, but they went forward with strong and courageous hearts, and the Lord gave them success.

Fellow colporteurs, let us determine never to be discouraged, but let us use the wonderful opportunities before us and honour God by expecting great things. God is willing to work through us, if we are ready and willing to let Him, and be used by Him.

The following statement from the pen of inspiration, is always to be borne in mind, "Never let your courage fail. Never talk unbelief because appearances are against you. As you work for the Master you will feel the pressure for want of means, but the Lord will hear and answer your petitions for help. Let your language be: "The Lord God will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed." Isaiah 50:7—Testimonies Vol. 7, p. 244.



Student Successes - Southeast Asia Union College

Ingathering Success at SAUC

Jimmy Low

On Friday, July 4, 1958 seven hundred students of the Southeast Asia Union College gathered on the college quadrangle. It was an exciting day for them. Days of preparation, committee meetings, organizing, and then two whole days of trudging the streets going from shop to shop, house to house, and office to office were over and now they were gathered together to listen to the triumphs of their labour in Harvest Ingathering.

One month before this date the organizing committee consisting of five college students under the leadership of Mr. Daniel Tan had been appointed by the college. They went to work at once to organize the territory, goal to be reached, promotion and supplies committees. The territory committee divided Singapore into districts in which the different groups could work. The goal committee fixed goals for each class after taking into consideration the strength of each one. The promotion committee publicised the campaign and invited speakers to speak at the chapel period regarding Ingathering, and to demonstrate to the students the art of soliciting for funds. The supplies committee took care of all the pamphlets, solicitation licenses and receipt books, also the distribution of such to the students. The date set for Ingathering was July 2 and 3. All worked hard to get everything in readiness before this date should arrive.

The morning of July 2 saw the students assembled in the classrooms, waiting eagerly. Licenses and receipt books were issued to the various group leaders. There were last minute instructions from the form masters. Then happily,

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Ingathering Campaign results as reported by the class representatives shown in the picture.

in groups of four and five, the students set out to "gather the wealth of the Gentiles." They were seen everywhere, on the streets, in the houses, in the shops and in the offices. They were found in the city, in the rural residential areas, and in the kampongs. There was almost no place in the city of Singapore where one could not find them. Every place they entered they left behind pamphlets which tell about our Seventh-day Adventist work and receipts for cash; one, or two, and sometimes three receipts at each place, for the public was generous. For these two days they worked, each minute bringing new encouragement, new enthusiasm and new desire to solicit more for the Lord.

The day of the greatest excitement came at last. It was the day when the classes assembled to report their successes. With keen anticipation they assembled on the quadrangle again.

At 9:00 a.m. Pastor L. C. Wil-

cox led the College in the morning worship, with prayer by Mr. Daniel Tan. Then the different class reports began. Amid excited whispers of the seven hundred voices the representative of Primary one came forward to tell the congregation its goal was \$250 but that \$536.55 had been collected. Cheer after cheer greeted each class as it came forward to report on the goal reached, doubled, trebled or quadrupled. The goal for the whole College was \$14,200.00 but to the delight of all present it was found \$26,104.22 had been received! The excitement at this time was boundless. Pastor H. E. McClure, of the Far Eastern Division of Seventh-day Adventists, congratulated the students for the great work they had accomplished, and stated that Ingathering Day would be a bright light in the history of the College. The student body then rose as one man while they sang the College Anthem. This was followed

by three resounding cheers to the glory of the school. Mr. P. G. Miller, the Principal, thanked the students for their hard work and encouraged them to put forth a greater effort than ever before to make Southeast Asia Union College a college everyone could be proud of. With thankful hearts the assembly bowed their heads as Pastor V. E. Kelstrom thanked our heavenly Father for His guidance, in making this Ingathering campaign such a success.

Lord, Give us a Vision

H. Carl Currie
President, Southeast Asia Union

The wisest man that ever lived has said, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 29:18. How true this is of the people of God today! If we were to lose sight of the great work God expects of us, we would perish as a people from the earth. Our only reason for being a church is to enlighten the world of a soon coming Saviour. To lose this vision would be to lose our way to God.

The Messenger of the Lord has said, "And in a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power, and who lightens the earth with his glory." Colporteur Ministry, p. 4.

The publishing houses will publish the literature, but it is the work of the faithful literature evangelist to place this literature into the hands of the "seekers after truth." "God has ordained the canvassing work as a means of presenting before the people the light contained in our books. Canvassers should be impressed with the importance of bringing before the world, as fast as possible, the books necessary for their spiritual education and enlightenment. This is the very work the Lord would have His people do at this time. All who consecrate themselves to God to work as canvassers, are assisting in giving the last message of warning to the world. We cannot estimate this work too highly, for were it not for the efforts of the canvasser, many would never hear the warning." Colporteur Ministry, pp. 6,7.

The people of God need a vis-

ion of what our heavenly Father desires to accomplish through the colporteur ministry. The results of the canvassing work is not usually evident immediately. Twenty-one years ago I did my first canvassing in northern New England. Only the days of eternity will reveal the full results of that summer's work. But a few days ago I received a letter from my sister, in which she mentions that a person to whom I had sold a book, those many years ago, has now expressed a definite interest in this message, and has requested Bible studies. Sister White says, "For a time the good seed lay unnoticed in the heart, giving no evidence that it has taken root. But afterward, as the Spirit of God breathes on the soul, the hidden seed springs up and at last brings forth fruit. In our life work we know not which shall prosper, this or that. This question is not for us to settle." Education, p. 105.

King Solomon has also passed on some very wise counsel for our colporteurs, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand, for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." Eccl 11:6. God merely asks that we do our work faithfully. He will assume full responsibility for the results.

This issue of the MESSENGER is dedicated to the loyal faithful colporteurs of God serving throughout the Union of Southeast Asia. But we firmly believe that many more of the over 5,000 church members in this Union, should be actively engaged in this phase of the Lord's work. Listen to these words that have come to us from the pen of God's servant, "To every man is given 'his work,' the work for which his capabilities adapt him, the work which will result in the greatest good to himself, and to his fellow men, and in greatest honor to God." Education, p. 138.

Fellow believer, as you read these words, ask yourself this question, "Am I doing the work God has called me to do?" If every believer in this Union were to prayerfully and conscientiously face this question, the number of our colporteurs would presently increase many times more than they are now.

The work of the colporteur ministry demands the very best. Only "born again" men and women can hope for true success in this challenging work. This is no place for the weak and those who become easily discouraged. Neither is it a means of livelihood for those who have failed in everything else. The Master is looking for men and women who have a vision of what it means to be a "co-worker with Christ" and the courage and determination to live up to that vision.

The Psalmist has aptly pictured the loyal faithful colporteur when he said, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy, he that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalms 126:5, 6.

In spite of the many problems and difficulties that our colporteurs are called upon to face, the life of the colporteur minister is filled with joy and satisfaction in knowing that he is doing the work of our heavenly Father. Our Master has given us a promise that brings courage to all of His true witnesses. "Verily I say unto you, there is no man that hath left house or brethren or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands for My sake and the gospel's but he shall receive an hundred fold now at this time. Houses and brethren and sisters and mothers and children and lands with persecution; and in the world to come eternal life." Mark 10:29, 30. We do not have to wait until the days of eternity to receive the first portion of our reward. One hundredfold is promised us right here in this earth. The humble persevering literature evangelist knows from experience the surety of these words. The work of the canvasser is not easy, but the rewards are more than ample to make up for the ever present hardships.

The great crisis of the ages is verily upon us. The shaping up of history's final events are now taking place. We, as God's chosen people are going to play a very vital part in the closing scenes of the earth's history. Let each of us be sure we are in the place where God can use us to the best advantage, as He prepares to "Finish the work and cut it short in righteousness." Romans 9:28.

S.D.A. MISSION OF MALAYA
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Sowing the Gospel Seed

K. T. Chin
 Publishing Secretary,
 Mission of Malaya

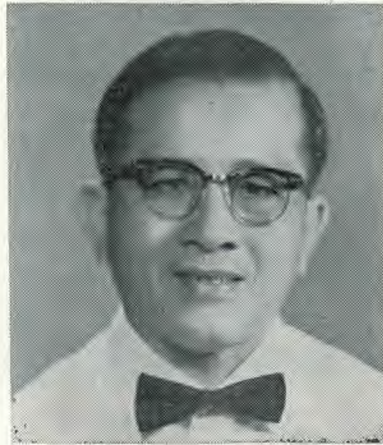
To ensure a good harvest and bountiful yield farmers must select the best and certified seed before sowing. Much research has been done over a period of years and experiments have been made with seed. David, said, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalms 126:6. Here you notice that the precious seed is the Word of God. It is precious because it is the best. It is the very seed of Life that men need. During the six thousand years, God's words have withstood the storms of tests and have come forth full of spiritual vigor, and are just as powerful now to yield an abundant harvest as at any other age. They change the lives of men in the coldest climate as well as in the hottest regions of the Far East.

Our various periodicals and books are the precious seed of God. They are silent but very powerful. It has been said that the written word is many times more effective and powerful than the spoken word. Of this, Mrs. White said, "I have been shown that the press is powerful for good or evil. This agency can reach and influence the public mind as no other means can. The press, controlled by men who are sanctified to God, can be a power indeed for good in bringing men to the knowledge of the truth." Colporteur Evangelist p. 28.

Colporteurs are engaged in sowing the precious seed of God. As it is, the seed of God has been sown in the cities, towns, villages as well as in the jungle. We are told if it "were not for the efforts of the canvasser, many would never hear the warning. Colporteur Evangelist p. 5.

Some of the seed that is sown might lie dormant for a long time, but we are assured that God's Word will not return unto Him void. We have this promise.

馬來亞區會文字佈道部幹事
 陳光大牧師



Pastor K. T. Chin, Publishing Secretary, Mission of Malaya

"It is true that some who buy the books will lay them on the shelf or place them on the parlor table, and seldom look at them. Still God has a care for His Truth, and the time comes when these books will be sought for and read. Sickness or misfortune may enter the homes, and through the truth contained in these books, God sends to troubled hearts peace and hope and rest." Colporteur Evangelist p. 6.

One of our colporteurs sold one copy of Chinese "Christ Our Saviour" to a man in Seremban, Malaya. The book was laid aside for some time. But trouble came to his family and he was not at ease. Failing to get comfort and peace from other sources, he began to read the book. The precious seed of God sown in that man's heart began to grow. One day, looking for a true church in which he could worship the true God, he was guided by the Divine Hand to come in contact with our worker. Bible studies were given and he was soon baptized. Today, he is one of our successful colporteurs winning souls for God.

The atmosphere in the world today is tense. Trouble abounds everywhere. Nations are angry and men's hearts are failing them for fear. All these show that "the night is far spent," and that "the day is at hand." Time is short. The opportunity for sowing gospel seed is limited. The seriousness of the time in which we live demands we need redouble our ef-

forts in scattering the precious seed of truth. May all our workers, the officers of our churches, and our lay members everywhere, not only encourage, but recruit those whom God can use to carry on the colporteur evangelist ministry.

The Price of Success

Y. P. Fung,
 Colporteur Evangelist
 Mission of Malaya

"Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field." Proverbs 24:27.

Once a man asked Mr. Firestone (the late president of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, and one of the first millionaires) what was the secret of his success. His answer was "Thinking ahead." Yes, if we would only spend extra minutes each day in studying and practicing, we too could add orders to our pad, and dollars to our pocket. Too many of us go about our daily tasks without any very definite purpose or aim, and the result of an indefinite purpose is definite failure.

We must have a love for hard work. It should become a kind of disease from which we will never recover. Sometimes, we are too lenient with ourselves, and tend to pity ourselves because of the hard work we do.

Plan well the words you will say, thus making every statement a brief selling sentence. Always make your call brief, interesting, uplifting, and profitable both to you and your subject. Before Napoleon could win his victories, he first created them in his mind. Every great invention existed in the inventor's brain long before he gave it tangible shape. So it is with success reached in any line. We as colporteurs can make success ours too, if we will only take time to think and plan ahead. We must not rest and be satisfied until we have mastered the technique of successful Christian salesmanship. Be not content until you experience that inner joy of being a colabourer with the Master Colporteur, and stand steadfast at your post of duty as Moses did, who "endured, as seeing Him who is invisible." Hebrews 11:27.

When the "no-order" days come, look up and beyond. I think it was Emerson who said, "Never mind the ridicule, never mind de-

feat; up again, old heart!" Think of the strength in those words, "up again, old heart!" It is like the voice of a comrade urging us on when we are in despair. Therefore, if whenever we are discouraged think of these words and "under Divine guidance, go forward in the work." Colporteur Evangelist.

I was won by a Colporteur

**Wong Fong Kiew
Colporteur Evangelist,
Mission of Malaya**

There is no higher work than that of the colporteur evangelist for without this means of giving the message thousands would never know the truth of God for today.

When I was a student I studied the Bible lessons in school but could not understand the real meaning of Christianity. Suffering came with the passing of time and I began to wonder who the Merciful One was—the One who could lighten my burdens. I wondered too, just which church preached the truth and why there were so many different denominations.

I thank the Lord for his direction in my life for one day a stranger appeared at my door. I invited him in. He canvassed me for the "Chinese Signs of the Times". I told him I had no interest at all in reading books, besides the magazine he had to offer was rather expensive I thought. He tried to persuade me to purchase other papers he had but to no avail until he showed me a page in the "Signs" telling of children's problems. Since this caught my attention I was soon convinced the value of the paper was more than the price in dollars and cents so I subscribed, immediately.

A year later this gentleman, Mr. Yap, called on me again for the renewal of the "Signs". I told him I had no time in which to read, but while in conversation with him he mentioned this magazine was printed by the Seventh-day Adventist organization. He also recommended I study the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence Course. I signed up for it and before he left I subscribed again for the "Signs."

After I received my Voice of Prophecy certificate I attended

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**Wong Fong Kiew
Colporteur Evangelist,
Mission of Malaya.**

church services one Saturday. There I listened to Pastor Daniel Lim's message. After the service it was a pleasure to meet him. He and Pastor Chin visited me and studied the Bible with me. A few weeks later I was baptized.

Up to this time I had never dreamed of becoming a colporteur myself. I chose the canvassing work because I was told that many more should become literature evangelists in order to finish the work of God.

I attended the colporteur institute which was held in Singapore but soon after this I had a physical examination and to my dismay was told a growth had been discovered. I could hardly believe this for I had felt no pain. The church members in Penang assisted me at this time so I could have surgical treatment in the Penang Sanitarium. Dr. Brueske operated. How important it was for me to accept Christ when I did for had I not done so I would have been in great trouble financially and may have lost my life, through delay.

Let us be awake to our opportunities as colporteur evangelists in bringing more souls to Christ.

Literature Ministry as a Means of Soul Saving

**Yap Ming
Colporteur Evangelist
Mission of Malaya**

Our denomination has put much emphasis on the publishing work as a result of the vision shown to Mrs. Ellen G. White the night

of March 2, 1907. (See Colporteur Ministry, page 2.) Through His Messenger, the Lord instructed us to spread the gospel by means of our publications. Quoting from her writings we read, "The canvassing work, properly conducted, is missionary work of the highest order." Col. Ministry, p. 6. It is evident from this statement that the Colporteur Ministry has much to do in spreading the truth and in saving of souls. It occupies an important part in the cause of God. My experience is a good illustration of how men and women come to know the Truth as a result of reading our literature.

Before the year 1950 my family and I were worshippers of Baal in following the ways of our ancestors. We even scoffed at Christianity. However, the Lord was good to us for in April of 1950 He called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. In accomplishing this He sent Brother Leow Han Ping to us who is now a retired colporteur with many years of experience. It was he who led me to study the truth of God's divine Word. Soon I was baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Not long after this I recalled the teaching of the Saviour who said, "Ye are the light of the world." About this time I also came across a statement in Mrs. White's writings which says the colporteur is a watchman and a messenger. I responded at once. These words from Jesus and from the messenger of the Lord were a definite call for me to enter the colporteur ministry. I answered, "Here am I, send me."

It has been seven years since I began this work. As a result ten precious souls have been won to Christ during this period. Three of them became colporteurs and are still in this ministry.

In the great task given to us it is my sincere hope that my fellow workers will remember the saving of souls is to be the most important part of what we do. In this way we may be instruments in the hand of God to help bring His work to a grand and glorious completion.

Satan the arch enemy of mankind, works hard to induce the colporteur to sin in forgetting his greatest objective, that of soul-saving. Let us not fall into his trap.

**S. D. A. MISSION OF
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The Colporteur Work, A work of Love

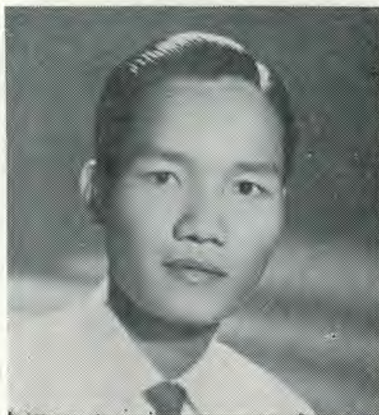
**Do Binh, Publishing Secretary,
Mission of Vietnam**

The word "love" reminds the colporteur of something sublime; something great which has left in his heart and his mind a deep and ineradicable impression. He feels himself an object of the heavenly Father's love which called him out of darkness and perdition to the Light of Life. How vast and profound is that divine love which caused Jesus to become flesh and to die an ignominious death on the cross for the salvation of ingrate humanity! (John 3:16)

Reciprocating that supreme love, the colporteur assumes the duty of heralding far and wide the good tidings of salvation to country people and towns people alike. He takes upon himself the noble task of propagating the heavenly love in every home with no regard to social class or racial discrimination. His vocation is a vocation of love, being himself a disciple of love. (1 John 4:8) Sympathizing with the unfortunate lot of those who are caught in the enemy's trap, blind to God's compassion and doomed to eternal perdition, the colporteur evangelist cannot help but herald the warning message to this generation.

The colporteur feels unworthy of His Father's love if he fails to bring the good news of redemption and hope to his fellow men. Reversedly, if it is his lot to meet trials and hardship in his career, he rejoices with the saints for being counted worthy to have a share in the passion of the Saviour. To him tribulation is nothing, privation is nothing, persecution is nothing, but the preaching of God's love is most important of all, for what he aims at is not an easy life, nor riches of this world, but souls and everlasting life. The Bible says that everything of this world is vanity, but the knowledge of God and His

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**Brother Do Binh, Publishing
Secretary, Mission of Vietnam**

love will last for ever and ever.

In the large cities the people of today are seeking pleasure of the flesh, feverishly idolizing carnal passions, while the people in the country are struggling hard for their livelihood. Both have their minds set on other things than God's great love. And to all whether found in the city or the countryside, the colporteur evangelist is to bring the gospel light, and show them the right way to everlasting life. The colporteur evangelist should be willing to help others in their need of all kinds, in healing the sick comforting the sorrowful et cetera, and thus doing, he lives out the principles of the two great commandments of his master worded in Matthew 22:37-39, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

I Fell into an Ambush

**Pham Cuu
Colporteur Evangelist
Mission of Vietnam**

One early morning in the autumn of 1952, as usual my wife and I and our two children gathered around the family altar for morning worship, after which, I bade them good-bye and went out on a long journey to a city 300 kilometers from my hometown.

A beautiful day had dawned and the air was cool and fresh. I

stopped just long enough to take a deep breath, then hastened to the bus station where my fellow travellers appeared to greet me cheerfully as though they knew I was the Heavenly King's messenger. I boarded the bus, exchanged brief greetings with my neighbor while the bus started on its way. Soon the city of Saigon was lost to sight behind us and we were crossing immense green paddy fields. The vehicle travelling at high speed seemed to devour the road like a huge monster.

By now the travellers had become acquainted with one another and were chatting animatedly. The rural breeze had probably blown all their city worries into oblivion.

Suddenly, however, a young man in military uniform stepped out from the roadside and beckoned the bus to stop. Fully conscious of his responsibility for the security of the road, he informed us of an enemy's ambush ahead. He advised us to wait for the expeditionary forces who would be passing that way. We thought though, we would be safe enough since we were but civilians in a civilian transportation bus. With this in mind we felt the enemy would not attack us. Furthermore, most of the passengers were anxious to arrive at their destination, so in spite of the warning they urged the bus driver to keep going. As for myself I was confident of our Lord's protecting hand. The joyful atmosphere in the bus, however, had disappeared and everyone was apparently worried. Fear was written on every face. Dismay and terror reached its climax as we neared the spot supposed to be perilous, but nothing happened. Everyone sighed in relief. The danger was thought to be over, and the menace ended.

Unexpectedly, a group of armed men with a murderous look on their faces emerged from the dense bushes on one side of the road. Without hesitation they opened fire, aiming their guns at our defenseless bus. The consternation of the passengers was pitiful. I was impressed to tell the driver not to halt but to flee at top speed. I calmly assured him that the God of heaven would protect the lives of the passengers in his charge. My words of encouragement worked something near to a miracle,

for he became bold and unafraid, and thus successfully pulled the vehicle out of the ambush.

When we stopped at the next military post that day, we counted several bullet holes in the bus. Fortunately and miraculously not a passenger was hurt. The people kept silent as they saw me reverently bow my head, and shut my eyes for a prayer of thanks to God. The driver approached me and thanked me for the assurance given him just at the time he was so frightened and was about to stop. Then all the passengers, amazed at my faith in God, surrounded me assailing me with questions about my religion. I seized this rare opportunity to bear witness of our Saviour to them. Transformed was the grass yard into an auditorium with these people as listeners, and I a preacher. Since then I have not met any of my road companions of that memorable day. But the experience is still fresh in my mind, and I am sure it ever remains ineffaceable in the minds of those who witnessed this wonderful miracle of our compassionate Father and who listened to my witness on that historical day of deliverance. May the Holy Spirit keep on impressing the hearts of these people leading them someday to surrender their hearts to our loving Redeemer.

BORNEO-BRUNEI-SARAWAK MISSION

President C. G. Oliver
 Sec.-Treasurer L. G. Sibarani
 Postal Address P. O. Box 34
 Jesselton, North Borneo

The Joy in Canvassing

Chin Kong Loi
 Student Colporteur Evangelist
 In North Borneo

Before you read on I am sure you would like to become acquainted with one—Chin Kong Loi. Let me tell you something about him. In school he is a quiet person, but he is not silent whenever he thinks he ought to speak. In the year 1956 he was accepted as one to enter the Chinese Training Course in the Southeast Asia Union College. If he is worthy he will graduate this year. Then he will go out to work

文字佈道士陳光來兄弟



**Chin Kong Loi, Student
 Colporteur Evangelist**

for God and man. Now let us read about his canvassing experiences.

During the school holidays for the past two years my time was spent in selling books and taking subscriptions for magazines—Chinese, English, Malay and Indian—which were all published by our own Presses.

After the last term of last year we had a two months' holiday. Stephen Chee accompanied me in the circulation of our literature. The territory to be covered was North Borneo.

In the town of Tawau we spent one joyful week. The day before our departure however, we found we would not be able to visit all the homes and shops so we discussed this problem and decided the best way would be for us to work separately since we had been canvassing together before this. The next morning after breakfast we knelt to seek strength and wisdom and guidance from our Heavenly Father, then we started out to work in different areas of the town. For nine long hours we worked. That evening we sat together by the seaside to talk over the experiences of the day gained from contacts made with the people, and to share the joy we felt in service.

Soon the moon appeared on the horizon. As it illuminated the earth with its silvery light we thought of the blessed words of Jesus Christ, "Ye are the light of the world." We sang praises to God, thanking Him for strength received to be light bearers for

Him. We know through our ministry that day God gave special blessings to the people for He helped us take twenty-eight subscriptions to the "Chinese Signs of the Times." Two English educated souls ordered "Life and Health," one Malay paid for "Kesehatan" and Sixty-six books were placed in the different homes. What a joy canvassing brings!

The next morning with two boxes of books I embarked on the Kimanis intending to sail to Lahad Datu but my plan was changed by a Macedonian call coming from a small fishing port—Semporna. Four years ago this port was robbed by sea pirates. Many of the inhabitants were killed, some wounded and money as well as goods were taken. Later, eight months before my arrival, there was a fire which swept over the whole town reducing about fifty shops to ashes. Upon my arrival all the business was being carried on in temporary buildings. However, the people are anxious to hear new things. They respect strangers who are kind and friendly to them. One of the homes entertained me and offered me vegetarian food, though they were pagan.

It took me nine hours to canvass the whole town, including shops, homes and the two sawmills. Again, not less than sixty books were placed in the different shops and homes. Two Malays subscribed to the "Kesehatan" magazine. One English teacher sent for "These Times". Many people signed up for the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence Course. Some poor folks were happy to receive tracts which they read with great interest. All the people expressed their thankfulness for my visit, saying, "Come again and bring us more reading material." One of the Chinese school teachers told me it would be fine if I could be their principal. Who am I, to be their principal? But he meant it.

There is joy in canvassing, joy to travel, joy to visit new places, joy to meet different individuals, joy to gain precious experiences, joy to witness to God's love and grace, and most of all joy to bring to the people the good news of the Gospel of Salvation.

Why not enter the Colporteur Evangelist Ministry and share in this wonderful joy!

The Rewards of Student Canvassing

Chung Ket Shun
Student Colporteur Evangelist
In Sarawak

"What can you get out of this?" How much are you going to pay me?" Often I hear people ask such questions as these. Yes, in this sin-cursed world, whatever we do we want to receive some reward, in fact, the greater the better. So it is with student canvassing work. If there were no rewards whatsoever in canvassing I am quite sure that I would not join in the work as a student colporteur, selling religious books which to most of the worldly people are as dull as ditch water. But surely the rewards are uncountable.

Without a shadow of a doubt, as a student canvasser, I have gained a lot of blessings and I do hope that more students will come and join in this noble work of God. With this in mind I would like to relate some of the rewards that come from canvassing.

Recalling some of my past experiences, I can not help but think of the first time I went out to canvass. It was late March, in the year 1954 when Pastor Chin Kong Tai took me out to Serangoon Gardens. Before this however, I was asked to commit the canvass to memory, but due to my limited understanding of English I could not do this. Anyway, the first day, with the help of Pastor Chin, I got by very well, indeed. The next day, though, I had to go out by myself. It was a hard job for a young lad like me. I felt rather afraid as I knocked at the door alone for the first time. Really I hoped no one would come to open it. After a day of hard work I arrived home with two dollars and forty cent in my pocket. However, now as a result of meeting different kinds of people my courage has been greatly increased. Today I would even dare to canvass the Queen!

Last December Jimmy Yong and I made a trip to Kuching to canvass. Since neither of us had been there before, we were very anxious to see the place. When we reached Kuching, we had one dollar and forty cents left, after paying the different expenses in-

curred on our trip. This was all we had. What an experience! My partner noticing the town to be small and not very prosperous asked, "Do you think we can ever make enough here in order to get back to Singapore?" Aware of the fact that the people in Borneo are easy to canvass, I quickly replied, "Surely, we can." As a result of hard labor and many prayers we were able to reach the two thousand dollar sales mark. For this we give thanks to God for His abundant blessings. Instead of coming back by boat we flew back and we each received a year's scholarship, almost. Truly canvassing is one of the best ways to earn enough to support oneself.

In my canvassing work I have travelled quite extensively. So far I have been to most parts of Malaya and North Borneo. If I were not a student colporteur, I would never have had such a chance to visit so many different countries. On the other hand, through travelling I have learned many things which could not be learned in a prison-like school.

My heart was filled with cheer and joy, as I visited some of our churches in Sarawak, and learned of the steady progress of God's work and of the faithfulness of His people. Canvassing not only broadened my knowledge but also gave me a free ticket around this part of the world.

As I canvassed from house to house, I met all kinds of people—kind and sympathetic, harsh and impolite. Really it takes all sorts to make up the world. In dealing with them I learned how to be tactful, patient and considerate. As I saw people working very hard on the dusty highway, in the factories and on the farms, I knew life better. It is nothing but a battle field. All this enables me to handle the problems of life better.

Above all, canvassing has helped me to know God better for I must depend on Him each time I go out. The heavenly Father is watching my footsteps, His all-seeing eye is fixed on the road I travel. Surely, my guardian angel protected me many times.

Canvassing strengthened my character too.

Since there are so many rewards in student canvassing why not come and join us?

THAILAND MISSION
Chairman of
Committee R. P. Abel
Sec.,-Treasurer S. T. Soh
Postal Address, 493 Lam Luang
Road, Bangkok, Thailand

The Work in Haadyai

K. S. Wong Pastor
Haadyai Church

Haadyai is an important town in South Thailand and is conveniently accessible by road and by air from Malaya. Our work in this flourishing town is represented by a hospital and a beautiful church recently built. There is a missionary doctor working in the hospital with over forty local workers assisting him. We are happy that another new doctor has recently arrived from the States, Dr. Walter Ordelheide and family.

Those usually attending Sabbath services in the church, of which the writer is the pastor, is over fifty. Soon there will be another missionary family coming to join us. They will work among the Thai people while the writer is laboring among the Chinese people. We also have an English church school for our children.

Since coming to take up the work here last autumn I have had Bible classes every Monday and Thursday in a Mr. Chen Shaw Wen's shophouse. Mr. Chen is one of the deacons of our church.

On March 29 of this year we held a baptismal service. Two Chinese women and one Thai woman were baptized in the Haadyai River. Many people live on both shores of this river who were able to witness this solemn ceremony. These two young women, one Chinese and one Thai, were nurses in our hospital. Several workers, including Dr. and Mrs. Gregory had held Bible studies with them previously to my coming to Haadyai. The other woman was the wife of one of our church members, Mr. Chu Kok Ching. Years ago, Brother Chu was a member of the Sunday-keeping church. When he and his three children received baptism by sprinkling his wife and daughter refused to accept Jesus at that time. Brother Chu prayed and worked for them without results for several years. After joining the re-



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remnant church Brother Chu asked our workers to help bring his wife to Christ. Still her heart was not moved. However, she at last did give her heart to Him through Pastor Kon's earnest efforts and the fervent prayers of the members.

We need the prayers of our Messenger family for those who are still in the Bible class. Please do remember them.

NEWS NOTES

● Dr. and Mrs G. H. Coffin and family are back in Singapore and hard at work after spending a very pleasant vacation at Port Dickson and Cameron Highlands. The Wicks from Ubol, Thailand and the Haskells from Penang also spent their vacation period with the Coffins.

● Elder Roger Altman has greatly improved from his recent serious illness and is at his desk again in the Union office we are happy to report.

● The Aaen family from the Indonesia Union has been spending their vacation in Singapore. Elder B. A. Aaen is the principal of the Indonesian Union Seminary.

● Elder R. K. Tilstra and family are now located in Malacca. They will be greatly missed on the Union compound. May God's richest blessings attend them in their work in this section of the field. As Elder and Mrs. Guild replace the Tilstras in the Balestier Road English church in Singapore our prayers will be with them as they continue the work in this center.

● Harvest Ingathering has been wonderfully blessed of the Lord this year in the city of Singapore. A goal had been set for all the churches in the city to the amount of \$40,000. However, a week before the campaign closed \$51,000 had been received. The Southeast Asia Union College raised over \$26,000 of this amount in its record breaking drive.

● Dr. and Mrs. Thrasher and family with Dr. and Mrs. Hynal and family of Bangkok are now vacationing at Cameron High lands. The Wentlands of Vietnam spent their vacation recently in Dalat while the Gregorys of Haadayi, Thailand are having their vacation in Hong Kong.

● Dr. W. R. Rosenquist, his wife and their three sons, Ronald, Roger and Royd also Mis Ruby Dybdahl, sister of Mrs. Rosenquist, are the guests of the Mazat family on the Union compound. They are making a world tour. When in the United States Dr. Rosenquist has a private practice in Phoenix Arizona. Miss Dybdahl works in the bacteriology department of the White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles.

● Also on the compound as guests of Mrs. C. E. Randolph is Dr. Robert Rosenquist and family. Dr. Rosenquist has been assisting in the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital for a year in the absence of one of the doctors who has been home on furlough. When at home in the States Dr. Rosenquist practices in Redlands, California. These two families are traveling together. The doctors are cousins.

Literature Evangelists

H. W. Peterson
Publishing Secretary
Southeast Asia Union

MISSION OF MALAYA

	COLPORTEURS	HOURS	AMOUNT
許太平	T. P. Khor	239	\$ 820.00
葉明	P. C. Dominic	222	1,024.80
馮佑培	Yap Ming	181	482.70
	Y. P. Fung	160	1,000.00
	K. Y. Cheng	160	555.40
	D.A. Abraham	160	166.70
黃祥	Wong Siang	156	370.10
林錦洲	G. C. Lim	139	806.50
吳榮華	E. H. Wu	150	704.40
	H. C. Ann	108	682.50
黃圓圓	Y. Y. Wong	108	210.60
	John Chew	103	259.00
黃鳳嬌	F. K. Wong	94	209.15
	Y. L. Tan	70	468.90
	K. C. Khoo	47	175.00
	G. S. Khor	38	89.50
	Ruth Currie	28	64.80
	Mrs. S.T. Seow	16	106.00
	K. W. Cheng	16	21.30
	C. Y. Wong	10	34.00
	Mrs. Paul	10	68.00
	Mrs. Chin	—	141.80
22 Colps.			2,241 \$ 8,461.15

SINGAPORE
MAGAZINE WORKERS

	Ruth Currie	98½	318.80
	C. Y. Wong	30	62.40
康佳麗	Ida Khag	3½	63.35
	Janet Siew	3	7.15
	Y. C. Ho	—	49.70
三育中學	S. Y. C. School	—	68.90
	Miscellaneous	—	90.75
5 Colps.			135 \$ 661.05

THAILAND MISSION

Yung Yong	160	\$ 5,157.00
Student	—	84.00
Office	—	3,673.00
Misc. Sales	—	403.00
2 Colporteurs		160 \$ 9,317.00

VIETNAM MISSION

COLPORTEUR	HOURE	AMOUNT
Nguyen D Due	276	Ps. 20,190.00
Huynh Tu Nhon	206	19,280.00
Truong Tho Tho	182	12,455.00
Pham Cuu	187	12,145.00
Pham So	192	11,050.00
Phang T Nguyen	145	10,000.00
Vo Tin	184	7,190.00
Truong Nga	192	6,600.00
Lam K Tuyen	86	5,575.00
Phang Hong	—	4,200.00
Vo Van Sau	68	3,960.00
Phu Duc Tai	118	3,400.00
Training School	—	12,800.00
Cash Sale	—	8,220.00
12 Colporteurs		1,836 Ps. 137,065.00

事。他們採用各種的理由來反對安息日。爲要阻止他遵守聖日，他們甚至聲稱十條誡命已被廢除了，然而這話正與他們自己的教義問答相反。他們越是辯論，真理便越顯明出來。

「順從上帝，不順從人，這是應當的，」這段經文使陳光來決心順服上帝。他乃寫信給銀行的經理，請求准許他不在安息日工作。他甘願改在星期日工作，或取消他每年的二週假期。經理回信說，由於銀行的條規，他不能允准陳光來的請求。於是陳光來呈上其辭職書，預備在一個月後停工，他同時請求准許他不必在那最後的四個安息日工作。

當安息日臨到之時，他到教堂參加聚會。當何牧師及一小群的教友聽見他的故事之後，他們又驚奇，又深受感動。他們不知道陳光來會經過這場試驗。他獨自爭戰，——但實際上他並不孤獨，因爲上帝與他同在。

這場爭戰並不就此罷休。當陳光來的父母獲知他辭掉銀行的工作後，便十分生氣，親戚和朋友也反對他。他的哥哥甚至打算用武力把他抓到警察局。

有一天，他的父親說：「你知道嗎？我的朋友叫我殺死你！」

陳光來問道：「那你自己的意見怎樣呢？」
「我覺得我敢下手殺害你。」

只有陳光來的兩個弟弟同情他的信心，他們知道他的行動是對的。然而他既已失業了，便惟

有快些離開家庭，才可避免遭受攻擊。

教友們爲陳光來作特別的禱告。有一個教友柯先生是開鞋店的，他答應招他作學徒，教他怎樣修補鞋子。陳光來接受此工作，於是他便蹲在那矮小的中店學補鞋子。他學習得很快，所以在不久後他便學會了一個好手藝。然而最要緊的是他的心中有了平安。

當他的朋友經過鞋店時，他們都以驚奇的眼



何韋如牧師爲陳光來兄弟施浸之情形

大着眼睛，手指發抖地指着何牧師，罵道：「就是這個人破壞了我的家庭，他使我的兒子由一個銀行的書記變成一個鞋匠。他已經把我的兒子迷了。我的兒子完全聽從他的指揮。」

何牧師連忙解釋道：「不是的，我並沒有制控妳的兒子。他會順從妳，過於順從我。但是他必須先順從上帝。聖經說第七日是安息日，這是耶穌遵守的日子。我們在上帝的聖日工作是不對的，所以妳的兒子不願意於那日坐在銀行裏工作。」

陳光來繼續在鞋店工作，忍受親友的責罵與譏笑。有一天，他收到古達一位朋友的來信，問他要不到該地的聖雅各學校教書，薪金比他在銀行裏得的還多卅元。陳光來不知應當怎樣行，他惟一的願望是爲主作最好的見證。他向教友詢問意見，他們認爲這是上帝爲他所開的路，便贊成他接受此工作。

他回家詢問其父母的意見，他們立即改變態度，促他快點接受此工作。當他到了聖雅各學校後，便努力爲主作見證，引帶學生赴安息日學。但因聖雅各學校是別個教會所主辦的，他們顯然不會允准一個熱心的基督復臨安息日會信徒長久工作的，免得他們的學生都要加入基督復臨安息日會。因此，我們決定派陳光來加入星洲南洋神道學校（即今日的東南亞聯合學院）華文傳道班受訓。他在今年底便將修完三年的課程，我們希望他繼續作主的良好工人。

接着，陳光來受浸加入教會。全體教友十分高興，他們從未看過一個這樣熱忱的慕道友。

有一天，當何牧師搭公共汽車之時；有一個婦人跳了起來，——她就是陳光來的媽媽。她張

爲基督而作鞋匠

孟玉山

人們不必買票子，便直向戲院走進去。陳光來從未見到這種情形，便停下來看個究竟。他看見一幅奇異的廣告，上面畫着一個以地球爲面孔的肥人。這個『世界先生』綁着綳帶，好像學生病一樣，他正在奔驗一瓶藥。在廣告上有一行字說：『何藥能治愈世界？』

這是什麼意思呢？陳光來覺得莫名其妙。但這既然不必買門票的，他便決定進去看一看。既進到了戲院裏面，他乃發覺了更奇異的事——他看見『請勿吸煙』的標語。有一個青年人微笑地帶他人座。這兒並不像其他的戲院，沒有人爭搶座位，也沒有響亮的流行歌曲，却有溫柔的聖詩。他是一個基督徒，所以很覺滿意。

接着，有衣服整齊的人在戲台上出現，其中一個人走到台前，請聽衆一起唱一首詩。當他站起來時，有人送過一本讚美詩來。俄頃，他便快樂地唱詩。這是他生平第一次聽見有人在戲院中唱聖詩及禱告。

有一個像是傳道士的人走到台前，宣佈他的題目是：『何藥能治愈世界？』陳光來聽懂每句話，並且十分佩服那位傳道人，因他很明瞭世界的局勢。這個世界顯然不會長久存在下去。想到這兒，他吃了一驚，因他一向都爲自己的前途作長久的打算。現今，他的一切計畫都要推翻了。他對於這新的觀念有什麼反應呢？

傳道人停止演講後，會衆便唱詩結束這場聚會。這是一首他不熟習的詩，名作『世上無常城邑』。詩中的句子與傳道人所講的正是一樣。當他隨着衆人走出門口時，有人說：『晚安，請再來！』原來這是傳道人對着他而說的。

他回到家時，宛如作了一場夢。『耶穌要再來，世界末日，』這些話不停地在他身邊響着。

他拿出自己的聖經，查閱那位傳道人所引述的經文。結果發現句句都對，這樣，傳道人的話必是正確的。他沒有對別人提起此事，——因他正忙着思想這個重要的問題。

第二天早上，他回到北婆羅洲山打根渣打銀行的辦公桌工作。他的父母勞苦工作，他們爲了他受到良好的教育，曾經作了很大的犧牲。如今，他們覺得快樂和滿意。由於陳光來之薪金的幫助，他們可不必像以前那樣勞苦了。

那天晚上，陳光來又到那戲院去，好像是鐵受了磁鐵的吸引一樣。他所聽見的話都是真確的。他從未想到聖經竟是一部如此奇妙的書。

當他回到家裏的時候，他再也無法不把此事告訴家人了。他勸他們在次晚一同去赴會。然而他們似乎聽得沒有什麼興趣。原來那位傳道人何牧師是廣府人，而他們乃是客家人，對於廣府話不大明白。因此，他們不想再去聽，然而陳光來却每天晚上都到場赴會。

他從傳道人的演講中獲知，自己在小時所受的滴禮並不符合聖經的教訓。他深覺自己不配得救。後來傳道人又提到安息日的道理，這又使他大吃一驚。

何韋如牧師請聽衆在下安息日到基督復臨安息日會的教堂作禮拜，但他得到銀行工作。他怎可違犯上帝的誡命呢？

他有一本卑氏百科全書，便查閱有關星期日律法之記載，結果發現其中有一段話說，君士坦丁在公元三二一年頒布『第一個星期日律法』，命令大家應當在『可敬的太陽之日』停止一切的工作。無可疑問地，星期六乃是上帝的安息日。

他應怎樣辦呢？倘若他失去了銀行的工作，便會使其父母鬻差。他們可能否認他爲兒子。他真是『外有爭戰，內有懼怕，』但耶穌說：『你若要進入永生，就當遵守誡命。』

陳光來開始禱告。他與其教會的同道談論此



這個奇異的廣告把陳光來吸引住了

爲危險已過了。

出乎意料之外，有一隊武裝人員從路旁的濃密草叢中鑽出來。他們立即向着我們這輛全無保護的車子射擊。搭客都驚惶萬分。我受感動，叫司機不可停車，乃當快速開車前進。我鎮靜地向他說，天上的上帝必會保護搭客的生命。我的話給予他很大的鼓勵，於是他變得十分大膽，急速把車子開過敵人的埋伏。

當我們的車子到達另一個守望站之時，我們發現車上有幾個子彈洞。但却無一個搭客受傷。當他們看見我低頭默禱感謝上帝時，他們都寂靜無語。司機走來向我道謝，因我在他最害怕之時給他鼓勵。於是所有的搭客都因我的信心而驚異不已，他們圍着我，向我發出許多問題。我趁此難逢的機會爲我的救主作見證。頓時，草場成了一個會堂，搭客是聽衆，我是講道者。

自此以後，我雖然不會再遇見過那日的任何一個搭客，但這場經歷依然鮮明印在我的腦中。我相信那些搭客也必永遠不會忘記這個經歷。願上帝的靈感動他們的心。

學生推銷書報的報賞

鍾潔純

『你能够得到幾多錢呢？』『你要給我多少報酬呢？』我時常聽到人們發出此問題。是的，在這犯罪受咒詛的世界，我們不論作什麼事情，總想要得到一些報酬，其實，所得的報酬，越多越好。學生出去推銷書報，也是這樣的目的。倘若推銷書報並不可得到什麼報酬，我相信我一定不會去推銷宗教性的書報了，——在世人看來，這是一種全無興趣的工作。然而，我所得到的報

酬却是數算不完的。

自從我作了學生書報員後，我確確實實得了許多的福氣。因此，我希望更多的學生會來參加這崇高的聖工。爲要鼓勵同學們推銷真理的書報起見，我願在此叙述個人的一些經驗。

當我回想往事之時，總免不了想起我第一次出去推銷書報的情形。那是在一九五四年三月，陳光大牧師帶我到實籠崗園工作。在未出發前，陳牧師叫我要背熟推銷書報的套語。但因我所學到的英文有限，所以我無法作得這一步。無論如何，在陳牧師的帮助下，我工作得十分順利。

次日，我便得獨自出去工作。像我這樣的一個青年人，這可說是一件辛苦的工作。當我初次獨自去敲門時，我的心中頗是害怕。真的，我暗自希望沒有人會出來開門。經過一天的努力工作後，我的袋中只有二元四角。然而如今我的膽量已大大地增加了，這是我會見各色各等之人後而得到的。今日，我甚至敢去向一個國王推銷書報。

去年十二月，翁耀光君和我一同到古晉推銷書報。我們以前都未到過那地方，所以我們很想去看看。當我們到達古晉時，我們只剩下元四角，這就是我們全部所有的錢。翁君發覺此市鎮面積頗小，而市情也不繁盛，乃發問道：『你想我們可以賣到足夠的錢回新加坡嗎？』我因爲知道向婆羅洲的人推銷書報甚是容易，連忙答道：『可以，一定可以。』我們一面禱告，一面努力工作，終於賣了二千餘元的書報。我們實在感謝上帝的恩典。我們不是坐船回來，乃是乘飛機回來，而且我們每人幾乎都得到一年的獎學金。真的，推銷書報是賺錢幫助求學的最好方法。

我在從事推銷書報時，會到過很多的地方去觀光。我已經到過馬來亞及北婆羅洲的大部分地

方。倘若我不是去推銷書報，我一定沒有機會去這樣多地方旅行。此外，我在旅行中學到許多東西，是我無法在學校中找到的。

當我有機會去探訪沙勞越的一些教會時，我的心充滿了喜樂，因爲我有機會看見了上帝聖工的進步。推銷書報不但使我的見識加增，並使我可免費遊歷許多地方。

當我挨家挨戶工作時，我遇見了各式各樣的人，有的人和善而富有同情心，但有些人却粗魯而無禮貌。我和他們接觸之後，乃學會了機警和忍耐。當我看見人們在公路上或工廠中努力工作時，我乃更認識了生活。生活就如一個戰場。這一切見識都幫助我更應付生活上的問題。

尤其進者，推銷書報幫助我更認識上帝，因爲我每次出門工作時，必須倚靠上帝。天父看顧我的脚步，他的眼睛看着我所走的路。誠然，我的天使多次救了我的生命。

推銷書報也使我的品格堅強起來。……學生去推銷書報既有這許多益處，爲何不來參加呢？

推銷書報可得喜樂

陳光來

（在各位尚未閱讀本文之前，我相信你們一定喜歡認識陳光來君。且讓我在這兒把他介紹給各位。在學校中，他是一個沉靜的青年人，但在他覺得應當說話的時候，他就不緘默不言的。他在一九五六年加入東南亞聯合學院的華文傳道訓練班。他在年底畢業之後，將要加入主的葡萄園工作。以下是他從事文字佈道工作的經驗。請讀本期『爲基督而作鞋匠』一文。）

要，乃向他們表同情，用合宜的話安慰他們，用書報向他們指出光明路途，為他們祈禱，為他們服務，引他們歸主，確是人生最快樂事也。

書報員是基督的精兵。他們「穿戴上帝所賜的全副軍裝，就能抵擋魔鬼的詭計。」他們每日獻身，做足時間，打美好的仗。成績好，成續不好也笑。若遇成績不好，撒但要試探之時，他們便犧牲一時，不售書報，專向人講道，招函授學校學員，分派小冊，以增加屬靈力量，步步為營，一面行，一面祈禱頌主。接着再進行推銷，常可收功效也。

書報員滿面笑容，精神十足，舉止行動，如大人物氣概，如天國大使。他們在人前報告好消息，如活香氣叫人活，使人鼓起精神快樂。

一個人雖然沒有很高深的學問，但只要他們不怕辛苦，有信心，努力工作，就可成為成功的書報員，當然我們也希望上層知識份子等獻身參加為書報員，使書報員陣容強壯起來。師母說：『你們不要以為牧師用推銷書報方法來傳道，是降低身份的事，這不過是做法從前保羅的辦法罷了。』（『傳道的書報員』第十三面）

弟本世俗人，廿歲入廈門鼓浪嶼美華神道院求學，廿二歲加入教會。弟萬二分感謝上帝。我雖拙口笨舌而無學問，但蒙主准我為書報員，十分榮幸，至今共卅年，（任幹事十年，書報員廿年）先後在中國，華南，廣東，廣西，福建，台灣，香港，澳門，緬甸，馬來亞等地工作。接觸人士不少，讀者因而加入教會者十多位，不知者相信更多。現有子六位，長子傳道，次三子在美升學，均藉派書自養，故派書傳道對青年甚有幫助，是最好的訓練，望各位兄弟多為我家祈禱。

成功的代價

馬來亞區會
文字佈道士 馮佑培

『你要在外頭預備工料，在田間辦理整齊，然後建造房屋。』（箴言廿四章廿七節）

有一次，有一個人詢問百萬富翁派士頓先生（派士頓膠胎公司之已故董事長）他的成功祕訣是什麼，他的回答是『思想前頭。』不錯，只要我們每天多用幾分鐘的時間來研究和實習，我們就可使訂單加多，並使袋內的錢加增。我們多數的人每日出門工作之時，乃是沒有確定的目標和計畫，而沒有目標的工作必是會失敗的。

我們應當愛勞苦的工作，並且永遠保持這種精神。有時，我們對自己太寬容了，並且容易可憐自己，不使自己做勞苦的工作。

當預先擬好你所要說的話，以致每句話都是簡單而有勸銷的價值。每次會見一個顧客，應當保持時間簡短，但却使之有趣。在拿破崙尚未打勝仗之前，他先在腦中擬好計畫。每一偉大發明物未曾問世以前，即已存在發明者的腦中了。任何事業的成功，也是如此。我們身為文字佈道士的人也可得到功，只要我們肯用些時間計畫前頭之事。我們若非已完全學會成功之推銷書報方法之前，必不可自足而停頓下來。在你尚未體驗到有主同在的內心快樂時，不應感到滿足。你必須堅立在你的崗位上，正如摩西一樣，他『恆心忍耐，如同看見那不能看見的主。』（希伯來書十一章廿七節）

當你在一天之中未有招到一個訂單時，當仰望上天。愛默生說：『不管譏笑，不管失敗，却

當重振精神。』請想一想這話的力量：『重振精神。』這好像是一個同志的聲音，在我們失望之際鼓勵我們前進。因此，何時我們失望之時，且想一想這話：『在上帝的幫助下，向前工作。』

我遇見埋伏

越南區會
文字佈道士 Pham Cui

一九五二年秋的一個早上，我和內子及兩個孩子照常舉行朝會。禮拜完後，我向他們告別，便開始前往三百公里遠的一個城市。

這是一個晴朗的日子，空氣涼爽而清新。我作了一次深呼吸後，便趕到車站去。那兒的搭客顯得很快樂地歡迎我，似乎知道我是天上之王的使者。我上車後，與同車的搭客交換一些問安的話。不久之後，車便離開西貢了。我們經過一片青色的稻田。

這時，車上的搭客都已相熟，便很熱烈地會談。郊外的和風陣陣吹來，將他們在市中所生來的一切煩惱都吹掉了。

突然，有一個穿着軍裝的青年人從路旁走出來，示意叫我們的車子停下來。他通知我們前頭有敵人埋伏等候機會，並叫我們等候那將要經過的保護隊，然後一起前進。搭客認為自己都是平民，而且所搭的又是民用的運輸車，斷不致有危險的。此外，大多數的搭客都想快趕到目的地，所以便鼓動司機繼續開車。至於我呢，我深信主的手會保護我。車子雖然繼續開行，但車中的快樂氣氛已經消散，大家都顯得憂慮。當車子將近那所謂埋伏的地點時，搭客的恐懼乃到了頂點。但並無甚麼事情發生，於是大家鬆了一口氣，認

事，上帝就會藉着這些書中的真理，把希望，平安，安息，送到他們煩悶的心中。」（『文字佈道士訓言』第四面）

有一個文字佈道士在馬來亞的芙蓉市把一本『人類的救星』賣給一個人。這位顧客把這本書放置一旁。後來他遇見了難題，無從得到安慰和平安，便開始讀這本書。上帝寶貴的種子撒在他的心中後，便開始萌芽長大。有一天，他去尋找一個真教會，俾便崇拜真神上帝。上帝的手引導他，使他遇見了我們的一位工人。經過查經後，他便受浸加入教會。今日，他是我們的一位成功的文字佈道士，召了多人進入教會。

今日的世界是處在緊張的氣氛中，到處有擾亂的事發生。列國大發怒氣，人心慌慌不定。這一切都表明『黑夜已深，白晝將近。』時間已十分短促，撒福音種子的機會已受限。我們是住在一個嚴重的時代，所以我們必須加倍努力去分撒真理的種子。願我們教會的職員和平信徒，不但鼓勵，而且招募新人參加文字佈道的工作。

一種愛心的工作

越南區會 幹事 Do Minh
文字佈道部

『愛』這個字使文字佈道士想起一件崇高而偉大的事，是他永不會忘記的。他想到自己憑蒙上帝的眷愛，乃得離開黑暗的深淵而進入光明的生命中。大哉上帝的愛，祂差遣耶穌降生世上，為忘恩負義的人死在十字架上。

文字佈道士為報答上帝的愛，乃將上帝救人的信息傳給城市和鄉村的居民。他擔負崇高的工作，將神的愛帶到各階級和各民族的家庭中。他的工作乃是愛心的工作。那些落在敵人羅網中的人，因為不曉得上帝的愛，勢必跌入滅亡的深淵

中。文字佈道士同情他們的遭遇，乃將警告的信息傳給這世代的人。

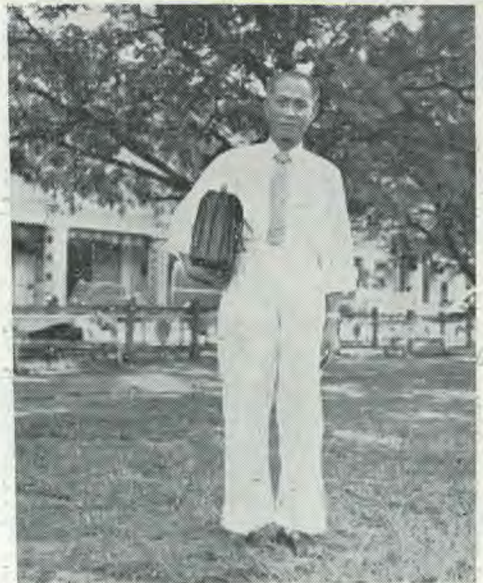
文字佈道士若果不能將救恩與希望的好消息傳給他的同胞人類，他就覺得自己不配得到上帝的愛。倘若他在工作之時遇到了試煉和困難，他倒因此感覺快樂，因為他是與基督一同受苦。在他看來，患難是無所謂的，窮困是無所謂的，這迫也是無所謂的，但傳上帝的愛却是最要緊的事。因為他所期望的，不是艱閉的生活，或是這個世界的財寶，而是永遠的生命。聖經說，這世界的一切事情終要歸於虛空，但上帝的愛却要存到永遠。

在都市中，人們尋求肉慾的快樂，崇拜情慾為偶像，而在鄉村的人却忙着為生活而奮鬥。這兩種人的心思都注意到別的事情上，而沒有注意到上帝的愛。文字佈道士就是要將福音的眞光介紹給他們，向他們顯明永生的道路。他也要盡力幫助人們的需要，和安慰受傷的人，因為他的生活是建立於兩個大誠命之原理上：『你們要盡心，盡性，盡意，愛主你的上帝。這是誠命中的第一，且是最大的。其次也相做，就是要愛人如己。』（馬太福音廿二章卅七至卅九節）

書報是最大的救人工具

馬來亞區會
文字佈道士 葉明

我們的教會特別注重文字佈道的工作，乃懷師母於一九〇七年三月二日晚上，得見異象，蒙主指示，應努力把書報傳開。她還有說，推銷書報的事，若能行之得當，便是最高尚的傳道。



文字佈道士葉明兄弟

可見書報的工作，對擴展聖工，與救生靈，有莫大的關係。而在教會中，也佔有很重要的地位，因閱書報，得着真理而加入我們的教會，成為上帝的子民的人，不可勝數。

好似我的家屬，一九五〇年前，仍是遵照先祖的遺傳，奉拜巴力，譏誚基督。後於該年四月間，得蒙上帝的呼召，叫成們出黑暗，入奇妙的光明。祂差遣廖君漢平（書報員老將）引我研究眞道，奉耶穌基督的名施洗。

後來我想起救主的話，祂叫我們做光做鹽。同時懷師母有說：書報員是守望者和傳信者。我就應聲說，我在這裏，請差遣。我遂來參加書報行伍，經七年之工作，有千位的教友是由我手的書報引入教會，而現在當文字佈道者有三位。

我所望的，就是我們的同工，首先認識拯救生靈是最高尚的工作，需要一致拚命努力，使上帝的工早日完成。在今年之內更進一步，殷勤服

心歸向天國。

信心與勇敢

東南亞聯合會 副幹事 彭應熙
文字佈道部

在我們爲上帝服務的一切工作上，最主要的素質就是信心。在希伯來書上有一段話說，『人非有信心，就不能得上帝的喜悅；因爲到上帝面前來的人，必須信有上帝，且信祂賞賜那尋求祂的人。』世界各地的基督徒都可作見證說，上帝確實『賞賜那尋求祂的人。』歷代以來，滿有信心的人，男女曾作了偉大的事。我們今日所事奉的，原是同一位的上帝。倘若我們運用信心，正如以往的人一樣，上帝也必利用我們作出偉大的事情。

迦勒和約書亞是大有信心的人，他們和另外十個人被派往迦南窺探。這十二個人都同意迦南誠然是流奶與蜜的肥沃之地，不過有十個人不相信以色列人可以佔有那地，因那裏有堅固的城邑和身量高大的民族。但迦勒和約書亞滿心相信上帝的應許，說道：『我們立刻上去得那地罷，我們足能得勝。』我們這些從事文字佈道的人，不要害怕在我們工作上所遇見的偉人和城牆，却要像古時的迦勒和約書亞一樣，滿有信心和勇敢。在從事這種工作時，我們有時會遇見失望的事，但願我們記住主的寶貴應許：『我就常與你們同在，直到世界的末了。』（馬太福音廿八章廿節）願我們仰望上天，信靠上帝的應許，因爲這是不會落空的。

我們若要在文字佈道工作上得到成功，我們便需要有信心——信靠上帝，信靠前途，並有自信心。我們也當對自己所推銷的書報有信心，相

信上帝會利用它們來救人歸入天國。有許多文字佈道士失敗的原因，就是他們缺少信心。

勇敢也是促使文字佈道成功的另一要素。俗語說：『不入虎穴，焉得虎子。』我們如果想要得到所要的東西，就必須冒險前進。我們若要做成功，就必須要勇敢。勇敢和成功是分不開的，因此，我們要培養勇敢的精神。

當約書亞繼摩西負起領導以色列人的責任之時，他可能疑問自己能否成功，但上帝向其僕人保證說：『你當剛強壯膽；不要懼怕，也不要驚惶；因爲你無論往那裏去，耶和華你的上帝必與你同在。』（約書亞一章九節）

偉大的宗教改革家如路得馬丁和諾克斯約翰等，都會面對許多困難和障礙，但他們剛強壯膽前進，主便給予他們成功。

文字佈道士們，我們當立志不可灰心。却要利用那擺在我們面前的機會。上帝願意利用我們工作，只要我們願意順從祂的領導。

我們當時刻記住以下的一段話：『千萬不可失去勇敢的心。千萬不要因爲看見困難的影跡；便談說不信的話。當你們爲主工作時，必會需得缺乏資力，但主願意垂聽和應允你的祈求。你所說的話應當是：『主耶和華必幫助我，所以我不抱愧；我硬着臉好像堅石，我也知道我必不至蒙羞。』（以賽亞書五十七章七節）』（『證言』卷七第二四四面）

撒福音的種子

馬來亞區會 幹事 陳光大
文字佈道部

農夫若要得到良好的收穫，他必須選擇最好

的種子撒在泥土裏。這些種子是經過多年的研究的。大衛說：『那帶種流淚出去的，必要歡歡喜喜地帶禾捆回來。』（詩篇一二六篇六節）這裏所提到的寶貴種子，就是上帝的道。此種子所以寶貴，因爲這是最好的。這就是世人所需要的生命之種子。在六千年來，上帝的道曾經抵擋試煉之暴風雨，但却完好無恙，而且滿有靈力，能夠結出豐富的果子，正如過去任何時代一樣。它能改變最寒冷地區之人的生活，也能改變遠東熱帶之人民的生活。

本會所出版的各種書報，就是上帝寶貴的種子。它們雖然昇寂靜的，但却大有能力。有人會說，文字比較口說的話更有效力，因爲由眼睛而得來的印象，比較由耳朵得來的更是深刻。懷師母提到此事說：『我受指示，印刷之爲物，行善行惡，都有偉大的能力。這種工具，足以影響公眾的思想，比別的方法更有力量。印刷品在成聖歸主的人手裏，真是爲一種行善的能力，可以使人明白真理。』（『文字佈道士訓言』廿六面）

文字佈道士的工作就是撒上帝寶貴的種子。他們到各處去會見人們，這樣，上帝的種子不但撒在城市裏，也撒在鄉村中。主的僕人說：『若沒有他們的工作，有許多人就永不會聽到上帝的警告。』（『文字佈道士訓言』第三面）

所撒下的一些種子可能埋在土中一段長久的時間，但我們得蒙保證，上帝的話必不徒然返回的。論到人們向我們的文字佈道士所買的書報，我們有這樣的應許：『固然有的人買了本會的書報，就把它們放到書架上去，或單擺在客室的桌上作裝飾，輕易不去閱讀，可是上帝會照料祂自己的真理，到了時候，定有人會去把這種書報找出來讀的。或許有一天這家中發生了疾病或不幸的

男女，就是知道怎樣才算是『與基督同工，』並有勇氣和決心去照着此偉大的眼光而生活的人。作詩的人會適當地描述忠心文字佈道士的果效，說：『流淚撒種的，必歡呼收割。那帶種流淚出去的，必要歡歡喜喜地帶禾捆回來。』（詩篇一二六篇五，六節）

文字佈道士雖然面對許多問題和困難，但他們的生活乃是充滿喜樂的，因為他們知道自己是為天父而工作。我們的救主曾給予我們寶貴的應許，足可鼓勵一切忠實的見證者。他說：『我實在告訴你們，人為我和福音，撇下房屋，或是弟兄，姐妹，父母，兒女，田地，沒有不在此世得百倍的，就是房屋，弟兄，姐妹，母親，兒女，田地，並且要受逼迫；在來世必得永生。』（馬可福音十章廿九，卅節）

我們無需等到來世才得到第一部分的報酬，我們就可在此世界上得到一百倍。謙卑而忍耐的文字佈道士可從自己的經驗上見證此話的可靠。推銷書報的工作不是容易的，但所得的酬報却大大超過了眼前的困難。

歷代以來的大危機正在我們的前頭，歷史的最後階段正在形成中。我們身為上帝選民的人，要在這世界歷史的末頁擔任一種重大的工作。但願我們每人都為上帝作出最佳的服務，因為『主要在上世施行祂的話，叫祂的話都成全，速速地完結。』（羅馬書九章廿八節）

感動顧客的心

東南亞聯合會 幹事 裴德森
文字佈道部

人類是有宗教性的，因為人心有追尋上帝的本性。托爾斯泰為宗教下定義說：人以宗教來決

定自己與上帝的關係，而道德即是這種內在關係在外表上的顯露。

不久之前的一個晚上，我在星加坡參觀卡納基演講班之進行。每個班員照常有機會發表一個簡短的談話。他們所談論的題目都是集中在個人生活上的一些事情。雖然他們代表着多種不同的宗教，但幾乎每人都談論到祈禱在他們生活上所發生的果效。這件事情使我深切相信，當我們出去推銷書報之時，可以不必害怕談論屬靈的事。

文字佈道士所從事的工作，不但涉及智力方面，也包括心靈方面。心靈是一切情緒的中心，所以文字佈道士的心應當與天庭響應，乃是非常重要的。他每日都需要向上帝悔改，俾使其言語和行動成爲一種活的香氣叫人活。顧客很快就會看出一個推銷員的動機是否純潔和不自私的。

若要熟習推銷書報的正當技巧，就當殷勤研究和將之實行出來。我們雖然不能否認良好之理論及優良之技巧的重要性，但心靈上的準備却有更大的價值。『人除非自己先解決了順服上帝的問題，誰也不能成爲一個有效的救靈工作者。』（『文字佈道士訓言』第卅九節）

有許多人所以會在文字佈道工作上失敗，就是他們沒有完全獻身歸主。他們不是真實的基督徒，他們也不知道悔改之精意。他們可能熟習推銷的套語，曉得施用良好的技巧，但却在工作上失敗了，因他們缺少心靈的準備。在另一方面，倘若我們的一切心思和感覺，都完全導向上帝，便可現出不可克服的力量。

當一個文字佈道士把心思和意念完全交給聖靈管制之時，他就會得到屬靈的力量和勇氣，以致能够以正當的精神來面對每一問題，並在基督徒服務上達到更高的境地。文字佈道士單只信服

這正是上帝要他做的工作，乃是不夠的，他的心中尚須有一個擔子，覺得必須爲其同胞人類作不自私的服務。

今日世界的局勢使人驚惶，焦急，和擔心。有許多人是處在苦難中，彷徨不知所措，得不到他人的安慰和鼓勵。文字佈道士的心既與天庭互應，便可向顧客發出同情之心。一個人若能發現此祕訣，並將之應用出來，乃是找到了文字佈道士成功的鑰匙。

信心能够引發信心，愛心能够引發愛心。一個人的心若讓救主佔首要的位置，便能向他人流露同情。那引發顧客購買書報的因素，往往不是那套令人拆服的理論，却是文字佈道士誠懇之心所表現出的一種同情，友善而愉快的態度。

當你推銷書報時，固然要以顧客的腦子爲對象，向他談說他當購買書報的理由，但却不要忘了觸動他的心。顧客的腦子接受了合理的推論，明白爲何應當買書，但他的心却發出一種慾望，覺得需要購買書報，俾使家庭更加快樂，並使孩子養成良好的品格。這是一個機會，你當對着每個人之心靈上的慾望發揮推銷的話語。顧客之心靈上的慾望可能是：更幸福的家庭，更健康的身體。你當以這慾望爲進攻的對象。一個人若果心中想望一件事，他很少會提出反對的理由。文字佈道士的智力和心懷，以及顧客的思想 and 心意，乃是促成推銷成功的因素。一個獻身而聰明的文字佈道士，必定不難利用智力和心靈的因素，來觸動顧客的意志和感情的。

在東南亞聯合會內，住有許多不同種族和語言的人們。他們之中有千萬人尚未曾認識耶穌及祂拯救的大能。我們應當懇切祈求上帝賜給我們聰明和智慧，以致我們的言語和行動可以感動人



主啊，賜給我們眼光！

東南亞
聯合會會長柯爾義

倘若我們看不見上帝期望我們完成的工作，我們便將要滅亡了。我們的聯合成爲一個教會存在世上，其惟一的原因就是向世人顯明救主快要復臨了。倘若我們失去了這眼光，便是失去了到達上帝之路。

主的使者寫道：『那一位有大權柄的天使，從天降下，並使地因他榮耀而發光，他的工作，大部分要由本會的印刷所來完成。』（『文字佈道指南』第二面）

報館的任務是印刷真理的書報，而文字佈道士的工作是將這些書報放到那些『尋求真理者』的手中。『上帝已命定推銷書報的工作是將本會書報所含的眞光照耀於人前的一種方法。文字佈道士應當感覺到，盡速向世人介紹與其靈性教育及覺悟所必要的書籍，這種工作乃是非常重要的舉。這正是主要的子民在現今要做的工作。凡獻身給上帝做文字佈道士的人，正是協助把末世警告的信息傳給世人。這種工作，我們雖然作最高估價亦不爲過，因爲若是沒有文字佈道士的勞力，許多人就永不會聽到警告。』（『文字佈道指南』第五面）

上帝的子民應當看清楚天父願意文字佈道工作有何等的成就。推銷書報之工作的效果往往不是立即顯露出來的。廿一年前，我在新英格蘭區開始從事文字佈道工作，惟有在永恆的日子才可以顯明我在那年夏天工作所得到的全部效果。然而，在幾天前，我收到我姊妹的一封信，提到一個在那麼多年以前向我買過一本書的人，現今已對道理發生了興趣，並且要求加入查經班。懷師母

寫道：『那好種子初時或將隱藏在心中，看不出已紮了根；但後來一經上帝的靈吹入心靈之上，那埋藏的種子就發芽了，最後竟結出果實來。我們不知道在生平的事業上，或此或彼，究竟何者將要發旺。但這一個問題並不需要我們解決。』（『教育論』第九七面）

所羅門王也留下非常聰明的勸勉給予我們的文字佈道士，他說：『早晨要撒你的種，晚上也不要歇你的手，因爲你不知道那一樣發旺，或是早撒的，或是晚撒的，或是兩樣都好。』（傳道書十一章六節）上帝只叫我們忠心工作，而他要爲工作的果效負起全部的責任。

本期的『會聞』是文字佈道專號，是特爲東南亞聯合會的忠心佈道士而編的。然而我們堅決相信，在本聯合會的五千多個教友中，當有更多的人熱烈參加這部門的工作。且聽預言之靈所給予我們的教訓：『各人都分派有一當作的工，』（可十三章卅四節）是適合其才幹的工作，也是與其自身及其同胞有最大益處，並使上帝得最大尊榮的工作。』（『教育論』第一二七面）

各位同道們，當你們讀了這些話之後，請問自己道：『我是作上帝叫我作的工作嗎？』倘若每個教人都本着祈禱的精神來詢問自己，我們的文字佈道士必將比現在所有的多了好幾倍。

文字佈道工作需要我們獻出最佳的才幹，只有『重生』的男女才可希望在此工作上獲得真正的成功。對於軟弱和容易灰心的人，這兒沒有他們的位置。這工作也不是給予那些到處失敗之人的一个謀生的機會。主所呼召的是一般有眼光的