

B O R N E O B U L L E T I N

Regions Beyond Missionary Union

Darit, Ngabang, Kalimantan Barat
Indonesia - December 1962

Dear ones in the Homeland,

Planting, weeding, and harvesting rice go on around us simultaneously. In our Darit area the people have just planted their paddy fields, whereas only fifty miles from here the crops are already being gathered in. Spiritually speaking, these three phases of the work go on continuously too. We are now harvesting of that which was planted years ago, and yet we go on sowing in hope of a future crop. Each day the Word is taught here in Berea Bible School - line upon line - and from this, too, we await a harvest - - of reapers.

The days and months fly past in the round of "busyness." School opened on October 16, and each student arriving here has passed an obstacle course. This is one of the rainiest seasons we have ever seen here, which means more impassable roads and flooded jungle trails. And many students cannot afford to buy rice this year. (We are grateful for a shipment of Meals for Millions). How thrilled we are with our 40 earnest students who have come from near and far. The first year class has a large percentage of Chinese students from areas where the O. M. F. is working. Some of these are having much difficulty with the language. Then we have a few from the Go Ye Fellowship Churches. It is wonderful to realize that these know nothing of denominational barriers, and have come to study God's Word alone. Pray for those of us who teach this year, that we might be broken bread in the Master's Hand. Our Indonesian teacher and his wife are leaving us, so we are very short-staffed.

Of those who have gone forth from the Bible School - our young and inexperienced Evangelists - you will surely be eager to hear. Already one has "the marks of the dying of the Lord Jesus" in his body. He and his wife were attacked by a man with a bush knife. Njangkui's right hand will be crippled for life, his wife has deep wounds in her back, and their two week old baby died later. Yet they are willing to serve the Lord in the Churches again. Another, Bulin, has now had an ulcer for three months, but is happy in the jungle, far from his home. His wife is doing a good work among the women there, and his latest news is that a leading witch doctor was led to Christ. Atok has had trial upon trial, but he and his wife are rejoicing in the Lord. Their little girl of three fell and broke her arm, and because of the distance from medical aid, it is set quite crooked. Their only complaint is that they cannot answer all the calls for services. Agus, one of last year's graduates, cannot take a full-time church because his wife has TB, and so they have taken a school between Darit and Anik and also hold Sunday services there. Sin San, our Chinese graduate, has by his testimony been the reason for our many Chinese students this year. He is taking over a church left by an OMF Missionary on furlough.

Ruth had a delightful respite from teaching in May when her sister, Helene, came from B. C. to visit and to teach our four children as well as the two Merritt children. She was with us for a never-to-be-forgotten three months, especially for the kiddies. We are now praying that a parcel of long overdue books will arrive soon. Pray with us for an answer to our school problem here. Douglas continues to amuse the older ones, who treat him as though he were a baby instead of almost five. Ellen was again very ill, but we thank you all for your prayers on our behalf, for we are now "prospering" and we trust in spirit as well.

In prophesying of the coming of Christ, Isaiah wrote "HE SHALL NOT FAIL NOR BE DISCOURAGED." May this be our aim, and our prayer for you all this Christmas season and the New Year ahead. Why should we look at the increasing darkness about us when we can see by faith again our Coming King.

Worshipping Him with you,

Elmer + Ruth

Elmer and Ruth Warkentin
and family.