

The Orient.

May 4, 1910

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 3

THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

71st Session (April 12). A petition from the Emir of Mecca requesting that the salary of the Sheikh of Mecca and Medina not be reduced was referred, together with the Grand Vizier's letter, to the Committee. The general fiscal bill passed its first reading, articles 38-64 being accepted with the exception of the 45th which was referred to the Committee. The election of two Deputies from Yemen was ratified. In reply to a question asked by Daghavarian Effendi a representative of the department of Agriculture read a paper with reference to the damage done by murrain. The Deputy regarded the reply as unsatisfactory and began to explain his reasons. The representative of the department of Agriculture interrupted him with foul and abusive language, and was at once ejected from the House. The 3-9 articles of the bill of concessions were accepted, the 5th article, which exempts from taxation raw material in Turkey and that which is imported, was welcomed with applause. The 10th and 11th articles were referred to the Committee.

72^d Session (April 13). A vizierial letter with reference to the pensions of religious officials was referred to the Committee on Finance. A document was received from the Senate setting forth the impropriety of subjecting the collection of the income of the *Evkaf* (the Bureau presiding over the properties deeded for religious and charitable purposes, an institution peculiar to Islam) to the same law as that for the collection of government taxes. It was voted to apply to this document that article of the constitution which forbids the reconsideration, during the same session, by Parliament of a bill which has been rejected by the Senate. A letter from the Minister of Agriculture was read in which he expressed regret for the language used by his representative, Mehmed Ali Bey, at the previous day's session and that, being very much agitated over the incident, Mehmed Ali Bey had handed in his resignation, more over that, if necessary, he himself was ready to come and make explanations. The resignation of the official was not accepted. Khoulousi Bey, assistant of the Minister of Public Works, in reply to a question, said that during the last 40 years the Euphrates river had changed its course. It had been necessary to erect an embankment near Hindiheyi, but that had been destroyed and another had not been built. Sir William Willcocks deemed it best to renew the old embankment. According to the maps thus far prepared there were 500,000 hectares (1,235,500 acres) of land in need of irrigation, which otherwise cannot be made to yield profit. These explanations were accepted as sufficient. The document from the Senate with reference

to the collection of the income of the *Evkaf*, which had been set aside by vote, for the time being, in accordance with the 54th article of the Constitution, was taken up again and sent to the examining Committee on the ground that the 54th article had been amended and therefore does not justify the suspension of action on the Senate's document. At the afternoon session the articles of the bill on administrative reform, which been returned to the Committee for revision, were read and accepted. The bill of the government calling for a reduction in postage rates on newspapers and periodicals was taken up and three articles were accepted on the ground of urgency. The bill consists of the following, (1) The newspapers and periodicals published in Turkey shall be free from postal monopoly, (2) the postal rate for newspapers and periodicals, together with their supplements, within the limits of the Empire shall be 2 paras for every 50 grams or fraction thereof, (3) in accordance with article 2^d and the schedule of rates for ordinary printed matter the maximum weight of packages shall not exceed 5 kilos.

Note. A comparison with American postage rates for newspapers and periodicals shows that, if this bill becomes law, the Ottoman domestic postal service will charge 1 ⁸/₁₀ cents as against 1 cent charged in America. The present rate in Turkey for newspapers and periodicals is 1 cent for 30 grams, or 8 ³/₁₀ cents as against 1 cent charged for the same amount in America.

73^d Session (April 16). A letter from the Grand Vizier was read in which was emphasized the importance of indicating carefully the date of acceptance of laws sent from the legislative to the executive body, also another letter announcing that the bill for the reorganization of the police and gendarmery was being delayed because the special regulations for organizations indicated in the Budget were not ready. The bill bearing on enrollment for military service, after general discussion, was taken up article by article. Article 1 beginning "All Ottoman subjects, under the provisions of this law, are obliged to render military service . . ." was amended to read "All Ottomans etc." At the afternoon session the leader of the Popular Party presented a new Press bill. Another resolution was offered to the effect that Judges, like ordinary people, should be allowed to purchase land, and still another that Ministers, Senators, and Deputies, also all government officials should not be allowed to become directors on the managing boards of banks and monopolies. The second article of the bill of military enrollment, accepted after long discussion, consists of the following: every male who, according to the official registers, has completed his 20th year, on the 1st day of the following March enters the

age of military service and is subject to enrollment. The 3^d article consists of the following: the period of military service among the land forces is 25 years, the first three years active, 6 years first reserve, 9 years reserve, 7 years in the militia. In the music corps the term of active service is 5 years, first reserve 4 years, 6 years reserve. The general discussion of the bill was closed and when certain amendments were to be put to vote a dispute arose and the majority left the House. The principal point was the reduction of active service from three to two years.

AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS.

Summary of the Report of the Weather Bureau for the week April 23rd-30th.

(Observations of pressure, maximum and minimum temperature, humidity and rainfall are taken daily at 8 a. m.)

Average pressure.		29.73 inches.
Maximum >	(April 20 th .)	29.89 ¹ »
Minimum >	(April 23 rd .)	29.63 ² »
Average temperatures.		59.80 F.
Maximum >	(April 27 th .)	71.80 »
Minimum >	(April 24 nd .)	42.5 »
Average humidity.		77.40/0
Maximum >	(April 24 th .)	90. »
Minimum >	(April 25 th .)	60. »
Rainfall.		.005 inches.

Fifty-seven students have remained at the College through the holidays, and a number of excursions have been arranged for their pleasure. On Monday a large party went to Prinkipo. Wednesday morning a number visited St. Sophia, and other mosques and in the afternoon went up the Golden Horn to the Sweet Waters of Europe, returning at sunset to Scutari. On Friday there was an excursion to St. Stefano and the Walls of the City. With these trips and shopping and rehearsals at Arnaoutkeuy for the play, the time is passing most pleasantly and all too quickly.

Dr. Patrick is spending the holiday at Prinkipo, but came to the city on Wednesday to give a lecture at Somerville House.

Miss Abbie Sybil Montague, of the Greek Department of Wellesley College, and her friend, Miss Channing of Boston, visited the College this week.

HENRY HARRIS JESSUP.

A telegram from Beirut announces the death of the Rev. Henry H. Jessup, D.D. on Thursday April 28th.

Dr. Jessup was a missionary of the Presbyterian Board in Syria for fifty-four years. He was widely known, and beloved by all who knew the richness and purity of his christian character. He was of the John G. Paton type, modest in regard to himself, but mighty in his apostleship of love. In 1879 he served as Moderator of the General Assembly, and at another time he was invited to become one of the secretaries of

the Presbyterian Board, but he declined this honor and all that it would bring to him, because he felt that his heart and life belonged to his people in Syria.

Dr. Jessup was born in 1832. He graduated from Yale, and Union Theological Seminary. After ordination in 1855, he was appointed as a missionary to Tripoli, Syria, where he remained four years. Since 1860 he has been located at Beirut, where, in addition to his other work, he has served as missionary editor of the Arabic journal, "El Neshrah," and as professor of [theology and homiletics in the Seminary. He is also the author of several books.

THE HYGIENE LECTURES

OPEN TO ADULTS

(The following article has been prepared at the request of the Editors.)

From what I had learned from Dr. Patrick on the steamer and from other reliable sources after my arrival in reference to the high mortality from Tuberculosis in this and other cities of the Empire*, and of the prevalence of other contagious diseases and disease-breeding conditions, I was convinced that few things that we could do would be more useful than to try to awaken a vital interest in and increase the knowledge of hygiene, and perhaps ultimately bring about a general and determined attack on Tuberculosis such as is proving so beneficial in America today.

Every one seemed to think that we should have "our trouble for our pains" and that it would be impossible to get any audiences—nevertheless Dr. Patrick authorized the Department of Biology to make the trial.

Our first opportunity came through a request from the Armenian Women's Club of Scutari, and we secured an Armenian physician, trained in Edinboro, and a physician and Professor in Persia for many years, to speak on Tuberculosis. We provided a hundred leaflets of "How to Avoid and How to Cure Tuberculosis," in Armenian, to distribute after the lecture, wondering whether half of them would be needed. Private invitations were sent out and notices put in the papers. To our surprise and pleasure the audience numbered about 300, and were not only grateful but several asked that the lectures should be continued and the only criticism was that it was too short. Later, at the request of a member of the Imperial Sanitary Commission, we had a series of lectures in Turkish. One of these was for the public, the remainder were open only to ladies in order that the Turkish ladies might be able to attend. We had been told that it would be more difficult to secure their interest, so we did not expect such large audiences, and it was further argued that the Ar-

* Dr. Rifaat Bey, member of the Imperial Health Commission, and of the Municipal Board of Health, who has had experience as inspector through much of the Empire, as well as here in Constantinople, says that the deaths from Tuberculosis, in one form or another, are at least 30 0/0 of the total mortality.

menians, the women especially, have had for years so much more freedom than the Turkish women that they are much better informed, as a whole, in these matters. We secured excellent speakers, men trained in France and Germany, and had lectures on the following subjects: Typhoid-fever, Tuberculosis, Contagious Diseases of Children, Hygiene and Food of Children, Education of Women from the standpoint of Physiology and Hygiene, The Sanitary Care of the House and The Importance of Physical Education for Women.

The attendance has varied, but was generally over sixty and at the last lecture there were at least a hundred and twenty-five Turkish ladies from outside. The one lecture open to Turkish gentlemen, must have seemed valuable to them, for, before leaving, the speaker was engaged to address a large Turkish men's Club in Scutari.

The expressions of appreciation and thanks have been numerous and sincere. For whatever may besaid of Oriental extravagance of expression and politeness, it would not have brought out twenty ladies [on the third day of a cold March storm of wind and rain and snow, when the roads were almost impassable and carriages very difficult to secure. Nor would the Governor of Scutari have troubled, out of mere formality, to show his appreciation] by sending us a manuscript letter in French, of which the [following is a translation.

March 9th, 1910

Madame President,

The lecture invitation which you so kindly sent us, has given us great pleasure. You are to be complimented upon the endeavors which you are generously making for the intellectual development of young women which is of great benefit to our country, and above all for this general acquaintance with science and education which you wish to promote by offering lectures to Turkish ladies.

We have for a long time held the American people in respect, the most advanced of the nations, and the best endowed with the spirit of activity and initiative.

The educational and philanthropic work which the American schools carry on in order to introduce this manner of life and work among us, increases our national affection for the United States and draws closer the bonds of friendship which already unite the two countries.

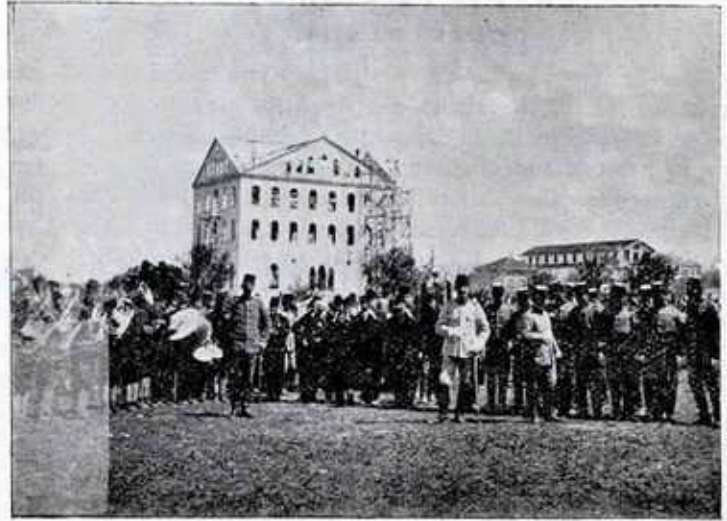
Your undertakings, Madame, from this point of view, are worthy of my sincere congratulations.

I take advantage of this opportunity, therefore, to thank you for all the courtesies which you have so kindly extended to us.

Accept, Madame President, the assurance of my highest regards.

The Governor of Scutari

A. FAIK



New Building, St. Paul's Institute, Tarsus.

Surely it is evident that the people are ready and glad to listen. The women appreciate a good speaker, and are ready to respond to those who show the important rôle that women play in developing the health and strength of a nation and the responsibility which, therefore, rests upon them. And, although the men seem to feel that their time and energy are needed in what seem to them more urgent legislative matters, we believe that if American and English people take up the matter in a helpful and tactful way, the Turks will soon realize that to rouse all the races of this complex Empire to fight, shoulder to shoulder, against the common foe, disease, will not only enormously improve the health of the nation, but will also greatly lessen the political friction.

We are glad that Mrs. Marden is having a similar course of lectures at Gedik Pasha. Our only regret is that lack of means and the increasing number of College appointments for the last weeks of the year made it necessary to close when interest was so great, but we hope to begin earlier next year, and to have a larger number of lectures.

EMILY RAY GREGORY
Professor of Biology.

MEETINGS IN CHURCHES VETOED.

The Catholikos of the Armenians, having heard of the agitation caused by the question of allowing the Churches to be used for secular meetings of all sorts, has written a letter to the Patriarch in which he strictly forbids such permission being given. It is seldom that the Head of this most democratic among established Churches makes use of his prerogative of veto, but his action under these circumstances will give general satisfaction because it will serve to check the *Tash-nagists* in their ignoble campaign against the principles for which the Church stands.

**AMERICAN SCHOOL
GEDIK PASHA.**

School closed for the Easter Holiday April 27, and opens again May 9. On the afternoon of April 27, Accession Day, the pupils had a parade in the garden, carrying banners and singing patriotic songs, closing with an enthusiastic speech by Yavher Bey, the Turkish Master, contrasting the feeling of the people toward the present ruler with that held by them for his predecessor and closing with an exhortation to the boys and girls to love their Sovereign, their Country, and the Constitution.

In the evening Stamboul was a blaze of glory in honor of the Sultan of the Osmanlis.

On Thursday April 25th Dr. Riza Tewfik Bey, the well known orator, gave a lecture to women which was listened to by a large and appreciative audience, composed largely of Turkish ladies. The upper class of the Dar-ul-Malumat were present with several teachers.

We are greatly indebted to Dr. Riza Bey for the series of helpful and instructive lectures he has given during the past months. It is a rare opportunity to listen to his brilliant discourses. He will lecture again on Friday May 6th on The Relation of Matter and Mind.

Miss Jones is spending a few days at the Brusa Baths, for needed rest.

NOTES.

Mr. Macallum of Marash writes to Mr. Peet as follows :

"I was very glad to get your last Lt. 500. It was at once divided up between Marash, Zeitoun, and the villages and is being distributed as quickly and as wisely as possible. I keep hearing of what seem to be well authenticated cases of the death of children from starvation. One family in the Geok-sun plain lost a child through poisoning, owing to carelessness in collecting grass. Some poisonous weeds were mixed with the others. The whole family became sick but all recovered except the child referred to".

Rev. W. N. Chambers of Adana writes, under date of April 23^d, as follows :

I have just returned from Hadjin, after an absence of two weeks.*** The country is quiet. In indications of the massacre are few. Business is brisk, and the promise of a large harvest is extremely good. It was a pleasure to ride through miles of fields of heavy grain, whe at and barley.

The sad, sad indications of the awful massacre are the widows and orphans. The energy of the Vali, Djemal Bey, has accomplished wonders, but there are wonders still to be performed.

The Baghdad R. R. people have staked out much of their line across the plain, and grading has begun in some places.

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SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

A School of Dentistry will be opened in the Syrian Protestant College in Beirut in October, 1910. The standard of the School will be high, and the course of instruction will cover three years. Upon graduation the students will receive the degree of Doctor of Dental Science. In accordance with the practice of the best schools in America, the studies of the first year will be practically identical with the studies of the first year Medical Course. The terms of admission will be the same as those required for entrance into the Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy. The tuition fee will be L. 10 payable in advance. The entrance examinations will be held on June 27 to 28, and on Oct. 10 to 13.

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