

8/16
MISSION EVANGELIQUE DE L'INDOCHINE FRANÇAISE

(Christian and Missionary Alliance)

W. M. C. CADMAN
MISSIONNAIRE

IMPRIMERIE DE LA MISSION

Rue de la Citadelle

Hanoi, le 10th December, 1924

Rev. D. I. Jeffrey
Tourane, Annam

Dear Mr. Jeffrey,

There was a meeting of the church committee last evening, and the matter of Mr. Thai was fully discussed. It appears that multitudes of folks have visited Thai in the hospital, and false reports are going the rounds calculated to injure the LORD'S work. The main thing is that it is said that the postponement of the marriage has been the cause of this loss of mental balance, and hard things are being said along this line. I have carefully reread your letters and have plainly said that even before the postponement there was evidence that Thai was mentally unbalanced.

Mr. Thué suggested that the best way to avoid further onus upon the Mission was to write a letter to the woman asking her whether she is willing to marry Thai, and to send her decision in writing. If she refuses then it cannot be said that the Mission vetoed, if she consents, then they can go ahead without the Mission's consent, and of course without any wedding ceremony by the church. Thus this will stop many people slandering the Mission along this line. Thai is still obsessed with this matter, and it seems that I am, as usual, the "butt," of the matter, and am being abused up and down.

This morning I called on the doctor in the hospital and he confirmed previous impressions, saying that Thai is mentally unbalanced, caused by a shock, and in all likelihood his condition would ameliorate, but that it would never be safe to use him in our work again. As the hospital is not a prison and Thai is not absolutely irresponsible, the hospital people cannot hold him against his wishes. However they will try and hold him just a while longer to help out matters for me and the Mission. The doctor advises me to disembarrass myself of Thai as much as possible ^{as he holds} this matter against me personally.

This noon Thai called one of his numerous friends through the gate and sent a message to Quoc that he was sorry he had sinned against him and that he wanted Quoc to bring him his clothes. I have told Quoc to take Thai's clothes to his brother, and let them arrange matters as to Thai coming out of the hospital.

I will see how Thai acts when released. I will try and further help him, but he is too dangerous to have around the place, to my mind. I would certainly advise this Thi Ba in Tourane to be careful in replying to the committee's letter. It must be a straight "yes" or "No." If she says she will marry him when he is better, ~~than~~ or consents to marry him right away,

give her to understand, in writing if possible, that we as a Mission and as a church and individual missionaries take no responsibility whatever in the matter, financially or otherwise.

It has cost over \$55 to me personally to get Thai back to Hanoi. I am wondering whether it is up to me to pay this personally. If so it is creating a very dangerous precedent and one that will bind future like occurrences. Therefore for this reason I think the mission should take this matter of finances up and decide as to whether it will pay or not.

I will not go into matters further, except to say that the sending of Mr. Thai back to Hanoi was a very annoying matter, not only money but much time being lost, as well as much undesirable attention being attracted to myself and the Mission through having to use the police in Namdinh and Hanoi.

This is all at this time. We realise that you folks in Tourane must be having a hard time in the school this year. Thai received a most cowardly anonymous letter--two typewritten pages--and this also seems to have helped derange him mentally. I strongly suspect this letter was ^{sent} if not written, then at least motivated by Cô Diệp in the Women's School. If she causes any trouble I would advise sending her back also. We cannot have unspiritual people swamping the school. However care needs to be exercised that there is not a "set" against the Tonkin people.

Mrs. Cadman joins with me in sending our kindest regards to you one and all in Tourane, and we pray for you always.

Yours in HIS Service,

Wm. C. Cadman

P.S. - Have carefully revised, re-arranged, & printed Tour's "Difficulties" under most adverse & diverse circumstances! This book will be finished within another week. It will be a very helpful book to all our people. (C)

M.A.S. - Perhaps will be best to ^{write} send Đức Viên Thi this letter direct to me but addressed to Church Committee. (C)