

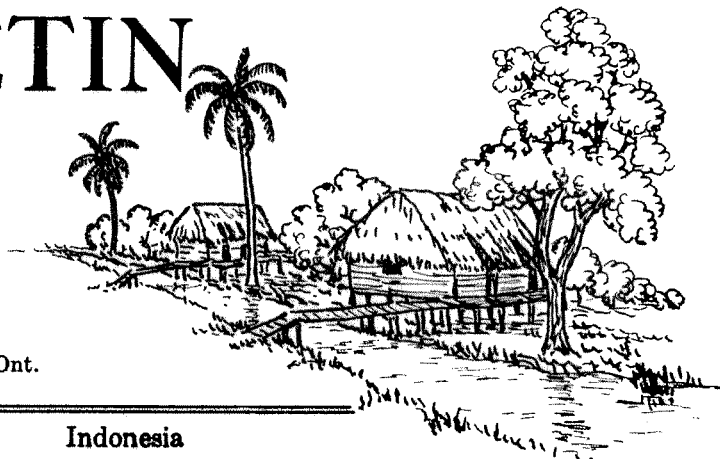
BORNEO BULLETIN

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Darit - Ngabang - West Borneo - Indonesia

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Dear Praying Friends:

The Darit station of the R.B.M.U. in Borneo has been a scene of feverish preparation for the past few months. Buildings began to pop up here and there under supervision of Bud Merritt (Anik station) and Elmer. Now our grounds boast a Bible School (of which the top story is the boys' dormitory), a shingled house for our Indonesian teacher and family, a girls' dormitory right next to our house, outdoor kitchen made of zinc sheeting for safety, and the beginnings of a cottage for Miss Lima.

There is much yet to be completed. The girls' quarters proved too small, and some of them are now sleeping in our front room. There are no beds yet-- all sleep on the floors. Screening must be put on the windows to keep out the mosquito population. Painting is necessary to halt moulding and cracking of boards. But we praise God for the strength He has given for this venture of faith.

After the rush subsided it seemed wise for the Merritt family and us to take a short vacation. At present we are lying on the beach about 90 miles from Darit. Elmer is working on translation of a Bible Course, while I in Mind follow this letter back home. The lovely breeze and sunshine has put a tan on the kiddies. We have found our lone guests to be two small scorpions in the beds. Tomorrow, after two weeks of rest, we pile into the Power Wagon again and head for our homes in the jungle among the Dayak people. It has been fun, but our hearts are full of expectation as we face the challenge before us.

Bible School opened on August eleventh with 19 earnest, born-again, tho ignorant students. Many are the problems and testings that lie before student and teacher alike; yet withal a new hope of spirit-filled, Bible-taught leaders is born for this Dayak people. What a need this is, and how insufficient we feel for this task.

Perhaps I have been too general, for we do want you to be interested in and to pray for our future native evangelists. Of the 19, 11 are fellows and 8 are girls. None of them have more than a grade six education, and most of them only 3 or 4. Much disciplining will be necessary, besides the teaching of as simple a course as possible. Dormitory life is new to them all, which makes for some odd reactions. One is so homesick that he became ill; an engaged couple finds the new freedom quite exciting; the one Chinese girl feels that Dayak food is too simple; a headman's daughter sets the pace for fashions; and of course there is the inevitable one who sits with a know-it-all expression in class, but does no legible paper work. How human they are, culled from the darkest jungles. These are gems unpolished, by your prayers and God's workings to be made trophies of Grace Divine. Join us in this unknown spot that results may be known "yours and ours" in the Day of Jesus Christ.

We know a deep need for God's working in our own hearts and lives. We need your earnest prayer.

For Christ and the Dayaks,

Elmer and Ruth.