

ORDINATION

Saigon Radio Station announced in September the ordination of three young men to the ministry in the Evangelical Church of Viet-Nam. Messrs. Huyen-van-Thien, Do-thanh-Ngoi, and Nguyen-huu-Vinh, after local church application, district and National Church committee approval, successful completion of Ordination Council examination, received the laying on of hands in the prayer of ordination. Church President Doan-van-Mieng gave the address stressing the motive and dignity of the pastor. Upon ordination each man received a new Bible and words of welcome into the fellowship of ministers.

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CONFERENCES

A three-day Pastors' Deeper Life Conference preceded the National Youth and Church Conference in Vinh-Long, in cooperation with the Orient Crusades Mission. Ministering the Word in eleven services were Dr. Raymond Stedman, pastor of the Peninsula Bible Church at Palo Alto, California; Rev. Ed Spahr, Orient Crusades missionary in Manila; and Rev. Gervasio Dimaano, pastor of the Zamboanga Alliance Church, Philippines.

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SHORT TERM BIBLE SCHOOLS

Tourane had a record attendance of 160 students in their recent one-month Short Term Bible School. One-week schools were held in Can-Tho, Tuy-Hoa, Tam-Quang, Quang-Nam and Quang-Tri.

...NEWS

MISSIONARIES

George and Elsie Wood with Cindy and Beeky have recently joined our missionary family, coming from the Pacific Northwest District. They will live in Nhatrang for their period of language study in preparation for ministering among the Vietnamese.

Furlough days are almost over for the Rexillius family—Rex, Betty, Debbie and Robin. Shortly after the first of the year they will be coming up the Saigon River, ready for their second term of service.

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AMALGAMATION

New York headquarters has ratified the mutual agreement of both conferences in May to amalgamate Viet-Nam and Tribes of Viet-Nam fields. Since tribespeople are regarded as Vietnamese citizens, government recognition was not given to tribeswork independent of the Evangelical Church of Viet-Nam (the official name of the National Church). For the best interests of the work, it was deemed advisable to amalgamate.

Ministries of our national brethren and missionaries have not changed. But hereafter we will be called the Viet-Nam Field of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. JUNGLE FRONTIERS will continue to be published as the magazine telling of the tribeswork.

Fall - 1960

the CALL



of
JUNGLE
FRONTIERS

DOAN-VAN-MIENG
Newly Elected Church President



Visiting our May 1960 Viet-Nam Field Conference in Dalat were Rev. Robert Chrisman, Far East Area Secretary, and Dr. Gilbert Johnson, Education Secretary of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, who was our guest speaker.

THE CALL OF VIET-NAM

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

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

Cover picture: Rev. Doan-van-Mieng was elected National Church President at the Vinh-Long Conference, August 1960.

A VISION BECOMES REALITY

MY eyes swept from the eager, expectant crowd, on to the simple, beautiful buildings glistening in the morning sun, to the majestic mountains towering on either side, on and out across the shining expanse of water that met the horizon. I wished that thousands of you from across that expanse might stand with me to witness the incredible miracle that God had wrought here. A desire, a dream, a vision, hours of intercession and consecrated toil, sacrificial giving on the part of many thousands of God's children—these He had fashioned into the new Nhatrang Bible School.

Because all the buildings are not yet finished, the dedication of the school will be held next year. However, September fourteenth marked the official opening in its new location with a special service. Pastors, friends and students from all parts of the country filled to overflowing the large classroom now used temporarily as a chapel.

Opening with the singing of Neander's beautiful seventeenth century hymn, «Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty,» prayer was then offered by the new President of the Nation-

al Church, Mr. Doan-van-Mieng. Following the responsive reading, a prayer of thanksgiving and the Scripture reading, Mr. Ong-van-Huyen, Dean of the school, welcomed visitors and students. Giving a brief summary, he mentioned how the land had been purchased from Christians, the months of work involved chiseling out by hand the stone of the mountain, the planning and actual construction. He went on to express sincere gratitude from the Church of Viet-Nam to our Society and to thousands of Christians in America who have given generously and sacrificially to make this school possible.



Mr. Le-van-Thai, former National Church President, brought a message from Psalm 119:73, stressing the importance of our knowledge of the Scriptures as the basis for victorious living and success in working for the Lord.

The new Nhatrang Bible School faces the occasion of increased capacity, increased potential for service, and increased responsibility. At the beginning of this school year we covet your intercession that the Church of Viet-Nam shall rise to the occasion in the might and power of God.

Mrs. J. H. Reuelle.



Laying of Cornerstone



Construction of Building

A REVIEW

JEHOVAH JIREH, «the Lord will provide,» has been remarkably illustrated at the new Nhatrang Bible School. Ideally located in this beautiful part of Viet-Nam, not only because of its scenery but also the climate, the site is near the ocean on a knoll called ROCK PILE.

This piece of property was formerly in the hands of a Frenchman. Before returning to France in 1956, papers were prepared deeding the property to a Vietnamese, who in turn sold it to the Evangelical Church for a very reasonable price.

After our Society agreed to finance the building of the Bible School, Mr. Huy-cach-Lam was appointed by the National Church Committee to supervise the project. Together with President Le-van-Thai, Dean Ong-van-Huyen and Rev. D. F. Irwin, he made tentative plans for the location of needed buildings. The knoll seemed to be the ideal place, but what about the «rock pile,» a mound covering an area over one hundred square meters? This seeming

OF THE PAST

obstacle was part of the Lord's provision. The project was officially launched. Men were hired to «move this mountain,» chiseling out large rocks which were used as foundation material for the buildings, and the extra was exchanged for needed bricks.

On many occasions since work began in June 1959, JEHOVAH JIREH has proved Himself as the One who changes not. Early this year, through lack of funds, all work ceased. Over one hundred twenty workmen were laid off. Because lumber could not be purchased in small quantities, a large order had been placed to cover the needs of the buildings under construction. But no money to pay the bill. There was an outstanding deficit for work already completed. Funds were not available. A pump was urgently needed for adequate water supply. But there was no money on hand.

Renewed vigorous effort was made at home encouraging people to continue giving toward this great

need. What was the result? Word soon came that funds had been received from friends in America. We praise God for His provision in sending more than sufficient to pay for the immediate needs so construction could be resumed. Much more work was yet to be done in preparation for opening school in September, providing for only one hundred students.

Every effort was put forth to have the buildings in readiness. The place was a beehive of activity. Painters calcimined the exterior of the first dormitory, painted doors and windows; electricians installed lights; plumbers put in the water system; concrete was poured for supports on the third floor of the classroom building; the foundations were dug for two more teachers' houses. Hearts were full of praise and enthusiasm in anticipation of beginning ministry in September at the new Nhatrang Bible School. God had provided every need!

Huy-cach-Lam.

A VIEW OF

FROM its inception in 1920, the Viet-Nam Bible School has had one purpose—specializing in teaching the Bible to those who love God, who want to do His will and study the truth of His Word. Training professional preachers for a few people is not the objective. Perhaps there are those who have misunderstood or have not been aware of it, but every faculty member is officially on record in agreement with this purpose.

The 1960 fall semester is no exception. Nhatrang Bible School welcomes God's children who have a clear testimony and who desire to study His Word. While at school, if any give evidence of God's call to a special ministry, meet the necessary qualifications, and are willing

to suffer that the Gospel might be sent forth, then God in His own way will separate such to be sent out like Elijah, Isaiah or Paul. Some desire to study the Bible to be better prepared for church leadership in Sunday Schools and Witnessing Bands. These ministries are not to be regarded lightly, but are worthy of note.

As the curriculum denotes, this is a school primarily for the study of the Bible:

Genesis, Joshua, Psalms, Daniel, Gospels, John, Acts, Romans, Ephesians, Philippians, Timothy, Bible Types, Bible Geography, Church History, Theology, Homiletics, Personal Witnessing, History of Preaching, The Preacher, Young Peo-



THE PRESENT

ple's Work, Sunday School Organization, Child Evangelism, Visual Aids, Greek, English, Music, Organ.

For the fine faculty selected we give praise to God. Six full-time and seven part-time teachers, men and women with experience in the ministry as well as those with training in specialized fields of teaching, all need the prayer support of God's people. May they be daily equipped by the Holy Spirit for their task of instructing and molding the lives of students.

We are grateful to all who have had a part in erecting the new buildings at Nhatrang, by prayer and with love offerings. You will want to know what has been completed:



The faculty

- a. One dormitory—two stories, 48 rooms, housing 100 students.
 - b. One school building—three stories, complete with five classrooms (each seating 50 students), one large room seating 120 (to be used temporarily for chapel), offices, garage, storage rooms and servants' quarters.
 - c. A large building containing two dining rooms (men and women, seating about 200), kitchen, storage room, cooks' quarters, and nursery (for children of married students).
 - d. Four teachers' residences.
- Rejoice with us in what God is doing—JEHOVAH JIREH!

Ong-van-Huyen.



DUBIOUSLY the question has been asked, «What was the reason for moving the Bible School to Nhatrang?» The answer is two-fold: to provide for a larger student body in erecting new buildings and to establish a more central location in free Viet-Nam.

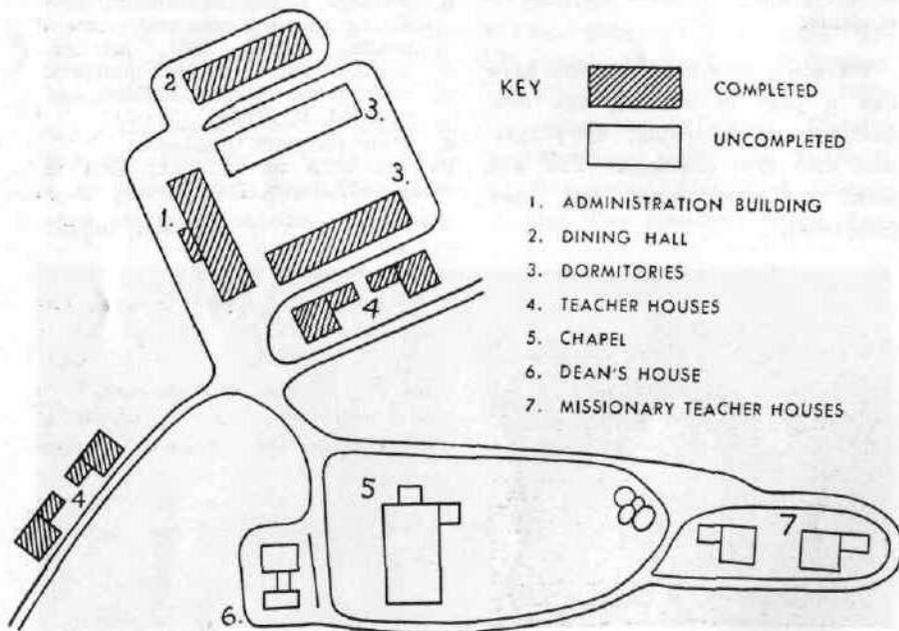
Through its history of over thirty years, the Bible School at Da-Nang (Tourane) has stressed the importance of putting into practice what has been learned in class and from messages. It has produced excellent results, to the extent that in Quang-Nam province, where Da-Nang is located, there are twenty-seven churches with more than 3,000 baptized believers.

Nhatrang is in Khanh-Hoa province, where we now have but two

A PREVIEW

churches and eight hundred believers. Not far from the city are several Resettlement Camps. Out in the South China Sea, relatively near the coast, are six unevangelized islands. Church groups in neighboring provinces are few. What a great field of opportunity!

Weekends, groups will be out witnessing, going near and far by foot, bicycle, car and boat. Establishing new churches through orderly, systematic visitation and tract distribution will be the goal.



OF THE FUTURE

The radio work will now be carried on at Nhatrang instead of Saigon. Students will have occasion to participate actively in this ministry through messages and music. Prepared tapes will be sent to Far East Broadcasting Company in Manila, beamed back to Viet-Nam, and also broadcast over local stations in Dalat, Hue, Nhatrang and Saigon. Correspondence from radio listeners will be answered by students, enclosing literature and introducing them to pastors in their vicinity, or, if they live nearby, making a personal contact.

Much can be accomplished for the Kingdom of God through these varied ministries as you pray with us for hearts prepared of the Spirit to respond to the Truth. This is YOUR share in spreading the Gospel in Viet-Nam. DON'T FORGET TO PRAY!

Personal Witnessing



You have read of the trials and victories in the process of erecting the buildings. What remains to be done? Our goal of preparing to accommodate two hundred students has not yet been attained. This is the future plan, as soon as funds permit:

- Another dormitory for 100 students.
- School chapel.
- Dean's residence.
- Two missionary-teacher residences.

The school library has need for books. English is taught as part of the curriculum with more and more students able to understand it. Bible Commentaries, reference and devotional books as well as missionary biographies would be valuable. Any books of this type you would like to give will be greatly appreciated.

All praise to God for what has been accomplished. But the job is only half done. Don't let down now, but «keep your shoulders to the wheel» with us. In behalf of the National Church and our missionaries we express our sincere gratitude for all who have shared in praying and giving for the Nhatrang Bible School.

Pham-van-Nam.



Le hoang Phu

when fleeing from war-torn areas, he took with him a Bible and a copy of Dr. Jonathan Goforth's BY MY SPIRIT. Reading of God's visitation to the Chinese, Phu realized his lack of the Holy Spirit's power. Days of prayer and heart-searching, confession and restitution changed a timid youth into a man of God's choice.

While in high school God called young Phu to full-time Christian service. But the medical profession seemed more attractive. The call had not changed. A series of circumstances ordered of the Lord opened his eyes to this fact.

Early in his Christian experience Phu formed the habit of regular prayer and Bible study. Marks of the man's deep devotion to the Word and his firm faith in God's readiness to answer prayer are evident. Although at times it has necessitated fasting as well as prayer, says he, «To me, answers to prayer are as natural as life itself.»

God's hand was evident upon Phu. Even before entering school in preparation for the ministry, he led many to Christ as a result of faithful witnessing. Upon graduating from Tourane Bible School, he worked for two years in the Hue church. Later he had opportunity to study at Nyack Missionary College for two and a half years, graduating summa cum laude in 1959. With the opening of the new school at Nhatrang, he will begin teaching in the Theology Department.

During the past year Phu has ministered in many churches with a typically full speaking schedule of over fifty meetings in three weeks. Through his simple exaltation of Christ from the Word, hundreds have been led into a new and vital contact with the Lord Jesus.

B. R. Houck

GRADUATE AND FACULTY MEMBER

MANY factors influenced the National Church Conference in choosing their new secretary, Le-hoang-Phu. Doubtless the outstanding quality is the clear-cut manifestation of the Holy Spirit's control in his life.

Born in 1926, the first of four sons of an illustrious Christian family, Phu is the grandson of the first Vietnamese pastor and President of the Evangelical Church. Four descendants of beloved President Thua are now in Christian work, while seven of Phu's relatives on his father's side, himself a pastor, are also serving the Lord.

Under the famed Dr. John Sung of China, Phu accepted Christ at the age of twelve. Several years later,

GOD'S PROVISION



Chinese Alliance Church

They have done well in sacrificial giving, hoping soon to have a debt-free place of worship.

Now there are three Christian Chinese churches in Saigon, with a parish of over half a million.

Seven years of overcrowded Worship Services came to an end Palm Sunday. Hearts were filled with praise to God in gathering at the new Chinese Alliance Church.

Purchasing property, obtaining permission to build, down to the last details of getting light and water meters are a series of God's marvelous provision. Insufficient floor space would not permit the erection of a conventional-style church; rather, it is a three-story structure. This residential area with hundreds of idol-worshipping families affords virgin soil for sowing the Word.

Instead of a street chapel with a jammed congregation of one hundred, there is an attractive-looking church comfortably seating four hundred people. Sunday School rooms with four departments are the fulfillment of a desire of long standing.

Our Society and friends at home have sent gifts toward the building fund, and for these we are grateful. Poor and average-income people make up the congregation.

OUT OF LONELINESS AND ANXIETY



Being the youngest child in the family, I was not bound to any religious obligations, although my father was a Confucianist and my mother a Buddhist. Consequently, during my years of schooling I followed no religion. In my late teens I had occasion to hear some Gospel preaching. The message greatly interested me, but my soldier-life in wartime did not permit me to learn more about the Christian faith.

My widowed mother did not join me when I left north Viet-Nam in 1954. Often a sense of loneliness swept over me, and I longed for comfort in times of defeat and for praise in times of success.

Last May, through the personal witness of Mr. Garth Hunt, I became a Christian. Now I am a new creature, with my Heavenly Father as my Guide. No longer am I anxious about life, because my family and I are in His care. My knowledge of God has increased through studying the Bible with Mr. Hunt. I long to guide my friends into this knowledge of a new life in Christ.

A NEW CHRISTIAN.

THIRSTY American Christians have many sources from which to draw refreshing spiritual truth. This is uncommon in many other lands. Furthermore, American Christian publishers, with thousands of potential buyers, find publishing financially profitable. With the small clientele in other lands, publishing Gospel literature requires financial subsidy and consequently is limited in variety and scope. But overseas, Christians are just as thirsty as in America.

Vietnamese Christians enjoy reading good Gospel literature. Many have read all that we have published, excepting possibly books for pastors. Devotional literature is fairly adequate. Books by A. B. Simpson, A. W. Tozer, C. H. Spurgeon and George Muller are widely read. Each month a tract, usually 100,000 copies, is printed. Also two monthly magazines, designed respectively for the unbelievers and believers, circulation 7,000, are printed. Each church regularly receives Sunday School material. These publications still require over one thousand dollars subsidy each month.

Although this literature satisfies many thirsty souls, another category of persons are still in desert

THIRSTY OR SATISFIED?

areas. Pastors and Bible students have limited sources for growth. The late John D. Olsen alone has authored books of a study nature. These include books on Christian doctrine, commentaries on five books of the Bible and a Church History. Commentaries on other Biblical books, dictionaries both theological and Biblical, a concordance, all basic books, are urgently needed. One can easily envision the tremendous work and cost involved in this project. The limited buying clientele will necessitate large financial subsidy, several tens of thousands of dollars, but dare we longer neglect this major responsibility? Specified gifts for this undertaking will ultimately satisfy not only pastors and workers, but refresh many thirsty souls throughout the Church of Viet-Nam.

J. S. Savin

DEACONS' CONFERENCES

A Key To Indigenous Policy

The National Church, for the first time in its history, began special conferences for deacons, both in the central and southern districts. Previously, there had been Deacons' Meetings during the annual Pastors' Conferences. A short time ago, under the direction of the church committee, the southern district was divided into ten areas, each representing seven to nine churches.

One-day conferences with a message followed by a presentation of the definition, importance, qualities and responsibility of the deacon have been the usual program. Special emphasis was given to tithing, self-support and revival. Personal testimonies and discussion were highlights of each conference. Representing over eighty churches, the deacons had their attention drawn to what indigenous churches could be doing for God in these difficult times yet days of opportunity.



Thay Qui

«**D**O speak to that man.» These words seemed to come to young Thay Qui as he stood on a corner with a group of Short Term Bible School students, comprising just one of the teams sent out on a personal evangelism assignment. For nearly a month they had been studying a course of six subjects aimed at giving them at least an acquaintance with the whole Bible and a more thorough knowledge of several of its books. Training lay workers in the art of personal soul-winning, the subject receiving the greatest stress, is the purpose of the Short Term Bible School.

Thay Qui was in a quandary. His teacher had emphasized both the value of a soul and the shortness of time, and these facts were not lost upon him. In theory, at least. But «that man» standing by the gas station was a total stranger and probably impatient to get into his car and be gone. Furthermore, he was elderly while Thay Qui was the youngest member of the team. These arguments overcame his first impulse to witness to the stranger, and he returned to the group.

ALERT TO OPPORTUNITY

«Don't lose the golden opportunity!» Was that the same voice or just his imagination? Qui turned as if to go back to the man. Then the thought came that if this was the voice of the Lord it would have come to one of the older and more experienced students. Better not be presumptuous and push himself ahead of the others. As he paused Qui was sure he heard the voice a third time, more insistent than ever: «Don't lose the golden opportunity!»

«May I offer you a tract, sir?» he asked rather timidly. To Qui's surprise and joy the man not only accepted the tract but opened up his heart, heavy with despair and evidently prepared by the Spirit of God. Like Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch, this man was saved because a soul-winner obeyed the voice of the Spirit. That night Thay Qui, half smiles and half tears, gave his joyful testimony, earnestly urging the students not to miss one opportunity to witness to lost souls.

Let us pray that these ninety-six students, like young Thay Qui, will obey the voice of the Spirit and see the same blessed results.

P. E. Carlson

PRAY...

Binh-Dinh province has a population of over a million people, with a staff of two missionary couples and four national workers. Each of these men has many preaching places and scores of villages to visit, trying to

hold regular meeting. New villages are being reached. Pray that many zealous lay-workers will be called of God to fill in the gaps, and that indigenous churches will be established.

C. E. Travis



Chinese young People

Six young people have accepted Christ as Savior resulting from the new ministry among Chinese in Da-Nang. Evening Bible classes, Saturday night Youth Meeting, Children's

Meetings and Sunday morning Worship Service are held in the missionaries' residence. Attendance is relatively small. Bondage to Buddhism, idolatry, spirit and ancestor worship, heathen traditions, and subtle influences of the modern world all combine to keep men from heeding the Truth. Through periodic trips to other cities of central Viet-Nam, Chinese are being reached by personal witness and distribution of Gospel literature. Pray that God will manifest His power in many hearts, and raise up workers for this vast harvest field.

A. G. Kowles

The neighbors say there are ghosts in this house.» We had just moved into a newly-remodeled house when Gloria became very ill with typhoid fever.

Our servant continued, «They say anyone who moves into this place will soon become ill, or perhaps die.» At once we realized that Gloria's illness would keep their rumors alive. Bac-Lieu has not had a resident missionary for thirty years.

Presently the church Witnessing Group is being revived through special prayer. The pastor returned from conference with new zeal, after hearing glowing reports resulting from witnessing.

In this and the neighboring province, less than one in a thousand have turned to Jesus Christ. There are only nine churches. Much can be accomplished through prayer.

G. F. Kleinhen

...PRAY

FLASH!

Word has just been received from New-York headquarters permitting the purchase of a Youth Center in Saigon, capital city of free Viet-Nam. The purpose is twofold: to make Christ known to unsaved youth and to train Christian young people for service. Evangelistic meetings, Bible study, witnessing instruction, English classes, music, literature and recreation will be employed in the program. Pray that this new base of operations will be effective in meeting the great need of Saigon youth.

Last night I was restless. Undoubtedly it was due to the subconscious thought that I was to spend another day behind bars. I arose at the usual 5:30 hour. The first rays of the morning sun were casting barred shadows across the floor.

Things aren't too bad in this «cell.» Palatable meals are served regularly. There are the comforts of a chair, a bed, a few books and a water thermos. Heat and intestinal infection have caused loss of weight over a period of five months, but I'm feeling quite well and looking forward to release day in June, 1962.

Twenty-five language students throughout Viet-Nam are under the same long «sentence.» Our prison experience in reality is language study. We are behind bars because houses in tropical climate are without glass windows.

Although some students have sufficient language to begin ministering the Word, the rest of us

In the August National Church Conference a new committee was elected. Rev. Le-van-Thai, beloved president for the past nineteen years, and Rev. Ong-van-Huyen, secretary for the past thirty years, both expressed an earnest desire to retire from office. They were succeeded by Rev. Doan-van-Mieng (see cover) and Rev. Le-hoang-Phu (see page 10), respectively. Mr. Thai will continue to serve as director of the orphanage in Nhatrang and will be on the faculty at the Bible School as instructor in Pastoral Theology. Mr. Huyen continues his responsibility as president-dean of the Bible School. Remember to pray for the new church leaders in their places of spiritual authority.

have just begun our crucial first months behind bars. Mastering a new tongue demands total commitment to the task. Please join in praying for us.

R. W. Pendell

