Chiang Mai Mission Press

The Chiang Mai Mission Press was established in early 1892 by the <u>Laos Mission</u>, after several abort efforts dating from the 1860s to introduce a printing press into northern Siam. Dr. S. C. Peoples of the Lampang Station successfully acquired the fonts for the press in 1890, and when the press began in 1892 the Rev. D. G. Collins became the press manager. He remained in that position until his death in 1917, when his wife Ada Collins assumed management of the press until her own death in 1923. Beginning in small, cramped quarters, the press grew under the Collins' able management, and it remained the largest and most commercially viable press in the North. The press had to be closed temporarily in 1926 for the lack of a manager, and although opened again in later years it declined in importance. In 1936, the Presbyterian Mission finally took action to rent the press to a local Chiang Mai Christian.

The press was the first and for much of its history the only press printing in the northern Thai script and language. It produced large volumes of Scripture portions, textbooks, and tracts and did substantial job work for local government agencies and businesses.