

MISSION ÉVANGÉLIQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE FRANÇAISE



H. CURWEN SMITH
PASTEUR

SADEC, le June 29th, 1924
COCHINCHINE

Dear Ivory,

Thanks very much for your letter of the 16th. We have been away visiting a good deal this past week, first to Tuân's home and then up to Cao Lành. Sheila and Bobbie as well as Mr. Robinson came with me. We had a good time at Tuân's place. He has just finished his new house and we were well entertained. I asked him about his brother and he said that he was only to receive the eight ^(for summer) dollars per month, unless he authorized you to advance more. However, he said he was writing you and would explain everything fully. We had a good talk with Tuân, and the real reason he is not going back to school this year, is because he does not feel that his wife is yet qualified to be a preacher's wife. Too bad he didn't find it out sooner, but I was pleased to see how steady the chap is keeping and he is doing a good deal of personal work in his village and we had three pray down there last Monday afternoon.

About Anh Sừ. Both he and his wife will not be going to school this year, if ever. I had to deal with him over one matter of lying and he asked us to pray with him and asked the Lord to forgive him, and as soon as he got up from his knees he told a regular string of lies in order to take Thị Hai back as our amah. I cannot understand the fellow acting this way, but most certainly he is not in my opinion fitted for Bible School. Thầy Liệu became confidential the other day and said that the chap's parents are set on his becoming a "Thầy Giảng" and the other chap ^{his brother} be a colporteur. Since the applications have been sent in, I have kept a pretty close watch on all the applicants and I am glad that the number will be cut down, as once they get a slip telling them that they have to support their wives and children, during the three years as well as finance their own first year, they decide that it is not all the picnic they thought it to be. I am interested to note the way most of them take the decisions, and I believe we cannot be too strict with them, so as to be sure and have only those go whom the Lord has really called.

Anh Thọ will most likely drop out. He said he only lacked sixty dollars and would we not please decide for him whether or not he would get that sixty dollars to make up the hundred and pay his fare to Tourane. We had previously had requests from his

MISSION ÉVANGÉLIQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE FRANÇAISE



H. CURWEN SMITH
PASTOR

SADEC, le _____ 192
COCHINCHINE

2.
wife to support his eldest daughter and help the wife and three other kids. Being millionaires of course we are going to supply all those who request funds!

The Caolanh chaps with the exception of Thầy Nhuông will not be able to pay their fares up to Tourane. They are really honest in saying that they cannot possibly do it. They had to spend a good deal of money in order to get their passports, and they have really done their utmost, I believe. We are having plenty of opposition here, and I'll have more to say about it when I see you. However, opposition is a good sign so we will just thank the Lord and keep on doing His business.

Thầy Kỳ is coming along splendidly. He has given \$30⁰⁰ more, which makes a total of \$80.00. He is going to sell his boat so he will have sufficient to make up the \$100 I am quite sure. He is about the best of the men who want to go to school.

Thầy Châu came back a few days ago and we have suspended him from the church.

I have received more money, as per attached list. I will be sending a Mandat Télégraphique for about \$

About Thầy Niên. He was quite discouraged and wanted to return to Sadeo and let Thầy Liêu take his place because he was there a whole week and nobody prayed. His wife came down from Caolanh and started a row with Anh Sử over the \$20 which he owes them. I note your remarks about his wife in your letter of the 24th, which has just come ^{to hand} a minute ago. I am afraid for the Caolanh work because Thầy Hai is so well liked, and been so used of the Lord, and the situation in Caolanh at the present time calls for very delicate handling. I wish that the first decision of the Executive Committee could have been adhered to. I met Thầy Trần in Saigon and liked him immensely and do felt that he would have filled the place so much better. If Coonan makes trouble up there, they will have to be dropped, and we will have to make some other arrangements. We were up there from Thursday till Saturday and found that the people have already taken a dislike to her. I will have to talk to Frank more about this matter when he comes. Anh Bau is Niên's brother and is one of the applicants for school, having given \$60.00, so far

MISSION ÉVANGÉLIQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE FRANÇAISE



H. CURWEN SMITH
PASTEUR

3

SADEC, le _____ 192
COCHINCHINE

His wife has prayed but refuses to come to church and has not been baptized. He also has two children. This looks like a duplicate of his brother's case. Since ^{from Tourane} Thây Niên came down, his two brothers came over and said if we would send them to Bible School they would pray. They can neither read nor write, but nevertheless would be very glad to become Thây Giangs and help us out. We have had so many things happen this past ~~while~~ ^{week}, that I am often tempted to think there is not one really earnest man in Cochin-China.

I fully agree with you about the colporteurs. The more I see ^{of them}, the more I am convinced that no man should go selling books unless he has had one year's training in Bible School, and a certificate from you saying that you consider him fit to explain the Gospel to others. Herbert Jackson, Arthur Hammond and also Mr. Robinson have written me along the same line.

Mr. Irwin certainly has not arrived here yet and we do not know where he is. Thanks for telling us who is vice-president, but you might have told us who was president of the Alliance. You see we live in Satec.

Thanks very much for promising to look after the parcel from Korea. There will possibly be two of them as I have to order some shirts, but since they are too small for you you probably wont be interested.

We hope to go up to Tourane early, perhaps towards the middle or end of July. If only you didn't have any Annamese up there I'd enjoy it more. Bobbie is keeping our muscles in trim these days. He gets whipped about twenty times a day.

Best regards to you all

Curwen