

THE PIONEER

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Chinese Conference Group 1933

OPPORTUNITY
NUMBER

Foreword

We are confident that you will not read far in this issue of *The Pioneer* before realizing why it has been called an "Opportunity Number."

Before "fields that are white unto the harvest" there is the awful consciousness of God's opportunity, the impelling certainty of our opportunity, and the challenging opportunity that is yours.

Brother Jaffray is at present down in Sumatra assisting the Griffins to pitch their camp on that new battle field. He and Mrs. Jaffray and Mr. and Mrs. Griffin and Mr. Mouw left us a few weeks ago. Brother Mouw may at this time be wending his way up the Kapoeas River from Pontianak, West Borneo, to find the right location for utilizing the great opportunity that lies in that neglected district. Brother Jaffray expects to go on to China for several months ministry before returning to Makassar in July or August.

We are showing a picture of our Chinese fellow workers of the Chinese Foreign Missionary Union on the front cover. From left to right you may see, Tsang, Linn, Leong, Pastor and Mrs. Chue, Ching, Pouw, Kot, Jaffray and Paul Lenn. With Abu Ben Adam we say, "May the tribe increase!"

Together with this number of *The Pioneer* we are sending you Mr. Jaffray's very interesting Report for 1932. We are putting it up in a convenient form so that you can easily read it yourself, and easily pass it along for someone else to enjoy the same opportunity.

The article in this issue entitled "World Depression or World

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War," makes it clear "what is our work and business for God"
"Let us be about our Master's business."

We are putting out this Pioneer entirely on faith. And yet, notwithstanding, there is a real pleasure in just going "steadily forward" by giving out in faith and resting in the confidence that the barrel of meal will not fail.

After you have read this little "newsletter" from cover to cover, spread it (and yourself) out before the Lord in prayer. It is God's opportunity — and yours.

Missionary Staff
of the
Christian & Missionary Alliance
in the
Dutch East Indies

- Rev. R. A. and Mrs. Jaffray, Makassar, Celebes, D. E. I.
- Rev. C. D. Clench, Makassar, Celebes, D. E. I.
- Rev. J. W. and Mrs. Brill, Ampenan, Lombok, D. E. I.
- Rev. G. E. and Mrs. Fisk, Boelongan, Borneo, D. E. I.
- Rev. W. E. Presswood, Malinau, Tarakan, Borneo, D. E. I.
- Rev. W. M. Post, Malinau, Tarakan, Borneo, D. E. I.
- Rev. C. R. Deibler, Melak, via Samarinda, Borneo, D. E. I.
- Rev. J. A. and Mrs. Mouw, Sintang W. Borneo.
- Miss M. E. Kemp, Makassar, Celebes, D. E. I.
- Miss V. M. Griebenow, Makassar, Celebes, D. E. I.
- Miss Lillian Marsh, Makassar, Celebes, D. E. I.

Some »Great Things« of 1932

By W. E. Presswood

(continued from last issue)

At Long Berang, a Dyak centre above the rapids, we were thronged day and night by Dyaks who came from all directions to hear the Good News. I preached to them about three times a day for three days and then started up the Kinaya River, stopping at each place to preach the Word to waiting crowds. The news of my coming had spread like a prairie fire and some Dyaks assembled four days before I reached their village. Others walked for three or four days to hear the wondrous story. At one place in particular the Dyaks sat and listened and asked questions for about eleven hours. I have never seen such joy expressed in all my life as by the women who beat their breasts for sheer joy as they heard of the birth of Christ and saw pictures of His life and death. In one place a chief showed his delight by putting his arms about me, embracing me, and urging me to return as soon as possible. Elsewhere women cried when I was leaving.

Crossing over to the headwaters of another river, we came downstream again to Long Berang. Having baptized my interpreter and taught the Dyaks for several days I started overland toward the border of Sarawak. Everywhere crowds gathered and followed from village to village. The people from up tributary streams would assemble at a central place, three hundred at one time not being unusual. When it is understood that the average village in these parts is about forty people, this number is more significant. High mountains, thousands

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of jungles leeches, slippery hills, muddy swamps, irrigated rice fields are just part of the tale. In contrast to people of other parts of Borneo, the Dyaks of the Kerayan make irrigated fields, have plenty of water buffalos, goats etc. They loaded me down with gifts of chickens, vegetables and goats. Five hundred people assembled at one place in one day. Houses had to be propped up in order to hold the unusual weight. Floors gave way under the strain, while walls had to be knocked out in order to make room for the crowds. Some followed us from village to village in order to really understand the message. Of these a number followed for about two weeks. This cannot be explained in any other way than that in answer to the prayers of God's people His Spirit has been creating a genuine hunger for the Gospel. I was amused as well as greatly surprised when some Dyaks of the far interior, having heard the message, started clapping their hands vigorously in real western fashion!

I found it exceedingly difficult to get alone for prayer on the trip. During the first part, while traveling up the Kinaya, I would frequently try to go into the jungle or up some creek, but the Dyaks would sometimes follow me to see what I was up to. In the Kerayan there was no place to go. Gnats were so bad that if one went far from the village smoke they were unbearable. In spite of all the strain, God's rich blessing was upon me and the joy of the Lord was my strength.

One incident of the trip was especially precious to me. Before starting I had tried to buy an extra pair of canvas shoes, but was not successful. I couldn't get my size. I intended to take some leather ones along but neglected to do so. Thus for the trip I had only one pair of shoes and a pair of sandals. I took

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a small folding stool to sit on. Far out in "no man's land" I fell and slit my trousers. The connection? One moment please! A day or two previous the cloth seat of my stool gave out. I got a bright idea. I would cut my trousers off at the knees, and use the amputated parts for the top of my stool. The results were that I found it much easier walking with my "shorts," but not being accustomed to them I soon got rheumatism in my left knee. I could scarcely walk. At the same time my lone pair of canvas shoes gave out on me. What was I to do? To return barefoot was next to impossible, and there is no other way of travel except by foot. I made it a matter of prayer.

While at Long Berang I had met two Dyaks who had just returned from prison, and although their village was not far from Long Berang they had to go to see the government official of the Kerayan before they could settle in their village again. The point is that while they were there one of them gave a pair of canvas shoes to his brother who lives in that part of the country. On entering his village about the first thing I saw was a pair of canvas shoes. Fitting them on I found they were the same size as those I was wearing. I wanted to buy them, but he preferred some clothing in exchange, so I traded my "shorts" for the pair of shoes and everyone was happy. This cannot be explained except by the fact that God knows our needs and provides in answer to prayer. The shoes lasted me till I arrived back in Malinau after ten weeks of pioneering.

LOOKING FORWARD TO BORNEO

By Mrs. J. A. Mouw

On April 1st Mr. Jaffray and Mr. Mouw walked up the 3rd class gang plank and proceeded to find space to place their cots and baggage on the deck. It is quite unusual for European passengers to take passage from Makassar third class, and so there were some surprised faces as Mr. Jaffray's tall figure was seen among the native passengers waving good-bye to us.

The following are a few excerpts from a letter I received from Mr. Mouw mailed from Batavia:

"We finally got settled on the deck and waited for supper, but alas! none appeared. Upon inquiring we found that we were to eat in a little room and our fare was potatoes, meat and gravy.

"Tell Mrs. Dixon the cookies, etc. were very good and appreciated by us. Also thank Mr. Dixon for helping me with my bags. We are sitting on a K.P.M. steamer out in the Java sea bay waiting for them to unload the cargo.

Burneal has been very sick since March 1st so we could not accompany Mr. Mouw and the others on this trip, but we expect to sail on May 13th and shall probably arrive in Pontianak on the West Coast of Borneo, on May 20th where we shall meet Mr. Mouw. From there we take a river boat up the Kapoeas River and will make our home in some town in the interior about a four days journey from Pontianak.

Mr. Mouw and I are full of joy over our appointment to West Borneo. Please join with us in prayer for these Dyaks who have never heard the glad story of Salvation, so that we shall be able to offer thanks as did Paul in I Thess. 2 : 13.

Pushing Farther Into the Night

By Herman A. Dixon

To Mrs. Dixon and I and the two native boys who accompanied us, every phase of our trip into Central Celebes was of special interest. The old Hudson jostled along sort of faulty most of the time, which reminds us of some people. They run smoothly on level road and down hill, but up grade they begin to "splutter and balk." Buffaloes, goats, dogs, chickens, ducks, a poisonous snake, and even a family of monkeys, father, mother, and several children scurried from in front of our oncoming auto. The head of the family took special pains to scold as we passed.

Several sick people attracted our attention. One a boy whose nose was so swollen across the bridge that it almost obscured his sight. Another time a crazy boy came to the car begging for money. His hair was disheveled, clothes dirty, hands twisted, and he had gnawed his finger nails into the "quick." Our compassion went out to him and I slipped a small coin into his hand. Upon receiving this he let out a blood-curdling screech as he ran into his home.

Many other things could be mentioned, such as: bugs falling into our food while we were eating, Mrs. Dixon slipping and falling into a creek, etc. etc., but our object was to spread the gospel. Six good sized towns and many small ones were reached for the first time. Pasars (native markets) were in session in three towns. At two there were about five hundred people each and the other three thousand. These afforded a splendid opportunity for preaching and giving out the printed

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page. Several thousand tracts and gospel portions were distributed. During our meal time, people crowded around us out of curiosity and watched our every movement; one night the boys became so interested in preaching that they forgot to eat their supper.

Many "hadji" — Mohammedans who have been to Mecca, and wear white turbans, mingled among the people. Several wanted to argue, but we dismissed the possibility by saying that our Malay was insufficient. We gave our testimony telling what Christ had done for us and no one could dispute a genuine experience. We further urged that what Christ had done for us He could do for them also. Hungry souls were attracted to the gospel and God alone knows the results which may follow. We rest in the promise that He will prosper His Word which was given out in His Name.

Already we are planning another journey which will keep us out for two or three weeks and take us further into the interior. Such a trip will cost about fifty dollars gold. Please stand with us in prayer that God will supply the funds and make such a trip possible. Souls are perishing so let us quickly reach them with the gospel of life.

The very latest report from Bali was depressing in that the native Christians are being slowly and relentlessly persecuted unto starvation or expulsion or the denying of their faith. But God is over all, and altho' our hearts are in anguish because of the tribulation of these believers, we wait patiently for Him. Behold, your God will come..... with a recompence; he will come and save you.

ECHOES

Excerpt

From Mr. Fisk's letter March 31, from Boelongan

"Anna has most likely given you folks the Boelongan news, so I will not repeat any of it here, only to say, that last night we had another wonderful service, preaching the Gospel to 48 hungry Dyaks.

"Mel seems to be living in the joy of the Lord. He surely is on fire for God and he doesn't let a single opportunity slip by to witness for Christ. Praise God for leading Mel to come to Boelongan.

"There are three large praus of Dyaks here now, and my! but haven't we been having a splendid time preaching the gospel to them. For some time I have been looking forward to baptizing the two prisoners, who some time ago gave their all to the Lord. Last Sunday after our regular morning service, I took them and a bunch of their people to the river. Taman Angit, the village blacksmith from Nakeramo, who has heard the gospel many times at Long Poedjoengan, asked if he too could be baptized. After duly examining him and finding him ready, I told him I would baptize him with the other two men. With his whole heart Taman Angit said that he was ready to leave all and follow Christ. My, but there must be some rejoicing among the angels of Heaven. Just look at all of these souls that are turning to Christ!

"Upon arriving at the 'scene of action' we looked for a place on the sand bar that was the right depth. I jumped over the side of the boat into the water, to be followed by Amban Lindjau, the chief of Makeramo. While we were in the water the

school boys kept banging on the sides of the boat with their paddles to scare away any crocodiles that might be lurking near by. After baptizing the chief, Mel (the student helper from Makassar Bible School) started singing There's a New Name Written Down in Glory, and we all followed with spirit. Hallelujah, God is working!"

Excerpt

From J. W. Brill's letter April 13, from Lombok.

"The work here is progressing, I am now to the place where I can tell the Balinese the Old Story in their own language.

Aris (a student helper from Makassar Bible School) is doing well, he has a real love for the Lord and zeal, and a love for souls.

I may say that the first Sasak tract will be ready to send to the printers in less than a week. Praise God we at last have it."

Excerpt

From Mrs. Post's letter March 22, 1933

"Just think! we've been here over a week now! It has gone so fast, for you can imagine we've been very busy getting settled. By this time we're quite straightened around, and the house looks quite cozy.

"The first week here we had few visitors, and we were glad to be left alone to unpack and get things arranged. However, we were praying that Dyaks might come in this week, and they surely have, too. Monday afternoon a number came in. They like to hear the phonograph, and in the evening I played the organ for them. The next evening they came again with others, and when Walter asked them if they wished to hear the phonograph, they pointed to the organ and asked for that. They seem to like that very much. How glad we are for the organ. It

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certainty was great of Mr. Clench to give it to us and I'm sure it will prove a great blessing. When I was playing, 'Onward Christian Soldiers,' one Dyak was asked by the others to dance, so he did, and certainly kept fine time all the way through. Walter gave a message to them and they certainly listened with rapt attention. Two districts were represented this week that have never heard the Gospel yet. This Friday (tomorrow) we plan to go to a lamin not far from here. It will take us perhaps an hour to go there, and we will stay all night. It will be my first experience in a Dyak lamin.

"We're anxious to start a Sunday School here. There are a lot of children in Malinau, and it seems that they all know Malay. We may have opposition from the Mohammedan teacher, but we are trusting the Lord to guide us.....

"Yesterday a Malay young man came in to inquire about the Gospel. He's a Javanese and has been in Malinau only a few months. He once worked for a Dutch Protestant minister in Batavia. He seems to be a nice chap and sincere. He speaks very good Malay — says he hasn't yet become a Christian but would like to. Walter spoke to him a long time and gave him gospels to read. We expect him to come back today. If he were truly saved, he might prove very valuable in our work here. We ask you folks in Makassar to pray for him too — his name is Madja."

Excerpt

From Mrs. Fisk's letter April 10 from Malino.

"How are you all at Lageweg 81? My how I regret that you could not be up here with me. If I ever build a house near Makassar (if ? ? ? ? ?) it will be up here. The nights are cold as a rule. The mornings are chilly; and the afternoons

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comfortable. The scenery is indescribable beautiful, and wonderful. If the mission ever decides to build a vacation place, this is the spot for it. Two weeks or the allotted time each year would do wonders for our bodies and would fit us for a good year's work. We haven't been here one week, and yet we feel much better already. Joye's cheeks are a beautiful rosy color. The flowers are charming; there are so many varieties, and they are so much like home. Yesterday I had the first fresh strawberries and blackberries that I've eaten (or seen) since I left America.

"This Mountain Hotel is a comfortable place..... it is 3300 feet above sea level and it is cold. Truly we seem to be living on top of the world here. It is a fine change after 3½ years in hot rainy Borneo weather (But I do not mean that last as a complaint, for I believe you know that I do love Borneo and the dear Dyaks there). However, even as I write this letter, my hands are like pieces of ice. I suppose that I will soon be used to it..... We are 40 miles from the port of Makassar and yet the sea is visible on a clear day. We get good food and enough fruit....."

Brother Presswood expects to return to Makassar for several months so that his ulcerated foot may have a chance to heal completely. Several of our missionaries are in need of God's gracious healing touch upon their bodies. Please pray with us for them.

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FIRST BAPTISM IN NEW CHAPEL IN LOMBOK

By J. W. Brill

Easter Sunday Evening brought a new experience in the lives of six young Christians, four men and two women. It was the first baptism in our new Chapel in Lombok. The service afforded a novel scene for the Balinese who crowded in to see the first Balinese in Lombok baptized. God grant that many of his brethren will soon follow. This Balinese man's wife, a Javanese, and formerly a Mohammedan was also among the six. A young man who was formerly a staunch Mohammedan, a native of Celebes, has been saved and was baptized. It was a cosmopolitan group, for there were also two young Chinese men and a young Menadonese woman. These with joy followed their Lord in Baptism, and now are bearing testimony to their faith in Christ. Pray that these may grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord and His Word.

You will rejoice with me that the first Sasak tract is now translated and by the time you receive this word it will be in the hands of a people who have never yet read a word about the Gospel in their own language. The translator is a scholar and is willing to translate more tracts. The second one which he is now working on, will be finished about the time you receive this word. Pray then for me as I undertake to examine it with the help of others, because the translator is a nominal Mohammedan, that it may go forth without a mistake, and that these tracts may bring light to those who now sit in darkness, "in the shadow of death."

World Depression or World War

R. A. Jaffray, Makassar, D. E. I.

It is nearly 15 years since the close of the World War. It is claimed that we are about due for the next World War. Some people say that the present World Depression is a direct result of the World War. At least we may say that there are ever increasing signs that we are living in the End Time of this Dispensation.

Since returning to the Far East, one feels again the spirit of the Orient. Judging from the oft reference made in the press out here to Japan and her persistent, aggressive policy, and the defiant attitude she has taken to the League of Nations, all the European powers and America, one cannot escape the conviction that we are on the verge of the outbreak of another World War, and that this time the storm centre will be out here in the Far East.

What prevents the Nations of the West arising and checking Japan in her present Conquest of China and Asia? Probably more than any other one thing, it is the presence of the World's Financial and Economic Depression. Were it not for the World Depression, we would perhaps even now be in the midst of another World War.

If this be so, then may we not say that the Depression is a blessing in disguise. In the mercy of God, He has permitted the lesser of two great evils to befall us. Many a heart is yearning for the lifting of this great depression and a return of the "good old days." They think when once this depression lifts, we will again breathe easy, everything will be all right then. But is this so?

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In a former article entitled "After the Depression — What?" we tried to show that the believer in Bible prophecy and in the Premillennial return of the Lord, has no ground for vaguely, fondly looking for better days after the Depression. For if we are right in believing that we are fast approaching the darkest hour of the world's history, known in Scripture as the Great Tribulation, then we must expect that each stage in the development of the Age will be more serious than the last, until we come to the Great Tribulation itself and the actual appearing on earth of the Man of Sin, the False Christ, the incarnation of Satan in human form. It is to suddenly destroy him that our Christ will come. He will come first secretly, as a thief to "steal" away from the earth those which He bought with His own blood, — He "steals" that for which He has paid the full price. The "stealing" of this Glorious "Thief" refers to the secret, quiet suddenness of His Coming.

The present Financial Depression and threatening of World War may seem to be serious hindrances to missionary work, but the only true solution to the matter lies, not in a vague, vain hope for better days to come, but in an increase of real faith in God for His help and victory in these days of "distress of Nations," through which we pass before the Lord comes. Most certainly it is not the Will of God that any financial stringency should for one moment, in one iota hinder, or even delay the completion of the task of the Evangelization of the Whole World. Personally, I feel sure that the increase of faith in God to meet us and supply all our needs for the Missionary Enterprise of these closing days involves a re-adjusting of our missionary policy, a focusing of the attention of our missionary effort upon new pioneer fields; finishing our unfinished task

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and going with the Gospel Message to those parts of the earth where Christ has not yet been named: and with definite purpose seeking out the remaining tribes of earth which have not yet heard His name and speedily giving the Word of the Gospel to them.

This has become the passion of my prayer life. I have tried to study the *map of the World* and learn where these unreached peoples are. I have tried to get in touch with the great students of World Missions, and learn from them. I have longed that some adequate "survey" of the world might be made to show us what still remains to be done ere He should say "It is enough" and come back to earth again. But all the world surveys of men seem unsatisfactory, incomplete, uncertain, inadequate.

Finally, in prayer, I have looked up to Him Who sits at the right Hand of God on high and said, "Oh Lord Jesus, Thou didst create this world — Thou hast made all the peoples of the world and hast set their bounds. Thou from on high alone knowest all the corners of the earth. Thou only knowest where still this Gospel of the Kingdom must be preached as a witness ere the "End" can come. Only Thou knowest what tribes and peoples must still be 'visited' to take out a people for Thy Name, so that Thy promise — 'After this, I will return' can be fulfilled. Oh Lord! lead Thou Thy people out in these last days into a final pioneer missionary conquest to finish the Evangelization of the World and bring Thee back to earth again, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. O Lord Jesus! Ask the Father and He will give Thee the heathen for Thine inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for Thy possession, for He has said to Thee, 'Thou art my Son — Ask of me and I will give

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the uttermost parts of the earth to Thee for Thy Possession.' " Therefore, tho' we live in the midst of a world of turmoil and confusion, depression and strife, yet it is clear what is our work and business for God. Others may be confused or depressed, excited or side-tracked, but we know our calling. It is to go steadily forward and complete the unfinished task He has given us in Evangelizing the World. Let us go out, therefore, deliberately to seek new, lost, unknown peoples, unto whom no Gospel Message has been given, "visit" them with the Gospel Message, and take out a people for His Name. Then we have the sure promise that He will come back as it is written "After this, I will return and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down: and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: that the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things." (Acts 15 : 16, 17).

Remember that The Pioneer is issued as often as material and money permit. There is no subscription price. If you enjoy The Pioneer, and wish to help us keep it going, you may send your freewill offerings for this purpose to us. Just send your gifts in the way and manner most convenient for you addressed to The Editor, The Pioneer — Lageweg No. 81 — Makassar, Celebes — D. E. I. "They that trust in their God shaall do exploits." Let us go forward — that's the only way a Christian can go!

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SOMEBODY'S OPPORTUNITY

After writing that title, "Somebody's Opportunity", we were on the point of changing it a little. However on second thought we believe that you will enjoy changing it yourself — hence we will wait and see!

We need a thousand dollars. We have at present in our Bible School just five young men from Bali and one from Borneo. We ought to have a hundred. The six we do have are already overflowing our cramped living quarters. As we said before, so say we again, "The place is too strait for us."

"I don't believe in educational work," says some old miser. Let him read Proverbs. "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent?" "Preach the word" said Paul. How then shall they preach that which they do not know? and how shall they know that which they do not study? and how shall they study without a teacher? and how shall they be taught except they be sent?

We need a thousand dollars. We must provide a dormitory for a hundred students. We must gather the young converts whose hearts God has touched and equip them with the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. From Bali, from Borneo, from Sumatra, from the tribes and tongues around us we must gather them in and scatter them forth.

We need a thousand dollars. Nearly three thousand friends will read about this opportunity. Think of that, *three thousand friends!* If you do not have a dollar, look for one; "he that seeketh findeth. And he that giveth, to him shall be given,

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full measure and running over shall men heap into your bosom.

We need a thousand dollars. What an opportunity this is! Are you going to let that title stay as it is? Here is a chance to invest in something that will pay dividends of ten thousand percent. Friend, put that dollar you've found into an envelope, address the envelope to David Clench, Makassar — Celebes, and then rejoice; the need is met, the Word will be taught, and "they who sit in darkness shall see great light."

Two more of our Bible students have been called into the work. One has gone to Samarinda to work with Brother Deibler. The other is going to Boelongan to teach a Dyak school and evangelize two large kampoengs. Please remember these (now) four young men who are out witnessing for the Lord in prayer, their temptations are overwhelming except for "the God of all grace."



„Give us this day our daily bread.“