

# Friendship

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Missionary District  
Taiwan  
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CHURCH NEWS

Editor : The Ven. Patric L. Hutton

## SPECIAL CONVOCATION ELECTS BISHOP

The Missionary Diocese of Taiwan met in Special Convocation in Kaohsiung September 17-18 for the purpose of electing a bishop to take the place of Bishop Wong who died April 27th. Voting delegates were lay and clergy representative elected by all churches.

Until the Convention of South Bend, 1969, all missionary bishops had been appointed by the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church in the U. S. After Liberia, Taiwan has the honor of being the second overseas diocese to elect its own bishop. The Rt. Rev. Edmond Browning, Bishop of Okinawa, represented the Presiding Bishop as Convenor of the Convocation.

The Council of Advice suggested members of the nominating committee who were approved by the Presiding Bishop, and Mr. Willie Wei, long time active member of St. John's Cathedral, served as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Suggestions for nominees were received from all parishes, and careful study was made of all possibilities, judging them according to standards suggested by the 1970 Convocation and the Council of Advice.

Nominees finally submitted to the Convocation on the morning of September 18th were the Rev. Herbert Yen, Vicar of St. Mark's Church, Pingtung, Taiwan, the Ven. James Pong, Archdeacon of Hong Kong, and the Rev. Edmund Der, Vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Taipei. The Rev. Robert Tsu and the Rev. Yung-hsuan Chou were previously nominated but declined to stand for election. Ample time was given for any nominations from the floor, and as there were none, the election proceeded. The Ven. James Pong was elected on the first ballot which was declared unanimous, and the Convocation adjourned to the Church where thanksgiving was given for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in this crucial point in the history of the diocese.

Following approval of General Convention in October, Archdeacon Pong will be consecrated in Taiwan around the first of the year.



ABOVE: Tellers count votes at Convocation.

BELOW: Ke Chau-sheng ordained by Bishop Browning.





Mr. Fa-tsang Ley, Chairman of the Department of Christian Services, administrative assistant and adviser on educational and cultural affairs in the diocesan office, is author of the Chinese poem, here translated, thanking the Diocese of Upper South Carolina for its generous help over the past years.

Mr. Ley is a graduate of Boone University, an Episcopal school in China, and has had a varied career in education and government. He has been, among many other things, Vice-minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Vice-minister of the Interior, Minister of Personnel (Civil Service) and at present continues in government as Adviser to the President of China.

For the past six years, he has been of inestimable help as a beloved member of the diocesan staff.

## IN APPRECIATION

The Diocese of Upper South Carolina of the Episcopal Church in the United States and the Missionary Diocese of Taiwan entered into happy companion relationship in 1965. During the past six years the Diocese of Taiwan enjoyed the very enviable privilege of receiving various benefits from the Diocese of Upper South Carolina—intercession, exhortation, encouragement and, above all, generous financial help for which we are most grateful. Now that our companion relationship fast approaching termination and the two diocese will have to face, however reluctantly as well as regretfully, the inevitable consequence of parting company at the end of 1970, we the people of the Diocese of Taiwan, both clergy and laity, deem it only fitting and proper to express our heartfelt thanks to the Right Reverend Bishop, the Venerable Archdeacon, all clergymen, churchmen of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina, in the following poem, which, we hope, will serve as a lasting tribute to the edifying fellowship between the two companion dioceses:

However far apart the East and West may be,  
 Yet united in spirit are we by absolute  
 sincerity;  
 Timely relief accord us in our hardship,  
 Graciously supply our financial deficiency;  
 O'how short and fleeting a period, six years,  
 Soon shall we be parting company in tears;  
 Forever at one with you we will be,  
 Worshipping and serving the One True Lord  
 till eternity"

## BISHOP BROWNING ORDAINS DEACON KE

On September 17th, the eve of the election of the bishop, Mr. Ke Chau-sheng was ordained deacon by Bishop Browning, acting for the Presiding Bishop. Deacon Ke is a graduate of the Tainan Theological College and was a Presbyterian minister of three churches in the Pescadores until he asked for permission to enter the Episcopal Church and be ordained. For the past year Mr. Ke has been working in the diocesan office and assisting in Taipei churches and studying under the direction of the Board of Examining Chaplains.

Mr. Ke says he was drawn to the Episcopal Church as he felt the Taiwanese people should have a different form of worship than is commonly

known in Protestant churches here on the island. He felt the liturgy and apostolic system of the Episcopal Church more suitable to his point of view.

Although he is Taiwanese, he was born in Amoy in South China where his father was a doctor. When the Sino-Japanese War began, his mother returned to Taiwan with him, only then a baby, and due to the war was never able to contact his father again, only hearing much later that he had died of illness. His mother supported the family as a nurse-midwife through the years.

Mr. Ke is married to a kindergarten teacher who is now working in the kindergarten of St. John's Cathedral. They have a son and daughter of pre-school age.

## JAMES TE MING PONG,

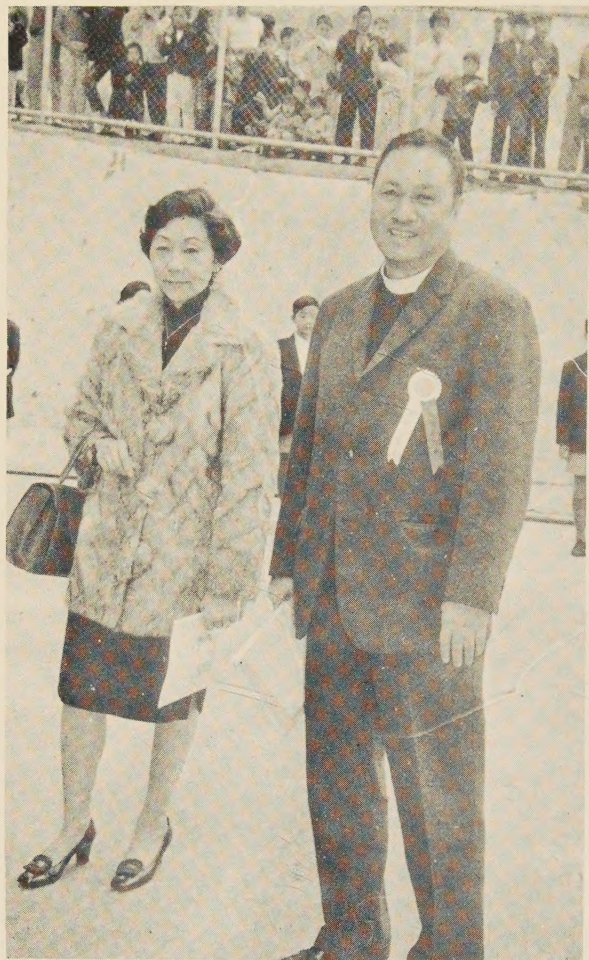
The Ven. James Te Ming Pong, Bishop-elect of The Missionary Diocese of Taiwan, comes with an impressive variety of experience both in education and in the Anglican Church as teacher, priest, archdeacon, and scholar.

The Bishop-elect is a graduate of St. Paul's College, Hong Kong, and holds a B.A. from St. John's University, Shanghai, a M.A. from Chicago University, and a Diploma in Theology from St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, England with further graduate study at Oxford University.

He has been instructor in History and Government at Lingnan University, Canton, Dean of Chung Chi Christian College, Hong Kong, and Lecturer in Theology at Union Theological College, Hong Kong. He has been vicar of various churches in Hong Kong, and from 1964 to 1969 was Regional Officer for South East Asia for the Worldwide Anglican Church of which the Episcopal Church is a member.

The Bishop-elect has visited Taiwan, and he has had the privilege of visiting all of the churches at some time, so he is familiar with the job which he is undertaking.

Archdeacon Pong is married to the former Lily Yeung, a musician, and they have two children. David, Ph.D. (London) is now assistant professor of and Far Eastern History at the University of Delaware, and their daughter, Rachel, is a graduate student at Oregon University.



BISHOP-ELECT AND MRS. PONG



DAUGHTER, RACHEL



SON, DAVID, AND MRS. PONG

# BISHOP-ELECT



AS REGIONAL OFFICER OF THE COUNCIL OF SOUTH EAST ASIA. LEFT, ARCHBISHOP WRIGHT OF CANADA.



ARCHDEACON PONG AND BISHOP BAKER OF HONGKONG AT ST. JOHN'S AND ST. MARY'S INSTITUTE WITH PRESIDENT YEN.

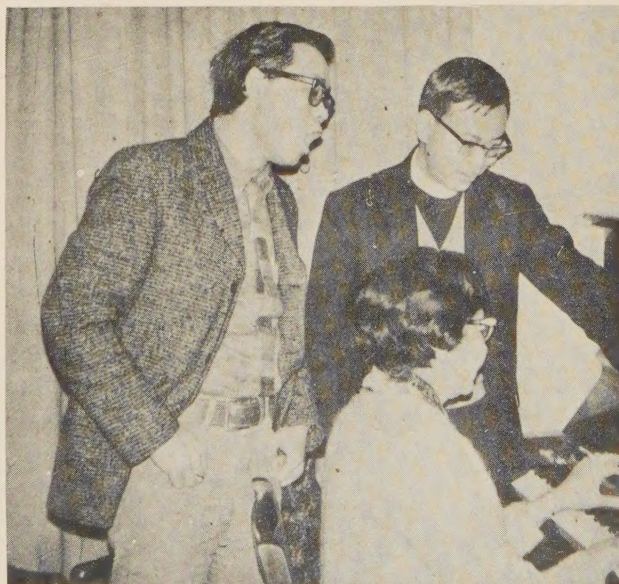


BISHOP-ELECT PONG EATING WITH BISHOP RUTT OF KOREA AND BISHOP AND MRS. ROLAND KOH OF WEST MALAYSIA

MRS. PONG, DAVID AND FRIEND DISPLAY MUSICAL ABILITIES OF FAMILY.

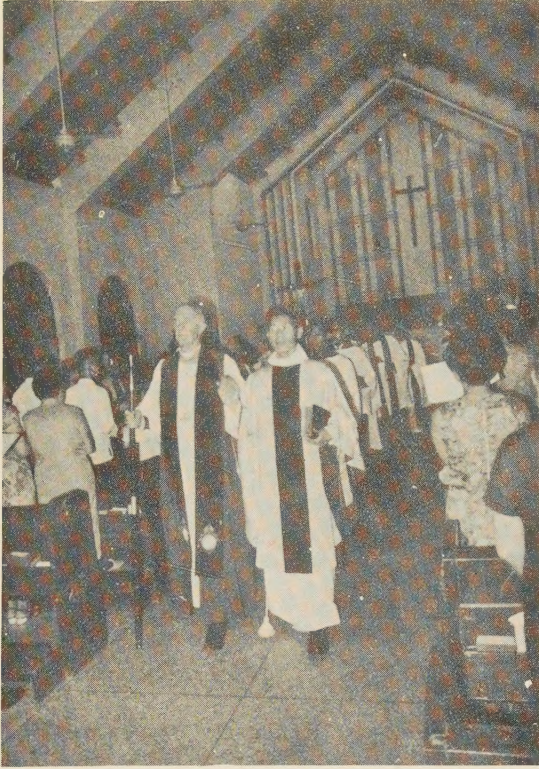


ARCHDEACON PONG'S MOTHER WHO WILL ALSO COME TO TAIWAN



## BISHOP GILSON ORDAINS PRIEST

## PERSONALITIES IN THE NEWS



The Rt. Rev. and Mrs. Charles P. Gilson arrived in Taiwan June 16th for an extended visit to see old friends and familiar places. They traveled throughout the island renewing acquaintances and seeing developments in the church since they left the island in 1965.

Taiwan was honored that Bishop Gilson took time from his vacation to take confirmations on behalf of the Presiding Bishop in several churches and to ordain one deacon who came into the church and became a postulant when he was Bishop in Taiwan.

The Rev. Chen Chin-ti was ordained to the priesthood June 17th in St. John's Cathedral. Fr. Chen is an honor graduate of Tainan Theological College, and since his graduation has lived with his family of wife, two sons and a daughter, on the campus of St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology. Fr. Chen is a trained and experienced accountant and was even at one time champion abacus calculator of Taiwan. Therefore, in addition to his primary job of Chaplain and spiritual leader for several hundred students, he has served as accountant of the school.

The Rt. Rev. Edmond Browning, young, enthusiastic and red headed, lent a vivaciousness to the Special Convocation that was appreciated by all delegates. Bishop Browning, Bishop of Okinawa, came to his position in 1969 at the age of 41. He displayed an understanding which belies his youthful appearance, forging a second link with our neighboring diocese. Bishop Gilson, formerly of Taiwan, led that diocese for some time before his retirement.

Although Bishop Browning spoke no Chinese, he was seen having a grand time in Japanese with the many church members who are fluent in that language. He revealed that the ordination of Ke Chau-sheng was his first ordination of a deacon and the Convocation his first experience in the election of a Bishop. Taiwan is proud to share these first experiences with him and grateful for his interest and help at this time.

He and Mrs. Browning are proud parents of five children.

Three delegates from Taiwan have left for the Convention of the Episcopal Church in Houston, beginning October 10th. They are Dr. Harris Shen, professor and former librarian of Tung Hai Christian University in Taichung, Mrs. Lillian P. Y. Hsu, housewife and Director of the Episcopal Church Women, and the Rev. Edmund Der, Vicar of the Good Shepherd, Shihlin, Taipei.

Following the Convention, Dr. Shen and Father Der will pay brief visits to the Diocese of Upper South Carolina to express the thanks of their churches to the sister churches that have particularly helped their respective churches. St. James and Good Shepherd.

Mrs. Hsu has been active in women's work for many years and is well qualified to represent the women of the Republic of China. She has sent boxes of Taiwan made handicrafts to Houston where they will be on display and for sale.

Mr. Willie Wei, elder statesman of the Episcopal has, with his wife, been an active member of St. John's Cathedral since coming to Taiwan from the Mainland of China at the takeover by the Communists. He is in his 80's and his life has covered a most interesting period in the history of China and his leadership has been valuable in the development of Taiwan.

Mr. Wei was graduated from St. John's University and as a youth was a member of China's first team to be sent to the Olympics. Mr. Wei has been engaged all his life in transportation and shipping.

His vast experience and faithful devotion to God were invaluable in his work as Chairman of the Nominating Committee.



## SHUN-WEN HALL DEDICATED

The third floor of the Administrative Building of St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology was graciously donated by Mrs. Vivian Yen, President of the school, and is being used as the spacious library. On September 29th, special services of dedication were held by the Archdeacon, expressing gratitude to God for the dedication and generosity of Mrs. Yen. She has not only contributed financially to the growth of the school, but has given most freely of her time, serving as president of the school without pay.

An excellent choir of students, led by Mr. Warren Wilkinson, head of the English Department, sang, and a representative group of the more than 1000 students attended the dedication service.

Honored guest of the occasion was Mr. John Coe who with his wife is visiting Taiwan. Mr. and Mrs. Coe were missionaries at Hua Chung University on the Mainland of China, Mr. Coe having been there from 1923 to 1951.

COVER: The Rt. Rev. Edmond Browning Presides over Special Convocation. At left is Professor Herbert Ma, Chancellor, and right, Archdeacon Hutton. Standing in rear is Mr. Sheng-fu Chang, teller.

## THE EDITOR SAYS:

Dear Friends,

Since our last printing and the death of our beloved Bishop Wong, the Diocese of Taiwan, in my opinion, has undergone a tremendous period of growth and development as many members have come forward to actively take part in the election of their own bishop and in the future plans for the church. As you probably know in the the case of a vacancy of a bishopric in a missionary diocese, the diocese comes under the direct responsibility of the Presiding Bishop, John Hines.

At the time of Bishop Wong's death, I was appointed Administrator of the Diocese by Bishop Hines, in charge of administrative affairs until the consecration of the new bishop-elect, Legal affairs of the diocese at such a time are in the hands of the Council of Advice which corresponds more or less to the Standing Committee which you are probably more familiar with.

I want to take this opportunity to thank sincerely the very loyal and hardworking members of this committee who have most helpfully shared the administration of the diocese during these past months. It has been necessary for them to come from various places on the island many times, and I want to express my appreciation as well as that of the Presiding Bishop for their devotion.

Grateful thanks are also due to the Rev. William Heffner, Far East Officer who spent weeks in Taiwan as the personal representative of the Presiding Bishop.

Sharing almost equally in importance with the coming consecration of a new bishop is the activation of a new and very important committee which was authorized by the Convocation in the Spring of 1970. It is the Planning and Strategy Committee which was set up to evaluate the progress made so far in the diocese in reaching both Taiwanese and Mainland Chinese, and to recommend long-term plans for the development of our future work. The committee met for the first time for a two day meeting, September 25-26 became involved in their problem and began to think of their future task.

I know that all the friends of the Diocese of Taiwan share with me the great joy at the election of James Te Ming Pong and join me in wishing him all success and happiness in his new venture with us.

Faithfully yours,



MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION OF THE DISTRICT OF TAIWAN