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The Call of Jesus for Indo-China.

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As I sit in our newly established home in Hanoi, my mind goes back to the quiet little city by the sea, where usually only the beating of the sea waves on the sandy beach broke in on the calm of the evening hours. Here are the constant ebb and flow of the sea of humanity: tens of thousands of men, women, and children, active and eager in their pursuit of pleasure, or in their daily labor. The buzzing of the electric street-cars, the rumble of trains, the whirl of the automobiles as they rush past our house, all remind us that we are a part of the big modern world, even though we are in the heart of heathen Annam, or rather Indo-China.

As we pass through the city streets, we are almost appalled by the greatness of the task which lies before us: "To preach unto them Jesus," to these care-free, busy multitudes who often all too literally "Take no thought for the morrow," living from hand to mouth, and then passing into eternity.

It is not here as in many heathen lands where the people are oppressed and downtrodden. Here, under the protection of France, they are safe from the attacks of their more powerful neighbors, and they have a fair opportunity for advancement by means of education. The women also live a comparatively free life, unlike their sisters in China and India.

Because of the above conditions it is harder to influence these people, but we know that the gospel which could capture the pleasure-loving and enlightened Corinthians, and change them into despised and persecuted Christians, can do the same for these people.

"I heard *Him* say, 'Come follow,'
That is all,
My gold grew dim,
My soul went after *Him*;
I rose and followed,
That was all.
Who would not follow if they heard *Him* call?"

We heard *Him* call. God grant that we may make them hear *Him* call, then many will also become *His* true followers.

We are now looking for a suitable building on one of the business streets in the native section, where we can have a chapel, book-room, and reading-room. Here we hope to proclaim the Good News and thus bring home the call to many a heart in this populous city.

At our recent Indo-China Conference all were unanimous in agreeing that one of the best ways in which to bring the call to the individuals in city and hamlet and mountain home is by means of the printed page. This is especially true under the present conditions, for we are not permitted to preach in the

country districts, but only in the French concessions. However, we feel sure that attractive and simple gospel tracts are bound to circulate automatically and reach the prohibited areas, even though they are sold and distributed only in the cities. Therefore we have decided to purchase a small printing press as soon as possible and print these tracts. In a wonderful way God has His approval upon this work by sending in enough money to enable us to purchase the initial equipment.

We feel our need of wisdom in commencing this new work, and the need of the Holy Spirit to help our missionaries to write gospel messages which will appeal to these people and turn them to God. We know that God will meet us and supply our need. But we earnestly desire you to "help together by prayer," that all difficulties may be overcome and this new phase of the work in Indo-China become a powerful agency for the winning of souls.

As you pray, picture this city with its 135,000 souls—this teeming population closely packed in the miles on miles of houses. Then remember the other cities, and the vast country districts with the innumerable little hamlets tucked away in the midst of tall trees, the small bamboo houses often covered with vines and surrounded by hedges till they seem almost a part of the tropical verdure.

Most of these people would never be reached directly by a foreign missionary, even if the land were fully opened to us. But the printed gospel message in their own simple colloquial language can travel anywhere—over the narrow paths, through the flooded rice fields, into the dense tropical forests, over the mountains, yes, everywhere; and with God's blessing souls can be saved.

Therefore pray that at the very beginning and all the way along God may guide us all in every detail as we plan for the reopening of the work in Indo-China.

"I like to feel in all the work
I have to do,
That thou by lifting hands of prayer
May help me too.
I like to think that when on high
Results we see,
Perchance I will rejoice that thou
Thus prayed for me."