

The Orient.

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THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

34th Session, October 5th. After the opening of the session, the telegraphic reply of General Enver Pasha, Minister of War, to the telegram of congratulation sent him by the Chamber was read. Another telegram was read, from the general council of Adalia, complaining of the action of some French cruisers in bombarding the Red Crescent hospital there. The president of the Chamber, Halil Bey, who had been prevented by illness from being present at the opening session, made a patriotic address, lauding the feats of the Ottoman forces during the war. He was followed by Enver Pasha, from whose speech we give a few sentences:—

“After the last war, which caused us great losses in territory, men, wealth and honor, each ministry has busied itself with instilling new life into the country. The time was employed better than we foresaw. The present war broke out at a time when it was not expected. Our august Sovereign gave the order for mobilization, and a great army was constituted with a rapidity absolutely unlooked for. We did all we could to avoid the war; but the guns that thundered in the Black Sea in consequence of the Russian ambushade, implicated us in the war. It became apparent immediately that the States that today are our declared enemies had for a long time been prepared on all our frontiers to crush us as soon as possible and were impatiently awaiting the chance to attack us. We were assailed on all sides. The Russian attack in the Caucasus seemed to be making progress, but hardly had a month elapsed since the first gun was fired by the Russians when we took the offensive and began to chase the enemy on his own territory. The Russian army is today in such a state that it is no longer a danger to us.

“But the most important events were in preparation at the Dardanelles. Before the beginning of hostilities on this front, we had undertaken the Egyptian campaign. After having made the necessary preparations for this campaign, which was generally thought impossible, we crossed the peninsula of Sinai with part of our forces,—an exploit that our foes had thought impossible; we occupied the territories up to the canal that we need for the great movements that we shall begin later. We found out the plans of the enemy, and made ours accordingly. We are convinced that the Egyptian campaign will take place, and will be by divine help crowned with success.

“During this period the British and French fleets began little attacks on the Dardanelles. Our outer forts, which were of no great defensive value anyway, were silenced after an absolutely unexpected resistance. The enemy on March 5th (18th) made a furious attack with their fleets which the world had thought invincible. But they were obliged to retire after seeing a large part of their fleet sunk. After this failure the enemy conceived the idea of conquering us on land to open the Straits and take Constantinople. But they have not succeeded in this either, in spite of the enormous forces they have. Nor will they succeed in the future. On a moderate estimate the Anglo-French have disembarked till now at the Dardanelles 500,000 men; of these 200,000, or nearly half the hostile forces, have been either killed or else wounded and sent away. The latest news is that a new factor has taken away from our enemies all hope of success, and they have begun to withdraw their forces from the Dardanelles.

“It has been impossible to have very large forces along all our extended frontiers; and thus certain parts of our territories have unfortunately been exposed to hostile invasion. I confidently promise that before peace is made we will chase the enemy from there and drive them to the place from which they came, and perhaps still farther.

“The forces we have gathered till now are already more than two million men. With this force we are today stronger than the other governments, and we shall be so tomorrow as well. For a year we have been carrying on the war with our own means. Cut off from communication on all sides, we have lived so far on our own produce. We trust that soon this isolation will end, and we shall receive ammunition and eatables in abundance, which will ameliorate the state of our army. Today the common soldier knows that he is fighting not only for the rights of 30 millions of Ottomans, but also for the liberties and rights of three hundred millions of Moslems. I am consequently sure that the grace of God will accompany my comrades in the future, as they work for this object, as it has till now.”

35th session, Oct. 7th. Bills were received and handed on to the appropriate committees regarding the exemption from duties of flour imported for the use of the people of Constantinople; regarding the payment of salaries of certain officials exempted from military service, and of army officers now prisoners, also 158 provisional laws put in operation by the government during the parliamentary recess

A bill introduced by the ministry of agriculture, adding 20,000,000 piastres to its budget for 1331, the current year, for loaning to farmers seed, beasts of burden, traction ploughs and other farming instruments and for salaries to specialists to teach the use of these machines, was passed under the urgency clause. Bills were voted providing for the payment of the entire salaries of tax-collectors, policemen and telegraph operators who are excused from military service; additions to the law on violations of the press law, etc. Several other bills were referred back for further study.

36th session, Oct. 9th. The Chamber spent considerable time in discussing and passing the fifth, sixth and seventh provisional measures concerning the moratorium, which by virtue of the seventh is prolonged till the end of the month of December, 1331, or January 13th, 1916. These measures were finally voted. A bill adding 75,000 piastres to the budget of the Agricultural Bank for the year 1327, — four years ago, — was referred back to the special commission. The Chamber decided to hold its meetings hereafter on Saturdays, Mondays and Thursdays, in the afternoons.

37th session, Oct. 10th. Leave of absence was granted to the deputy from Gallipoli, Süleiman Bey, at his request. The bill for the increasing of the pay of officers of the marine doing service in the Red Sea and at Basra, and regarding their promotion, was discussed, but on the request of the representative of the government, the bill was returned to the ministry of marine. Three amendments to the penal code were discussed, only one of which was adopted.

In the Senate on the same day several bills were referred to committees. Replies were reported from the upper houses of the German and Austrian parliaments to the greetings sent by the Ottoman Senate to them. Among the measures passed were a bill to increase the pay of army officers who served in Tripoli and Benghazi during the Italo-Turkish war, the bill regarding the moratorium, and that granting an increase of twenty million piastres to the ministry of agriculture for the distribution of implements to farmers.

BIOGRAPHIES OF EARLY MISSIONARIES.

IX. ELIAS RIGGS.

Of Dr. Elias Riggs, Dr. Herrick once said: — "He was preeminently the scholar of that early group. The thoroughness, the accuracy and the breadth of his scholarship, in all respects needed for his life work, gave him a unique place — one in which he had no peer, and will have no successor."

Elias Riggs was born November 19th, 1810, at New Providence, N. J., the son of a Presbyterian minister. He was a bright child, and had learned to read at four years; at the age of nine he began to study Greek, and at thirteen to study Hebrew. Thus early did he give proof of an unusual talent and taste for languages. During his long career he gained a scholarly mastery of twelve tongues, — English, Greek, Turkish, Armenian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, Latin, Syriac, Ethiopic,

Arabic, Spanish and Slavic. He was equally a master in ancient and modern Greek, ancient and modern Armenian, and Aramaic as well as Hebrew. In addition he had a very respectable acquaintance with French, Italian, German, Russian, Persian and Sanskrit. He claimed not to know the Albanian language, but confessed to have looked into it sufficiently to have worked out the manuscript of a grammar of that language, which indeed afterwards became the basis of one of the first printed grammars of the tongue.

He entered Amherst College at fifteen years of age; and while there learned from two fellow-students who were Greeks the modern Greek pronunciation. On his graduation, his oration was in the Greek language, and he delivered it in the modern pronunciation. From Amherst he went to Andover Theological Seminary, where among his fellow-students were Messrs. Schaufler, Schneider and Powers who afterwards came to Turkey, and fifteen or sixteen others who became missionaries in other fields. While in the Seminary, he published a grammar of the Chaldee or Aramaic language, which for fifty years was the standard work on Aramaic in the American theological schools. He graduated from Andover in 1832, & before completing his twenty-second year he was married and ordained and had sailed as a missionary of the A.B.C.F.M. to Greece. The voyage to Malta was on the same brig with Rev. and Mrs. Wm. M. Thompson, on their way to Syria. On reaching Greece, Mr. and Mrs. Riggs found that there was an opening for a school at Argos, where they consequently went; but the opposition of the ecclesiastical authorities made it impossible after a while to keep up the school, and in November, 1838, they moved to Smyrna by direction of the Board. Here for nearly six years, Mr. Riggs preached in the chapel of the Dutch consulate to large audiences of Greeks, and shared with Mr. Temple in the preparation and publishing of Greek books and tracts. Mrs. Riggs also prepared a series of "Letters to Mothers on the Training and Instruction of their Children," which were published under the title of "The Mother's Manual," and found much favor in Greece as well.

In 1844 the increasing opposition to the evangelical work among the Greeks induced the Board to transfer Mr. and Mrs. Riggs to the Armenian department, and by request of the mission Mr. Riggs undertook a translation of the Bible into the spoken Armenian language. This work took seven years, and was so successfully done that it has remained the version in use till the present time, with practically no change. In May, 1853, by request of Constantinople Station, he was transferred to the capital, and for three years gave his time to the Bebek Seminary, in connection with the Greek department and later as instructor in theology. Then followed the only furlough which he ever took in America, from 1856 to 1858. During this period of "rest" he carried through the press an edition of the Armenian Bible, and at the same time gave instruction in Hebrew to the three classes in Union Theological Seminary, frequently also preaching on Sundays or giving missionary addresses in near-by churches. The trustees of the Theological Seminary called him to the professor-

ship of Greek and Hebrew Literature; but he declined, saying "I cannot remain in New York without doubts as to my duty; but I can return to my missionary work without any doubts at all."

Returning to Constantinople in the fall of 1858 Dr. Riggs and his family lived in the Girls' Boarding School in Haskey, where Dr. Riggs taught a Bible class while beginning on his preparation for Bible translation work in the Bulgarian language, which he had also mastered. In company with Rev. T. L. Byington, he made an extensive journey through Macedonia and Bulgaria, in 1859, to investigate more closely the situation as to the language. With prophetic insight he decided in favor of the Thracian as against the Macedonian dialect, and time has abundantly justified the choice. He had good Bulgarian assistants, and in the New Testament portion was associated with Dr. A. L. Long, of the Methodist Mission to Bulgaria, afterwards vice-president of Robert College. The work on the Bulgarian Bible took twelve years of his best effort; and in 1871 he laid before the Annual Meeting of the European Turkey mission the first bound volume of the completed Bible.

Two years later the two great Bible Societies designated him as one of four men to revise the Turkish translation of the Bible, and this work occupied the most of his time for the next five years. This revision was published in both Arabic and Armenian characters in 1878. Dr. and Mrs. Riggs spent the following winter in Aintab, Dr. Riggs giving lessons in Greek and Hebrew to select classes in Central Turkey College. On their return to the capital, they went to live in Scutari; and here was celebrated their golden wedding, in 1882, when all the living members of the family, twenty-one in all, gathered for a unique celebration. In 1885, owing to the failing health of Mrs. Riggs, they again went to be with their daughter, Mrs. Trowbridge, in Aintab, and there Mrs. Riggs passed away Nov. 15th, 1887, aged 77. She was Miss Martha Jane Dalzel before her marriage. Dr. Trowbridge died the following July; and Mrs. Trowbridge went to Constantinople where for the next dozen years she made a home for her aged father. Dr. Riggs was engaged in literary work, mainly for the Bulgarians, carrying through the press a Bulgarian commentary on the New Testament, a Bulgarian handbook of the Bible, and making notes for a future revision of the Bible and his own Bible dictionary in Bulgarian.

Dr. Riggs's contributions to the hymnology of the various languages in which he worked was most important. It seemed like a pastime to him to translate a hymn from the English into any one of four other tongues; and he gave to each a number of original hymns besides. In the Bulgarian hymn-book there are 478 of his, or over 76% of the whole number. Each edition in turn of the Greek hymn-book has been dedicated to him as the chief contributor. The new Armenian hymn-book contains about a hundred of his, and these are the ones that have proved most popular and are used the most today. The Turkish hymn-book also has a large number from his pen. Many others that he wrote have become popular in Sunday-schools and elsewhere but have not been embodied as yet in hymn collections.

But literary work was by no means the only kind in which he delighted. For over forty years it was his pleasure to preach practically every Sunday, and very often to conduct other meetings besides. And he did a good deal of touring around the country, visiting not only near-by places, but going as far as Beirut, Aintab, Marash, Ourfa, Diarbekir, Harpout, Sivas and Marsovan. His work as a teacher in Argos, Haskey, Bebek and Aintab has already been mentioned. When his youngest son became blind, Dr. Riggs became very much interested not only in securing books for him in the blind characters, but in making the Bible accessible to the blind among the Armenians by adapting the Moon alphabet to their language, and personally seeing large portions of the Scriptures through the press for them.

Dr. Riggs fell asleep January 17th, 1901, in Constantinople, and his body rests in the Ferikeuy cemetery, surrounded by those of three of his children. Two of his sons followed him in missionary work in this country, — the late Dr. Edward Riggs of Marsovan, and Mr. Charles W. Riggs, for a dozen years professor in Aintab; also one daughter, Mrs. T. C. Trowbridge, of Aintab; and nine of his grandchildren have received appointment as missionaries in this country in addition to one now under appointment to Albania. Another son, Rev. James F. Riggs, D.D., has been a pastor in America for nearly forty years.

The salient characteristics of Dr. Riggs may be mentioned as utter consecration to the service of God, conscientiousness in his use of time, money and all else, humility and an eagerness to learn new truth, and an unflinching loyalty to truth. A man who had accomplished so much in every line of missionary work might be supposed to have been in vigorous physical health; but such was not the case. Several times, in his prime, he suffered from hemorrhage from the lungs; and he was never a strong man. It was his extreme care when ailing and his strict adherence to regular habits of eating and sleeping that enabled him to reach his ninety-first year in spite of physical frailty. But he did this not from any love of living, but simply that he might have the longer opportunity to serve God in the service of his fellow-men. He was honored with the degrees of D.D. and LL.D. but he did not care for worldly fame. His ambition is indicated by the verse graven on his tombstone: "I shall be satisfied when I awake with thy likeness."

CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, October 17, 1915.

- BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles T. Riggs.
 UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew, D.D.
 ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. J. Kingsley Birge.
 CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE, Professor E. J. Fisher, Ph.D.

THE OTTOMAN CAMPAIGN.

The despatch of the 5th says:—

"There was no occurrence at the Dardanelles save local firing. Three hostile torpedo-boats came near the mouth of Kereviz valley and bombarded our left wing, but by the reply of our Asiatic coast batteries a fire was started on board one of the torpedo-boats, which retired in flames, and the other two withdrew from the mouth of the strait."

The despatch of the 6th says:—

"At the Anafartas, our artillery fired on the enemy's camp in the vicinity of Buyük Kemikli, and produced a great panic and caused the enemy loss. At Aru Bournou there was an intermittent infantry and artillery fire. At Sed-el-Bahr the mine that the enemy exploded before our right wing, as well as the usual artillery fire at our left, did no damage. A hostile monitor tried to bombard Gallipoli by indirect fire, but our artillery replied and hit it with a shell, whereupon it retired."

The despatch of the 7th says:—

"There has been no change worth noting at the Dardanelles or at the other fronts. It has been ascertained that a large transport as well as the English auxiliary cruiser 'Arabia,' of 8000 tons, were sunk in the middle of September west of the island of Crete by the German submarines."

The despatch of the 8th says:—

"At the Anafartas, our patrols attacked with bombs the enemy's troops that were strengthening their trenches, and stopped their work. Yesterday a hostile cruiser at the harbor of Kemikli was hit by a shell from our artillery and fled from the harbor. The fire that broke out in the Island of Imbros yesterday afternoon at two, lasted till evening. At Aru Bournou there was an insignificant exchange of rifle fire and bomb-throwing. At Sed-el-Bahr our artillery by its accurate fire destroyed the enemy's bomb-throwing position."

The despatch of the 9th says:—

"At the Dardanelles, at the Anafartas yesterday by our artillery fire we compelled a large hostile transport that was trying to approach Buyük Kemikli to retire. At Aru Bournou there was a feeble exchange of infantry fire and of shells and bombs. At Sed-el-Bahr the night before last our batteries fired on the enemy's searchlights and extinguished them. We occupied the crater made by the explosion of a mine by the enemy in front of our right wing, and strengthened it against the enemy. Yesterday our artillery fire did great damage to the hostile troops that appeared near Sed-el-Bahr."

The despatch of the 10th says:

"At the Anafartas the hostile batteries which yesterday were bombarding our left wing were silenced by the reply of our artillery. At Aru Bournou the mine that we exploded rendered useless the mine gallery that the enemy were in process of digging. The enemy's artillery position that was near Korou Dere was destroyed by our artillery fire; and the enemy had to evacuate this position. At Sed-el-Bahr the night before last, our patrols sent out from our left wing made a

bomb attack on the enemy's trenches, and regained their posts with considerable booty."

The despatch of the 11th says:—

"At the Dardanelles, at the Anafartas yesterday a shot from our artillery hit the torpedo-boat that appeared to the north of Kiredj Tepe, after which a cruiser and another torpedo-boat for ten minutes fired ineffectively at our artillery. In the afternoon a mine that we exploded under a hostile trench killed a large part of the soldiers in the trench; the rest had to flee. At Aru Bournou a hostile torpedo-boat bombarded our right wing; a cruiser and a monitor sent their fire in the direction of Maidos; but none of these did any damage. At Sed-el-Bahr the enemy according to their habit wasted more than a thousand shells against our positions without doing any damage. Our artillery in reply bombarded the enemy's batteries and bomb-throwing posts, and these batteries were silenced."

"There is no important change to record at the other seats of war."

THE GENERAL WAR.

The event of the past week has been the reopening of hostilities against Serbia, on the part of a very large Austro-German army, said to number a million men. These have crossed the Danube at many points between Shabatz and Gradishte, have captured again the city of Belgrade, which was captured the first time early last December and held by the Austrians for about a week. The former Servian capital fell on the 9th, — last Saturday. The Austrian troops have made some progress against the Servians also between Obrenovatch and the Machva region, in the northwest corner of Serbia. East of Gradishte there has been some bombarding, as far the Iron Gates. The command of this army of invasion is in the hands of Field-Marshal General von Mackensen, assisted by General von Gallwitz and General von Koewess.

The Russian campaign has been making slow progress this week. The Russian attacks against the Germans in the region west of Dunaburg have been repelled as also in the lake region north of Smorgon. The Russians have also been attacking southwest of Pinsk, but the Germans there report progress. Farther south, against the Austrians the Russians made some heavy attacks northwest of Tarnopol, and near Kremenietz, but they were finally repulsed. Along the east bank of the Strypa too, the Russians after a fierce resistance were driven back.

On the western front, the British and French attacks in the region of Loos and Arras were stopped, and the Germans retook a few of their lost trenches. The French have been attacking hard northwest of Souain and near Ville-sur-Tourbe, in Champagne, but in most cases the Germans report themselves victorious. In the Argonne, near Malancourt, some French mines were blown up by the Germans. On this front there have been a large number of air engagements, in which the duellists have either one or both of them fallen.

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Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Constantinople.

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE.

OCTOBER 13, 1915

The Italians have been doing some heavy bombardment the past week, especially on the Folgaria and Lavarone plateaus, and in the region of San Martino and Polazzo in the Doberdo region; but most of their attacks have been frustrated by the Austrian troops.

Nothing of note has taken place on the sea, except for the sinking of a Russian sailing vessel in the Gulf of Riga by a German seaplane, which threatened it and then descended to the sea, had the crew taken off on to the tug that accompanied the ship, and sank the sailing ship, rising and allowing the tug to go on.

THE BALKAN SITUATION.

The massing of approximately a million men by Germany and Austro-Hungary on the Servian frontiers and the crossing of the border at several points brings on an acute stage of the Balkan situation, and compels the Balkan States to define more clearly their positions. Especially is this so with Greece, for the Entente Powers have begun to disembark troops at Salonica, and the Hellenic Cabinet has been changed. The British expeditionary force there seems to be under the command of General Hamilton, who has been at the Dardanelles; and the French force is apparently to be under the orders of General Sarrail, commander-in-chief of the French army in the Orient, who is reported to have left for Salonica. The landing of these troops began on the 5th, and still continues. Apparently the Hellenic government permitted the disembarkation to begin before they sent in any protest against this apparent violation of Greek neutrality. Immediately after it began, Mr. Venizelos handed in his resignation as Premier, and the King summoned Mr. Zaimis, former governor of Crete, to form a new cabinet. He has succeeded in getting together such a galaxy of notables that his cabinet is said to merit the title of Ministry of Great Men. It is made up as follows:— President of the cabinet and minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Zaimis; minister of interior, Mr. Gouvaris; public

instruction and national economy, Mr. Theotokis; minister of finance, Mr. Dragoumis; minister of war, General Yannakides; minister of marine, Admiral Coundouriotis. Four of these men have already served as presidents of the council of State; and nearly all have been in public office before. It remains to be seen whither they will guide the ship of state and what reply they will make to this last move of the Entente Powers.

The rupture of relations between Bulgaria and Servia follows a period of discontent on the part of Bulgaria that began with the Treaty of Bucharest. Bulgaria felt that she was unjustly deprived by that treaty of a large section of Macedonia that belonged to her by right of nationality; and she was free to avow that she would not rest content with the arrangement. She has now demanded from Servia the cession of Macedonia, involving the strip from Strumnitza to Lake Ochrida, including Monastir and Prilep. Servia is unwilling to give up this territory, most of which was to have been Bulgarian by virtue of the old Serbo-Bulgarian agreement signed before the Balkan war, because she would thus lose her common boundary with her Hellenic ally. The Entente Powers warned Bulgaria that if she attacked Servia, they would come to the support of the latter. After the Russian ultimatum, recorded in our last issue, had brought no acceptable response, the British, French, Italian and Belgian ministers left Sofia, the Russian minister remained there by reason of illness, having but recently had an operation for appendicitis, but he remained as a private citizen. This break in diplomatic relations places Bulgaria definitely on the side of the Central Powers, for the Entente, by their landing of troops at Salonica have clearly shown that they intend to fight for Servia.

It remains to see what will be the attitude of Roumania. This is not at present writing clear. The Roumanian papers tell of efforts by Mr. Filipescu and others to weaken the position of the King, who is accused of being opposed to the national ideal. The *Adeverul* says a new party has been formed which is tending to menace the king's position. A Milli Agency telegram from Sofia says that according to despatches from Bucharest, the representatives of the Entente have begun negotiating with Roumania on the subject of her fulfilling the engagements she has made in favor of them. These representatives are said to have insisted that the Roumanian government, in accord with these promises, order a general mobilization and warn Bulgaria that in case she attacks Servia, Roumania will attack Bulgaria. The despatch goes on to say that the Roumanian government has said in reply that the tremendous changes that have recently taken place make it impossible for her to fulfil her previous engagements, and especially so since Greece, in spite of her treaty with Servia, has decided to remain neutral; and also that the threat of an attack by Austria and Germany has rendered her agreements null and void.

The Servian government last week notified the Bulgarian minister at Nisch that in view of the departure of the diplomatic representatives of the Entente powers from Sofia, Servia

felt obliged to likewise withdraw her minister from Sofia, and that she considered it unnecessary for the Bulgarian minister in Servia to remain any longer, and therefore handed him his passports and would facilitate his departure.

GREECE AND NEUTRALITY.

The *Tanin* thus comments on the present state of things in Greece:—

The fall of Venizelos and the political color of the new cabinet show that Greece is determined to maintain her neutrality. But this is not as simple as is the case in Roumania. On the one hand the Anglo-French troops have landed in Salonica, which is in violation of Greek neutrality. On the other hand, it is very difficult for Greece to go against the Entente, because her coasts are exposed to their fleets. It is clear that if Greece allows Ententist operations in Greek Macedonia, she will have violated her own neutrality; a protest on her part will make no difference in the final settlement. Further, if the Ententists go to the aid of Servia and are beaten by the Bulgarians and pursued into Greek territory, it is very natural that the Bulgarians should go on down to Salonica. In deciding therefore to maintain her neutrality, Greece must consider all these probabilities; and she will have great difficulty in trying to make her foreign interests fit in with her national interests.

"Clearly Greece is in a very critical position. It is probable that till now no European power, great or small, has been in such a tight fix. To go against the Entente would be equivalent to an invasion by the enemy, — albeit provisional, — of a large part of Greece. To consent to work with them would be suicide. To allow them freedom in their operations would in the last analysis lead to the same result.

"These grave difficulties are the outcome of the treason of Venizelos; for if, when he came to power the second time, he had sincerely and loyally kept the promise he made to the king, and had not facilitated the taking of this step that may drag Greece into the war, his country would not today be in the present situation. If Venizelos, or the government that followed his, had before the disembarking of troops at Salonica given notice that Greece was determined to defend by force of arms her national interests, the Paris and London cabinets would have hesitated to land troops. Of course in case of armed resistance by Greece, the British and French might have occupied all the islands; and yet their object is not to take away the islands, but to conquer the Germans. A quarrel between the Anglo-French troops and the Greeks would doubtless profit the Germans. But now that the landing has taken place, things are different. That is why we use the word treason unhesitatingly of the evil done to his country by Venizelos."

PROPERTY OF PERSONS TRANSPORTED.

A new provisional law has appeared in the daily press, regarding the real and personal property of persons who have been transported from their homes. It is as follow:—

ARTICLE I. The goods, assets and liabilities of persons transported elsewhere in conformity with the provisional law of May 14, 1331, are settled by the courts on the presentation of balance-sheets specially prepared, for each person, by a commission instituted for this purpose.

ART. II. The buildings and the Vakuf lands belonging to the persons in question are listed in the name of the treasury of the ministry of pious foundations; the rest of the real estate is listed in the name of the ministry of finance. After the clearing up of the state of the proprietor, the remainder of the value of his property will be paid over to him by one of these two ministries. In the proceedings concerning real estate and so forth, whether in contests about ownerships or in other suits, the adverse party is represented by the officials of the real estate office. Property may be proven in other ways than by certificates of ownership given by the real estate ministry, provided it is not a matter of an apocryphal act. If in the transferral or sale deeds made by the above-mentioned persons during the fifteen days before their transportation, a trial proves the existence of fraud or excessive deception, the deed drawn up is annulled.

ART. III. The ready cash, abandoned personal property, credits and deposits of the persons mentioned are taken up, gathered and collected by the presidents of the commissions *ad hoc*, who at the same time take charge of the sale of the abandoned property over which there is no contest. The sums thus realized are left in the safes of the ministry of finance in the name of the owner.

ART. IV. Two months time is allowed those who claim rights over the abandoned property or who say they have moneys to collect from the persons transported, to apply in person or through a power of attorney to these commissions and write out their claims. The time will be four months in case of persons residing abroad. They are further obliged to choose a domicile in the city where the commission sits, so that all sorts of communications may be made to them. Actions begun after the expiration of this term will follow the rules of ordinary processes, and persons who win their cases in these procedures may not lay claim to goods sold in conformity to the present law.

ART. V. The commissions will search for the proofs regarding each credit or debt; they will accept and record those they find proven, and send the creditors to the competent tribunals after having recorded the procedure of contest concerning the abandoned property. Then the commission will draw up the statement of assets and liabilities of each person and bring this to the notice of whom it may concern by posting in suitable places legalized copies of the same, the original statement with the papers referring to it being sent to the procurator-general. The procurator will send these papers to the court of first instance of the circumscription

wherein is located the legal home of the debtor before his deportation, and request the court to register these papers. The creditors may make objections to the proceedings before the proper tribunal within fifteen days from the posting of the notice. On the expiration of this period the tribunal will examine the accounts in the presence of the procurator-general, and if objection has been made, will summon immediately the person making such, and the president of the commission or his representative will hear the complaint and the reply. After this, the tribunal will make the needed change in the statements of accounts, and having registered them, will turn them over to the commissions in the form of sentences to be executed; in conformity with the following article. These sentences are not open to objection nor to reference nor to appeal nor to cassation.

ART. VI. The duty of paying up, in accord with the sentence, the privileged and ordinary debts of the debtor belongs to the liquidation commissions, and after they cease to sit, to the executive bureaus. If the total property of the debtor is insufficient to pay the whole of the ordinary and special debts, the latter will be paid *pro rata* according to the assets.

ART. VII. The distresses and writs of execution on the properties of persons deported, issued either by the courts or by the State administrations, are void, and those who have secured such writs must conform to the present law. Those having actions at law against the persons deported are free to apply to the commissions or to leave the affair to follow its normal course in accord with the usual proceedings.

ART. VIII. The method of constituting these commissions and the application of the different provisions of this present law will be fixed by a regulation.

ART. IX. Buildings of the category of *Idjare Feinli* as well as *Vakuf* lands and other real estate listed on the account of the ministries of *Evkaf* and of finance may, in conformity to the law concerning immigrants, be distributed to immigrants.

ART. X. The ministers of *Evkaf*, Justice and Finance are charged with the execution of this law.

ART. XI. This law is to go into effect from the date of issue.

September 13, 1331.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

In connection with the Annual Meeting of the American Board, which will be held in New Haven, Conn., next week the Communion of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at the Bible House, Stamboul, on Thursday, Oct. 21st, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

A large delegation of literary men from Syria is visiting the city, and is being shown the sights and given a series of dinners.

Last Monday Osman Bey, son of Sahib Molla Bey, was elected Deputy for Constantinople by a unanimous vote of 395 electors of the second degree.

THE PROVINCES

The International College at Smyrna has opened with 106 students to start with. Last year the number at the opening was only 43.

The Talas Boys' School has 60 pupils so far; but in the Girls' School they are crowded for room, with 116 girls, a larger attendance than ever.

NOTES.

Mrs. Lillian Cole Sewny arrived at the capital from Sivas on Saturday evening, and will take up nursing in the American Red Cross Hospital at Tash Kushla.

The American Red Cross Magazine for September has an interesting description by Rev. George C. Doolittle, Associate Director, of the American Red Cross Syrian Mission of last spring.

Dr. E. P. Case and family, of Erzroum, arrived in Constantinople yesterday, coming by way of Trebizond, Samsoun and Angora.

Mr. George Wadsworth, of the Staff of the Syrian Protestant College, Beirut, is spending some days at Robert College on his way back from a summer in Europe.

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