

Tourane Annam,
August 18th 1924.

Rev. E.F. Irwin
329 Rue Frere Louis,
Saigon, Cochinchine.

Dear Frank:

A couple of days ago Thay Tu came to me and said that he had certain matters on his heart but did not want to mention them, and stated that he was praying to know what to do. Today he was in, has just been in rather, and has told me the trouble, he also spoke to Thay Thua. I pass it on to you, trusting that God will guide.

There are three rumors abroad concerning the work in Saigon:

1. The mother of Do permits gambling above the chapel. Tu says he does not know whether Do is aware of it or not. When Do goes to church the mother is always anxious that Mrs. Do goes also. A relation of Thay Loi's is the authority for the statement that there is gambling going on over the chapel, she says the gospel is alright as far as words are concerned but not as far as actions are concerned.
2. The two grown up daughters of Do are said to be bad. Inquitrers come but are more interested in looking upstairs than in listening to the gospel. Tu says all the men from the south noticed this. Further the daughters sell books with cigarettes in their mouth and act, like wives of frenchmen.
3. Thay Nhuong's mother gave him 100 dollars when he left Sadec, but in Saigon he borrowed money from the Sadec men. Do's mother urged him to stay and offered him the youngest daughter. Tu says the Sadec men say that Nhuong has frequently committed adultery, they think, according to Tu that he committed adultery in Saigon from the influence of Do's mother and that the reason he lacked money is that he paid it to her. Tu says Nhung sent Do to see about a boat so that he could be in the house with the daughters.

This is awful stuff to touch but whether this is all true or all false we have to avoid the appearance of evil, and the rumors are bound to hinder the work. If these things are true about Do's mother and grown up daughters it would look as though they would have to separate or else drop him.

In regard to Nhuong, I find him nice enough he was sick when he arrived ~~but~~ and wanted to go home but has been quite content since getting better. Two other men, Loi and Cung gave me a lot of worry as they decided to go home. I ~~cannot~~ begin to enumerate their complaints but they have come through splendidly. The southerners objected to Tourane cooking (not the amount this time) and I have put them in charge of it, our fellows kicked a weeny bit, or ~~that~~ I should say they felt a bit badly but everything is going on perfectly at present.

*requirements
Annam.
any
these
making
anarchy
I'm not
wobblers*

P.S.

*Yours,
Tony*