Our Beloved Chairman, Dr. R. A. and Mrs. Jaffray and Miss Margaret, who are now on a brief furlough in the Philippines.
GREETINGS

"I bring you GOOD TIDINGS of great joy."

.................................. Luke 2: 10

Long ago on the occasion of this text, God chose to use as His messenger an angel to bear the GOOD TIDINGS to the shepherds. Today, centuries later, it is our privilege and joy to be His messengers bearing these GOOD TIDINGS unto the Dyaks, the Kooboos, the Sakais and the Papuans that 'Christ the Saviour is born'! About the time you read these lines, we, His messengers, will be closing another year of service for Christ in these distant islands. We greatly rejoice, and wish you to rejoice with us, at what His grace has done for these people during the past year. For all you who are with us in heart for the evangelization of the people of the Indies, we covet a precious Christmastide in which Christ shall be born anew in your hearts. In sending you best wishes for the New Year, we wish also, in the pages which follow, to give you an account of our ambassadorship here. There greetings come from all our missionaries in the Netherlands East Indies and British Malaya and particularly from the missionary whose name appears on your Pioneer wrapper.

DEDICATION

This issue of The Pioneer is dedicated to Dr. R. A. and Mrs. Jaffray and their daughter Margaret. (See pictures on the cover.) We cannot recount in full the vast and varied ministry which our Chairman, Mr. Jaffray, has had during the past forty-five years of pioneer missionary endeavor. Suffice to say, he had already made full proof of his ministry by pioneering in the two Alliance fields of
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South China and French Indo China before making his first survey trip to the Netherlands East Indies in 1928. The dire spiritual need of the people of these islands was yet another challenge to his faith. The following year the work was begun which has grown and spread to many islands and tribes in this archipelago. Mrs. and Miss Jaffray joined Mr. Jaffray in the early days of the work here and have been stationed in Makassar. Miss Jaffray has served as teacher in the Makassar Bible School and for a period of time was in charge of the Women's School. Even though Miss Jaffray had remained two years over her appointed term of service and Mr. and Mrs. Jaffray were in need of a rest and change, we were reluctant to have them leave us. Since June of this year they have been enjoying a brief furlough in the Philippines. We wish to commend them to you for special prayer that they may be strengthened in body and refreshed in mind. We greatly miss their help and counsel and it is just possible that ere you read these lines they will have returned to us and the work.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are happy to announce the arrival in Makassar of a 'nice little boy', David Jerome, to Rev. and Mrs. Andrew Sande on September 19th. May God greatly bless this little life, and the work his parents are about to undertake in the Boelongan field of Borneo.

FURLOUGHS

Doubtless many of you have already met Mrs. Fisk and Joye, who are now on furlough in the homeland. They have preceded Mr. Fisk who has remained on the field until brother Jackson, the new Pilot, has learned to find his
way along the airways of the Boelongan field. The Fisks have now completed two fruitful terms of service in the Boelongan District of East Borneo. It was in this field that the work of the Spirit began among the Dyaks which has now spread to some 14,000 of these jungle people throughout Borneo. It was due largely to brother Fisk’s faith and persistence that a plane was purchased to fly high above the dangerous river rapids of inland Borneo in a ministry for the Lord that has continued now over two

Rev. G. E. Fisk, the pilot, and Mrs. Fisk are shown standing on the pontoons of the Beechcraft Seaplane used for Gospel work in Borneo. Mrs. Fisk and Joye are already in the Homeland and Mr. Fisk will join them shortly.
years. Brother Fisk will be leaving to join his family in America within a few months and we would say to all the readers of The Pioneer, "Hear the Fisks tell of flying the Gospel to inland Borneo."

The Brills and Fisks were among the first Alliance missionaries to come to the Indies so it is fitting, though a loss to the work, that they should go on furlough at the same time. Mrs. Brill was far from well when she left the field over a year ago, but we trust that ere now she is quite recovered. Brother Brill sails this month to join Mrs. Brill and the children from whom he has been separated these many months. The Brills have had a most profitable second term of service, first in Lombok and then in the Makassar Bible School. For the past four years, brother Brill has given himself unstintingly to the school and the students, with the result that the school has forged ahead under his leadership. The school, with an enrollment of over two hundred, is well organized and well conducted. Brother Brill has had much to do with molding the lives of our native workers now scattered throughout the entire field. We heartily unite in wishing the Brills every blessing on their furlough and recommend that you hear them tell of "training young lives for God's service here in the Indies".

Rev. J. W. Brill who has now left on furlough.

Mrs. Brill and the children are already in the Homeland.
NEW ARRIVALS

We praise God for the safe arrival in Makassar on October 11th of E. H. Mickelson and F. C. Jackson from the homeland. They received a sincere and cordial welcome upon arrival. We deeply regret that due to the present international situation Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Mickelson and family could not accompany their husbands.

Brother Mickelson, who now begins his second term of service, leaves presently for the Wissel Lakes, New Guinea. He goes to join brother and sister Post in the work there and a stupendous task awaits him. We desire for him a rich and fruitful ministry in this greatest of pioneer fields, where awaits a harvest of souls for the taking.

Brother Jackson, a new missionary and pilot, has already arrived in the Boelongan District of Borneo, where he will succeed brother Fisk as pilot of the Mission plane PK-SAM. Brother Jackson will also study the language in preparation for a spiritual ministry among the Dyaks. We covet your prayers for him that he and the plane may be kept and preserved from all accident and danger.

God richly bless our brethren who have come to the field alone and their wives back in the homeland during this time of separation.

DYAK HYMN BOOK

A neat little song book containing many familiar hymns has just been printed here in Makassar in the Lun Daya language for the Dyaks of the Sesajap District.

This is largely the work of brother Presswood, who has labored many years in that field. We are certain that it will prove a great blessing to the Dyak Christians there.
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GOD IS WORKING IN THE INDIES

WEST BORNEO

The following is a late news flash from the Lower Kapoeas District. „The Lord continues to bless in this new district and daily many are coming to Him. Last week an entire village of over 200 turned to Christ as the result of a miraculous healing in their midst. Our chief difficulty is that of answering the calls from the distant villages to come to them with the wonderful Words of Life. One village of 200 has threatened to move bag and baggage to another village where there are some 500 believers already, so that they may have the teaching of the native evangelist there. Altogether now there are almost 1500 believers and I have baptized nearly 300 of them. The fire is spreading to all sections of this field and we just stand back in awe and watch God work.” This new field was opened in February of this year.

WEST BORNEO

News from brother Dixon and the Melawi District. „We had splendid meetings in our Chinese church in Nanga Pinoh with brother Wong of Billiton. During his twelve day visit our sixty Christians were all revived and about fifteen people were converted and large numbers had the Gospel preached to them. We feel that the results will continue indefinitely. Praise God our folks are learning to give. We trust that the church building here will be erected in 1942. By that time the Christians will be able to support their own pastor. In a recent trip into the Serawai area, in company with two Dyak workers, we visited twelve villages and baptized seven Dyaks whom the workers had led to the Lord. In addition
to these we baptized three Chinese. There were many new conversions and many others were urged to wait until later for baptism.

WEST BORNEO

Here is an excerpt from a letter from brother Mouw of the Upper Kapoeas District. "I have just completed a trip requiring 22 days and during that time visited 28 heathen villages. Each night we ministered to a different group and felt the presence of the Lord in our midst and the Holy Spirit speaking through us. We know of only four Dyaks giving their hearts to the Lord during this trip, but we believe that this is the beginning of a real awakening in this new district which adjoins the area we now occupy." Pray for a work of the Spirit here.

EAST BORNEO

Tidings from brother H. Post of the Mahakam District. "On a recent trip to Tabang, I had the joy of baptizing eleven believers, conducting a communion service, installing deacons and dedicating several children. In addition, we had the pleasure of making a bonfire from fetishes and charms formerly treasured by a husband and wife who were baptized. The burning was at their request. In the village of Linggang Begong, where we visited two weeks, we had the joy of baptizing 25 believers. We also introduced for the first time among this group the observance of the Lord's Supper. Three of the brethren were set apart as deacons. The entire stay was marked by the presence of the Holy Spirit."

EAST BORNEO

Brother Linn reports continued blessing in the work in
the Lawa District. „During the past three months, 57 converts have been baptized and 24 young lives have yielded to the Lord for His work and service. Some of the Christians, who had become indifferent, have been drawn closer to the Lord. Praise the Lord with us and pray much for the work here.”

EAST BORNEO

We received a letter a few weeks ago from a Dyak evangelist, from the most inland part of the Boelongan field, stating that there was a large number of Dyaks who had come to the Lord under his ministry and after the heathen fetishes had been destroyed in their village many of them would be ready for baptism. We have just had word from brother Fisk that he had flown in the Mission plane to the Apokajan where he had nine blessed days of ministry among the Dyaks. He reports that the Lord is working in that field and that he baptized 257 Dyak converts.

SOEMBAWA

We have fresh news from this island from the Chinese missionary, brother Chue. „The Lord’s blessing continues to rest upon the work here. Recently 80 souls came to Christ from among the coastal people. The native worker here also reports 77 new converts from among the inland Donggo tribespeople.”

BOETON & MOENA

Brother Kandou has recently returned from these twin islands where he has witnessed a work of the Spirit under the ministry of two of our native workers there. During the few weeks it was his privilege to visit these islands, he had the joy of baptizing 201 converts, the first-fruits from
among a tribe among whom we have worked for many years. Later 37 more were baptized

LOMBOK

Brother Konemann reports on the growth of the work on the island of Lombok. He writes concerning the dedication of a small but beautiful Balinese church on that island. The church building was made possible through the gift of an elder in the church in the village of Nagarañ Sakah.

BANGKA

News comes from the native workers on this island which tells of the recent visit of the missionary who baptized 50 converts, the fruit of the labors of our brethren there.

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Rev. P. H. and Mrs. Pouw, now on furlough in Java. For a number of years, brother Pouw has had a blessed ministry as pastor of the Makassar Gospel Tabernacle, teacher in the Makassar Bible School and as co-editor with Dr. Jaffray of the Kalam Hidoep, a Bible magazine published monthly in the Malay language.
Boeton and Moena are sister islands to the south of the right branch of the island of Celebes. The population of these two islands is approximately 200,000, and although these inhabitants are generally classed as Boetonese and Moenanese, they speak many different dialects according to the part of the island in which they are living. Their chief occupation is farming. The prevailing religion is Mohammedanism and the local government is run by Mohammedan officials.

Boeton and Moena are hard fields for the work of the Lord, not only because of the mountains, but also because of the hardness of heart on the part of the people who from childhood have been under the bondage of sin. Even so, we did not give up hope, but prayed and worked, serving the Lord in this field. And the Lord did not pass by these two islands. He saw the perishing souls and took out from among them a people for His Name. As far as we know, no other missionary work was being done in this field when our workers went there. Different student-workers have labored in this field and there have been evidences of the blessing of the Lord. I want at this time to tell about a recent visit that I made to this work.

Praise the Lord while I was there I had the privilege of baptizing 201, who now believe on the Lord Jesus as their Saviour, and this amid much persecution. These baptisms took place in the islands of Boeton and Moena, at places on the shores facing one another.

Before they were baptized, these believers met with much opposition and persecution, especially from those who were
roused by the fact that so many believed. Those who opposed said that the workers were not preaching the truth, but were trying to lead these souls into error. On account of this the workers were forbidden by the officials to leave the town in which they were living. But those who wanted to hear more of the Gospel continued to come to them, some walking, others coming by native boat to the house of the workers, because they were hungering and thirsting after the truth.

These believers were then questioned by the head official, but their testimony could not be shaken. With firm conviction they said, "We have put away all the customs and beliefs of our ancestors, and now we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Even though we may have to die, we shall not go back on the Lord Jesus." There was no other way but to let them return to their homes; and return they did with happy hearts and with a faith stronger than ever before. Others were questioned closely as to the reason for their belief in the Lord Jesus, and whether the workers had promised them some reward if they believed. The reply came with clear conviction: "The Lord Jesus has done for me what no idol can ever do. He has healed me and saved me. My reward is forgiveness and everlasting life."

When I reached these Christians I found them and the workers rejoicing in what the Lord had done for them. Wonders had been wrought by the power of God. Many had been healed. A man whose back had long been bent, was delivered and walks now with a straight back. Truly the words of Mark 16.20 were fulfilled: "The Lord working with them and confirming the Word with signs following."

In the year 1939 it was my privilege to visit these islands for the first time, and I recall how five or six believers
gathered together to hear the Word. Since then those faithful believers have witnessed to others, who in turn have believed. So the Good News went from mouth to mouth, from house to house, from village to village, and the number of believers steadily increased. When I arrived there it seemed as though they would never tire of listening to the Gospel Message. Oh, let us pray for these people who have believed, that the blessing of the Lord may continue to rest upon them, and that many more will be won in the Name of the Lord Jesus.

From the islands of Boeton and Moena silver coins that were lost, have been found; souls that were sunk in the miry clay of sin and darkness have been rescued. They did not know the Lord. They did not ask for Him, or seek after Him. But God's love is so great that He has come to them and manifested Himself to them. True are the words spoken by the Prophet Isaiah: "I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not."

Since the above lines were written, brother Chue has also visited the islands of Boeton and Moena. He found the Church sorely tried as there was then much sickness among the Christians and not a few had died. Though tried, their faith had failed not. After a ministry of several weeks among them, brother Chue baptized 37 more converts and dedicated a number of children to the Lord. We ask your prayers for the two native brethren and the 'new babes in Christ' among whom they minister.
GOD IS WORKING IN LOMBOK

Rev. W. Könemann

The congregation of the newly dedicated Balinese Church in Lombok.

Perhaps you have never heard much, if anything, about the Island of Lombok, and you may wonder where it is. Lombok is situated east of Java, wherein lies the main strength of the Indies, and also east of the beautiful island of Bali. This island is sometimes called the "step-child of the Indies." Even so, Lombok calls for your attention for on this island live almost one million souls, who are perishing. God is directing your attention to Lombok because He is working there. Let us tell you something of the work which has been done on this island.

The pioneers to Lombok were Mr. and Mrs. Brill, who were later succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. Meltzer. Except for an occasional Dutch missionary coming to visit some Christian family living on the island, I have never heard of the coming of another missionary before Mr. and Mrs. Brill.
The Christian and Missionary Alliance laid the foundation stone of God's work in Lombok.

The first Sasak woman was baptized in June 1933, and the first Balinese in July 1934. When we came to Lombok in December 1937, we found a small Balinese Church here. Problems in connection with this church fell to our care. During a special Bible Conference there was a revival among the Christians, but we knew that there was still much which must be accomplished. We felt it was a matter for earnest,believing prayer, that God would work mightily and bring about His own purpose for the work.

Later the chief elder in this group became seriously ill and it was evident that he would not recover. One day his wife brought a gift of Fifty Guilders for the Makassar Bible School. We felt in our hearts that this gift was in the form of a peace offering being made to God instead of the full surrender that was needed. One Sunday morning during the service, as we sang hymns of praise to Him, the Lord was working in the heart of this brother, who lived close to the church. After the service we visited him, and felt moved to talk to him about unconfessed sin in the heart being a hindrance to full surrender and fellowship with the Lord. He began to weep and then told the reason for his coldness of heart. Some time before he had promised a sum of money for a new church. He seemed desperate and asked what he should do. We told him that there was only one way and that was to confess his sins to God and begin life anew. It is difficult to describe the joy we felt when we arose from our knees. God was in our midst. You will not be surprised to hear that several days afterwards we received the gift of a piece of ground and Five Hundred Guilders for a new church from our brother.
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Our brother did not live to see the new church, for after some months he went in triumph to be with His Lord and Saviour. At his urgent request his wife was to see that the church was built according to his wishes. She gave a further gift of Five Hundred Guilders, so that today a nice little church stands in a Balinese environ to witness of God's victory. We promised to name the church „Peniel.”

In June of this year the new church was dedicated, and over a hundred Christians gathered together, including Chinese, Balinese and Sasaks. It was a great day of joy and fellowship in the Lord.

Yes, God is working in Lombok, and we believe that God has a definite purpose for „Peniel”, just as He had for Jacob after his time of testing. Please pray for greater things in Lombok.

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A FEW PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for the 34 graduates of the Makassar Bible School and the 16 student evangelists, who have now gone to their respective fields of labor.
2. Pray for the 5 recently ordained brethren who are now assuming places of responsibility in the work.
3. Pray for the great pioneer advance into New Guinea.
4. Pray for the work among the Sakais in British Malaya.
5. Pray that God will continue to meet our financial needs for students, evangelists, and publication work.
GOD IS WORKING IN BRITISH MALAYA

Rev. and Mrs. G. Woerner

When we first arrived here at Ringlet, we decided to start a service for the scattered Chinese who live round about us in the narrow mountain ravines. The most convenient time for a service is naturally the Lord’s Day morning. To begin with, we had no suitable separate building in which to hold such meetings. So the large dining-room in the Missionary Rest Home was temporarily pressed into service. It often reminded us of “the Church which is in thy house”, of which we read in the New Testament. The first service was memorable in that there were only two Christians present; namely, Mr. Woerner and myself. Our Chinese servants were the only attendants and at that time, they were still in heathen darkness as far as the Gospel was concerned. The following Sunday they brought a few of their friends who lived and worked nearby. For several months, we carried on in this way with the number gradually increasing. One day our cook came to Mr. Woerner and requested that he and two others be baptized since they now believed the Gospel and wanted to be Christians. We need not say that after hearing their testimonies, it was a great joy to lead them down to the stream which runs parallel to our compound and baptize them. Thus, the Ringlet Alliance Church was started. Praise the Lord! These first believers have been very faithful in witnessing and bringing many of their friends to the services, so that now we often have from thirty to forty come out on a Sunday morning. Thus far we have baptized twenty-two Chinese. Please pray for this company of believers that God will lead them on to greater things for Him. Pastor Lyn, who helps teach in our Bible School, has
been taking oversight of this Chinese Church for about a year now.

Since the Bible School was having several weeks vacation, Mr. Woerner took advantage of this opportunity to visit the Alliance Church over in Kuala Lipis. While this town is not so very far away as the crow flies, it is nearly two hundred miles by motor road and takes the better part of the day by car to get there. The church there is making steady progress for which we praise the Lord. The Pastor, Mr. Tsang, and his wife are doing faithful work and believers are constantly being added to the little flock. Their membership now is about sixty. At the present time, they meet in Pastor Tsang’s house, but since the church is outgrowing this place, they are very anxious to build their own church building. The Christians have given nearly two thousand dollars for this purpose, but it will take nearly double this amount since building materials are very costly at this time. Please remember them in prayer that this desire on their part to build God’s house will be realized soon.

After visiting the Kuala Lipis Church, Mr. Woerner continued his journey to Triang in order to see how the student workers in the jungle among the Semalai people were getting along. On his arrival at Sungei Bera, the jungle station, he was happily surprised to find the new house completed which makes a fairly comfortable home for the workers and a convenient centre for the work. More than one hundred and eighty-five Semalai huts scattered throughout that area have been visited by the workers. This means much strenuous tramping, hardship and privations, since these people do not live in villages, but only in isolated huts widely separated from each other. They are also beginning
to teach some of the more promising young folks to read Malay so that eventually they can read the New Testament. About thirty tribespeople from widely scattered areas came to see Mr. Woerner while he was there. Some of them show real signs of believing on the Lord Jesus Christ and would like to be baptized, which we hope will be possible soon. We truly praise the Lord for the gracious working of the Holy Spirit and are earnestly praying that He will continue to prosper this work.

When we first began our Bible School last February, we had only six students, whereas this second term, which opened July 10th, we started with twelve students. This represents a 100% increase! We certainly wish you could see the happy, smiling faces of the students and hear their testimonies. Each one seems in dead earnest to accomplish something for God. It is a great joy to minister to them in the classes, even though we all carry heavy schedules and are very busy. In addition to ourselves, Pastor Paul Lyn, a graduate of Nyack, and Pastor Paul Lenn, from our work in Kwangsi, South China, are helping us with the teaching. Some of the students were not baptized when they came here, but after studying the Word and without undue urging on our part, five of them have taken this step. One of the students was so earnest concerning this matter that he felt he could not wait until others were ready and we could arrange a regular baptismal service. Consequently, we had to baptize him immediately. Our constant prayer is that each one of these students may be led and used of the Lord as He sees best in the needy harvest field.
It was in March of '35 that I first attended an Alliance Church at Santa Ana, California. The missionary convention was in progress and I heard a missionary speak on the subject 'God Needs Men'. On the closing night of the convention, I gave my life to Christ both for salvation and service. That very night I went home and opened for the first time God’s Word and read, 'Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost'.

The following September, I entered our Missionary Training Institute at Nyack, New York and graduated in the class of '38. I received my first pastorate that year at Visalia, California, where I remained three years. In the meantime, I married a young lady who was also a Nyack graduate. All the while God’s call was ringing in our hearts, 'Go ye'.

During my pastorate work God wonderfully opened up an opportunity for me to learn to fly and in a short time I received my pilot's license. At that time we could not see just what was ahead, but felt certain that God was leading. Imagine our joy and surprise when we received a wire to meet Rev. A. C. Snead in Los Angeles. While there he spoke of the need of another missionary pilot for the N.E.I. and in a few months we received our appointment to Borneo.

Due to the present international situation we received word that we could not sail together so Mrs. Jackson and I knelt in prayer to determine God’s will. We also read from the Bible, 'Ye are my witness whom I have chosen' and
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'Is anything too hard for me?' So of course our decision was to go at any cost. I sailed from San Francisco in early September with God's promise ever before me, 'Ye shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace.' This surely was true in our case.

We arrived at Makassar in time for the first ordination service which was very impressive and the thrill of hearing for the first time the natives sing in their own tongue, 'He is so precious to me' cannot be described. Then to hear the graduates of the Bible School sing 'Ready to go, ready to stay, ready my place to fill' was a real challenge to me and my determination is that I may always be ready to serve Christ. I desire your prayers regarding the safety of the plane and that it may continue to be used to hasten the preaching of God's Word to those who have not as yet heard this glorious message of salvation.

LEST WE FORGET

Rev. A. B. Simpson

"How can your Father love you, and be the God you say, When He never sends you succor?" A scoffer asked one day.
The suffering child made answer, "My God! O blame Him not. He told someone to tell me, and they, alas, forgot!"

Why are the heathen dying, in dark and endless night, When Jesus came from heaven to give them life and light? It is not that their Father forgets their helpless lot; He told someone to tell them, and they, alas, forgot!

What if He should forget thee, in life's last solemn hour, Thy soul would sink in darkness 'neath Satan's awful Pow'r. O let His love constrain us to pay our sacred debt. Lord, keep us true and faithful, lest we our trust forget.
The accompanying picture is that of the 1941 Postgraduate and Graduating Class of the Makassar Bible School. A year ago, when we recalled these men for their last year of training in the Bible School, it was with much fear and trembling owing to the then present world conditions. We had visions of war and our students having to return to their homes. Praise God, He has granted peace and the school year has been completed, and these men and two women are now being sent forth to share the burden of the work.

From this year's class there are eleven post-graduates, men who graduated in 1937. They are all workers of experience and faithfulness, and some of them outstanding
men. They are the oldest national workers in our mission and have done excellent work. Thousands of souls have been won to Christ by them.

There are also twenty-three students in the present graduating class. These have had at least three years of practical work and four or five years in the Bible School, thus completing a very thorough course. We believe they are well trained and capable of becoming leaders in the Church. Much depends on them. This work will go forward as they go forward with God. As the blessing of God is upon them so the blessing of God will be on the National Church. Therefore much depends on you; on how you will pray for them. Will it be in faith? Will you triumph in prayer for them? God grant it!

Five men of the class have been ordained. Two of them are called to minister to self-supporting churches. One is to help in the Bible School, and the other two to serve in large districts out on the field. Besides these, thirteen others have been licensed and will serve churches in many parts of the N.E.I.

This picture speaks to me of four years of strenuous work. In such a large school as this it is only natural that the students demand much from the head of the school, and often severely tax one’s strength and patience. However, as I consider what these men will do for Jesus Christ, I can honestly say that it was well worth while. There have been many battles with the powers of darkness and many victories. There have been some sorrows, but many joys. There have been many hours of precious prayer fellowship with the students, bringing many triumphs for Christ.

As I am about to leave for furlough, I felt that the graduation week was a grand climax to this term’s work.
It was the writer’s privilege to give the Baccalaureate Sermon to the graduating class, and we spoke from James 4:14. We went to the pulpit with fear and trembling, not feeling physically equal to the task, but the Holy Spirit graciously helped, far beyond our expectations. The same was our experience during the Commencement Exercises. The four graduating speakers spoke in the fervor and power of the Holy Spirit. Every part of the service was just as planned and in all it was very impressive.

The crowning service of all was the Ordination Service. After the charge was read, the five ordained men and all the other workers, who were about to go forth into the field, came forward to the front of the Tabernacle and a prayer of dedication was offered for them. Long shall we remember how in an extraordinary way we felt the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in that service. It seemed God’s stamp of approval on all that was done during the closing week of the school year.

We commit these thirty-four graduates to God and to your faithful intercession as they go out to build up the church and to evangelize yet many tribes that have never heard of Christ Jesus.

Doubtless you have noticed that many of the articles in this issue of The Pioneer are entitled ‘GOD IS WORKING’. What caption could be more appropriate since it is truly the work of God that during the past eight months over 2300 of these island people have been won to Christ. Not all of these new converts have been baptized, nor does this include reports from all the fields.
The outlook on world conditions didn’t favor our return to the field at the time we started back but the uplook to Him in whom we have believed enabled, and thus after travel by car, train, ferry, steamboat, plane, motorboat, dugout canoe, swimming and walking we reached our destination. In just one month we travelled about 11,000 miles over land and sea. Throughout the journey we were conscious of the presence and keeping of the everlasting arms of our heavenly Father. Appointed by our conference to take charge of the Bible School in Makassar we felt that God had great things in store for us. When we arrived in Manila in the Philippines we found that a boat had just left and weeks must elapse ere there was another one. Hearing that a plane was leaving shortly for Tarakan, Borneo, I decided to visit my old station in Borneo ere taking up my new duties in Makassar. It was necessary to arrange about my household things and get my personal effects in any case, so I decided on making the trip while I had the opportunity afforded by the special plane. Thus within eight days of leaving my wife in Manila, I was back again in Long Berang among my Dyak friends. Everything worked so wonderfully together that if I were looking for a title for this paragraph I would entitle it "A Great Journey."

After spending a few days in the interior I loaded a large Dyak boat with most of my personal effects and started downstream. We hadn’t travelled far when I noticed how bad the rapids were. We had a big load and unfortunately the water was unusually low. At one place the boat more
than half filled with water. After passing one of the big rapids we were told only one more place was really bad. After passing that the head boatman turned and said, "It is all right now, the others aren't so bad." Coming into another rapid some distance farther downstream the men rammed the boat head-on into a rock in midstream that had been hidden from view by another rock. In just a minute or two, things began floating downstream and in another moment the boat had disappeared and we had to swim for our lives. The treacherous current dragged me down under once. Making a grab for the rocky shore I missed as the angry swirling waters carried me downstream. With a desperate effort I tried again and this time succeeded in pulling myself ashore. The Dyaks had landed ahead of me and were trying to rescue some of the things that floated. We pulled several boxes of water-soaked things ashore and also were able to get the badly damaged boat. After repairing the boat as best we could and reloading the rescued things we started down the remaining thirty or forty rapids leaving about four or five hundred dollars worth of things at the bottom of the river. It was a great loss but also "A Great Deliverance."

After rejoining my wife and setting up home in Makassar and after several months work in the school, we were privileged to have a part in the closing exercises of the school when thirty-four young men and women received their diplomas and five young men were set apart to the ministry of the Gospel. We are sorry all who read this could not be with us then. It was a day long looked forward to in our work in the N.E.I. The five men will be placed in strategic places in the work and we trust God has a great ministry for each one of them. Each one was thoroughly
examined by the ordaining council and we feel confident that God has His hand on each one of them. Put these men on your prayer list and remember them frequently before the Throne of Grace.

In my last paragraph I referred to "A Great Day" in our work. Now in closing I want to say a word about "A Great Opportunity". Millions of souls in these islands will pass to their eternal doom if they have to wait for a white missionary to tell them of the only way of salvation. To reach these perishing millions we need hundreds, even thousands of native workers trained in the Word of Truth and able to teach others. We need men who will understand that only through native effort and sacrifice, the church can be established thoroughly in these isles. What an opportunity is ours in the Bible School! May God help us to so labor that through the men trained in the school, multitudes who sit in darkness shall know the Light.
Mrs. W. E. Presswood

About ten years ago, faithful servants of God began to pray that there might be a ministry among the student nurses of a nearby hospital. God answered their prayers and one by one many of the nurses accepted Christ as their Saviour and others were brought back to Him. I am thankful I was one of them and was influenced greatly by two of my former roommates. Out of this group several are witnessing in foreign lands today. There are two in China, one in India and it is now my privilege to witness for Him here in the Netherlands East Indies.

After graduating in 1933 I spent six years doing Public Health work in Buffalo, N.Y. Many precious experiences were mine during that time. After the Lord indicated plainly that it was His will for me to enter foreign service, I spent some time at Nyack. For a long time it seemed impossible that I would reach the N.E.I. Even to the time we left home, it seemed as if something would turn up to hinder us, but God willed it and on June 25th, after several weeks wait in Manila, we arrived in Makassar. Mr. Presswood has been appointed as head of the Bible School and I to language study. Will you not pray that I shall soon be able to speak the language and also be a help and blessing in the Bible School work.

I shall never forget my first impressions when from the steamer we first sighted the island of Celebes in the distance. Now I have a better idea of how Columbus felt when he discovered America. The scenery was beautiful. Native sailboats were scattered about on the deep blue
water. On every side were white coral islands with cocoanut palms reaching up towards the sky. The coral islands are formed by shells of small sea animals. Gradually an area is built up until it becomes an island where vegetation grows and trees spring up and bear fruit. I believe this is an object lesson of God's working in the world. Missionaries start their work in the darkness of heathenism gradually building up an island in the midst of the sea of sin. As this island rises plants spring up and fruit is borne as the church matures in faith and holy living.

Attending my first services in the Tabernacle here, it was impossible for me to understand what the preacher was saying, but by the expressions on faces and actions of individuals, I could tell what was happening. People knelt at the altar sobbing and praying. As others followed their Saviour in baptism, one could not help being convinced that God works in the same manner here as He does in the homeland. Thank God that He works in the hearts of men irrespective of their geographical position. Makassar truly is a busy center of God's work through the Alliance in the N.E.I. A Bible School of 225 students and the ministry of a large Tabernacle indicate the bearing of fruit on this spiritual island, raised through the efforts of those who started the work in the midst of the darkness here.

I rejoice in the privilege of having a part in the great work in the N.E.I. and covet your prayers that I might have a share in enlarging this spiritual island.
"Delight thyself also in the Lord and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart." — Ps. 37:4

The above Scripture verse means more to me now than when we sailed for home on furlough a little more than a year ago. Three things corroborate and prove to me that the above promise is literally true. First, in that the Lord gave us a little daughter, Jacqueline Ruth, while at home; secondly, in that I was permitted to take up some studies in which I was interested, during my furlough; and lastly, that upon my return to the Indies, I was appointed to missionary work in New Guinea.

Many of you know that Mrs. Mickelson and the children were unable to return to the Indies with me at this time. The State Department would not issue passports to them because of the uncertainty of international conditions in the Orient. They expect to join me as soon as the Lord makes it possible for them to do so and until such a time, they will be living in Glendale, California, (317 Mission Road). Both Mrs. Mickelson and I solicit your fellowship in prayer during these coming days.

When you receive this issue of The Pioneer, I may be on the trail leading up and into the heart of New Guinea, enroute to join Mr. and Mrs. W. Post at the Wissei Lakes.

The need of the Papuans challenges me. I believe the Master will qualify me for the great task of making Christ known to these primitive, newly discovered, jungle people living in the heart of uncharted New Guinea.
Lake Paniai, the largest of the Wissel Lakes, though considerably smaller than the Sea of Galilee, has some things in common with it. One of these is that frequently a strong wind comes sweeping across it, beating up such large waves that it is exceedingly dangerous to be out on the water during a storm of that kind; — especially so with one of the small Dyak canoes such as we have. The valleys around seem to act like funnels, sucking the wind, as it were, so that it blows across the water at a high velocity. Because of this, the villages on the opposite shore had not yet been visited by us. Often, however, we looked across that 10-mile expanse of water, fixing our gaze upon two patches of green, each marking the entrance of a valley which we heard was well populated. The people from one of these, called Kotobu, we knew had been unfriendly to some government people on a former occasion.

In a previous article we have mentioned a visit by a chief from the other valley, Kumuka, who was unusually friendly and appeared to be quite responsive to the Gospel. He with his friends then made repeated visits to our house, earnestly inviting us to come to their villages. It appeared as though these calls were a special invitation of Christ to us, even as He once bade His disciples „to pass over to the other side“. and with each call our desire to do so was intensified. We kept postponing our visit, waiting for the completion of the motorboat which we were making, as it was nearly finished. Finally when the boat was delayed, we decided to hazard the trip in the Dyak canoe. We were impressed that this
opportunity was from the Lord, so went knowing that He would keep us.

On the way we stopped at another valley, Muyamuka, which is not visible from our home, being hidden by a mountain which reaches to the edge of the lake. We had met people from this valley who occasionally came to our village. To our great surprise, we found it not only well populated, but the people were most friendly and immediately presented us with sugarcane and baked sweet potatoes. A number of the young men and boys who had been to this side of the lake, knew us and hung on our arms so that we could hardly walk. The two workers accompanying us were also the center of attraction and before long began teaching the boys some games. We took a walk through the valley and found it to be dotted with some 60 or more Kapauku houses, indicating a population of more than 500 people.

Because of our warm reception we felt it would be well to strike while the iron was hot and immediately buy property, in anticipation of placing a worker there. Upon proposing it to some Kapaukus, it met with their hearty approval, so after another walk through the valley, we decided on a suitable piece of land. In selecting a building site for a worker's abode, we try to get a place that is centrally located, not too far from a stream, and high enough so that when the water rises, he won't be flooded out.

The question of ownership of land among Kapaukus is a bit hazy to us, because often it is difficult to find the owner, and when the required price has been paid, there usually is a free-for-all scramble for it. It seems that there is no definite owner, but anyone who may have had a garden or a house on that land evidently has a claim to it. Consequently,
every transaction of this kind is always the scene of much palaver and demonstration of loquacity. Though we might perhaps obtain the land simply by taking it, it is preferable to buy it, since not only is the cost negligible to us, but it also shows the Kapaukus that we want to deal fairly with them. In this case we paid one axe and 100 cowrie shells — the total costing us not more than 75 cents American money for a piece of property about 150 feet square.

The next morning we set out for Kumuka, but enroute stopped at Kotobu, a valley we have long desired to enter. It has a population of over 1000 people. They have been hostile to the government on former occasions, but now appeared quite friendly, coming to us with their usual products which they wanted to sell. We stopped there a short time to establish friendly relations with them and then moved on. We believe that before long these people too, will be asking us for a native teacher — perhaps by the time we get reinforcements from the Makassar Bible School.

At Kumuka the natives seem most ready for the Gospel. When the chief's son came to meet us he literally hugged us with all his might. And when we told him that we had come to buy some property and give them a teacher, he exclaimed, "That's fine, Sir, that's fine!" He and the chief then escorted us through the village, introducing us to all the bigwigs as we met them along the way, and each time he would say, "This man is a chief. If you don't present him with a cowrie shell, that will be very bad!" Though we were strangers to most of the village people, yet they were very open and friendly and received us gladly. Finally we came to the old chief's house and near it he had a piece of land which he wished to sell. But it was not well located, so we put him off a little and walked on until we
found a place much better situated. We bought a large plot
of ground for an axe and some cowries, and were agreeably
surprised that the chief was not offended when we did not
buy the property he offered. After we had finished the
transaction and had returned to our tent, he came up to us,
and pulling us aside from the crowd as if to share a secret,
he asked us, "When you build a house here, are you going
to tell us about the great Father, just as you do where you
live?" This question thrilled us. That old chief could not
have asked anything to please us more, indicating as it does
that in that old heathen heart there lurks something more
than a hunger for mere cowries and axes. Sometimes it
seems that the Kapaukus care only for these material things,
but praise God, He has a people here whom He is preparing
for the reception of the Gospel Message. Pray for these two
valleys, Muyamuka and Kumuka, which we have now oc-
cupied, and for Kotobu where we hope to place a worker
soon, that in all three valleys we may have the joy of seeing
hundreds of souls coming to the Lord Jesus Christ.
For eight months we have been pressing into this area with the gospel. As I look back on this short time and realize all that has been accomplished, I can only say, "Praise the Lord, I never dared to hope that I should ever witness such a mighty working of the Spirit." As I write this, more than a thousand of these precious jungle-folk have come to know Christ in this area and more than five-hundred of this number have been baptized. We believe that this is but a beginning and we are seeing more and more of them
saved every week. Not only have we seen glorious results among the Dyaks, but among the Chinese traders as well, for there are in the neighborhood of a hundred of them who have confessed Christ as their Saviour.

When we first arrived on the scene we were received with a good deal of suspicion. The Malays who are all Mohammedans had gone before us telling the people that I was coming to make soldiers out of them and take them off to war. Other stories were that I would carry off all the children; that I would cut out their livers; that I would cut out their eyes, etc. Therefore when I got here the people feared me and were praying to their “spirits” that they might be saved from me, but the Holy Spirit wooed and won them everywhere we went. I recall one place where the men of the village shut all the women and children up before coming out to hear what we had to say. We witnessed to them and told them of Christ’s great love. Then one of the native workers led out with “Dosa dapar dihapoes....” (the Malay translation of “What Can Wash Away My Sin.”) In a moment children came running from every direction followed by their half-fearful, half-curious mothers. They simply couldn’t stand to stay away from that singing. Carefully and patiently the native worker taught them the first verse and chorus and shortly everybody was singing it.

I must tell you of an elderly Dyak who was afflicted with tuberculosis. For years he had suffered and when one of our workers found him he was having terrible hemorrhages. He believed Christ for salvation along with a number of his village. He lay on the floor too weak and too thin to do anything when the native worker gathered these new Christians around him and prayed for his healing.
Apparently nothing happened, but when I got there later he was vastly improved. Today, four months later, he is well, strong and fat and busy making his rice field. There have been many, many more healings too and how it encourages us to see God's wonder working power manifest before these people!

While I was traveling in one section a man with his wife and five grown children came from a distant place and said that they had heard of this wonderful news and wanted to know if they too might be saved. They listened intently to the message and continued with me from village to village for several days, hungrily drinking in the "Wonderful Words of Life". Finally they said that they must return to their own village, but before they left they exacted a promise from me that I would come two weeks later. On the appointed day I arrived at their village after some really tough traveling. They greeted me with unbounded joy, fed me, gave me the place of honor to sleep in and then poured into my ears a tale of woe. It seemed that the village chieftain was going to punish them all for having believed; they were frightened, but determined to hold steady if it cost them their very lives. We spent almost that entire night in prayer and early next morning I was at the chief's lodge. He looked angry and his speech was gruff, but I walked into his abode and sat down on a mat on the floor. I'll say this for the old chief: he had the politeness to offer me a cup of coffee anyway. Perhaps I looked as though I needed it after being up almost all night. After five minutes of small talk I brought him around to the question of what he intended doing to these new believers. He said that they would destroy the unity of the village if they broke away from their old religious customs and he could not have it.
I told him that they would die before they would return to idol worship and perhaps the chief himself had better change. I told him the plan of salvation and he admitted that it was good news, but he would not change. I talked and explained some more and he said he would think about it. Then he said he would some other time. I told him that the Spirit of the Lord would not always strive with him and that today was the day of salvation...... then something like a sob came from his lips, and he said „Tidak ada alangan lagi”, meaning, „there is no more argument, or no more reason why not.” We had by this time been talking nearly two hours and he said that his heart had been sick for an hour. It was a real victory and as he followed me in the sinner’s prayer for pardon his face streamed with tears. I could tell you many more wonderful things, but it would take a book to tell everything. As we stand back and see what God has done and is doing, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving. We are grateful for the part we have been allowed to have in this great harvest and we look forward to many more full days of traveling and witnessing among the peoples of the Lower Kapoeas.

A REMINDER

*The Pioneer* comes to you free. It is the gift of a missionary of the N.E.I. to you. If you value its message and desire its visits to continue, and want to help its future ministry, your contribution will be welcome. We do not want to ask a subscription price, but we need your help nevertheless.

The Netherlands East Indies Mission
of
The Christian and Missionary Alliance
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