

«The Call of  
French Indochina and East Siam,»  
No. 29, April-June, 1930

ENTRUSTED  

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TASKS

To each of us Alliance missionaries God has entrusted a definite task—a corner of His harvest-field in French Indochina and Eastern Siam for which we are responsible. How we have accomplished this task during the past year, what has been the measure of success granted to us, how in the midst of the gloom of heathenism we have had glimpses of God's glory as lost souls have been redeemed from a life of sin,—the following reports as read in Conference at Dalat, May 1-12, 1930, will tell our prayer-helpers in the homelands.

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HANOI, TONKIN, FRENCH INDOCHINA

CONFERENCE OF THE MISSIONARIES OF THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

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IN FRENCH INDOCHINA AND EAST SIAM, HELD AT DALAT, ANNAM, MAY 1-18, 1930

## FRUITFUL DAYS OF FELLOWSHIP ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP

**I**T is with great joy that the French Indochina and Eastern Siam Mission met at Dalat, Annam, for it was the first time that we were privileged to have our conference at this mountain resort. It is high among the mountains and the climate is just what tired missionaries need. The school for missionaries' children is located here, but as the house built for this purpose is not large enough to accommodate us all, four additional cottages were rented. The climate is delightful and invigorating and all have enjoyed the relief from the heat of the plain.

### PRAYER PREPARATION

From the very opening it was the general feeling that before any business was attempted the missionaries should individually and collectively meet God in reviving power; that it was vastly more important to have our hearts cleansed from every sin which might hinder God from working through us than to enact the most important business facing the conference. So with this end in view the first few days were set aside for exhortation and prayers and then one hour of every conference day was to be used for devotion and prayer. It was precious to see the Lord working in answer to these prayers, in the melting of hearts and the renewing of the desire to rescue these lost souls from the clutches of Satan. The feeling of all might be summed up in the words of one of the speakers, «prepare me», for each felt that he must be prepared of God and prepared to meet Him in prayer before he could be used of Him in winning souls during the next year. This preparing brought its results in the after business sessions, and every one felt that the conference was a real success spiritually.

### REPORTS OF FORWARD ADVANCE

As the missionary reports were read one realized that the year had been one of steadily pressing forward into those

sections where the Gospel had not yet an adequate witness, and our hearts were full of praise to God that He had permitted these advances. Many new outstations and chapels were opened for giving out the Light to these sin-darkened people.

In addition to these advances on the various stations during the past year this conference voted a further advance into four new centers in four corners of the field — Hue, the capital city of Annam, is to be occupied by our Chairman, Mr. Jeffrey, and it is hoped that permission may be obtained for a native evangelist to go there and take up the battle. With the Chairman living there we, at least, are occupying the city and by much prayer God will give wisdom so that His Word may be preached there unhindered. Kratie, in Cambodia, is to be opened by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Smith. Kon-Ken, in Eastern Siam, will be the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Voth; this new station will be several days' journey from Oubone, now the only station there, and in the rainy season will be practically inaccessible. Pray for them. Vientiane, in Northern Laos, will be occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Grobb, now studying in France. This city and Luang-Prabang are the two key cities of Northern Laos, so we praise God for allowing us to enter and get a foothold there.

In spite of this forward move there are still many centres to be occupied, and recruits were called for for Northern Tonkin, Cambodia, Laos, and Eastern Siam. If these people are to have their right of hearing the Gospel many new couples must still be set apart for French Indo-China. We are trusting God to call forth those whom He would have as our co-laborers in this needy field.

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hammond and Mr. and Mrs. David Ellison have returned from furlough. Before another conference arrives we will have bade good-bye for a time to Mr. and Mrs. Chester Travis, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Carlson, Mr. and Mrs. Richmond Jackson, Mr. Olsen and Miss Frost. We trust their furloughs will be restful and fruitful.

#### TWO MISSIONARIES AT DEATH'S DOOR

Cambodia seems to have been the target of Satan's onslaught for the past year, and he has laid at death's door two of our missionaries in that section. However, we praise God from full hearts that He has spared their lives to us, and we trust Him to complete the work in order that they may be permitted to continue their labors in this land of their adoption. Mrs. Floyd Peterson and Mrs. Norman Cressman are both with us to-day due only to the healing touch of God. Both were given up as beyond human aid, yet both are alive to bear testimony to the power of God. The Petersons have returned to the homeland in order to give Mrs. Peterson a chance to recuperate before returning to the warm climate of Cambodia, and if the Lord so lead the Cressmans also hope to go home soon although Mrs. Cressman is still in need of much prayer. One whole morning of conference was set aside for prayer for this handmaiden of the Lord, and we are trusting God and believing Him to restore her to health and strength once more. Stand with us in faith for her recovery.

#### DEDICATION AND ORDINATION

If some have been obliged to leave us we have also had some new recruits, and this year saw six wee ones dedicated to the Lord — how touching it is to see these little lives given voluntarily to the Lord by their parents!

This conference was varied in its activities, and the last thing to be done was the setting aside for the Lord's service of two of the junior missionaries: Gordon Smith and G. Edward Roffe. This was an inspiring service to all. The charge was given from II Timothy 4, and one felt that if these two young men kept all the charge which Paul gave to Timothy they would be fruitful in their labors.

Conference closed, after thirteen days, on May 13th, and one by one all will return from the mountain-top to resume their work feeling that they have literally returned from the mountain-top with God to the reality of leading forth His people even as did Moses. — *Thelma Roffe, Luang-Prabang, Laos.*

## GREETINGS FROM THE CONFERENCE

Dalat, Annam,

May 13th, 1930

To our Prayer-helpers everywhere:

IN behalf of the Indo-China Conference now in session on the mountain top at Dalat, we send you most hearty Christian greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We praise God for giving us this delightful home, and for making it possible for us to meet here in this cool climate instead of in the heat of Tourane as formerly.



The cry of all our hearts this year is, «Forward, Onward, Advance—into the unoccupied territory.»

The reports read by the missionaries of the various sections of the field have inspired our hearts as we heard of God's working in our midst and the steady advance into all sections in spite of strong opposition. New stations have been opened and many precious souls have been won from heathen darkness.

### GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZES WORK IN TONKIN AND ANNAM

Prayers for Tonkin and Annam are being answered. The government is now recognizing our work and giving us permission to open chapels in districts where formerly doors were closed. The doors are partly opened, but we must keep praying until every restriction is removed. Due to the prevalence of Communism, we are restricted by the government in the distribution of literature. Because of these doors opening we fain would obey the command of our Captain, «Now therefore arise and go, for is there not much land yet to be possessed?»

Yes, there is much land yet to be possessed and our hearts have been stirred this conference as we realize the millions still in the grip of Satan. We must press forward in order to give the Gospel to these souls who have never had the light. This year we are aiming to occupy four

strategic points that so far have never been occupied for Christ, namely: Konken in Siam, Kratié in Cambodia, Hue in Annam, and Vientiane in Laos.

It is needless to say that in order to make this advance it requires men, money and prayer. We thank God for five new missionaries this year, but these are entirely too few to supply the immediate crying need. There is a shortage of missionaries. The existing work must be crippled in order to make advances or else the hope of advance must be given up unless new missionaries are sent to us at once.

### FIVE NEW MISSIONARY COUPLES NEEDED FOR THE THIRTEEN MILLIONS OF TONKIN AND ANNAM

Now that Tonkin and Annam are open, we need five new couples immediately for these two provinces. For years we have been looking forward to giving the Gospel to the mountain tribes, and we believe the time has come when we shall direct more definite effort in this direction. The Lord is blessing the work started for the Moi of the mountains surrounding Dalat. We believe two of these five couples should be sent for the work amongst the Muong Tribes of Southwestern Tonkin and North Annam, and for the Moi around Ban-Me-Thuoc in Annam. Another couple should be stationed at Thai-Binh in Southeastern Tonkin to work among the Tonkinese of the delta. The whole northwest district of Tonkin is still untouched, but considering the urgent need for new missionaries in the other provinces, we leave the appeal for missionaries for this vast district until another time. The remaining two couples are needed to occupy Vinh and Qui Nhon in Annam, and carry on work among the Annamese in these populous districts.

### TWO NEW MISSIONARY COUPLES NEEDED FOR CAMBODIA

During the past year Satan has levelled his fiery darts at Cambodia. Two couples have been laid aside from active work because of illness. We praise God for delivering Mrs. Cressman and Mrs. Peterson from the jaws of death, but we would urge the home constituency to continue in earnest prayer for these two stricken ones, in order that they and their husbands may soon be restored

to the work. The whole burden of the work during the past year, including evangelism and the Bible School, has fallen on one couple. In spite of this the band of workers are not thinking of retreating, but are looking forward to opening Kratié. It is urgent that we have two new couples for this field.

#### LAOS AND EAST SIAM EACH NEED TWO MORE MISSIONARY COUPLES

In East Siam we have just two couples. It is easily seen that this number is far too few to reach the two-and-a-half million people in this district. We must have at least two couples to swell the ranks of the brave little band who are going into this new field as pioneers.

In Laos we have only one couple and they are separated from all other missionaries by a distance requiring at least three weeks to cover. Surely we are not asking too much when we ask for two more couples for this field just newly occupied a year ago?

#### RESIDENCES URGENTLY REQUIRED IN LAOS AND EAST SIAM

Our missionaries in Laos and Siam have great difficulty in finding living quarters, it being impossible to rent suitable houses. In Siam the missionaries are living in a house which at home we would call nothing but a barn, and in Laos conditions are not much better. It is urgent that we have three thousand dollars gold for each of these places in order to erect bungalows.

#### DINING HALL NEEDED IN TOURANE BIBLE SCHOOL

In Tourane the ninety-three students in the Bible School have had for their dining room nothing but a mat shed which has done good service for five years, but is now being eaten by worms and is soon likely to tumble down. As the government building restrictions forbid our putting up another mat shed, we would urgently appeal for five hundred dollars gold in order that we may have a simple brick structure which will outlive many mat sheds.

#### A SPECIAL NATION-WIDE EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN

During this conference, as we have said before, our great aim is to reach the vast number of souls still in darkness. In order to do this it has been on the hearts of many to launch a great evangelistic campaign which will

embrace the entire country. In places where it is possible to rent large halls or theatres, these will be utilized, but in many places this is not possible and we are hoping to have a large tent. In this way we hope to reach multitudes who never frequent our chapels. We wish to appeal for a large tent with equipment, and for special funds required for the running expenses of such a campaign.

#### MISSION AUTOS A GREAT HELP IN THE WORK

We praise God for the autos which have been sent to Indo-China. It is impossible to estimate the number of souls that have been saved because the missionaries have been able to cover more ground and reach many more places than they could otherwise have done. Some of our autos have become rather ancient, one being named, «Methuselah.» This and one other were consigned to the scrap heap, but because of the great need and no funds for new autos, Methuselah was taken from the scrap heap and urged to continue in service for another year, if possible. We feel sure that there are those of God's stewards at home who, if they realized this great need, would send us money for autos. Our missionaries in Siam need an auto truck which can be used to live in while itinerating, since in most places there are no inns and in other places the only inns are opium dens.

#### INCREASED WORK MEANS INCREASED EXPENSE

It will be quite obvious to you that all this advance work will necessitate an increase in our monthly budget. Already our treasury is crippled because of the constant demands made by the advance work of the past year. We are in faith looking to the Lord for an increase in our budget of at least four hundred dollars gold per month.

As we make this urgent appeal for men and money in order to obey God's call to arise and go forward, we know that you who have so faithfully stood by us in the past will still stand with us in faith and prayer in order that these urgent needs be met. The Lord hath said, «The silver and gold are mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.»

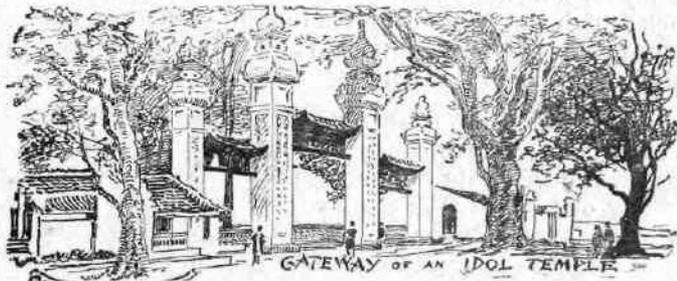
We are looking forward to a year of advance all along the line, and may the words of Mr. Snead's cable be realized in every life. May the volume of prayer increase, for Satan opposes every move we make.

«Lead on, O King Eternal,  
The day of march has come,  
Henceforth in fields of conquest,  
Thy tents shall be our home.

Through days of preparation,  
Thy grace has made us strong,  
And now, O King Eternal,  
We raise our battle song.»

Yours in His service,

*Signed:* EDITH M. FROST,  
MRS. R. M. JACKSON,  
MRS. PAUL GUNTHER.



Mr. D. I. Jeffrey, the Chairman of the Conference,  
reported as follows:

A GREAT deal of a chairman's time is taken up by what may be termed regular duties: correspondence, book-keeping, reports and the like. This has been heavy enough

to require not only the services of the chairman himself but has also necessitated the additional help—a freewill offering—on the part of Mr. Hazlett, without which I am afraid I would still be submerged in unaccomplished tasks.

In addition to office duties it was necessary, at frequent intervals during the year, to visit various government officials in connection with the extension of our work in Tonkin, Annam and Cambodia. Truly God hath wrought while many have prayed. Undoubtedly we shall yet meet many difficult and discouraging situations, but God will surely see us through:

«He'll take us through, however we're tried,  
His tender love is never denied;  
Then trust His promise, ever so true,  
He'll take us through. He'll take us through.»

From a missionary standpoint to visit government officials is not nearly as interesting as pioneer travel, such as we were privileged to accomplish the previous year in East Siam and Laos. Nevertheless we believe it has been well worth while, and I am glad to bear testimony that with few exceptions the French officials have been favorably disposed to our work.

As we are gathered in Conference session surely God's first demand is that we definitely wait on Him until we have appropriated an added supply of grace for our new and enlarged opportunities and growing responsibilities. It is to be expected that with more converts and churches and new fields we shall meet new problems. Satan will do his utmost to prevent the development of spiritual life in the church; but it is written: «To this end was the Son of God manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil», and also, «He was manifested to take away sins; and in Him is no sin.»

The result of such an attitude by this Conference will be an increased capacity and zeal to work with God. There is no greater position nor policy than to «preach the word, urgent in season and out of season.» May God help us to fulfill our ministry and to be, as was the great apostle, «Poured out as a drink offering.»

**Miss E. M. Frost, Principal of the Women's Bible School at Tourane, reported as follows :**

AS it nears the hour for class to meet we listen for the drum to beat. Boom! boom! boom! We gather our books together and march to the beat of the drum. The class this period is the study of Exodus. Before we begin the lesson *Cô Nam* prays asking the Lord to help the teacher to love them and to give her wisdom so that she may be able to teach them. We start to review the previous lesson. «*Cô Hai*, please tell me what the Lord commanded the Israelites concerning all the inhabitants of the land of Canaan?» *Cô Hai* gets up, smiles sweetly, and looks up to the Northeast corner of the room, but not finding the answer there, she says: «Thưa Cô, tôi quên» (please teacher, I have forgotten). «*Cô Tư*, please answer.» *Cô Tư* stands up and says «Xin Cô hỏi lại» (please teacher ask again). I repeat the question, but there is no answer. I try to help them, so ask: «Did the Lord want the Children of Israel to be friendly or carry on negotiations with the Canaanites?» But *Cô Tư* just rolls her eyes from side to side and finally says, «Tôi chưa hiểu» (I not yet understand). *Cô Sáu* stands up smiling, thinking she sees a gleam of light, so with evident satisfaction she says, «Thưa Cô, Chúa biêu dân Y-sơ-ra-ên lập tim và buôn-bán với dân Canaan.» (Please teacher, the Lord commanded Israel to trade with the Canaanites). Can you blame the teacher if a sigh escapes her? Perhaps we have been over this lesson three or four times already.

Of course these are first year women. Many of them have never known what it was to study an hour in their whole life until they came to Bible School. About fifty per cent that come can neither read nor write, and some have never done anything but work in the rice fields, so we need infinite patience and love to teach them! One woman who came this year was right from the country, and looked it. She is a big strong woman who looks like she could do a man's work in the rice field any day. She came in to visit us when she first came, and said to us: «My husband

called me in from the rice field one day and said: 'Come on, we are going to Bible School.' I said 'Da.' I did not know what I was coming for. The scenery here is very beautiful, and I am very happy, but I do not know anything.» The truth of her statement was proven later! After explanations concerning the Bible, she was asked: «Who wrote the New Testament? She answered, «Please teacher, Pastor Đinh.»

Such incidents are laughable, but they give an insight into some of the problems that confront us in teaching the women that come to us. Not all the women by any means are like this. We are thankful to say that many seem to learn easily from the beginning and also have a real comprehension of spiritual truths. This year for the first time we have had a sufficient teaching force to divide the new women into two classes: those who are slow, and those who are quick at learning. We find it infinitely more satisfactory.



But I would not have you think that this type of answers is the only kind we get. Does the Lord help? Do they get to the place where they really learn? Praise the Lord! the power is His. He can and does enlighten their minds, and many times we come in from class rejoicing and praising God, feeling well repaid for our efforts. The Lord helps them not only to grasp the meaning of the lesson, but to understand the deeper spiritual lessons and apply them to their own lives.

One woman who came last year was the type that comes from the country who had never known what it was to study. She was not young, having already raised a family, she was untidy and ignorant, not knowing how to read. With all this she had a quick temper, and from her husband's testimony was very difficult to get along with. Last year she thought she was too old to try to learn to read and write, and asked to be excused from the class in *Quoc Ngu*. We encouraged her to keep on, and now she can

both read and write. The Lord has not only helped her to understand, but has given her an earnest desire to know Him and be filled with His Spirit so that she can be used to win souls. Her husband also testifies to the difference in the home.

Recently in my class in Methods I decided to test the women as to their general knowledge. I asked them such questions as these: What is meant by the second birth? by baptism? what is the church? etc. They had had no special preparation for the test, and some of them were only one year women. Ninety per cent of the answers were clear, showing a real understanding of the way of salvation.

We praise the Lord this year for the largest class of women that we have ever had. The first term we had thirty-eight women. Before the end of the second term five of these women for various reasons had returned home. At the beginning of the second term one woman was added to the number, so we closed school with an enrollment of thirty-four. Of this number five received two-year certificates and six received one-year certificates at the end of the year.

Our task is not a simple one, and we are always yearning to know better ways of teaching these women. If any one has chalk talks or illustrations that they have found particularly helpful, we should be glad if you would pass them on.

Above all we covet your prayers. We realize the tremendous responsibility we have in the school, and our own ability is insufficient to meet it. But praise the Lord, it is not only our responsibility but His and yours. He is able to give strength and wisdom to meet all needs but—«We live if ye stand fast in the Lord.» Do we all realize how much the success of the work in the Bible school depends on earnest, united, believing prayer? God can do greater things than He has done in the school. God wants to do greater things! How we long to see these students go forth from the school filled with the Spirit, with a deep personal knowledge of Christ and His power to keep from sin, and with a burning desire in their hearts for the

salvation of souls. «God can do exceedingly abundantly above all we ask or think according to the power that worketh in us.»

Do you want to see this coming year the best year the school has ever had? Do you want to see the Holy Spirit working in our midst, so that these students go forth instruments equipped for the Master's service and with a burning love for souls? Let us believe and pray and trust together. According to your faith be it unto you.

### The Rev. J. Drange Olsen, the Principal of the Men's Bible School at Tourane, reported as follows:

Therefore... be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.—1 Cor. 15: 58.

**B**IBLE School work has many encouraging features which are causes of joy to the hearts of those that are engaged therein. All who have had experience in teaching God's word systematically, will agree that there is nothing so solemnly delightful as to unfold God's thoughts, contained in the Scripture, to men and women whose hearts and minds are alert, eager to learn all «the counsel of God,» and whose object is not only to apply the truth learned to their own needs, but also to go forth «able to teach others also.» But Bible School work also has its shadows. It lacks the romantic side of direct soul-winning. It cannot boast of courageous advances into the enemy's territory, nor of mighty conquests and rich spoils in precious souls for the Master. While out on the stations the Lord's captains are going over the top; we in the Bible Schools have to be content to stay with the stuff, preparing others to go in our place. But as the Bible School is a part of God's great work in this field, it behoves us to be obedient to the Holy Spirit's injunction to «always abound in the work of the Lord,» and though oftentimes monotonous and wearisome to the



flesh, still to continue steadfastly therein, knowing that whatever is done in the Lord will not be in vain.

The past year marks the eighth year in the history of the Annamese Men's Bible Institute. It has been a year of lights and shadows, joys and sorrows, pleasures and trials. To me personally it has been both a good year, full of blessings, as well as a most difficult year, beset with many problems and disappointments. But I praise God for both joys and trials, knowing that:

«Every joy or trial, falleth from above,  
Traced upon our dial, by the Sun of Love.»

#### ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS

The school opened the 1st of September, 1929, with an enrollment of fifty-six students, of whom nine were third year men, twenty-two second year men, fifteen first year men, and nine taking the new Christian Workers' course. The average work done by the students during the year has been good, most of them having passed the required tests and examinations, only a few having totally failed. Like in most schools we have been faced with the problem of how to make the students study and review their lessons from day to day. The tendency has been to follow the line of least resistance, studying just enough to get by in class,—and then at the time of examinations to cram for dear life. This method of studying is of course useless, and we have therefore tried various ways to correct it. The best way has been to give frequent periodic tests, without letting the students know the day or the hour on which such tests would be given. This method of examination has made them study real hard.

Of the nine third year students, eight graduated and received their diplomas; one left school early in the year. While only three of these graduates can be called bright students, there have been unmistakable signs that all of them have the call of God upon them to preach the Gospel. Some of them have been severely tempted to give up preaching and go back to some secular vocation bright with the lure of ease and earthly gain. But God, I believe,

has given them victory over these temptations. One evening one of these eight men came to me, confessing how he had almost succumbed to the devil's temptation to quit the Lord's service. He had even made up his mind that he would fail in all his examinations in order not to graduate, and thus have a reason for quitting. But that evening he unburdened his heart to God, confessing his sins, definitely yielding himself to Christ, covenanting with Him to be His for time and eternity. I have never felt the presence of the Holy Spirit more real than I did that evening, and I am persuaded that He sealed that consecration, accepting our brother to be His peculiar possession for ever. Let us remember to pray for this young man, and for all the other graduates, as well as the twenty or more students who are going out for the first time, that as they go forth in Christ's service, they may hold nothing back, but be yielded vessels, «mete for the Master's use and prepared unto every good work.»

#### TEACHING STAFF AND CURRICULUM

Four teachers have been giving regular instruction during the year, two Annamese and two foreigners. Mr. Hazlett has given invaluable assistance by teaching first year preaching and the book of Revelation. The latter subject has been particularly appreciated by the students. All in all there have been forty-one hours of teaching per week divided between twenty-two subjects. The two Annamese teachers have done excellent work, notwithstanding the fact that they have been somewhat handicapped by the lack of text books from which to draw their material.

#### DEFINITE SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

It is perhaps difficult for one who is in the Bible School to judge accurately the spiritual progress of each student, as he is in such close contact with them, and is often prone to notice their faults more than their virtues. Yet I think I can truthfully say that all students who attended school this past year made definite progress in their spiritual lives. Throughout the whole year all manifested a genuine desire to go on with God, «forgetting those things

which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things that are before... the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.»

One outstanding feature of this year, for which we praise God, was the spirit of unity manifested in the student body. The demon of division between the North and the South which was so sadly in evidence last year has been conspicuous by its absence this year. This, I believe, under God, is due to the fine team work of our two native teachers, Mr. Huyén and Mr. Tuoi. They have worked together like one man, consistently refusing to take sides for or against any party, insisting that in the Church of Christ in Indochina there can be no such thing as parties, but that all are one in Him.

#### SPIRITUAL METHODS OF DISCIPLINE

Discipline holds a very important place in school work of all kinds, and is usually not very agreeable to the parties concerned. As our students in the Bible School are of the same stuff as students in all other schools, we sometimes have to use the rod. In all such cases we have, however, depended more on the Word of God and the disciplinary power of the Holy Spirit than on any concrete method of punishment; and every time we have made any particular case a matter of prayer, God has always done the disciplining without much help from us. During the last month of school a student lost three piastres. It was evident that the money had been stolen by some one in the school, but by whom no one of course was able to tell. As usual in such cases, suspicion ran wild, and several students complained that they were being unjustly suspected of having taken the money. We decided to make the matter a special subject of prayer. As a result within a few days certain things happened which fastened our suspicion on a certain student, of whose honesty we previously had had not the slightest doubt. But when we faced him with the charges of having taken the money, he emphatically denied having done so. We prayed with him and urged him to make a

clean breast of it, but he continued to maintain his innocence. Dismissing him, we assured him that if he had done the thing, he would not have a moment's rest till he had confessed it. He returned to his room, but came back at 11 o'clock at night, confessing that he had taken the money in order to buy a much coveted gold tooth to replace a decayed one of his own, which the students were always making fun at! As the sin concerned the whole school, he was required to confess it to the whole student body, which at first he was not willing to do, for he said to do so was equivalent to dying. We assured him that was just the reason why he had to do it, for the «wages of sin is death,» as God has said. He did the confessing, however, and let us hope that in doing so he died to that sin at least.

I regret to report that very little active Christian work has been done by the students this past year. This has not been due to any unwillingness on their part or on the part of the faculty, but because the Resident Superior asked that no colportage work or visitation be done outside of the Concession of Tourane. Some work has been done, however, in and around Tourane, and during the month of March the students, assisted by the teachers, conducted a two weeks' evangelistic campaign in the Haichau chapel, at which thirty-five people prayed. The effort was a great blessing to the students, as well as a fine opportunity to learn how to do personal work.



#### FINANCING THE SCHOOL

The total cost of running the school this past year (counting from May 1929 to April 1930) was \$7,182.84. Of that sum \$2,254.80 was received from the students for their board, \$606.70 was contributed by missionaries and others, and the balance, \$4,321.34, came from the Mission. We need to pray very definitely for the finances of the students, many of whom are finding it impossible to get money enough to pay for themselves and their families while in school, and also find the extra money for their fares to and

from school, which item in case of large families is more than they pay for their board in school.

#### A PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Reviewing the work of the past year, I see many things for which to praise God. I thank Him for the fellowship of my fellow missionaries, for health and strength to do the allotted task of each day, for the great and grand privilege of having a part in this wonderful work of making Christ known in Indochina. But I also see many things in the work that I have done which leaves much to be desired. My lack of faith, weakness, insufficiency and failure in so many ways, deeply humble me, causing me to realize that if I am allotted a place in this great work of God, it is only due to His free, unmerited grace.

#### PRAYERS REQUESTED

In closing I would solicit your prayers for the Men's Bible School: Pray for the teachers that they may be filled with all the fulness of God, able to commit our glorious heritage in Christ «to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.» Pray for the students that their minds and hearts may be opened to receive the truths taught them, applying them first to their own need, and then going forth to tell to others what Christ has done for them. Pray also that God shall call out new students. During the past two years there has been a tremendous increase in the numbers of open doors in the Annamese field; but there has not been a corresponding increase in men preparing to enter these doors. I believe this is due to the fact that we have not been praying earnestly enough that «the Lord of the harvest thrust forth labourers into His harvest.» If we are to accomplish the task of evangelizing Indochina, we must have more men, better men, men filled with Christ and well instructed in the things of God. And we may have these men if we pray for them!

### Mr. J. J. Van Hine, in charge of the work in North-Eastern Tonkin, among the Tho and Nung tribes, reported as follows:

SINCE last conference we have seen the Lord working in a marvelous way. As you know, we were appointed to Langson, but when we returned to Hanoi, it looked as if we would never get there. Opposition to the Gospel was closed for some time. The enemy came in like a flood, but the Lord lifted up a standard against them. We continued to pray until the victory was won! After one refusal was given for Langson it looked as if the storm was getting worse instead of better, but the words of our Lord, «Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world,» gave us peace and quietness to wait further on Him.



The Women

Later on in the year a second request was made which was granted with the condition to live in Langson until permission was given to preach the Gospel. As God opened the door to live there, we also believed He would open up the door of opportunity to give out His precious word.

People who we met in Hanoi told us it would be very hard to find a house in Langson and, if we did, they would be surprised. We were not discouraged to hear this because we believed if God opened the door for us to go, He certainly must have a place for us in which to live. When Mr. Smith and myself started out one morning to look for a house, the first one we found proved to be the only one available. We searched the whole day and asked different officials if they knew of a house for rent or one soon to be vacant, but there was none other to be found. So we came back to the house we found and rented it, although it was directly on the ground and very damp.

We left Hanoi the first of the year to move into Langson to possess the land God had given to us. We paid our

respects to the officials who were very kind to us, and in fact I can say are still kind to us. In the beginning we visited villages, and the natives seemed interested in the Gospel. Since then they come to visit us, and every time with some of their friends from other villages. The last Sunday in February we saw the first fruits of our labor; A *Tho* who teaches in a mud school house in Cao-Kiet came to visit us and expressed his desire to follow the Lord. He said, «You came to visit me, I came to visit you, drank tea with you, saw you were happy, heard the Gospel, so now I also want to believe and follow the Lord.» Since then he comes every week and we have a little meeting together. He seems to be sincere and wants to know more about the Lord.

Due to the trouble along the border with Chinese bandits, and also due to the fact we had not permission to work, we discontinued visiting the villages for almost a month. In the meantime natives, both *Tho*, *Nung* and *Annamese*, came to visit us, mostly however tribes people. Sometimes we have as many as twenty at one time come to our home.

In order to reach these tribes people who live among the hills, we have to ride along the main road on our bicycles, which is by no means an easy task over the hills, until we reach the path leading to the village. Here we have to get off and walk as the paths are made to travel by horseback. We cannot carry saddles on our bicycles so that when we get to these paths we can get a horse to ride on, therefore the only thing left for us to do is to walk. With the means of a car, we could take our saddles and necessary camping equipment with us and thus, when we reach these paths leading from the main road, we can get a horse and travel to their villages, ten and fifteen kilometres from the main road. We can usually find a horse wherever we go, but no saddles, that is why we have to take saddles with us. But with bicycles as our only means of travel, this is impossible. We find the *Tho* and *Nung* eager to listen to the Gospel, and, when we visit them, they always make us promise to come back.

Just three weeks before leaving Langson, we received the welcomed news that authorization was granted by the Government to open a chapel in Langson. We praised God and shouted for joy when we read the letter. The first thought that came to us was that verse of our Lord, «All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.» It was by His power that this door of opportunity among the tribes people of Northeastern Tonkin has been finally opened.

**Mrs. Van Hine also reported:**

WITH the Psalmist I can say: «I will praise thee, O Lord, my God, with all my heart; and I will glorify thy name for evermore.» I have so many reasons for praising Him. For many months in Hanoi it looked as though we would never come to our appointed place. We did pray much that the Lord would open the way so we could go, and still we had to wait and wait some more. It surely was a test for our patience. But finally in January we were able to move, and have seen the Lord working ever since, not in any spectacular way but in all sorts of little ways.

I have spent part of my time studying, receiving a great many visitors, tribes people and *Annamese*, and going out to the villages that can be reached with our bicycles and on horseback. I might say that I really love those *Tho* and *Nung*, women and children. They are so simple hearted that it is a pleasure to be with them. Unfortunately I know so very little of their language that I cannot talk to them. However I have thrilled them with the few sentences I have learned to say in their language. I hope to now start studying *Tho* seriously with a teacher.

I might in a few words tell you of our last trip to a village about ten kilometers from here. We left our house early in the morning and made part of the way on bicycles. Then we pushed them up to a village where we left them until our return home in the afternoon. The *Ly-Truong* (village chief) who invited us had promised to have a horse in that village, for he said it was too far for me to walk. We waited an hour, visiting some *Tho*, but seeing no horse

coming, began to walk. The preacher and a Tho went ahead to tell the Ly-Truong to send the horse to meet me. We had gone more than half the way and were resting on the trail, for it was a hot day, when the Ly-Truong arrived all out of breath explaining why the horse had not been at the village. The poor fellow was so worried about my being tired! He went to the nearest village and secured an old animal, so thin that the saddle kept on sliding from side to side. I had all I could do to keep my balance and not roll down the steep mountain side.

We found most of the villagers anxiously waiting for us. Many women and children tried to ask me questions in very broken Annamese. We had a great time trying to understand one another. I am longing for the day when I shall know their language and be able to tell them about the Saviour. Then we were called in the house and asked to eat with them. The Tho are very hospitable, in fact too much so, for no matter what hour it is, they insist we eat with them. Needless to tell you that their bowls and chop sticks are literally filthy. We always have to ask for special grace to partake of their food.

These tribes people drink a tremendous amount of rice alcohol, and it is going to be very hard to show them the evil of that habit that has been theirs for many generations.

On the way home it was no easy task to pump up the steep hills on my bicycle, especially after a strenuous, hot day. However, I count it a privilege to witness for Him.

**Mr. H. Curwen Smith, in charge of the Eastern Tonkin district, reported:**

**T**HE Conference year has brought its full quota of joys and sorrows, of trials and testings, of victories and defeats. We regret the defeats, but we do thank God for the lessons learned and for His abundant grace which has so often lifted us above circumstances and kept us from discouragement.

Perhaps the greatest joy this year has been the opening of hitherto closed doors in Tonkin. In the Haiphong

district there are at present but two lighthouses where the Gospel is being preached. From May till December, 1929, we were forbidden to carry on any religious propaganda



outside of Haiphong city; but fervent prayer proved effectual, and in December written permission was

accorded to hold services in Haiduong.

The Haiphong Church has made good progress. God sent one of the former Vinh Christians to Haiphong, and through his testimony and consistent life several have been brought to Christ. Eight new members have been added to the church by baptism, bringing the present membership up to ten. The first stage towards self-support has been passed, and we hope for a strong indigenous church within the next year or two. God is able, and we covet your prayers and faith to this end.

The work in Haiduong has had serious setbacks, but we know that God is working. It is a very strong Catholic centre, and the opposition is keen. For months we were forbidden to preach and then, after but six weeks of liberty, the revolt which occurred in February seriously hindered as no one was allowed on the street after seven-thirty. We praise God for three faithful Christians there, one of whom is the father of Pastor Khánh. Another young man accepted Christ, but left for France shortly after with his employer. Others we believe are secret followers of the 'Man of Sorrows,' but for fear of family and friends hesitate to openly confess Him.

During the year some twenty odd persons have «prayed» and professed to follow Christ, but when they found there was nothing to be gained materially, evinced no further interest in the Gospel. Several young men even expressed a desire to go to Bible School, but when we discovered their ulterior motives or nationalistic tendencies we did not encourage them to do so.

We were recently invited to visit a village some ten kilometers from Haiduong, being told at the same time that the entire village wished to become Christian. On further investigation we found that it was not the love of Christ nor the desire to be saved from sin which impelled them, but a strong nationalistic spirit which they thought an American Mission would naturally foster. Truly one needs wisdom from above to detect the false, and to convince these people that Christ is the only source of peace and joy.

As we look forward to this new year of service we are almost overwhelmed at the territory to be covered and number to be reached. There are two million souls in the district for which we are responsible, and but two evangelists to help in the work. We would like to open new places and add to the number of native helpers; but there is a dire lack of men and means. The Northerners are more materialistic, and much slower to accept the Gospel than their Southern brothers; but we know that God's power is not limited, and that if we all unitedly pray enough and believe enough victories shall be won for Christ in Tonkin during this coming year.

**Mr. Wm. C. Cadman reported as follows for the  
Publication work, and for Central Tonkin:**

**T**HE work in Hanoi may be divided into two parts: publication and evangelistic. As the former this year has taken most of our time, we will report first about that.

**PUBLICATION STAFF**

The literary staff connected with the Hanoi Press is composed of four persons: Mr. Tram for translations from

the Chinese; M. Tri for translations from the French, and Mrs. Cadman and myself for translations from the English, etc., and for general editorial work.

**MANUSCRIPTS FOR PUBLISHING**

We are thankful to God for the dozen or more mss. prepared and in course of preparation for publication in Annamese. Among them may be mentioned, «The Daily Light,» with morning portion of Evan Hopkin's meditation upon each leading daily text; Pierson's «Key words to the books of the Bible;» Simpson's «Wholly Sanctified;» Murray's «Holiest of All;» Bunyan's «The City of the Soul;» Fullerton's «Practice of the Presence of God;» a «Life of Livingstone;» and several miscellaneous salvation booklets for the heathen. Mrs. Cadman will speak of the new Annamese Hymnal.

**PRESS PERSONNEL AND OUTPUT**

The number of employees on the payroll of the press has averaged twenty-three. Mr. Tong, the foreman, needs our prayers that God may give him wisdom in overseeing the details connected with the press: such as native accounts, advertising, direct oversight of the employees, etc.

In addition to routine work a first edition of Laosian Genesis and a four thousand edition of the new Annamese hymnal of 200 hymns have been printed. Forty of the first hymns with music have been made into plates for printing, and by next conference we hope to have the first Annamese music hymnbook published. We would specially recommend a new sixty-four page booklet in Annamese, «The Torch in the Night,» on the different aspects of salvation, which is now in the press. We believe it will be as popular as the booklet, «Flee the False and Honour the Truth.» A five thousand edition is being printed. The quarterly «Call» maintains its circulation. The Annamese Sunday School monthly booklets have kept up a circulation of eight hundred.

**ANNAMESE MONTHLY BIBLE MAGAZINE**

The new monthly Annamese Bible Magazine has been authorized by the government. It is hoped to publish this

monthly at a cost of fifteen cents per copy, or one piastre per year paid in advance. The fifth and sixth and perhaps the tenth and eleventh issues each year will be doubled so that only ten issues will be sent forth yearly. This monthly will have to be run at a loss till at least two thousand monthly are subscribed for. Specimen copies, consisting of thirty-two pages with cover, are here and can be seen by all.

As each copy consists of about twenty-five thousand words, there is plenty of opportunity for every missionary and native evangelist to send in suitable material for publication. We trust that a real, live interest will thus be taken in order to make this a first-class magazine of untold help to the Annamese Church.

#### A NOTE OF WARNING

In closing this first part of our report we desire to send forth a serious note of alarm. During the past conference year the falling off in the sales of Bible Society and Press literature has been appalling. Brethren and Sisters, remember that literature sold represents the forward thrust of your evangelistic effort. To neglect the scattering of the printed page spells disaster to the glorious advance over the lines into the enemy's camp. We must not let down and lose our first glow, otherwise the work cannot grow.

#### EVANGELISTIC WORK

Although no itinerating trips have been made, as in other years, our presence being constantly required in Hanoi, yet, with the use of the new auto supplied through the loving devotion Godward of an old saint of seventy-five years of age who daily drives her own auto over there in Idaho, we have been able to visit and preach regularly in many places around Hanoi.

#### THE DYKE PEOPLE AND NEW CHURCH

The little flock in Tunhien was first shepherded by Thay Diem. Owing to a mistake in judgment, this flock became almost one of wolves instead of sheep, and in the end Mr. Diem had to be transferred to Nam-dinh and Mr. Tu Phuc take his place. We are glad to say that Mr. Phuc has been used of the Lord, and by trust Godward, patience,

and wisdom, we hope this flock will yet become as lambs! Owing to the loss of two successive harvests during the past year these dyke people have been impoverished, and we know that most of the Christians manage to exist on one meal daily. Thus the new church building finances fell through, and we have had to look to the Lord to finish the church building of brick and tiles. We are trusting God to mightily bless this church and district, that the present members may go forward in the Lord and many be added to their numbers.



#### OPENING WORK IN NEW PROVINCES

Street Chapels and Bookstores combined have been opened in the provinces of Hadong (pop. 900,000), and Bacninh (pop. 350,000). In the former place regular evangelistic meetings have been held twice weekly, the hall being packed with attentive audiences of over a hundred people. There are ten enquirers in all, and four have recently been baptised. In Bacninh we have had a Jericho, straightly shut up. We praise God that through the faithful efforts of the Protestant Church in France we now do not have to depend on the good or bad will of the individual *Residents* any more. We have informed this Resident of our intention to hold meetings regularly in his 'chef lieu,' and immediately after conference expect to start meetings.

#### EVANGELISING HANOI CITY

The work in Hanoi city, under the devoted leadership of Pastor and Mrs. Thai, is being God blessed. In addition to the independent church which faces on one of the prominent squares, with nine streets leading into it from all parts of the city, there is another Gospel Hall on the main street of the southern quarter of the city. Praise God for those who have prayed and been saved in the seven well-attended evangelistic meetings held weekly in these places. Prayer is asked that other halls may be opened in the eastern and northern quarters of Hanoi, so that the evangelisation of this city may become an accomplished fact.

**Mrs. Homera Homer-Dixon of Hanoi reported :**

“**O** THAT men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! In preparing this report I would wish it to be just one clear-sounding note of pure praise to our glorious Lord for the splendour of His grace and for His excellent wisdom in the way He has led one of His little ones during this past year.



At the close of last Conference I returned to the appointed task of matron at Dalat, and had a short but very busy time. However, it became clear that the Lord had called others to that place, and to save expenses in renting extra quarters it was found well to send me to Tourane for language study, as well as to act as chaperon during the enforced absence of Mrs. Jeffrey. Betty, my little girl, remained at Dalat as the summer at Tourane would have been too much for her in that extreme heat.

I arrived in Tourane on the third of July, and as soon as possible obtained a teacher. I felt urged to ask for a northern teacher, but it was not possible to obtain one; and soon my personal affection for my southern teacher overcame my strong feeling that I ought to continue the northern dialect I had started at Dalat with a Tonkinese teacher there. Of my stay in Tourane there is nothing more important to mention. I worked at the language steadily, and also formed some blessed friendships; and the Lord surely gave me rich and overflowing blessings in the spirit.

But the pillar of cloud lifted—that is to say, it became clear I was not to remain there longer. As there was no room for me in the house at Dalat, and my room at Tourane

would soon be needed by the rightful occupants, I was completely in the dark as to where to go; but the Lord was with me in that darkness, and His presence was so unspeakably precious that I would not have missed that season of perplexity for anything on earth. It was truly a time of deep and rich joy in Him.

The natural thing was for me to return to Dalat, rent a house, continue my studies, and endeavour to do what little I could for the Lord. This was apparently the thing to do, so we settled that after a week's visit in Hanoi to get some important work done at the dentists, I was to return to Dalat. Mr. Jackson kindly found a house for me, and engaged it, as I could not see anything else to do. Yet all the time the Lord was telling me I was not to return there! The Holy Spirit and the Word of God seemed to unite in telling me, «Ye shall no more return thither.» Most strongly God used Revelation 3: 7 and 8, telling me that He Who openeth and no man shutteth and shutteth and no man openeth, had *shut* the door and opened some other door. I realised the door was shut: by the difficulty of my returning to Dalat, and the lack of blessing of which I was aware in all my plans to that end. But where was the open door? It was truly a time of stepping forward in the dark, and was an experience of deepest, sweetest fellowship with the Lord.

From the moment the mention was made of Hanoi, the benediction of the Lord was felt and seen. So Betty and I left Tourane on October 17 for Hanoi, the city of my dreams since I was a small child. If the Lord had literally picked us up and carried us there, I could not have been more acutely conscious of His directing care, leading us up here.

The early morning of October the eighteenth dawned, and I awoke to see sunrise flooding the vast teeming rice-fields of Tonkin. It was the greatest moment of my life in this country, for at that instant the Lord Himself whispered, as I gazed from the train window :

— «HERE is the Open Door» —

It was the sweetest sunrise of spiritual significance. From that moment the peaceful knowledge that God had wanted me right here filled my whole heart. So when the loving welcome of Mr. and Mrs. Cadman coincided with the emphatic order from the dentist that I must stay at least two months for treatment, I was not at all surprised, but saw the leading of the Lord in it all.

Then came the testing—two months' sickness, and the deafness that delayed me with the language.

But since then there has been such a succession of blessings that I can only bow my head and worship.

As for work there is little to report. Am teaching a Bible Class weekly, and helping regularly in the other services, at the request of the local church committee. They have definitely asked for my services, and it is with the deepest joy that I am giving my whole time to learning the language. The glory of telling out the Gospel story every day to those who have never heard it before is now mine, and though results are not great in numbers of souls saved, yet it is for me: «sunrise over Tonkin.» It is the dawn, I am fully assured, of a wonderful opportunity for service, and I ask your prayers that I may measure up to the opportunity. Sunrise over the ripened harvest-fields—an open Door which no man can shut—and deepest thankfulness to Him Who has led us hither—these three points sum up my report herewith submitted.

**Mr. Jean Funé, in charge of the work in Southern Tonkin, reported as follows:**

ACCORDING to Committee appointment, I have been living in Thanhhoa with Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Jackson. Thanhhoa is a beautiful place, and it has been a joy to live there. Progress has been made in language study. Early in the year I passed my third examination.

I have been going to Namdinh regularly each week. The work is encouraging, and we now have a new chapel seating about one hundred people. The attendance is good, although during the exceptionally cold spell last winter few came.

Last March we held a series of special meetings for one week. Pastor Thai from Hanoi was the evangelist. The chapel was packed, with many standing outside, and scores going away because there was no room. About twenty-five prayed, and some among these are very encouraging. The 1st of April we had the great joy of seeing three baptized in Namdinh. May God grant there will be many more won for Jesus in this city of over thirty thousand people.

We have been going, each Lord's day between the morning and evening services, out into the country to sell books. The sales have been good. Thaibinh has been visited several times, and we should take steps to open that province in the immediate future. If no foreign missionary is available, a native evangelist could work there under supervision from Namdinh which is only eighteen kilometers away.

Phuly and Ninhbinh provinces have been visited once, there being a huge market in the latter province where gather thousands of country folks, thus giving a wonderful opportunity for witnessing the Gospel. The *Tri Phu* of Dai-an (Namdinh) wishes us to go to his district, and the *Tri Huyèn* of Gia-Khanh (Ninhbinh) has also asked us to put an evangelist there. At the present time I see doors open for four evangelists. May God help us to enter these doors.

I praise God that in spite of the government decree, we have always been free to sell books on the markets, on the streets, and everywhere we wanted. Once in Thaibinh the «Commissaire» came to where we were selling books on the market, looking rather severe, but I met him with a smile and forced him to shake hands. «Who are you?» he asked. «I am of the Gospel Mission.» «Oh, yes,» he said, «That is all right then. I thought it was something else. You are French, are you not?» «Yes sir.» «All right, go ahead.» Another time in Hanh-Thiên I heard that the *Tri Phu* was making it hard for the few Christians in his district. It had been suggested to him that I was a Russian, there for political purposes. I went to see him. He

confessed it was true, but apologized for the mistake. This had been the work of the Spanish priests.

Since February it has been our privilege to have French services at Samson in a family where the father is a French Protestant. Although he never 'practiced' religion, yet he knows religion is good, and wants his children taught the Bible. Of course we do not want them to get religion only, but to get saved!



**Mr. R. M. Jackson reported for the work in North Annam as follows:**

**Y**OU have heard that after last Conference Mr. Jeffrey, Mr. Funé and I visited the Resident-Superior at Hue. He promised to authorize opening a chapel in Thanhhoa, but we had to wait for permission. When the chapel was opened, Sept. 15th, 1929, from seventy to one hundred attended each meeting. Gradually the number decreased. Since Annamese New Year the attendance has been very small. A few nights nobody came. Then we devoted the time to prayer. Our efforts to have a Sunday morning service have not yet succeeded. Sometimes the paid workers are the only ones present. At other times a few gather with us. However, we intend to keep on until we have a service for worship on Lord's Day morning.

**VILLAGE WORK IN THANH HOA PROVINCE**

Before Conference an invitation had come from a certain village. Evangelist *Thông* and I went. A crowd gathered to hear the Gospel explained. After the evening meal we went to the home of a neighbor and witnessed there. Next morning we ate breakfast with Mr. Toan. Nobody wanted

to buy books, but our hosts asked us to give copies to some of their friends. They also requested a free ride for a friend when the auto returned to Thanhhoa. Mr. Toan said he gave up opium after a chat in my office some months before. Among those who have professed conversion, the son of Mr. Toan, Tu, seems the most sincere.

Another invitation came from the village of a former servant. Mr. Funé and I were well received. Neighbors gathered that evening and the following morning. A number of them would like to follow Christ, but were afraid their relatives would not allow them to stop ancestor worship. Do pray for the many such in Northern Indochina. We were happy to have the Vice-Mayor set a date when he would take us to visit his father-in-law.

According to agreement, the Vice-Mayor came to guide me to the home of his father-in-law. He had arranged to go on a big market day so that he might do his shopping at the same time. From about two until five p.m. the evangelist and I took turns explaining the way of Salvation. One man, fifty-five years old, had lost two sons by death. He asked if he still had time to obtain peace of heart? We assured him that if he truly trusted in Jesus, he will surely have peace. After the evening meal, we began at Genesis one and explained three or four chapters. Evangelist *Thông* and I took turns speaking. Next morning was a market day. We witnessed to those who gathered at the door to gaze at the foreigner. When we returned to Thanhhoa, the Vice-Mayor and his brother-in-law came with us. My impression is that he was more interested in a free auto ride to visit his relatives than in having them hear the Gospel. Whatever his motive, we did our best to give a clear witness to the saving power of Jesus. Pray that many others may invite us to their homes.

**HOUSE TO HOUSE IN VINH**

The work at Vinh causes both joy and sorrow. Soon after Pastor Khanh arrived, he started visiting from house to house. Some folks begged him to go away, while others received him gladly. At Christmas time, Mr. Khanh and I

spent an evening in the home of each of two inquirers. Neighbors gathered to listen. This seems to be one of the most effective ways of reaching the people. Some will come to the home of a neighbor who would not come to the chapel. At that time the attendance was increasing. Then came the mutiny in Tonkin. People were forbidden on the streets late at night, and were closely watched by day. Very few dared to come to the chapel. There are new converts who are learning to pray. They seem really in earnest. Sad to say, that with few exceptions, the older members of Vinh Church refuse to pray in meeting when the pastor calls on them. Most of them are far from God. However, let us remember that some who were converted at Vinh are now faithfully serving God at Hanoi and Haiphong.

#### WORKERS' PRAYER MEETINGS

At the suggestion of Pastor Khanh, we have held two workers' prayer meetings at Thanhhoa, two at Namdinh and one at Vinh. In this way, the people who attend the meetings hear two messages from the visiting evangelists. The workers in the «secteur» unitedly present their respective needs and thanksgivings before the «Throne of Grace.» Pastor Khanh said that these meetings have helped to keep him from utter discouragement on account of the troublous times and the indifference of the people.

The first time we met at Thanhhoa, two candidates were examined and accepted. They were baptized by Pastor Khanh. I was much pleased to see the way he questioned the candidates. In an oriental manner, he examined them much more thoroughly than I could have done, yet without offending them.

#### MISSIONARIES AND NATIVE EVANGELISTS NEEDED

As soon as possible, the Mission ought to appoint a foreign couple to Vinh to work in the provinces of Nghe-An and Ha-Tinh with over a million population. Last Fall Mr. Khanh went from Vinh to Do-Luong to help Mr. and Mrs. Roff trans-ship their baggage. His heart was stirred with the need of carrying the Gospel to the many people in that district. Do-Luong is 60 kilometers from Vinh. A

native worker should be placed there as soon as possible.

Not long ago I wrote to the Chairman asking that an extra native couple be appointed to Thanhhoa province in order to begin work in one of the towns as soon as we can get permission. Distances in this province are tremendous. I will name a few towns and the distance from Thanhhoa city. Hoang-Hoa 14, Nong-Cong 18, Dolen 22, Tinh-Gia 31, Tho-Xuan 38, and Bai-Thuong 36 kilometers. Each of these towns ought to have an evangelist. Perhaps Bai-Thuong, to the west, would be a good town in which to place the first evangelist available.

In closing, allow me to summarize. Some are interested, but are afraid to declare faith in Christ. Others are being persecuted for the interest they have shown. Many are indifferent. Please pray for Thanhhoa district:

- 1.—That we missionaries and the native workers may yield everything to God so that nothing may be left to hinder His using us to win souls.
- 2.—That God will revive the few Christians and enable them to live consistent lives before the world.
- 3.—That God will break the power of the devil and convict men and women of sin and their need of the Saviour.

#### Mrs. R. M. Jackson also reported:

THE past year has been one of blessing, but also of disappointment. The outstanding characteristic of the people, as a whole, in relation to the Gospel, is their absolute indifference to it. During our nine years of service in the North, we regret to say that we have met very few who were really anxious to become Christians, that is, to quit their sinning. There are many who show an interest for a short time. Some go so far as to «pray.» As soon, however, as they realize that there is no immediate material advantage, their interest wanes, and presently ceases entirely. I believe this is the general experience of all workers, native and foreign, in Tonkin and North Annam. We all need your prayers that God will keep us faithful and hopeful, even when little fruit appears to encourage us.

Since we opened the chapel seven months ago, at least twenty-four have taken a stand for Christ. Of this number, there are four or five now living elsewhere, and several others who never attend the meetings. At most there are probably not more than six who could be called at all earnest. Praise God for them! The chapel keeper is one of these. He shows evidence of being really converted. Recently when he told a lie, he shortly afterwards made the most humble confession that I have ever heard out here. One rarely sees genuine repentance for sin.

After last Conference, the Bible woman and I went out together, doing visitation and colportage work from door to door. Later, she continued this work alone. She finds it very discouraging as there are few homes that welcome her. Nevertheless, she goes out, day after day, putting herself at the disposal of any who are willing to listen to the Gospel. She recently spent a day and a night witnessing in the home of old *Bà Hâu's* son and daughter-in-law. He is a secretary in the Phu here. Both of them believe the Gospel, but are afraid to follow openly.

One of the converts is teaching school in the country district. We constantly pray that God will use her to win souls out there. We believe He is working. Just before Easter, two men came from that village, attended a meeting in the chapel, and bought a Testament and other books.

The jeweller and his family, who were so faithful in attendance at the beginning, absented themselves for several months. Prayer was made daily for this family. We were encouraged to see them all attend a recent meeting. It seems that as soon as anyone begins to show an interest in his soul's welfare, all the forces of hell are immediately arrayed against them. There are few who are able to stand it.

We take up a collection at both of the Sunday services. In this way we pay for the chapel lights and some months other expenses as well.

We feel it is a great privilege to give the Gospel to the students who attend the children's meetings. They seem

to be intelligent, earnest boys. We pray they may be saved, and their whole lives changed through the Gospel.

We thank God for what He has done for our preacher. A few months ago we felt we could not let him preach any longer as he was not giving the people the Gospel. When we told him how we felt about it, he insisted that he was simply following his subjects. He was angry, and asked to resign. He soon saw that that would put him in a very embarrassing position. Although a substitute was already on the way, God arranged that he should remain here. We are very glad he did, as he has completely changed. Since that time he has preached only the pure Gospel, and in a most impressive manner. He also shows more concern for men's souls. He is young, but we pray he may yet become one of the pillars in the Indochina Church.

Continue to pray for greater liberty to evangelize; pray that the people will invite us into their homes, and that many will yield to the claims of Christ.

#### Mr. H. H. Hazlett reported for the work in Central Annam as follows:

Jesus said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also; for therefore came I forth.—Mark 1: 35-37

THE Lord has given us many opportunities to preach the Gospel in some of the «next towns» during this past year. With the sending out of the Royal Edict last December it seemed that the Lord immediately began to open wide the doors everywhere, so that the Gospel has penetrated many hitherto unreached sections. Although limited to chapel work, yet many books have been sold in house to house visitation. Practically no colportage work has been done, in compliance with the wishes of the Government.

The self-supporting Churches of the District have made wonderful progress during the year. Faifoo Church dedicated their new building early in 1920, and a few weeks afterwards special meetings were held there and also at their out-station, Lac-thanh. At these meetings sixty peo-

ple prayed. Truong-an is an out-station from Dai-an and the people there built a very fine bamboo chapel last July.



The Lord greatly blessed in the special meetings which were held there during that month, and during the year of 1929 nearly 100 people were baptized. This building burnt to the ground very mysteriously two months ago, but the Christians are planning to build a larger church costing \$800. They already have pledges amounting to \$600.

The Annamese are gradually being driven out of the section of Tourane where the Church is now located, so the Tourane Church has rebuilt and enlarged the Hai-Chau chapel, on the other side of town, and hereafter the Sunday evening services will be held there. A month ago nine days of meetings were held there by the students in Bible School, at which time thirty-five people prayed.

One more Church in this district has now become self-supporting, namely Tamky. Their fine little church was dedicated the middle of last August, and at that time three days of special meetings were held. Twelve have already been baptized since January, and the Lord is continually blessing the preaching of His Word in this place.

About a year-and-a-half ago a young man from the village of Phu-thu, in the huyen of Queson, came to Tamky on a visit, and while there came to know our Jesus as his Saviour. He was very faithful in witnessing for the Lord when he returned to his home village, with the result that about sixty have prayed in that place and a score or more are soon to be baptized. This village is almost seventy kilometers from Tamky, so it is quite impossible for these people to come to meeting very often. They are planning

to build a bamboo chapel in the month of June. A native worker has been appointed to that place, and we trust that the work there will be entirely self-supporting from the very beginning. The mandarin is very friendly, and we believe he is already a secret believer. He has read nearly all of the different kinds of books which are printed on our press, as well as part of the New Testament.

A chapel was opened in Quang-ngai last September. Our hearts were filled with praise to the Lord, for it was at this place that Messrs. Cău and Huyên were arrested two years ago when they asked for permission to do colportage work. Thay Hoi has been very faithful in preaching the word, and about ten have prayed there. Two men were baptized in January. Soon after this chapel was opened the native evangelist made the acquaintance of an old man who had been a believer for five years. He had heard the Gospel Story through his nephew who had gone to Cantho to find work, and while there had met the Lord. This young man came home to his village to witness and sell books, and through his faithfulness his uncle's family was led to the Lord. Since Thay Hoi has been in Quang-ngai he has had the joy of leading this young man's mother, now eighty-three years old, to the Lord.

During the three years Mr. Ung was in Quinhon doing colportage work meetings were held in his home for the Christians, but no meetings were held for the unsaved. The first of this year a larger apartment was rented in a much better location. Since that time meetings have been held for the unsaved once or twice a week, and a week of special meetings were held just before Conference. Mr. Ung has faithfully sold Scripture portions and books throughout the province. Thay Dang is reaping the result of what Thay Ung sowed. It is interesting to learn that several men who accepted the Lord while Mr. Ung was in prison for selling books are still standing true.

At the present time there are thirteen baptized Christians in the province of Binh-dinh, but none of them live

in the city of Quinhon. Some walk a distance of twenty-five or thirty kilometers every Sunday to attend the meetings. We also hope, in the near future, to open a chapel in the country at a distance of twenty-five kms. from Quinhon.

It is our personal opinion that very soon a missionary couple should be appointed to Quinhon. From that place the three provinces of Quang-ngai, Binh-dinh, and Song-cau could be very easily supervised, and we believe that by the Lord's help strong native churches could be founded.

We regret that we are unable to report any work done in the provinces north of Quang-nam, namely Thua-thien, Quang-tri and Quang-binh. May we lay it on your hearts to pray that in the Lord's own time a missionary couple may be sent to Hue to minister the Word of Life in these populous and needy provinces.

In order to cover the large district committed to our trust we have of necessity been absent from Tourane more than half of each month. When at home it has been our great joy to have a part in teaching the Word in the Men's Bible School, four hours a week being given to this work.

It has been a great joy to be a co-laborer with the Lord in this glorious ministry of reconciliation during the past year in Annam. There is 'a sound as of an abundance of rain,' but we need to continue in much prayer that the opposing forces of darkness may be restrained and hindered, so that many more lost souls be won for Christ.

**Mrs. H. H. Hazlett reported of her work in  
the Women's Bible School:**

«The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad.»

**I**T is with grateful hearts that we report what the Lord has done for the women in the Bible School. During the past Conference year many and varied have been the changes, yet through them all we have seen God's hand leading and directing, even in the slightest details of our lives. The Lord has ever fulfilled His promises, and has proved to us again and again that He is a tender, loving Shepherd, ever mindful of the sheep of His fold.

It has always been a great problem to know how to arrange classes and subjects so that even the dullest student could get the most out of her studies. The following comparison will enable you to understand more fully just what is our task, and show you what God can do as we prayerfully and constantly labor for Him.

Last fall there came to school a woman who had spent her entire life working in the rice fields. From the beginning we had all hopes that she, like many others in previous years, would gradually be awakened to spiritual things. As she sat in class day after day her poor mind seemed to continue to remain a perfect blank. It must have been very monotonous to her to listen to something that was utterly foreign and consequently uninteresting. There were times when she would rise to her feet and smilingly give a reply quite foreign to the lesson. At the examination for the first semester, poor *Cô Dich* was given a zero! We entered the second term hoping against hope that this darkened mind would soon be enlightened, and there be created within her heart a longing to know God's Word. During the final examinations at the close of school, I took her privately into my office and examined her, for we often wondered if she were really saved. I asked her questions concerning her personal experience which she answered quite satisfactorily. Satisfied she was really saved, I began asking her the regular examination questions on the Four Gospels. To the question, «Who rolled the stone away from Christ's tomb?»—she replied, «Thưa bà, Giảng Báp-tít» (please teacher, John the Baptist). If all were like this woman the task of training preachers' wives in the Annamese Church would be hopeless. But, thank God, she is the exception!

Two years ago, the day before school opened, we saw coming into our compound, carrying their few little belongings, a couple whom we soon learned were prospective students. As we looked at this woman, both Miss Frost and myself remarked, «Is *she* coming to Bible School?» We immediately decided that here was another hard and

difficult case, for certainly the training of an ignorant Annamese woman is no easy task. We soon learned she had just lost her baby, and was in a bad state mentally. There were times when even her husband feared she might take her own life. During the first semester she was in terrible darkness and spent much time in our homes. She did absolutely nothing in school during this time. We prayed that the Lord would touch her and heal her. He wonderfully answered prayer! During the second term she showed great signs of improvement, took a real interest in her studies, and learned very quickly. She returned to school again last fall, carried a full schedule, did excellent work, could answer any question asked her on the lesson, and through her God proved to us that He is able to do the things that to us seem entirely impossible.

Our hearts are always encouraged as we listen to the true ring of the women's testimonies when, at the close of the school year, they tell how wonderfully God has met them. Again and again we hear this testimony, «I came to school not knowing anything. I did not even know how to read the Bible. But now, thank the Lord, I can read and understand His Word. Pray for me that I may be able to lead others unto Him.» Let us pray earnestly for those who have gone forth into the Lord's great harvest field, and thus hasten the return of our Lord and Saviour.

**Mr. C. E. Travis gave the following report  
for South Annam:**

**I**N the past many prayers have gone up to the 'throne of grace' pleading for the poor souls in the closed Protectorate of Annam outside the concession of Tourane. Many who have cried for this seeming impossible thing have gone on to be with the Lord without seeing the answer. Praise God! He has answered every prayer, and the past year has commenced to reveal the infinite value of storing up years of prayer around the 'throne of grace'. How we praise God for the glorious privilege of being allowed to enter and have a little part in the last hours of this battle.

When backed up by prayer there can be no discouragement. Many a time we have stood out in the dark night behind our cottage at Nhatrang and listened to the angry waves of the sea near at hand. Looking up, the sky was overcast with clouds, all around was absolute darkness. Now and then, between the roar of the waves, could be heard the beat of the drum in a near-by heathen temple. All this seemed to picture the awful, hopeless, depressing darkness that completely covered this land. This darkness,—with the official decrees that there should be no propagation of the Gospel in any way, and the putting of the only native preacher we had in prison,—surely was staggering! In such times as that how one can thank God for faith which is not of ourselves but the gift of God.

At that time no one knew whether it meant continual knocking and waiting for years for the doors to open, or immediately to see the answer. Thank God! prayer had to be answered at any cost. The zero hour had come! God proved that His arm was not shortened by any decree of man, but that He answers prayer and changes decrees now just as He used to thousands of years ago. Our God does not grow feeble with the years, He does not change, He is the same today—nothing is too hard for Him!

What a contrast between a year-and-a-half ago and now! Then, the only preacher we had in this district was in prison. Decrees were posted on the two little chapels forbidding gospel meetings, Bibles and books were burned, people were afraid to come near. Now, there are chapels open and preachers working in the four Provinces of Song Cau, Nhatrang, Phanrang and Phanthiet. These preachers all have permission to hold meetings and preach whenever they wish, even though we are not present.

The past year seems to have passed like a dream, so short, yet such blessed memories. It has been a continual round of visiting officials, renting chapels, making «demands,» feeding babies, both physical and spiritual, and paying preachers. We have met and conquered more «board-bugs» in the past year than we have seen in all

previous years put together. We call them «board-bugs» because they are not on beds like we sleep on, but on the boards one sleeps on when putting up with the Annamese.

Sometimes the battle has been hot and much blood shed, but I am glad to say we always came off victorious. The most notable was when we were at Song Cau. After the evening meeting we went to the adjoining room to see how the baby was getting along. To our surprise a whole regiment of these little soldiers were racing across the mosquito net that was over the basket, trying to get in. We had a pitched battle on the spot. Later when we returned to the chapel, which was the only sleeping quarters we had for the night, we found the good preacher had given us the same board bed to sleep on which these «board-bugs» had come from. All we did was to put the thing out in the back and proceed to make ourselves as comfortable as possible, sleeping on iron chairs the rest of the night,—preferring peace at any price!

God has wonderfully blessed in the special evangelistic meetings that have been held in these four provinces. After renting a new large chapel at Nhatrang, five weeks of special meetings were held during which time there was preaching every night. At first the people came out of curiosity, to make trouble, or to hinder in some way; but after about a week they began to see it was serious business. Although we did not allow them to smoke, talk, chew beetle nut, or wear their hats during the service, the crowds of over three hundred continued every night till the end, and then wanted the meetings to continue. Over thirty-five men and women confessed faith in the Lord during that time. These meetings were duplicated in the other places as far as possible, but could not continue so long because of lack of time and money and 'stick-to-it-ive-ness' in the matter of eating and sleeping Annamese style. Two or three weeks at a time makes one begin to think of 'home sweet home.'

Just before coming to conference we, with Pastor Lieu, spent a week at Song Cau for special meetings. During

the year no one had prayed there, but we thank God for the work He did there that week. The chapel from the first night was crammed full, not an inch of space left! The table ordinarily used for a pulpit was placed back against the wall, and was used to stand on to preach from. Some sat on the table where they could find room, many crouched under it. Every bit of available space was used by poor souls who were willing to stand and wipe sweat in order to get a chance to hear the Gospel. Every night the crowd was there, at least three hundred crowded into that little chapel, and there were even more outside that could not get in. In one week's time, where no one had prayed during the year, over ten accepted the Lord. While visiting the homes of two different ones that prayed that week, we saw them burn their idols and paper gods, and prepare their homes as well as their hearts that the Lord might dwell with them and be their God.

As we stand at the end of this conference year, how we praise God for His working, beating back the powers of darkness, doing 'exceeding abundantly above all that we could ask or even think.' By this we realize more than ever before the awful sin of limiting Him by unbelief. As long as there are in this land over 22,000,000 people still in darkness, bound for Christless graves, may He grant us more grace to humble ourselves and be ready for any sacrifice, not shrinking, whatever the cost, as long as Jesus is glorified and poor souls brought from darkness into His marvelous light and love.

#### Mrs. Travis also reported:

TWO years at Nhatrang and clouds of persecution still lowering, with the enemy seemingly triumphant in using every device possible to keep his subjects under his power and from hearing the glorious Gospel. This was the outlook when we returned from conference last year. How we rejoiced and our faith was strengthened to find small groups of Christians, here and there, still trusting God to drive the clouds away and to open the doors for

the preaching of His Word. We were confident of this one thing: GOD IS FAITHFUL, and would answer the prayers ascending daily for religious liberty in Annam.

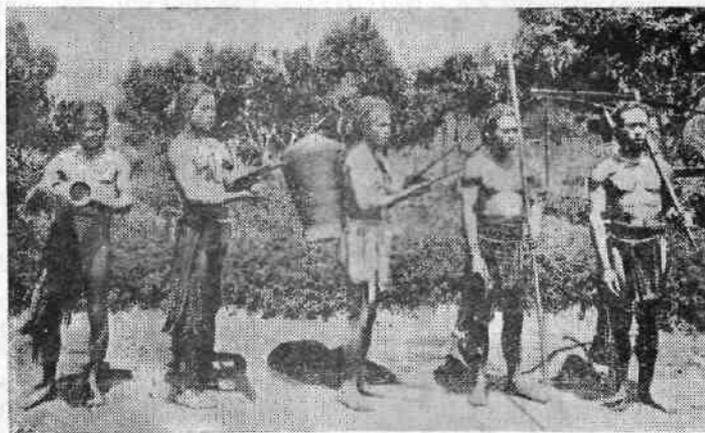
Were we praying and trusting in vain? No! Praise God. You all know of the famous edict of last December. Since then God has been showing His power in a miraculous way, and has poured down showers of blessing. We have spent much of our time going from station to station in our district, and with the preachers holding series of meetings. We have seen the Lord work wonders: gamblers, drunkards and idol worshippers redeemed and their lives transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. We have seen weak bodies wrecked by sin and sickness made whole by the power of the Blood of Christ.

At Phanthiet we were especially interested to see one old couple present at every meeting, sitting always on the front seat. We asked Pastor Lieu about them. This was their story. They were very poor, had no home except the bamboo covering from a boat which they moved from place to place on the banks of the river. They earned a living, such as it was, by making boats. The old man was a wine drinker, and very seldom sober. He spent nearly all he earned satisfying his awful craving for drink. His wife was an invalid, and his two children often went hungry. One evening old *Ông Long* strayed into the little chapel where Pastor Lieu was preaching about the power of God to transform sinners. He was convicted of sin, knelt in prayer, and that night was wonderfully saved. Since, he has never touched a drop of wine, and what is more God has taken away his appetite for strong drink. He went home and witnessed by his changed life.

His wife was a cripple, not able to walk, one limb being useless. She was almost blind from sore eyes. Pastor Lieu and wife visited her and prayed for her. She was miraculously healed, in a few days was able to walk to chapel, not even lame; and her eyes were shining bright as she witnessed to the power of Christ to save and heal a sin-sick, diseased soul.

**Mr. H. A. Jackson of Dalat, reported for the  
Moi work in Southwest Annam:**

FOR weeks preceding last conference we prayed without ceasing for God to reveal His will to us, for we were sure He was trying to speak to us. We did not understand God's plan as we were led along step by step, but as we look back we know that He allowed circumstances to bring about necessary changes.



The Moi are a nomadic people, and the above is a photo of a typical group as often seen among the highlands of South Annam.

As far back as 1926 we felt a tug toward the *Moi*, and at that time offered ourselves for *Moi* work. Let me quote four statements from a letter written to Mr. Irwin, April 3, 1926. Speaking of the *Moi* I wrote: (1) «Somebody should be released for that special work,» (2) «We are late anyway, why make further delay,» (3) «Someone must speak *Moi*,» (4) «I trust that this 1926 conference will make big plans for the *Moi*.» Just before leaving for last conference I was speaking with Mrs. Jackson, and said: «A missionary should go to the *Moi* this year.» The reply came back without hesitation, «I agree,—why shouldn't we go?» I

gave no answer, but my heart said: «We should.» The above is sufficient to inform you of our attitude toward the Moi, and we feel most definitely that for the present at least our work is in this region.

After last conference the Resident told me that I could not do anything among the Moi or ever hope to. The chief of police told one of our missionaries that the Bible was a revolutionary book and that he would exercise his authority to hinder every move we might take. Being so confident that we were in Dalat because God willed it, we were not discouraged. A little later, July 31st, the edict forbidding anyone becoming a Christian was posted in a prominent place in the city. But God used it to bring about more liberty than we had previously had! We gave ourselves to prayer concerning the first step toward the evangelization of the peoples of these mountain ranges.

Then building operations commenced! Many of you would be bored with a full report of the activities of this place since last June. The papers terminating building operations for this children's *foyer* were signed April 24, 1930, ten months and one day after signing the contract, but the work is not quite finished even yet.

Soon after the Resident-Superior sent his circular letters to the Residents of the different provinces of Annam, a better understanding was created between us and the authorities, so we set ourselves to the first task in our approach to the Moi.

We wanted to know just what Moi dialect was the most universal. We learned that the Djiring spoken language is understood by some tens of tribes or groups who speak different dialects, therefore we began searching for a native of that region to help us in language study. Finally along the end of January the *Bang-Ta* at Djiring sent us a man. That was a happy day when we sat down and began to unscramble the lingo of this jungle folk!

But these days were very few. The teacher had to return to his village to pay a debt. With a loan of \$30 he left for ten days. We feared he might not come back, but

he did return, thus proving to us that although his people are not highly civilised yet there is at least honesty among them. We had hardly resumed our language study when he was taken sick and confined to bed. This we recognized as a direct attack of Satan, for the Lord had definitely shown me that I should begin to preach to the Moi, using *Sonh* as an interpreter. But again he had to return to Djiring, and our language study ceased.

In the meantime it was decided to hold conference here, and then the grand rush began to try to finish the work on the house, plus the additional preparations for conference.

When *Sonh* came to us the third time I was so occupied that we could only study from eleven to twelve each morning. Consequently I am not a fluent speaker of any Moi dialect, but rejoice over the start already made. We have had meetings with the Moi around the place, *Sonh* interpreting for me. These Moi have returned to their villages, and we trust have told their people the «good news.» Some few have returned to us three or four times. We love to see them come back and show signs of friendliness.

*Thầy Quế*, the evangelist who volunteered for Dalat and Moi work, has had a very hard year. He has had sickness in his family from the very beginning. Three times he has been down south and back again, and left last Monday for the fourth time. Pray for this dear brother who is called to the Moi, I verily believe, and is being severely tested.

The attendance at the Dalat chapel has been excellent, but it takes the Spirit of God to move and change hearts. The people of Dalat listen well, but make few moves towards repentance. We praise God for the faith of the few. One Moi and five Annamese have been baptised.

#### A TRIP TO COCHINCHINA

Our trip to Cochinchina last December was delightful. In answer to a request from our old station, Cantho, we took part in the dedication of the beautiful church there.

While there we also launched and dedicated our boat for the use of God's stewards in that land of many rivers. We regret there is not a motor in it, but still feel there should

be, and trust there will be. Another of our prayers has been answered in the way God has dealt with *Thầy Nga*. This young brother has asked for the use of the boat without an allowance of any kind. He feels he should leave his self-supporting church and start out without the promise of any financial help to preach to the neglected multitudes on the river banks of Cochinchina. For years we prayed for a divinely chosen man for that work. The boat was built not for a missionary's use only, but also for a native family who could live on it and preach from it the year around.

While in Saigon we took little Merrill to see the specialist who had been arranging his diet for over a year. He was delighted to see the change for the good in the boy's body as he had told us previously it might take fifteen years to correct his disordered liver, and perhaps never if he remained in this country. Although there are occasional signs of weakness, we thank God from the depths of our hearts for the definite work of healing in his body. I also render thanks for my own improved health, and God's tender care of my wife and baby.

**Miss A. A. Heikkinen, in charge of the School for the missionaries' children at Dalat, reported :**

**F**OR years the Indochina missionaries felt the need of a school for the children. Finally prayer was answered: a teacher secured, funds given, and the building of the *Foyer des Enfants* at Dalat commenced.

Classes were first held in a rented house at Dalat, the «Maison Grammont.» As this house was barely large enough to live in, the classes were at one time held in the servants' quarters; but it was too cold and drafty during the rainy season, and so one of the children's bedrooms was converted into a classroom by day and used for sleeping in at night. After nine months of teaching under these trying circumstances, the first school year came to an end. In spite of the many difficulties the children made remarkable progress.

How we looked forward to the time when the new house, not far away from the «Maison Grammont,» would be ready! The glad day arrived,—but just when the natives were enjoying their only holiday throughout the whole year. However the servants were loyal and helped us considerably in the moving.

On the tenth of February the school and home were dedicated to the Lord with appropriate services.

The school furnishings are native made, and are very satisfactory. What fun it was to plan the different pieces of furniture! I never thought I would have the pleasant task of designing school furniture. The red kindergarten chairs, the vases of bright flowers, the posters, cut-outs and other colourful seat-work that are displayed, add a cheerful note to our schoolroom.

It might be of interest to know that the New York Course of Study is being used. Miss Schlutzen of the New York Teachers' Training School has very graciously sent us many necessary books. We hope to start a course in manual training, the carpenter having made some useable tools. Also arrangements have been made for the children to have French lessons.

These pupils have the rare opportunity of studying life as it is found in the tropics and the Orient. The nearby rubber, coffee, and fruit plantations, with the jungle life ranging from huge elephants down to the most gorgeous moths, offer a fascinating variety of topics for study.

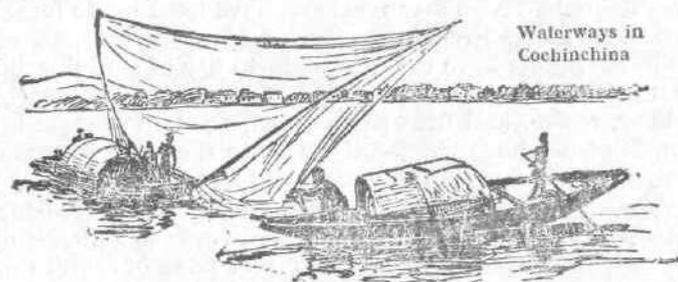
The work of teaching the children is most engrossing. Likewise the youngsters find schoolwork so interesting that when Friday comes we all feel a pang of regret that school has come to a close for another week-end.

Very often after tea we go to play under the fragrant pines near the house. The pines have shed many needles forming a most slippery carpet on which to run. Over and over again there are bruised knees and elbows to bandage and tend. If the child does not cry and is a brave soldier, he is rewarded with a mint-tip. At first I had little sympathy when I saw a child coming up the path nursing

a bleeding joint and crying lustily. I thought it was not so painful, but one evening I experienced a painful fall, skinning both my knees. I assure you that now the children find in me a ready sympathizer!

The children's spiritual growth is not neglected. Every Sunday Mrs. Jackson teaches Sunday School, and the Bible is read in school every morning, followed with a prayer by one of the children or myself.

One evening, not long ago, George Irwin announced at the supper table that he had a secret. His eyes were beaming and dancing with joy. He had led one of the servants to the Lord! The servant was upstairs washing windows. George asked him: «Do you love the Lord? If He should come tonight would you be ready to meet Him?» An earnest conversation ensued, and after assuring the servant boy that Jesus can cleanse the worst sinner and that Mrs. Jackson would not mind if they took time to pray, George had the pleasure of praying with him. George is but twelve years old, but he already knows the joy of leading a needy heart to the Saviour.



**Mr. E. F. Irwin reported for Saigon and East Cochinchina as follows:**

**T**HE word says «Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build,» but when the Lord does build, it is joy for them that labour. This has been our experience in Saigon during the past year—God has been working and we have been rejoicing. All of our

pastors, preachers, and workers, without exception, have given faithful service and have been greatly blessed by the Lord. Each of the original churches connected with the station has become self-supporting except Gocong, and this, while not yet on its feet financially, has steadily grown in spirituality, members and financial strength. Moreover each church except Saigon itself has opened an out-station during the year, Gocong at Longhuu, Binhtridong at Duchoa and Tanan at Thuthua. This last, Thuthua, is very promising work; evangelistic meetings are held there regularly and there is always a full house of interested listeners. Some fifty persons have accepted our Saviour at this place. In addition to these three, another new out-station has been opened at the provincial center of the province of Tayninh. This is the last unoccupied province in the eastern section of Cochinchina, and now, unless it be Hatien in the extreme northwest, every province of Cochinchina has one or more lighthouses from which the glorious light of the Gospel is shining into the gloom of heathenism, offering salvation to all who come.

Services have been held every night in our Saigon evangelistic chapel, and the bookstore has been open every day of the year. Over five hundred and fifty men and women have professed conversion. About one hundred of these have been added to the Saigon Church by baptism, and some of the others have gone back to their homes in the interior and either joined with other churches or have formed a nucleus for a new congregation. This was strikingly true in the case of a young man who is employed in a restaurant near the chapel. This man was gloriously saved and brought several of his immediate family to the Lord. These in turn returned to their village in the province of Vinhlong, and witnessed to their neighbors to such good effect that fifteen or twenty of them were saved. Now these are asking that we send someone to hold regular services there, and are offering to pay all expenses.

Two other young men were saved at the chapel. They were employees at a large plantation in Bienhoa province,

and they too have so witnessed for their new-found Saviour that Mr. Pruett found a group of open hearts away up in the jungle some forty or more kilometers north of Bienhoa. Periodical visits are made there by the Bienhoa preacher.

Our Saigon bookstore and inquirers' room has also been greatly blessed by God. Many Bibles, Testaments and tracts have been sold, and many inquirers have been led to the Saviour by Mr. Hau, the faithful colporteur in charge.

Since Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins and Mr. and Mrs. Pruett have left for furlough, the Bienhoa district and that part of the Vinhlong district east of the Mekong have been added to the Saigon district. We have greatly enjoyed the fellowship with these others workers in our Lord's vineyard. Once each month all the workers gather with us at Saigon for a day of praise and prayer. We have an inspirational message, and spend the rest of the day listening to reports and praying for the work. We have had two such gatherings and they have been a great blessing to all. At the last meeting every station reported increased blessing as the result of the prayers of the previous month.

#### Mr. G. C. Ferry reported for South Cochinchina:

AT the last conference we were appointed to live either in Soctrang or Baclieu, but as it was impossible to rent in the former we rented the flats which Mr. Jackson had secured previously in Baclieu.

After permission was granted we, with difficulty, rented a chapel in Baclieu. Special meetings were held and many hundreds came and listened, but only about twelve accepted Christ as their Saviour. Many said, «Your doctrine and religion is good, but if we follow we will have to forsake gambling, and if we do that we will starve.» Gambling is allowed throughout the whole province of Baclieu, there being an organized Association.

Before we had permission to preach, the evangelist, *Thầy Lợi*, would go and visit the people and sell books. The first person to accept Christ was a young man who

had previously been a follower of «Caódaism.» He is an earnest, born-again Christian. He has witnessed and brought some to Jesus. He hopes to attend Bible School.

In the province of Camau we see God working in the hearts of men and women. The Christians are planning to build their own chapel. Land is very expensive, rating anywhere from fifteen to eighteen piastres a square metre. The work in Camau is very difficult as there are no auto or bicycle roads,—the only way is to go on foot or by boat. As the water is so salty, it is difficult to procure drinking water which, except in the rainy season, has to be bought. Because of these things the evangelist who was there at first became disgruntled and quit, saying it was too hard for him.

The Lord has been blessing very much in the village of Dau-Sau, which is outside of Camau. The Christians there requested me to get permission to hold meetings and build a chapel, so after much prayer I wrote and obtained permission from the Governor. By the time we return from conference this chapel will have been built by them. We are planning on holding special meetings there.

Several months ago two Christians in Camau invited me to come to their village and give out the Gospel. I asked them where the village was, and they said the island of Poulo Obi. It takes three days and nights by sampan from Camau to reach there. I promised I would visit them, but as yet have been unable to go. What we need in Camau is a motor boat, since it is impossible to go up and down the small rivers in a large boat. There are auto roads from Baclieu to Camau, but after that there are only water ways to travel by in Camau. A motor boat is the only solution.

The work in Soctrang is made difficult because of the strong Catholic opposition. But the outstation work is very encouraging. Kesach and Rachvop were opened previously by Mr. Jackson. The Christians in the former are most earnest and are building their own brick chapel. We now have permission for regular services in the two

villages of Tra-Cuong and Nu-Gia. The Christians in these two villages are planning to build their own chapels. Pray that God will keep them true to Him.

In December we had the privilege of being present at the dedication service of the Cantho independent church. God's presence was very real during the three days of special meetings. The Christians there have built a beautiful church. They are being blessed under the leadership of Pastor Ngo. The two outstations of this church, Phong-Dien and Omon, are being blessed, and it is expected to open another outstation soon.

We are looking to God for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and a revival in these four provinces this coming year: that Christians may be filled anew with the Holy Spirit, and unsaved men and women come to Jesus before it is too late.

#### Mr. P. E. Carlson reported for West Cochinchina:

I AM truly grateful to God for calling me to Indochina. The greatness of the work is being impressed upon me with each additional year of missionary experience. As F. B. Meyer says, there can be no larger sphere of true work than this: «To take pains to explain the Gospel to the ignorant; to cope with the constant relapses and backslidings of the weak; to combat the fears of the timorous and mistrustful; to adjust the perpetual disputes and quarellings of new-made disciples; to suit the pace to the weakest and youngest of the flock.» It is just such a ministry that God calls us to perform. I praise Him for His all-sufficient grace by which I may measure up to this responsibility.

During the past year our experience has been somewhat similar to the dove that Noah let out of the ark, which «found no rest for the sole of her foot.» Since last conference we have been jumping from pillar to post so many times that we sigh with relief at the thought of staying here in Vinhlong for one full year's missionary work before returning to America. The allocation committee

changes us at their peril! The following is a summary of where we have been and what we have done since last May.

Immediately after conference we went to Bana Mountain and, together with Miss Frost, chaperoned a certain young couple who are now safely married. A stay of over a month was necessary in Saigon on account of our little Roger's operation, which, praise God, was entirely successful.

Upon returning to Longxuyen we plunged into the work of the district. Crop failures had caused much discouragement among the Christians, especially those of Binh-long who were fully expecting to become self-supporting. The outlook is better and the Christians more hopeful. The Longxuyen chapel will be finished in three weeks and there is a strong possibility that they will become self-supporting this year. The Rachgia work continues to flourish, ninety-nine baptisms being reported during the year. Chaudoc is still unfruitful; I am praying for guidance as to what method should be used there.

The first of October I went to Saigon and met with the Executive Committee, and helped that august body decide some weighty questions, such as the proper wording of telegrams, etc., etc.

A flying trip back to Longxuyen to pack our trunks and we were off for Tourane to meet with the music committee. Besides the work on the song book I had the unique privilege of making numerous visits to John Olsen's *wailing wall*—I mean the music class in the Bible School—in order to test out the hymns, etc.

On the way home we stopped at Nhatrang and helped Mr. Travis in special meetings. When we reached Longxuyen we received word from Mr. Stebbins that we were to move to Vinhlong immediately, and two weeks later we were settled in our present home. Since coming here I have been able to make at least one visit to each station in the district as well as my own. Also I have been privileged to take part in special meetings in Sadec, Bentre, Thuan-Dien, Tambinh and Caingan.

Upon returning to America Mr. Stebbins bequeathed me his boat, and Mr. Pruett his car, for which I am grateful. With the car I am able to make more frequent visits to the churches in my seven provinces; while the boat enables Mrs. Carlson to make extended visits to some of the stations and thus become better acquainted with the work. We have made several trips already and the churches have immensely appreciated her presence.

In closing I deeply regret my inability to be present at conference, but assure you that we are one with you in spirit and in prayer, that the coming year will be fruitful in spiritual growth in the lives of each missionary and native worker, and that evangelism may receive a new impetus.

**Mrs. Carlson also reported :**

**B**Y the middle of August we had again returned to our post in Longxuyen. There, until the latter part of October when we went to Tourane for the music committee, I had a precious and fruitful ministry among the women and children, especially the latter for whom I had outlined a systematic course of Bible study. Several of my boys, bright, earnest young Christians, I hope to see in Bible School some day.

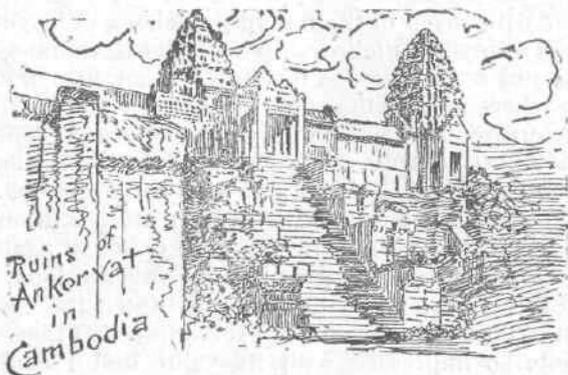
The music committee having completed their work, we made preparations for our homeward trip. After spending a few days in Nhatrang and Saigon, we again turned our faces toward Longxuyen. We had been there only a few days when Mr. Stebbins wired asking when we could move to Vinhlong as they were soon to leave for America. Thus it was that having been at our post for only a few weeks, we had to begin to pack, and on Jan. 16th, we left for our new home. Our hearts were sad as we left this needy work, but we were thankful to know that the faithful and godly native preacher would continue to carry on. Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins were indeed in a hurry to leave, for about a week later they left for Saigon.

Our first boat trip was to Tambinh, a nearby outstation. The beautiful little chapel was dedicated and we,

together with seven of the native preachers, enjoyed three full days of precious fellowship with the Christians there. Our second boat trip was to Ninh Thuan, also a nearby station where we had the opportunity to tell the Good News to large crowds and also to help the believers. The boat is a veritable God-send, for by this mode of travel I am able to accompany Mr. Carlson and help in the work. My third trip was by auto to Longxuyen and Binhlong. It was a delight to see my little group of children again and to meet for the first time the Christians at Binhlong.

Before Mrs. Stebbins left, she instituted the excellent custom of daily worship for the servants in her household. I became so impressed with its value that I continued after she left. An old lady, who has had tuberculosis for thirty years, accepted the Lord a few days previous to Mr. and Mrs. Stebbin's departure. As her house is only a few steps from here, I invited her to take part in our daily services. She gladly accepted. Last Sunday her husband gave his heart to Christ so now he meets with us too.

After we had gone to bed one night, we were startled by a knock at the door. It was already ten o'clock, but there stood the barber (to whom we had already explained the gospel), his wife, his brother and wife, and a nephew. They said they wished to be saved. How we rejoiced as we saw these five souls return to the Great Shepherd's fold! Now the wives and the young nephew meet with us every day for prayers. A few weeks after this event, we were again aroused at night by the native living across the street from us. He and his wife came to be saved. They were gloriously saved and the following Sunday brought their children to be dedicated to the Lord. These new converts meet for daily worship here, so I have in all about fifteen. We have already read the Gospel of John, have memorized I Cor. 13, Ps. 23, and the names of the books of the Bible, and are now nearly through the book of Acts. Will you not remember this little group before the Throne of Grace, that God may richly bless and make them a power for Jesus.



**Mr. A. L. Hammond reported for the Cambodian Bible School and Northwest Cambodia:**

«When the enemy comes in like a flood the Lord will raise up a standard against him.»

«All things work together for good to those that love the Lord and are the called according to His purpose.»

**T**HESSE are two verses that have been very encouraging to us during the past year. Truly the enemy has come in like a flood and just as truly the Lord has raised up a standard against him, and somehow all the difficult things that have transpired through this past year are all according to His will and for His glory, and not only that, but are for the good of His people in Cambodia. Praise His Holy name!

**TESTING DAYS IN THE BIBLE SCHOOL**

In looking back over the work in the Bible School it seems that this has been a year wasted, and yet there must be some reason, some purpose, for it all. At the commencement of the year, I made a tour of the work throughout Cambodia in order to get acquainted with the men with whom I was to work. It was a most discouraging trip to say the least. On every hand I heard grumblings and complaints because those who had had no work during the summer felt they should be paid for their idleness. It was only with some difficulty that we were able to

persuade them that we were doing all we could, and that when they had chosen to be idle during the summer months we could not use God's money to encourage them in their laziness. These things decided for me the course I was to take in my new work. I decided that all students would have to be self-supporting or would have to work for their board. This raised a storm of protest from every side. However we stood firm and two families who dared to put me to the test will testify that they received from me nothing but what they earned.

Thus, we started school with eight men students. It was not long however before a young student who was very troublesome from the beginning went home and a month or two later a second and a third left. One of those who left was a man who had had trouble during a former stay at school, and on hearing from Mr. Ellison the nature of the trouble and having had plenty of opportunity to try him out myself, I sent him home. Out of the four students left, three got their heads together and decided that they were not sure whether I was going to use them after school or not. I had never given them any intimation that I was not, nor had I decided, but they thought it more honorable to quit than to be let go without work. Consequently they are now finding it difficult to truthfully explain why they are not now in the Lord's service. One was asked the reason in my presence by a local Christian and, after an embarrassing moment, he replied that he was too lazy to study.

**DISTRICT WORK**

Owing to the illness of Mrs. Cressman and the absence of the Gunthers, we were left to carry on the district work together with the Bible School. This work was sadly neglected during the early months because of our work in the Bible School which was entirely new and required a great amount of preparation, and also because of the heavy floods that inundated the whole country. However, each month the leaders of the different groups of Christians would gather for instruction and worship. This was a source of much joy and profit to us all. Later we made a

trip to all the outstations and one memorable trip to Siem Reap, on which I spent two days and a night fasting and working on my back under the car, but to no avail. Finally the car had to be towed a hundred kilometers to Pnom-Penh. Later, as the students all quit six weeks before we came away for conference, we made trips to all the nearby outstations and several to the more distant, except Siem Reap, which was inaccessible owing to periodic rains which kept the road in an impassable condition.

After gaining a first hand knowledge of the Battambang district, I feel that we should speedily send a couple to Siem Reap to relieve the already over-burdened missionaries in the Bible School and Battambang district. I also feel that in order to adequately work the Battambang district, the missionary should immediately have a new car. Some day, not very far in the future, the old 'Citroen' is going across the rice fields or off through the forests,—and is not coming back. Besides the upkeep is becoming prohibitive owing to the need of continual repairs.

I trust that this conference will appoint Mr. and Mrs. Smith to open Kratie, and that a new couple will be immediately appointed to language study for either Siem Reap or a second couple at Battambang.

I would recommend that this conference authorize an extensive survey to be made, visiting every province of Cambodia to gain first hand information as to the actual needs. So far we are holding only two of the twelve provinces with foreign workers, and a very feeble work in five others.

We had earnestly hoped that our first Cambodian Native Conference would be held during the year, but everything seemed to be against it, so it has been postponed with the hope that it can be held soon after this conference. We covet your prayers that this first Cambodian conference will be a great blessing. For several years local conferences have been held and have been a great blessing in their limited field, but we have long felt the need of a general conference with special speakers.

### Mrs. Hammond also reported:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.—Eph. 1:3

WE are indeed glad to be back again in Indochina after a most delightful furlough. The Lord has been wonderfully good to us, and our hearts are full of praise and gratitude. Surely He is the highest joy we possess!

It is now nearly a year since we returned, and it is one of the best and happiest years we have had in His service. The testings have been many and most severe, but in each testing we have learned to know Him better. He has been faithful, and has led us forth to victory each time.

Our main work has been in the Bible School. After Mr. Cressman found it impossible to return to Battambang we also took over the station work. When school first opened there were six women, but the average attendance has been five. One of these could read and write real well, so she taught the other women their characters. This same woman has proven an excellent student, and it daily rejoiced my heart to see her blossoming out in the Spirit. Her insight into the Scriptures is wonderful to behold. Outside of regular school hours she would assemble the women and read the Word and explain it. I feel quite encouraged that two of the women took such an interest, and trust the others will also have a desire to know the Word. May the Holy Spirit so fill each one of these women that she shall give much time to visiting and 'gossiping' the Gospel to the women in Cambodia.

Early in May when the students suddenly decided to go home because we would not loan them from twenty to thirty piastres each, our hearts were heavy for them; but after praying and committing all to Him we began to praise Him. All the year we have asked the Spirit to weed out those whom He had not called, and the weeding was rapid, but we believe all for His best. A revival is coming in Cambodia, yea, in all of Indochina.

It has been a joy to meet and visit with the Christians from the outstations. In spite of severe famine, floods,

persecutions and trials, and many have been scattered, yet all, I believe, have stood true. May the Word prove true: «And they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the Word.» God can do great and mighty things as we call upon Him and believe Him.

May the coming year, even though our missionary force has been decreased, mean a year of great trust and waiting upon Him until thousands shall be truly born from above.

**Extracts from Mr. N. M. Cressman's letters concerning Mrs. Cressman's illness and deliverance:**

*Phnompenh, Jan. 10, 1930*

«When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.»

**O**UR standard is His Word. I have seen the enemy at work in Cambodia. I have realized that the destroyer of men's souls is not asleep in this land. Outward opposition has not diminished our numbers nor slackened the zeal of those that believe, therefore Satan has tried other means to retard the spread of the true light in this land.

After our son, Donald Edward, arrived (26 Oct., 1929), my wife fared well until the eleventh day, when some infection, probably puerperal fever, brought on terrible weakness. Today is her seventy-fifth day flat on her back. The fever has continued for two months from 100 to 105 1/2 degrees. She suffers most terrible pains, and is almost insane sometimes with the fatigue and weariness of it all. Seven abscesses have formed, of these four are still open, but clean and now healing rapidly. Christmas day was a day of victory and rejoicing as the last abscess did not have to be lanced but opened of its own accord.

All these things have kept the doctors busy, and now by the grace of God we are on the victory side of this story. Through the kindness of the missionaries our two children are well cared for. Because of the lack of trained nurses I have been obliged to stay with my wife day and night in the hospital to minister to her needs.

We praise God for the excellent spirit of oneness in times of trouble. Such trials bring real unity of prayer and thus

victory has been possible. Another cause of rejoicing is that we feel our many true friends who pray unceasingly for us have continued to pray as the Spirit has directed them, without even knowing the details. Praise God for such resources, they have helped to save her life.

*April 19, 1930*

«Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.» Another version says,  
«Things which are not I will bring to pass.»

This promise came to us direct from God for this great trial of faith. My heart almost shrank back at the thought «hidden things,» «things before unheard of.» I thought surely this case cannot be any harder than the previous one. But the unheard of, unusual, and multiple miracle has taken place. With almost unheard of duration six months-and-a-half of fever, the complications increased until «sufficient unto the day» was our patient cry to God as we waited, prayed, cried and almost despaired. After consultation, at least six doctors agreed that such complications were surely *fatal*. For this God gave my wife a definite assurance of healing. While the doctors said three weeks to live, she said, «I'm healed in spite of present circumstances.»

The fever mentioned in a previous letter, was indeed the terrible «Puerperal fever» considered fatal. The prevalence of the germs found in blood tests proved she had an unusual share. Abscesses they say are the only salvation. Of these she had enough. At least twelve. We almost lost count. Phlebitis had also developed in her right leg, which meant four weeks of torture in a form. While phlebitis requires absolute quietness for four or six weeks, we had to remove her leg from the form each day for the treatment of the abscesses on her back and leg. Prayer was offered for these moments, for should the blood clot have dislodged and made its way to the heart it would have meant instant death.

The day of victory over the germ was a long looked for and welcome day. She has spent one hundred and seventy-five days in bed. Not yet able to turn because of

the leg. The furnace of fever has reduced her weight from one hundred and sixty to eighty-four lbs. At present she is very weak, but is placed in a long chair twice daily.

Praise God! Delivered from the jaws of death to proclaim the goodness of our God in this heathen land.

Some great encouragements in this long trial were: The above mentioned promise and those suggested by others. The eleventh chapter of John became very precious. The presence of various missionaries from time to time, and not least of these the visits and testimony of our Christian boatman, the best example of Christianity in Cambodia. While on his boat praying one night, he claims the Lord spoke to him, and told him: *Fear not, she will not die, only believe.* His face just glows as he hears of her progress, and his testimony has become bolder.

Praise God with us, and continue to pray that strength may be given for the trip to America. Unless guided otherwise we are sailing June 4th from Hong-kong. Our address will be 1033 Monocacy St., Bethlehem, Penna. We offer our sincere thanks to our many praying friends. May God be glorified and we better fitted for future service.

#### Report from Mrs. Cressman to the Conference:

**G**REETINGS in His precious name! The Lord has been graciously sustaining us day by day. Often during an hour of intense agony we have sensed in a special way His sweet, soothing presence. And now when our hearts are tempted to be impatient, His word of comfort quiets all fear and it is easy to submit to His will. Rom. 8:28 is our 'rocking chair.' We do not question «why?» for our hearts are too full of praise and thanksgiving for all His manifest blessings. He has a purpose. Oh! may we more clearly know His will and perform it.

We thank you all for your understanding sympathy, and most of all for your prayers. Dear fellow-workers, pray on! He will surely completely heal me—let us believe. Too often we limit God by unbelief. God's promises are true, hallelujah,—only believe!

May we each one learn to trust God more fully in all things. May this new conference year find us more zealous for souls, more persistent in prayer, more yielded to Christ, and more anxious for His coming. If we but realize how near His coming is, we shall be more willing to give of ourselves in order that souls may be saved and His name glorified. May we with the poet sing:

«Here's my heart, Oh take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.»

We feel we must for awhile leave this needy land—but our hearts will stay behind. The need, the pressing need, is a weight we carry and share with you all. Pray for us as we go. We desire only His will. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you all.

#### Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Smith reported:

**O**UR arrival in Saigon, October 1st, 1929, coincided with the Executive Committee then in session. That evening we were appointed to Kratie, Cambodia. Owing to our baby's illness we could not proceed to Pnom-Penh until the end of the month, but on arrival we lost no time in securing a teacher and commencing our studies.

We stayed in the Mission House together with Mr. and Mrs. Peterson and Mr. Cressman, awaiting authorization to enter the town of Kratie. It did not come. Shortly after, Mrs. Cressman and Mrs. Peterson became ill, and for many months we felt the terrific force of Satan's onslaughts against these servants of God. As the days went by and Mrs. Cressman became worse, we marvelled at her vitality in withstanding a nightly temperature of forty degrees during three or four months. *We are certain that prayer alone kept her alive.* Owing to the strain of those days and added domestic responsibilities occasioned by the departure of the Petersons, our studies suffered somewhat.

We had the privilege of accompanying Mr. Peterson to several outstations, and once made the two-day trip to Kratié. We were forcibly struck by the response of the people along the river, and the eagerness with which they

listened and bought the Scriptures. It seemed to us then that these hundreds of untouched villages along the river presented a tremendous call to us. They are easily accessible, and as far as I could see would offer no difficulty to an intensive campaign of evangelism and distribution of the Word of God. The strategic center for at least half of Cambodia and the starting point to the immense though sparsely settled areas of the north and east, Kratié presents a challenge which we are most eager to accept.

We praise God for having brought us to Cambodia, and are restful in the knowledge that we are absolutely in His will. We are satisfied that even as He has led us in the past so will He give us His benediction and guidance in a life spent for Cambodia's needy millions in the days to come.

**Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Ellison, just returned  
from furlough, reported:**

*"They rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how He had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles."*

**T**HIS has been our portion and privilege during the past year while on furlough in America and England and France. Nearly 3,000 miles were covered mostly in convention work in America from April to December, 1929. God blessed our own hearts as we gave out the message presenting the needs of Indochina, also as we listened to the many inspiring and heart searching messages of our fellow workers in the Homeland. We rejoice to have met many faithful supporters of the Alliance, and trust that such contacts will result in increased blessing in the future.

In the early part of December, 1929, we sailed for England to visit my parents. Considerable deputational work was done while there, and friends new and old were met. We trust that they will stand behind the work in this land in the future, in prayer and giving.

From England we went to France. Our stay was short and sweet. We rejoice to report the generous loving consideration extended to us while there, both at Nogent, Paris and Digne. We came into contact with two young

Frenchmen now studying at Nogent, who are looking forward to missionary work in Indochina, the Lord willing. Their names are M. Marc Millan and M. Paul Krieger, both of them from Algeria. The former will graduate from Nogent this next June, but as he has not yet done his military service, he will not be able to get out here for over a year at the least, more possibly two years. The latter, though he has served his time in the army, is only in his first year at Nogent.

We praise God for a calm and pleasant voyage, and for bringing us back in time for Conference. Our hearts' cry is for a mighty outpouring of the Spirit of God upon Cambodia. That land has received a very serious setback this year. We are now just where we were four years ago when Mr. and Mrs. Peterson first arrived on the field. But we believe God! The battle is not ours, it is the Lord's. We are sure of ultimate victory. Let us all unite in crying to God for all the Cambodian workers and Christians, that that they may be endued with power from on high and that multitudes may be gathered into the fold.

**News from Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Peterson:**

**M**R. and Mrs. Peterson, who have laboured so faithfully for the Lord in dark Cambodia, have been obliged to return home, somewhat before their well-earned furlough was due. A little daughter was born to them in Pnompenh last October, but since then Mrs. Peterson has been very ill, at one time serious consequences being feared. But God wonderfully answered prayer for her, and she recovered sufficiently to return to the homelands to recuperate. While on the ocean she had another relapse. Pray for her complete deliverance, and also that the Lord will speedily send them back to needy Cambodia.

**Special Prayer Requests for Cambodia:**

**T**HAT two more missionary couples be sent; that revival blessings be graciously granted; that God-called students be sent to the Bible Schools, and that official authorization be given for Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Smith to work in North Cambodia.

**Mr. E. Roffe reported for Luang-Prabang,  
North Laos :**

**A**LTHOUGH Luang-Prabang was entered some fourteen months ago, only eight months have actually been passed in residence. Of these eight months it has been possible to work at language study with a native helper



but five months. Practically one month passed after my arrival before a teacher was procured. Then after three months work I was absent for two months with the members of an American scientific expedition; this absence was occasioned by the invitation of the leader, H. J. Coolidge, Jr., to perform a Christian burial service for one of their party who had succumbed to an attack of fever at Vientiane. While travelling with this expedition I was received by the highest officials as one of the party, and was able to establish contacts which, under God, will no doubt be of great value in the future. Upon my return to Luang-Prabang I was unable to continue work with my teacher

who was absent and only returned at the time of my departure on the trip which resulted in an increase of the resident missionary force at the native capital of Laos. This trip occupied three months, and after the usual or unusual time required to put the little missionary home to rights we were able to study another two months before starting on our trip to the present conference.

To those of you who are acquainted with the report of

the splendid trip made by Mr. and Mrs. Cadman through Northern Laos, we need not remind you of the nature of the country and its stage of development. At present the only means of communication are by river and by trails. The Administration is building roads as fast as money and weather conditions permit, but it will probably be five years before an automobile road will connect Luang-Prabang and Vientiane or Luang-Prabang and Vinh. This means that all work in the near future will of necessity be done by travelling in dug-out canoe on dangerous rivers or by horse over mountain trails. To do this the missionary will need probably two horses and could very well use some type of motor-driven boat. Even after roads have been built the greater part of the travelling will have to be done on horseback in order to reach the scattered villages.

To house the missionary in Luang-Prabang is quite a problem due to the fact that the only habitable houses are constructed by and for the Administration. Already we are glad to report that an encouraging sum has been received toward the construction of a mission bungalow. The present house and all other obtainable houses are unsuitable. Property and house would probably cost in the neighbourhood of 6,000\$00.

In our interviews with the local administrators we have been reminded that we are to work wisely and quietly so as not to antagonize the ruler and princes of the realm who are pledged to uphold and protect the national religion. One *Commissaire* plainly told me that as far as he was concerned our work would be confined to the local Annamese population. Just before leaving we were given authentic information that at the instigation of the Governor-General the Resident-Superior of Laos had been in communication with H. M. the King of Luang-Prabang. As a result of this the King had issued an ordinance giving full religious liberty to any and all religions. This ordinance has not yet been ratified by the French Administration at Vientiane, but as soon as this has been done we will probably be fully informed of the text. I believe that

French missionaries will be allowed to work freely, but aliens must be personally and individually authorized by the Resident-Superior.

The future of the work is most promising. At present there are no Catholics operating north of Vientiane, and even there they practically confine their efforts to the Annamese of whom there are at least 4,000 in that city alone. Recently however the priest has made two trips to our town, and probably will commence definite work there since he has at least 150 Annamese communicants there. *But the field among the Lao is ours*, and it ought to be occupied as soon as men and means are available. The seat of French government, Vientiane, ought to have a representative as soon as possible. Some one ought to be at work learning the dialects of the tribes such as the *Kha*, the *Meo*, etc. I believe Annamese evangelists could profitably be used to work among their own people in the more populated centres, and as soon as a Lao church is commenced trained Lao workers can be sent into strategic points.

On every hand we hear the most discouraging remarks about the possibility of evangelising the Lao. We are convinced that the Lao is as amenable to saving grace as any other people of the world, provided that the grace of the Lord Jesus is manifested to them in lives backed up by prayer and sacrifice. We have been sent forth with a message to all men; the field is before us; the harvest is whitened unto reaping. We as humble and privileged co-workers with the great 'Lord of the Harvest' must go forth with sickle in hand to garner in the sheaves that we might lay them at His feet with rejoicing.

#### Special Prayer Requests for North Laos:

**T**HAT God may send two more missionary couples; may grant enduement of the Holy Spirit, with power, to the pioneer missionaries in order that North Laos may be quickly evangelised; may grant needed knowledge and fluency in the Lao and many tribal tongues; and may grant necessary funds for missionary residences at Luang-Prabang and Vientiane, for two horses and saddles, and for a motor-driven canoe.



Sunrise over a village in East Siam

#### Mr. P. Gunther of East Siam reported:

**I**T seems that the past year has been altogether too short to even merit the writing of a report. As a matter of fact since last Conference we have spent only six and one-half months on our station at Ubon. Last year after various delays caused by committee meeting, by waiting for the boat at Pnom-Penh, and by being held in quarantine at Pakse, we finally arrived in Ubon the tenth of July after an absence of over two months. Soon after returning we changed our residence and then settled down to language study. The following months were uneventful except for the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Voth and Bobby in October. They were a very welcome addition to our family, and to our limited circle of acquaintances.

A few more months of language study and then toward the end of January we left Ubon for Pnom-Penh by way of the Mekong. At the time of our arrival in Pnom-Penh Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were in Hong-Kong expecting soon to leave for furlough, and Mrs. Cressman was in the hospital seriously ill, so it seemed that the time of our coming just fit into the emergency need there. So we settled down for the next two months at Pnom-Penh to supervise the work there. Then last month we were happy for the privilege of coming to Dalat for a rest which has been very beneficial to us all and which was much appreciated. Thus a year has flown by altogether too rapidly.

During the year we have learned to know our field

better, and we now have a much clearer and more complete vision of the need than before. Mr. Voth and I traveled across East Siam from Ubon to Nong Khay, opposite Vientiane, passing through several important centres and scores of towns and villages yet unevangelized and untouched. It is our conviction that at least two new stations should be opened at once at Kon Ken and Sakon Nakhon respectively, and that this Conference should appoint one of the couples now in Siam to open Kon Ken this year, and ask for more missionaries from home to supply the urgent need. We have accepted the responsibility of evangelising this district, so we cannot now hold back the necessary workers.

It is very easy for those who have never been to East Siam to have a misconception of the nature of the task before us. The field cannot be compared to the French Indochina fields where we have been accustomed to work, and where there are convenient means of communication and modern comforts. Here in Indochina there is no station (Luang Prabang excepted) more than one day's travel from its neighboring station, and yet we all feel that we have more than we can do. In Siam we are not asking for stations to be within a day's travel of each other, though that would be justified owing to the primitive condition of the country and the poor roads, but we are asking for the immediate establishment of stations within three days travel of each other. Kon Ken is three days travel from Ubon. In other words it takes the same time to cover the distance as that required to travel from Saigon to Tourane. Sakon Nakhon again is three days travel from Kon Ken or the same time required to travel from Tourane to Lang-Son. Yet surely there is no one here who would imagine for a moment that one couple in Saigon, one in Tourane, and one in Lang-Son would be sufficient to evangelize the length of Indochina. The province of Ubon alone numbers nearly a million inhabitants, and the other provinces together for which we are responsible number one and one-half millions.

The Seventh Day Adventists have also recently entered

Ubon, thus complicating and increasing the difficulties of giving the Gospel to the people. They are building a hospital and missionary homes and will have a doctor and a missionary family already proficient in the language. However our warfare is a spiritual one, so we are confident that with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in revival power souls will be saved and so established in the Faith that they will not be tossed about by every wind of doctrine. This invasion of grievous wolves in sheep's clothing is only a challenge to our faith.

We have a great work to be done, therefore we need reinforcements, and need also the continued cooperation of your prayers.

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**Mrs. P. Gunther also reported:**

**W**E praise God for His blessing upon us, for His protecting hand. Several incidents occurred during the year, and I believe the Lord had a lesson to teach us, —a lesson of trusting Him.

After last conference, just when we were nearing our destination, one of the workmen on the boat fell sick and died of cholera. When we arrived at the island of Khone we were put in quarantine for seven days. We were much concerned about having to stay seven days on board a small dirty river boat, as there was little room in which to walk or keep the baby, and we had but a few tins of milk left to feed her. We prayed about leaving, and left the matter with the Lord.

Early next morning the doctor came with the joyful news to get ready to leave immediately. How we rejoiced! Later we learned that three hours after we left the doctor received a telegram instructing him to hold us in quarantine seven days. We crossed the island on a small train, and arrived later in Pakse, but there the «commissaire» told us he had orders to keep us in quarantine three days. The doctor at Pakse shewed us every kindness, and made arrangements for us to stay at the hospital where we had a good room and lived cheaper than in an hotel.

The last lap of the journey homeward was very touching to me. The first time we landed in Ubon was at night; there was no one to meet us; we were a gazing stock as we passed through the streets; we had no home to welcome us, so we passed the first two nights in a Chinese inn. But this second time as the boat pulled ashore we saw happy faces there to greet us and help us with the baggage and the baby. Two of the neighbour ladies took my hand and said they had missed us and were glad to see us return again. These were friends and neighbours who greeted us, but we trust that the time will not be far hence when there will be Christians awaiting, and that will mean far more to us.

Upon our arrival we found ourselves in the midst of an epidemic of bubonic plague. Several had died at Ubon, while at a neighboring town nearly a hundred people had been victims of the dread plague. We thank God for protecting us at this critical time. What a comfort it was to know that God promised that "there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

Another incident when the Lord protected. Baby and I were sitting playing on the floor for some time. I had not looked around to see if there was danger, for I was busy playing with her. After we had played awhile and had dinner, Mr. Gunther carried Harriet back to this same spot where we had been playing before. His gaze accidentally fell upon something in the corner. He thought it to be a belt or rope, but as he continued to look at it, he saw it move. Immediately he rushed baby to me and took a long knife and began to touch it. After the battle was over he discovered that he had killed a deadly poison snake five feet three inches long. This snake was only the distance of a foot from where baby had been playing all morning. We thought afterward how easily she could have crawled into the obscure corner where the snake lay, or how easily it could have struck her as she sat there

playing. We do thank God for His protection and His care over His children.

The officials have treated us royally, and we have made many friends among them. The second judge especially comes often to visit us. He has helped in many ways, especially in securing us a government house to live in.

Not knowing the language fluently we have as yet been unable to give the Gospel to many. We have witnessed to servants, teachers and a few friends. We trust that this coming year we shall see an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in East Siam, so that there shall be a great ingathering of precious souls.

#### Mr. P. Voth of East Siam reported:

**T**O be transformed from a life of sin and shame to represent the highest court in the universe, fills our hearts with gratitude to Him, and I can best express the great privilege that is ours in the words of the poet, when he said:

"O matchless honor, all unsought,  
High privilege surpassing thought,  
That Thou shouldst call me, Lord, to be  
Linkt in work-fellowship with Thee;  
To carry out Thy wondrous plan,  
To bear Thy messages to man;  
In trust with Christ's own Word of grace  
To every soul of human race."

We also are grateful for the way in which God has kept Mrs. Voth, Robert and myself in health during the past months of acclimatization. Throughout our stay in Siam we have not experienced one day of illness.

I cannot refrain from praising God for His precious Word. For six months we have not heard a single sermon from a messenger of God, but during this time we have heard many messages direct from His Word, which have encouraged our hearts, lifted us above circumstances, and filled our souls with the blessing of God.

For five months we have battled with characters, tones, vocabulary and idiom. I read recently in the S. S. T. of the experience of a certain salvation army officer in India.

When he first arrived in India he found it very difficult to learn the vernacular. But sometime later something seemed to snap in his mind, and since then he has found it easy to learn languages, until up to the present he has learned seventeen different languages and dialects of the land of India. Thus far nothing has 'snapped' in my mind, although sometimes I have almost wished that there would. But by hard study and learning a little day after day we expect to master Siamese, so that we will be able to give the message of life to the needy souls of East Siam.

It was indeed a great privilege to go throughout East Siam during the month of December with Mr. Gunther. Truly the words of Jesus in John 4: 35 apply to East Siam: «Lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.» As we lifted up our eyes and looked on the fields we were convinced that they *are* white already to harvest. Almost three million souls without a shepherd, wandering and perishing in the desert, without that water of which Christ says, «Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst», yea more than that, «Whosoever believeth in me shall never die.»

The doors of East Siam are wide open, really they are 'knocked off their hinges.' The officials and people are most friendly and seem to be glad to have us come to work among them. During the month of March the second judge of Ubon, who speaks English, came to visit us nearly every Sunday. The last Sunday we were at Ubon we had the joy of explaining the Gospel to him for a few hours. Our hearts were thrilled, but at the same time we realized how Satan has darkened the hearts and minds of these orientals, and how difficult it is for them to understand the Gospel. However, our trust is in the power of the Gospel and the working of the Holy Spirit. He is able to enlighten where we cannot. I feel that within the next year or two, three or four more couples should be added to help occupy this unoccupied field. May God hold us to fulfill the trust that He has given to us, and let us hold fast that which we have lest another man «take our crown.»

### Mrs. Voth also reported:

WHEN we were told that we, too, were expected to make a report this year, my first thought was—there is nothing to report, for the past year has been almost entirely devoted to language study. As far as Christian service is concerned it has been almost nil, with the exception of a little witnessing we were able to do the latter part of our stay in Europe and on the boat coming out here.

We count it a real privilege to be in a great mission field such as Eastern Siam. The need is great, and we are eagerly awaiting the day when we shall know the language sufficiently to be able to give out the precious Gospel.

One week, when the Siamese were having some celebrations at the temple, I was feeling rather downhearted on thinking of the spiritual darkness in which these people lived, and though we possessed that which would meet their souls need, we were helpless on account of not knowing the language. Just that week a Siamese nurse, who speaks English well, came to visit me. We had visited with her several times before, but this day our conversation turned to spiritual things. She knew something of Christianity, having been trained in Episcopalian schools in Manila, and told me she believed in Christianity but had never made a profession. However, I found on further conversation that her belief was only a mental one, and that she had never experienced real conversion. I explained salvation to her as plainly as I could and urged her to follow Jesus openly. With tears in her eyes she promised me to read the Bible daily and also the booklets I gave her. She has now returned to Bangkok and I possibly shall not see her again, but the incident encouraged me wonderfully, and gave me a foretaste of the joy that shall be ours in witnessing to these dear people.

### Special Prayer Requests for East Siam:

THAT two more missionary couples be sent; that the missionaries speedily acquire the Siamese and Lao languages; that funds be given for missionary residences in Ubon and Kou Ken, and for a Gospel auto truck.



## FRENCH INDO-CHINA

### ALLIANCE STATIONS :

Tonkin (pop. 6,850,453)

Hanoi  
Haiphong  
Langson  
Naindin

Annam (pop. 4,933,126)

Dalat  
Thanhhoa  
Tourane  
Nhatrang  
Hue

Cochinchina (pop. 3,795,633)

Saigon  
Vinhlong  
Bacieu

Cambodia (pop. 2,402,585)

Pnompenh  
Battambang  
Kratie

Laos (pop. 818,755)

Luang-Prabang

### EASTERN SIAM

Ubon (pop. 2,500,000)  
Konken

HEADQUARTERS : Chateaux, Rev. D. I. Jeffrey, Hue, Annam

#### BACIEU :

Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Ferry

#### BATTAMBANG :

Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Ellison

#### DALAT :

Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Jackson  
Miss Amira Heikkinen

#### HAIPHONG :

Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Smith  
HANOI: 1, Rue Nguyen-Trai  
Rev. and Mrs. Wm. C. Cadman  
Mrs. Homera Homer-Dixon  
Rev. Jean Finé

#### HUE :

Rev. and Mrs. D. I. Jeffrey

#### KRATIE :

Rev. and Mrs. Gordon H. Smith

#### LANGSON :

Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Van Hine

#### LUANG-PRABANG :

Rev. and Mrs. G. E. Hoffe

#### NHATRANG :

Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Travis

#### PNOMPENH, B<sup>e</sup> Doudart de Lagrée :

Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Hammond  
Rev. and Mrs. N. M. Cressman

#### SAIGON, 329 Rue Frère Louis :

Rev. and Mrs. E. F. Irwin

#### THANH-HOÀ :

Rev. and Mrs. R. M. Jackson

#### TOURANE :

Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Hazlett  
Rev. J. D. Olsen  
Miss E. M. Frost

#### VINH-LONG :

Rev. and Mrs. P. E. Carlson

### EASTERN SIAM

#### UBON :

Rev. and Mrs. Paul W. Gunther

#### KONKEN :

Rev. and Mrs. Peter A. Voht

#### ON FURLOUGH :

Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Robinson  
Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Pruett  
Rev. and Mrs. I. B. Stebbins  
Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Peterson