

Friendly League Residence
233 East 17th Street
New York 3, New York
October 24, 1953

Dear Esther, John and David:

Two letters written in one day? Yes, that is it because it never rains unless it showers and this is a shower of mail.

You see, this morning after writing to you, I was just leaving for the hospital when your letter from Hanoi arrived. It was mailed a week ago today, the 17th, so it got here fast. I hope this one reaches you just as fast. In fact, I hope you received the letter I sent to you in Hanoi. Maybe you did.

Now that your letter is fresh in my mind, I will chat with you. We were so interested in your letter, we could see you dropping in those holes along the Haiphong - Hanoi road. We could see you first of all in Haiphong no doubt staying with Cowles in the house Pooles use to live in. Then we could see you at the church visiting the Luyens. You did not say that you visited the Quangs. I hope you did. Then I wonder if you visited the Perries and the Colonel Mangus. I guess Mrs. Lambert was surprised to see you in Hanoi and Pastor De and the Quang-Soans near the church. We are anxious about your next letter maybe sent from Hanoi telling us about going to church on Sunday. I hope Pastor De asked Johnnie to speak a few words to be interpreted. Mr. Tri could translate. You will find a lot who speak english in Hanoi. I am glad you went to Hanoi because after being in Tourane awhile you can judge for yourself the difference in peoples. Tourane is nice and so is Hanoi but in Hanoi you have more or less a class of people that are above average. Let us know your impressions. I guess you saw everything coming back again as you slept in what you said the Cadman house. I guess you saw our boxes piled up in the printing press. You did not say if you liked the Fisher house. Of course, I doubt if it is fixed nicely, not the way you could fix it. You will or by now you have seen a lot of people on Sunday and what your impression was of the Sunday morning service. What does the Hanoi Mission car look like? Is it all banged up. After a year with me it looked like new.

Mother was not feeling too good this afternoon.

The Doctor had to give her a shot to calm the pain. When I left she was resting nicely. Etta and Mille arrived there at 12:30 just as mother was getting her tray, so I took them down into the basement for lunch, a good dinner in fact, cafeteria but good, extra good. They stayed with mother until 3 o'clock and then I took them to the bus station but stopped at Check Full of Nuts for a drink and a piece of cake, that is a chocolate brownie. How does that make you feel??

Grandma is not well. She stays home most of the time.

Her heart is not acting right and she must take it easy with that high blood pressure. They are getting old and we are on the way.

What did you think of the Haiphong church that I built? The carpenters did not want to put that kind of a ceiling and roof in because they said it would not hold. It is like a barn style in the inside and gives extra height and air. I hope you saw the Hai duong church too. Did Hoa kiss you when she saw you? Did any of the Vietnamese women kiss you such as Mrs. De? Give us some news.

There goes the supper bell. I am leaving you and thanks for that letter. It made us homesick for North Viet Nam. May the Lord bless you, keep you with zeal and filled with His Spirit, otherwise down you go. It is easy to slide and that is why I think some never got the lamnage. We are praying much for you that you get a good start and you will with the Carlsons. You can go to them with any problems and they will help you.

Mother sends much love and I also send

Much love,