

VIET-NAM

1963

The Directive Council is entering its third year out of a term of three years (July 1961 to July 1964). Normally it would finish its term of office in July 1964, but for practical purposes we have decided to shorten this term by six months and to organize the general election on 29th December 1963. During the turbulent period this country has passed through we have attempted to maintain the fraternal Theosophical attitude; we carry on our activities regularly and without break, confining ourselves to the three Objects of the Society; above all we try to make our Theosophical centre a centre of peace and harmony for everyone.

The Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam pursues its activities and is generally esteemed. Our country has passed through severe tests, but our Section, is able to carry on its mission of Fraternity and Peace, diffusing widely the teachings of Theosophy. In this way we have escaped many difficulties and dangers.

The activities have followed the lines of a general program established by the Council at the beginning of its term of office. This program includes: (a) The study and spread of Theosophy. (b) The encouragement and formation of active members and of new members.

During the year under review study meetings have been held every Sunday (excepting the first Sunday of the month, when there is a public lecture), concentrating on the Theosophical Society and the practical application of Theosophical teachings.

At the Headquarters in Saigon a course of study has been organized for advanced students on Dr. Besant's *A Study in Consciousness*. About thirty members actively participate, the subjects for study being distributed to the members in advance.

The monthly public lecture deals with Theosophy in general and interests a large audience. Many of them, recognizing the value of Theosophy, afterwards join the Society.

Parallel to the lectures and courses on Theosophy, and on a wider level, we are happy to have the bi-monthly review *Tim Hieu Thong-Thien-Hoc*, the official organ of the Section. For ten years this review has provided the public, and also the members, with an abundant supply of literature on Theosophy. With its issue of 2,000 copies it is of particular interest to the intellectual classes. This official organ of the Section is able to continue efficiently its mission thanks to the devotion and the financial help of Mr. and Mme. Nguyen Van Huan.

To maintain our Theosophical solidarity we organize visits and social meetings among members. The commemorative festivals are also a precious help for they create an enthusiasm for the ideal of Service and remind us of the highly spiritual, devoted and consecrated lives of our Theosophical Leaders.

We pay frequent visits to the Lodges in Saigon and attend their meetings, while, with the Lodges at a distance and in the provinces, we maintain our relationships through letters and communications.

Section.
th
numerous
izations

The
difficult-
of the c
crises ha
cipally
new me
and the
total nu
new Lo
Capital:
and I
Lodge
and cor
sophy;
pu
noon in
an
lectures.

The o
ties gen
the Capi

This a
year of
Venezue

During
joined th
We re
Tibetan
Coats, a
of sendi

I have
agreeabl
edge of
of view.
Their hu

The Theosophical Orphanage constitutes our principal social activity. In fact, to maintain some fifty orphans of a very tender age, is a real charge on the Section. Happily, as in previous years, thanks to gifts and contributions from numerous benefactors and social organizations the budget is stabilized.

The year under review has been a difficult one for us. The critical situation of the country, insecurity, and economic crises have affected our activities, principally in the provinces. Nevertheless new members have joined our Section, and the number has increased by 9. The total number now stands at 669. Two new Lodges began active work in the Capital: Lodge Minh-Triet (Wisdom), and Lodge Tu Bi (Compassion). Lodge Minh-Triet meets once a week and conducts a study group for Theosophy; while Lodge Tu-Bi organizes public lectures every Saturday afternoon in its large hall, where a large and interested public attend the lectures.

The older Lodges maintain their activities generally as heretofore. Those in the Capital are more active; Lodges Kiem

Ai, Dung Hanh and Saigon are noteworthy.

All Lodges participate in the Section meetings, particularly the commemorative festivals.

The present Directive Council has almost come to the end of its term of carrying on the work of Vietnamese Theosophical Section. Numerous difficulties have been overcome by the judicious decisions and the devotion of members to the Society, which the Council has several times occasion to witness.

During the difficult times from which our country has suffered deeply, the Section has rigorously maintained its Theosophical activities, keeping itself entirely pure and not mixing in political affairs. The Section has constantly followed its mission of spreading Theosophy, the divine message of Peace, Harmony and Fraternity.

May the Holy Ones continue to enlighten us with Their Wisdom and to inspire us with Their Compassion. May Theosophy help our country to attain a future that is more and more luminous.

NGUYEN-THI-HAI,
General Secretary.