

The Orient.

May 11, 1910

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 4

KING EDWARD VII.

It is a painful duty to announce the death of King Edward, which occurred on Friday, May 6th, at 11:45 p.m., after a brief illness of only two days' duration. His sudden death brought consternation to all classes and has plunged the British nation into mourning for a great and universally beloved Sovereign. The character of King Edward, as a Ruler and a man, is attested by the universal sorrow expressed in all the countries of the world at the loss of one who devoted the gifts of his statesmanship and the influences of his authority and friendship to the cause of international amity and peace.

In commenting on his death the *Tanin* says that the Ottomans fully share the sorrow of the British nation, and that the death of King Edward, who was a sincere friend of the Ottomans, has saddened all the friends of peace and humanity throughout the world.

The *Yeni Gazetta* says that King Edward sacrificed his life for the progress and development of humanity and that his loss is deeply felt by the Ottoman Nation.

The funeral of the King will take place on May 20.

According to the Turkish papers it has been decided that Prince Yousouf Izzeddin Heir to the Throne will represent the Sultan at the funeral and that the Ottoman Government will be represented by a delegation composed of Senators and Deputies under the presidency of Rifaat Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

74th Session (April 18). A vizierial letter was read which stated that the Ministry of Justice did not regard as necessary any further action on the bill, once presented and rejected, bearing on the theft of animals. The House confirmed its previous vote. The following were sent to Committees, a bill on land commerce, a bill on rice cultivation (amended by the Senate), and a bill regulating the salaries of municipal surgeons and druggists. It was voted to attach to the examination of the Budget the question of the creation of a county, bearing the name Tchamluk, within the province of Yania, and to inform the Ministry of the Interior accordingly. The report on the amendment to the bill bearing on the salaries of officers of the first Reserves was placed on the docket, also the report on the establishment of branches of the Agricultural Bank in Basrah and Bagdad, and the report on adapting the bill of civil pensions to the needs of the clergy. The report of the Military Committee, refusing the Government's proposition to exempt from the law on age limits those who have rendered some patriotic service was

accepted. The bill of military service was then taken up. A petition, signed by many and asking that the 2d art. be amended to reduce the entire term of service to 20 years and the active term to 2 years, was rejected by a vote of 144 to 43. The 4th art., which bears on service in the Navy, was returned to the Committee with instructions to reduce the service of reserves from 5 to 3 years, and the entire term to 18 years. The 5th art. on the age limits for military service was returned to the Committee for clearer wording. Then was taken up the amendment to the bill relating to a state of siege, which came from the former Ministry under the name of guerrilla bands. After a prolonged debate the discussion was closed and the House adjourned.

75th Session (April 19). A bill outlining the rights and mutual obligations of employees and capitalists was returned from the Committee, read, and placed on the docket. The bill on pensions for the clergy was reserved for consideration when the minister of Finance could be present. The bill on property taxes was read for the second time. The first 11 articles were passed with only slight alterations, the 12th after lengthy discussion was returned to the Committee.

76th Session (April 20). A vizierial letter with reference to the salaries of the *Ottoman History* Committee was referred to the Committee on Finance. The amendment on the 9th Art. of the bill treating of the method of liquidating commercial debts in the province of Adana and the communications from the Senate, bearing on the amended bill for military surgeons and druggists, were referred to the judicial and military Committees. The question of the lead-silver mine of Bulgar Dag, and the report of the Committee on the assessment, for the benefit fund of Mecca and Medina, on Government salaries in excess of 25,000 piasters (about \$ 1,100), a month were placed on the docket. The second reading of the bill on property taxes was begun. The 12th again became a subject for discussion. The Socialists defended the system of taxes based on a progressive ratio, whereas Djavid Bey, the Minister of Finance, considered the system of proportional ratio as the fairest and most practical form. In reply to a question the Minister of Foreign Affairs stated that the better portion, of lands in Thessaly were in the hands of Osmanlis and that the Greek Government protected their rights to the full. The struggle between the Socialists and Anti-Socialists was renewed over the property tax question, and after a heated debate the 12th article with accompanying resolutions was returned to the Committee. The 13th and 15th articles were passed, as also the 14th after a slight change.

ROBERT COLLEGE

Mr. Cleveland Dodge of New York, President of the Board of Trustees of Robert College, arrived in Constantinople Thursday morning, April 21, on the British steam yacht *Honor*. The party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Dodge and family: Miss Elizabeth Dodge, Miss Julia Dodge, Mr. Cleveland Dodge, Jr., Mr. Bayard Dodge, and of Mr. W. W. Appleton of New York, the Misses Appleton, Mr. Appleton, and Mrs. Grover Cleveland.

Thursday morning, in the Dodge Gymnasium, an exhibition was given that was a pleasure, not only to our distinguished guests but to the students and many local friends. The work was a credit to the participants and to Mr. Weiffenbach, the gymnasium director. The decorations were put up by students under the leadership of Mr. Salgandjieff, and never before has the gymnasium been so beautifully transformed by flags and laurel. At the close of the morning Mr. Dodge reached the hearts of all when, in his open manner, he addressed a few words to his "fellow students."

At 4 o'clock in the gymnasium the President and Faculty gave a reception attended by many of the city friends of the college.

Saturday afternoon the families and the whole teaching force of the college, about seventy in number, were the guests of Mr. Dodge on the yacht, for a trip to the Black Sea. Better weather conditions could not have been desired, and the afternoon was a memorable and happy one.

Sunday Evening Mr. Dodge addressed the students. His talk was clear, telling, direct from the heart. He appealed for lives of service that rise even above the requirements of duty. Duty is simple, he said, though it may be difficult. It is only as we give of ourselves beyond this point that we find our lives a success. He told the story of Jesus Garcia, a railroad engineer in a Mexican mining village. Not many months ago a train containing dynamite was standing in the village square. Sparks from the engine had set fire to the train. It was too late to get water. It was not too late to throw open the throttle and send the train speeding out of the village. The engineer gave his brakemen time to escape, but he himself stayed at his post to remove to the utmost possible distance the inevitable explosion. The explosion came and not a pane of glass was left unbroken in the mining town.

Only one life—the mortal life of Jesus Garcia—was lost. Today a monument tells of him who found his life in saving the lives of a whole mining village.

It is not given to many people so signally to devote their lives beyond the limits of duty. But who could hear Mr. Dodge's message and appeal, without finding the right answer consciously, or unconsciously, entering into the coming daily opportunities of his own life.

Mr. Dodge and his party sailed for Piræus Monday morning, not without the regret of all who had met them, that their visit was so short.

The college community and friends are grateful for the opportunity to know Mr. Dodge and his delightful family and guests, and for the new courage and enthusiasm which his

visit has brought. We feel that we have in the new president of our Trustees, as we had in Mr. Kennedy, a man who has the interests of Turkey deeply at heart and a counsellor to be both loved and trusted.

The Trustees of Robert College of Constantinople have recently made several important appointments in pursuance of the policy of development, made possible by the bequest of the late John S. Kennedy. They intend, as soon as possible, to establish in the college a School of Engineering, and have engaged John R. Allen, professor of mechanical engineering in the University of Michigan, to spend the coming summer at Constantinople for the purpose of studying the problem of new buildings, power plan, etc., in conference with A. D. F. Hamlin, professor of architecture in Columbia University. Mr. Allen has accepted appointment as professor of engineering and head of the department from August 1, 1911.

Existing courses of instruction will be strengthened during the coming year by the following additions to the faculty: Dr. Henry B. Dewing (A. B. University of California, Ph.D. Yale), one of the preceptors at Princeton, becomes professor of Latin; Alfred L. Morgan, a graduate of Oberlin and head of the commercial department in the high school at Asbury Park, N. J., becomes professor of Commerce; Ernest H. Watson, now instructor in Dartmouth College, has been appointed professor of English, and Charles E. Estes, also a graduate of Dartmouth, returns to Robert College as professor of music, after two years of special study in America.

Arthur S. Bedell, now of the registrar's office at Dartmouth, comes as registrar, recorder, and secretary to the president. The place of Professor Van Millingen, who is to be absent on leave during the year, will be filled by the Rev. Herbert Adams Gibbons (A.B. University of Pennsylvania, M.A. and B.D. Princeton), who now holds the Princeton European fellowship in church history.

Application has been made to the Turkish government for permission to erect a new building for an Intermediate School, receiving scholars of the Preparatory Department who are too old to be received in Theodorus Hall. Plans are being drawn for a new building to serve as a home for the Y.M.C.A., the Literary Societies, and social gatherings of the College. This building is the gift of Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge, the president of the Board of Trustees. Plans are also being drawn for an Infirmary, the gift of Mr. Wm. Sloane, a member of the Board of Trustees, these plans are now under consideration by the staff of the Presbyterian Hospital of New York City in order that Robert College may profit by their experience. Work will be begun on these buildings as soon as possible.

Ground has already been broken for the new Intermediate School.

Mr. Samuel Anderson, who has been for seven years treasurer of the Syrian Protestant College at Beirut, has been engaged as treasurer of Robert College. He will spend the summer in America and take up work next September.

A game of base ball was played on the College grounds on Monday, May 2nd; between the Sailors of the American Stationnaire and a nine composed of College teachers, graduates and men from the Embassy. The two teams were called The Scorpions and The Centipedes. The Centipedes won after an exciting game by a score of 14 to 13. A return game is to be played on the College grounds on Saturday May 7th if the weather permits.

Rev. George H. Huntington will be the correspondent of *The Orient* from Robert College, and items for the paper may be handed to him.

AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS.

Record of the Weather Bureau for the week April 30th—May 7th.

(Records of pressure, Maximum and Minimum Temperature, Humidity and Rainfall are taken daily at 8 a. m.)

Average pressure.		29.464 inches.
Maximum >	(April 30 th .)	29.792 "
Minimum >	(May 3 rd .)	29.2 "
Average temperatures.		62.10° F.
Maximum >	(May 1 st .)	83.5 "
Minimum >	(May 4 nd .)	50. "
Average humidity.		74.2 0/0
Maximum >	(May 4 th .)	96.5 "
Minimum >	(May 1 st .)	57. "
Rainfall.		.84 inches.

On May, 1st, the Easter Sunday of the Greek Church, several of our Bulgarian students attended the Easter services at the Bulgarian Church at Phanar on the Golden Horn.

Rainy days at the end of vacation made all glad that they had used the good weather for sight-seeing. The absent ones were welcomed back on Wednesday evening and work began again on Thursday morning.

A large number of guests, old friends and new, have visited the College this week. Mrs. McAfee and Miss Elizabeth M. McAfee are spending some time with Miss McAfee, our Associate Professor of English. Sir William M. Ramsay of King's College, Aberdeen, the noted Archaeologist and the greatest authority on all matters concerning Asia Minor, is again our guest for several days. On Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Crane of Chicago and party, Mr. and Mrs. S. Burns Weston of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Crawford of Pasadena, California, and Mr. Vladimir A. Tsanoff of the Associated Press at St. Petersburg took tea at the College. On Saturday, the Honorable John W. Stewart, Governor of Vermont, and his daughter, Mrs. Sylvester, with Mr. and Mrs. Riggs of Hissar lunched with us.

AINTAB NOTES.

The Orphanage for boys at Aintab, established last summer under a committee composed of three Armenians and three Americans, is superintended by Miss Wardell, who is supported by the "Friends of Armenia," London. This institution has a new building capable of accommodating 150 boys between the ages of 4 and 10. Besides the usual course of study, the orphanage has an industrial department. Annual pledges for the support of 97 boys have been received from various sources; 53 more such pledges, at \$35 each, are needed to bring the orphanage to its proper efficiency.

Central Turkey College, at Aintab, has 155 students. The great majority of the alumni, who number about 300, are living and working within a radius of 250 miles of Aintab. The Protestant ministry, the medical profession, and the higher teaching positions among Armenians in that part of the Empire, are filled mainly by graduates of Central Turkey College. The strength of the College is its staff of able native instructors. President Merrill is now in America, seeking a much needed endowment.

The American School for Girls at Aintab has an average attendance of 125 pupils—an increase of 20 over last year.

Although the amount received from pupils is in advance of former years, this gain is more than offset by the increased cost of living, so that the school will have great difficulty in meeting the running expenses of the current year.

The Principal reports a marked religious interest among the pupils during the last few weeks.

During the year 1909, 1230 church members and 6 ordained pastors were lost to Aintab Station. About 500 of this number were killed, and the remainder were fugitives.

Destruction of buildings within the bounds of the Station brought a loss of about \$14,000. Reconstruction is being pushed as rapidly as possible, but the funds are utterly inadequate.

Number of adherents in churches	11,593.
Pupils in Sunday Schools	8,070.
" " Day Schools and College	3,210.

NOTES.

Advices just received state that in Kessab the situation has very much improved. Few of the people are in need and while they do not have as much as they would like yet on the whole the people have enough to eat and all have work. As soon as the silk crop is disposed of the inhabitants can face the coming winter in comparative comfort. The work of distribution has been a very difficult one but the committee has met the requirements of the situation very well. The papers state that Ministerial Council has decided to send 500,000 piasters to Antioch, Kessab and Alexandretta. This is probably with a view to the reconstruction of the ruined houses, churches, and schools. It is also stated that the same council has decided to send 100,000 piasters to the region of Gurun where advices state that there is still great need. The Swiss committee through the International Committee at Constantinople is sending Frs. 2,000 to Gurun.

We have the following from Marsovan:

Our new building for the Girls' School is well on the way to completion and will be admirably fitted for the work we are planning to do.

We open our school for the deaf in September and are prepared to receive deaf mutes, either girls or boys, who are bright in mind and from six to eight years of age.

Dr. F. E. Hoskins of Beirut will represent the Presbyterian Mission in Syria at the Edinburgh Conference. He intends to return to Beirut via Constantinople to give personal attention to some important matters with the government relating to the mission property in Syria. Recent orders have been received by the Vali of Syria in regard to the transfer of property to the Presbyterian Board. It makes mention of the American List of religious educational and charitable institutions and frees the mission property from taxes by virtue of an Imperial Firman. This is probably the result of Ambassador Straus' efforts to secure compliance with the Irades of 1904 and 1907.

In a letter dated Kessab, April 17, Mr. Esther D. Koundakjian, the wife of the pastor, says that Kessab, which is a large town, last year was plundered and burned. The Armenian inhabitants, save a few, escaped to the mountains and were saved. The government has given help for the rebuilding of the houses and aid has come from many friends. For all this we are very thankful. Now our greatest need is a house of worship. Our dear old church was burned in its jubilee year. It was too small for our large congregation, and an entirely new building is now necessary. The government gave about 150 liras towards the rebuilding, and with this money the foundation of new church was laid on November 29, 1909. It was a great and happy day for us all. Two things were before our eyes,—the ruins of the old church and the foundation of the new church, and joy beamed on every face. Our people are helping with all their might. Women are bringing earth on their backs. Men are bringing stones, and even the little children are helping. Yet we cannot finish the building without aid. The people are neglecting the finishing of their own houses in order to help build the church, but they are very poor, and lost whatever they had at the time of the massacre. During the past summer the people worshiped under the trees, but in the winter they were obliged to meet in a small school room, which could not hold one third of the congregation, though for the children there was a meeting in another place. As spring came on we began to have out door services again, but we do not wish to have such a hard time another winter, if we can help it. I am sure you have had many applications for help, but our unbearable condition compels me to write, and appeal to the sympathy of Christian friends. Money given for the rebuilding of the Kessab church can be forwarded to my husband, Rev. D. H. Koundakjian, through W. W. Peet Esq., Treasurer of the American Missions.

On May 4 a concert was given in the Bible House in aid of the Ada Bazar Girl's School. Mrs. Middleton Edwards and Messers Braun and Ellinger assisted by the Gedik Pasha Choral Society, under the leadership of Mr. J. G. Hamilton Carson, provided a rare musical treat which was thoroughly enjoyed by all those present.

On May 6 a recital of sacred music was given in Pera in the Armenian Evangelical Church of the Holy Trinity. Mr. W. Smith-Lyte was supported by the Misses Louis Bey Tergiman and Z. Matteossian, and Messers Antoine Berkan, Oscar Luzzena, E. Matteossian, and Minas. The effect of the well chosen and harmonious program left a deep impression on all who were privileged to be there. A well known Turkish musical critic, who was present, said that it was the best concert he had attended this season.

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