

November 2, 1949

My dear Bill, Russ, Board Members, Radio and All:

Although we have just arrived in Calcutta and are longing for some sleep, I must first send you a few lines. We arrived here this morning at 2:45. The moon was shining brightly and in the light of it, from the plane, we could see the mighty Ganges winding toward the sea and the blaze of light in the distance that heralded that we were approaching the city of Calcutta with its population of over 5,000,000 people. We were not released from customs until 4:45 A.M., so you can imagine how tired we were. We went directly to our hotel and slept until 8 A.M., to be awakened by a pounding at the door. Sleepy as we were we were glad on opening it to find Hubert Mitchell all ready to give us an enthusiastic welcome to India. It was a welcome in many ways because he just placed in our hands a sheaf of letters from L.A. Thanks a million for them. Sorry though that the pictures of Japan did not turn out so good but we're not surprised because it rained all the time – had just two days for good photography. However the pictures of the work of Biola graduates are to reach you later – 200 ft. from Timothy Pietsch, 200 from Mr. & Mrs. Roland Rice and another 200 ft. from a Dr. & Mrs. Nakado (?). The latter are also sending a part of their film taken recently of Communistic demonstrations in Tokyo, and the gospel cure. These 600 ft. will give the touch you need. Thanks also for your suggestions. Feel free to make them because we want to do the best work possible. Bill, be sure and send me, c/o Don Hillis, a complete list of all our graduates and former students in countries beyond India that we shall touch such as Egypt, Palestine, Rome, France, Spain or any other country. We spent a day in Bangkok on our way to Calcutta to pick up a few bags we had left there. Met. [sic] Dr. Welles, son of J.P. Welles former business

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manager of B.I. He is a Biola graduate and is doing a fine work in the Presbyterian Hospital. Through him we met another Biola grad., Rev. Seigel of 1914 class. He is a live wire – conducting a school of some 300 students. Everything in the school is Christ centered. It was just in the providence of God that we learned that they were in Bangkok. That's why I want you to check with the Alumni office so I shall have a complete list. Mrs. Chrisman left Bangkok just the night before our arrival – she is Miss Ender's sister. So sorry to have missed her. We lost four days in Batavia owing to my "strep" infection which developed after we left the jungle. Had this not occurred we would have had four days with these friends in Bangkok [sic], including Mrs. Chrisman. However I left film with Dr. Welles, Mr. Seigel and sent some to Mrs. Chrisman with the request that they take pictures of their work and forward some to you. These will brighten considerably the picture of Siam. These pictures, which should reach you before the close of December, will be accompanied by a description of the work. Take good care of these and our manuscripts I send. You will note that among the film on Borneo mailed a few days ago are 150 ft. on the Fire Walkers of Singapore. This was taken during a heavy rain. They may not turn out very good. If not, you had better plan to secure from that movie man we met in L.A., some 200 ft. of what he has, possibly we should get more. You be the judge. We have a very busy schedule before us here in India. I don't see how I can see all our missionaries here in 3 weeks. The morning of our arrival, - after a few hours sleep, Hubert Mitchell took us to see a great Mohammedan parade. Tens of thousands filled the streets. Such fanaticism I never saw before. Will write more details about this later after Hubert Mitchell tells us today what was the occasion of the parade. Men in great numbers were beating their bodies until the blood literally flowed down. Paul took pictures with fear and trembling.

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In the afternoon we visited William Carey's old church. It stands just as it did in Carey's time. The same pulpit and pews. As I stood there I felt that I was standing on holy ground. Adoniram Judson was baptized in the baptistry that is still there. The missionaries and workers here, about 200 – gave us a great welcome last night in the old mission church where Henry Martyn preached. That too was a wonderful event. Will write more of that later. Tonight I preach at Youth for Christ and expect some 1000 or more present. Hubert says many Hindus and Mohammedans will be present. These few lines are to acknowledge your letters have received on arrival and to answer some of the questions they contain. Best wishes,

L.T.T.

*[Written in top left corner of the letter]*

Copy to Mrs LTT