

Membership.—In spite of the war, there are this year 70 new admissions, most of them young people, and 7 re-admissions. We have not received any letters of resignation but there have been 10 lapsings. There were 6 deaths, 3 of them victims of the war. So the number of the members in Viet-Nam is now 745, an increase of 60 members.

Lodges.—The number of Lodges is 13, the same as last year.

Theosophical diffusion.—Since the dreadful events in February and May, weekly public lectures have been stopped at the Headquarters, because of the insecurity and infiltration, as our place is in the suburb of the Capital, but every Sunday morning, about 70 members of 3 Lodges meet in the auditorium for regular study courses with discussions. The same work is done at the other Lodges at week-ends.

“Kiêm Ai” Lodge, situated in the middle of the Capital, has succeeded in giving public lectures for about 200 listeners every Sunday afternoon since August.

Publications.—“Kiêm Ai” Lodge continues to issue its quarterly Theosophical magazine *Anh Dao* (The Light of the Way) which is distributed gratis to the members.

“Long-Xuyen” and “Angiang” Lodges published for their provinces one Theosophical magazine at our New Year.

“Bac-Ai” Lodge has printed by hand Theosophical booklets to distribute to people in the country. There were two publications this year: *Invisible Helpers* and *The Rôle of the Invisible Helpers*.

With the collaboration of young members, “Phụng-Su” Lodge has issued a monthly magazine, “To serve Theosophy”. On White Lotus Day, they published one about Madame H. P. Blavatsky.

Since May 1968, the Viet-Nam Section has issued a twice-monthly Theosophical *Bulletin* with much information, for gratis distribution to the members. Concerning propaganda, we have printed colored leaflets on *Brotherhood*, *Some Principles of Theosophy*, *How to train and to use our Thoughts*. Also one booklet on *Some daily ethical teachings*, a selection of moral rules by H.P.B.

Book sales have increased very much. We have published this year “*Cung ai bi khóc*” (To those who mourn), “*Dao ly thuc hanh*” (Theosophy in daily Life), *Phuong phap phat trien tam linh* (Methods of psychical development), “*Con nguoi thac roi ve dau?*” (Where do the dead go?), “*Nen giao duc T. T. H.*” (Theosophical Education).

We have received a number of Theosophical books from Holland, England, Australia and the U. S. A. for our Library.

Our Summer School was held in the “Pure Heart Centre,” at Vung Tau City, a seaside resort about 80 miles from Saigon, from 4th to 10th August 1968. In spite of the threat of a great battle in the Capital, we had nevertheless 48 participants. The topic for study was “How to live in Harmony with oneself, with others, with Nature and in the T.S.” The program included meditation, lectures and discussion in the morning, and entertainments in the evening with bonfire, music and songs and a meeting for common prayer to our dead, (this evening meeting coinciding with our traditional ceremony); there were also excursions to the hills and the City, and a Round Table celebration.

We visited six Lodges in the provinces to see again our old friends and to greet the new members. We have been very happy to notice that everywhere our members have been appreciated by the

people and the authorities. Besides their Theosophical work, they participate in public welfare in their towns such as Red Cross, Youth movements, orphanage, restaurants for poor people, etc. We have learnt something from them and also brought to some Lodges zeal, ardor and suggestions. We hope to form a new Lodge at Rach-Gia, a remote province on the Thailand Gulf.

Theosophical Order of Service and other activities.—Our Orphanage is relatively small, so we continue to take care of about 60 children from new-borns to 4-5 years old. They grow nicely in a normal way under the devotion to duty of Mrs. Nguyen-thi-Vien, Director and Manager and the aid of Miss Tran-thi-Qui, Assistant-Director. They have received relief also from the T.O.S. in Australia and U.S.A. Recently, ten of the children went to Norway to be adopted.

The Order of The Round Table in Viet-Nam, officially authorized this year, brings together nearly 45 adult and young members at the Headquarters every Sunday morning for the ceremony.

The infiltration and bombardment of Saigon and its neighbourhood in the previous months caused a great number of homeless and poor people. The Section has organized three subscriptions to help them; among these war victims, there were 14 of our members whose houses were burnt or damaged.

This year, as we could not organize our Convention, about 50 members met together, for common prayer. It was the

same for the Ceremony of Wesak. At the end of the White Lotus Day, we received orders to dismiss promptly.

Fortunately, the C. Jinarājadāsa's commemoration and Dr. Besant's birthday could be held with short lectures and offering of flowers. Now we are preparing for our Convention in December.

Our projects.—Our Headquarters are getting older; we plan to make many repairs and have the plaster model of a new one for future construction.

Plans for the future include:

1. Visits to certain provinces where there are more than 7 T.S. members, in order to form new Lodges.
2. Organizing study courses on Theosophy for new members.
3. Publishing new translated books.
4. Giving Radio Talks.
5. Holding a Training Camp for Theosophical workers. That is our hardest problem, we lack workers. Almost all our good members are civil servants and must earn their living, the cost of which is very high now.

Conclusion.—At the present time, we do not know what will be our tomorrow. But we continue our work, trusting to the light which certainly comes after the darkness. Our duty now is to stand firm in our places and try to help our alarmed countrymen by our thoughts, our sympathy, our deeds and the lessons and experiences given to us by Theosophical teachings.

LUU-THI-DAU,
General Secretary.

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