

MISSIONARY

HERALD

September 1987



***SRI LANKA—
Unity amongst
Christians
amidst violence
and political
conflict***



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Editorial Comment

WE have been rejoicing at the BMS about the many new missionary candidates we have. Not only are they new, but they are also relatively inexperienced. These are turbulent times, as one of this month's articles reminds us, and it is into uncertain situations that we are sending them. How will they stand up to the pressures of living in an unstable country, to a new culture, to the corruption that is endemic in many places, to the misunderstandings which will arise when trying to communicate in a strange language?

Previously there were more long standing and experienced missionaries, so there was always someone on hand to give advice and support. But this is not always possible today. They need all the backing that our prayers can give them. If you are not already doing so, why not ask us to send you the prayer letters of one or two of our new missionaries so that you can pray from a basis of real understanding.

Although some overseas situations may be difficult, with divisive elements all the time seeking to destabilise countries like Angola and Sri Lanka, the message we are proclaiming is one of peace, reconciliation and love. So one story this month comes from Thailand where those who were enemies were able, in Christ, to bridge the chasm that history had created. Today, the church in Sri Lanka is also trying to be an agent of reconciliation for Tamil and Sinhalese. In Angola too the churches are seeing that they are being given many opportunities to share the Good News with people who are feeling the insecurity of living in a situation of conflict.

As Christians we belong together in the one Church of Christ. In a chaotic and often negative world we are linked with each other in something which is positive and life forming. So as new folk go overseas to work with our partner churches let us send them with the understanding that the rest of us will back them with our praying, with our giving, with all that we can offer, as we share in Christ's ministry of peace and love today.

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HERALD
THE MAGAZINE OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY



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We share in the work of the
Church in:

Angola	France	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	India	Thailand
Brazil	Jamaica	Trinidad
El Salvador	Nepal	Zaire

I don't mind parting with a pound but...

How do you fight corruption?

It's not easy, even for a missionary.

TODAY I had to go to the *Bureau des Routier*, the transport office. This office is at the Army Police Station near the Mission. My International Driving Licence had been stolen and I had to apply for a temporary one.

It is a low, one storey building with a low rail each side of the entrance making a porch like an inn from a western film. But for me, the first time it was like a stage set for *No Hiding Place*.

It was very hot. Soldiers lounged outside all dressed in different styles of

uniform. Which one should I approach? Not a problem really because when I start to speak French instead of Lingala few will understand.

The Missionary Affairs Secretary had told me that missionaries are exempt from payment. Any money they take will go into their own pockets. If they demand money ask for a receipt for the Mission. All very well to tell me that, but for me, faced with a group resembling the Gestapo, difficult.

I forgot, immediately, the words for driving licence. Why hadn't I written

them down? Oh yes! *Permit de Conduire*. A soldier led me outside and round a dirty side-alley to the back. If I was anxious about going inside, this was even worse. This, I thought to myself, is the sort of place no sensible, lone, female missionary goes.

I was shown into a dirty shack where I found myself in front of a big soldier in an official uniform. I was invited to sit. I explained what I required and he took out a pad of permits, filled one in and pushed it across the table.

'Z50 (£1),' he said.

I quaked, 'I am a missionary and we are exempt from payment.'

'Fifty zaires,' he repeated.

I pass a Z50 note across the table.

'I must have a receipt for my mission,' I said.

He turned back to his newspaper.

It is not that I mind parting with a £1.00, it is that I have failed to uphold the fight against corruption.



Through Turbulent Times

by Bruce Henry

The seas have lifted up their pounding waves. Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea — the Lord on high is mighty (Psalm 93:4).

SRI LANKA is a beautiful island and some of the scenery in the mountains of the west zone is magnificent. Dense tropical vegetation covers much of this area and the whole country teems with wildlife.

Nevertheless it is a busy island with an excellent road and rail network serving towns and villages in every direction. Kandy, in the centre of the island, is one of these towns. It was the ancient capital, where kings ruled for centuries.

Kandy is surrounded by hills and has a large artificial lake by the side of which stands the Temple of the Sacred Tooth, perhaps the most important Buddhist shrine in Sri Lanka. Sprawling up the slope of a nearby hill are the buildings of Trinity College, a large boys' school. The centre of the town is full of shops and boutiques with a large fruit and vegetable market near the bus and rail stations. Kandy is a busy place, made quite noisy by its numerous buses and lorries.

CELEBRATIONS

I went to Kandy to share in the celebrations of the 175th Anniversary of the beginning of Baptist work on the island. The occasion was marked by a three day convention held at Trinity College. As the school was on holiday it was an ideal venue for the meetings. During the opening session I handed to the President of the Baptist Sangamaya an illuminated greeting which I had brought from the Baptist Missionary Society.



Sri Lankan girls on their way to school in the early morning

At the close of the convention a communion service was held in the spacious pagoda-like chapel high on the hill at Trinity. This was a moving occasion and included the symbolic washing of the pastors' feet by the President and Vice-president. The great chapel was packed with people — about 400 I guess — the majority of whom were young. The whole service was in Sinhala.

The chapel had open sides and back, and the roof was supported by a double row of stone pillars. Only the chancel was walled and there

was a large fresco-like painting of the Three Crosses behind the communion table. Two brass candlesticks with lit candles were on the table.

I sat at the back of the nave. During the service a butterfly flew right over the President and out the other side. Loaves of bread were passed along the pews for people to break off a morsel. Then chalices of wine were passed round in the same way. The choir, led by a talented blind pianist, sang during the distribution.

REMARKABLE SETTING

Seated in the chapel I could see Hantane Mountain to my right, rising over Kandy. I was born on the side of that mountain! On the left we looked out on a lush flower garden and lily pond. A pleasant breeze wafted through the building and we could hear birds calling from nearby trees. And then . . . the distant rumble of drums, beaten by Buddhist monks in the Temple of the Sacred Tooth. In this remarkable setting we shared the communion of the Lord's Supper, a fitting climax to the celebrations.

During my two-week stay in Sri Lanka I had the opportunity of visiting several areas of outstanding beauty and wildlife, including Sinharaj Forest. There I saw a number of rare species of birds, animals and plants. The orchids were particularly beautiful. Sinharaj Forest is an extensive, tropical rain forest and the only place in the world where certain species of bird still exist in reasonable numbers.

Boys fishing near Tissamaharama



High rise view of Colombo

It was awe-inspiring to spend a day walking through that forest. The Sri Lanka Government has given special protection to Sinharaj and it can only be entered by permit. I travelled there by chartered jeep and on the way back to the Rest House, where I was lodging, we drove through a violent tropical rain storm when the roads became like rivers — an eerie experience in the darkness.

VIOLENCE

While I was engaged in these various activities two events occurred in the island, not very far away. In one incident terrorists ambushed a bus full of people — men, women and children — and massacred them on the roadside in a lonely place. Two or three days later a bomb exploded in the main bus station in Colombo at the busiest time of the day, killing over 100 people and injuring scores of others. A curfew was imposed on the city and my return there had to be timed when the curfew was temporarily lifted.

It is a sad fact of life that innocent people, even on that lovely island, are tragically caught up in the violence and venom of political conflict. In this situation the Christian Church is a mediating influence on all the communities, helping to ease the tension and fear.

Before leaving Sri Lanka I preached at Cinnamon Gardens Baptist Church and in the congregation were Sinhalese, Tamils and people from the West, united in a common faith and love in the midst of such turbulent times.

Next month Bruce Henry visits India



Group of students outside MORLAIX Church, Brittany, June 1987

IN 1843 the BMS started a work in Brittany. The first missionary was a Welshman, John Jenkins, who was followed in the work by his son, Alfred L Jenkins. The work they pioneered has continued now for almost 150 years, and although Brittany has never known large churches there has been a continuing Baptist witness since those first days.

ENCOURAGING AN ISOLATED CHURCH

Massy students visit a work pioneered by the BMS 150 years ago

at
MORLAIX
MORLAIX
MORLAIX

A group of 17 staff and students from the language school in Massy spent an evangelistic weekend, based on the Morlaix church, towards the end of June. This is the furthest that a group from the Language School has ever been for a weekend, involving a round trip of over 1,000 kms.

The weekend was well worthwhile since it gave valuable experience to the students and encouraged a very isolated church. Apart from the little mission post at Roscoff, which is dependent on the church at Morlaix and only operates in the summer months with the influx of tourists, there is no other Protestant church of any sort for at least 40 miles from Morlaix.

The group from Massy travelled on Friday night and the Saturday was a day of intense activity, with most of the action focused around the Bible and Christian bookstall, which the young Pastor José Loncke, helped by members of the church, runs in the Morlaix market place.



David Boydell and some Massy students

Seventy people were stopped and interviewed about their religious beliefs and, although most seemed happy to spend ten minutes answering various questions, hardly any of them admitted attending church at all. The overwhelming majority have no contact with even the predominant Catholic Church and only 15 claimed to have a New Testament or Bible in their home. Almost all of these admitted that their Bible was seldom if ever read and only gathered dust!

Nevertheless, 21 of those interviewed were willing to leave their address for the Pastor to call and present them with a New Testament and this result is very encouraging.

One person, when asked whether they had a Bible or ever read one said, 'No, but I'd really love to read it.'

Another said, 'No, I've never read it, but I'm willing to try.'

The rest of Saturday was spent in other forms of evangelism, including singing in the streets, distributing tracts and invitations to come to a meeting in the church, and presenting the Christian equivalent of the Muppet Show.

Later there was an international evening at the church, with testimonies, songs and other contributions given by students and staff of nine different nationalities after which the evening ended with a video-tape presentation.

The service on Sunday was also led by the Massy group, with David Boydell, the Director of the Language School, talking about his experiences in Zaire. He was asked to preach at just a few hours notice!

Most of the Baptist and other Evangelical churches in Brittany owe their origin to missionary work, and in many cases to Welsh pioneers, who, in the 19th century used Welsh as a medium of expression, or readily learned the related Breton language.

Other churches founded in the 19th or 20th century, which now form part of the Baptist Federation in France, include the churches at Paimpol and Plougrescant on the north coast, and churches at Douarnenez and Quimper in south-west Brittany, which were originally founded by the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist. These churches have recently joined the Baptist Federation.

BMS YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROJECT 1987/88

Sometimes it's easy to mistake what a country is really like. In real life, France is a country like Britain, with many people who have all sorts of needs. But the greatest need of all is to know Jesus Christ, and most French people, according to the Catholic Church, have not even heard the Gospel.

The French Baptist Federation is trying to meet some of those needs. There are many large towns in France with no effective Christian witness. So the Federation is planning to start new churches in every region (like British counties) of France. Already, there is outreach work in 40 out of the 90 regions.

In order to send two couples (a husband and wife) to France, to learn the language well and begin work, it's going to cost £18,000. This year's BMS Young People's Project is all about raising the money, learning about France and praying for French people.

A poster and slide set telling you more about French Baptist life is available now! A project pack full of games, activities, information, songs, recipes, and more is ready! Write in for your project pack today.

**For further information
contact —**

**The
Baptist
Missionary
Society**

**93 Gloucester Place
LONDON W1H 4AA**



NEW MISSIONARIES IN THAILAND

**Ray and Diane Rotolo are
American Baptists who have
recently joined the missionary
task force in Thailand.**

WE've been here in Thailand just a few weeks and we're pretty 'green'. We're still working on survival skills like crossing the streets of Bangkok, bargaining with the vendors, and learning which things to pick out of the food so we're not breathing fire the rest of the day.

We're from Portland, Oregon and have been married almost two years now. Ray graduated from Claremont Men's College twelve years ago with an accounting degree, but spent his post-

college years in the life insurance business working in both management and sales. Diane graduated from Montana State University four years ago with a degree in nursing and has since been working on the medical floor of a Portland hospital.

Following God's lead in our lives we committed ourselves before marriage to going to the mission field together. The ensuing months were spent pursuing that vision and then making the necessary preparations once we

were accepted by the Baptist International Missions.

Our first three weeks in Thailand were spent at Kwai River Christian Hospital in Huey Malai, where we were put right to work. Ray dispensed drugs in the pharmacy, learned to do the book-keeping, which will be his primary responsibility, and even helped teach English at the school.

Diane became a real 'generalist', working with paediatrics, geriatrics, obstetrics, surgical patients, helping out in the outpatient clinic occasionally and doing some emergency room nursing, all of which are speciality areas of nursing back in the States. There are certainly some



Ray and Diane Rotolo

sit and visit. Each Sunday night the missionaries gather for dinner and fellowship.

In the first month the temperature in Sangklaburi was warm and very pleasant, but it is continually getting warmer and more humid to the point of being quite uncomfortable and energy-draining. Since this is still the 'cool' season we're a little worried about the fast approaching hot season.

Right now we are living in Bangkok for two months while we attend language school. Hopefully, that will equip us

with some of the basics and give us a foundation upon which to build. We are rewarded in our efforts every time we understand something and are able to respond.

There are a lot of Thailand Baptist Missionary Fellowship folk here. They have welcomed us with open arms and have become our 'family' away from home. We are excited about the different areas of ministry here in Thailand and praise God for the opportunity to be part of it.

Reprinted from the 'Thailand Tatler'.

great opportunities to learn new skills! We're reminded that God is not so concerned with our ability as with our availability!

Life revolves around the hospital and oftentimes staff members go in on their infrequent days off to see the patients, watch the activity, or lend a helping hand.

The hilltribe people, whom we mainly work with, are friendly and helpful, and very patient, waiting for hours on a busy day to see the doctor, without so much as a grumble.

Life is also slow-paced and simpler. A big event is when someone brings the mail up from Bangkok. In the evenings we might get together for games or just

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INFANT MORTALITY DOWN

UNICEF's Pro-Nino programme has helped to reduce the infant mortality rate to 46 per 1,000 births in the southern state of Santa Catarina, Brazil. Brazil's overall infant mortality rate is 67 per 1,000.

In Brazil's nine poorest states, all located in the drought-ridden north-east, where some 35 million Brazilians live, the rate is 116 per 1,000. The state of Ceará holds the country's highest infant mortality record with 126 per 1,000. Only Bolivia has a higher rate in South American — 142 per 1,000.

The UNICEF programme, begun in 1983 in Santa Catarina, emphasises a vigorous vaccination campaign and methods to encourage children's growth. It also makes available cheap but effective medicine to prevent dehydration and provides medical attention for those suffering respiratory and infectious illnesses. Efforts are being made in Ceará to launch a similar programme.

NEW CHURCHES IN FRANCE

TWO new churches have been received into membership by the Federation of Evangelical Baptist Churches in France. They are in Bordeaux and Nimes. This brings the number of churches within the Federation to 83.

CHINA PRINTING PRESS

THE building of the Amity Printing Press in Nanjing, China had progressed to such an extent that it was expected that the installation of printing machinery could begin in June.

The first of the machines, which are being funded by the United Bible Societies, is specially designed for Bible production. It is hoped that all of the machinery will be on line this month and that Bibles will be coming off the press in October.

According to *Word*, published by the Bible Society, churches in China are eagerly awaiting an improved supply of Bibles. Orders are already pouring in. 'In addition to an initial order for 100,000 non-reference Chinese Union Version Bibles, to be completed by the end of the year, the Amity Printing Press has received another order for 100,000 copies of the Chinese reference Bible for use by those engaged in Bible study or teaching.'

What's happening in the Church around the World

FRANCE IS A MISSION FIELD

EVANGELISM, training of church members and unity are the three things Robert Somerville, the new President of the French Baptist Federation considers most important. Robert, who is 57, is only the third president to occupy the office. According to the new rules of the Federation however his term will be limited to six years.

'France is a mission field,' he said, 'and we have to continue the mission of reaching new people with the Gospel of Christ and starting new churches. At the same time church members need to be trained for specific tasks in order to be better able to witness. We need the fulltime ministry to be accompanied by competent Christians.'

Talking about unity he explained that the Federation includes both charismatic and non-charismatic churches.

'This is a source of riches. We all have to learn from each other. I do pray that we will underline our similarities rather than our differences.'

Robert Somerville, who studied both at the University of Glasgow and the University of Oxford, is Professor of Christian Ethics at the Evangelical Seminary at Vaux-sur-Seine. He also directs the programme for continuing theological education for French Baptists.

He paid tribute to his predecessor in office, Andre Thobois, who served as president for 24 years.

'I am afraid I may not be able to face all the responsibilities of the presidency. I wonder if I have the same qualities and the moral and spiritual authority as Andre Thobois.'

The Federation has conferred on Andre Thobois the title of Honorary President of the Federation.

ISLAMIC MISSION

A LIBYAN based 'Society for the Preaching and Spreading of Islam' has opened a centre in West Germany. It has headquarters in Bonn under the name 'Call of Islam'. The Society is said to be the most active Islamic missionary organization according to a news release from the German Evangelical Alliance.

Besides preaching Islam, the aim of the Society is to promote 'the building of Islamic cultural centres and training establishments in the West'. It has an annual budget of \$100 million.

There are three other such organizations in West Germany.

SIX BHOPALS A DAY!

SOME interesting statistics have been revealed by the Catholic Hospital Association of India which suggest that there are some things radically wrong with the system of medical care in the country.

In India there are more drug companies (8,000) than primary health centres (6,000). There are more doctors than nurses, more drug formulations than health posts.

Every fifth drug produced in the country, according to the Prime Minister, is spurious. Four out of five drugs manufactured and marketed in India are not needed.

Every 20 seconds a child dies in India, which is 3,000 avoidable deaths a day. In other words, a casualty figure that equals one Bhopal disaster every four hours.

In absolute terms, more children die in India than in 46 African countries put together, or three times as many infant deaths as in China, a more populous country.

MISSIONTALK

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MAKING THE CONNEXION

AS each new Young People's project is announced, the leaders of the South Harrow Junior Church try to work out a way the children's weekly offerings can be recorded visually. Offerings for the project are now part of morning worship and there are always many willing hands to hold the box, or whatever receptacle we use.

The 'Reach Out' project of 1985 gave us the idea to produce a cardboard model of a mini-bus which moved along the

length of the church brick by brick at £1 stages. There are 147 bricks in the length of the church wall. The bus had to go around the corner and finished up over the pulpit by the time a halt was called.

The 'Top Gear' project for 1986 presented different problems. Then someone remembered that in the always overfull Sunday School cupboard there was an old model of Grenfell's boat *Peace*. This had been used as a



Lucy, Caroline and Adam show the Rev Dennis Floodgate the Lego Eiffel Tower French Connexion Project Indicator which they built.

collecting box many years before. A wash and brush up soon made it the focal point of attention each week, its course plotted up the river Zaire from town to town via the overhead projector. Over £200 was given by the children for this project, plus, of course, some understanding about the river and the BMS stations.

The 1987 'French Connection' is a different challenge altogether.

'No! Snails don't go fast enough.'

'Onions? Well someone might object, but what can you do with an onion?'

'Take up a collection in a beret. . . ? A bit too much like passing the hat round.'

We finally agreed on a bread-roll basket draped in red, white and blue ribbons to remind us that the French too need Jesus as the 'Bread of Life'.

So the basket receives the money and a model of the Eiffel Tower is acting as an indicator of our progress. The model shows a little girl ascending in £5 stages to the top, which is £100 and since in France little boys chase little girls he is waiting his turn as soon as possible. So far she is doing well, especially now that even the Primary have learned simple choruses in French to encourage her on her way. We hope they will soon be on the pinnacle together.

It's all very serious really, but great fun.

BMS LONDON BAPTIST MISSIONARY UNION AUTUMN MEETING

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church London

Monday 5th October 1987
7.30pm

is that
me?

BMS AREA REPRESENTATIVES



GALE FORCE

GALE FORCE! Rain and wind there was both before and after, but Saturday, 20 June, when 2,000 Baptists from the West Midland Area met at the Staffordshire Showground, was sunny.

The theme, 'Furthering the Kingdom', was introduced by Andy Bruce, a regular president of BMS Summer Holidays. There were sports for children, two fringe shows and a continuous chat show. Seminars included the inner city, Asian ministry, drugs and alcohol, and evangelistic methods. Fred Stainthorpe led the seminar on World Mission.

Twenty of the 70 exhibitions concerned BMS and included a reconstructed Nepali house and a presentation of how BMS spends its money. The section showing what 30p per week would buy in the shops resulted in several people asking if they could buy the chocolate displayed.

Other exhibits were provided by Helen Towers, a volunteer in Chandraghona, Helen Fasham, who recently visited India, Newbridge exhibited their missionary link with the Christines in Rondonopolis and there was a slide presentation on the mission partnership with France. Midland missionaries from Yakusu, John and Ruth Davis, and Jackie Wells from Ruhea were able to give life and meaning to their work in Zaire and Bangladesh.

The address of **Rev Gareth Hutchinson, BMS Representative in Wales**, is now:

20 Southward Lane,
Langland,
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Tel: **0792 360909**

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Newton Mearns,
GLASGOW,
G77 5AW.

Tel: **0342 311804**



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LISALA CHOIR

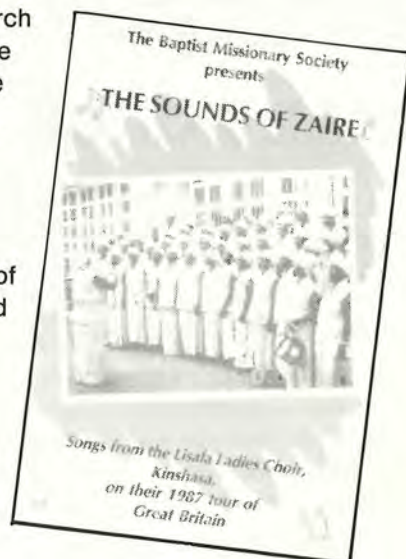
From Ruth Wiffen

I WAS not able to hear the Lisala Baptist Church Ladies' Choir, but how I appreciated the article by Ruth Clinch! She made the whole thing live and I caught some of the joy and enthusiasm which must have been experienced by those who heard the choir 'in the flesh'.

The stay in Britain will surely remain in the memories of those African ladies for the rest of their lives and I trust that they have left behind them much for our people which will be of benefit in the future.

Chelmsford, Essex.

A cassette tape of the choir is available, price £3.00. Write to: BMS, 93 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4AA.



EVANGELISM IS CENTRAL

From David Blenkins

I WOULD like to congratulate you on the current issue (July) of the *Missionary Herald*. It's one of the most exciting and challenging issues that I can recall reading.

What came through was the centrality of the work of evangelism be it China, France, Angola, India, Brazil, Sri Lanka, India again, plus and minus, advance

and challenge. This must be how we will stir our churches.

The caring, partnership work in agriculture, hospitals . . . is important, but our central work must be evangelism and *this must come across*.

We were privileged to have Dr Suna speaking in our church and it would be

a great means of communication to have such people come across and visit our churches and perhaps be involved with some deputation meetings.

Cathcart, Glasgow

DAVID BLENKINS

CALLED TO GO OVERSEAS?

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ON Saturday 31 October 1987, 10.30 am – 4 pm

For more information, or to reserve a place, please contact:

The Revd Derek Mucklow, 51 Clandon Close, EPSOM, Surrey KT17 2NH

CHURCH IN CHINA 6-12 September

CHINA, home to over one quarter of the world's population, was an area of strong mission work before the Communist takeover in 1949.

Today the Church in China is larger and healthier than it has ever been. The China Christian Council is implementing the principles of the Three Self Movement – self government, self support and self propagation. The Church is united under one banner with no denominational division. It continues to grow and there is an ever increasing need for more pastors.

Pray for the Theological Seminaries – both old, as at Nanjing, and new alike. There is a big age gap between the pre-cultural revolution pastors and the newly trained ones. Pray that there may be harmony and understanding between them all. Pray for Bishop Ting, Chairman of the Chinese Christian Council, with all his many responsibilities.

The new Amity Printing Press has been built close to Nanjing and will be producing Bibles and other Christian literature for the church in Chinese. Remember the Amity Christian Foundation as it seeks to provide a Christian presence in different areas of Chinese life. Pray for the British Christian teachers who are now working there.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING IN ASIA – BANGLADESH 13-19 September

PRAISE God for the number of women who have come forward for Women's Leadership Training and that quite a number of these women are putting into practice what they have learned.

Pray for Mrs Amita Baroi who is heading up this work during 1987 and the Women's Training Camp to be held shortly. Classes are also held regularly for pastors and Evangelists in the Dinajpur District – a group of about twelve meet regularly. These classes are organized by the Rev James S Roy. The materials used are prepared by the College of Christian Theology in Dhaka and the Norwegian Lutheran Group working in North-East Bangladesh.

Pray that the pastors will really share with national Christians in the churches on Sundays what they have learned. Pray that Christians throughout the country will find peace and joy, and that the church will grow. Remember Jaqui Wells who works especially among the women in Dinajpur and who is involved in the Training Camps. Pray, too, for development projects to help women through vocational training projects in Jessore, and women's workers in Barisal and Faridpur.

MEDICAL WORK IN ZAIRE – IME KIMPESE 20-26 September

THROUGHOUT Zaire, the Christian hospitals have a high reputation, not only for the standard of their medical services, but also for their Christian, caring attitudes. This Christian basis at a hospital like IME Kimpese, in the Lower River Region, encourages both staff and patients to form a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. The hospital serves as a Reference Hospital for a Rural Health Zone of over 117,000 people. Dr Stephen Green is Assistant Director of the Public Health Department with responsibilities in the Primary Health care programmes, as well as being Paediatrician and Director of the School. The School continues to train 30 nurses and laboratory technicians, in very difficult economic and staffing situations. Cit Balandu and Miss White – an American Baptist – are responsible for the Nursing and Lab sections respectively. Michael Cranefield teaches in the lab section. The Pharmacy, with Gwen Hunter at the helm, supplies the needs of both Hospital and Health Zone, with increasing difficulties caused by taxation and imported drugs and stringent controls.

RETIRED MISSIONARIES 27 September-3 October

RETIRED missionaries are still a part of the BMS and continue to make a vital contribution to its life and work. Some of them have been elected to the General Committee, others provide information and write articles about their various situations and work. Nearly all of them keep in touch with the churches and national Churches overseas retaining a lively, praying interest. We remember them in our prayers, giving thanks to God for all that they have done and continue to do in the cause of the Kingdom. We pray God's blessing on them, that they may continue to know His peace and fulfilment in their lives now.

South Lodge in Worthing provides a home for some of these colleagues. Mr and Mrs Barrett are the wardens, and we remember them in their work. As we give thanks to God for what these friends have done and continue to do, it is fitting to pray for the new generation of servants, willing to obey God's call. Let us continue to pray for those who are so badly needed overseas, that they might hear the call of God in their lives and respond.

NEW MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

TEN people from Baptist churches in Britain have been accepted for service overseas with the BMS. At the BMS General Committee meetings it was agreed that seven new candidates and three former missionaries should serve in Zaire, Bangladesh, El Salvador and Brazil.

DAVID MEE, minister of Darkhouse Baptist Church, Coseley, in the West Midlands, is to serve as the BMS's first missionary in El Salvador.

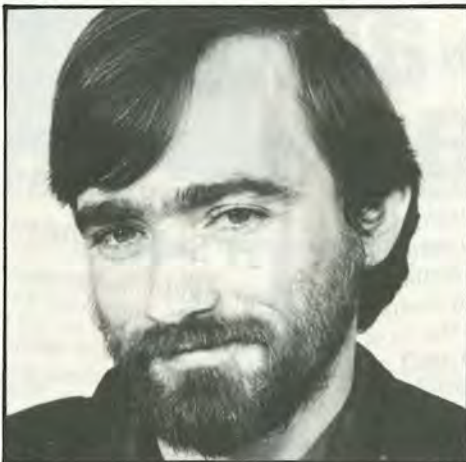
'My awareness of El Salvador and its struggles began when Archbishop Romero was assassinated, a death for which, as yet, no one has been brought to justice. Interest and subsequent involvement was inspired by the visit of Dr Marta Benevides, a Baptist minister, when she visited Britain five years ago. She left us in no doubt that merely learning about El Salvador was not enough. Our faith does not demand knowledge so much as informed response.'

David visited El Salvador in 1984 and became more and more convinced that a personal response was required.

'But it seemed far better to go to El Salvador not as an isolated individual

but with the support and backing of an organisation. As a Baptist the BMS seemed the most appropriate. This also provides a channel for deeper commitment on the part of various congregations in Britain too.'

As reported last month, David will be going to work as a pastor with the El Salvador Baptist Association.



RUTH WOOD has already served for two years in Zaire. Married now, she is returning to missionary service with her husband ALAN.

'The realization that concern for world mission is not an optional extra for Christians, but an essential part of the spiritual life led me to an involvement with a local mission support group. Then came personal crisis point. I had to decide between seeking God's will



DENISE PRICE is a nurse and after training at Spurgeon's College, Selly Oak, Brussels and Antwerp, she will be going to Zaire. She is a member of Holland Road Baptist Church, Hove and is at present a Community Staff Nurse in Brighton.



ALISON DUTTON comes from Preston, where she is a member of Ashton Baptist Church, although she originally comes from Norwich.

'I first began to consider service overseas when I visited a friend in Sri Lanka in the summer of 1985. That experience broadened my perspective of God's world and church. It challenged me and excited me and I knew that the least I could do was to make myself available to be used in this way by God.'

Alison, who teaches science subjects at Fulwood High School, Preston, will go as a teacher to Zaire.

DAVID CHAMPION is a teacher who will be going to the British Association School in Kinshasa, Zaire. He was baptised at Hitherfield Road Baptist Church, Streatham and is now a member of Folkestone Baptist Church.

'A seed sown many years ago brought me to the point of considering service overseas with the BMS having a cousin who was left in this country while her parents were serving as missionaries, and listening to a missionary describing how hard it is to leave children, I have been overwhelmed by the sacrifice that many make to serve God. I felt if God allowed I would like to teach the children of missionaries. When I saw an advert in the *Missionary Herald* instead of just thinking about it I decided to test the water and follow it up.'



SHEILA LOADER is a member of St James Road Baptist Church, Watford and is a teacher in a primary school.

'It was about a year and a half ago when I first felt that God was calling me to teach abroad. At that time I had no idea where or how, until I saw an advertisement in the *Herald* asking for teachers for work in Africa and Bangladesh. A high percentage of children at my present school come from an Asian background and a small proportion of them are from Bangladesh. There was no question as to where I should go to teach. It had to be Bangladesh.'



JOHN and YVONNE PULLIN are former BMS missionaries in Brazil and will be returning to that country to serve with the Mato Grosso do Sul Baptist Convention. John was last

year's president of the English Section of the Welsh Baptist Union. John has also been chairman of the Welsh SDP. He is at present the minister at Tenby.



ELIZABETH BAKER is a member of New Malden Baptist Church and is going as a teacher to Zaire. The visit of Brazil missionaries to her church ten years ago confirmed her call to be a missionary.

'I felt God was calling me and preparing me, but the time was not then. Now with qualifications and

experience behind me I feel that the time is right. I'm very excited. Africa has always had its attractions and I really love and appreciate different people, ideas and cultures. I know it's not going to be easy, but God is all powerful. If He has called me to go, He can equip me.'



for my life and following my own ambition to be a forensic scientist. For two and half years, while Ruth was in Zaire, there was a time of searching as I worked in my local hospital as medical laboratory scientific officer.'

Ruth has wanted to be a missionary all her life.

'My call led to a two year short-term service in Bolobo, Zaire, with the BMS and this proved a test for my call and a good training ground as well.'

After Ruth's return from Zaire, they married and after much prayer went on to train for long-term service. They have both been accepted for service in Zaire.

NEW MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

A BRIDGE OF RECONCILIATION ON THE RIVER KWAI

IN November, Dr Akira Koga, a Japanese ophthalmologist, returned to Thailand to work with Dr Phil McDaniel at the Kwai River Christian Hospital for ten days. He had been to the hospital once before – four years ago and had taught Phil how to do cataract surgery. This visit was to be a ‘refresher course’ for Phil. During the ten days he was there, Dr Koga and Phil were able to do 25 eye surgeries together.

Mondays are always the busiest days at the hospital and the first Monday of Dr Koga’s visit was no exception. In the midst of a busy outpatient clinic – with general medical patients as well as patients with eye problems – a group of visitors arrived. This was a Dutch group of former World War II prisoners of war with their wives and children. The former POW’s had worked on the ‘Death Railway’ in this area and were interested to see the many changes that had taken place in the last 40 years.

The visit to the hospital was a short side trip for them. The group visited the hospital just as morning rounds were finishing and the hospital workers were introduced to them. Loes de Vos, the Australian pharmacist, being born in Holland, conversed with them in Dutch. Dr Koga, who was a small boy during the war but can remember Allied bombing near his home, apologized for the treatment prisoners had experienced in the hands of the Japanese.

While Dr Koga continued to examine eye patients, four members of the Dutch group donated blood for several very sick hospital inpatients, and a dentist among them (the son of one of the former prisoners) extracted an impacted tooth for a hospital staff member. There appeared to be a feeling of friendship between the Japanese doctor and the former Japanese prisoners as they worked together to help alleviate suffering among some of the poor village people of Thailand.

From the ‘Thailand Tatler’

MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS

Arrivals

Mr and Mrs A North on 3 July from Kinshasa, Zaire.

Mrs E Grose on 5 July from New Delhi, India.

Mrs L Hinchin on 9 July from Cuiaba, Brazil.

Miss M Swires on 9 July from Campo Grande, Brazil (Mid-term holiday).

Mr O Clark on 10 July from Kinshasa, Zaire.

Rev and Mrs R Draycott on 11 July from Paranaiba, Brazil.

Dr R Hart on 18 July from Chandraghona, Bangladesh.

Miss S Shields on 24 July from Kinshasa, Zaire.

Miss B Olding on 24 July from Kinshasa, Zaire.

Miss M Bishop on 26 July from Yakusu, Zaire.

Departures

Mr and Mrs S Little on 10 July to Kathmandu, Nepal.

Drs C and M Burnett on 15 July to Kinshasa, Zaire.

Mr and Mrs S Seymour on 15 July to Tondo, Zaire.

Miss R Berry on 23 July to Kathmandu, Nepal.

Mr and Mrs J Clewett on 23 July to Kathmandu, Nepal.

Miss P Woolhouse on 29 July to CECO, Kimpese, Zaire.

Marriages

Mr Paul Peter Stuart married **Miss Isobel Smith** on 3 July at Dumbarton.

Miss Judith Ann Willis married **Mr Derek Steed** on 4 July at Stratford, London.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Secretaries acknowledge with grateful thanks the following legacies, and gifts sent anonymously (to 23 June 1987).

	£
Miss Louisa Mary Davey	5,040.00
Mrs Nellie Ewer	500.00
Mrs V M Godsland	500.00
Mrs Kathleen Mary Hodges	500.00
Miss Margaret A Killip	34,255.11
Mrs Betty Lewis	500.00
Mrs F M E D Madeley	100.00

General Work:

Anon Perth: £200; Anon Durham: £26; Anon: £5;
FAE Aberdeen: £20; Anon: £20; Cymro: £70;
Anon: £30; Anon: £50; Anon: £100.

TEACHERS FOR CHINA

Teachers of English, graduates with TEFL qualifications and experience are, we hope, going to be needed again for two year appointments, from August 1988.

Churches and missionary societies are again expecting to work together in response to a request from the Amity Foundation in China.

A second category, of graduates to be used in English conversation, is also expected to be needed.

If you are interested in working in China please write to:

***The Personnel Secretary,
The Baptist Missionary Society,
93 Gloucester Place,
LONDON W1H 4AA***

NOTICES

COLOUR POSTERS

The first two in our new series of full colour A3 size posters are now available at £1.00 each, inclusive.

By popular request we have reproduced the cover photograph of the March 1986 *Herald* featuring the two young girls from Nepal.

The second poster is of a Baptism scene in the Kond Hills, India.

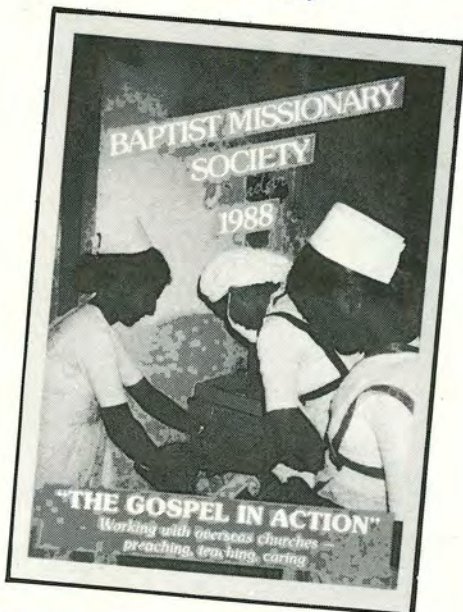
NEEDED URGENTLY

Those prepared to serve in:

- France** — Evangelistic and Church Planting work with the Evangelical Federation of French Baptists.
- Thailand** — Evangelical and Church Planting work.
- Zaire** — A person with expertise for erection of pumps for hospital water supplies.

1988 CALENDARS

These are now available!
Yes really! Just write into Mission House
and your order will be despatched
immediately.



It is an engagement calendar, A4 in size with 14 full colour photographs illustrating the areas where BMS is at work.

The cost? £1.50 or £1.75 by post.

MAKE MISSION LIVE!

Workshops for

Missionary Secretaries, Ministers,
Youth Leaders, etc.
and all interested in mission education

10 a.m. — 4 p.m.

PLYMOUTH — Saturday 12 September
at Mutley Baptist Church

TRURO — Saturday 7 November
at Truro Baptist Church

Further details from:

Rev Peter F E Amies
9 Newport Close
Clevedon
Avon
BS21 5DZ
Tel: 0272 875563