

NEW CHURCH CENTERS IN SAIGON

Pray earnestly for the opening of new churches in the city of Saigon-Cholon. With a population of about two million, we have only ten churches. Early this year we began a concentrated evangelistic effort with a view to opening a score of new churches as soon as possible. One has been started and is already self-supporting while two others are planned for the immediate future. Hearts will be prepared of the Spirit and churches established as you join with us in praying for this need.

BIBLE SCHOOL AND GOSPEL BROADCAST

Nhatrang Bible School has an enrollment of 110 students. Both faculty and student body need continued prayer support that God will accomplish His purpose in each life.

Weekly Gospel broadcasts continue in a dozen market towns. During the broadcasts tracts are distributed. Interest has been created with a number inquiring into the Truth. Earnest prayer is sought that hearts will experience conviction of sin and a desire for deliverance from its power. Souls are born into God's Kingdom as a result of much prayer.

NAVY (Continued from page 7)

Cottage Prayer Meeting, the Spirit of God moved in mighty convicting power on every heart. For hours they wept, prayed and confessed their sins to God and to one another. Every night for nearly a week this group continued to pray until the early hours of the morning. After meeting God for themselves they interceded for unsaved friends and relatives as well as for backsliders in the church. A number were saved while others were filled with the Holy Spirit.

A fourth generation Christian who was deeply convicted of having robbed God of seven years' tithe money is now joyfully sending her contributions to needy projects all over the field. Others are making restitution of misused funds. Misunderstandings and divisions in the Da Nang church have been removed as the Spirit of God is continuing to deal with hearts. Do and several other young people are now preparing for the Gospel ministry at the new Bible School in Nhatrang.

CHILDREN (Cont. from page 13)

watching their children perform, even if only in group singing, and look on proudly as they receive awards. At the same time they hear a brief Gospel message geared to the level of a child.

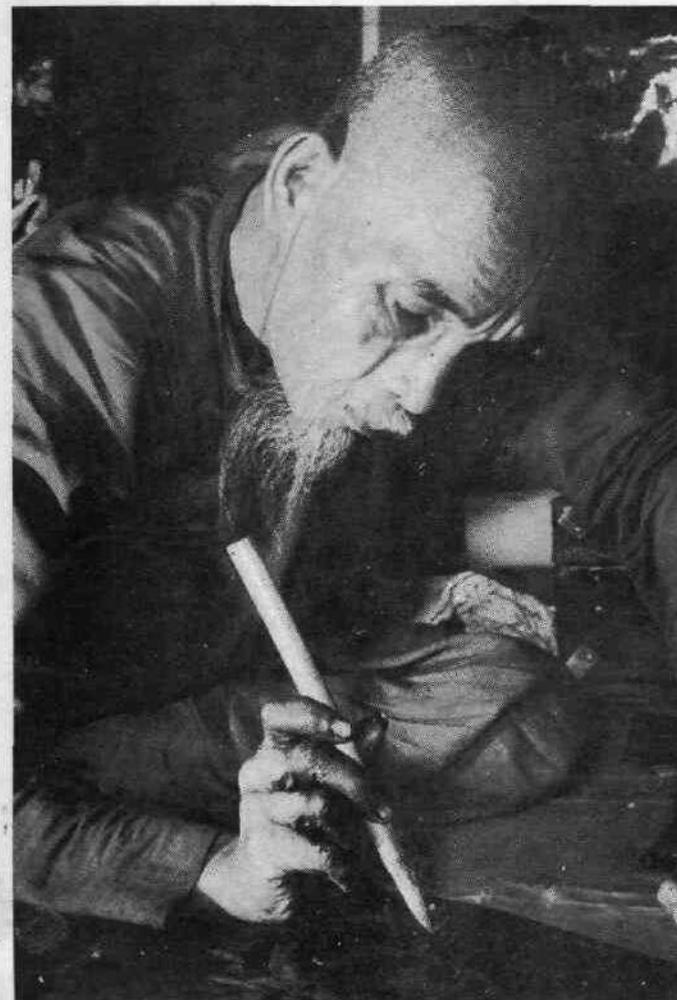
Occasionally we send colorfully printed absentee cards, a special delight to these children. I learned recently that a primary pupil, after receiving such a card, begged her mother to be sure to awaken her on time for Sunday School.

Our enthusiastic program has «caught fire» resulting in the two independent Chinese churches making an effort to have a more closely-graded Sunday School. They realize the need of changing the material they use to something specially prepared for children.

Jesus said, «Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God.» They are so easily led to Him. Heretical groups and God-defying ideologies realize the importance of winning a child. Do you?

Fall - 1961

the CALL



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Preparing New Year's Greetings

THE CALL OF VIET NAM

is issued bi-annually by the Viet Nam missionaries
of The Christian and Missionary Alliance

Home address : 260 W. 44th St., New York

Field address : P. O. Box 923, Saigon

FALL
SPRING, 1961

Co-editors : Miss E. I. Arnold, Mr. S. T. Sutherland

GREETINGS I

FROM the ninth century, and long after Viet Nam was freed from Chinese domination, character writing was employed exclusively by Vietnamese in government transactions as well as in education, correspondence and literature. Later, when Vietnamese scholars felt the need to write literature and history in a language of their own, they continued borrowing Chinese characters, of which they made various combinations to represent



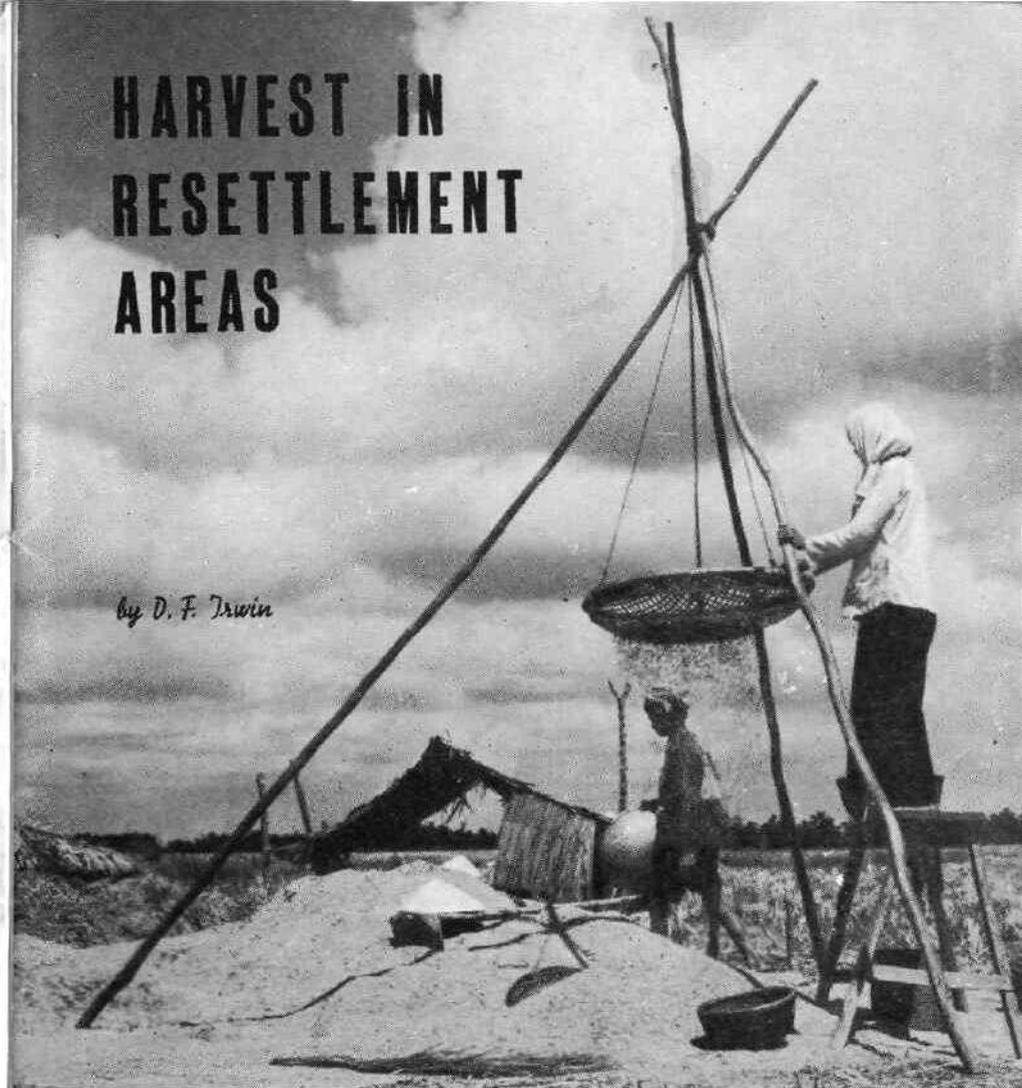
ideas as well as the spoken language.

It was not until the seventeenth century that Catholic missionaries worked out a roman script which was to represent and later become the national language of Viet Nam. At present, however, the Chinese influence is still so strong that in a formal text Sino-Vietnamese terms (Chinese language with Vietnamese pronunciation) may constitute up to sixty percent of the total number of words.

During the New Year season in Viet Nam it is a common sight to find elderly character-scholars, such as pictured here, preparing «Tet» greetings. In like manner, but with different writing, we of The Christian and Missionary Alliance Mission in Viet Nam take this opportunity to send to you, our readers around the world, sincere wishes for a Happy New Year Season through our Lord Jesus Christ.

HARVEST IN RESETTLEMENT AREAS

by D. F. Irwin



UP on the high plateau, far away from the coast, is the land of the primitive tribespeople. For centuries it has been their land alone, theirs to roam as they wished, theirs to cultivate in the way they saw best, theirs in which to worship the spirits as their fathers had done for past centuries. These people have had the Gospel message for nearly thirty years. Now if you could travel in

the jungles of Viet Nam you would come across many churches scattered among the hundreds of villages.

But recently there has come a change. Up from the coast have come energetic Vietnamese to establish new homes in this vast region. Some came on their own to open restaurants, work on road building or plantations, begin bus and taxi service or engage in commerce. The

great majority, however, were moved by the government to farm in resettlement areas, thereby opening up vast, unused tracts of rich land and also alleviating the congestion down on the coastal plain.

It was no small task to clear this forested land, making it ready for early cultivation. New roads had to be cut so farmers could get their produce to market. Irrigation and drainage systems were dug by hand with dams and canals made of earth. Where needed, wells were dug. All this took a great deal of time and not without many periods of discouragement. Frequently there was the urge to return to old, familiar surroundings.

Vietnamese people attribute great importance to «home,» the area in which their parents are buried. It does not matter how many years it has been since they left their village; they still teach their children that back there is home. Thus, these many tens of thousands of Vietnamese are as strangers in another people's land. And they need Christ.

God provided for them in a most remarkable way. The large provincial centers had Vietnamese missionaries to the tribespeople who, seeing their fellow countrymen about town, were constrained to share with them the Good News which they were teaching to tribespeople. Thus it was that in Dalat, Djiring, Banmethuot, Pleiku and other smaller centers, many of these people away from home found Christ. Now there are established churches with resident pastors in these towns.

In the new resettlement villages, however, God used another method. Among the groups chosen to leave home were small numbers of Christians. Located in different jungle

areas, these Christians began to witness. Disrupted from their placid way of life, the hearts of those who had been resettled were open to sympathy and to the story of the love of God. As a result, today there are over two thousand believers in more than thirty villages. There are already seventeen church buildings either completed or partially built, seven of which have resident pastors. This has been accomplished entirely through the work of the Holy Spirit.

But then it appeared as if God's children had been left by the wayside, for no material aid or spiritual help was forthcoming from the National Church, the reason being there just were not enough workers. Those closest to the resettlement villages were already doing all they had strength to do. How were these sheep to be tended? Once every two or three months the nearest pastor would visit them for a few hours, encouraging them in the Word of God and instructing them to maintain a good witness for their Master. But with such infrequent visits it was to be expected that the pressures from without would cause some to go astray or leave the fold.

Such was the case when the pastor went one Sunday to visit a new village. He found only one family standing true out of more than forty former Christians, and this family was being tested sorely. One of their children had just died; both the father and mother were ill and a litter of pigs, which was their sole earthly possession, died the day before they were to go to market. Despite hardship, this man and his wife stood true stating they ever would be faithful to their Lord and Savior. They were in need of encouragement but what could be done

when there was no one to give it? As in most of these new settlements, the pastor had to lean wholly on God, asking Him to intervene. He did, with the result that after a few months there was a great turning to the Lord. All forty who had backslidden were restored to fellowship with the Savior, and about forty new believers were added to their number. A church was erected, a parsonage built and when a resident pastor was available there were about one hundred and thirty believers. Praise the Lord!

At still another place the Lord worked in this way. Sent with the first group to this new area was a deacon from one of our large churches on the plains, a man filled with the Spirit and zealous for his Lord. After arriving at the site of their new home, he sent word to the Banmethuot pastor that eighteen Christians had come up from the coast, but through his witness the believers now numbered sixty. Would the pastor please come and visit them? Several days passed before the trip could be made, and by that time forty more had prayed for salvation. People continued to pray, a church building was erected and a pastor was sent there to minister among two hundred and fifty Christians. Now there are nearly four hundred people in this area alone who have responded to the Gospel, joining in worship and praise to our Lord and Savior.

Christ's promise, «Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world,» is being proven continually. These two instances can be multiplied many times over, for everywhere a Christian has gone, even to the remotest village, we always find the evidence of Christ's presence with him, keeping him and bringing others into the fold through his simple testimony.

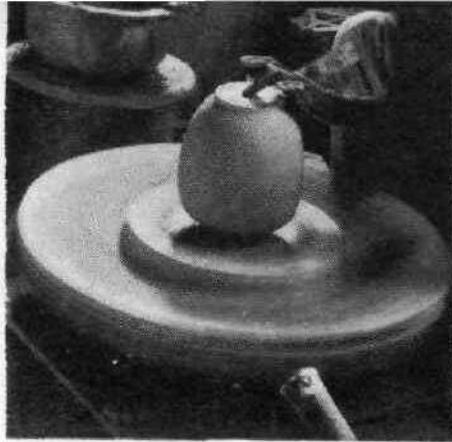


Dirt Used in Road Building

Digging Irrigation Ditch



by
Doan-uon-Mieng
National Church
President



THE MASTER POTTER

IT was a Sunday in the spring of 1930 that I began to experience the blessed life of Christ as my Savior. Being young in the faith, I fell prey to many of Satan's deceptions. But the One who was with Jacob in the days of his wanderings, leading him back to the land of his fathers, also has been faithful to me. After three years of wandering the Lord enabled me, through a deeper understanding of His Word, to become stronger in spirit. About this time I began teaching a Sunday School class and was elected secretary of the Omon church.

Well do I remember God's call to me a few years later to prepare for His service. I wrestled with the idea until one day I could say, with the Apostle Paul, «I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision.» For the next eleven months I served the Lord as a colporteur on a Gospel Boat. In return, my salary included my rice and two piasters a month, enough to

buy soap for washing clothes. The rich blessing and useful experience gained far outweighed any hardship I endured.

My wife and I graduated from Tourane Bible School in the spring of 1942. Danger and testings lay ahead. At times it even seemed as if there was no hope for preservation of life. But with the Psalmist I can say, «They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.» (Psalm 84:7)

As I review the earlier chapters of my life there is no regret because of the experiences through which I have passed. The Master Potter molds the clay as He so chooses. I have given myself to the Master Potter to perform His will through me for His own glory. I have but one desire — to serve the Lord faithfully and well that many more of my people will know of Christ before the glorious day of His appearing.

FROM THE NAVY TO BIBLE SCHOOL

by Mrs. Ruth G. Jeffrey



ONE day in 1957 a small naval vessel with two of its rudders gone was drifting helplessly in storm-tossed seas off the central Viet Nam coast. The inexperienced young seaman on watch had attended church and Sunday School for years in Da Nang without ever having had the assurance of salvation. But that day at sea as Nguyen-van-Do prayed, he was very conscious that God was with him, as he took the helm and guided the vessel slowly but surely back safely to port.

For weeks after that, while his companions played cards for hours at a time, Do spent every spare minute reading his Bible and praying. Later an assignment to shore duty at My Tho in south Viet Nam gave Do an opportunity to help with Children's Meetings and teach a Sunday School class at the local church. He was even elected president of the Young People's Society. But with all his church activities he was very conscious of the lack of unction in his life and service for Christ.

About this time the film, «Angel in Ebony,» was shown at the My Tho church. It made such a deep impression on Do that he wept and

prayed all night while on duty at the naval base. Through the story of Sammy Morris God showed him how He could use anyone, no matter how humble or how lacking in formal education, provided he was wholly yielded to Him and filled with His Spirit. That night Do dedicated his life in service to God.

Early in 1960 Rev. Le-hoang-Phu's revival ministry at My Tho was a great blessing to Do. He knew the time had come for him to leave the Navy and prepare for full-time Christian service. In an effort to hold him, the Navy made other plans. Finally, after a personal appeal to the Admiral, Do received his discharge and returned home to Da Nang in September 1960. If he had been released from the Navy a month sooner he could have attended Bible School last year. Now we know God permitted the delay. The fiery trials through which Do has passed as leader of the young people in his home church were all part of God's plan in bringing him forth as gold.

One evening last April, while over thirty of the Da Nang young people were gathered in their weekly

(Continued on page 16)



Viet Nam Field Missionaries at Dalat Conference

DALAT REFRESHINGS

CONFERENCE is over and we are back on our stations performing many and varied ministries with an earnest desire to bring glory to the Master. As we recall Conference days we can heartily agree it was one of the best gatherings we have known.

Amalgamation of Tribes and Viet Nam fields brought missionaries from among Vietnamese, Chinese and Tribespeople together as one Conference group with 108 present. (Sounds like a lot of people! And it is when it comes to housing them all. But our staff of missionaries is still woefully inadequate to meet the

great task of telling 14 million people about Jesus and His love.) Business sessions went along smoothly, not because there were no problems to be solved, but resulting from our meeting God in renewed consecration.

Our new Chairman and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. T. G. Mangham, Jr., were chosen by Conference to assume the place of leadership with its many and difficult duties. Please join us in praying for God's anointing upon them daily. Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Revelle, who served faithfully in this capacity for several years, are now on furlough.

Conference theme, «The Lamb in His glory,» was daily before us through the ministry of the Word by Rev. Gaston Racine of Nice, France. Our hearts were moved as Dan Bordreuil introduced our speaker recounting God's marvelous leading, even in minute details, clearly indicating His will in sending him to us. We were assured of this as we responded to the truth of the fathomless depths of God's Word, given simply yet with the sense Mr. Racine was experiencing that of which he spoke.

Vital issues were brought to our attention — the world «would see Jesus» through us; our lives should bear the aroma and image of Christ; our work, however important it may be, should not impair our vision of «the Lamb in His glory.» Sorrow and injustice come that we might experience comfort and compassion from the Lord in order to help others. The only path to perfection is through suffering and obedience. This is the path we trod as we await the imminent return of «the Lamb,» having no regrets nor any need to change our plans with regard to the future.

Testimonies of God's transforming power and growth in grace in many lives were cause for rejoicing. At the same time we were reminded of the adversaries endeavoring to thwart the work of the Lord. New Christians are in need of instruction, and people in unoccupied areas should have «at least one chance of hope of heaven.» As ever, there is the «cry for reapers.» We rejoice that the Nhatrang Bible School buildings are completed and dedicated, which means in due time more national

pastors will go to these barren places. In the meantime pray that God will raise up Christians filled with the Holy Spirit and with zeal who will be able to «tend the flock.»

The Dalat School building program served a two-fold purpose, providing adequate living facilities for missionaries' children throughout the year and solving the housing problem for our increased missionary family during Conference days. Rainy weather often forced us indoors between business sessions, but there was plenty of space in the dining room or sitting rooms for everyone to enjoy times of fellowship. Ladies who made drapes and men with the brilliant idea of laying green straw matting on the floor of the new auditorium helped to brighten the interior and take care of the need for better acoustics.

Dedication of babies (quite a few were born since last year!) and ordination of five men to the ministry marked the closing Sunday of Conference. A fitting climax to these eight days of refreshing was observing the Lord's Supper in a simple, precious hour of evening worship.



The Mangham Family

EXTENDING THE HORIZON

*by T.G. Mangham, Jr.,
Field Chairman*

Mr. King Addressing Conference



NATIONAL Churches in Southeast Asian countries where The Christian and Missionary Alliance is working have been greatly strengthened through fellowship provided by three Conferences held in recent years. Our goal of missionary endeavor is not simply to take the Gospel message to foreign lands. Nor is it only winning men and women to Christ, though this is essential. We aim beyond these to even more important results — establishing a strong Church. According to the New Testament pattern, a true Church will have manifested within her members the fruits and gifts of the Spirit. Also, she will fulfill all of the functions of the body of Christ with her activities always directed and regulated by Christ, the Head. These vital truths have been emphasized at each of the three Southeast Asian Conferences.

The most recent Conference held in Zamboanga, Philippines gave witness to the fact that much progress has been realized. Choice of themes for discussion plainly indicated the intention to give to each National Church represented an added impetus toward fulfilling still another essential activity of every true Church — a missionary program.

The vision that inspired Dr. A. B. Simpson, and the passion which brought The Christian and Missionary Alliance into being seventy-five years ago are being transmitted to these National Church groups. We heard of plans and aspirations to send missionaries to neighboring or

distant lands. The Japan Alliance has taken the lead in this new endeavor by sending a missionary to work in Brazil.

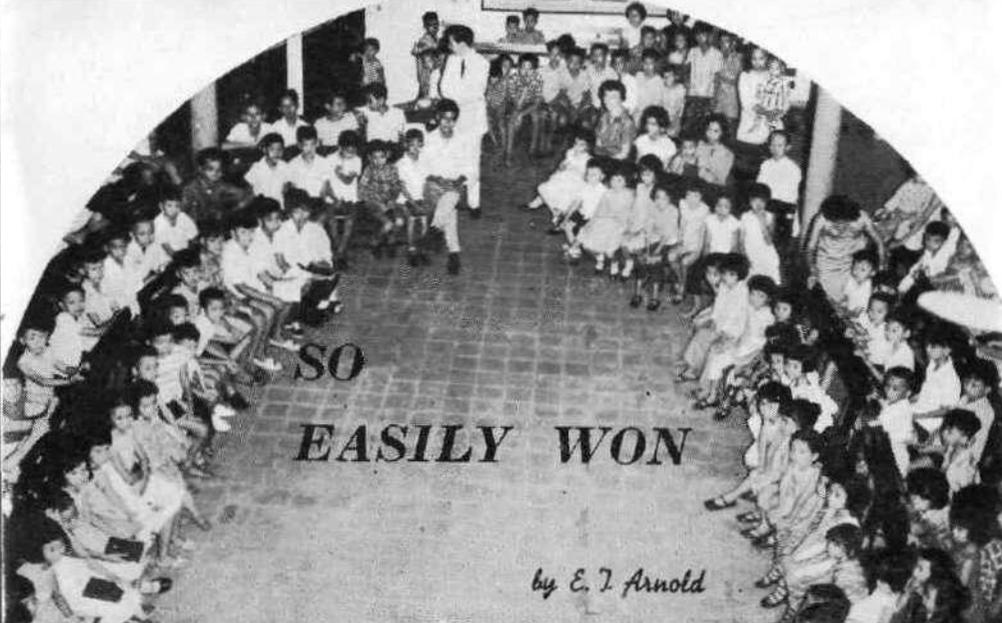
We are reminded that the cradle of Christianity is in the Near East, not on the North American continent. We also know that the Biblical injunction, «Go ye into all the world,» is not directed exclusively to the church in Western lands. No Church can fulfill God's purpose except as she participates in that ministry which is of first concern to Him. To be truly effective, our missionary program must produce a missionary spirit.

Giving added emphasis to this missionary theme, a special service, MISSIONS IN REVIEW, was held the closing night of Conference at the Ebenezer Bible Institute. Dressed in costumes typical of their countries, delegates spoke briefly representing religious backgrounds of Mohammedanism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, Ancestor Worship and Animism. Music of the «Kirtan» from India, an Arabic hymn of praise, the monotonous strains of a Thai melody, a lively Chinese chorus, and an international choir singing, «O, Happy Day» in the questionable unison of a dozen different languages contributed to the missionary appeal. The familiar Scripture verse, John 3:16, was even more beautiful as sung by the delegation from Japan. Our Foreign Secretary, Rev. L. L. King, delivered a stirring message to the student body, calling for consecration of life and talents NOW in

order to fulfill the unfinished task. I am sure Conference delegates will long remember the moving of God's Spirit in that hour and the response by many Filipino young people.

What will a missionary program mean to the Church in Viet Nam? Can it be expected that we will witness a reaching out beyond these borders by a Church so recently come to full maturity? Can Viet Nam, a land that has known little but war and unrest since 1941, produce a Church that will be able to fulfill its missionary responsibility? We believe it can. Vietnamese delegates who attended this Conference agreed that the National Church must reach out beyond her own borders. They expressed hope that soon the Church could send her own missionary to Laos and possibly to Cambodia. There is the responsibility to arouse interest throughout the Church in this new endeavor.

Through the years the Vietnamese National Church has evidenced a missionary vision. A number of national workers have dedicated their lives to minister among tribal groups of this country. In extending the horizon to the need in other lands, may the Church of Viet Nam be given grace and determination to carry out fully the vision of her missionary responsibility. Through cooperation in missionary endeavor among churches of all lands where the Alliance is laboring, the worldwide task of our Society will be accomplished more rapidly.



SO
EASILY WON

by E. J. Arnold

RECENTLY I read an article about school children in Cuba. After asking the pupils to explain who God is, the teacher told them to put their heads down on their desks, asking God to send some ice cream. A few seconds later when they were told to raise their heads, there was no ice cream. Again she told them to put their heads down and this time ask Castro to send some ice cream. While their heads were bowed, an assistant silently came in with a tray of ice cream. This time when the children raised their heads ice cream was before them. «See!» she exclaimed, «Castro gives you everything.»

A short time ago many of these Cuban children had opportunity to hear about Jesus through Sunday Schools. Now this privilege is denied them, and in its place is a God-defying ideology. These young hearts and minds so easily won to Christ

soon can be molded into haters of that Wonderful Name. Such diabolical tenets are not limited to the confines of Cuba. They are rapidly spreading the world over. May this awaken us to the realization we must do all we can to reach children for Christ while the opportunity is with us.

The Saigon Chinese Alliance Church as well as our Bookroom have a special ministry among children through three weekly Children's Meetings and the Sunday School. Our only hindrance to an even wider scope of service is lack of personnel.

How elated I was upon returning from furlough to find our new church building plans included a departmentalized Sunday School! Providentially, a Christian business man moved to Saigon about this time who was elected superintendent. He is brimming with ideas, many of which have become a part of our program.

Four classrooms provide to some degree a closely-graded Sunday School, from beginners through intermediates. GOSPEL LIGHT material translated into Chinese by the China Sunday School Association is a real asset in giving the children a good foundation in the Word of God.

With continued increase in attendance a new arrangement had to be made. Recently plans were laid for juniors and intermediates to have Sunday School at an earlier hour. The beginners and primaries now can divide into smaller classes having their lesson period during Morning Worship Service. This allows adults to listen more attentively to the message without the interruption of little children.

Annually a Teacher-Training Course is held to give encouragement and new ideas as well as to help would-be teachers in the «know-how» of Sunday School work. Quarterly the children have a rally or an outing, usually on a school holiday. Semi-annually awards are given at the

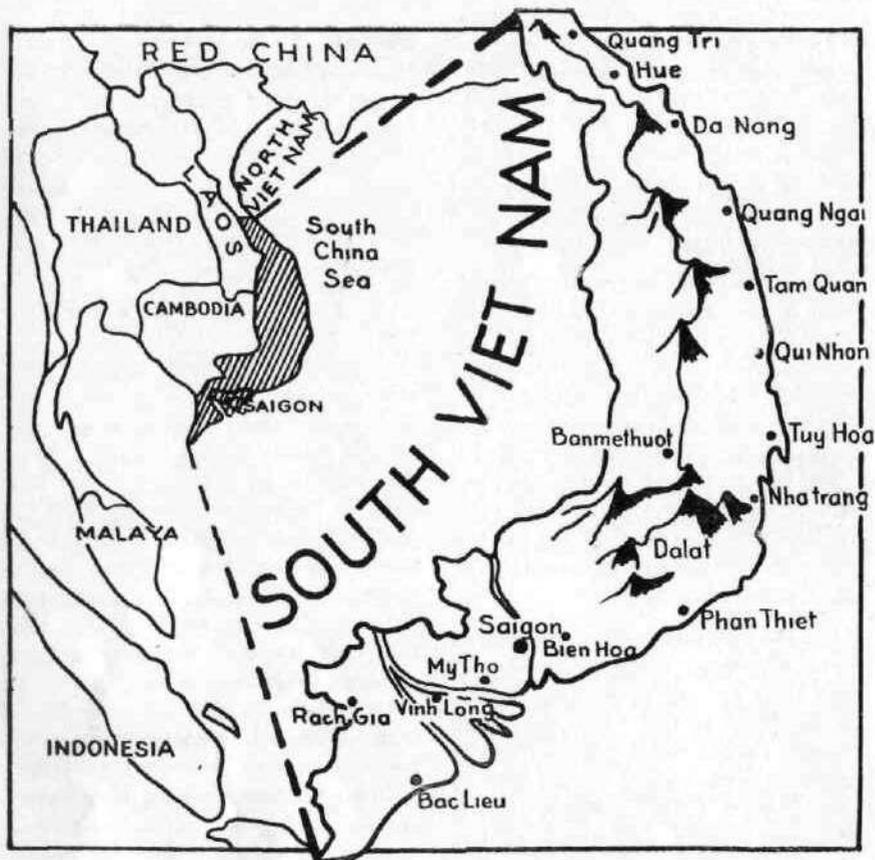
rallies to the top three pupils of each class according to attendance, knowledge of class material, Scripture memorization and deportment. Our monthly Teachers' Meeting is the time for planning these special features, as well as discussing teacher-pupil problems and having a time of prayer.

The first and third Sunday afternoon of each month is devoted to visitation, not only because of absenteeism but with a desire to contact the home of each child. Two groups, with a teacher from each department, participate in this important phase of the work. Home contacts are an encouragement to the children and may prove to be the opening wedge in reaching the parents. Although an unbeliever, the father of two of our Sunday School children reported a change in their lives as a result of Christian instruction. A special invitation is given to unsaved parents when we hold our rallies. Like all parents, they enjoy

(Continued on page 16)

Da Nang Chinese D.V.B.S.





Missionary Directory — Vietnamese Work

SAIGON	Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Sutherland, Youth Work
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EMERGENCY FURLOUGH
Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wood

A CHINESE WORKER NEEDED

Supersition and idolatry are deeply ingrained in the hearts of most Chinese of central Viet Nam. The Gospel is going forth among them, but fervent prayer is needed to send deep conviction into these darkened minds, causing them to call upon God for mercy. Praise God, we see Him working in the lives of some. Pray that they shall be shining witnesses. There is urgent need for a trained Chinese worker, who may obtain government permission to enter Viet Nam, to join in the work here among children and young people.

OPPORTUNITIES AMONG CHILDREN

Pray that God will move in mighty power in Tam Quan. Although at present there are very few Christian adults, there are excellent opportunities among children. Each week about sixty children come to the missionaries' home for a Bible lesson. Several have been saved. An invitation has been given to teach the Bible in two elementary schools each week, reaching about six hundred children. Official permission has not yet been granted for this ministry. May these openings be the means of reaching many families for Christ. Pray that a church group in this area will accept financial responsibility for their pastor.