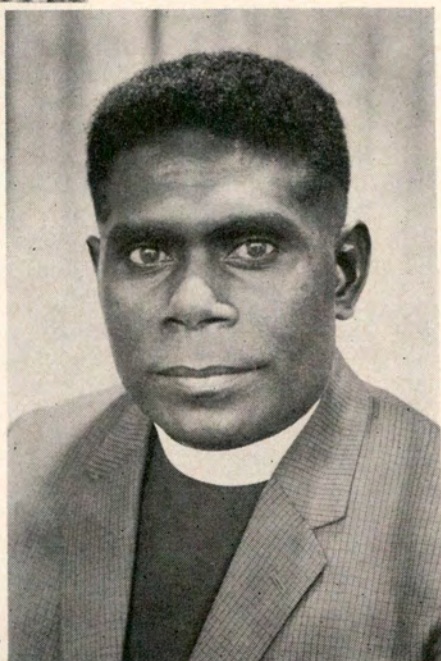


The

OPEN DOOR



Christmas 1967

For Your Quiet Time

A GROWING CHURCH

+ The Word became flesh and dwelt among us

+ You are the Body of Christ . . .

+ You shall be my witnesses . . .

As the new Church — the United Church of Papua and New Guinea and the British Solomon Islands comes into being on the 19th January, 1968, will you please pray:

- for the indigenous leaders who must accept new responsibilities
- for the missionaries from overseas who must increasingly find a new place and a new relationship within the United Church
- for the outreach of the Church, particularly in the towns, among the university students and other highly educated young people
- for the witness of the Church in the total life of a community reaching out for independence and new freedoms
- for the associated mission boards and their secretaries as they seek to do their part in the development of the new situation
- for the community which this young church will serve — the Territory of Papua and New Guinea and the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.



"A wide door for effective work has opened."

1 Cor. 16.9 (R.S.V.).

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OUR COVER:

Rev. Leslie Boseto and his wife Hazel are at present in New Zealand. Mr. Boseto has been nominated to succeed the Rev. E. C. Leadley as Chairman of the Solomon Islands Church.

EDITORIAL

Our guest editor this time is Mrs. L. G. White of Nelson, Dominion President of the Methodist Women's Fellowship.

CHALLENGE TO SUPPORT

In the previous issue of the "Open Door", the guest editor challenged to service; service through positive action; participation through the sharing of knowledge, skills and ability. At Hamilton recently, all who attended the Annual Convention of the Methodist Women's Fellowship (1967) must surely have been challenged to support; support to a much greater degree those who go forth to serve; support to a deeper point of sacrifice, the work of our church and our people in the Pacific.

On the evening of the Overseas Missionary programme, to be privileged to look upon and to listen to the Rev. Leslie Boseto, Chairman-elect of Methodism in the Solomons, was to be presented with proof of the strength of leadership that is emerging and developing on our Mission fields. To hear Mrs. Hazel Boseto shyly but with firm conviction give thanks to God, was a testimony which touched every heart.

To share with a panel of missionary speakers their frustrations and their disappointments; to become increasingly aware of their source of inward power, their dedication; to realise their initiative as they seek to cope with the difficulties that accompany the changing situations among the hitherto illiterate peoples — such experiences undoubtedly presented a challenge to the representative gathering in Hamilton: a challenge to more effective implementation of the aim of the Women's Fellowship, "To support the work of the Church at home and abroad."

An item within the STAMP FUND allocations this year gained special significance. The grant towards the support of an M.W.F. Organiser in the Solomon Islands became joyously personal as the name of Sister Lesley Bowen was attached to this position. A member of the Women's Fellowship in the Solomons recently commented, "This is a new age in the development of our Islands, especially for the women. No longer do they have to stay at home and spend their entire time working. They can now develop some interests of their own." Another aim of the N.Z. Women's Fellowship is "to promote the spiritual and social life of its members so that they may make a Christian witness in home, church and community." It is to help the women of the Solomon Islands to achieve this aim in their own land that Sister Lesley is going forward, to her former fields of service in a new capacity,

as M.W.F. Organiser. She is due to leave New Zealand early in January. Her Commissioning Service will be held in Wesley Church, Blenheim on Sunday, 17th December. The Nelson members of the National Executive plan to be present at this service as a token of the involvement of the N.Z. women in this sister organisation on the Mission fields. The attendance of the Executive will signify a pledge, a promise of continuing support — support that is both prayerful and practical.

Perhaps one of the most encouraging features of the 1967 Convention at Hamilton was the presence of a goodly percentage of "first-timers", many of them in the younger age-group. It is to these women in particular that the Fellowship now looks for the spreading of the inspiration of the Missionary programmes.

Ways of life may change; forms of meetings may change; but the challenge to service and to the support of those who labour in Christ's name, remains steadfast and unchanging.

Sister Lesley H. Bowen

Sister Lesley comes from Blenheim. She is a nurse qualified in general, midwifery and Plunket. She was first appointed to the Solomon Islands District in 1956 and served at the Helena Goldie, Skotolan and Kekesu hospitals with great acceptance. At Kekesu she did an outstanding piece of work among the women folk building up the women's fellowships. Throughout her service she took a real interest in Girls' Brigade and was an officer of the company on whichever station she served. At the end of 1963 she returned to New Zealand for family reasons. Since then she has been active in the work of the church in the Blenheim circuit and in the Girls' Brigade. In recent months Sister Lesley has resumed her nursing career. She is now appointed as M.W.F. organiser for the Solo-

mons and her costs are being largely born by the M.W.F. in New Zealand and the M.W.F. in the Solomons.



One Increasing Purpose

M.W.F. CONVENTION 1967

by Mrs. W. Dowie

What a theme for women who are seeking opportunities to serve their Lord and Master! Yet we wonder, sometimes, about the worth of our increasing activities within the society of our Church. Surely the person to 'take the bull by the horns' and stir us into an increasing purpose, was Dr. Phyllis Guthardt. Morning devotions led by her were a joy and a blessing, as she guided us each day through the gospel of John, bringing these teachings of Christ to our needs.

Our NEEDS? We have a thousand needs, but the first (and most neglected) is for us to learn the Faith, how can we serve in our Church and Community unless we are sure of our Faith. Then, too, we should be working now with Women's Groups of the Uniting Churches. We are ready in our hopes, to have a United Church, but when it comes to a reality, we are perhaps not so sure. We must have GROWTH in our vision, as we go forward into another year with one increasing purpose.

LEADERSHIP

As each Convention passes, we say, "that was the best" and so it really is, but Hamilton 1967 will be remembered by the 120 delegates who came from the North Cape to the Bluff, because of the leadership of Mrs. Dorrie White.

The Executive were prepared, each standing loyally behind the President, and yet not once during any business was pressure exerted on delegates by the National Committee. Decisions were made by those present, in the name of their Districts, and all felt more than satisfied in the profound way in which we were led.

W.F.M.W.

Many of you who read this journal, will know about the WORLD FEDERATION OF METHODIST WOMEN, and that a New Zealander is the Secretary of this growing body. Yes, **Mrs. Winifred Dudley** has come a long way with the Federation, and it was exciting to hear her tell of the hopes and dreams of these women with vision; it was a young woman missionary who first imagined a world organisation, thus it is a dream fulfilled and one which is gaining strength. This is the first World Federation of Christian women; we pray the time when it will involve women of every Christian denomination.

OVERSEAS CHURCH

The Overseas Mission Department presented the Wednesday evening Programme. Speakers included Sister Beverley Withers, very recently home on furlough, who explained the

changes in the work of the medical missionary. Sister Edith James spoke, nay **pleaded**, the urgency for teachers and all helpful assistance for the education of the Islands people, especially for those in the New Guinea Highlands. Do you know there are 194 indigenous workers on the staff in the Highlands, 180 of whom are illiterate and these minister to 10,000 Church members.

Mrs. Nancy Carter gave a picture of women's work, how the Fellowship had grown, and of the enthusiasm of the members who think nothing of travelling for a month to attend a district rally. It is wonderful to know that Sister Lesley Bowen is going back as M.W.F. organiser, to do this important job for us (if you would like to do something for Sister Lesley to help her in some way, just contact Rev. G. Carter, he will be happy to hear from you).



Mrs. Doris White



Sister Beverly Withers

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHT

A visit from the **Rev. Leslie Boseto** and **Mrs. Boseto**. Here in New Zealand we are most conscious of the 'increasing purpose' of the Melanesian Church. Rev. Leslie impressed us all with his sincerity and knowledge of the needs of his people. His fluency in so many languages is to be envied, and he assured us in no uncertain terms that **OUR AID IS STILL VITALLY NEEDED**. As the Solomon Islands Church moves into independency, our Ministers, Teachers and Nurses will be still needed — but their position will change from being the leader, to that of a supporting or advisory role.

Mrs. Boseto thanked the M.W.F. for past help and brought greetings from the 136 Fellowship groups in the Solomons. We pray for this couple at this time, that their stay in New Zealand will bring to them, and been placed, much understanding and rich blessing.

COME OVER AND HELP

God is at Work in the Highlands

HE HAS DONE THIS:

1950-1959	THE SEED PLANTED
1960	15 members
1961	39 "
1962	287 "
1963	1063 "
1964	1799 "
1965	3947 "
1966	7221 "
1967	9917 "

BUT WILL THEY BE LEFT AS SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD?

It Depends on You

THE GROWING CHURCH

EVANGELISM:

The preaching of the Gospel has reached all people in the Circuit; they have a chance to listen to the Word of God, but it does not mean that everyone has accepted Christ as their Saviour. Two trained Highland Pastors are being very outstanding examples to other non-Christians who are spectators of our work. The talents which have been given to these two men are what they are giving back to their people.

But brethren, let me say this; an Axehead may need a wooden handle but not a wooden file to sharpen it; Iron alone can sharpen iron says the proverbs. Evangelism is an Axe which needs a wooden handle. Ministers, Pastors, Teachers, Carpenters, Nurses, are handles of the work of God, but how can we, the Church workers, be fully qualified for the Church's work without training? Once we have put a handle in the Axehead it is no longer by itself. It will need more to fit it for the work which lies ahead. The Church needs God's people to make it a Church, and the people need more to meet the future needs of the Church. (From the report of the Huli Circuit

— Rev. Matthew Beaso,
Superintendent).

THE PEOPLE AND THEIR FAITH:

The Church is growing and still spreading to new areas, and the people have begun to realise their part in its activities. Many have committed their lives to our Saviour Jesus Christ, yet their faith needs more



Rev. C. J. Keightly

spiritual nourishment. Many have come to the crossroads whether to choose Christianity or to cling to their old heathen beliefs, and amazingly many have accepted Christianity to be their religion.

Some problems and difficulties have faced the Christians here and so often they have been misled or tempted by others to forsake their faith or to leave their Church and join another Church or denomination.

As the number of Full Church Members has increased again this year by 688 believers, making a total of 2285 full members, it makes us concerned about their spiritual training and care. Thus, we are requesting another four trained pastors to meet the needs of the people and their faith.

From the Report of the MAGARIMA CIRCUIT — Rev. Aminiasl Qalo Superintendent

PIONEER RETIRES (Rev. C. J. HUTTON)

Looking Back:

This is the fifteenth year of our work in this valley and the Church here along with the Huli people in general have reached, I believe, a milestone — —a water-shed — in their history. For seven years the Gospel seed was sown here, by word and deed, before any fruit was seen. The next seven years saw at first only small returns in lives won for Christ but these were followed by a tremendous harvest. Today the Church membership in this valley is 4958 of which 3557 are in the Tari Circuit. The Church is established. This same period of spiritual growth has had its parallel growth in medical and educational work. The relation between these is very evident. Of special note is the tremendous expansion of our maternity and infant welfare work, especially in the last five years. A climax was the opening of a new hospital last October, which several thousand from all over the valley attended.

Looking Forward:

The Huli Church and its people generally face an uncertain future. They must go somewhere. We pray that the tremendous potential that exists among these people may be channelled wisely and fruitfully by God's Spirit through His Servants that carry on the task. Medically it is a day of great promise and opportunity. However, **I must emphasise the danger of insufficient staff in our maternity work.** Educationally it is also a day of opportunity for young Hulis even though there are definite limits. But economically the future is quite precarious. If the present state of affairs continues there are dangers of which the Church needs to make itself aware if it is to endure and grow. This young church still needs much nurturing. There are many weak spots. We thank God for what He has done, for calling us to be His co-workers in these wonderful years and plead that He will continue to pour out His Spirit in this needy place.



Baptismal group.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

1967 is for two reasons a big year in the history of St. Paul's College. It has marked the commencement of a course of Pastor Training in Pidgin English, with a group of seventeen students representing all circuits except Lai. While it is too early yet to make any judgement on this course, it is already quite obvious that there are some outstanding men in the course, men who would otherwise have no opportunity to receive training. The appointment of Sondowe as a lecturer has proved to be a very wise choice. He has considerable gifts as a teacher and has quickly won the respect of the men.

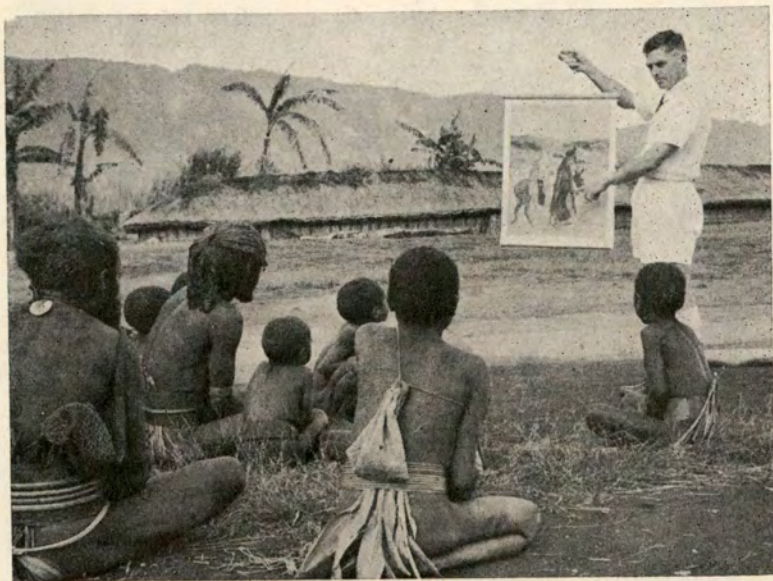
— *Rev. A. Graham Smith, Principal, St. Paul's College and Chairman-elect.*

ON BEING THE CHURCH

The Mendi Church is trying to face the challenge of a new and difficult situation in three ways:

1. Theology of salvation. God has overcome the spirits in Jesus Christ. The past need no longer bind us.
2. Theology of meaning. Jesus is Lord of the present and the future. We need not be afraid of that which is ahead.
3. Theology of the Church. The local Church is called to support itself and through its meetings and its workers, both paid and unpaid, carry on the work that Christ has called it to do.

— *Rev. D. R. Clarke*



TEACHING BY THE WAYSIDE —
A Highlands Scene

ADVANCE IN MEDICAL WORK LEPROSY MISSION — TARI

On the second of February this year the long talked about Leprosy team arrived at Hoiebia to take up residence. They commenced work at the hospital immediately and already we have seen many signs of the benefit of having them here working amongst the patients.



Sister A. Thorburn

Appreciation:

We extend appreciation to the Leprosy Mission for financial aid granted to our Church to assist those suffering with Leprosy here in the Highlands. Also to those in both New Zealand and Australia who have forwarded gifts for the benefit of patients. I thank God for the opportunity of sharing in this work of Mission.

— Mr. W. D. Griffiths, Manager

New Hands:

On the 17th February we used our theatre for the first time, and up to date we have done either minor or major surgery on 56 patients, 26 of these being general cases and 39 leprosy patients. We have done 2 hand reconstructions and 1 foot drop operation. The team is also concentrating on control work, and this has been commenced.

Spiritual:

We continue to see the evidence of the Holy Spirit's work among the lives of the patients. This year there have been several baptisms Morning devotions are held daily. The patients now have their own service at the hospital on Sunday mornings instead of the afternoon. Members' Class for the patients is also held at the hospital.

— Sister V. Bock

GROWTH AT NIPA

The passing of another year, while not witnessing any unforeseen growth or giving cause for complacency, has at least helped to underline the basic soundness of the approach so far made in the Circuit, and to confirm the genuine experience at the heart of most of the people's response.

Behind a considerable statistical growth in membership lies a record of many real encounters with God in Christ and of responses in commitment.

For this we give thanks not only to the team of past and present leadership but above all to the Spirit of God who can make mere words come alive, and who must work beyond and in spite of our message.

In many other respects we are conscious of how inadequate our in-

The Open Door



Rev. and Mrs. David Kitchingman

struction and guidance have been. We have not yet been able to produce a much needed course of further training for Church members. The task involves not only furnishing more basic teaching but also encouraging them to think through the faith for themselves and to be able to make responsible decisions on the many practical issues beginning to confront them. It is not too soon to be thinking of whether some new forms of witness and service are required. Increasingly these things should be related to the people's economic and political progress too. We would like to be able to help them more, but the way ahead is far from clear.

In the meantime there is ample scope in trying to improve what we are doing. And always there is a sense that what has been done justifies further effort. We press on to follow God's call.

— *Rev. David Kitchingman*

MATERNITY WORK

Our maternity numbers (over 12 months) have increased this year by 100. We have particularly noticed the increase of premature births. In March we had eight in 14 days.







Infant Welfare: Owing to the increase and pressure of work at Hoi-Hoiebia Maternity Hospital, (being mainly due to increased numbers of premis and feeding problems) **we are finding it necessary to curtail our infant welfare work.** One clinic (Himuguanda) has been discontinued, while Bai Habalu and the Tari Government Hospital clinics have been made monthly clinics. Our toddler clinic at Hoiebia has also been abandoned. In all we conduct 15 out-station clinics (ante natal as well as infant welfare) as well as Hoiebia clinics.

— *Sisters Ailsa Thorburn and Joy Heal*



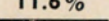
Overseas Missions Board

1966

WHERE OUR MONEY CAME FROM

	BUDGET	\$73,121
	LEPERS' TRUST BOARD	\$22,000
	M.W.F.	\$8,200
	MEDICAL FUND INTEREST	\$3,762
	OTHER INTEREST	\$1,310
	DONATIONS, etc.	\$2,654
	TOTAL	\$111,047

WHERE OUR MONEY WENT

	68 %	SOLOMONS	\$72,106
	20.4 %	HIGHLANDS	\$20,959
	11.6 %	HOME BASE	\$12,223
		TOTAL	\$105,288

- - Financial Statement

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CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

In addition to this the Board gets some money from legacies and this money has for many years been reserved for capital development. No capital development is provided for out of ordinary income.

LEPERS' TRUST BOARD

In addition to the \$22,000 general grants, special grants totalling \$13,000 were credited to the Solomon Islands District.

OVERSEAS MISSIONS EXTENSION APPEAL FUND

TARGET: \$60,000

\$36,591

SO FAR

HAS YOUR CIRCUIT MADE A CONTRIBUTION?

STOP PRESS

CYCLONE ANNIE H



Devaluation Hits the Overseas Church



The devaluation of New Zealand currency has curtailed the spending power of the Board's money overseas by one fifth. To maintain the present level of spending, something like \$1,300 a month will have to be found.

Every possible way of getting extra money will be examined together with all possible economies.

TS BILUA

In mid November Cyclone Annie swept through the south-west Pacific, leaving a trail of destruction behind. In the Solomons, Southern Choiseul, Wagina, Gizo, Vella Lavella and Ranongga have been badly hit.

Costliest damage has been on Bilua mission station where damage to plant and buildings is extensive.

Hardest to replace is the loss of more than 700 coconut palms by one group of villages and smaller numbers elsewhere. It takes six to ten years for palms to come to full bearing.

Most heart breaking has been the destruction of the village of immigrant Gilbertese people on Wagina. Four years of toil establishing themselves in a new land and a culture has been wiped out in a few hours.

Money, hard work and time will be required to repair the damage.



*This memorial on Vella Lavella commemorates our war time link with the Solomons.
The whole coast where the cairn stands has been devastated.*

Well Served . . .

A CHURCH AT WORK

The Rev. BRIAN SIDES, deputy Chairman for Bougainville writes: "We are well served by our Melanesian ministers, catechists, and women workers. They are accepted among their own and it is a joy to see them coming to grips with, and dealing most adequately with the various concerns that come their way."

The following reports bear out this contention:

SISTER SARAH TONSE:

"Well, I would say I had visited some of the villages here in our area and explained the work of the women to the women, but I felt that many of them are not really willing to do what is good and helpful in their lives. Many of them still do not understand what it is.

We still need more prayer and help



Bougainville School Girls

from you all. I believe that there is a time for them to try the work for their master, Christ.

I would like to tell you that we had a happy time at Easter. I helped the people at Pikei with their study groups."

* * *

MISS ROSEMARY PAKIAU:

REPORT ON SIWAI WOMEN'S METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP for year 1966-1967.

"We have tried to follow the programme Miss Jeffries gave us last year in 1966.

Maisua: The council for this place does not seem to want the club. He says that Miss Jeffries told him it was not important. The men will not repair the club house without pay. It is suggested that the club house be transferred or rebuilt at Morokaimoro in 1967.

There are seven M.W.F. groups and they have their meeting on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The members of the M.W.F. are:

Dusei	27	Purikori	19
Matukori	27	Harinai	25
Kakotokori	21	Sikurai	8
Musiminoi	23		

When we start the M.W.F. we have Lotu first and when we finish the meeting we have the Benediction."

The Open Door

SISTER PAMELA BEAUMONT: Reports from TONU

About Staff: "This year we have a large number of boys and girls boarding here, but also a very helpful team on the staff. Philip Mutono has continued to be 'father' to the boys and girls and to care for the gardens and the station. Luke Pauru has done the book work well and seen to the radio and other matters. Mr. and Mrs. Harney helped us in many, many ways while they were with us; Mr. Harney especially with the vehicles and Mrs. Harney in school. Mr. Maria has done his best alone since then. The teachers are cheerful and work well together. Sister Mary and her eight nurse-aid trainees keep an efficient and happy atmosphere in the hospital and maternity ward. We were glad of Sister Beverley Withers' help during part of Sister Mary's furlough. The carpenters have started a new two classroom block which is much needed."

And about **Translation Work** she says: "Stephen Iroro and I keep steadily working at this together two



Mr. Luke Pauru

afternoons every week. In the period of this report we have done a revision of Acts and first drafts of Colossians and 1st Corinthians. We are half-way through 2nd Corinthians. Now the two letters to the Thessalonians and the Revelation are the only books that we still have to start. We had a competition for a cover design for Matthew's Gospel and that and the text are now ready for printing. The B. & F. Bible Society have continued to give us a lot of help with books and advice, especially through the visit in February of the Rev. Fry, Translations Adviser from Canberra. He has asked us to get Acts and a selection of Epistles ready for printing after Matthew. The Rev. Father Peter Kurongku, the first Siwai Roman Catholic Priest to be ordained, has been reading our manuscripts and offering suggestions. We have been pleased to find how often God has helped us to agree."

SISTER MARY ADDISON:

"Girls Brigade: In 1966 we had 50 girls in Brigade and 16 Cadets. Sixteen girls worked for Missionary Badge and 15 for Floral Art. This year we have 70 girls in nine sections of Brigade, and we are working for an Infant Care badge. 41 new members were enrolled.

Methodist Women's Fellowships: Miss Rosemary Pakiau has been visiting the groups. Seven groups meet regularly, with a membership of 150. The offering on Women's World Day of Prayer was sent to the Bible Society.

This has been an eventful year at TONU. A small airstrip able to take Cessna aircraft of Missionary Aviation Fellowship has proved very useful. Our Jubilee was celebrated in June when the new Church was dedicated amid great rejoicing."

FROM THE REPORT OF SISTER BEVERLEY WITHERS:

"We have been most fortunate to have had two probationer Deaconesses here at Kekesu — Emily from the Buka Circuit had to leave us before the end of last year due to ill health. However, the work that she did amongst the women in M.W.F. groups and amongst the girls on the station was of a very high standard.

This year Mary Kuvia is the probationer and she has amazed us all. Ruth has been trained by the Government to help the women run their Women's Clubs. Ruth and Mary leave the station each Thursday afternoon for a village. They stay the night visiting all the people in their own homes, especially the old people. Then on Friday they attend the M.W.F. meeting — not to run it but to guide the leaders and the women. They return to the station late that afternoon.

I am kept busy helping Ruth and Mary with the preparation that is necessary for this work — Lotus, sewing, Ruth with her badge work. Then at the beginning of each month there is a Leaders' (M.W.F.) preparation class on the station. Here the women are taught new things and are expected to go back and show their own groups."

"It has certainly been a year of change, but one which I trust will help me greatly during my next term. It has been good to see how the different the people are in looks, language, culture, personalities, and it has certainly opened my eyes to the problems that others have to face up to.

This much I have learnt — that it is essential that we, the stranger in the land, must learn the local language if we are to get to know the people with whom we are working.

Their way of thinking and reasoning is so different to ours and how impatient we can become when we do not really understand the other person."

Postscript: We regret to report the death of Sister Mary Kuvia shortly after this report was written.

SISTER PAT HULKS

making her last report before retirement, speaks a many-sided witness:

"People: Brigade and Women's work has been helped by the return of one of our girls from a government course on women's club work. Girls' Brigade has taken a step forward with the formation of a company at Petats village.



Sister Pat Hulks

Books: Most of my stamp money has been spent on books and now we have our four hundred books mostly of a very good standard. All classes spend one reading lesson a week in the library reading whatever they like and boarders are also free to use it at weekends.

Co-operation: Last year I again had the pleasure of serving on the

(Continued on page 30)

GOOD NEWS FOR TOTAL MAN

God's Word in the British Solomons

THE SICK ARE HEALED

I have had three new nurses to help me this year. None of them has had proper training but one has had two years' experience at Lale Hospital. I also have one dresser. The hospital work continues as usual. Admissions: 97; Births: 83; Out-patient: 4844.

During the middle of the year a very serious influenza epidemic came to the Solomons. Many people were very sick and we had a very busy time trying to care for those in hospital and for those out in the villages who were too sick to come into hospital. I have visited villages whenever it has been possible. Ante-natal and infant welfare clinic is held each Thursday morning. Health talks are given to the mothers and also demonstrations on the care and feeding of infants. We care for two orphan babies in the Sisters' house.

I also help with the supervision of the girls, give First Aid lectures to the Boys' Brigade and help with the Bible Class.

— Sister V. Mamupio, Vonunu Hospital

Two other main events have taken place during the absence of the Medical Superintendent. The first was the completion and the opening of the new lecture block at Helena Goldie Hospital. This building, as are our other new ones, is a credit to the carpenters and is of great bene-



Sister Iliseva Levula

fit for the training of the student nurses.

The second event was the third hospital bazaar at the beginning of May. I would like to thank all the many people who helped with the preparation of the bazaar and who helped to make it the success it was, the total sum being \$560.

The two men I have been training for laboratory work are proving very reliable but because of their educational standards they find the work very difficult at times. I would like to recommend that the Mission consider the possibility of sending one of these men either to Fiji or to Moresby for further training as I feel sure that they would benefit greatly from the opportunity of being able to work in a larger hospital with a greater variance in work and equipment.

— Miss Ann Shaw, Bacteriologist



Dr. R. W. Pattinson

It is with gratitude to God for His unfailing goodness and His enabling power, that I submit these notes of some of the activities in the Medical Department in the past year.

There has been considerable change at Helena Goldie Hospital, Munda, with the long-awaited opening of the new Maternity Ward, thus giving us greatly improved facilities for the care of mothers and babies, and releasing room to give more space for women and children in the general ward. New cots paid for from funds raised at a hospital bazaar, eventually arrived and a small playground for children was started by Sister Gladys. The training given by Miss Ann Shaw and two Solomon Island men in laboratory work should result in enabling more accurate diagnosis and treatment for many years to come. The results in the Government Nursing Examinations were very gratifying when five of the seven trainees from our hospital passed, and the opening of the new Nurses' Training building will make teaching easier, and we trust, better taken in.

Having been absent for the last five months I feel I cannot say much more of the work on the field except to express again our deep gratitude to the Leper's Trust Board for their continuing financial support of the medical work we undertake. My period of study in Liverpool has been, I think, of great value to me in giving both instruction and inspiration towards better care for the people of the Solomons, and I look forward to putting what I have learned into practice. I was glad to meet members of the Mission Board in New Zealand and to talk to the Treasurer and General Secretary about the medical work. I was also very grateful of being able to visit Mr. Douglas of the Leper's Trust Board to convey our thanks and also to talk with him and other members of the L.T.B.

In conclusion I would express my thanks for the teamwork of both Solomon Islands and New Zealand staff on the field, and the backing of the Methodist people not only in their giving but also by their prayer.

— *Dr. R. W. Pattinson,*
Medical Superintendent



Sister Beryl Gray

The Open Door

GOOD NEWS IS PREACHED

The Spiritual Life of the Whole GIZO Circuit:

I want to give the reports of the whole area instead to pin point each village's Spiritual growth. If I see: the Church buildings are crowded every Sunday services; many are beginning to feel that it is their responsibility to shoulder the work of their circuit through their latent powers; keep on asking to dedicate their marriages to God in order to bring up their children in to the Christian ways of life from good Christian homes; and many are being obedient to our Quarterly Meeting decisions; I know that the spiritual life of our people in the whole area is coming up a bit. And it is always remembered by us preachers, teachers and helpers, what St. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 3:6, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the Growth." We can only be like a channel through which God's Holy Spirit is passing to the hearts of men and women, boys and girls, where He makes his home. Now I want to outline very briefly some of the works that are being undertaken by our Circuit as a whole.

Pastor Tim: Pastor Tim has been concentrating his pastoral work at Titiana village. Many Titiana married couples now dedicate their marriages through remarrying them in Church worship which they committed themselves to one another and made their promises before God that He would keep them throughout their married life in His love and guidance. Because of this, many have asked the Pastor to let their children be baptised. Pastor Tim also visited some of our villages, and it would be good for him to get used to our ways of living to know our language.

The Open Door

Extracts from the Report of the Chairman-Elect, Rev. L. Boseto

Joint Action:

This year, it has been a new, but a beginning of a wide fellowship in God's Church, to have combined services with the Anglicans in our Church last Good Friday, and another occasion which marked again the history of our Church at Gizo town (or this may be the same throughout the whole Western Solomons) was to conclude that week of prayer for Church unity with an interdenominational service in St. Peter's Cathedral. The Roman Catholics, the Methodists and Anglicans all participated in sharing the programme which the Solomon Islands Christian Association prepared for the week. It is our move from our Methodist Leaders' Meeting at Gizo that we are to form a committee with the Anglicans in order that through this committee we may be able to look at some of our great events for coming together in worship; also the Anglican Father Mr. Robert Pule and the Gizo Minister the Rev. Leslie Boseto, have been suggesting to exchange pulpits some Sundays. This also should be made clear to this proposed committee.

— Rev. L. Boseto, Gizo Circuit

GO — TEACH

From the report of Rev. J. F. Cropp

Educational Secretaryship: The paper work involved in this task is growing yearly. In an under-developed country such as this where very little is done by the Government in the way of direct education, our resources are strained to the utmost. However, progress is being made, and here is a summary of the situation in the B.S.I.P. during the last twelve months:

In 1966, 65 of the 71 Methodist entrants gained a pass in the Senior Primary Examination, 13 with 'credit'. Seven High School students were accepted in Teachers' Training College, a high proportion for any one Mission. Thirteen students were accepted by the Government High School in Honiara. This year we record an increase of seven trained Grade 3 Solomon Island Teachers, bringing the total to 30. The number of children in our schools has risen from 3,148 in 1966 to 3,438. The

rapid growth can be seen especially in Std. 4 figures: 1965 — 336; 1966 — 478; 1967 — 586. This means that there will be about 600 sitting the Std. 4 exam at the end of this year, and only places for about 250 at the most in our Senior Primary Std. 5 classes. This is an alarming problem, as less than half our children will be able to progress from Std. 4. There are however, four Methodist students following Senior Primary Courses at the Training College.

School Committees seem to be functioning well, and school fees have helped our work greatly. Untrained teachers (Grade IV) received considerable increases in pay this year. Hopes are now high that the Goldie College 'Designation' Scheme, ultimately to be valued at \$90,000, will soon be approved. The Government will provide two-thirds of the cost, our share already paid in existing buildings. Our High School has risen from 20 last year to 39 and

(Continued on page 30)



Goldie College students with some of their handwork

Goldie College:

(a) **Bible Training Course** — It is good to see a steady flow of people from this course to both the New Guinea Highlands Mission Field and as students for the ministry to Rarongo College. Best of all, however, are the reports of numbers who return to their former vocation or to their village as Christian Leaders there. There have been disappointments in the way numbers of applicants for the course fail to turn up (5 from one Circuit alone). The course continues to have a strong pastoral emphasis and the visiting of villages is still one of the most important aspects of the course. There were 10 (including two Deaconess Trainees) who attended the 'Catechists' course during February and March. At present there are 14 attending the Bible Training Class. Many activities are combined with our sections of the College.

(b) **Primary and Secondary Departments** — There are five Senior Primary Classes this year, and a High School Class of Form 1 and Form 2. Of the six teachers, only one is an Overseas Mission Staff member, two are members of Voluntary Organisations and three are Solomon Islanders. It is of interest to note that the two Std. 5 teachers are newly graduated from the Government Teachers' College and are both 'Old Boys' being in our High School Department in 1964. We were fortunate in having Miss Barbara Leadley to relieve Sister Lyn's place until her return from furlough in April.

The children seem to be brighter and keener each year. They are certainly younger, a number being aged 10. There are over 200 students of whom 30 are Gilbertese. Exam results were pleasing in 1966, with all Std. 7 students passing their Senior Pri-



Sister Lynn Sadler

mary Certificate, 13 with 'credit'. Two buildings are at present under construction (High School Block and Girls' Dormitory) and as mentioned, Government support for the whole cost of buildings valued at \$60,000 is expected soon. Students do a fair amount of carrying sand, shingle etc. to assist the work, and meet the cramped conditions and lack of facilities with cheerfulness.

Two things featured in our programme this year are: 'Native Crafts' and 'Agriculture'. A fine display of craft-work was held at the end of the first term, featuring baskets, mats, fans, combs, paddles and wood carving. The best work was donated to the Fete at Helena Goldie Hospital in gratitude for their help. In turn the boys attend classes for a duration of two months in the following subjects or projects — (1) Animal and Poultry Care; (2) Vegetable Gardening; (3) Cocoa and shade planting; (4) Construction of compost heap and Coconut Nursery. During the last three years, students have progressively cleared the surrounding bush and planted upward of 1,000 coconuts.

— *Rev. J. F. Cropp,*

SOME OF OUR FRIENDS

The REV. LESLIE and MRS. HAZEL BOSETO have now been in New Zealand and many of you have had a chance to see them, and to hear them. They will return to the Islands on the 15th January.

The REV. and MRS. E. C. LEADLEY have been in New Zealand, partly for consultations with the Board and partly for family reasons. They leave to return to Munda early in December for their last year of service.

MR. and MRS. ERIC HARNEY returned to New Zealand after a year under the Order of St. Stephen. Eric and Sally are the first married couple to serve together under the Order and to be received together. Eric began as a replacement for the engineer and finished up in the office as book-keeper. To this post he now returns for a three year term on our regular staff. The folk on the field will welcome them with delight.

An experienced builder, MR. W. R. BEATSON of Motueka, is going to the field for a few months to help out with the building of Goldie College and he will be followed after Christmas by Mr. Keith Elliot, an Order of St. Stephen carpenter.

Retirements from the Solomons this year include SISTER PAT HULKS, SISTER MARY ADDISON and MR. BRUCE COALDRAKE.

The REV. and MRS. C. J. KEIGHTLEY rejoined their family in New Zealand in October and are now on leave pending taking up their appointment at St. John's. Ponsonby, Auckland.



Mr. Bruce Coaldrake, retiring this month.

On leave in New Zealand, SISTER BEVERLEY WITHERS and REV. and MRS. PAUL GARSIDE have been speaking at meetings. They have also been seeking a good rest in preparation for their return to the field.

The ACT OF UNION of the United Church of Papua, New Guinea and the British Solomon Islands takes place in Port Moresby on the 19th January. The New Zealand Church will be represented by the President of Conference, the Rev. J. D. Grocott, the Vice-President, Mr. W. E. Donnelly, the General Secretary, the Rev. G. G. Carter, the Rev. C. J. Keightley and Miss Pauline Atkinson.

In Other Pacific Islands

NEW BRITAIN AND FIJI

ALISTER BAXTER REPORTS

I am the Compositor in the "Mission Press" which is the main street of Rabaul, Mango Ave. We have a staff of five Australians, nine local folk and myself. I am helping to train three local apprentices, one is a third year boy and the other two are first year.

At the press we print mission books, etc. for the Schools and all the Mission's printed needs. We also take in work for the local business firms etc. in the town, and this helps to keep the expenses of the Mission low.

At the moment we are having some extensions made to our building, as we have got a new offset machine, which has just arrived from overseas. This offset process will enable us to give a more prompt service.



Alister Baxter

Our first main job for this new machine, is the printing of the Bible in Kuonua, which is one of the local languages.

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MY WORK IN FIJI

E. A. Crane

The Methodist Church in Fiji has already stressed the value of education for the development of the whole personality. It realises that education deepens faith, brings inner satisfactions and self-respect, and increases the ability to serve others.

I have been privileged to serve the Methodist Church in Fiji for 10 years at three separate times as a teacher at Suva Methodist Boys' School, Lelean Memorial School and Dudley High School. In the thirty years since

I first came to Suva I have seen some remarkable improvements in standards. Then it was rare indeed for a local student to pass his University Entrance Examination, but now over 100 students are passing it each year. And in 1969 a South Pacific University will be established.

The Church realises that it must keep pace with these rising standards if it is to continue to train Christian leaders in all walks of life. So, despite the heavy capital expenditure involved and the difficulty of obtaining qualified staff, it has this year established Sixth Forms in two of its Secondary Schools — Lelean and Dudley.

It was to help this development that I returned to Fiji on to the staff of Dudley High School, Suva, last year. Then I was almost fully engaged in teaching a Fifth Form of 25, 19 of whom passed their N.Z. School Certificate of Attainment. This year I am teaching wholly in Fifth and Sixth Forms.

Apart for its teaching role, the school does much to promote racial tolerance and understanding in a society where these qualities are essential for future harmony. As from the beginning of 1966 it was made inter-racial and co-educational, and it is pleasing to see all races worshipping, studying and playing together.



Dudley High School

Highlands Education

On my return from furlough I found the Hoiebia School functioning well. With an average of 30 children to each Standard and five teachers, the school is in a healthy state for 1967. In December 1966, 55 Standard 2 children from Hoiebia, Dabuda and Mindira Te sat for the entrance test for entry to Standard 3 for 1967. 52 passed and the best 35 were admitted into Standard 3. Half of the children came from Dabuda and Mindira Te.

With 30 children in Standard 4 and parental agitation from Mindira Te and Hoiebia, we need to seriously

consider a Standard 5 at Hoiebia in 1968.

Some Education Development is being made but it is far too slow. We need a consolidated effort from the other Districts over the next 6 years to ensure a measure of independence in the future. Other districts have now a steady stream of students entering various institutions to return as teachers, nursing sisters, carpenters, ministers, etc. while we still come cap in hand. We have been here for 15 years and we are still pleading for staff. The House of Assembly was warned of its neglect, at the last sit-

(Continued on page 30)

The Open Door

V.S.A. IN MALAYSIA

ANDREW THORNLEY WRITES ON HIS 1966 EXPERIENCES

It was Sarawak for me in 1966. Having been selected as one of the 33 school-leavers to serve overseas on Volunteer Service Abroad, I was equipped to face a year of teaching. I never once gave thought to the problems involved in class teaching till the first term was half-way through. There was so much to do. You were thrown into the middle of a classroom and left to handle a group of forty children as best you could. Once the school-work was over there would be a cleaning-up

period to supervise or perhaps a basketball practise to organise followed by a general Physical Education period in which you tried to teach the rudiments of rugby to a gathering of keen but exasperating boys. A most welcome tea would follow and then either boarding-house inspection, prep. supervision or lesson preparation. And sometimes as a luxury, a visit to the local cinema to watch an Italian Hercules or a Malay love-story.



HEAD HUNTERS' GRANDCHILDREN

Iban Sunday School in the children's own longhouse. An Iban student Pastor from Sibu Theological School teaches some youngsters. The little boy leaning on Jonathan's knee is really fascinated. The bags in the upper left on the photo are newly harvested rice.

My form class was IB, and it was to them that I became closely attached. There was a mixture of races — Iban, Melanau and Chinese. The Iban boys were a friendly bunch, the Melanaus naturally reserved and the Chinese perhaps slightly suspicious — the girls were all at first extremely shy. It wasn't till the latter part of the year that I felt them really fully responding to me as a person and to my teaching. As my life revolved mainly around the school it was with the school-children that I spent most of my time and tried to help over the year — either in extra English work for the struggling pupils or in teaching a choir of 30 exuberant voices on a Saturday morning.

None of the children ever asked me about my religion and I never inquired into theirs. Of the class of 40 there were 20 Muslims, 15 Christians and five non-committed. I remember once I happened to mention the word 'God' while telling them a story. I looked up somewhat sheepishly and was surprised to see most of them nodding their heads wisely. To them I was probably a person who believed in their God but had a different way of showing my belief. As for myself I tried to do things in a way that had been a part of me for many years. And as a person I was accepted. I was no different than the young people there — a wonderful discovery for me.

SISTER PAT HULKS

(Continued from page 20)

marking panel for the Standard Six exam. Most of the markers were Roman Catholic Sisters and we had a very happy time together. Increased co-operation between the two missions has been one of the encouraging features of church life in the last two years."

WOMEN'S WORK

A combined Huli and Tari Circuit Christmas Women's Service was held and attended by some 900 women. In March a Tari Circuit Women's World Day of Prayer Service was held, in three section Churches. We feel that these services were a mile stone in the life of the Huli Church as our Huli women leaders conducted these services wholly by themselves for the first time.

GO — TEACH

(Continued from page 24)

a new block of classrooms (Ayres Memorial) is under construction, so that up to 70 students can be taken and prepared for the Two-year Secondary Exam, which is what our Educational System must be geared toward.

HIGHLANDS EDUCATION

(Continued from page 28)

ting, of the Southern Highlands. With the continued shortage of funds from Australia and New Zealand making staffing problems more acute, surely the other Districts can be asked to see the magnitude of their responsibility to the Highlands District. A six year effort or we will flounder for another fifteen years.

— G. B. Buckle

The Open Door

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