

1924

Vietnam

# The Latest from Indo-China

BY REV. R. A. JAFFRAY

## Annamese Christians

Our fellow workers by prayer at home will rejoice with us that we have now 1,500 Annamese Christians in French Indo-China. The number is steadily on the increase. About half of this number are members of the Tourane Church and are scattered over a wide area in Annam bearing witness for the Lord Jesus, and bringing others into the fold of Christ. So while we are still forbidden by the authorities to witness publicly for Christ in these cities of Annam and Tonkin, yet many of these centers are receiving the witness of the Gospel through the witness of individual Christians living in these parts.

## Cambodian Christians

The work so recently opened in Cambodia is bearing fruit. There are already fifteen Cambodian souls who have found the Saviour, and many others are fast coming into the Light. Some of these converts are on the borders of Cambodia and were saved before we were permitted to enter Cambodia proper. We are commencing by faith a Bible School for the training of young men for the work in Cambodia. We firmly believe that God is going to give us many souls in Cambodia, and that it is His plan to *speedily* evangelize these long neglected millions ere He returns to this earth. We are hoping to have the first Gospel printed in Cambodian, the Gospel of Luke, with the help of the British and Foreign Bible Society early next year.

## Tribespeoples

We are making a study of the various tribespeoples of Indo-China. Two of our missionaries are appointed by Conference to make a trip this year to Northern Laos with a view to soon opening work among the Thai tribe in these utterly neglected parts. The Plymouth Brethren of Switzerland have been working for some time in Southern Laos, but nothing whatsoever has been done for Northern Laos.

## Training Evangelists

In the Bible School for the training of Annamese evangelists at Tourane we have a fine company of thirty young men. Besides these thirty students in the Bible School there are approximately twenty others who have had some training in the Bible School and who are now engaged in the work on our stations. All of these

brethren will return to the Bible School for further training till they graduate. Our plan is to give them one year in the Bible School and then one year out in the practical experience of station work, another year in the Bible School and another year in the work, until they have completed their course after three full years of study in the Bible School.

## Reaching New Cities

This year we are hoping to send several student-colporteurs from the Bible School into some of the cities of Annam and Tonkin where we missionaries are not yet permitted to work. The British and Foreign Bible Society are helping us in this, and we are looking to the Lord for real results from their labors in these unreached fields. As we came through these parts recently and saw the throngs of people pressing their way to the markets,—sheep without a Shepherd indeed,—our heart went out in compassion in some little measure as did His of old. There went up from our heart a prayer-cry,—“O Lord of the Harvest! Thrust forth Thy laborers into these plenteous harvest fields!” Will you join us in this prayer and help to gather in these souls for Him?

## Revival Signs

On a number of our stations in Cochin-China in the south, there are encouraging signs of revival. At one station recently a hundred were baptized and at another, more recently opened station, seventy were taken into the Church. We may say that these are not taken in hastily. They are patiently taught and carefully examined before they are baptized.

## Press Work

Now that the New Testament is complete in Annamese, we are working hard for the completion of the whole Bible. The preparation and printing and scattering of this Gospel literature all over the land is a most important feature of the work. We are purchasing a supply of Cambodian type so that we hope soon to be able to produce the Gospel message in this language also from our presses.

## Light Chases Darkness

One morning on our recent trip in Indo-China we made an exceptionally early start. As we were speeding along

in our car before the break of day, the Lord was speaking to my soul about the work in this dark and needy land. On my left from the horizon to mid-heaven there was nothing but black, threatening storm clouds. These seemed like a mighty army, wicked and angry. Like a host of evil spirits, so numerous that they formed a thick cloud, threatening to cast deep darkness over all the earth below. On the other side, however, was a little gleam of light. To be sure it looked feeble and insignificant as compared with the terrible sight on my left. The dark clouds on the left were rapidly increasing and spreading away over on to the right side and seemed even to threaten to prevent the shining of the light on the horizon on the right. As we swept through the country, and as I meditated on the parable in nature before me, lo, the Light was steadily increasing. All the efforts of the terrible, threatening black clouds were not proving effective to stop the progress of the Light. Light is more powerful than darkness. Darkness always flees before Light. Hallelujah!

As the parable continued, my heart was filled with hope and faith and joy. The glorious Sun had arisen, and on its forward march, as a “strong man to run a race,” it literally chased the black clouds before it, and darkness gave place to Light. The Holy Spirit moved in my heart and I prayed with an earnestness and faith for the salvation of the people of these parts, still under the dark clouds of night, yea, still in the shadow of Death, as I had seldom done before. Yes,—

“The Morning Light is breaking,  
The Darkness disappears.”

It will not be long till “He that shall come, will come, and will not delay,” and these sons of night will see the Great Light and rejoice forever in Him who is the Sun of Righteousness. Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus!

A.W. January 3, 1925  
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