

VIET NAM 1955

Membership.—The morale of the members after the election of the Administrative Council is in an excellent state, although there is still some difficulty. Given time, unity will re-establish itself. Our present efforts are tending towards this goal. The present membership is 350, which shows an increase of 42.

The Magazine "Dao Hoc".—Two thousand copies are printed each month. It is the official organ of the Section and we are doing all that is possible to keep it alive, despite difficulties of finance.

Publications.—We continue to expand the distribution of our magazine and of Theosophical works. The translation of the volume: "*L'Evolution Occulte de l'Humanité*" ("The Occult Evolution of Humanity") is finished. The printing of a book *Practical Theosophy* is in hand.

Lectures.—At present public lectures are suspended, due to the political situation in our country, but we have members' talks.

Library.—Endowed with more than 300 books, of which the greater number are in French, the Library is open every day, though it is little frequented. The works in Vietnamese are almost all translations of French books.

The Orphanage.—This is a social work which was started under the auspices of the Society but which is dependent almost entirely on Mr. Nguyen-van-Luong and Mme. Luong, helped by other donors. The undertaking costs \$17,000 per month. The number of children being brought up is 33. A large number of people are

much interested in the Orphanage, which is a social work much esteemed by the Government and the people. A lottery is organized to support the work.

Finances.—Our receipts are scarcely sufficient to cover our expenditure. We have still in the bank \$4,000 but this will soon be exhausted.

The Lodges.—Among the seven Lodges, one is no longer functioning, that of the Young Theosophists. Two new Lodges have just been formed, one at Hue and one at Soctrong. The most active Lodges are those at Chaudoc and Hue; their subjects are very varied and their meetings most regular. The other Lodges carry on in their usual manner.

Visit of the President, Mr. Sri Ram.—The visit of the International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, roused unanimous enthusiasm in Theosophical, Buddhist, Caddaique and Hindu circles. Everywhere our International President was warmly received. A visit to the ruins of Angkor was organized and special numbers of *Dao Hoc* were devoted to his visit. These magazines were written in three languages, English, French and Vietnamese, and were distributed to the National Sections throughout the world.

Conclusion.—We are living in a difficult age and we are doing our best. The Theosophical tree in Viet-Nam already bears good fruit, and at present it is sound and robust. It is true that at this moment some black clouds are appearing on the horizon, which threaten it. But we have the firm hope that these clouds will

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soon be dispersed by a favorable wind. In any case, we are sure that the tree will remain healthy.

Taking the symbol of the bees which go foraging in the daytime and which

make honey in the dark, we work silently, having faith always in a glorious future which awaits us.

PHAM-NGOC-DA,
General Secretary.

p. 6

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