

The Orient.

Aug. 10, 1910

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 17

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE

had its origin in a spontaneous and widespread desire on the part of Evangelical Christian people in different churches and countries for a visible association which might manifest and promote Christian Unity and Co-operation. At a remarkable Conference of 800 Christians in Freemason's Hall, London, August, 1846, the Alliance had its birth. The meeting was composed of members of the Church of England, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Methodists, Baptists, Lutherans, Reformed Moravians and others, and included many distinguished divines and philanthropists from Germany, France, Switzerland, America and other countries, as well as from the United Kingdom.

The doctrinal basis of the Alliance is comprehensive of the common faith of all true Christians from the beginning; if emphasis is laid upon one part of that faith more than another it is upon the "Divine Inspiration, Authority and Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures," and the proper Deity and Humanity and Atoning work of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as the one source of salvation and the centre of all true Christian union and fellowship:—

1. UNION OF CHRISTIANS.

Branches of the Alliance were quickly formed throughout Evangelical Christendom and even among the missionaries of Turkey, India, Japan, &c. They now exist in one hundred countries of the world. Some of the most practical work of the Alliance has been in the Mission Field where the healing of differences between Christian workers has resulted in definite spiritual revival and the salvation of souls. Eleven International Conferences have now been held in the great capitals of the Christian world, and while they resemble the Ecumenical Councils of the Roman or Greek Church in their widespread influence, they differ from them in having neither disciplinary nor legislative rights, but only moral and spiritual power. At these Conferences Christians from all countries, speaking many languages, are brought together for united worship, for brotherly intercourse and for free discussion. They have proved that freedom of conscience and Christian Union are not merely not antagonistic, but *essential* to each other; that freedom is the basis of union and union the result and support of freedom. Each of these eleven International Conferences has been, moreover, of a special missionary character, drawing together missionary forces from all parts of the world. The printed programme of each Conference has had one section devoted to World-Missionary effort, while one day of the Universal Week of Prayer is annually devoted to Foreign Missions.

2. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

As these sacred words are capable of misuse and perversion, we wish to say that we use them in their fullest and most restricted sense in which they are understood in Protestant countries, especially in Great Britain and America. Freedom of conscience as distinguished from mere toleration is the birthright of every man, and with it goes that freedom of worship which it is the duty of governments to protect. The Alliance is the only organisation in the world that comes to the aid of those who are persecuted for the faith of Christ. It has accomplished much, more than can be told here, in Spain, Sweden, Tuscany, Russia and other Christian countries, but some of its most important work for religious liberty has been done in Mohammedan or heathen lands. Thus it aided in inducing the Sultan of Turkey to abolish the death penalty for apostasy from Islam in his dominions after the Crimean War and so paved the way for the recent proclamation of complete freedom of worship in Turkey. In 1872 it sent a deputation to the embassy from Japan and America and Europe to remonstrate against the persecution of Christians, including Roman Catholics, in that distant Empire, and the persecution ceased. The Nestorians in Persia appealed to the Alliance for protection against a Mohammedan government, and not in vain. The result of these and similar efforts is that in every mission land with a recognised and responsible government the Alliance has come to be looked upon as a court of appeal for those oppressed for Christ's sake. Its unsectarian character, its freedom from all political trammels and its worldwide ramifications qualify and entitle it to make petition or protest to any government in the world, and have always secured it a respectful hearing.

3. UNIVERSAL WEEK OF PRAYER.

Not the least important of the Alliance's operations is the organisation of the Week of Prayer commencing with the first Lord's Day of each year. While such a week was observed in London and other British centres from the first inception of the Alliance its development into a concert of prayer by Christians in different lands was due to the English and American missionaries at Ludhiana, India, who urged this extension of the original scheme. This was in 1859 and the Missionary Conference held in Liverpool in 1860, having considered a proposal for the setting apart of special prayer for Missions at the commencement of 1861, expressed their earnest hope that such a plan might be carried into effect. One of the Ludhiana Missionaries, the Rev. Mr. Morrison, then addressed a letter to the Alliance proposing that their call to

prayer should now be addressed to Christians in every part of the world. Thus, happily, at the instance of missionaries was inaugurated that Week of Prayer which has become Universal. The annual invitation to observe the first complete week of the new year in this way bears the signatures of well-known men in many lands and is responded to by Christians all over the world. It is particularly gratifying to note that the whole of the Protestant Missionary Societies, the British and Foreign Bible Society and the Religious Tract Society, cordially co-operate with the Evangelical Alliance each year in circulating the programme of Prayer for the week throughout the mission fields of the world. The recent revival in China is said to have commenced with the Week of Prayer, and the Alliance pays annually for the translation of its Programme or Syllabus of Prayer into Chinese and other languages, and for its circulation to mission stations in many lands.

4. EVANGELISTIC WORK.

The Alliance is engaged in various enterprises of direct Gospel work at home and abroad. Its evangelical and missionary character, its worldwide interests and influence and its comprehensive platform supply an approved agency through which the preaching of the Gospel of Christ may be effectively promoted. The Christian Union and Co-operation which it represents is the most urgent need of the present times.

A SUCCESSFUL CISTERN.

At annual meeting, when a brief talk was given on cistern-building, a promise was made of written directions. As missionaries and others in many places are greatly troubled in obtaining reliable drinking water, the experience of one who has successfully made a score of cisterns may be of much value; it is therefore given here.

Make the cistern underground, first, to keep the water cool, second, to prevent the breeding of insects.

Make it circular or oval, to get the benefit of the arch form, admitting of much thinner walls. If the wall is brick, the length of one brick is sufficient for the thickness of the wall—if stone, one foot, or fifteen inches—ofcourse laid in lime.

The bottom should be covered with six or eight inches of stone laid in lime, or with lime, gravel and sand mixed and well pounded down. The top can be covered with a low brick arch, or, better, if iron joists can be had, such as are used in building, they should be laid across about sixty centimes (two feet) apart, and arched between with brick (easily done by setting a wooden arch-form under, and laying the brick over it).

Cover the side and bottom of the cistern with 1st, a coat of plaster three parts sharp sand and one part Russian or Portland cement, 2nd, one additional coat half sand, half cement.

As soon as the cement is well set, fill the cistern with any decently clean water, and let it stand two or three months in water. Then drain off the water and wash the walls and bottom well. It is now ready to receive drinking water.

THE ROOF.

A roof with porous tiles will never fill a cistern. Some non-absorbent material must be used for roofing—iron, steel, tin, Marseilles or cement tiles, or slate. Tar-roofing will spoil the water. The eave-troughs and conductors must be so made that birds cannot nest in them—fasten gauze wire over them,

At the mouth of the cistern a section of the conductor must be made to turn aside and run off outside, the first washing of the roof when a rain comes. Fit a good cover over the mouth of the cistern, to keep out toads, beetles etc.

In drawing water, throw a bucket down, or use a chain pump, to keep the water stirred and aerated.

Such cistern water as this is far preferable for drinking, to any other except that coming direct from mountain springs, and even to that in one respect—there is no lime in it. For washing, of course, it is preferable, as hard water is a great soap-destroyer. It is as free as possible from germs, provided the roof is well washed.

Water, flies, mosquitoes and rats are the main vehicles of disease.

Marsovan, Aug. 3, 1910.

CHAS. C. TRACY

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The executive committee of the Bardizag Y. M. C. A. united a number of leading men of the town to present to them the claims and usefulness of that work. Much sympathy and a hearty desire to cooperate in the work was manifested by those who were invited. Partly at their suggestion the executive decided to organize the following committees to assist them, the chairman of each committee being a member of the executive;—Reading-room and finance committee; Sunday public meetings (Lusaran) committee; Religious meetings committee; Evening school committee; Membership and social committee.

The next number of the «Parosse» is to be a double number for June and July. It is now in press. Advertisements are solicited to help this enterprise. Address, «Parosse», Bardizag, Ismidt.

In Talas and Caesarea, as well as in a neighbouring town, boys' and young men's clubs have been successfully organized. In these clubs evening school, socials and gymnastics play a prominent part. Those members of the clubs who are Christians have their Sunday meetings; and this winter a large number of others (also club members) attended stereoscopic-addresses on the lives of Jesus and of St. Paul, delivered mainly by Rev. Mr. Fowle.

The International Committee of the Y. M. C. A.'s of North America have undertaken to raise this year the sum of \$1,080,000 for forty three buildings.

It a recent meeting of the officers of the world's student Christian Federation it was decided unanimously that both Miss Rouse and Mr. Mott should spend, if possible, a full three months in the Levant. This will probably be during a period beginning sometime in February. Miss Rouse (93 Chancery Lane, London, S. W.) and Mr. Mott (124 East 28th St., New York) are the general-secretaries of the federation, Miss Rouse is already well known at Constantinople and at Sofia. Mr. Mott is also well known both because of his years of successful work in the Y. M. C. A. and Student Movement, and also because of his able presidency of the Edinburgh Conference. We expect great things from their visit, especially for the Colleges.

Letters from the colleges in Turkey addressed to Miss Rouse and Mr. Mott and telling of the work done in these places will doubtless be welcomed by them. Such letters addressed to the Orient would benefit a wider circle and are earnestly solicited.

EMPIRE NEWS.

The Capital.

On Friday, August 5, the Representative Assembly of the Armenians met. A stormy session was anticipated in view of the announcement that the question of public meetings in the Churches was to be reopened. But the Patriarch had previously called the leaders of the revolutionary party and secured their promise not to attempt to hold meetings in the churches for the space of three months. According to the constitution it is allowable to reconsider any action of the Assembly after three months have elapsed. In the Assembly the Patriarch made an appeal to both sides for peace and the cessation of strife. This and his sermon last Sunday in Scutari have evidently produced some effect. Nevertheless a meeting held in a hall in Pera by the Constitutional Democratic Party, in which the Tashnagists were denounced, was broken up by Tashnagists. Three persons were wounded and several others were arrested.

The Greek papers confirm the report from Salonica that the application of the new law of the contested Greek Churches in Macedonia is to be based on the census of 1906.

The Greek Patriarchate has completed its memorandum on this subject which is addressed to the Powers in the form of a protest, and, it is said, will be officially presented during this week.

The representative of the Greek Patriarch, Ikiades Effendi, called on the Minister of Justice and presented to him a memorandum prepared by the Greek National assembly in which it was stated that the Patriarch desired to call a General Council. After reading it the Minister handed it back saying that the Government could not accept a memorandum couched in such language. Moreover he stated that the Go-

vernment would not allow the convening of a Council which would be likely to disturb the peace. He asked the representative to inform the Patriarch that this was the Government's final answer.

It is reported through Bulgarian sources that the Greek Patriarch has received an anonymous letter threatening his life in case he fails to settle the question of the contested Churches satisfactorily.

The arrest while entering a church in Galata of an Orthodox Archimandrite, who has been chosen as vicar for Ismailia, has caused considerable excitement at the Patriarchate.

On Thursday, August 4, Rifaat Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. Tsarikoff, Russian Ambassador signed the agreement to refer the adjustment of questions, connected with the war indemnity of the war of 1878, to the Hague Arbitration Tribunal.

It is announced that the Chester negotiations on behalf of the Ottoman American Development Company for the construction of a railway 2000 kilometers in length have failed because the American Government is unwilling to renew the fourth article of the treaty of 1830 respecting the rights of the consular bodies in the case of crime committed by American citizens.

Basturmadjian Effendi, Ottoman Deputy, whose arrest in Batoum was announced last week has been released. The accused was charged with having been a member of a terrorist committee, but the representations made by the Russian Ambassador in Constantinople and the Ottoman Ambassador at St. Petersburg decided the Government to desist from prosecuting its case.

THE PROVINCES.

The funeral of Kevork Keshishian, who was killed by the Tashnagists in Smyrna on July 31, was attended by a very large number of people. In the funeral oration, pronounced after the service in the church, the deceased was memorialized as one who died in defence of the principle of the sanctity of the Church of Christ. At the same time an appeal was made to the people to humble themselves at the grave of this victim of fratricidal strife and instead of allowing it to breed hatred, to make it a means of opening their eyes to see the abyss toward which they are being driven.

Boghos Halladjian, who was seriously wounded in trying to capture the murderer of Keshishian, died in the hospital. His funeral was likewise largely attended and gave expression to the deep sorrow of the Armenian community of Smyrna.

The murderer of these two men, Kaspar Demirdjian, after a long search, was found in Bournova and was placed under arrest.

According to information thus far received the outbreak in the Hauran was due to a long cherished feud on part of a tribe of Druses against an influential family in Basrah-eski-Sham, which had been able to check the Druses in their depredations and in their rebellious attitude toward the Government. Their attack was made on this family and a massacre followed. The Vali of Syria reports that 59 were killed, among them 6 Christians and 12 women. The damage done to property is estimated at 50,000 liras. On August 5 the War Department sent four regiments of infantry two batteries of artillery, and an ambulance corps to the scene of action. To day Sami Pasha is leaving for Syria and will command the expedition in person.

A despatch from Medina announces that a sharp encounter took place near the city between the soldiers and Arab tribesmen known as Cabbilli. The latter succeeded in destroying several villages and palm groves until they came to Djebel-i-Hedjareh, where they met the troops. In the fight that followed the tribesmen were defeated and routed, leaving 23 dead on the field. The losses of the troops were insignificant.

In the city of Sivas and environs the registration of non-Moslem soldiers has been completed with the result that 1104 young men have been enlisted.

OUTBREAK IN TEHERAN.

A despatch from Teheran dated August 7 says that the city is in a state of seige. The police and gendarmes are on guard on the streets and squares. The Bakhtiari have taken possession of the Parliament building. The people have ceased to surrender their fire arms because it has been ascertained that the revolutionists are being disguised in the uniforms of gendarmes. Another despatch reports that the Government has used artillery against the revolutionists, that they have surrendered, that their leaders, Satar Khan and Bakur Khan, have been captured, and that the former is wounded.

NOTES.

Rev. Darwin A. Leavitt of Beloit, Wis, U. S. A. has been appointed to Marash for work in the Theological Seminary. Mr. Leavitt is the son of a former prominent pastor. A brother has been engaged in Y. M. C. A. work in Taulking China, Mr. Leavitt is a graduate of Beloit College and pursued his theological course in Chicago Seminary and Yale Divinity School. In the latter institution he won the fellowship for two years foreign study. His first year was divided between Berlin and Marburg Universities in Germany, and the second was spent in Glasgow University in Scotland. Mr. Leavitt is an enthusiastic Hebrew student and has done much work in

Syriac and Aramaic. The past year has been devoted to a pastorate in Beloit and to teaching in the college.

Mr. Leavitt will reach Marash in company with the Dr. and Mrs. Lee in the autumn.

Mr. Chambers writes from Adana concerning the arrival there of the Missionary Cruise—"The ship reached Mersine in good time with all well on board. Mr. Chambers telegraphed from Smyrna to the Vali requesting him to receive the members of the Cruise which he did very graciously. The deputation had General Beaver and Dr. Beach as their spokesmen, who spoke to the Vali recognizing his conspicuous services in behalf of the unfortunate in his region. The Vali returned the call on the members of the Cruise at the American School in Adana. The friends passed on from Mersine to Beirut well pleased with their visit at Adana."

EDWARD LA FONTAINE & SONS

Established 1845

Angora & Korassandjian Hans; Sirkedji, Constantinople.

A British firm transacting business as Commission Merchants, Coal Merchants, Fire & Marine Insurance Agents, Shipping Agents, Rubber Shoe Merchants etc., etc.

ALSO

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS

This is a new Department, which is being run on up-to-date lines.

We can supply all Pharmaceutical requirements at rock bottom prices, and would esteem the favour of enquiries.

We act as Wholesale depot in Turkey for Messrs Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. of London, and always keep in hand a large and varied Stock of their fine products, which are sold, by agreement, at London list prices.

THE ORIENT

A weekly, English paper published at the American Bible House, Constantinople.

Terms, Annual subscription for Turkey, Bulgaria, Egypt, and Persia 20 piasters gold.

For America, England, and other Countries \$1.00, or 4 shillings.

Single Copies 20 paras, or 1 penny, Special Numbers 40 paras, or twopence.

Cheques, money orders, cash, or stamps in payment for subscriptions or advertising should be sent to W. W. Peet, Esq., Treasurer, American Bible House, Constantinople, Turkey. (Open Mail, via London.)

« تی اورینت » فنانجیئر یوقوشی آمریقان خان.
مدیر مشول صوئیل ق. هاروتیویان

Printed by H. MATTEOSIAN, Constantinople.