

Langson, Tonkin.  
French Indo China.  
January 7, 1936.

The Sunday School of the  
Union Gospel Tabernacle,  
West Hempstead, Long Island.  
U. S. A.

Dear Friends in Christ:-

What a pleasant and happy surprise to receive your presents that came just three days ago. The check and the Sunday School picture made us very happy and it brought also along, although you could not see it, the spirit of Christmas. Reading your letter, looking at the picture and with hearts full of gratitude for the gifts sent, made us feel we were spending a few moments in West Hempstead.

We thank every one of you for helping to give us a real Merry Christmas. May the Lord bless all of you as you give to help spread the message of Christmas to those who have never heard the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. What a happy group you are. Just to look at your faces you would know you are Christians. We could send you pictures from here and immediately you would see sin written all over their faces and not peace and happiness that the Lord gives to all who follow Him. We like to look at the faces of our natives after they are saved. They look different and they are different too because Christ has made them new creatures.

We look at the picture several times a day and sometimes forget we are in Indo China, but just standing in back of your Church with all of you looking directly at us. The memories are many of the happy times spent with you. We can just imagine ourselves with you now as if we had been with you yesterday. When far away from loved ones and friends, one learns to appreciate fellowship and your fellowship we appreciated while home on furlough and that is why we live those same moments over again in our mind as we look into your dear faces.

Now concerning the check of 227francs and 27centimes. We are overjoyed to receive this amount for Mr. & Mrs. Phien. You said we should use it for whatever they may need. Well there is a need for them and that is when they move into the new chapel we expect soon to start building, they will need to furnish their room. So your gift comes in time to be used for this purpose. It is wonderful the way God is meeting our needs for this new chapel. The full amount is not in yet, but the Lord is leading and laying this burden on many hearts. We are glad you are having a share in putting up a new light house in the land of heathen darkness. You are working with us and when the Lord comes, you shall receive your reward along with us for the souls won in Northeastern Tonkin.

The Holiday Season is over and I suppose you would like to know if we had a nice time. We could not give much to each other, just one or two things we needed for our home, but the Lord made it up to us by sending us other gifts from unexpected sources, such as yours. We believe it was really the best Christmas we ever had, spiritually as well.

Christmas morning our chapel was nicely decorated with a few things we brought from America and also with the silver tinsel and silver pine cones that you gave us before leaving. It was very pretty and everybody liked to look at it. The chapel was filled with Christians, their faces beaming with the joy of the Lord. Your victrola and records also had a part in making it a fine service. We placed the victrola next to the portable organ where the audience could not see it. When the audience suddenly heard the Christmas chimes and then

the pipe organ playing, they did not know where it was coming from. At first they thought Mrs. Van Hine was playing, but then reason seemed to tell them that such a small organ could not play the chimes. During the service I announced another record would be played and they all enjoyed it. Four of the young men also sang a Christmas hymn and they did real well. At the close of the service an Annamese Bible was presented to each of the young men who attended regularly the young men's Bible class in our home.

We are glad to say that one more of the young men decided for Christ lately. He had come to Mrs. Van Hine's children's meeting for a few years. We prayed much for him but did not want to urge him as we knew the Spirit of God was working in his heart, and finally he yielded, glory to God!

Five women have also recently given their hearts to the Lord in Langson. They never miss a meeting and are beginning to show fruit in their lives. May He deepen the work that He has begun.

A few days before Christmas I had special meetings in Cao Bang and Nuoc Hai, two of our far away outstations. During that time a Buddhist temple woman chose to follow the Lord. The same day she took her altars down and gave us the various objects used for worship such as flags, pretty candle-stick holders, gilt armors that they believe the spirits use to defend the home from evil and a big lacquered hammer that she used to beat her chest while worshipping. For many years she did this to find peace of heart but praise God she found peace in Jesus, our Saviour. She had a good many beautiful colored clothes for temple worship that she will not use anymore. Should the Lord tarry, we will show you some of these things when we come home on furlough.

Christmas afternoon we invited all the Christians in our home and more than fifty came. We had a wonderful time of fellowship, rejoicing together, praising God for having given us His Son.

An hour before time to open the door for our Sunday School entertainment, there were over a hundred children waiting in front of the chapel. The Annamese policeman seeing such a crowd came to help and we had to stop him once in a while from using his stick on lively boys trying to push through. Mrs. Van Hine only let in the children who came regularly for, as it was, there were 175 in our small chapel. They were literally piled on top of each other and were real good considering such a crowd. We gave each a few pieces of candy with an Annamese tract showing the way of Salvation and those that never missed were given a small mouth organ or a ten cent toy that we had brought with us from America.

We shall continue to send you missionary news throughout the year and know you shall be praying much for us. Oh, how we all need to pray more and live closer to God. We need to live in Ephesians six and put on the whole armor of God every day. The devil is going around like a roaring lion and if not kept close to God, he will trip us up. We are living in the last days and the Lord seems to be coming soon. May He find us all faithful in whatever task He has given unto us. May we all be filled more and more too with His blessed Holy Spirit. God bless you all is our prayer.

Yours in Jesus' glad service,

