

Saigon 9th July 1924.

Dear Brother Jeffrey:

I received your letter of 5th inst. and to hear the news about Mr. Jaffray being elected Vice-President of the Alliance. Of course we are going to miss him and I can't see, under the light of Heaven, why it was necessary to take our big Chief from us. Do you think he will be able to continue his work among us poor old benighted Chinese.

I understand from your letter that this station is to pay Phan's travelling expenses to Tourane. I was aware that I would have to buy the tickets at this end, but would like to know if they are to be allowed any extra money and how much.

I suppose you will hardly believe me but until we received your letter we had forgotten altogether about the 1st. and the 4th. Of course we excuse ourselves on the ground that we were very busy; but we were shocked to think that we could let such an event pass without celebrating. Who knows but we might have been able to scratch together enough sous to buy an ice cream if we had only remembered !!

Thầy Tiep is staying at Saigon for a few days and as we have here the three renowned evangelists of Indo-China now: Phan, Do, and Tiep, we thought that it would be a good thing to hold special services here. We had some hand-bills printed and our first meeting began Sunday 6th. followed by a meeting every night this week. In getting the hand-bills out I had to use Thầy Tiep a great deal to translate and to correct the first copy printed. This caused our friend Phan a special fit of jealous passion and I had some trouble with him of which I will tell you later.

Our special services began on the 6th. and at the very outset I had one of my hand-bills returned to me enclosed with one of the most insulting letters that could be imagined; this from our friend the enemy and cheered us up a little. In honor of our next meeting they started up a kind of Band Concert by way of opposition in order to relieve us of our crowd. Last night was pretty quiet and we are praying that it might so continue until the end of our services. You see that although we have no water swimming here we have 'swimming' and our share of excitement.

Now I want to say a few things regarding Phan. In the first place his heart is not in the work at Saigon and I am very doubtful if it is in the work at all. Once he wanted very much to go to Mytne and asked me if he could not go on a Friday to work for Mr. Ferry. He said that Ferry had written him asking him to go over there. I told Phan that I could not possibly let him go on Friday as that is our Prayermeeting night. Mind you Ferry had said nothing at all to me about the affair until Friday afternoon when he sent me a telegram saying that Phan was there and would preach that night at Mytne. I simply told Phan when he returned that if there was not enough work for him at Saigon I would be glad to give him a little more to do and, since he found time to run around the other stations, never to say that he was overworked at Saigon. This shows you how much Phan thinks of authority. From that time he has held this against me although he denies it and I have had no end of trouble with him and Ông Lang the Deacon.

Once I gave him some hymns to translate which he did but he didn't put into them all the meaning of the originals. I went over them with my teacher and made a few changes and because I did so Phan got into a red hot rage and tore the hymns to pieces.

The other day Mr. Pruett and I were arranging things for the special services in the room above the Chapel. We had prayers and the members were standing around the room talking. After some

