



### To the Fields

TO THAILAND: *Rev. and Mrs. Donald M. Taylor* and children, Kevin, Karen and Keith, on December 15 for their second term. They began their missionary service in Cambodia in 1962 and later transferred to the Philippines for radio work. They are now assigned to Thailand.

### To the Homeland

FROM CHILE: *Rev. and Mrs. Raymond P. Woerner* and children, Gustave, Denise, Daniel and Deborah, on December 7.

FROM WEST IRIAN: *Rev. and Mrs. Adrian Cook* and family on September 12.

### The New Generation

TO Mr. and Mrs. *Lowell F. Bowman*, Mali, a daughter, Shelly Carla, on November 14.

### Mrs. Gray to the Philippines

Mrs. Florence D. Gray, evangelist, has been invited by the Christian and Missionary Alliance Churches of the Philippines for special evangelistic ministry throughout the field. She left the United States on December 16 for approximately ten months. Mrs. Gray's address in the Philippines will be c/o Rev. Gordon Strong, P. O. Box 127, Zamboanga City, The Philippines. She will appreciate the prayer support of the Alliance Family for this ministry.

### With the Lord

When *Rev. E. Frank Irwin* went into the presence of the Lord on November



*E. Frank Irwin*

sighted policies as well as his faith con-

tributed greatly to the development of the strong national church in that country.

Frank Irwin was born in 1888 and reared in Toronto. He was saved at the age of twelve, but it was not until ten years later that he received the full assurance of salvation. He had been working with his father in the wholesale fruit business but left this to attend Nyack Missionary College in preparation for foreign ministry.

In 1914, soon after the beginning of World War I, Mr. Irwin with several other recruits went to French Indo-China. The government was naturally suspicious of foreigners, and the missionaries were closely watched. The fact that two of them, one being Miss Marie Morgenthaler, Mr. Irwin's fiancée, though American citizens, had German names intensified this suspicion. Consequently, the following year, just as the missionaries were beginning to gain some proficiency in the language, those with objectionable names were asked to leave and the others were forbidden to carry on any missionary work.

This had two salutary effects. One was that in order to overcome the objection of the German name Mr. Irwin and Miss Morgenthaler were permitted to marry instead of waiting the required two years. Another was that because of the close surveillance the missionaries became known to the authorities and it was soon established that they had no ulterior motives. The friendly relations which began at that time with the authorities continued all through Mr. Irwin's missionary career. He was highly respected for both his integrity and his Christian witness.

After the severe restrictions were lifted, the gospel witness rapidly spread north and then south among the Vietnamese, and eventually into Cambodia, Laos and East Thailand. Even while they were limited to the city of Tourane (Danang) and not free to go into the country areas, the small band of missionaries prayed that God would send the people to them, and He did so. Within a matter of months a strong nucleus of believers was gathered together. It was significant that among those first believers there were members of the royal family, customs officials, businessmen and other persons of position and influence.

One of the first converts was the language teacher, a Confucian scholar whose studies had helped prepare him for the art of sermon-making. Before he could himself speak the language with ease Mr. Irwin was dictating sermons to

Mr. Thua, who put them into good Vietnamese and preached them. In spite of the missionary's inadequacy in the language and the fledgling pastor's lack of knowledge of the Scriptures men and women were saved. It was this very emphasis that the nationals rather than the missionaries be the leaders of the Christian community that laid the foundation for the strong church that exists today. The policy of self-support was also taught. Mr. Irwin had a genuine understanding of the economic conditions of the people and was sympathetic and always generous, but he was firm in his conviction that self-support was necessary if the church was to be truly indigenous and to accomplish God's purpose in the land.

Robert Jaffray had led in establishing the Mission in Viet Nam, and Mr. Irwin enthusiastically shared his vision for the advance of the work. Early in his career he showed characteristics of leadership, and it was natural that, when the field became autonomous, Mr. Irwin was elected chairman. From that time on he carried this responsibility periodically, seeing the Mission grow from the original five to more than one hundred missionaries. His fellow missionaries speak of his helpfulness, of the encouragement he offered and of his respect for his collaborators. He was not only a missionary statesman but a true gentleman, always courteous and kind.

Christian courtesy was especially the mark of the Irwin home, and it was a delight to visit it. Mrs. Irwin possessed unusual charm as a hostess, while Mr. Irwin's geniality would put the shyest

*Rev. and Mrs. D. M. Taylor and family Thailand*



young missionary at ease. Many a young couple learned the Christian grace of hospitality in the home of the chairman and his wife. They also learned valuable lessons of missionary identification as they saw the humblest villager received with the same grace and welcomed as warmly as any missionary or French official. No matter how much of an interruption the visit might be, tasks were put aside, not with annoyance but with genuine pleasure at the opportunity of fellowship with the Christians and of hearing of the work in some distant area.

Often preachers came and always profited from the encouragement and help they received. At times it was admonition. One missionary recalls an incident: "Ever kindly and never harsh, Mr. Irwin could nevertheless wither a lazy servant of the Lord. How well I remember our making an unannounced visit to a pastor on a weekday forenoon. Finding the young man dozing in a hammock, Mr. Irwin mildly but firmly rebuked him for not being out witnessing. The lesson was evidently well learned, for today, some thirty years later, that pastor is still a zealous worker. The chairman's words of admonition were always received with respect, for his own downright dedication was well known to national workers as well as to missionaries. Throughout his more than forty-five years of missionary service Mr. Irwin rarely missed a meeting, whether he was to preach or not. When past retiral age and lame from arthritis he still persisted in making long trips with us in the Land-Rover on roads so ruined by war as to be almost impassable."

No record of Frank Irwin's life would be complete without speaking of his faith. Possessed of a natural optimism, he was also endowed with a deep trust in the Lord and complete confidence in His Word. He believed that God would transform lives and he was not disappointed. Often he would say of one who had just prayed the penitent's prayer, "Now *we* must have faith for him." Without doubt his active faith did much to establish many a young Christian, and indeed the whole church was led to trust God implicitly. Many national church leaders today reflect this characteristic of optimistic faith.

His faith was very practical in relation to his own life and service as well. Fellow missionaries were often struck by his calm insistence that wherever he was allocated was God's will for him, and consequently the very best place to be. Never did he think that other pastures were greener than his own. When

near the end of their missionary career the Irwins were asked to man the work in the north, they accepted the assignment, believing that God would bless though the area was considered "hard." They testified that the months spent there were among the happiest in all their years on the field.

While he loved to tell of the miracles that God wrought in the early days—miracles of healing and salvation, of the removal of unfriendly officials, of the growth of the church, he never lived in the past. The present days were always the best ones, and God's power was as great among the people in 1966 as it had been in 1916.

Not only were the Irwins wholly dedicated to God and His work in Viet Nam, but this same spirit was instilled in their three children by both example and precept. All are rendering valiant and valuable service in that land today: Rev. George E. Irwin, Rev. D. Franklin Irwin and Mrs. David (Helen May) Douglas. Mrs. Irwin is at their home in Toronto.

Such an article as this cannot adequately evaluate Frank Irwin's ministry. Many of his friends would want to add to it, but God has the complete record of what is past and what is continuing even today; all of it honors the Lord.

Mrs. Mary Jane Brocker, wife of Rev. Frank Brocker, died on November 29 after a short illness. For over thirty-one years she had served with her husband in pastorates in Ithaca, Owego and Niagara Falls, N. Y., and in Newark and Pitman, N. J., and had contributed much to the work through a prayer ministry. She also had a special concern for children and led many to the Saviour.

She is survived by her husband, to whom she was married in 1926, and a son, Rev. James D. Brocker, of Cardiff, Md.

### Educational Wing Dedicated

A new 10,000-square-foot educational building and administrative wing at the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of Salem, Ore., was dedicated November 13, reports Rev. Donald L. Bubna, pastor.

The educational unit houses nine departments of the Sunday school, a fire-side room suitable for fellowship groups and a kitchen. At the hub of the building complex is the administrative wing containing studies for both pastors, church and Christian education offices, a large conference room and a library.

The Salem Alliance Church was organized in 1921 and has been at its present address at 555 Gaines St. N.E., since 1939. The past decade, under the leadership of Pastors Paul W. Gunther, Roy K. Batchelor and William L. Berg, has been one of sustained growth in the church, according to Mr. Bubna. Present Sunday school enrollment is nearly 300. Mr. Bubna came to the church as pastor in 1964. Associate Pastor Paul R. Gunther began his ministry in January, 1965.

### Alliance Men Meet

The Alliance Men of the Southeastern District held their sixth annual retreat November 11 and 12 at Lake Swan Bible Conference. The speakers were Mr. Forest Knox, district president; Rev. G. E. Roffe, missionary to Laos; and Mr. Gordon Brown, of Orlando. Their ministry, the special music and other testimonies of God's power combined to bring spiritual refreshing to all present.

Rev. D. L. Bubna and Rev. P. R. Gunther before new educational wing, Salem, Ore.





Toronto, Ont.  
Sept. 4, 1978

Dear Mr. Sawin: —

I read part of your work on the history of the V. N. Mission and found it most interesting. However, there seems to be a little confusion in the first part where ~~you~~ wrote about the transition of the missionaries. I am enclosing two pictures that I came across recently. The one is a photo of the nine people who formed the missionary staff when we arrived in ~~Dag~~ Tourane, Feb. 7, 1915. In May, the same year, Mr. & Mrs. Hosler, Mr. Cadman, Miss Hazenberg, Miss Russell plus Frank and I went to Yunnan Fu (Kwang Ming) China for a vacation and to attend the wedding of Mr. Cadman and Miss Hazenberg who were married in Yunnan Fu in the garden of the B. & F. Bible Society Home. Mr. Soderberg and Mr. Bickle went to Central China and neither one of them returned to the C. & M. A. Mission. (Mr. Soderberg did come back for a few months (independantly) but because his funds did not come through, he went back to the States.

We returned from Yunnan Fu in early Sept. as did the rest of our party. It was decided that Mr. Hosler & wife work in

the Haiphong, Hanoi area & the Cadmans  
Miss Russell, Mr. Irwin & myself return  
to Tourane, it was mostly language study  
for all of us.

Now, at this juncture I cannot  
recall when or how the Hasless left Indo-  
China but they did and we never saw them  
again. This was only natural because our  
Supt. was in Kuchow and his dealings with  
all the missionaries was not made known  
to the rest of us.

But in Apr.-May of 1916 Mr. Jaffray  
made a visit to Hanoi to visit the governor  
general. The result was that he wired my  
husband (to be) to meet him in Hanoi &  
then came the word, that I was to join Frank  
in Haiphong & proceed from there to Kuchow  
to be married. This we did and were  
married there May 18, 1916.

Here again I cannot recall clearly.  
But the picture #2 of the six of us was taken in  
Haiphong after we were married and also  
after Agnes Cadman was born. Now I think  
that she was born in Yunnan Fu & that the  
summer we were married, the Cadmans  
went there for their vacation and Miss  
Russell went with them. I think that  
when they returned and after this picture  
was taken - she ~~left~~ left Indo-China with Mr. Jaffray  
(over)

and then returned to Canada. She did not go to Tourane when we returned there in 1916. Mr. & Mrs. Cadman remained in Haroi and began the work there. So in the Fall of 1916 the Cadmans were sent to Haroi & we to Tourane. We were alone there until Miss Marion Foster came to us in 1917.

I felt I should write you as much as I can recall. I hope it will help some.

The next time you come to Canada, come & see me.

Sincerely  
M. W. Funn