

Chinese Churches in the Philippines

(Adapted from the report to the missionary conference by the former chairman, Rev. R. E. Bressler.)

In three centers where there are large concentrations of Chinese people missionaries have been allocated to supervise or to assist in the work according to the need.

In the Zamboanga City area a missionary has been responsible for the work. For some months negotiations have been under way to secure official permission for Mr. Paul Ho, a graduate from the Cheung Chau Bible Institute near Hong Kong, to enter the Philippines. The Zamboanga Chinese Church has called him as pastor and expects to assume his full support. The spirit of unity on the part of the leaders and members is cause for thanksgiving. A young people's group was organized and its numbers have multiplied. More important has been the manifest increase in the knowledge of the Word, and the spirit of service which grows out of a deepened prayer life.

Several families of Chinese believers have transferred from Cotabato to other areas. They are greatly missed for they were faithful in attendance and in support of the work. Mr. Sun Tek Guan, a graduate of the Ebenezer Bible Institute, is pastor. Previous to his graduation he consented to stay out of school for a year in order to help the Christians through a crisis. That period of labor won for him great respect throughout the Chinese community as they saw in him a devoted and true servant of the Lord. This church is self-supporting.

In Davao the Chinese pastor and

the missionary have led the Christians into intensive and extensive ministries of witnessing. A Sunday school was started in a nearby village through the efforts of the young people's group. This has proved to be a splendid means of reaching both children and adults, and of leading numbers of them to the Lord.

The church has also built a chapel in Davao not far from the one they have been sharing with the Filipino church. Having their own building, they are able to meet on Sunday mornings and to schedule other services as desired. For several years their Sunday school classes met in homes. Then a rented place was used for some time.

Rev. Wesley Shao, pastor of the Davao Chinese Church, conducted a series of services for the Chinese of Jolo and quite a number professed conversion. It has not been possible to maintain the follow-up work that is necessary after such a response, due to the lack of a properly qualified worker. Prayer is requested for this group and for all the Chinese throughout the field.

A Witch Doctor Saved

By MRS. RUTH ELLENBERGER, *Africa*

Pierre Fatewa, a student from the Telekoro Bible School, went to Bayilian on a week-end assignment. After preaching on repentance, he gave

an altar call. Among a number who responded was Tamba, a well-dressed middle-aged man, who said he wanted to repent. The people laughed at this announcement, and continued even after Pierre rebuked them. "You don't know who he is. He's the witch doctor!" they said.

Pierre said that if Tamba repented he too could walk the Jesus road and suggested they go into the house where they could talk quietly. But Tamba said that he was not ashamed of what he was doing. He prayed the best he knew, as did his two sons and some townspeople.

At service the next morning none of the new converts appeared, so Pierre went after them and told them they should come to learn how to walk the new way. But Tamba said he had been thinking it over and had almost decided that the new way was for young men, and that he would not be able to persevere.

Pierre told him that God could save and keep a witch doctor, but that he must get rid of his fetishes. That night the fetish bonfire gave enough light for the entire service. Tamba said, "Tonight all my family and I are free." Two weeks later he gave testimony that all his witchcraft was past and that God had truly made him a new person.

Greetings from Japan

The conference of the Japan Alliance met April 29 to May 2 at the Alliance Bible School at Hiroshima and this conference wishes to extend greetings to the 59th General Council of The Christian and Missionary Alliance with much thanksgiving and esteem.

We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for your prayers and assistance in many ways during the past year. The Lord has granted opportunity to give the gospel message to many precious souls, especially through the aid we have received for literature and radio evangelism.

We also wish to express our gratitude for your help in publishing Dr. A. B. Simpson's *Holy Spirit in the New Testament* and other spiritual books which have been the means of strengthening our faith and have been a blessing to Christians in other organizations.

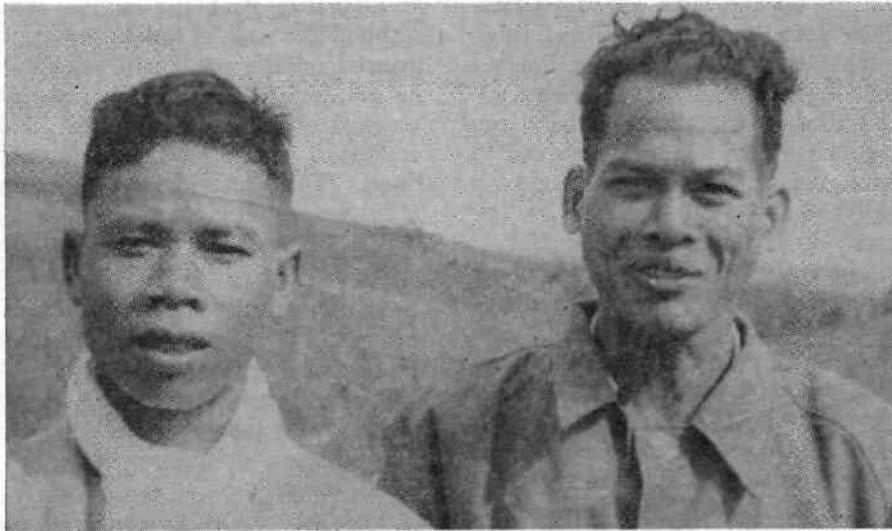
It was a great uplift to the Japan Alliance to have Mr. Oye attend the Bangkok conference and we are deeply grateful for your financial assistance given for that purpose. The report from Bangkok helps us to reach out after a world vision.

We humbly send this greeting, praying that the reports at the Council from all countries may inspire greater zeal to send "The Whole Bible to the Whole World" and that we may press on with the message to the remotest parts of our assigned areas in Japan.

On behalf of the conference of the Japan Alliance,

SUTEICHI OYE,

Chairman of Executive Committee of the Japan Alliance.



H. A. JACKSON

Ha Sao and Ha Chu, Cil tribesmen who were ordained at the Easter conference in Viet Nam. Ha Sao is superintendent of the tribal work in the Dalat area. These men have been workers for a number of years.

Five Tribesmen Ordained

By AGNES KERR

AT dawn Easter the tropical sky was clear and the breeze cool. At Banméthuot more than two hundred people from seven different tribes were gathered for a sunrise service on the lawn by a missionary residence. This service opened the four-day intertribal conference of the Tribes Evangelical Church, held April 1 to 4.

Rev. H. A. Jackson, who has worked for over twenty-five years among the tribespeople in the Dalat district, preached that morning in the worship service. He spoke in the Vietnamese language and simultaneously the message was translated into Koho, Raday and English. Persons of each language group sat together in the church auditorium and heard the message in their own language.

A large and well-constructed dormitory had been prepared in advance by the workers of the Banméthuot district to house the guests arriving from Djiring, Pleiku, Dalat and other stations.

The most important service of the conference was the ordination of the first five preachers among the tribespeople of Viet Nam. They are Ha Sol, Djiring district; Ha Chu A, Ha Sao A and Ha Kring, Dalat district, and Y Ham, Banméthuot district. Each of these five men has completed

at least twenty-four months of study in one of the Bible schools and has preached in assigned villages for as many months under the supervision of the missionaries and the national committee.

Their ordination examinations were based on those given to candidates entering the ministry under The Christian and Missionary Alliance at home. Rev. Pham-Xuan-Tin, president of the Vietnamese missionaries to the tribes, gave the charge to the candidates, speaking to them from Paul's message to Timothy. Rev. N. R. Ziemer and Rev. Pham-Van-Nam offered prayer, consecrating the candidates to the Lord's work. Those present in the service could feel the sense of awe and responsibility upon the hearts of these new ministers of the gospel of Christ.

The business sessions of the conference were conducted by the tribesmen with very little assistance and advice from the chairman of the Mission, Rev. T. G. Mangham, Jr. We watched the pains of this young church struggling to grow up. They made a few mistakes, though not serious ones, but the missionaries did not interfere. Some of these mistakes they corrected themselves with the Lord's guidance and help.

They elected a president and a

vice-president from among the five newly ordained workers, and also a secretary and treasurer. It was decided that the president, Rev. Ha Sol, from the Dalat area, and the vice-president, Rev. Y Ham, from the Banméthuot area, would each be supported by the workers and Christians in his own district. This leaves these two men free to travel throughout the field to exhort the workers and encourage the Christians.

Miss Elizabeth Evans, who was visiting the field during these days, spoke each afternoon in a service open to the public. The conference closed in a spirit of love and unity around the communion table. The newly ordained president and vice-president of the Tribes church presided in the communion service and the joy in the hearts of both the workers and Christians could not be hidden. One of the workers significantly remarked: "A few years ago if people from one tribe had come into the area of another tribe they would not have been at all welcome. In fact, that would have been a cause for war. But now we sit together as brothers around the Lord's holy communion table."

The joy of the missionaries is the great joy of seeing spiritual children walking in the truth and carrying on the work. Our task is to help and advise and to lift up our eyes to new tribes and new areas white unto harvest.

Ha Sol, a Sre tribesman from the Dalat area, was ordained and elected president of the tribal church at the conference.

PHAM-VAN-NAM

