

The Orient.

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THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

31st Session (Jan. 3, 1912). It was not until after 4 p. m. that the House was called to order, most of the day having been wasted in fruitless endeavors to reconcile the parties. When the minutes were read, an attempt was made to introduce the account of Saturday's proceedings, when there was no regular session; but this was frustrated by the Opposition. The Grand Vizier then presented the famous amendment to Art. 35 of the Constitution, and said the new cabinet insisted on its being voted. "Gentlemen," he said, "if a deputy elected by 50,000 citizens possesses a considerable power in the conduct of public affairs, how can we deprive the Sovereign over 30,000,000 Ottomans and the Caliph of 300,000,000 Moslems of the right to have a hand in political affairs?" At this, Loutfi Fikri Bey accused Said Pasha of being a liar, and received a public reprimand from the Speaker of the House. Sidki Bey (Aidin) in a long address claimed that this was really not a new cabinet, inasmuch as the cabinet of Said Pasha had not had an adverse vote and had no legal right to resign; and that furthermore, the Chamber had no right to discuss this amendment now, since there were other items on the docket previous to this (referring to the Albanian question); and he ended by presenting a motion that the Senate be consulted as to whether the present cabinet was or was not to be considered a new cabinet. Sabri Hodja (Tokat) gave legal reasons why the claim of the Grand Vizier that the Chamber had by its obstruction virtually rejected the proposed amendment, could not stand, and said it was evident that the cabinet was determined to dissolve the Chamber. Hüsein Djahid Bey, editor of the *Tanin*, expressed his disapproval of this speech by whistling at the learned *hodja*. The Grand Vizier vigorously repudiated the charge of wishing to dissolve the Chamber, and condemned the obstructionist tactics of the Opposition. Seid Bey, leader of the Unionists, refuted the arguments of Sabri Hodja, and moved that the amendment be immediately discussed. At the demand of the Grand Vizier, this motion was put before that of Sidki Bey, but this led to high words and some very plain but unparliamentary appellatives between Ferid Bey, (Kütahia) and Talaat Bey (Adrianople), who were with difficulty separated. Seid Bey's motion was carried, the Opposition having left the room, by a vote of 103 to 2. The Ententists returned for the vote on referring the legal point to the Senate, which motion was defeated, 100 to 90.

32nd Session (Jan. 4). Only a three-hour session in the afternoon was possible today, the morning being occupied

with party consultations. The Opposition were present in force, and adopted dilatory tactics by interruptions and objections without number. All the ministers were present except the Grand Vizier. Ismail Hakki Bey (Bagdad) gave a long explanation of the object of the proposed amendment. He denied that the amending of the Constitution was a blow at the Constitution, saying it was on the contrary intended to strengthen the Constitution. He called attention to the frequency of a dissolution of Parliament in England; and to the fact that a newly elected set of deputies would represent more accurately the national opinion. France also saw frequent dissolutions. The restriction on the power of the Throne to dissolve the Chamber, relating to the consent of the Senate, existed in no other monarchy, and had been introduced from the Constitution of the French Republic, where the Senate was an elective body. If the Chamber had the right to concur for the dissolution of the Senate, it would even up matters; but the present provision gave the Senate a great advantage over the Chamber. Emroullah Effendi, the new Minister of Public Instruction, seconded the remarks of his predecessor, and remarked that the term *tezvirat* which Loutfi Fikri Bey had used regarding the Grand Vizier would do very well for a new name for his paper, the *Teskilat*, the next time it was suppressed, as it has already been the *Tanzimat*, *Tekdirat* etc. Sidki Bey (Aidin) occupied an hour and a half in setting forth the illegality of the procedure of the cabinet, in proposing a Constitutional amendment before they had unfolded their program or obtained a vote of confidence, and especially without the concurrence of the new Sheikh-ül-Islam, who has not yet arrived from Egypt. He said it was not the Sovereign whom the Opposition feared but the Grand Vizier who professed so loudly that he had no desire to dissolve the Chamber while in reality that matter was not in his hands. After some further remarks the discussion was adjourned.

33rd Session (Jan. 6). The great debate on the proposed Constitutional amendment was continued shortly before noon, all the ministers save the Grand Vizier being present. Babanzade Ismail Hakki Bey began by answering the arguments of Sidki Bey; he said the refusal to discuss the project was tantamount to a rejection; that in presenting this amendment the new Cabinet did present its program, and that the vote of the House to discuss it immediately was in reality a vote of confidence; that the fact that Nessib Effendi, whose absence in Egypt prevented him from signing the document, accepted office in Said Pasha's Cabinet showed that he sided with the Cabinet, so that the absence of his signature signified nothing. He closed by begging the Opposition to

cease obstructionist tactics and express themselves on the principles of the amendment. Mr. Daltcheff (Serres) criticised the Government for trying to make itself stronger when the trouble was, it was too strong already. The Government had used illegal force in Albania, Macedonia, and lately at Ishtib, where troubles were due to governmental mistakes. To give such a government more power, would be to reestablish absolutism. In the afternoon session Mr. Boussios (Serfidje) made a memorable speech, a summary of which we give elsewhere. It lasted more than an hour, and was received with great applause. Emroullah Effendi, Minister of Public Instruction, remarked that the question before the House was not as to dissolution, but as to the principle of granting the Sovereign a legitimate right.

NOTES FROM SIVAS.

One serious effect of the cholera epidemic, in which some 400 people died, was the exorbitant price of wood. We were obliged to buy in the summer and bought at ruinous prices. The crops have been good and wheat is cheap so that the poor are fairly comfortable. Late this fall after everyone had secured a supply of wood, the market was flooded, owing to a very late and open winter and now it is literally true that no one needs wood. It is so much cheaper than when we bought that we have borrowed money and are buying our supply for the winter of 1912-13.

Tuition in the schools has never come so easily, indicating that money is more plentiful. Aside from the reasonable price of grain, and the present unusual supply and lack of demand for wood, the cost of all other food supplies is increasing at an alarming rate. The main reason for this condition is, we think, the increasing export of such staples as wheat, flour, butter, cheese, wool, rugs, tobacco, walnuts etc.

Politically Sivas is very quiet. We get little war news. Half of what we get we do not believe and the other half does not seem to excite us much.

The English Architect Mr. Childs, has spent several days in Sivas, drawing preliminary plans for the Normal School, a residence for the Principal and a building for the Girls' High and Boarding School; building permits for the first two have been asked from Constantinople and it is hoped may be issued by spring. The fact that the American Board has shown its approval and cooperation by a grant of \$1320.00, for a missionary residence, to be occupied by the Principal of the School, is a new item of encouragement. It is thus made possible to erect the school building and a residence at the same time, thus removing another obstacle to removal outside the city. While the \$10,000.00 for site and building has been more than raised, it must be manifest, that with the continued rise in the cost of building materials and labor, it will require a united effort on the part of the Alumni and other friends of the School to speedily complete free of debt this new building; but in view of the urgent need, this is what has to be done.

The gradual improvement of industrial conditions on and near the sea coast, the opened door to further study in government schools, and the fear of army service, is driving out of our part of the country hundreds of young men. Not a few of such formerly became teachers. In spite of a 25 to 50% raise in tuition fees in all our schools, we have been crowded as never before with pupils. One reason for the popularity of our schools, aside from their gradual improvement, is the dissatisfaction of the people with their own schools, the result of discord in the School Committee, lack of confidence in them, and their inability to secure teachers of proper training and character. Within a few weeks after school began in the fall we were obliged to refuse new pupils in our whole school system, boys and girls. It is no exaggeration to say that we have turned away hundreds of full paying pupils. Those who will not take a refusal are put on a waiting list and hope that some pupil may fall from his class or be expelled in order to open a place.

Owing to the increase of pupils and the consequent enlarging of the loan library, and the gradual increase in periodical literature and the regular library the book bindery is unable with its present tools and the boys who know the work, to keep up with the demand for binding and repairing. Our laundry-shop, which for a couple of years has been closed, is open again this year, and the pupil who does the work is trying to earn enough to keep his sister in the Girls' Boarding School. He is doing, in addition to laundry work, pressing and cleaning of clothes. The Cabinet shop where 30 boys work is in unusually good condition this year. The demand for our work has increased, both from outside patrons and from within our institutions. Increase of pupils has necessitated a new supply of desks and chairs, and work in preparation for the new buildings will more than fill spare time. In the Girls' School and Orphanage the usual domestic industries are continued, dress-making, weaving, needle-work, housekeeping, etc. The hand work for poor women, carried on by the Y. M. C. A. in cooperation with Miss Graffam, continues to prosper.

E. C. PARTRIDGE.

TREBIZOND.

Trebizond is in mourning over a telegram recently received at the American Consulate, announcing Dr. Jewett's Christmas present of a promotion to Kehl, on the Rhine, in Baden, Germany. When Consul Jewett went to Sivas in 1893, he was but returning to his native place. His father was the American missionary physician in that region for some years. Dr. and Mrs. Jewett, who were transferred to Trebizond in 1906, have made friends among all classes. They have been most helpful in times of sickness and health to all about them; and during temporary absences of the missionaries in charge, they have superintended the schools, and attended to various other details of missionary work.

L. S. C.

MR. BOUSSIOS'S SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Boussios, Greek deputy from Serfidje, delivered on Saturday last a most interesting address anent the proposed amendment to the Constitution. He said in part:—

"When the project was brought up, the Chamber, upon motion of Medjdi Effendi, referred it to the commission that the latter might decide simply whether the proposition of the Cabinet was acceptable in principle. Such a procedure was in accord with Article 116 of the Constitution concerning the revision of clauses of the Constitution. The Commission however did not confine itself to the mandate given it by the Assembly, but examined and modified the proposal of the Government. It submitted to us a long report on this topic. Irregularity number one. In the second place, since the discussion began on this question, members have talked indiscriminately of the rights of the Sovereign, so much so that everybody began to believe that these rights were in danger. There are certain words one should not use too frequently, such as the name of God and the name of the Sovereign; but we keep on repeating them. The rights of the Sovereign have nothing at all to do with this question. As a matter of principle, we cannot deny to the Emperor of the Ottomans a right which the kings of Greece and Bulgaria possess. I was one of those who, during the revision of the Constitution, two years and more ago, fought Article 35 vigorously. I did so because I had good reasons for wishing the Sovereign to have the direct right to dissolve the Chamber. One of these reasons was that I consider the Sovereign as the only defender of the rights of the minority. The Moslems are in the majority in the Empire, and they could adopt legislation detrimental to a nationality belonging to the minority. Therefore, in my opinion, the Crown is the one refuge for those who are the objects of injustice. If any nationality should suffer injustice at the hand of the majority, it could then address the Sovereign and demand a reparation that would be possible by the dissolution of the Chamber,—nay, it could even oblige the Sovereign, by other means which you understand without my naming them, to take the part of that nationality. At that time, because of these words of mine I was stigmatized as a partisan of Abdul Hamid, and an enemy of the rights of the Chamber, of which my opponents were then posing as the champions. Yet at that time Abdul Hamid was already a guest at the Villa Allatini, and we had nothing to fear from our Sovereign, who is an angel in human form. The defenders of Article 35, which has been in force since then, who today demand its modification, said that we must protect the Chamber against every eventuality. I was not of that opinion, for I preferred and I still prefer the tyranny of a single person to the tyranny of a coterie or of a party. In my opinion, a sovereign can never exercise tyranny alone; he must have organs. Even Abdul Hamid could not have exercised tyranny without his *entourage*.

"Let us lay aside sovereignty and think of private life. Do we not see underlings exercising an arbitrary authority in the name of their master, while he himself is innocent?"

"But the object of the party that today wishes to modify this Article was to make sure its own omnipotence, for it was then in the majority, and for that reason it wished to curtail the rights of the Sovereign, who, by the way, is irresponsible. That party did not then foresee, that every medal has its obverse and perchance there would come a day when the weapon it wished to make sure of would turn against it. They seem to have forgotten the proverb that he who sows the wind shall reap the whirlwind.

"This unforeseen moment has now arrived, and to it we owe all these machinations. A question has arisen, and under color of safeguarding the rights of the Sovereign, they are trying to ensure their own power. To secure the desired result, they do not hesitate to expose the Sovereign to the gaze of the nation. Not every one can understand the secret objects of this modification, and many will ask whether the best of Sovereigns has also been changed.

"Why are the Government and the Party of Union and Progress in such haste to have this amendment passed? Said Pasha tells us we ought to grant the Sovereign a right accorded by all Constitutions to their Sovereigns. Has Said Pasha not found anything else in foreign Constitutions that might be profitable for us? In any case he might have proposed the amendment and had it discussed without making a cabinet question out of it or demanding its immediate settlement. But his object is to give us our passports. Yet why is he urged to wish to dissolve us? If it is because we are accomplishing nothing useful, the fault is in the disorder that reigns in our debates, a disorder for which the President is responsible, since he does not apply the rules, and the Ministers are responsible, for they do not know how to lead us. When has the Grand Vizier ever come to ask us to pass a law which we have failed to pass? Since the opening of the session, the Grand Vizier has appeared a dozen times before the Chamber, but only to pick a quarrel with us. You doubtless recall that Nedjmeddin Bey by insisting made us pass two important laws. Why does not the Minister of War imitate his example as concerning the enlistment bill, which has been dragging through the Chamber three years without a vote? As for our relations among ourselves, despite conflicts on questions of principle there is not a single instance of discord outside of this hall.

"If, on the other hand, the Government demands dissolution because of the war, I do not believe the Chamber would be an obstacle for the Government, for during these three months no question has been put to it on this subject. And if it concerns the concluding of peace, as Said Pasha tried to indicate, I do not see how the Chamber should prevent him in that. If the conditions of peace are good, so much the better; if on the contrary they are against us, if the Government and the party behind it find them acceptable, the other deputies also will be obliged to accept them. While the dissolution would have some inconvenient consequences, the chief one of which would be a diminution of the prestige of the Throne in case the party in power should lose at the elections that would take place on the basis of the modification.

You members of the Union and Progress party raise each question with the one object of keeping yourselves in power. You formerly accused Abdul Hamid of keeping hold of his power to exercise his tyranny; and now you do all in your power to imitate him.

"We do not accept the amendment because we do not wish to leave the country in your power. Till now you have used every device to keep yourselves in the saddle: new ideas, Islamism, the emigration of Moslems. And now you are exploiting the rights of the Sovereign; while the Grand Vizier whom you uphold does not even respect the promises of the Sovereign concerning the agreement. You consider your fall from power as the beginning of the reign of anarchy; but where is your former prestige? This hall tells the story. The Centre is being gradually emptied, and your partisans are leaving you. Spite of your efforts you cannot deny that you no longer have the majority; for a party that musters only 100 votes in an assembly composed of 280 members cannot in any country pretend to have a majority. My last bit of advice, hard as it is, is to leave the power to others and to retire to rest from your labors, and to learn from experience whether the task of the Opposition is as easy as you pretend it is."

WHAT DO THE ALBANIANS WANT?

In an interview granted to a contemporary, the editor of the Albanian paper *Shkipetar* outlined the legitimate demands of his people as being of three sorts: administrative, educational and economic. In the administrative department, he said the central government ought to choose most carefully the best possible governors-general for the vilayets of Kossovo, Monastir, Yanina and Scutari, and then allow them great liberty in nominating their mütesarrifs and kaimakams, that there might be real harmony and success in the actual carrying out of justice. This at present is often frustrated by the local officials. Secondly, the opening of schools by the government with instruction in the Albanian language, will promote peace and secure tranquillity far better than fire and sword could. The High School at Elbasan must be reopened, where, before Torghoud Shevket Pasha's recent campaign, 150 young Albanians were being trained, regardless of religious differences. Other national boarding schools must be opened where none have existed. The expense involved would not be very great. And thirdly, Albanians need good roads. In winter, communication between villages, and even between cities, is cut off because there are no bridges and no good roads. Carriage roads and railroads will benefit the Government, for the wealth of mines, forests and plains will become accessible. The forwarding of agriculture can be compassed best by model farms and the introducing of modern farming implements. Such measures, said the Editor, will ensure the continued fidelity of the Albanians to the Ottoman Government.

PRESIDENT BLISS'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The forty-fifth annual report of the Syrian Protestant College to its Board of Trustees has just been published. It gives the total number of students as 875, but a note of later date from the President says it has reached 882, which is the highest on record. More significant still is the fact that 56.8 % are in the upper departments of the University. The geographical distribution shows that 584 come from Syria, 192 from Egypt, 53 from Asia Minor, 21 from Mesopotamia, 20 from Russia. Cyprus, Abyssinia, Greece, Persia, Poland, Roumania, Macedonia, and even Peru, Haiti and Singapore are represented. In connection with this it is interesting to note the residences of the alumni, 57.7 % of whom are in Syria, Asia Minor and Cyprus, 33.8 % in Egypt and the Sudan, 6.6 % in America, 2 % in Europe, 1 % in South America and 1.4 % in Australia and elsewhere. This is out of a total of nearly 1,000 graduates. As for the religious census of the present students, 312 are Greek Orthodox, 170 Protestants, 128 Moslems, 91 Jews, 39 Greek Catholics, 32 Druzes, 29 Maronites, 27 Gregorians, etc.

A number of additions to the faculty and teaching staff are noted, including the return of Professors R. B. Reed and H. N. Irwin, and the coming of Rev. C. L. Carhart as Librarian, Prof. A. R. Dray, M. D., D.D.S., to the Department of Dental Surgery, and Dr. E. St. J. Ward to that of Surgery. The growth of the institution toward its destiny as a full-fledged University is clearly seen in the pages of this report. Several new buildings have just been opened or are in process of erection. Improvement and enlargement are the mottoes of the School of Medicine; the School of Dentistry is established; the Nurses' Training School and the School of Pharmacy are gaining in favor; the School of Commerce with its four years' course has about sixty students; and the trustees have approved in principle of three new departments, — Engineering, Law and Agriculture. The positive and emphatic place of the Y. M. C. A. in the life of the institution is a guarantee of the high moral and spiritual tone among the students. And the successful establishment of the College journal, *Al Kulliyeh*, is an attainment of which the institution may be proud. It appears eight times during the year, costs one dollar, and has over four hundred subscribers. Three of the professors give considerable time each to this organ, which enables alumni and friends to keep in touch with the varied interests of the College.

A system of admission from certain recognized secondary schools by certificate to the Freshman class has been so extended as to grant this privilege, under wise restrictions, to a number of other schools.

Of unusual interest is the report given of the George E. Post Hall Museums, including those of Zoology, Economics, Archæology and Botany. Also the Librarian's report, which shows that the library is actually being used, 778 students and officers having drawn during the year a total of 17,193 volumes. Would that every college library might be able to make a correspondingly good showing.

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EDITORIAL.

The little weekly news bulletin issued by Central Turkey College is full of interest. Owing to increased equipment, the college press has been obliged to enlarge its quarters.

Investigations are being actively prosecuted relative to the disappearance of certain official documents from the Sublime Porte. Two suspects are in custody, but others are supposed to be implicated.

Last Sunday was Christmas day; next Sunday will be New Year's day; and the following Friday will be Christmas day again. This is more confusing than having a double day going eastward across the Pacific!

If any of our readers have copies of *The Orient* for Feb. 1st, 1911, which they are willing to spare, the office will be glad to pay a piastre each for several copies, in order to be able to fill orders for bound volumes of Vol. I. Please send such as soon as possible.

There never was a year in the history of this Empire when there was greater need for united and earnest prayer during this Week of Prayer for the country itself. With an unrighteous war abroad, with turmoil and party conflict within, and the shadow of an epidemic darkening the horizon, there are plenty of external topics for prayer; but the most urgent and crying need is from the lack of true spirituality among the churches and the growth of agnosticism and unbelief among the peoples.

An interesting question has been raised by some of the natives of this country, in connection with the big Kennedy legacy to Robert College. The question does not refer to Robert any more than to Anatolia, International, Central Turkey, or other institutions, save as the money involved is in this particular instance greater than in other instances. The problem concerns the best use of the funds at the command of such educational plants. Shall they be applied to the addition of another floor to the structure, or to laying broader foundations? In other words, do the best interests of the Near East demand the addition of another year or two of

work for those in search of a diploma, or the stiffening of courses already offered, or do they rather demand more primary and preparatory schools as feeders to the big institutions? Those in search of schools for their eight- and ten-year-old children profess that they cannot find schools where they dare put them, the morals of existing schools (especially in the Capital) are so bad. They say: Instead of starting engineering courses for a very few pupils, at very high cost for machinery and equipment, why not put the same amount of money into the starting of preparatory schools with the same high grade of moral and religious training, at points where large numbers would gladly attend, and where they might be feeders for your Colleges?

Probably no College ever received any considerable sum of money but that its president was the recipient of a large number of valuable suggestions as to the best method of getting rid of it. The plan urged upon Robert College, of opening a theological course with part or the whole of the Kennedy bequest, has already been mentioned. The question, however, is a more universal one, and refers not alone to the starting of high schools at Brousa and Ordou, but to the general question whether, considering the present standing of the Turkish, Armenian, Greek and other schools of this empire as character-builders, — not alone as to their scholarship but more particularly as to their moral influence, — better work can be done toward raising up well-equipped servants of the State and of humanity by raising the requirements for a College diploma, or by starting post-graduate courses of study, to compete with the European universities, or by giving a larger number of boys and girls a chance to obtain a high-school education under the best spiritual influences. It is a problem that may well occupy the minds of our educators; and we invite expressions of opinion from them on the subject.

THE PERSIAN CRISIS.

Russia has apparently abandoned all thought of an immediate march on Teheran, and is diverting her troops from Kazvin to Resht. On the other hand, she is strengthening her position in Tabriz by severe repressive measures. On the most sacred day of the Persian Holy Week, the 10th of Mouharrem, they hanged the Sikat-ul-Islam, the greatest ecclesiastic in Azerbaijan, and two other clerics and the principal members of the Anjuman in the public square of that city. What effect this may have regarding anti-foreign feeling in the Empire, is a grave question.

The ex-Shah is again causing trouble, and his brother and coadjutor, Salar-ed-Dowleh, has seized Kermanshah, from which at last accounts he had not yet been dislodged.

As for Mr. Shuster's successor, the Persian Government has evidenced such stout opposition to the appointment of M. Mornard, who was a bitter opponent of Mr. Shuster, that it seems probable that Russia will not insist on his acceptance. In that event, a Dutch candidate may be appointed as a compromise.

THE TRAINING OF ARMENIAN ORPHANS.

Bishop Nerses Tanielian of Aleppo writes a letter to the *Rahnüma* of Dec. 30th, criticising the management of orphanages in the Aleppo and Adana provinces, which are under American and German management. The two main counts are on the subject of language instruction and of religious training. He complains not merely that instruction in the Armenian language is deficient in these Turkish-speaking regions, but that it is the policy of the American and German missionaries to give these Armenian children the Turkish language to the exclusion of Armenian, on the ground that Turkish is the official language of the country and the only necessary one. So far as the orphanages under American supervision are concerned, we doubt the accuracy of the learned Bishop's charges. It is perfectly possible, however, as the editor of the *Rahnüma* points out, that more attention should be paid to what ought to be the mother-tongue of these orphans, and possibly those in charge may see fit to secure for them a better training in this department. But that there has been any systematic attempt to stifle national feeling by refusing to teach the language (to a majority of the Armenian dwellers in Cilicia an acquired language still), we do not believe.

The second charge brought is that these unfortunate orphans are deprived of the ministrations of their church, that the priests are not allowed to enter the orphanages to teach, and the children are not allowed to attend the church services. We have not yet ascertained to what extent the facts are as stated, nor are we inclined to pass judgment before both sides are given a fair hearing. It is not difficult to imagine circumstances in which it might be impracticable for small children to be taken long distances to church, especially at hours that would interfere with the regulations of the orphanages. On the other hand, an investigation might show that neither the guardians of these orphans nor the orphans themselves regarded such restrictions as a spiritual deprivation, inasmuch as an adequate substitute was offered in the institution. Another fact should also be noted, namely, that by placing a child in an institution under missionary control, the friends or relatives tacitly consent to its being brought under distinctively evangelical influences; and it is always understood that the religious training of children in missionary institutions is confided, not to the priests of the old churches, but to the persons in charge of the institutions. No doubt the zealous Bishop himself, — who is no bigoted fanatic but an open-minded seeker after truth, — would agree that the moral and spiritual influences in these orphanages are strong and helpful. Why, then, insist on adherence to the formality of attendance in a particular church? Here again the writer of the letter places it on grounds of national patriotism, and in this he makes a false move. The Evangelical Armenian body is every whit as patriotic as the Gregorian body, fully as eager for the development of the Armenian spirit, so far as this is conformable with loyalty to the

Ottoman Constitution, and at least as eager for the spiritual regeneration of the Armenian people. And we feel certain that an examination of the record of those young men and young women who, in the course of these past fifteen years, have gone out into life after a training in these orphanages, will show an average of efficient, energetic, constructive, patriotic Christianity of which the institutions will have no reason to be ashamed.

AN ABLE GREEK DEPUTY.

The Turkish daily *Ikdäm* says: —

The history of the Ottoman Constitution will consecrate pages of eulogy to Mr. Boussios, deputy for Serfidje. In the debate on Article 35 this deputy in his critical examination gave a clear portrait of a page in our modern history. His words not only made a profound impression on the Chamber, but also called forth from the galleries shouts of "Long live Boussios."

Every one knows that if there is any body who, when he speaks, fears no one but God, it is Mr. Boussios. The deputy for Serfidje not only has the gift of courageous speech, but he is also clear and impartial. The constituency that elected Mr. Boussios should consider itself fortunate. A stranger accosted us with astonishment: "Really, the Opposition has some able orators."

The criticisms of Mr. Boussios referred to many points. He shook the Government and the governmental party both together. He laid bare and explained all the mistakes and irregularities committed. Neither legislative nor administrative nor social errors, — nothing escaped him. When one reads with care the speech he made, one can understand why the country has been so badly administered these three years and a-half. Mr. Boussios made such significant allusions that whoever heard them could not but reflect most seriously. He said: "You speak of a coup d'Etat against the Constitution. But this is not true; in fact, the question is whether the Constitution exists, so that it might be an object of attack." And he gave proofs that the constitutional laws were not respected, and that the governmental party no longer had the majority, and therefore could not form a cabinet.

The deputy for Serfidje forgot one fact, a cabinet in a constitutional state, in order to be able to work, must have at least to a degree the approval of the other parties. In France M. Briand did not consider it enough to have the vote of the majority, but, not having received the relative approval of the minority, resigned. But that was M. Briand and that was France. There, there are no persons who grasp after offices of state and are eager for power, who can say, After me the deluge.

Mr. Boussios, addressing the Union and Progress party, said: "You think it is easier to be in the Opposition than to form the Government party. Very well! Take your place there, the ranks are open; pass over to this side, and we will pass into the centre, and then you will see if we are able to

put *men* in power!" This was very well said; for the Unionists avoid the question, alleging that there are no men in the Opposition. But it is quite possible that they themselves are the ones who lack men. We know a large number of persons who are completely neutral but who possess qualifications equal to those of any Minister in Europe. But they do not come into power, since they cannot agree with the Unionists.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

An unusually violent south wind during the latter part of last week, which drove a German steamer ashore off Leander's Tower and wrecked several vessels in the Aegean and the Black Sea, brought torrential rains on Sunday and Monday. Monday evening it whisked around to the north, with an electric storm, and Tuesday morning the city woke to find itself under a thick blanket of snow. The aforesaid steamer was towed off the bar. Traffic by railroad has been seriously crippled by these storms, on both Anatolian and Oriental Railroads; the Eastern Cable has been severed near the Dardanelles, and the telegraph lines between Constantinople and Salonica and Smyrna are cut, there being over 100 poles down between here and Choriou.

The Albanians of this city are much pleased at the appointment of Abdurrahman Nessib Effendi as Sheikh-ül-Islam, inasmuch as he is of Albanian blood. They have decided to send a delegation to the Dardanelles to meet him on his arrival from Egypt.

Talaat Bey not having accepted the portfolio of the Interior, Memdouh Bey, Minister of Justice and Religions, is in temporary charge of that ministry as well.

The Arabic daily *El Medine* and the Turkish daily *Meslek*, with its lineal descendent *Yeni Yol*, have all been suppressed within the week.

The *Rahnüma*, at the close of its first year, has a circulation of 2000.

The executive committee of the Constantinople Chapter of the American National Red Cross has been reorganized, and is now constituted as follows: His Excellency William Woodville Rockhill, Chairman; Miss Barnette Miller, Ph. D., Vice-Chairman; Hon. G. Bie Ravndal, Secretary; W. W. Peet, Esq., Treasurer; President C. F. Gates, D.D., Rev. Marcellus Bowen, D.D., and Mrs. Etta D. Marden.

For two weeks the Senate has held no sessions at all, there being no business for it to discuss.

An imperial irade sanctions the forming of a bank in this city under the name of "Banque de Credit Ottoman," the concession being given to Senator Süleiman el Bistani and Company.

The Grand Vizier has for several days been confined to his *konak* by a cold, but has been able to transact such business as could be brought there.

THE PROVINCES.

Another bomb explosion at Ishtib is reported, by which a gendarmerie station was partly destroyed, but nobody was injured.

La Liberté announces the assassination of an English engineer, Mr. Barnard, in the employ of an American lico-rice firm (McAndrews and Forbes?) at Antioch, in Syria.

The Italo-Turkish war has receded to the inside pages of even the local dailies. Rumors of approaching peace are gaining credence. Egypt is zealously guarding her frontier in order to maintain a strict neutrality; a Turkish officer with thirteen Syrian camelmen was arrested on Jan. 2nd when about to cross the frontier, and will be sent back to Turkey.

More than 200 major operations were performed at the Azariah Smith Hospital, Aintab, in the three months ending Dec. 16th 1911. The number of difficult abdominal operations was very exceptional.

NOTES.

Miss Robertson, of the Smyrna Collegiate Institute is spending the holidays with Dr. and Mrs. Barnum at Gedik Pasha.

Miss I. F. Dodd, Litt. D., of the American College for Girls, has gone to Konia to visit her brother during the Christmas vacation.

Miss Hester D. Jenkins, formerly of the American College for Girls, received on Dec. 16th the degree of Ph. D. from Columbia University, her dissertation being on "Ibrahim Pasha, Grand Vizier of Süleiman the Magnificent." Dr. Jenkins has accepted a position in Adelphi College, Brooklyn, as acting professor of sociology.

Mr. Leadbeater, of the International College, Smyrna, has gone to Bardizag for the winter holidays.

Prof. and Mrs. Warren, of the Department of Architecture at Columbia University, are spending some weeks at Robert College, and are guests of Pres. Gates.

Mr. George Horton, who has been American Consul at Salonica since 1910, and who was previously at Athens from 1893 to 1898 and 1905 to 1910, has been promoted to be Consul-General at Smyrna. Mr. Lucius Memminger, who has been Vice-Consul at Smyrna, has been transferred to Paris in a similar capacity; and Dr. Milo A. Jewett, Consul at Trebizond, and formerly for many years Consul at Sivas, has been promoted to Kehl, in Baden. The many friends of Dr. Jewett and Mr. Memminger in Turkey will regret their departure from the country, and trust that it may be but temporary. The new Consul at Salonica is Mr. J. E. Kehl, who has been Consul at Stettin, Germany, and Sydney, Nova Scotia.

Prof. Sill of Cornell, after visiting Dr. and Mrs. Manning of Robert College for a few days, left for Athens last Saturday.

Miss E. M. Trowbridge made three trips the past fall among the villages near Aintab. She was able to visit about fifteen Mohammedan villages, being in most cases the guest of grateful former hospital patients.

OTHER LANDS.

Rear-Admiral Robley D. Evans, familiarly known as "Fighting Bob," died Jan. 4th, aged 66. He served as an ensign in the Civil War, and commanded the battleship "Iowa" in the war with Spain. He was commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet on its tour of the world in 1907.

According to the *Souret-i-Müstakim*, a certain Baron Hakki and his son-in-law Hanano with his wife have been converted to Islam in Japan, the ceremony taking place at Tokio on the first day of Bairam.

Dr. Griffith John, the veteran English missionary to China, has returned to England in impaired health at the age of 81, after over 50 years of work in China.

Mr. Monic, the first Montenegrin aviator, fell into the water while flying over Lake Shkodra, and was drowned.

The Greek Chamber of Deputies closed its work and adjourned last Wednesday, thus making possible the release of those Cretans who, on attempting to go to Athens and force themselves on the Chamber, had been made prisoners on a French warship in Suda Bay.

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LONDON.

The Student Volunteer Missionary Union of Great Britain held during the past week a very successful Convention at Liverpool. 2092 delegates were in attendance, including 150 foreign delegates. 201 of the British Universities and Colleges were represented.

Moukhtar Bey, Ottoman Consul-General at Budapest, will be sent to Athens as Minister Plenipotentiary.

As a result of the tennis matches played in New Zealand, Australasia retains the Davis Cup by defeating America five matches to none. W. A. Larned strained a tendon in his leg, and B. C. Wright was unable to play his last match owing to illness.

The province of Mongolia having declared itself independent of the Chinese Empire, there have been rumors that Russia was about to take possession of the province. A despatch from Peking states that the Russian Government has notified the Chinese Government that the autonomy of Northern Mongolia regarding all her internal affairs must be recognized, and that Russia will aid Mongolia in maintaining order; furthermore, that while China will be allowed to oversee the foreign relations of Northern Mongolia, she must not send troops there!

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