

The Orient.

February 22, 1911

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 45

THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

41st Session (Feb. 15). The entire session was taken up with the discussion of Article 74 of the Constitution, dealing with the right of the Senate to discuss bills before they are discussed by the Chamber of Deputies. Zohrab Effendi in a long speech declared that the Senate was the incarnation of national sovereignty, and was entitled to this right of previous discussion. Ismail Hakki Bey took issue with this position on the ground that the Senators were not elected by the people, but appointed by the Sultan on the nomination of the Government. Others also took the ground that the initiative in legislation belonged to the Chamber only. The discussion was finally interrupted by the necessity for adjournment.

42nd Session (Feb. 16). The free use of telegraph and postal service was granted the committees that are raising a national subscription for the Ottoman fleet. The Ministry of the Interior was authorized to use the appropriation granted for establishing emigrants in the provinces of Syria and Kossovo, in other provinces as well. The bill providing for the method of publishing new laws drew out much discussion as to the appropriate and possible means for acquainting the people with such laws. Some deputies demanded that laws be printed in the language of the people of each section. Others insisted on the use of Turkish alone, it being the duty of every Ottoman to know the official language. An Arab deputy brought all the non-Moslem deputies to their feet by a scathing accusation of disloyalty; and a tumult ensued, lasting ten minutes. Order was ultimately restored, and an explanation calmed the spirits of the enraged deputies; but the proposal to add a clause ordering that laws be published in the various languages was defeated by a vote of 97 to 44. After the noon recess, a bill was offered by the deputies of Tripoli in Africa, forbidding the production of distilled liquor, made from dates, in that province. This was referred to a committee.

43rd Session (Feb. 18). Practically the entire session was devoted to the discussion of Article 74 of the Constitution. Aside from Ferid Bey and Zohrab Effendi, all the speakers maintained the sole right of the Chamber to the initial discussion of bills, on the ground that the Chamber, being a body elected by the people, was the representative of national sovereignty. As it was a foregone conclusion that the Senate's proposition would be rejected, the day was practically wasted in this fruitless discussion.

44th Session (Feb. 20). One of the deputies from the

Yemen attempted to register a protest against the uncomplimentary terms used by a local daily with reference to the Zeidi tribe of Arabs, but was prevented by the president. After another hour's oratory over the Senate's demand to be given the right of initial discussion of bills, in the course of which the late Minister of Public Instruction made a speech, the demand was rejected by a vote of 139 to 46. The Minister of War being present in the afternoon, three articles of the enlistment bill, the discussion of which had been postponed, were taken up. These deal with students in Moslem, Christian and Jewish schools of theology. In regard to such Moslem students, the Minister claimed that those who failed in their examinations in two successive years should serve as soldiers; and that the military authorities should be represented at the examinations. This aroused much opposition and the discussion of this point closed the debate on the first reading of the bill.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF MR. ALLEN.

At its first meeting since the death of Mr. Allen, the Committee ad Interim of the Western Turkey Mission adopted today the following:—

Resolved:—That we put on record our sense of the great loss which our Committee and the whole Mission have suffered in the death of our associate, Rev. Herbert M. Allen. During the more than seven years of his connection with our Mission, he showed himself a preacher and writer of unusual ability, an indefatigable worker, a man wholly devoted to the duties of his calling, and one who, by his rare facility in the use of the Armenian language and his deep and evident love for the Armenian people, won a place in the esteem and affection of that race, — Gregorian as well as Protestant, — which it has been the lot of few missionaries to secure.

Resolved:—That a copy of this resolution be communicated to Mrs. Allen, together with the assurance of our deep sympathy with her and her children in the heavy affliction which has come upon them, and our regret that we shall lose her also from the membership of the Mission. Our affection for her and her family, and our prayer that the Divine guidance and blessing may abide with them, will continue, though they are no longer with us.

THE NEW MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR AND HIS POLICY.

Halil Bey, the new Minister of the Interior, has inaugurated his work by sending a circular telegraphic despatch to all the vilayets and independent sanjaks, in which he outlines his official program. The document is dignified and reassuring; and its advice, if carried out, will do much to ensure real peace and progress. The full text is as follows:—

"By the pleasure of H. I. M. the Sultan, the confidence of the Chamber of Deputies and the grace of God, I have assumed the portfolio of the Interior, the Constitution having instituted a legal form of government and having abolished the rule of personal caprice.

"Those officials who, in the exercise of their functions, follow the guide of law, may be assured that they will enjoy the protection of the ministry, and indirectly that of the Chamber of Deputies; while those who do the contrary may be very sure that they will be punished. Therefore I counsel you to be very firm in administering the law, and to avoid absolutely all illegal or capricious acts. Our fundamental policy is that all Ottomans shall enjoy the benefits of liberty and justice; its object is the union of all in work for the happiness and prosperity of the Ottoman fatherland, and in thus removing all discord among the nationalities, for discord is the greatest curse to our State.

"I beg of you especially not to lose sight of the fact that the new regime is a government by the nation and for the nation, and that the officials in their relations with the populace must show themselves attentive, and use every means within legal limits to expedite the affairs of those under their charge, and secure the official presentation of such affairs before H. I. M. the Sultan.

"The foreigners are our respected guests. It is therefore necessary to act toward them in conformity with the laws of the State and with the capitulations, and to treat them well, and when they address you officially, to grant them every possible facility. The capitulations are not something that can be abolished or suppressed at the desire of only one party. But with the strengthening of order and the equal administration of justice in the country, since the friendly powers are animated by kindly feelings toward our glorious Constitution, we can firmly hope that this important question will be solved in a satisfactory manner at an early date. However, until the government makes a move in this direction, the civil officials should respect every clause of the treaties.

"With these main points always in view, I urge and again beg you consequently to show a greater activity in the functions with which you are charged."

THE BUDGET FOR 1327 (1911-1912).

The Budget for the year 1327 is to be presented to Parliament today for discussion. The financial year begins on March first, old style, or fourteenth, according to our reckoning. This gives less than three weeks for its discussion, if

the budget is to be passed before the date when it ought to begin operating. A provisional arrangement will therefore in all probability be necessary as it is next to impossible for the whole budget to be passed within three weeks. Some such arrangement as that proposed on Feb. 2nd by Medjdi Effendi in the Chamber of Deputies will doubtless have to be put in operation next year, that succeeding budgets may not be thus delayed each year.

Djavid Bey has evidently worked very hard over the new budget; and economies are proposed in many departments, in order to reduce expenses. The commission that has been at work till now on the proposals of the Government has still further reduced the estimates in several cases. There is also good reason for expecting a large increase in the receipts from all sources over the receipts of the past year. And yet, in spite of these wise measures, the fact remains that a considerable deficit will again have to be covered, and how it can be guaranteed, and at what terms the Government can obtain it, are questions that must keep the Minister of Finance from any feeling of *ennui*. The relations of the Imperial Government with the Ottoman Bank are very friendly, and the latter institution has helped to cover the deficit of the financial year 1326. It remains to be seen what will be done for 1327.

The figures as given out for the new budget we compare below with those of the past year, amounts in gold piastres.

	1326	1327
Public debt	837,448,044	
Civil list	49,364,000	49,328,000
Parliament	21,763,040	21,351,001
Ministry of Finance	316,854,435	255,580,743
Court of accounts	1,888,800	1,917,000
Defter Hakkani	10,898,731	11,022,700
Indirect contributions	47,756,669	50,808,248
Post and Telegraph	79,011,446	79,466,233
Hedjaz Railroad	61,843,324	77,799,623
Grand Vizierate	2,667,760	2,624,760
Ministry of the Interior	131,054,412	126,598,450
Council of State	3,275,200	3,275,200
General Security	45,040,510	48,292,840
Foreign Affairs	25,871,359	23,640,619
War Department	900,000,000	900,000,000
Military Constructions	48,967,062	46,441,359
Gendarmerie	175,701,900	172,139,292
Marine	164,031,181	165,020,384
Sheikh-ul-Islamate	49,857,081	50,303,242
Justice	76,368,344	77,627,824
Public Instruction	94,639,804	92,000,000
Public Works	116,133,715	115,160,006
Mines and Forests	39,584,350	48,286,763

The anticipated receipts for 1327 are stated as 2,839,492,500 piastres, an increase of 143,289,494 piastres over those of 1326. But this still leaves an expected deficit of 8½ million liras. The country eagerly awaits the speech of Djavid Bey today in the Chamber, in explanation of these facts.

THE WORLD'S SUNDAY-SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Compiled for the World's Sixth Sunday-School Convention,
Washington, D. C., May 19-24, 1910.

For more than a year your statistical secretaries have been busy gathering the following figures. We first appealed to the two hundred and seventy-five foreign missionary societies for the Sunday-school statistics for each country in which they operate, and also asked for the name and address of their "best-informed missionary" in each country. Reports were received from each of these societies, and, after being tabulated, the figures for all the societies working in a country were sent to the "best-informed missionary" of each society having stations in that country, with the request that these missionaries verify their own society's figures, and give us their judgment as to whether we had correctly reported the schools of all the other societies working in that country. These results were again submitted to prominent well-informed Sunday-school workers, and after all corrections have been made we present the following, feeling that, while we may have missed some schools, we are reasonably certain of those reported.

Please note the following regarding the columns of figures: The "AVERAGE ENROLLMENT PER SCHOOL" is the average size of each Sunday school in the country named. The "AVERAGE POPULATION PER SCHOOL" is the average

size each school would be were every person in the country enrolled in the number of Sunday schools reported. The population of each country has been taken from the latest census figures of the world.

Although we have made an earnest effort to report Sunday schools for each of the one hundred and ninety-two (192) countries and groups of islands into which the world is divided, we find sixty-six (66) of these, including various divisions of Africa, in which we have not been able to find a single Sunday school. Since these figures can be revised for the printed report of this Convention, we earnestly ask the co-operation of those who can lend us assistance in securing figures for these countries in which there are "none reported".

We gratefully acknowledge that we have received cordial assistance from the consuls and ministers of the British Government in the various colonies and dependencies.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE SHIPWAY,

HUGH CORK,

Statistical Secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT.—Copies of the official report of the World's Sixth Sunday-School Convention, held in Washington May 19-24, 1910, may be secured at one dollar each by addressing World's Sunday-School Association, 805 Hartford Building, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

GRAND SUMMARY.

GRAND DIVISIONS.	1 Number of Sunday schools.	2 Number officers and teachers.	3 Number of scholars.	4 Total enrollment.	5 Average enrollment per school.	6 Population.	7 Number population per school.
North America	161,696	1,634,837	15,568,764	15,203,601	94	109,261,810	676
Central America	75	471	5,419	5,890	79	4,237,188	56,496
South America	891	4,826	58,698	63,524	72	39,087,927	43,870
West Indies	2,096	12,064	163,416	175,480	83	5,922,097	2,826
Europe	83,033	823,280	9,581,769	10,405,130	137	399,586,159	4,812
Asia	15,986	37,014	735,604	772,620	48	841,873,551	52,663
Africa	8,996	23,835	490,298	520,133	58	172,318,497	19,178
Malaysia	395	1,865	39,645	41,910	106	43,240,376	109,393
Oceania	12,831	69,179	760,210	829,389	65	8,993,399	701
Grand totals	285,999	2,607,371	27,403,823	28,017,677	98	1,624,521,004	5,680
Reported at Rome	255,544	2,419,444	22,618,392	25,037,836			
Increase	30,455	187,927	4,785,431	2,979,841			

ROBERT COLLEGE.

Mr. Santo Semo, Engineer of the Willcocks Irrigation scheme, gave an interesting lecture on Wednesday, the 15th, on the History and Irrigation of Mesopotamia. The lecture was illustrated by 100 views projected with oxygen light.

Mr. Louis Edgar Johns, concert pianist, of Berlin, who has been on a concert tour of Syria and Egypt, gave a recital before the college and invited friends on Saturday afternoon, the 18th. Mr. Johns received a great ovation from the

students. His programme included Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata, an impromptu and melody of Chopin, Liszt's 12th Hungarian Rhapsody, and one of the pianist's own compositions.

A Concert given by the Y. M. C. A. for the benefit of the people who lost their homes in the Daridja fire was held on Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 22nd. The soloists were M. Hegyei, pianist, Mlle de Chastain, violinist, and Mlle Castelli, soprano. The concert was postponed from last month on account of the inclement weather.

Had the immortal George Washington not been mortal, he would today have been 179 years old.

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS.

Weather Report for the week February 11 - 18.

(Observations taken daily at 8 A. M.)

Date	Temperature		Snow
	Maximum	Minimum	
Feb. 11	40.1° F.	16.0° F.	0.
> 12	42.7° >	26.3° >	0.
> 13	41.4° >	27.3° >	0.
> 14	36.0° >	27.0° >	.05 inch
> 15	34.0° >	27.0° >	.12 >
> 16	31.5° >	23.0° >	.15 >
> 17	29.5° >	16.5° >	.06 >

From February 12th to 17th the barometer was unusually high, reaching on February 15th, 30.25 inches.

On Wednesday, February 15th, the faculty and students and a number of guests from the city listened to a most interesting lecture upon Tolstoi by Mr. Doukhovetsky, of this city. The lecturer did not enter the field of criticism but outlined for us the ancestry and life of Tolstoi and showed the gradual development of his ideas and their expression in literary form. He divided the writings of Tolstoi into three periods, the preparatory up to 1852, the literary to 1886, and the teaching period which lasted until his death.

Mr. Doukhovetsky spoke from such a fullness of knowledge of his subject, that one felt a great desire to hear more from one able to give so sympathetic and just an estimate of the great writer, who has so recently completed his task.

Many of the students and faculty are passing the monthly holiday, which began on Friday, at home or with friends.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

For ten months *The Orient* has existed as a private enterprise, under the editorial care of our lamented brother, Rev. Herbert M. Allen. At a meeting of the Publication Committee representing the Missions of the American Board in Turkey, held on Wednesday, Feb. 15, this paper was formally taken under the care of the Publication Department as an organ of that Department, with the expectation that it will be self-supporting. In order to realize this expectation, *The Orient* needs the cooperation of every subscriber. If you feel that the paper is not worth the subscription price, we bespeak your aid in making it worthier; and to this end we should welcome contributions to its columns from all who feel inclined, regarding any topic of general interest to those desirous of more knowledge as to religious, educational and philanthropic work of all sorts in all parts of the Orient. If you feel that the paper is worth its price to you, speak a word for it to a friend, who may also subscribe; for in order to make it self-sustaining the subscription lists must be increased. Remember that it costs you less than two cents a copy, postage included. And bear in mind that it fulfils its aim only as it reaches as large a constituency as possible among those interested in the regeneration of the Orient, and gives them as comprehensive a view as possible of the forces making for this regeneration.

CHARLES T. RIGGS, Editor.

EARLY AMERICAN MISSIONARIES IN TURKEY.

The history of the beginnings of missionary work in the Turkish Empire is full of romance. To enter any absolutely new field involves an element of danger; and experiments, costly though they be, are an inevitable part of any new enterprise. When on Nov. 3, 1819, Pliny Fisk and Levi Parsons set sail from Boston for the Levant, no one imagined that within less than six years both would be in their graves. After a brief stay in Smyrna, both went to Jerusalem, where Mr. Parsons passed away after a missionary career of only two years, at the age of twenty-nine. Mr. Fisk, who was less than one month older, died on Oct. 23, 1825, after five years and nine months in Turkey, aged thirty-three. These brief lives were a lesson to those who had followed them. Rev. Messrs. Daniel Temple, William Goodell, Isaac Bird and Jonas King had arrived before the death of Mr. Fisk; and these four labored for periods of from eighteen to forty-six years, and lived to an average age of 73 years 4½ months. Rev. Eli Smith, the next missionary to come out, arrived in Malta in July, 1826, and labored there and in Beyrout for thirty years, dying at the age of 55 years, 4 months. His first wife died at 34, but the last Mrs. Smith lived to be 77 years old. Mr. Homan Hallock came out as printer to the mission in 1826, and spent fifteen years in Malta and Smyrna, returning with his wife to America in 1841. Their daughter was afterwards Mrs. T. L. Byington, of the mission to the Bulgarians. The next missionary to come out was Rev. Elnathan Gridley, who, after a residence of only nine months, was taken away by a fever following an ascent of Mount Argæus at Casarea, on Sept. 27, 1827, aged 31 years. Rev. Josiah Brewer went to Smyrna in 1826, but after laboring less than two years, he returned to America, coming out later to labor in Smyrna and vicinity under another society.

Twenty-four ordained missionaries, one of them a physician, and their wives, also two single women, were sent out by the American Board to Turkey between 1830 and 1840. Dr. Asa Dodge was the first medical missionary, and labored in Beyrout and Jerusalem, but he lived only two years there, and died at the age of 32. Miss Rebecca Williams was the first unmarried woman to be sent to this country, arriving in Beyrout in July, 1835. She became the wife of Rev. Story Hebard, but died in 1840. Miss Betsy Tilden labored in Jerusalem and Beyrout from 1836 to 1843, when she returned to America, living to the age of eighty. Among the twenty-four referred to were Revs. H. G. O. Dwight, W. G. Schauffler, W. M. Thomson, Elias Riggs, Benjamin Schneider, John B. Adger, P. O. Powers, Daniel Ladd, Nathan Benjamin, George W. Wood, and Cyrus Hamlin. Dr. Schauffler lived to be 84 years old; Mrs. Schauffler, 92 years, 9 months; Dr. Thomson, 87 years; Dr. Riggs, 90 years; Mrs. Riggs, 77 years; Mrs. T. B. Johnston, 93 years; Dr. Schneider, 70 years, 8 months; Mrs. Schneider, 85 years; Mr. Powers, 67 years; Mrs. Ladd, 82 years; Dr. Wood, 87 years; Mrs. Wood, 76 years; Dr. Hamlin, 89 years, 7 months. As contrasted with these long lives, the first Mrs. Dwight lived but 30 years; the first Mrs. Thomson, 34 years; the first Mrs. Powers, 34 years; Mrs. Samuel R. Houston, 25 years; Rev. Lorenzo W. Pease, 30 years; Rev. Story Hebard 38 years; the first Mrs. Wood, 21 years. The average length of service of the missionaries of this decade was eighteen years, the longest being that of Dr. Elias Riggs, who sailed from Boston Oct. 30, 1832, and passed away Jan. 17, 1901, having been a missionary nearly 69 years. Dr. Schneider and Dr. Wood each served over 40 years.

FAVRE BOYS' HOME, BARDIZAG.

February, 7, 1911.

On this stormy night, shut in by heavy snow-drifts, the Home was bright and decorated for a Reception given in honour of the return of Hagopig Eff. Alojian from his visit to England. Dr. and Mrs. Chambers with Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Chambers had braved the dangers of the slippery descent from their house, and graced the platform, whilst the School Hall gave scarcely space enough for the Staff and over 100 boys.

There was first a short programme of English songs and recitations in Armenian, English and Turkish, including those by pinafores of five years old which caused much amusement to the audience.

Dr. Chambers then, in the name of the School, gave a most hearty welcome to Alojian Eff. speaking in the warmest terms of his devotion to duty and the good influence that his character had exercised in both Schools, and commending him to our respect and co-operation as Senior Teacher in the Home. After a paper read by one of the pupils expressing the boys' appreciation of the life and work of their teacher during the six or seven years that he has been with us, Alojian Eff. returned his thanks, explaining something of the new ideas about education that he had gained from the lectures he had attended in London and also from the many schools he had had the privilege of visiting there. It is hoped that a new impetus will be given to the practical side of the training given to our boys in the Home, and that more usefully prepared men may be turned out.

The next day saw the initiation of the Scout System in our midst which kept the boys happily employed through the bitterly cold holiday. One patrol made (and ate!) some presentable little scones, and some physical drill was tried.

S. N.

THE SITUATION IN THE YEMEN.

The campaign in Arabia does not make rapid progress. The imperial troops are being daily reinforced, and several units of the fleet are on their way to the Red Sea littoral. Meanwhile the rebels appear to be merely holding their positions, and have not recently made any attacks in force. Only at Menahe and Ebha have they attacked the garrisons of those towns, and in both cases they have been repulsed. About 5,000 Arabs are besieging Sanaa, under the Imam Yahya. Hedjile and Yial are also besieged, but are believed to be sufficiently provisioned to stand a long siege. Reports indicate that the outbreak of cholera has not been as serious as was anticipated, on either side. Seid Hüssein, a chief of the Shafi tribe, is cooperating with the government against Seid Idris, at Hedjile.

The Minister of War has just announced that the advance of the military forces from Hodeida on Menahe has begun.

MESOPOTAMIAN IRRIGATION.

Sir William Willcocks, commissioned by the Ottoman government to prepare a scheme for irrigation in Mesopotamia, has just submitted to the Minister of Public Works a report, in which he says that the outflow of the Euphrates river is 10,000 cubic metres per second, increased to 12,000 in flood season; that of the Tigris river is from 1,000 to 18,000 cubic metres per second. The deserts of Mesopotamia are not as arid as those of Egypt; in times of good rain they are covered with grass and sustain large flocks. The great danger is from floods, which, on an average of once in three years, destroy the crops of the Mesopotamian farmers. The proposition of this British specialist now is to conserve and utilize these destructive flood waters of the Euphrates, a project that will require 8,750,000 francs and three years of time. Northwest of Baghdad, between the two rivers is a lake known as Akkar Kouf, with a normal area of 10,000 sq. metres, increased to 300,000 sq. metres when flooded. A branch of the Euphrates formerly flowed through this. Sir William proposes to turn this water again into this basin from the Euphrates, regulating the flow by a dam and locks. He also proposes to construct a dam on the Tigris river at Beled, near Nimroud, some sixty miles north of Baghdad, at a point above some rapids, and run a canal from a point just above this dam, through the rich plains north of Baghdad, into this same lake. The amount of water to be turned into the lake from the two rivers could be regulated according to necessity. From the southeastern end of this lake, near Baghdad, a canal would then be carried near the right bank of the Tigris, into a former branch of that river, known as Shat-el-Hai. This canal would irrigate six million acres of land. The excessive silt or clay in solution brought down by these rivers, would thus be deposited in the quiet waters of this lake, whence it could be removed when the water is low. The silting up and destruction of the canal would thus be avoided.

For the completion of the projects as outlined above, the estimated cost is Lt. 1,034,000. But this is only the beginning. The entire scheme outlined by Sir William Willcocks involves an additional estimate of Lt. 1,582,700, for works that cannot be completed in less than eight years.

EMPIRE NEWS.

The Capital.

The Admiralty has taken the first steps toward equipping the Ottoman Navy with the Marconi wireless system.

It is now announced that the fourth Orient Express train service per week will begin on March 5th.

The Ministry of War has ordered several automobiles for the use of the army.

A fine large building in the Venetian style of Renaissance architecture is to be built for the Italian Embassy, on the Kütchük Chiftlik avenue in Nishantash. The excavation for the basement will commence immediately, but three years will be required to complete the structure.

Ten thousand okes of charcoal (28,000 lbs.) were distributed during the past stormy month by the notables of the island of Halki among the poor of that island. Charcoal has risen to 30 paras the oke.

A judicial mission sent from China is now in Constantinople. The members visited during the past week the Department of Justice, the courts, and the central prison.

The resignation of Halil Bey as Minister of the Interior was announced last week. As a result of a meeting of the Party of Union and Progress, held on Tuesday, Feb. 13th, at which votes of lack of confidence were recorded against the ministers of public works and of public instruction, Haladjian Effendi and Emroullah Effendi have also handed in their resignations.

The Government is taking steps to increase the efficiency of the fire department, and to have the employés in all Government buildings given regular fire-drill.

Talaat Bey, former Minister of the Interior, has been elected president of the Party of Union and Progress in the Chamber of Deputies, thus exchanging places with Halil Bey.

THE PROVINCES.

The Ottoman Bank has arranged to open branches in Benghazi, Bitlis, Bolou, Dardanelles, Diarkekir, Harpout, Hodeida, Jedda, Ourfa, Rhodes, Scutari in Albania, and Van.

A telegram from Athens reports a material improvement in the relations between Christian and Moslem deputies in the Cretan Assembly. The latter now take their regular part in the sessions.

His Imperial Majesty has sent 100 liras for the relief of the sufferers from the recent earthquakes in Turkestan.

Three German steamers and two British steamers have just been bought by the Ottoman Government to be used as transports for the troops going to Arabia.

Dr. Nazim Bey, of Salonica, is on a visit to the Capital for the purpose of securing the means for receiving the poor gratuitously in the International Ottoman Hospital in Salonica, an institution with 120 beds.

Slight earthquakes are reported from Angora, Kastemoni and the island of Rhodes.

The dailies at the Capital announce that a portion of the Gulf of Nicomedia froze over during the late cold snap.

The Beyrout-Damascus railway service has been blocked by the extraordinary snowfall.

Two Greek steamers sank in the Black Sea during the storm of last week, with all on board. A British steamer ran ashore and is a total loss, but the crew were saved. Another Greek steamer was lost near the island of Scio, the crew being saved.

The trials of the new Greek armored cruiser *Averoff* are reported to have been most satisfactory.

A severe sand-storm is reported in Egypt last week, doing great damage especially at Heliopolis and Cairo.

A provisional commercial agreement between Turkey and Bulgaria has just been signed by Djavid Bey, Minister of Finance, and by Mr. Sarafoff, the Bulgarian Minister. This agreement provides for the lowest tariff in operation as between the two countries, and is to be in force till October next.

Earthquakes of considerable severity were felt on Feb. 19 at Usküb, Satorovo, Ochrida, Resna and Kortcha, and lighter shocks at Salonica. The provincial government of Monastir is distributing aid to the sufferers from these earthquakes. Shocks were felt simultaneously at Venice, Siena, Florence and other Italian towns.

On Feb. 5, the thermometer at Erzeroum showed a temperature of 40° below zero. It happens that the Centigrade and Fahrenheit systems coincide at this point; and this is probably the lowest record of this winter for the empire.

The French military officers under Gen. Eydoux, who have been charged with the reorganization of the Greek army, are enthusiastically commended by the Greek press. They were given last week a dinner by the King.

Nazim Pasha, the vali of Baghdad, against whom there has been so much agitation, has been appointed inspector of the 6th, 7th and 8th army corps.

Izzet Pasha, who left for Hodeida on the cruiser *Hamidie* on Saturday, has been given a very free hand in dealing with the Arab rebels in the Yemen, as well as in rewarding those sheikhs who remain faithful to the government.

A fire was discovered one day last week in the royal palace at Sofia, but was fortunately extinguished after burning out only one room. The cause of the fire is unknown.

On the occasion of his resignation, Haladjian Effendi was presented by his former subordinates in the ministry of public works with a souvenir consisting of a plate and two bronze statuettes. Houloussi Bey, the under-secretary of the ministry, made the presentation address; and the retiring minister in reply assured the members of that department of his continued efforts on their behalf as a deputy.

NOTES.

Rev. and Mrs. C. K. Tracy of Smyrna are the fond parents of a second child, a son, Edwin Curtiss, born Feb. 3.

It is gratifying to record a marked improvement in the health of Prof. Djedjizian of Robert College, even though the physicians do not yet pronounce him out of danger.

Mr. Luther Fowle arrived Sunday morning from America, on his way to Talas to assist his parents.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE. INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Assets Exceed £ 11,000,000.

This Company, so favourably known throughout the States, has recently opened a **Branch Office** for Turkey in Constantinople. Prompt attention will be given to proposals for **Fire and Life** business and expert advice on Life business will be gladly given on application to WALTER SEAGER & Co., Agents at Constantinople, or N. K. PLUMMER, Branch MANAGER.

W. W. PEET, Esq. has kindly consented to answer any enquiries for references.

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