



BORNEO BULLETIN

REGIONS BEYOND MISSIONARY UNION

DARIT - NGABANG - KALIMANTAN BARAT
- INDONESIA.

March 1957

Dear friends,
Don't be alarmed at our wishing you all a blessed New Year, for it is the beginning of a new year amongst our dark-skinned people. Harvest means New Year to all Dyaks, and New Year means of necessity a big feast. To us it means a time of trekking to many villages to ask God's blessing on the crops as they begin to reap. The feast itself does not entice us; we count this occasion a time when we can have close fellowship with and strengthen those who are being mocked for not sacrificing to the rice god.

This year again there will be a rice shortage, for a drought has left some fields bare and dry. Among those suffering are some of our most faithful Christians. But still they'll reach into their meager stores to make a feast for us. Otherwise they are ashamed to invite us. Their faith is not shaken, however; they have a simple trust in their heavenly Father who surely cares. This is the joyous harvest in the hearts where the blazing sun of sin has not dried up the seed of the Word of God.

The New Year holds much in prospect for us all. Daily we watch the progress of the building of the Bible School at Darit. The roof and part of the walls are up. More boards are drying on a rack. The cement has come up the river, ready to be picked up by truck. Each Sunday, as the folks arrive for church they inspect the building, and daily young people are asking when will it open, what are the requirements, will young women be allowed to attend? Meanwhile we pray that God will choose from their number a band of Daniels who will stand for their convictions, and Pauls who will know a love and duty to the lost. There is still much to be done in translating suitable, simple courses for the many who have never learned to concentrate deeply. Most likely we will begin classes in June. Pray NOW that God will prepare teachers and students alike! We know you will join us in this.

Here is a quick glance at the RBMU field here in Borneo. The public school at Darit is closed since a good government school is nearby. The Anik school has a large enrollment and some of our students have gone there. The Meritts are busy with two churches and the medical work and many souls are being added in that area. A new school has been opened at Kampet and God provided an earnest Indonesian teacher for it. Back this venture up with prayer, friends. An untrained Christian couple are stationed at Tajan and young fellows help with the Moro services each week-end. These outposts wait for a "Pendeta" to come to teach them. Personal invitations come to us from head chiefs of areas near and far to come to teach the "Indjil" to them. Our hearts burn with the need and we continue to ask God to send help to answer the calls. It thrills us to know there are 6 accepted candidates for Borneo. Pray for their many needs, especially for almost unavailable visas.

Ruth has recently shared the trekking to the villages with me and once or twice we have taken the kiddies along to places nearby. God has wonderfully strengthened me for the additional strain of building. We are not surprised when we read in various letters from churches, supporters, loved ones and friends how all have borne the burden of prayer for us. God Answers Prayer!

Reaping together with you,

Elmer Ruth Warkentin