

1918

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Mr. Jaffray's Visit.—Our brother, who in addition to his own engrossing work at Wuchow, South China, and who is at the time taking the supervision of the Indo-China field, returned in December from another visit to this latter field. He took to Indo-China with him Messrs. Jackson and Stebbins and Miss Hartman, new recruits from home, and Mr. Olsen, who has been in South China for a year. A conference of the entire Indo-China staff was held at Tourane, and the gathering was marked by blessed unity, stimulating fellowship, and far-reaching decisions and plans for the work.

Missionary Assignments.—The conference made the following assignment of missionaries for the ensuing year:—Tourane, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, Misses Foster and Hartman; Hanoi, Mr. and Mrs. Cadman (till furlough in early summer), Messrs. Jackson and Jeffrey (the latter being an additional new recruit who left for the field in December); Saigon, Messrs. Olsen and Stebbins.

Saigon Occupied.—The above assignments indicate a very important and advance step in the occupation of Saigon, the capital of all French Indo-China, situated in the most easterly province of Cochin-China. It is a city of large size and population, and includes a beautiful French section, a native Annamese section said to contain 145,000, and a big Chinese suburb with 100,000 or more Cantonese residents. The fact that a beginning of work has been made in this great and influential center is indeed a cause for due gratitude to God. Our two brethren are for the time wholly engaged, like the other three new missionaries, in studying French and Annamese. They are, however, at the same time looking carefully over the ground and prayerfully planning for the work ahead. And meanwhile they have with them a native colporteur actively engaged in selling scriptures throughout the cities and towns of Cochin-China. His sales for December alone amounted to \$65.00.

Favorable Interviews.—While in Saigon Mr. Jaffray was accorded interviews with the Governor of Cochin-China and also the Governor-General of the whole Indo-China. The attitude of these high officials toward our work is increasingly favorable, and the Governor-General promised to consider and consult with the provincial authorities about the earnest request made by Mr. Jaffray for the removal of restrictions as yet remaining upon Protestant missionary work in a large portion of Indo-China. Let us pray that God will incline the hearts of those concerned to open the way for His gospel throughout that benighted land.