

1923



No 4

July-Aug., 1923

### « ENDURE HARDNESS »

« A good soldier of JESUS CHRIST ! »

'Tis an honor beyond compare,  
On the far-flung battle line,  
His banner aloft to bear.

Ah ! not only to fight — but more,  
With calm courage and quiet trust,  
To endure when the way is rough,  
And our hopes lie low in the dust ?

Yea, my LORD, with my hand in THINE,  
The good fight of faith I can fight,  
Endure hardness, or shame, or loss,  
Pressing on to the land of light.

« Endure hardness as a good soldier of  
Jesus Christ. » — 2 Tim. 2 : 2

**«Consider how great things He has  
done for you.»**

(1 Sam. 12 : 24)

**P**RAISE GOD for the new dormitory in Tourane, which will make it possible for our Bible School work to be carried on much more efficiently.

Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins are praising GOD for the safe arrival of a fine baby girl, Ruth Hester, on Friday, July 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey are also rejoicing in the gift of their first-born, Ruth Evelyn, who arrived Friday, July 13.

Praise GOD for the first converts in Cambodia—seven having been baptized.

Praise GOD for the restoration to health of Mr. H. A. Jackson, who has been seriously ill, and of Mrs. Jackson who has been in poor health for some time.

**«Let your requests be made known unto God.»**

(Phil. 4 : 6)

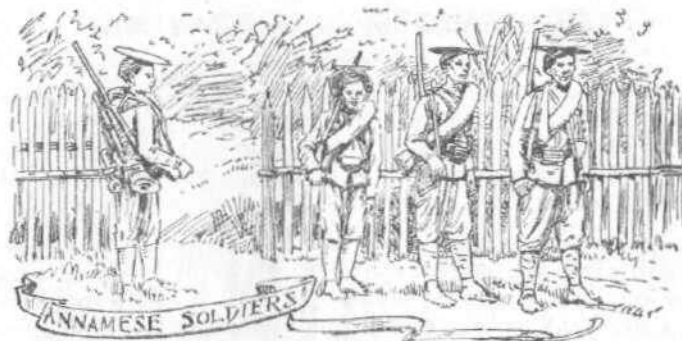
**P**RAY for the annual conference to be held at Tourane the first week in September, — that GOD may definitely guide in all decisions regarding the work; that the HOLY SPIRIT'S presence may be manifest in blessing and refreshing, and the missionaries be endued with power from on high for the coming conference year's work.

Pray for our native workers, many of whom are but «babes in CHRIST,» that they may be kept from the evil surrounding them, and go on to stalwart manhood in the LORD.

Pray that GOD may bless the more than four million pages of Bible portions and Gospel literature printed by the presses during the first six months of this year and now being scattered throughout this land.

Pray for the new missionaries, Messrs. Robinson and Ellison, who are arriving from France the beginning of August, that GOD may grant them the vision of HIS plan for their work in this needy land.

Pray for the definite healing of some of the missionaries who are still in poor health at this time.



### EDITORIAL

**«ENDURE** hardness as a good soldier of JESUS CHRIST.» — The Epistles contain many fine similes, but among them all there is none, to our mind, more beautiful than this. It seems freighted with meaning, and is most inspiring. Many a soldier can fight well when the excitement of battle is on, but to endure hardness in the dull monotony of «the daily round, the common task,» — that is more difficult.

**I**T will help us if we remember that there is a purpose in our enduring hardness. God does not aimlessly make HIS soldiers endure hardness, but thereby trains them for HIS service, like a general preparing his troops for the day of battle. «No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.»

**L**ET us therefore not be like cement, the imitation stone, which the more it is «chastened,» that is, ground or polished, the rougher and uglier it becomes; but rather like pure marble which under the hand of the skilled workman becomes more and more free from blemishes, till at last it glows with a rare beauty. Yea, some of us may even emulate the diamond which, under the hand of the «chastener,» endures hardness so effectually that it becomes the choicest of the gems, sending forth from its glowing heart rays of light even in the darkest night. God grant this may be true of us.

## THE FRUIT OF YOUR PRAYERS!

**L**AST month you were all asked to pray for us as we entered this hitherto untouched field. I know many of you have taken this burden upon you and have prayed earnestly for us. So in this issue I want to tell you about the fruit of your prayers and encourage you to pray even more.

When we arrived here in Phompenh we had no friends nor any who knew for what purpose we were here. However it was not long before we sent out an appeal for a native colporter, and Mr. Stebbins sent a man from Sadec who had been saved in his work there. This man came in the power of the Spirit, and set to his work immediately with a joy and vigor that was good to see. After a few days he started bringing in enquirers, and very shortly we found it necessary to commence holding meetings for them. Three young Annamese were the first to give their hearts to the Lord, and they went immediately to work to find others, like the first disciple of Jesus, as John tells us,—«He first went and found his brother,»—until several had surrendered to His love.

Later on we found we had to have a new language teacher, so asked the colporteur to find us one. He brought us a young Cambodian whom he had met as he went about his work, and we hired him. Since then we have been able to make more rapid progress in language study. We have also done some translation work, having translated some tracts into Cambodian, and now we are working on the translation of the Gospel of John.

This new teacher was only with us a week or so when, during the course of our conversation in Cambodian, he asked :

អ្នកណាចង់បានជីវិតសេរីសុខុមាលក្នុងពិភពនេះ?

which means: « what must a person do if he wishes to be saved ». I didn't know much Cambodian in those days so dropped that language for the more familiar French. I was more sure of what I was saying in French, and for the rest of that study period I explained to him the way of salvation. He gave his heart to

Jesus not many days after, and has since led his wife to the Saviour. He is also bringing in enquirers all the time, and is very fervent for the Lord.

Thus after only four months God has given us seven converts, five Annamese and two Cambodians, and there are a number of enquirers coming all the time. On June 24th we all went down to the Mekong, and these seven were buried with our Lord in baptism. Praise God! He is a wonder-working God!

But the secret! What is it? I'll tell you. Someone has prayed.—ARTHUR L. HAMMOND.

## A PEANUT STORY

**H**Ô-VINH lives in the village of Lang-Chau, which is about 26 kilometers from Tourane. Last summer we had a dry spell and all the villagers had to carry water in order that their peanut crop might not die. Sunday came and Hô-Vinh started off to walk the 26 kilometers to church in Tourane (We have since opened work in Faifoo which is nearer). His neighbors laughed him to scorn, « What! leave your peanuts to die? How will you live? » « No, » said Hô-Vinh, « God will look after those peanuts, » and he went to church. Sure enough it rained that night and the neighbours were convinced that the God of Hô-Vinh had answered prayer. This is a type of the men whom God is calling from this country district around Faifoo; they have been coming in by dozens, and the work has only just commenced. Last Sunday Mr. Irwin opened meetings at Faifoo. It was a very wet day, and the river was flooded, which meant that many could not possibly come, but the church was filled. —

D. I. JEFFREY.

**I**T is cause for praise to GOD to meet converts, from time to time, from other cities and provinces in French Indochina. Because of their vocations as merchants, sailors, soldiers, and wireless telegraph operators, some of these converts travel far and wide. Pray for them that they may be kept true to JESUS, and their testimony greatly blessed.

## BURR-R-R!—OR FISHING FOR SOULS

Burr-r-r-r-r! What's that? Oh, it is just a feeble attempt to describe that Little Ben alarm clock going off at five a. m., Monday. It is not pretty like a bugle call, but it means the same thing. «Get up, put on your uniform, swallow a cup of coffee, and run for the boat,» it says. One is never sure of the Chinese-owned boats, they sometimes leave a long time after the appointed hour, and frequently before. It is seldom that someone does not get left, no matter when they leave. I am joined at the boat by the native preacher, and as soon as we start down the river we start to fish. The rivers abound with fish, but we are not trying to catch that kind. We have about two hundred passengers on our boat, and we are fishing for them. We tell them the Gospel and distribute tracts and Gospel portions, and thus we spread the Glad Tidings, as these people are traveling to all parts of Cochinchina.

After we have gone fifteen miles we arrive at Binh-Long, and a little boat comes out to take us to shore. We spend the day at this place, preaching, teaching, and visiting. Our first convert there gave us a big native house which we converted into a chapel seating about two hundred. A real work of grace has been done in the hearts of many of these people, and several there are now waiting to be baptized. Idols have been taken down and smashed, and devil worshipers have turned to the true God and his Son, Jesus Christ. Seekers are coming to the chapel from the whole countryside, and many come from a long distance.

Recently, I was forced to return to Chaudoc in a rowboat. Fifteen miles against the current, part of the journey under the blistering sun; and after sundown, until late that night, we had a constant fight with mosquitoes. The «squitos» of Jersey are famous, but the breed out here are infamous. I became very thirsty and hungry *en route*, and to assuage those pangs I ate four green cucumbers and some Chinese rice cakes. Wise people will think that it would be better not to eat at all than to do such a foolish thing, and I agree with them. However hunger

and thirst are not listed under the brain department, but the stomach department.

But the last part of my story will be so fishy that some folks will think that I had a touch of the sun that day. You have heard all kinds of fish stories, but mine is so strange and hard to believe that I shrink from telling it. We were rowing along in the moonlight, when all of a sudden something wet struck the back of my neck, and then in the bottom of the boat there was something flopping around. A fish had jumped out of the water right into our boat! But that was only the beginning, for before the end of our journey eight fish rested in the bottom of the boat. I guess they were on their way to Chaudoc, but preferred to ride rather than swim.

The rivers here abound with fish, and the country here abounds in men for whom we are fishing. We often wish that men would jump into the ark of safety as those fish jumped into the boat, — but fishing for men is more like fishing for the wily trout. But they can be caught, and we have the best bait in the world, «The Word of God.» I am fishing daily and I hope to have a very good string before the Lord comes and the fishing season closes. God help us to be fishers of men. — R. ALLEN GRUPE, CHAUDOC, COCHINCHINA.

### « They that go down to the Sea in Ships »

IN a recent letter Mr. Jackson at Haiphong writes: «At the end of June a Mr. An was baptized. By trade he is a ship's painter, and works on the steamers going up and down the coast of Indo-China. It is cause for thanksgiving that there are «Gospel Lighthouses» at three of the ports, where he can go and have fellowship when on his voyages.

«When Mr. An was examined as a candidate for baptism, he told us he was very quick tempered and lacked patience, and would often get so angry that he would quit his employment. But he testified that God had already changed him and helped him very much, and he requested prayer that the Lord may continue to bless him, and that he may continue in his present work and so be well able to support his family.»

Praise God for such testimonies of not only «saving grace» but «sustaining grace.»

## CHILDREN'S WORK IN HAIPHONG.

WE have been asked if we think it worth while to give the Gospel to the native children, do they understand it, and does it have any effect on their lives? Perhaps the following incidents, in connection with this work, will help to answer such questions.

As a rule we do not expect the children to testify in public, nor do we ask for a shew of hands of those who wish to follow Jesus. If this were done it is almost certain that all would put up their hands. Not long ago, during a lesson on « prayer, » it occurred to us to ask them if they had not received answers to prayer. The response was certainly beyond anything we had expected. One after another got up and told how God had answered their simple petitions. Some testified to answered prayer in regards to their school work. These testimonies, given so spontaneously, were a great inspiration to us, for we hardly dared to believe that the lessons were going so deep. To God be all the glory!

They are learning to pray in public, too, for once in a while one of the older boys closes the meeting in prayer. Many of the children are now praying, or have promised to pray, that God will enable us either to rent or build a larger chapel. Since Christmas the attendance has been steadily increasing. Yesterday, between 85 and 90 tried to find seating space in a chapel that is crowded with 70. Besides the benches, which were overcrowded, there were several chairs in front. As many as three children sat on one chair! None of us know how God will answer these prayers. At present it seems impossible to remedy the situation, but God has ways and means that we know not of. We feel sure that He will not turn a deaf ear to the simple prayers of these little children.

There are incidents to show that they also witness in their homes, and among their little friends. A few weeks ago we asked a boy who came to the Young People's Meeting for the first time, « Have you ever heard of the true God? » « Yes, » — « Who told you about Him? » In reply, he pointed to another boy

sitting opposite him. Another day some of the children told us that in a certain home there is a child servant who wishes to be a Christian. We asked: « Has he been to the chapel? » « No, he does not have time to go. » « Well then, what makes him want to be a Christian? » « Oh! Cue (one of the boys who comes frequently) tells him. »

On account of limited space, we try to keep the children from attending the evening meeting. One little boy persists in coming regularly, and says that his parents are now interested, and ask him to bring home literature, that they, too, may know the doctrine.

One day, Loi said that he is afraid to die. What a privilege it was to explain to him that, if he gives his heart to Jesus, he will not be afraid! The next Sunday we were reading about Heaven. One verse says that no liar can enter Heaven. When Loi heard that, he said: « In the past, I have told many lies, but from now on, I intend to tell no more. » Let us pray that he may trust God to help him keep that promise.

May God use these incidents to encourage our readers to pray for the « little ones » of Indo-China, not only for those who have heard, but for the thousands who at present have no chance of hearing. Although present results may seem small, we believe that the future shall reap a rich harvest from the seed that is being sown in these young hearts to day. —

Mrs. R. M. JACKSON.

## BIBLE SCHOOL ITEMS

THE students are scattered among the different stations for the summer vacation. Some will replace those students who have been acting as evangelists during the past conference year, so that these in their turn may resume their studies.

The good news has come to hand that the new dormitory, consisting of ten rooms with accommodation for twenty students, will be completed in time for the school opening early next September.

Pray that there may be a large class of students, men called of God, filled with the Holy Spirit, ready to « endure hardness » as good soldiers of Jesus Christ.

\*This article was held over from the last issue owing to lack of space. — Ed.

## FIRST CAMBODIAN GOSPEL LEAFLETS

អ្នកបំប្លែង បានអ្នកណាត់អ្នកប្រែជាមួយទាន  
អ្នកជំរុញបញ្ចូលណាត់ប្រែយកពុទ្ធនោះ

WE here re- and pic- the first of a se- Gospel leaflets to mong the Cam- the few remain- given the pure tion by faith in The heading, known invita- unto Me all ye are heavily laden,» neath the pic- clear pointer given to the way of salvation. These leaflets are translations made from similar leaflets in Annamese by Mr. Hammond and his language teacher, after which the teacher writes a clear and neat copy which is sent to Hanoi and photographed. From the negative a «cut» is made ready for printing, and from this «cut» stereos are made from which tens of thousands of leaflets can be printed as needed.



produce the title ture of one of ries of illustrated be scattered a- badians, one of ing races to be Gospel of salva- JESUS' Name. which is the well- tion to «Come that labor and is explained be- ture, and thus a

As in all pioneer fields, the supplying of Gospel literature is of vital importance. Seemingly printing in Cambodia in the native language is expensive and most unsatisfactory. Therefore much prayer and careful consideration is necessary in regard to our mission press undertaking the printing of the Cambodian Bible portions and other Gospel literature, as soon as prepared by the pioneer missionaries. Pray with us that the best solution of this question may be found speedily, and this important work be blessed of GOD from the very beginning.

## HEART LIKE A TROUBLESOME HORSE!

HERE is an Annamese testimony word for word. It speaks for itself. «To-day I realize the grace of God who by the Holy Spirit has illumined my heart to understand some thing very precious. I desire to bear witness that you may understand!

«I know that my heart is no different from a horse; that is to say, a horse without bit and bridle; and rider although willing, it cannot possibly run straight, and it also bites and kicks. This is exactly like my heart. Although I have wisdom, without God and the Holy Spirit I go astray and can never be perfectly gentle, and I am jealous of others.

«I am sure a horse must have a bit and bridle and a rider to direct it, and my heart must live with Christ always so that the Holy Spirit can govern me.

«Before I examined myself and found out that I was a sinner, I wished to escape this thing, to be good, and I found a doctrine called Buddhism. I followed it in order to save myself, but my heart only increased in sin, no different from an unruly horse without a rider.

«But now the Lord has called me. He leads me, and my heart has forsaken the wickedness to follow the lawful road of the Lord like a horse with a rider that goes straight.»

You readers all know how true this testimony is of others as well as the Annamese. And if you have ever ridden or tried to ride a bucking horse, you know how apt this illustration is. Let us keep on praying and rejoicing for the advance of the gospel in French Indo-China. — D. I. JEFFREY

THERE is an Annamese precept which says: «Tâm tư bình nguyên tàu mã, dĩ phóng nan thu,» which translated means: The heart of man is like a running horse on a level plain, easy to gallop, but difficult to restrain.

A well-known Annamese proverb often used in preaching is: «Gần mực thì đen, gần đèn thì sáng,» meaning literally, «Close to ink get black, close to lamp get light,» thus well illustrating the consequences of evil or good company.

## « A BURNING AND A SHINING LIGHT. »

« I will never leave thee neither will I in any wise forsake thee, » is God's promise to every one who steps out in His Name to do His bidding. The Annamese have such a simple, sweet faith in God after having become acquainted with Him; and it is, I believe, the greatest inspiration I have ever known to see these « babes in Christ » claiming His presence and protection in the face of opposition and real hardships. Especially has this been true in the life of a little woman that I want to tell you about. She was the first one to be saved from among the women of Cantho and vicinity.

### Turning to the Lord

There wasn't anything unusual in CÔ CHI's conversion, except that for the joy in our hearts it was hard to believe the truth. We had been appointed to open Cantho as a new station, and up to that time almost all who came to our home were in rags, presuming to be interested in the Gospel, but being far more interested in what they hoped to gain for the needs of the body. What a contrast was this honest soul seeking the Saviour!

After this we saw her only about once a month as she was travelling about on a house boat with her husband, buying and selling, but each time she came she thirstily drank in the words of Life. Between visits to us she studied her catechism and read the Gospels. In this private study she learned her first lesson of trust in the presence and help of the Lord. She realised her inability to understand the things of God without the help of His Spirit, and so she made it her business to daily seek His help, which was granted to her. When questioned for baptism she was able to answer intelligently many hard doctrinal questions, and to give reason for the hope that was in her.

### Telling the glad news to others

One day we had quite a surprise from this little lady. She came rushing in and said, « You must come to my village for many people there want to hear about Jesus. » Who could resist a call like that? Sometimes I wish with my whole being that

scores of young people at home could hear those words as we heard them that day. Come! for many over here want your Jesus. Needless to say we went as soon as possible. CÔ CHI came for us at four-thirty in the morning, fearing that we might oversleep and miss the six o'clock boat. On the boat I could scarcely restrain tears of joy as I listened to her explaining the Gospel (the little she knew of it) to the women sitting around her.

As she had promised, there were crowds of people in her village who wanted to hear the « new doctrine, » and they came flocking in to listen. During the first lull she told us to look around at the little wooden house we were in, and then said, « This is my house that I built with my own money, but I want to give it to you for a chapel, if only you will send someone to live here and teach us about Jesus. » Can you imagine how sad it made us to have to tell her there was no one to send? That was months ago, the little house is still there but no one, not even a native worker, is available to go and fill it. CÔ CHI cannot understand it, and her beautiful eyes are always asking « why? » You cannot imagine how hard it is for the missionary, in the face of a plea like this, to have to acknowledge that many men and women at home who know of Jesus, are lovers of pleasure and of themselves rather than lovers of God.

### Willing witness by baptism

Not very long after this visit to her home CÔ CHI asked to be baptized, and the day was set. Because of the swollen rivers and canals, a ricefield had to be used for the service. Since CÔ CHI was the first woman to be baptized, we warned her that many people looking on would sneer and laugh and make it as unpleasant for her as they could. Her answer was a rebuke to our fears, « If there was no water anywhere else I would be willing to go down to the Market place to be baptized, and let everybody laugh at me. » This fearless spirit was most assuredly born of her simple faith in the presence of Jesus with her in all her ways.

After having taken upon herself the name of Jesus in this public way, she became more earnest than ever to tell all of

her newly-found Saviour. So now every place she goes she takes her little catechism and explains it to her customers. She laughingly told me one day, «I have to buy and sell in order to preach,» and her bright eyes and happy face told louder than any words could do that she enjoys it. Recently she started a class for girls in her home and teaches them what little she has learned about God.

#### Winning her husband for Jesus

One of the greatest triumphs she has experienced thus far in her Christian life was followed by the greatest trial. The former was her husband's conversion and the latter was his death. For months she suffered many hardships at the hand of her unsaved husband, the climax of which was when she had to submit to his having a new bride. During those months she often asked us to pray God to keep her. No one on the house boat (which was her home most of the time) loved her Jesus. She could not get away from the noise of their heathen worship, and they would not allow her a moment of quiet communion with her God. If she sought a secluded spot on the boat to pray or read, this was the signal for her oppressors to get busy. And then when her husband took this new wife it seemed that her cup was about to run over. However, she said later that Jesus took all the grief out of her heart and helped her in her determination to stay with her husband, believing that he would be saved some day. Her faith was rewarded and her husband was thoroughly saved a few days before his death. He wouldn't allow any one to make any preparations for a heathen funeral, but neither he nor his wife knew how to plan for a Christian funeral. CÔ CHI wrote us of their dilemma, and our native worker went to their home immediately, arriving there just in time to be with the man during the last moments of his life.

#### Rejecting heathen funeral rites

The next day Mr. Jackson went to conduct the funeral service, and upon reaching the house a sickening sight met his eyes. Our helper had only been able to stay in the home a few hours, and when he left the neighbors came flocking in to pay their respects to the departed man's spirit. When finding out

that there was nothing in the house with which to worship, they went out and bought everything used in a heathen funeral. And so there they were, — the women sewing garments for the mourners and for CÔ CHI to wear, or cooking for and serving the men who came in droves to eat and drink several times over in honor of the dead man's spirit. The coffin and altar in front of it were covered with lighted candles. Food had been placed close by for the spirit to partake of before going away, and a pair of shoes for him to wear. Poor dark, blind souls! They see the food is never touched and the shoes never worn, and yet these things must always be provided.

But what of CÔ CHI? How is it that all of this was going on in her house? Didn't she say she had renounced all of these practices? Ah, but she is only a woman and if her neighbors want to disregard her desires they may. There was a dead man in her house and he must be worshipped and cared for. What is one little woman against scores of men and women? When Mr. Jackson arrived upon this awful scene, CÔ CHI was almost crazy with grief and weariness, for no one took her part nor listened to her pleadings.

In a few minutes all traces of heathen worship had been removed, and the people had been induced to sit down and quietly listen to God's plan for the reception into His presence of all those who will accept the gift of His Love.

Don't be too harsh in your judgment upon these poor heathen people. It is because of their ignorance of our God and of Jesus Christ our Saviour that they bow down to idols of wood and stone and worship the spirits of the departed. That they continue in their ignorance, who is to blame? — MRS. H. A. JACKSON, CANTHO, COCHINCHINA

IN a recent letter from Tourane it was mentioned that an average of ten heathen were prayed with weekly. Of these many are converted and baptized.

WE are glad to welcome to the Far East, Mr. N. R. Frost, the father of one of our Hanoi missionnaires. He has long been prominently connected with the Alliance work in St. Paul, Minn. Both father and daughter are now together in Central China, and we trust he will be able to visit Indochina.



## FRENCH INDO-CHINA

### ALLIANCE STATIONS :

Tonkin (pop. 6,850,453)

Hanoi

Haiphong

Annam pop. (4,933,426)

Tourane

Cochin-China (pop. 3,795,613)

Saigon

Sadee

Cantho

Chaudoc

Cambodia (pop. 2,402,585)

Phnompenh

Laos (pop. 818,755)

Kouang-T.-Wan (pop. 182,371)

## Directory of Missionaries

Chairman : Rev. R. A. Jaffray, Wuchow, So. China

Sub-Chairman : Rev. E. F. Irwin, Tourane, Annam

### TOURANE :

Rev. and Mrs. E. F. Irwin

Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Smith

Miss Bollier

Miss M. Harrison

Native Pastor : Rev. H. T. Thun

Biblewoman : Mrs. Hân

Bible School

Rev. and Mrs. D. I. Jeffrey

### HANOI :

Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Cadman

Miss E. M. Frost

Miss C. Ailshouse

Native Evangelist : Mr. Quach

Biblewoman : Mrs. UI

### HAIPHONG :

Rev. and Mrs. H. M. Jackson

Native Evangelist : Mr. Ngoi

Biblewoman : Mrs. Hau

### SAIGON :

Rev. J. D. Olsen

Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Ferry

Native Evangelist : Mr. Khanh

Chinese Evangelist : Mr. Chue

### SADEC :

Rev. and Mrs. I. R. Stebbins

Native Evangelist : Mr. Dinh

### CANTHO :

Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Jackson

Native Evangelist : Mr. Binh

### CHAUDOC :

Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Grupe

Native Evangelist : Mr. Long

### PNOMPENH :

Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Hammond

Native Evangelist : Mr. Tiép