

# THE PIONEER

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EDITORIAL  
The Unseen Worker.

For increased power and blessing on the great missionary enterprise we need to clear the road and make way for the Holy Spirit. His presence is vital to the success of any missionary endeavor. His work is one of supreme leadership - then let Him control and direct. He is our Commander-in-Chief - then let us carry out His orders!

It is He who convicts and converts sinners. The harvest of souls in every mission field has been reaped only because of His divine influence upon the souls of lost men. He performs a mighty work of grace in every believer's heart. He builds the church, establishes and settles every heart, injects boldness into every timid disciple, brings it into maturity and will finally present is as pure gold to Christ our Lord.

He disciplines the Church. We make rules and regulations, but the only effective church discipline, the only means of attaining and maintaining the purity of any church is a gracious manifestation of the Holy Spirit within the church which will attract the genuine and restrain the false professors.

He calls out His partners, „Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work”; He restrains and constrains His workers, „The Spirit suffered them not”; on the other hand He gives a vision of that „Man of Macedonia”.

Today we hear about strategy, cooperation, budgets, improved methods, better equipment, and all have their place in the realm of missions; but let us not forget that the program will get along smoother and faster if we recognize He is the key to the missionary problem.

Let Him revive our hearts and lead us on into the final victory.

L. A. K.

**Reinforcements**

It was a real joy to greet Mr. and Mrs. William Bouw and Miss Lois Boehnke when they arrived in Makassar harbor December 7th. Johanna, the Bouw's little girl, had a big smile for all of us too.

How we need these new workers only He who has sent them knows. After the formalities of meeting the immigration officers and going through customs they were taken to the headquarters house where they were made to feel right at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bouw had been appointed to the School for Missionaries Children at Benteng Tinggi, but because of the situation which does not warrant the re-opening of the school at this time they have been asked to supply the long standing need for an additional couple in the Mahakam district of East Kalimantan. There they will work together with the W. W. Conleys.

Miss Boehnke, a graduate nurse, will shortly receive her appointment to some part of the vast field. Her qualifications will enable her to carry on a much needed ministry.

May God give them a fruitful ministry - add them to your prayer list today. L. A. K.

## Furloughs

Rev. and Mrs. J. Wesley Brill, one of the first couples to the Indonesia Mission, returned home by plane the first week of December.

They have labored faithfully here serving in the Makassar Bible School and during 1949 Mr. Brill carried the responsibilities of chairman for this field. In 1950 they returned to Bali to continue a ministry which has weighed heavily upon their hearts down through their years of missionary service. We all appreciate their tireless efforts and pray that they will find the needed refreshing for their bodies, also that they might be made a great blessing to you folk at home.

Miss Margaret Jaffray returned to the States traveling by plane with the Brills. Miss Jaffray has spent most of this term on the field teaching in the Bible School at Long Bia, East Kalimantan. Her command of the Indonesian language has made her ministry a great blessing among the students. We pray that God will touch her with His quickening power and give her a ministry among you also. L. A. K.

## New Baby

Born November 28th, to Mr. and Mrs. Lester A. Kim, at Makassar, a lovely daughter, Elizabeth Jean, to gladden their home. May God bless the Kims in this their added joy and responsibility. We all extend to them our heartiest congratulations.

### The Plane

At long last after months of provoking delays, the new Short Sealand amphibian plane arrived in Djakarta on December 17th. The hull which came in a box 52 feet long, 16 feet wide and 12 feet high was carried on the deck of the ship. It was a great relief to see it safely on the wharf at Djakarta.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bouw, new arrivals, have gone to the Mahakam district of Borneo where they are studying the language and getting acclimated.

No time has been lost in getting it assembled and word has recently been received from Brother Lewis that he has arrived safely with it in Borneo.

It is difficult to tell how indispensable a plane is to the work in Indonesia. Few people realize the tremendous transportation problem we have to contend with. While missionaries in Africa, Indo-China and other fields can do their itinerating by quick, easy and modern means of travel with their autos, trailers etc, Indonesia missionaries still must use the primitive methods of travel — afoot or by canoe.

Furthermore, there is no other Alliance field which encompasses such vast distances as Indonesia. From New Guinea to East Borneo it is more than 2,500 miles (as far as from Chicago to Los Angeles) and traveling from our headquarters base to most of our districts involves a trip by ship, travel on a river boat, several days or weeks in a canoe and overland trekking on foot. Thus it is common for us to consume weeks or months in travel. Two of our fields, New Guinea and the Apo Kayan in East Kalimantan (Borneo), could not be maintained without a plane.

We are praying that God will make the ministry of this plane an increasingly fruitful one. Our Beechcraft has been a boon to the work, having played an important role in many places of the work. It has carried sick missionaries to medical aid, has flown urgent supplies and medicines to interior points, has carried tons of other necessities, and has made possible work which ordinarily we could not have attempted. Recently we were able to conduct a conference for the setting up and organizing of one of our districts, which could not have been done without the plane.

Thus we are happy with our new plane when time is such an important factor. We praise God for our pilot, Brother Al Lewis, and his efficient operating of the plane as well as his consecration and devotion to his task. He needs a quickening touch for his body. Pray for Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and the plane that God will bless and use them for His glory.

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#### Co-Pilot and Mechanic for the Plane

We are happy to announce that a co-pilot, Mr. Robert Brougham, and a mechanic, Mr. Wm. Heyneker, have been secured for the plane. The Broughams are to be with us only temporarily, being loaned to us by the Assemblies of God Mission. The Heynekers have been residents in Indonesia and will come with us permanently. We praise God for the coming of these brethren and ask you faithful friends to place them on your prayer list for the important ministry which will be theirs.

## CUTTING TABOO RATTAN

By Marion Doble

This story is one told by Mr. Tetelepta, an Ambonese worker among the Kapaukus of New Guinea. In the village of Okeitadi where he is working, he needed rattan for some building or repair work, but was told it was so far that it would be necessary to sleep a night on the trail to reach the place where the rattan grows, and no one wanted to make the trip for him. He subsequently learned that there was some not far away, but it was taboo, and no one would think of cutting it lest some terrible calamity overtake him. „Why, there is no need to be afraid”, he said. „If we believe in the Lord Jesus and trust Him, we needn't fear evil spirits.”

The chief of the village said that if Mr. Tetelepta would begin the cutting he was willing to go along. Several school boys also expressed their willingness to go. Along the way, all who heard of their purpose laughed and predicted trouble. Arriving at the place Mr. Tetelepta was ready to begin the cutting when the chief said, „Wait, let's pray first.” When they had prayed the chief surprised Mr. Tetelepta by saying, „I'm going to cut it”, and he did.

An old man happened along and expressed great surprise that they were cutting the taboo rattan. Mr. Tetelepta repeated his testimony that if we trust in the Lord Jesus we needn't be afraid of the spirits. The old man said, „In that case, please cut some for me and I will bring you potatoes”. „No, you needn't bring me potatoes”, said Mr. Tetelepta, „trust in the Lord Jesus and freely cut the rattan”, but the old man went on his way.

On the way home again the people laughed and warned them there would be trouble. Shortly thereafter Mr. Tetelepta became sick, and continued sick for nearly a week. Of course his sickness was attributed to having cut the taboo rattan. Pray for the chief of this village that he will truly know whom he has believed and for all the people of Okeitadi that they may become true, strong believers and witnesses for Christ, freed from their vain superstitions and fears.

## FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF SUMBAWA

By Viola Bliss

As our ship the „Reael” poked its nose into the beautiful bay of Bima we were much impressed with the beauty of the surrounding high mountains. We learned from the Cutts, our missionary friends whom we were replacing, that the highest peak was Dampo and that much of our work here was to be with these quaint mountain folk.

We were taken to the dock by the ship's motor launch and had to squeeze our way past about thirty kerbaus (water buffaloes) which were crowded on the narrow pier waiting to be loaded on the ship. We breathed a sigh of relief as we finally rounded the last animal without landing in the water.

As there were no trucks or cars for hire we loaded our cabin luggage on „dokars” (small pony drawn carts) and through the curious group of spectators we took off for Raba about four miles away. One of the national workers who had been living next door came with his family and a group of neighborhood children to help carry our belongings into the house. It was only a few minutes before Bruce had made fast friends with most of the children and he still enjoys playing with them.

Our first two weeks were spent unpacking and packing. I say packing too for the Cutts had to pack in order to make room for our necessities of life. In between our work we were escorted by the Cutts to the various officials and other important people to be introduced to them.

We started with the Sultan and then those of lesser rank. It was quite an experience to meet a real Sultan and he and his wife appeared quite friendly. As we met the other folk we found that it is customary to invite them to our house and return the visit. As we were yet without a workable knowledge of the language we knew very little of what was being said.

On our introductory trips to the mountain people we got a taste of being watched from daylight until dark. If you want a real experience you must stay overnight in a native village. The dogs barked or fought and the roosters crowed all night. And I decided that some of these folk just never sleep as the sound of rice being pounded, houses being built, and children crying continued all night long.

These folk, with the exception of the school children, do not know the Indonesia language and it was necessary for Mr. Cutts to preach through

an interpreter. They seemed thrilled to hear the accordion and many sat with their bright red mouths open. Red, because almost all of these folk chew on a red nut, similar to tobacco. The majority of these people are Christian at least in name, but in name only. For although they have heard the plan of salvation and the power of our blessed Master to forgive sin, they still live in much darkness. We need you to pray that the LIGHT of the GOSPEL will break in upon their darkened minds.

The people of Sumbawa weave their own cloth. It is interesting to watch them take out the seeds from the cotton, fluff it, make it into thread, and then weave it. They make their own dye which is blue, and consequently all of their clothes are a dark blue. With their red beads they really make quite a picture.

These mountain people have many children and almost every woman and all the older sisters have children to take care of. During the church service they were constantly bobbing up and down, playing with their children until we knew the reason why they got so little from the service. The noise and confusion kept the Good News away from any who wanted to hear.

One time in the Dompou church I noticed one man who listened very, very intently to Mr. Cutts. Yes, in rapt attention throughout the whole sermon he listened. I thought, well, there is one anyway who is getting a lot out of the sermon. After the service he quickly made his way to Mr. Cutts only to ask if he would give him his shirt. We then decided he was gazing at the shirt and not really listening.

God does have precious hand picked fruit here and with your prayers there can be many, many more. Has not God said, „Lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.” Truly this is a whitened harvest field, so pray that God will give a full harvest.

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### A Serious Loss

On February 6th it pleased the Lord to call home our devoted and beloved brother, Rev. M. Saragih, who had served well and faithfully as assistant Principal of our Makassar Bible School. He was only 38 years old and would have been appointed Principal, had he lived, but God promoted him to still higher service. His going is a serious loss for us all. Pray for his widow and two children who survive him.

## BLINDED MINDS

By Henry N. Rankin

The Apostle Paul, in writing to the Corinthians, spoke of the spiritual blindness of the lost souls of men. We read: "But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost. In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light shine unto them." II Corinthians 4:3,4. No doubt the words of Paul were not only given out of divine inspiration but also as the result of much experience as a pioneer missionary of the Gospel of Christ. I, who am a young and comparatively new missionary, can not speak with the authority nor from the experience of the battle-scarred soldier of the cross who has labored in the lands where non-Christian religions have held millions in delusion for so long, but one need not be here long before he realizes how horribly blinded are the minds of heathen people to Bible truths. Surely Satan, the god of this world, hath been doing all within his power to keep these people groping in their spiritual darkness.

Let us, for a few moments, consider the heathen Dyaks of the Sesayap district of East Borneo. These Dyaks are spirit worshippers and they live in constant fear of the evil spirits. They seek by various means to appease spirits so that they will not be molested. Many times they even build the spirits small houses to live in; they also build fences around their rice fields to keep the spirits out. When the Gospel of Christ is brought to the Dyaks they are quite receptive for the most part, but because of their ignorance (most are illiterate) it is difficult for them to comprehend the Gospel of Divine grace.

We who come from homes where the Bible has been an open Book cannot begin to realize the difficulties a Dyak has in trying to comprehend the application of even a simple story. It is hardly reasonable to expect them to be ushered into a glorious experience of salvation on their first hearing of the Gospel, although in many cases the Holy Spirit has redeemed souls on the original presentation of the Word. Until about twenty years ago the Dyaks of this district had never heard about Christ.

They have been blinded not for years but rather for centuries. Their forefathers died without having heard the good news of salvation even once. When these, to whom we are ministering now, hear the story of

Christ and His love it is all quite strange and meaningless to them, but as they listen time and time again and learn that Jesus is the Son of God and that He has come to this earth to die for them the story begins to take on meaning. Soon a desire is born in their hearts to hear more of the blessed „good news.” However, soon they are puzzled anew. They hear that Christ lived a sinless life on earth and then died on the cross. They begin to wonder why a perfect man should be punished by such a death, and then they also wonder how if Christ died so long ago it could be for them. The Dyaks have their own forms of punishment for sin. Punishment of death



Mr. Siray, Dyak pastor of the Begong church (180 members) is also Vice-Chairman of the Mahakam district. Doesn't he have a fine family?

would be imposed only upon a murderer. Then they reason: „why should Christ die a murderer's death? Only the Holy Spirit can do that „revealing” work in their hearts to bring these simple people to the realization of the awfulness of sin both small and great. We can but try to help them and point out to them that eternal life is theirs if they will believe that Christ took their place on Calvary. Many of them in true childlike faith believe the story of Jesus, and to these He becomes very dear and precious.

Soon a new problem arises. We must teach them repentance. A new difficulty arises in that they are not sure what to be repentant of. They have never heard of the thunderings of Sinai nor of the commandments given by Moses. True, they have a conscience, but it is a seared conscience and their minds are blinded minds. With no previous knowledge of the law of God they have not much on which to build repentance. In the Lun Dyak tongue there is not even a word which means repentance. The closest they come to it in their tongue is the word „reconciliation”, but of course to them this just means coming to an agreement with someone. There is no real implication of sorrow for sin. Thus it is that we must ever lean heavily upon the Holy Spirit to create in their hearts a true consciousness of what sin is, and bring them to godly sorrow and confession of their sins.

Let us therefore join hand in hand in fervent prayer that the precious seed of the Word of God will continually be sown in the hearts of the Dyaks and that the Holy Spirit will enlighten the minds of many more of these who have for centuries been „groping”. Praise God for the thousands who have already been saved, and who are growing in grace, but there are yet multitudes for whom we must pray that the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, shall shine unto them.

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Miss Lois Boehnke, R. N.  
another new recruit busy  
at language study who  
will be appointed to one of  
our needy districts soon.



**WEST BORNEO BIBLE SCHOOL**

By Rev. &amp; Mrs. J. R. Schisler

The school is much more of a permanent nature now with its own dormitory and class rooms located on its own property. This all came about upon being evacuated from the rubber plantation where we had been allowed to locate until it was sold. Moving at first seemed a great time-loser and expending of valuable energy out here in the tropics. However, it became clearly the leading of a God who alone knows the future of this work. Last January we moved the school from Serandjin, a rubber plantation downstream, up here into the jungles among the Dyaks of the Belitang area. From this area comes the large majority of our Bible School students. This present jungle property was cleared for a permanent location being well situated near the local center, Balai Sepuak. For temporary quarters while building was going on, we were granted the use of one of the native churches, Eben Hezer, with its living quarters. Upon moving a call was at once issued to all the students to return for building. Classes were begun along with a strenuous 8 month program constructing the buildings needed for a Bible School. This entailed going far into the woods to get the necessary materials, preparing it for use, then the actual work of building — all in the slow methods of the East (in spite of Western influence!). This strenuous building program was combined with a morning chapel hour, morning classes and a class in the evening. It was a test for the students and two or three turned back, but the remaining ones have seemed to come through as real gold tried in the fire and able to stand the test. Praise the Lord!

The 3rd week of last July it was with joy and triumph these precious, warm-hearted Dyak students gathered their few possessions together and marched in procession over the 45-minute trail from their temporary quarters to the new dormitory. The buildings are native style construction and quite adapted to the need in this country. From July to the middle of September the school has been in session with an enrollment of 38 students. Among these are 6 gurus (native teachers) and their wives. These latter students had some Bible School training in Makassar before the last World War but felt the need of further training at this time. Through attending the classes faithfully through the week, on week-ends they return to their posts of duty and minister to their churches.

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## „HE MUST INCREASE”

By Miss Margaret Shaneman

To the strains of „Cross of Christ Lead Onward”, the eight graduates of the Makassar Bible School marched down the aisle of the Kemah Indjil to take their places of honor on the platform. As we watched them we experienced another of the joys that are ours as we teach in the school and we rejoiced to know that eight more men were going out into the needy harvest field of Indonesia. When they had taken their places on the platform, they sang „Cross of Christ Lead Onward”. Mr. Laykotta, one of the graduates, led the congregation in the singing of „Oh For A Thousand Tongues” and Rev. S. M. Udis, secretary of the East Indonesia District, led in prayer. Psalm ninety-one was read by Mr. A. Morib. Rev. L. A. Kim, director of the school, gave a word of welcome and a brief resume of the activities of the school.

After a congregational song Mr. A. Regent spoke on „The Great Commission” - when it was given, to whom given, and why. The graduates then sang „Fully Surrendered”. Mr. Mustamu spoke on „The Fulfillment of the Great Commission in the Life of Paul” - showing how the Lord fulfilled His promises through the problems, temptations and trials that Paul faced as he sought to preach the Gospel and make Christ known.

The school chorus then challenged the graduates with the singing of Dr. Simpson’s great missionary hymn „A Missionary Cry”. They were further stirred by a message brought by Rev. M. Saragih, assistant director of the school, who spoke on lifting up Christ in our daily life, our conversation, our ministry and all that we do.

Then came the big moment - the presentation of the diplomas. Let us introduce the graduates to you.

**Mattius Kamutik** - is a Dyak from the Mahakam district of East Kalimantan. His family is heathen and as he testifies, he worshipped stones, trees, mountains, rivers and sacrificed to the evil spirits because he had never heard anything different. His family are still lost in heathenism. He first heard the Gospel when a Christian teacher went to teach in the village school. Mattius along with other of his classmates turned to Jesus after they heard about Him. Upon finishing grammar school, his desire was to go to a Mission school and learn about Jesus, but his parents wanted him to become a

school teacher. Finally he decided to come to Bible School. Despite his parents refusal to support him, Mattius came, - a young fellow of only seventeen. He didn't know whether or not he could make the grade, but he wanted to learn more about Jesus. As he goes out to serve the Lord among his own people, he realizes that he cannot witness in His own strength and manifests humility in leaning upon the Lord for His strength to serve. Will you not pray for this young fellow, that he might always stay humble and depend upon the Lord instead of his own strength?

**A. Kelakik** - is another young man from a heathen family from the island of Alor. His introduction to the Gospel came when a graduate from the Makassar Bible School went to his island selling Scriptures, Christian literature and witnessing for the Lord. After his conversion he wanted to come to Bible School but his heathen parents opposed him.

As he prayed God was faithful and finally his mother consented to let him go, asking him to come back after three years and tell them all that he had learned in school. Shortly after he arrived war broke out and he was stranded in Makassar. At the close of the war he was faced with the problem of the promise to his parents to return home or of continuing school. Before he could leave Makassar he received a letter from friends saying that his mother and father had died during the war and that his mother had believed in Jesus. Now, his only desire is to live for the Lord and serve Him. For two years Mr. Kelakik has been in the hospital with tuberculosis. He needs your prayers that God will completely heal him and give him a fruitful ministry as he ministers to the natives here in South Sulawesi.

**Thomas Laykotta** - is a married man with five children. He and his wife both came from homes where the parents were nominal Christians, and were also converted through the witnessing of a graduate from the Makassar Bible School. They first came to the Bible School in 1940. During the war they were here in Makassar. In 1947, they went to the Sesayap district of East Borneo where he has done a commendable bit of work and was a real leader in the district. This family has gone through many hard trials having lost seven children, some of them in Borneo and this last year while attending school in Makassar. Through all the trials and difficulties, he has manifested a very humble and trusting spirit, testifying that he knows God has a purpose in every trial. Remember them in prayer as they go back to the Sesayap. Pray for the wife as she must travel over a very difficult trail for a woman. As they leave, one son is remaining in Makassar to attend

school. Pray for Martin, a boy of 15, that the Lord will take the place of his parents and keep him in the right path.

**A. Morib** - also came from a nominal Christian background. His conception of Christianity was that it was just another religion, that of the Dutch people who ruled them. He became more interested in spiritual things and also learned about the Makassar Bible School through the „Kalam Hidup”, the monthly Christian magazine started by Dr. R. A. Jaffray. In 1947 he was sent to the Apo Kayan to work, and just this last year came back to finish his schooling. Mr. Dixon, the missionary in the Apo Kayan District of East Borneo, speaks highly of his spirit and his work. After graduation, he will be going back to the Apo Kayan.

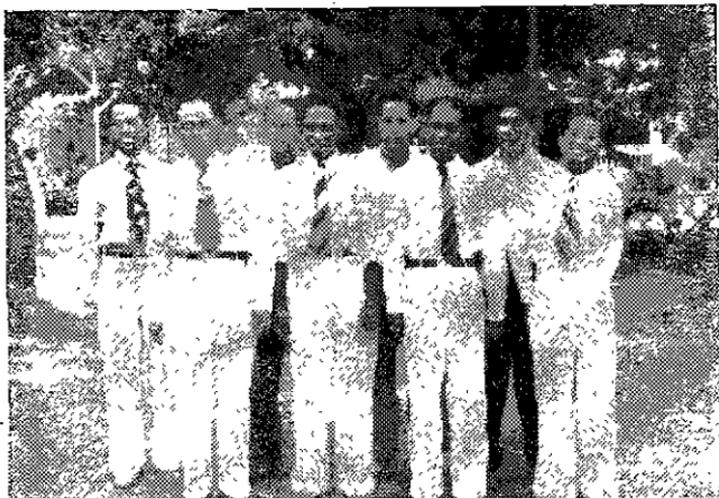
Since coming to Makassar in 1940 he has not been home. Would you like to go out and serve the Lord and not get home for ten years or more? Will you not pray for Mr. Morib. that the Lord will continue to bless him and use him there in the Apo Kayan?

**Bernadus Malinsang** - is married and has three children. He was born in Sangir but was working in Borneo when he heard Mr. Dixon preach the Gospel. After his conversion he helped in the work and teaching the children. After one year in the Makassar Bible School, he left the school and went back to Borneo to work for himself, and marry a Dyak girl. At the end of two years, the Lord began speaking to him and Bernadus wanted to come back to school. Then the war broke out and he was hindered; however, he began to preach again and work for the Lord.

In recent years he has been able to come back to school. He asks you to pray that he will remain faithful to his second call from the Lord and that he will continue to serve the Lord until he dies, also, to pray that although he isn't a gifted speaker his everyday life will preach sermons that are more effective than those of a silver-tongued orator.

**B. S. Mustamu** - is married and has four children, two of which are twins only a few months old. He is an Indonesian who was sent by the government to the Wissel Lakes, New Guinea, as a criminal. He was cruel and had a quick temper. While at the Lakes he heard the Gospel from workers and missionaries, was converted and helped in the work. After the war he married and came to Makassar to school. His record as a student has been good and his spirit has manifest the complete change that the Lord has made in his life. His desire is to go back to the Wissel Lakes to work among the Kepaukus. He too will appreciate your prayers that the Lord will continue to work in his life and use him to take the Gospel to many souls.

**Adrian Regent** — is a Dyak from the Mahakam district of East Kalimantan. His testimony is that he went from one place to another looking for something to satisfy. He heard the Gospel and realized that was the thing he was searching for. He is quite young and has had no practical work. He is an intelligent fellow, and is tempted to lean upon his abilities. He will be going back to the Mahakam to work for the Lord. Will you join in prayer that the Lord will lead and establish this one in Himself; and make him a blessing to those who still sit in darkness?



The 1950 Graduating Class of the Makassar Bible School. Left to right — Messrs. Regent, Laykotta, Mustamu, Rumaseb, Morib, Kelakik, Malensang and Matius.

**L. Rumaseb** — from the coast of New Guinea, is married and has two children. His conversion in reality didn't take place until after he came to school in Makassar. He had attended the Dutch State Church and thought that was all that was necessary. When he came to Makassar in 1940 he could not read or write. In ten years he has come a long way, learning to read and write and finishing four years of schooling. His appointment will be to the

Kemandora Valley of New Guinea to work with Mr. Troutman and Mr. Cutts. Pray for him that he will grow in the knowledge of the Lord and will be used to bring the Gospel to many souls in darkness in New Guinea.

Thus far little mention has been made of the wives, but they are the silent partners playing a very important role. Many times their sacrifice is far greater than that of their husbands. They must go wherever the husband goes, regardless of their physical condition, the number of children to be cared for, or the difficulty of the trail or means of travel. Many of them never see their parents again. We know so little of sacrifice compared to theirs. As you pray for the husbands, remember the wives and pray for them that the Lord will give them the grace and strength needed; and that they will feel that their service is greater than just to follow their husbands, but that they are really serving the Lord. May their hearts be moved to desire that in their daily life and their family life „He might increase”, making them examples to the women in the villages where their husbands minister.

After receiving their diplomas, the graduates were dedicated to the Lord in prayer led by Rev. W. M. Post. Will you not pause and offer a prayer for these who are going out into the battlefield for the Lord? Many of them do not have the Christian heritage that is ours, being only first generation Christians. May the Lord lead them, guide them, establish them and settle them in Himself. And may their class motto be the motto and desire of their lives — „He must increase, but I must decrease.”

### Somebody's Opportunity

On the mission field we don't have to look for opportunities; they come to us in greater numbers than we can take them. Right now we have a golden opportunity in connection with our publication and translation work. Never before was there such a thirst for knowledge in Indonesia and government efforts to reduce illiteracy are having fruit.

But Christian literature is very scarce so that we have been trying to do our small part in meeting this need. If there are any of you friends who would like to share this opportunity with us by your prayers and gifts, we shall be glad to be your stewards and use your gifts in the Master's service. They can be forwarded to Rev. David Mason, Treasurer, The C. & M. A., and should be designated „Publication and Translation work, Indonesia”. To those of our readers who are regular supporters of Alliance Missions, may we request that your gifts be not diverted from the regular fund, but if the Lord has blessed you with a little extra money it can bring great dividends in this phase of the work here.

## AFTER ONE AND A HALF YEARS IN THE KEMANDORA VALLEY

By Kenneth Troutman

As we look back over the last year and a half our hearts are full of thanksgiving and praise because of the grace of our Lord that has been manifest here in the Kemandora Valley of New Guinea.

It was in April of 1949 that we made the initial trip to this beautiful valley, and it was the first time in six years that the people had been visited by the white man. They had seen the Japanese during the war, but that only made their hearts hard toward the outside world. Thus, after six years of absence, our visit was not altogether a welcome one. We were faced with much fear and superstition as we made our appearance.

In June 1949 we re-established the Mission station at Homoyo near the former sight at Wandai. We met with much opposition, even to the threatening of our lives if we didn't leave, but God met the situation and softened hardened hearts.

The first year was spent mostly in learning the language and the customs of the people. We traveled among them and made many friends. Also many heard the Word of God as we gave it out simply with the small knowledge of the language that we had.

During the months of February and March of this year, we covered the same area we had covered on our first trip and were gratified to see the difference. We spoke the Word with freedom in the Holy Spirit everywhere and wherever we went people received us and listened to the story of Christ. Praise God, in the first year and a half we have been able to give out the Word at least once to the inhabitants of the Kemandora Valley from the Isabu Valley east to the Kendea Pass leading into the Dugandora Valley.

The thought, AFTER ONE AND A HALF YEARS, was brought very forcibly to me just one week ago as I visited the Isabu Valley for the first time since last April. This valley has openly opposed us and would have nothing to do with us. However, last week I felt led to visit this area and received a friendly welcome along with the privilege of ministering to many precious souls. One and a half years ago as our party passed through this area we were told, „Don't stop here, but hurry on your way because we want nothing to do with you." On my recent trip they said to me, „Tuani, won't you come and live with us?" We wish it were possible to live with the people in every village, but that is impossible. We must go from village to

village telling the wonderful story of Jesus. We do not have much time to spend in each village as they are so many and widely scattered.

Evangelizing the Kemandora Valley is not an easy job, because the villages are all situated high up on the mountainsides. The villages are small and scattered necessitating much hard travel. Sometimes we wonder how we can possibly keep going over the rough terrain, but God always gives us the strength that we need. We are willing to prevail in sweat and tears if only to bring a few to the Saviour.

The first year and a half has brought forth fruit for which we are glad. A prominent village chief has been saved and many others have expressed a desire to follow Christ. Pray with us that these may soon come to a real understanding of Him. We can preach until we are hoarse, but we realize that unless the Holy Spirit reveals Himself to these people and they recognize their greatest need, all is in vain. The most natural thing for these people to do is see their need of earthly things and overlook their souls need. We praise God that some have now seen their need and we are trusting Him to work in the hearts of many.

Just last week two village chiefs came to our home with their people carrying two pigs and the necessities for a Moni feast. They had come to express their happiness over the coming of Mrs. Troutman and the children. The one chief also had been very sick and because God had made him well, he wanted to give thanks. According to the custom of the Moni people the killing of pigs goes with almost every occasion, therefore, it was only fitting and proper to kill a pig for health received from God. The other chief said, „Tuani, we always have a purpose for killing a pig and usually it is in the worship of satan, but today we have come to eat together, not in the worship of satan but of God”. Our hearts were greatly encouraged to hear these testimonies. Our heart's cry is that many of these people shall find Christ as their Saviour and turn from their heathen customs to real peace and joy in Him.

## „I AM ALIVE FOREVERMORE.....”

(Jesus, Rev. 1 : 18)

By W. W. Conley

SUNDAY, October 15.....

The carriers came last night so I had to leave Melak this morning leaving Mae to hold the fort. I had asked for the men to come last Thursday for me..... just a little late but nothing too unusual.

I had never been to Asa before. There had been no Christians there, and my time has been more than taken up visiting the villages with churches. However, two months ago a Christian from Empas who moved to Asa started witnessing and holding meetings on Sundays. Word has come that there has been a break following the conversion of the Asa school teacher, a Dyak who had turned Mohammedan years ago.

So about 7 : 00 o'clock this Sunday morning we were on the way..... four of these new believers from Asa, and Nungkin, our Dyak houseboy.

We passed small groups of Dyaks making their way toward Melak to sell their snake-skins, rattan mats or other jungle produce, and to buy kerosene, tobacco, cloth, etc. As usual they kept silent or grunted when I greeted them in Malay. Dyaks have no form of general greeting as do the Malays.

In about an hour and a half we passed the former Dutch Colonial Army barracks of this interior post, with two nearby landing strips. (Only about 9 months ago the K. N. I. L. (Royal Dutch Indies Army) left, but the jungle is edging into the station on every side. A cemetery at the side of the trail containing the graves of Dutch troops who remained when the Japs moved in is badly in need of care.)

- We continued on, thankful for the good trail, the remains of the military road which connected the barracks and airfields. I grew curious as I noticed the right foot of the leading carrier. The big toe was deformed, it jutted out at right angles! Still, as I watched, he ploded safely on, never tripping himself. He explained that an injury to the ankle years ago pulled the tendons of the toe.

Soon we were walking across the landing strip. It was simply a clearing of almost level ground, now covered with heavy tall grass, and bushes taller than my head. Here and there were large bomb craters, still devoid of vegetation. I looked back, wondering if my hob-nailed number 14 boots were smoothing down another strip sufficient for planes. (I believe

not.) This is the place from which Rev. Harry Post, his wife and small baby, escaped by plane only hours before the route was closed by the Japs. But for God's care there well might have been three more graves in the small, unkempt cemetery.

After about 4 hours we came to Barongtongko, the only village we passed.

Up to this place we had not been traveling very swiftly. The carriers seemed to feel the weight of my folding cot, bedding, clothes, phonograph, pressure lantern, 30 lbs. of medicine, books, picture rolls, etc, but did not complain. They were bringing someone to their village who knows the stories they want to hear. However, even at that our pace was about Army style, walk 50 minutes, rest ten each hour. I was satisfied to let them call their halts although after each ten minutes of relaxed comfort I felt ten years added to my legs when the hike was resumed. I finally decided it best to just keep on going and wait until reaching my destination to have one good, final collapse. Starting off with 2 or 3 of the more energetic Dyaks we kept up a good, swift pace - their short legs really pumping to keep up. But as we came to a cool, sparkling pool, I gave in and called another rest myself. While the boys stripped and lay in the cool, shallow pool, I soaked my burning feet. This was too good to pass up.

The last hour of the trail was difficult, though it had been the best trail in the district. Come along now with us. Here is the typical Dyak path, about 8 inches wide, that is, when it's visible. And up hills and down steep grades, crossing deep ravines. The sweat shows no inhibitions now. Going up one grade, a smooth, slippery clay trail underfoot, your body begins to feel as if its volume of blood has suddenly been doubled. Your head throbs and pounds—perspiration cascades down the face, burning your eyes, salting your mouth. Hands swell up till your fingers won't bend, your lungs wheeze with the effort. Of course you have all experienced the feeling of exertion under a hot sun. But sometimes the frequency of this out here would make one wonder how it would be to preach the Gospel to Eskimos!

We reached Asa in about 6 hours, greeted the waiting folk, shook hands all around. Not having eaten since breakfast I could have done with a malted milk and hamburger, but strangely enough there seemed to be no Snak-Bar at Asa. We finally ate about 6:00 o'clock — rice and chicken.

It appeared that the school teacher here, Ngendang, (have trouble pronouncing that myself) had been comparing a New Testament in Malay

with some Islam books. The result — his believing on Jesus Christ, the Son of God! His conversion opened the door for about 15 others to follow. To my great interest I noted that among those asking for baptism was the teacher of the Catholic school in Djohan.

He had not been a Catholic, just an unbeliever, considered suitable by the Priest to teach Catholic doctrine. Now he is a Christian, and the glow on his face implies I'll get good answers in my examination of baptismal candidates. I warned him that surely the Priest would dismiss him now, but he assured me he did not care about the results.

Two of our nearby pastors (the only two among this Dyak tribe of 13,000 scattered in about 30 villages) were here as I had hoped. In fact they had been here for two nights, teaching and examining the new converts.

In our meeting this evening over 50 had gathered. Some Dyaks still held in their heathenism were attracted by the Malay records, which most under-



On the Borneo trail Bill Conley and his husky Dyak porters travel Army style -- 50 minutes walk, rest ten.

stand, and the large, religious pictures. I had a picture illustrating the meeting of Jesus and Nicodemus, and as simply and thoroughly as possible I taught the new birth from John 3. It was a joy and a true privilege to be with those who had just passed from hopeless darkness, spiritually, into a

glorious new life. How real this is! It would make better Christians of a lot of Americans could they witness such a meeting as ours tonight.

My legs and hips were aching as I lay on my narrow, little cot later. But how small and insignificant seem the obstacles when we are in God's will and witness the moving of His Spirit. A few months ago the only sound of religion in Asa was the ear -- splitting, endless beating of gongs and drums in the futile attempt to reach into the unknown. Tonight some of these same Dyaks sang "Praise Him, Praise Him", "Constantly Abiding", and "I Love to Tell the Story". And some people say the great movings of the Holy Spirit closed in the 28th chapter of Acts!!!

The little food I brought from Melak consisted chiefly of oatmeal, powdered coffee and a can of condensed milk. This will help fortify me for the Dyak menu I face.

This morning I baptized 13 men and 2 women. May God establish these babes in His love and Word. May they lead others to the Cross of Christ for cleansing in the precious fountain.

Later, I unpacked my medicine and started in. Painting ringworm lotion, injections for yaws, pulling teeth, bandaging all manner of sores and wounds -- one marvels at the durability of the human body; to survive the conditions in which some of these Dyaks find themselves.

This afternoon while resting on my cot I almost fell off when the screams of a pig being butchered a few yards away suddenly split the hot, heavy air. Sure enough, in the evening we had the Dyaks favorite feast. I had to turn down a bowl of selected, choice, cuts (big greasy chunks of fat, hair and hide, with a bit of meat attached.). I hunted in another bowl and got some pieces of almost lean meat. Sometimes we pray before eating as a matter of habit, with little real thought. Not so when I am about to eat Dyak pig!

TUESDAY, October 17.....

After the meeting last night I took my light rifle and a Dyak with his reflecting, oil-lamp spotlight and we hunted. After a couple hours in vain, I quit. If there is something to get, I don't mind, but the damp grass, thorns, briars, mosquitos and other insects, roots and logs to trip over combine to make night hunting thoroughly unpleasant -- unless you get a deer or wild pig.

This morning we dedicated a half dozen children. I believe that each parent was deeply sincere as he promised to raise his children in the knowledge

of the Lord, with Christian behavior the rule of the home.

One Dyak enjoyed having a tooth extracted with the help of an injection of novocaine so that he asked me to go ahead and pull all of them!

The two pastors left for their churches today. Tonight I will finish my stay in Asa and leave in the morning.

After teaching the assembled group this evening from Hebrews 12:1-3, a few of the men stayed, asking questions. We studied the Scriptures in the matter of questions such as marriage and divorce, adultery, tithing, etc. How new all these lessons were to this group. How much they have to learn. How important it is to send a native pastor to shepherd this flock. And there is none available now. Oh, Lord of the harvest, send forth a man to labor in Asa!

WEDNESDAY, October 18.....

About 7:00 this morning I left with Nungkin, as the carriers could not get off so early.

Fortunately the day is somewhat overcast. We're on our way home now to Mae and the children. No halts this time. Who wants to stop on the homeward trip?

We reached Melak in about 4½ hours. How good it is to serve God! How faithful is He! Who will begin praying for these new Christians in Asa? Will you join with us in praying in another pastor for the new church? Will you continue in intercession for the many other villages still, as Asa was 3 months ago, in spiritual darkness and death???

SATURDAY, October 21.....

I met two of the young men from Asa here in Melak today. They brought the glad tidings that 5 more have just believed. There were 2 who turned to Christ while we were there. Now 7 more Christians will join with the others and prepare themselves for baptism.

„I will be exalted among the heathen; I will be exalted in the earth.“  
(Psalm 46: 10)