

... ! Your letters and messages have all been received. We were stunned by them - for awful as we knew things must be, we had no idea they were and are so bad. We have seen other reports too. How little did we realize the hardships and dangers of S. How wonderful he and the others have been!

After reading the reports, I took the one from S. to read to the "big boss." He told me that he had heard much from certain persons (H. in the G.) and of their regret and disappointment and distress. Evidently S's reports to the authorities had been duly relayed, but I judge that the persons who received it are just as powerless as those on the ground. But he asked me to read and I did - while he listened with bowed head. When I had finished there was silence - he just sat without lifting his head. His shame was pitiful to see. Then in answer to my question as to whether something could be done or not he said "Nothing - frogs and snakes and beasts are at large", but I said "Think if this word is noised about" and he replied "Alright - it should be - It will be well if the world knows our weakness. Immorality is death. We will suffer for this. Punishment will fall on us." He said much else and included in it the word that some news is beginning to filter through in private letters and many country people are becoming worried. I said "Will you give me a message for our friends who were with us until a short time ago?" and he said "You write yourself and tell them what I have said." Then he thanked me for telling him and said "When a mad dog is on the road we can do nothing but set a trap."

I have told only two others - <sup>a doctor</sup> the man whose little girl was a friend of Bobby's and our own helper here. They were both stunned with grief and humility.

Just the other day I heard of a student in a Christian school who refused to take part in a certain celebration and said, "I cannot shout hurrah with the cries of 'see' people in my ears." Other such reports come in from time to time. But to offset it, the rationalization is terrible. " . . . .

*my boy*  
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