

233 East 17th Street
New York 3, New York
October 28, 1953

Dear Esther, John and David:

There are two letters from you, one came last night addressed to us at 260 West 44th St and the other directly here. We were glad for all the news, telling us about your Sunday in Hanoi, meeting all the Christians, going to the wedding etc. You sure struck it just right to meet everybody and get into the doings. That is really something and in fast something you shall never forget. You spoke about Fishers and his ideas etc but you did not mention what his ideas are. I suppose he does not agree with the methods of older missionaries, maybe somethings I will agree with him upon and maybe others I will not. Maybe he has me in that class of opposition. Let me know sometime, or John can write on this all important subject. I have'nt any idea what their thinking is like so I would appreciate an exchange of ideas.

Then you spoke of Hai-duong and saw the church. The Lord led us definitely to that piece of property and we actually prayed there, standing on that ground and claimed it for the Lord. Then we went to work and finally secured it. It is an ideal location, right on the main road and thus a permanent work is established instead of carrying on work in a rented hall.

Your letter of today told about being back in Haiphong, meeting the chaplains, seeing the French Official Mr. Bonami, going to Do-son etc, so this way you have an idea what Tonkin, I mean North Viet Nam looks like what the people are like etc. Thanks for all the news.

Now the big news is this. Today, Mother is returning from the hospital after being there exactly a month to the day. They never keep you a day longer than they want you to stay and they get rid of everybody very quickly. The Doctor said that Mother will have to rest a week or so in her room here and then gradually get out but to take things easy. It has been a long tough seige and mother has suffered a great deal but now with the operation over, we hope she will get back to full health and strength again. They xrayed the gall bladder yesterday and an operation is not necessary. We praise the Lord for that. She will have to be careful though. Now we will have to pray that the Lord will meet the hospital bill which is a big one you can well imagine. Some has come in already and we thank 'im for it but we trust all of it will come in. We are praying towards that end.

Miss Ellenberger who works at the Alliance brought your letter in last night. I do not know if you know her. She rooms with the girl that went to Nyack with Mrs Lourens, (Lillian Lown) to see you get married. It was the first time that girl saw a Christian wedding.

Remember us to the Carlsens. They are fine people. We are so happy you are going to live with them, that is on the same station and not under the same roof but in the same long house. Do you remember Tourane Esther? Say, John, write us your impressions sometime.

This is all for now. I am going up to the hospital now to get mother. The next letter will say that she is actually here in this room. She sends you much love.

Lovingly

