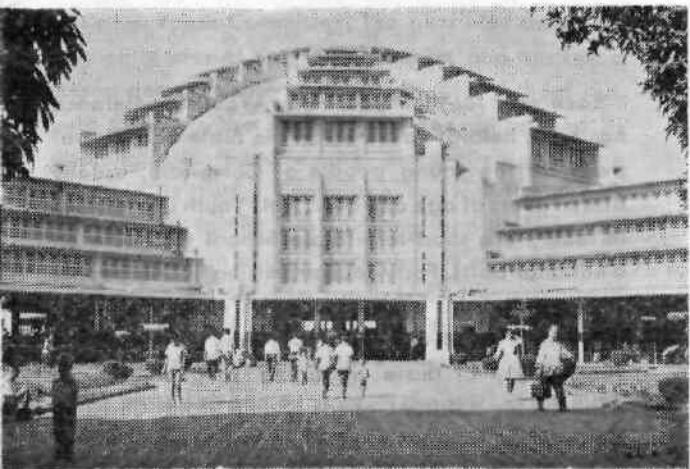


1961

Cambodia

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"Do you not say, There are yet four months,
and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto
you, Lift up your eyes and look on the fields;
for they are white already to harvest."

THY WORD
HAVE I HID
IN MY HEART

Joseph Doty

Each year for nine years now, Youth Conference has been held at Takhmau on the Bible School property for the young people of Cambodia, usually fifteen years of age and over. This Youth Conference in reality is a short-term Bible School for youth on a national basis. Forty-four promising young people were present this year to study the Word of God for two weeks. This was seven more than attended last year. Thirty of those attending sought the Lord publicly for spiritual needs. Some from Christian homes accepted Christ as Saviour, while many others desired the fulness of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Ellison assisted at the Youth Conference this year and carried very heavy loads for the two weeks.

Youth Conference is a busy, busy time for everyone involved, but, just in case someone finds some

spare time, there are Scriptures to be memorized. This is outside the Scriptures to be memorized for classes. Because this Scripture memorization is extra and entirely voluntary rewards are promised as encouragement. The first to quote II Timothy 2, Romans 12, and I Corinthians 13, was Kim Loeun, a girl from Takeo. This was her fifth year at Youth Conference. She is the treasurer of the National Christian Youth Committee. The girls also chose her as their leader at Youth Conference. She has felt a strong desire to attend long-term Bible School but, until this year, the Bible School has not opened its doors to girls. (Editor's note: Since this was written the Field Executive Committee has voted to accept girl students for the 1961-62 long-term Bible School year, to begin in August. According to word received yesterday, July 4th, Kim Loeun is planning to attend Bible School, but is experiencing family opposition to her desire. She needs our earnest prayer.)

The second to quote the three chapters of the Bible was also a girl, Daly, the daughter of Pastor Uth from Damdek, Siemreap. She is among the younger of the young people, though it was her second year at Youth Conference. This memorization of Scripture was a real blessing to her. While quoting the three chapters, she made the remark, "I am not memorizing these Scriptures just because of the reward that is offered. I have received a reward already just by

the Scriptures I have learned by heart." Nevertheless, I am sure that it was a proud little girl who was able to show to her parents the bright leather-bound hymn book which was her reward.

The third, a boy who was another fifth year student, was also a surprise. It seemed that his extra time must have all been taken up with music activities, but he worked long over-time and thereby accomplished the feat, and, being a very poor boy, he rejoiced much at receiving such a nice hymn-book as his very own.

One other should be mentioned as he testified in public how delighted he was to receive a new hymn-book, although it was an ordinary paper-covered one. This boy had tried so hard to memorize during Youth Conference, but just couldn't seem to get

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Rev. M. B. Steiner, Editor

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anywhere. Then he prayed to the Lord to help him. After that, he was able to remember a whole chapter in just one evening. He made everyone feel a sense of his appreciation for God's help and for the reward received.

These rewards were given out during the final Saturday night program. An outstanding feature of this program was a skit, given by the fourth year class, entitled "The Christian Life." A young person stood with a large black heart in front of him. This old heart was represented also by a boy colored black and fixed up like an old man with names of the works of the flesh pinned all over him. The boy with the black heart accepted Christ. The new man entered, tore off the old and left a white heart, but soon the old man showed up again and there was quite a struggle between the old man and the new until the old man was put down and the new man reigned with his foot on top of the old man and real peace was enjoyed by the new believer. On testimony night, some testified that the truth dawned upon them for the first time from this portrayal of the old man and the new in a young Christian's life, although they had studied about it for two weeks in class. We seek to make every activity at Youth Conference help bring the Young People to the place where they can say "I live for Christ."

Paula Dory

ខ្ញុំរស់សំរាប់ព្រះគ្រីស្ទ

This was the theme verse for the Youth Conference this year, and it had its effect on many hearts, and became a part of them before they left for their homes. The banner on which it was written hung over the platform in the chapel in bold red letters. Every day, in class, in chapel, and in evening meetings, the young people would be reminded of the words, "I live for Christ."

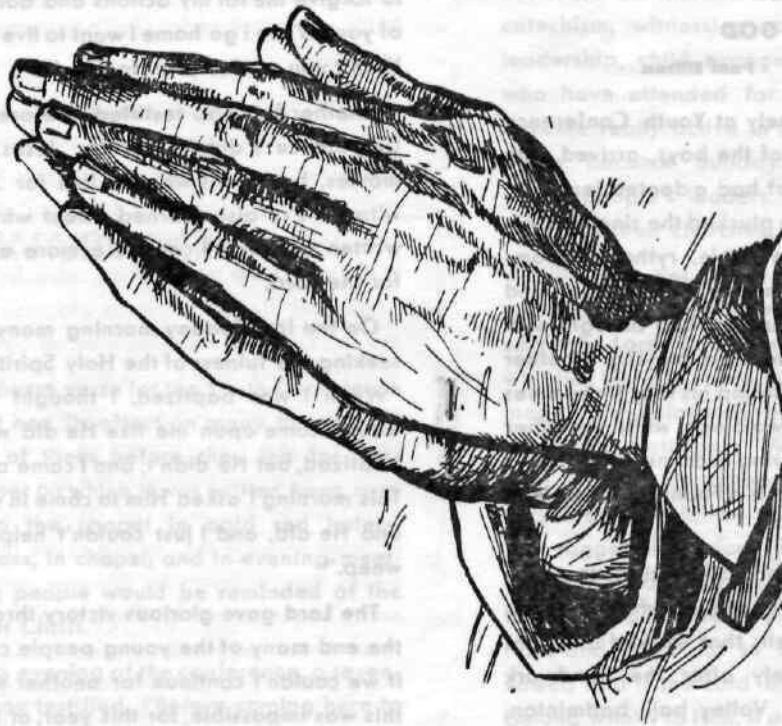
On the closing evening of the conference, a seventeen year old boy testified, "Before coming here to Youth Conference I did not know that it was wrong to use my fists. I associated with fighters and used my tongue too freely. My parents are not Christians and they did not help me. Every time I looked at our

motto, 'I live for Christ,' it bothered me. It has made an impression on me. I want all of you young people to forgive me for my actions and bad words in front of you. When I go home I want to live for Jesus Christ. Won't you please pray for me."

Another boy also testified, "Before I came to Youth Conference I didn't live for Jesus. I went to the movies, but now I want to live for Jesus and be a witness. I've also learned about why the Bible was written and now I can be a more effective witness for the Lord."

On the last Sunday morning many came forward seeking the fulness of the Holy Spirit. One boy said, "When I was baptized, I thought the Holy Spirit would come upon me like He did when Jesus was baptized, but He didn't, and I came out no different. This morning I asked Him to come in with His fulness, and He did, and I just couldn't help but weep and weep."

The Lord gave glorious victory throughout, and at the end many of the young people came and asked if we couldn't continue for another week. Of course this was impossible, for this year, at least. Now they have gone to their various homes and we trust that they will not forget what they have learned during these two weeks. May the motto, "For Me to Live is Christ," be deeply impressed on their hearts.



WANTED: Intercessors for Cambodia

**ALL TO
THE GLORY
OF GOD**

Paul Ellison

The music was really lively at Youth Conference this year. Sok Khom, one of the boys, arrived with a home-made bass viol that had a dented jerry can for the sounding box. As he plucked the single string, made from a bicycle brake cable, rhythmic "boom-booms" leapt forth to accompany the mandolin and accordion that two other students had brought with them. Not knowing how to start playing together in unison, Sok Khom would stamp his foot three times and pluck the first note or two alone, while the other instrumentalists were preparing to chime in. "Bringing in the Sheaves" and "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood" were favorites.

During the afternoon handwork period, the girls each made a lovely lavender blouse, while the boys made thirty-one electric bells that worked on flashlight batteries. Immediately after the handwork period, there were sports. Volley ball, badminton, ping pong, and box hockey claimed the most attention. The latter worked up such a lather that only a dip in the Bassac River nearby could make one cool again.

Most important of all were the Short Term Bible School classes. Five different classes ran simultaneously, and there were classes in Bible, doctrine, catechism, witnessing, preaching, young people's leadership, child evangelism, and music. Students who have attended for two or three years often become really active in their churches back home. Some become Sunday School superintendents, young people's leaders, and organizers of special music for their churches.

Still others get a taste for Bible study and feel the call to attend Long Term Bible School to prepare to serve the Lord. Thai, one of the fifth year students, who has just one more year of high school to finish, made his decision to give his life for full-time service. Here is his testimony: "When I was a baby, I took a long trip with my mother by river steamer. I became very ill and the fellow passengers, trying to be helpful, suggested various magic devices. One witch doctor even offered his services free of charge. My mother, who is a believer, resisted all these temptations and cried out to God to save my life. She vowed that if the Lord would spare my life I should belong wholly to Him. It used to worry me as a child, when my mother told me that I didn't belong to her but to the Lord. But now I understand, for the Lord has called me to study to serve Him."

**NEW
TEAM
MEMBER**

We praise God for the safe arrival on the field, in June, of our new Mission secretary, Miss Barbara McGonagle. We welcome her to our fellowship and to participation in the great task of evangelizing this only partially evangelized field. May the Lord strengthen and enable her as she begins the new tasks of learning the Cambodian language and working in the chairman's office. Already Barbara has had opportunity for active Christian service as a teacher in a Daily Vacation Bible School held in Phnom Penh for children from the American community. On the following page she will tell something of her initial impressions as a new missionary here, and also a little about her recent work with the American children.

"After I had waited many months, my visa arrived two days before my departure. Upon my arrival in Saigon and Phnom Penh I found myself amazed at how large and advanced these cities are. Then too, I am surprised that there are no jungles nearby with tigers or snakes occasionally running around the streets!

"I find the weather hotter than Los Angeles but am cheerfully told that I just missed the hot season. Phnom Penh has many pretty parks and trees and I find the friendly Cambodians easy to love. I enjoy attending their services and even though I can't understand what they are saying, I can worship with them. I find it hard to express the feelings one has when first attending such a service. I had the privilege recently of attending a joint youth service where four languages were used: Cambodian, Vietnamese, Chinese and English.

"I praise the Lord for the opportunity of teaching the junior class in the International Church DVBS. I enjoyed this very much and found the children hungry for the Word of God.

"The days since my arrival have been full and I am very happy here. I would appreciate your prayers as I study the Cambodian language which I find very different from English."

National Conference 1961

Ruth
Thompson

All day long the busses had been squaking to a halt to discharge passengers at the gate of the Bible School property. Kampot, Takeo, Battambang, Kompong Cham, Kratie and many other provinces were represented as the Christians trudged up the path to greet their welcoming friends. There were old people with shaven heads bowing low in the traditional greeting, young folks waving excitedly and shouting to acquaintances from Youth Conference, babies and laughing children running across the lawn and through the flower beds to the river bank. The preachers, who had arrived a few days early to organize the conference, greeted each arrival with "Praise the Lord, we're glad you could come." Then, as the missionaries drove in the gate their cars were surrounded by joyful Christians anxious to say "Hello" and "Praise the Lord!" A spirit of fellowship and love pervaded this year's conference right from the start.

Counting the adults and young people, about 270 stayed on the grounds, but the weekend attendance was much larger. Since an outside speaker was not

available, the missionaries and national workers brought the morning and evening messages. Even the young people and Bible School students took an *active part this year, not only assisting the preachers* in their preparations for conference, but also contributing to the services in many ways. The music was especially fine, showing that there had been careful practice.

At the close of a special missionary meeting, a senior Bible School student stood to his feet volunteering to go to the Mnong Tribes people if the Lord should so lead. Praise the Lord!

The National Church took commendable steps to safeguard the funds of the church treasury and gave an accurate and fruitful accounting of all moneys received and spent. Expenses for this year's conference were fully met by generous offerings. During the past few years, since the inauguration of the self-support program, we have sensed an ever-widening gap between the national church and the mission. But this year the preachers made a noteworthy effort to strengthen the spiritual ties once more. They asked us to take an active part in the conference, and assured us that they need our help and counsel. As the "unity of the Spirit" is restored we can expect something new from God for Cambodia, "for we are laborers together with God." —I Cor. 3:9

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