

# The Orient.

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## THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

**22nd session, June 27th.** Modifications were introduced into the bill for the destruction of noxious insects, so that the fines for non-report of such pests shall be reduced to a minimum of a quarter lira and a maximum of a lira and further that the expense for the application of the law shall be met in the first instance by the vilayet, without waiting for the central department to act. Then followed the first important trial of strength in a division on a proposal to authorize the sale of the goods of persons who fail to pay their debts to the Department of Evkaf, within a space of ten days after due notice has been served. Despite the severity of this rule, it was passed by a vote of 94 to 41, with 6 abstentions. Evidently an opposition of some weight is beginning to feel its own existence. Quite a debate followed on the demand for Lt. 25,000 for the Ottoman Navigation Company, to enable them to enlarge their works at Azab Kapou. Further discussion was finally postponed till the whole budget shall come up.

**23rd session, June 29th.** The Chamber sent its condolences to the Austrian Reichsrath on learning of the assassination of the Heir-Presumptive. A law designed to prevent abuses in the sale and transfer of real estate was passed without much debate. The budget of the savings-bank attached to the Agricultural Bank was discussed at some length, and at last passed. The provisional bill granting an additional Lt. 150,000 to the war budget for the purchase of cavalry horses, was passed after inquiries had been made as to steps for the bettering of the breed of horses in the empire. A bill was also approved appropriating Lt. 25,000 for the expenses of the sacred caravan from the Capital to Mecca. Another measure passed provides that those officials who during the late war spent some time in prison should have this time reckoned in with their period of service; and those who fled to foreign parts should receive pay for half of that period. A bill was also introduced providing that sentences of the court-martial shall not be subject to appeal; but this was hotly opposed and its discussion adjourned.

**24th session, July 1st.** Less than half an hour sufficed to pass three or four laws, one of which grants a pension of Lt. 20 a month to Capt. Atif Bey of Angora, for his great services to his country; — he having shot Shems-eddin Pasha, just before the Constitution was proclaimed.

**25th session, July 4th.** Before a full house and in the presence of the Grand Vizier and other cabinet officers,

the Minister of Finance, Djavid Bey, made an important speech about the Budget which he presents for the coming year. After recalling the very exceptional circumstances that have come to the country the past two years, the advance of the enemies to the very gates of the Capital, and the financial crisis of 1912, he said: "I am not of those who consider our cause a lost one; my statements are therefore founded not on sentiment but on practical observations. We have indeed in the immediate past a period blemished by humiliation; but we must not forget that back of that we have another past, more glorious and brilliant, a past full of heartening examples; and I believe if we can now earn the right to live, and if we grasp firmly the duties imposed on us by this right, we may make this glorious past live again, and with increased brilliance. I believe in this future, and therefore I assert that our cause is not lost." The Minister then referred to the loan of 1911, saying that under normal conditions this ought to have been the last large loan the Empire should have had to secure, and that by now the equilibrium of the budget would have been attained. But the Tripolitan war, with its monthly expense of Lt. 140,000, made necessary the issue of treasury Bonds, and loans from the Ottoman Bank and the Deutsche Bank, resulting in a floating debt of eight million liras. Further complications were the changes of cabinet, and lastly the Balkan war. Loans became necessary from the Anatolian Railroad, the Lighthouse Society and the Tobacco Monopoly; also the Taxim parade ground and the han in Galata where the Bourse used to be, were sold. Djavid Bey then went minutely into the history of negotiations for the great French loan, and explained the hard conditions under which it had been obtained, and the concessions demanded in return. He referred to the taking over by Italy and probably by the Balkan States of portions of the Public Debt; also to the negotiations about the Baghdad railroad; but the day was too brief for him to complete his speech, and it was adjourned to the next session.

**26th session, July 6th.** The Minister of Finance continued his speech and took two hours more to finish it. He explained the method of paying the big French loan, and stated that the entire debt of the Empire now stood at Lt. 139,000,000 (= \$ 611,000,000). He referred to the extra expense involved in the purchase of the dreadnaughts "Reshadié," "Sultan Osman" and "Fatih," all of which was of course necessary for the safety of the Empire. He then stated briefly the way in which the probable receipts were estimated at Lt. 32,000,000, leaving a deficit of



Lt. 1,148,000. The details of the budget are given in another column.

**27th session, July 7th.** Most of the session was given to the general discussion on the budget. Many of the deputies complained that the budget was dependent on provisional measures that had not yet been ratified, and some of which stood no great chance of being ratified, — such for instance as that of 50 % on real estate, which hit the farmers very hard. Others blamed the Government for its multitude of provisional laws; and some said the salaries of many civil officials were too high and should be reduced by 20 %. The Minister of Finance replied to the criticisms, saying that only the exceptional circumstances of the past two years had driven the Government to these provisional measures; and that as to the salaries, of the 80,000 civil officials of the Government, 70,000 received less than ten liras (\$ 44) per month; and of those who received over one hundred liras there were but 69; and that most of the better paid officials had been in the service twenty or thirty years, so that it would be manifestly unfair to reduce the pay of such faithful servants. On the close of the general discussion, the provisional measure appointing Count Ostrorog First Legal Adviser to the Porte, with a salary of Lt. 150 a month, was discussed. The Minister of Interior pointed out the great services expected from this new official, and begged the Chamber on behalf of the Government not to start a discussion regarding his salary being so high.

**28th session, July 8th.** The budget of the Public Debt was passed; but it encountered no little opposition. Discussion on it had to be interrupted in order to pass the bills authorizing the great French loan of Lt. 35,200,000, and the issue of treasury bonds. But the trouble began when it was announced that it had been necessary for securing the great loan to appropriate from the provinces the special tax for education that had been added to the tithes for each province. This measure will necessitate the closing of many schools. The Minister of Finance acknowledged the iniquity of the procedure, but said the loan could not have been secured in any other way, and that the amount would later be repaid to the provinces, but this could not be done this year without a new loan of some sort. Thus was shown the straits of the central government for money. The budget of the Ministry of Finance was also discussed. It provides for an added Lt. 2,616 for salaries, which did not please the deputies, but was allowed.

**29th session, July 9th.** In the course of the discussion of the budget of the Court of Accounts, the Chamber turned down the demand of the Government for salaries for 20 additional accountants; and at this defeat the Minister of Finance declared that he would no longer be responsible for the prompt settlements of accounts. During the consideration of the budget of the department of indirect contributions, which includes custom-house receipts, Shefik Bey of Constantinople complained that the custom-houses are closed Sundays and opened Fridays, whereas in this country it should be the reverse. Formerly, he said, when the

custom-house porters were all Armenians, it might have been appropriate; but now that they are all Moslems, it was not fair to compel Moslems to work Fridays and rest Sundays. The Director-general of Customs explained that local circumstances made this necessary here, but in Moudania it was the reverse. But he promised to study the matter. A protest on this question was sent by certain deputies to the Government.

**30th session, July 11th.** When the budget of the Ministry of Justice was up, it gave the deputies a fine chance to complain of the way the judges were appointed and recalled, allowed to dispense injustice, poorly paid, etc. Those from Arabic-speaking districts complained that often the judges did not know the local language, and abuses resulted. Without waiting to finish this matter, the Chamber passed a bill creating an Evkaf Bank, all of whose shareholders must be Moslems; it also accepted the provisional approval of the budget for the month of July. It also decided to sit Fridays and Sundays as well, so as to complete its work before Ramazan begins.

### THE ORACLE HAS SPOKEN

*La Turquie* of July 13th says:

The Imperial *irade* convoking the new Chamber on May 14th last for an extraordinary session, fixed the duration of this at two months. So that the parliamentary session reaches its limit today. Although the Government and the Parliamentary majority were agreed on the principle of prolonging the session, as necessary for the finishing of the budget discussion, nothing had as yet been decided as to the length of extra time to be decreed by the Executive. Only yesterday was a final decision reached. At a meeting at 10 a. m. at the Parliament building, the Union and Progress Party decided on an extension of the session for ten days. Thus the work of Parliament can be continued only till the National Holiday, July 23rd. There is ample time between now and then to adopt the budgets as yet unpassed, especially as the Chamber is to sit on Fridays and Sundays as well, so as to complete its task. Today the Imperial rescript concerning the prolonging of the session will be officially communicated to the two Houses.

### CALENDAR OF NOTEWORTHY DATES.

- July 16, 1912, Said Pasha Cabinet resigns.
- 17, 1901, Rev. G.W. Wood, D.D., Constantinople, died.
  - 18, 1792, Levi Parsons, Smyrna and Jerusalem, born.
  - 20, 1888, Rev. T. C. Trowbridge, LL.D., Aintab, died.
  - 21, 1909, Mrs. Lizzie A. Pierce, Erzroum and Bardizag, died.
  - 21, 1912, Mahmoud Moukhtar Pasha made Grand Vizier.



## PLEASURES AND PERILS OF TRAVEL IN TURKEY.

*Aintab, July 4, 1914.*

Dear *Orient*: —

We started for Aintab on June 9th, taking the Baghidad R.R. as far as Djihan where we spent the night. About noon the next day we were under the ruins of the great castle of Anavarza on our way to Sis. We determined to visit these ruins and drove into the village at the foot of the hill to seek a guide. One of a group of men sitting under the shade of a tree smoking said he would guide us and would not ask much — "only a dollar." After a little talk we engaged him for half a dollar. We crossed a level space strewn with ruins just under the brow of the hill in which were cut what would appear to be seats and we judged this the amphitheatre, — space enough for the whole population to witness any spectacle that might be presented. Climbing the hill where were many sarcophagi we found one with a badly obliterated Greek inscription. The main castle wall is in places apparently as strong as when first built with all battlements intact. Passing on to the highest point we found ourselves on a narrow irregular ridge of rock rising from the plain possibly 300 to 400 feet high. From the base of this long ridge on all sides the level plain stretched away as far as the eye could reach. Away in the distance was Sis Castle where the last Armenian King had his capital and where the present Armenian Catholicos has his seat. In other directions were Koum Kaleh, Yilan Kaleh, Toprak Kaleh and also Bodroum Kaleh, — great strongholds in sight of this great castle.

Inside the walls one of the ruins of interest was that of an Armenian church. There was an Armenian inscription over the entrance, badly injured. The frescoes on the walls of the altar alcove were too much injured to show the subjects, but the colors had penetrated the stucco and impressed themselves on the stones of the wall. A ruined Armenian church, I suppose a relic of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia. We descended the hill by a long flight of steps cut in the rock and came down to the great door of the double wall that enclosed a considerable space under the great perpendicular cliff.

We reached Sis in the evening and thence took horse for Hadjin. After three days of steady work over questions pending in the Hadjin station, I started for Marash with three delegates from Hadjin to attend the Annual Meeting. We left Hadjin on a beautiful afternoon. Everything was bright and hopeful and we were all in the best of spirits. The thought of passing through mountains infested with brigands and desperadoes on the second day of our journey caused us a little anxiety but not enough to dampen our spirits in any way. We had a zaptieh, — a nice young fellow who showed alertness in his work and service. About 4 p. m. we were working through very rough rocky country. The report of a rifle was heard, and the zaptieh remarked that there was a good deal of game in the mountains and

we paid no further heed to the report. We were approaching the descent of what is called the Khancher Gorge — a precipitous deep rocky gorge down which one cannot ride. Not only was this place rocky but it was covered with bush. At the narrowest, rockiest part we were startled by a sudden command "Halt! do not move." I glanced to our left-front and looked into the muzzle of a Martini rifle in the hand of a desperado. The zaptieh was immediately in front of me. He dismounted, unslung his rifle and came back a few paces seeking cover of a rock by the side of my horse which I had partially turned facing the robber to whom I called not to shoot. But scarcely had I called when a shot rang out from another side and the poor zaptieh dropped dead in his tracks pierced through the breast. In a moment a half dozen desperate brigands were in our midst and we were at their mercy. They began the search for "gold only" on my native companions, and were greatly disappointed at finding so little, as they had been informed that the party had a good deal of money. One of the band was intent on taking the life of Mardiros Agha Gertmenian. His companions objected and after a good deal of parley in which we all took part this desperado said to Mr. Gertmenian, "Very well, I grant your life for the sake of your son, who is a brave fellow." They did not touch me and even refused my purse which I offered in the midst of the parley for the sake of Mr. Gertmenian. This over they ordered us to hasten on our way and cautioned us not to return to Hadjin on threat of shooting if we attempted it. They would not allow us to do any thing for the murdered zaptieh and hurried us away from the spot.

We traveled on through mountains till 9 p. m. to a Kourdish village where we spent the night. The next morning we reached Geuksoun where we reported the tragedy to the government.

Because of this we made a detour over the mountains in order to avoid brigand territory.

The successive nights were spent in the houses of a Muscovite Turk, a Kourdish Bey, with whom we had a quiet, restful Sunday, a Circassian host, and a Turkish Bey. It was very interesting to me to meet with such hospitality amongst these different races in a short four days' journey and I must say that I am unable to say which was the more unbounded hospitality.

We have had a fine Annual Meeting and most helpful conference with the native Church Union. Evangelization was the key note. As this was discussed, my thoughts reverted time and again to the band of brigands and my hosts of this journey. What a broad field for work stretches out before the Evangelical Churches and institutions of this district and country. The entrance of the word of the Lord bringeth light.

W. NESBITT CHAMBERS.

Two new student interpreters have come from America to be connected with the Embassy here, — Mr. Charles Allen of Kentucky, and Mr. Charles Lange of New York.



## CENTRAL TURKEY MISSION MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Central Turkey Mission was held in Aintab from June 23rd to July 4th. About 35 missionary workers from the various stations were present. The meeting of the Cilicia Evangelical Union, with about 60 preachers and workers present, was held at the same time. The two bodies held separate meetings in the morning and a joint conference in the First Church in the afternoon. A strong evangelistic spirit coupled with a desire for deeper spiritual life, marked the meetings.

"The American Board will never send any more missionaries to the Central Turkey Mission." In the first of the devotional meetings, Rev. T. D. Christie, D.D., who has given 37 years of service in this field, repeated the statement made by an early but less optimistic missionary. Then in graphic words he described the growth of the mission work, comparing the early limited work with the present extensive activities of hospitals, schools, churches and other institutions. "This mission was once but a prayer, but through faith and perseverance it has grown," he said. These daily devotional meetings, marked with much prayer, were an inspiration and uplift to all present.

No serious event hindered the meetings, though of course there were various difficulties incident to missionary life. Rev. Wm. Chambers, D.D., of Adana, was attacked by robbers near Hadjin. The bandits did not touch him however, but systematically "went through" all the members of his party securing a few liras and other valuables. The Turkish gendarme was shot and his body thrown over the precipice.

On the second day of the conference a telegram announced the illness of Rev. Mr. Woodley's baby, and with Dr. Shepard he made a forced trip of 60 miles to Marash in the night. Under the doctor's treatment the baby soon recovered. Aside from these events the conference was marked with good health and happy spirits, and the unusually cool weather was a great blessing.

The meetings were occupied by reports from the different institutions and various lines of work. The evangelistic work in the churches, as seen in the reports of the main stations, Aintab, Marash, and Adana, shows several outstanding facts:

Increased church membership and larger donations mark gratifying progress.

Immorality and intemperance and an agnostic view of life are rapidly entering even the interior cities.

The work is greater than the resources. On every hand progress is hindered by lack of workers and funds.

The very low salaries paid to pastors, constitute a great hindrance to young men from entering the ministry.

The leaders of the churches see the need of a more evangelistic, spiritual life and are eager to have the Gospel message preached to all peoples.

The three American schools for girls likewise show progress, every one being taxed to its utmost capacity. The

Adana Girls' Seminary rejoices in a new building which will be ready for occupancy in September. Marash Girls' College will also have its new music building ready in the fall. Aintab Girls' Seminary is the center of 19 village schools and has hardly room for the new students that want to come.

The demand for village teachers is hard to supply. The villages often can not pay the salary and in many cases a girl can not be sent there alone.

The value of educating girls is now more widely recognized, and thus the standards of women are being bettered.

The mission is proud of the work of its two hospitals, the Azariah Smith Hospital in Aintab, and the International Hospital in Adana. The strength of the doctors and nurses has been greatly taxed this year by the increased number of patients. Both hospitals immediately need assistant physicians. In Aintab the new addition to the hospital will be completed in September thus furnishing a better operating room and larger wards. In Adana the hospital is in the heart of the city and so crowded that all long for the time when it will be possible to build a new hospital outside of the city. The reports show great opportunities of carrying the Gospel of Christ through medical work. The loving contact in the wards and the daily messages of the hospital chaplains has given many an ignorant sufferer the vision of Christ.

Two colleges for boys are carrying on the work of higher education in the mission, Central Turkey College in Aintab and St. Paul's College in Tarsus. The former has just succeeded in securing the *mektebi ali* or university rank by changes in the curriculum and the addition of one year's study. In these times when education is looked upon as a source of commercial gain, these two colleges stand out firmly for a higher education of boys with the supreme purpose of character-building. From them have come most of the teachers and preachers of the mission. The demand for teachers in the city and village schools from these colleges is ever increasing.

The Industrial High School in Ourfa is carrying on the double work of teaching boys a trade and giving them a high school education. In a country where work is called degrading and actual production is small, the benefit of a practical education which shows a boy how to earn his living, can not be over estimated. Here too, the handkerchief industry founded by the late Miss Shattuck has given employment in their own homes to 1771 widows and girls. The Shattuck School for Blind reports nine new students and six graduates.

Nine students graduated from the Marash Theological Seminary this June and all were immediately given large important churches. The need for pastors is so great that the seminary has decided to have a new class every year instead of one every three years as formerly.

Aintab, July 4, 1914.

P. E. N.

The city of Kortcha in southern Albania has been captured by the Epirotes, assisted, it is said, by insurgent Albanians.



### THE ORIENT

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**Charles T. Riggs**

Bible House, Constantinople.

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE.

JULY 15, 1914.

## EDITORIAL.

Ten times as much in the regular budget for war as for education, and a special budget of five million liras more for extra war preparations. And all this in addition to the big budgets for gendarmerie and the navy. Where do the schools come in? Also an even smaller sum for the whole department of Commerce, Agriculture, Mines and Forests. The country can never expect any financial equilibrium while the proportions are as at present. Oh that the figures might have been interchanged, and ten or twelve millions been allotted to education and agriculture, while the army and navy stayed content with a million or so! When the country's leaders come to realize that what is needed is not the reconquest of lost territories so much as the enlightenment of the illiterate, a new era of prosperity will dawn for this poor distracted land. The inhabitants are no whit behind the average of other countries in intellectual ability, and as for the land itself, Asia Minor might be again the granary of the world; and its hidden resources of mineral wealth are yet untold. Happiness consists not in the abundance of territory possessed, but in the ability to use it intelligently.

The Budget now before Parliament is in many respects an immense advance over any previous attempt; and we congratulate the able Minister of Finance on what he has done. And the prospect seems good of securing a self-balancing budget in a year or two, if peace and justice to all are the motto, rather than revenge.

The closing of the Orthodox churches and schools all over the country as a protest against the recent occurrences against Greeks, has proved an unfortunate mistake. Neither at the Porte nor in Russia and the rest of Europe has the effect been what the Patriarchate forecast. Some years ago, when the present Patriarch, Germanos V., was locum tenens,

there was an attempt by the Ottoman Government to curtail the privileges or rights of the Patriarchate; and as a measure of protest the churches were then closed, leading to quite an effervescence on the part of the Greek population. Thinking that the weapon would be again effective, the authorities once more put it in operation. But this time the conditions were quite different, and it has failed. In any case it was a method of questionable usefulness. For at a time of national calamity the people need the spiritual consolations of the Church more than ever; and it is not a kindness to deprive them of these under any guise. And for the past weeks not only were no services held in the closed churches, but the priests would not even perform any of the rites of the church. The newborn babies had to go unbaptized; and the Communion was not administered. Those who wished to be married simply had to wait. The priests even refused to perform the burial rites; but as the dead would not wait indefinitely for burial, some friendly Gregorian or other priest was called in, and the last offices performed. It has been a real privation for the people; but the worst thing about it was that they were undergoing all this simply because the Patriarch ordered the closing up of everything. We are sorry it was done, and glad that there seems a good prospect of an early return to normal conditions.

### BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT YEAR 1914-1915.

The figures proposed by Djauid Bey, Minister of Finance, in Parliament on July 4th are as follows: -

Public Debt	Lt. 14,983,031
War	5,990,000
Finance	2,278,924
Gendarmerie	2,216,453
Marine	1,318,932
Interior	1,023,320
Posts and Telegraphs	707,104
Justice	658,298
Public Works	556,823
Public Instruction	552,892
Civil List	504,650
Public Security	487,381
Ordnance	450,612
Sheikh-ul-Islam	420,603
Agriculture, Mines etc.	397,034
Custom-Houses	377,783
Foreign Affairs	258,984
Health Bureau	126,414
Defter Hakkani	100,619
Grand Vizierate	30,541
Council of State	23,977
Court of accounts	22,871
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Lt. 33,487,263</b>



### CILICIA CONFERENCE.

The Central Turkey Mission and Cilicia Evangelical Union, and the Joint Conference, have just completed a very successful series of annual meetings at Aintab. Attendance at the Mission meeting numbered about thirty, and the pastors and delegates present for the meeting of the Union about fifty, so the total membership of the Conference was about eighty.

The general subject for the Conference was "Evangelization," and a number of papers were read on different aspects of this theme, each paper being followed by discussion which was often of great interest and value. The last three sessions were given to closed meetings which considered the spiritual condition of the churches, a pastor's difficulties, and the broader vision of universal evangelization, but in a real sense these same subjects formed the undertone of all the preceding discussions.

Some of the important action taken was as follows:—

It was voted to appoint one missionary and one representative of the churches as secretaries of the Home Missionary Society, to visit all the churches of the Union and present the subject of Evangelization. These secretaries will appeal directly for funds and for personal workers, and will seek to focus the attention of the churches on this subject. It has been voted to increase the home missionary gifts of the churches from Lt. 100 to Lt. 150 and to secure gifts for church building amounting to Lt. 50. This new departure in the work of the Home Missionary Society is connected with a proposition for the formation of an organization to embrace all the Protestant churches in the empire for purposes of evangelization.

A standing committee on education was appointed to do all in its power to secure the carrying out of the course of study adopted by the Cilicia Union, and to have general oversight of the educational work of the Union.

The Cilicia Union took noteworthy action regarding the proposed union between Protestants and Gregorians, stating its conviction that such union was not practicable, and that it would be disadvantageous for both Protestants and Gregorians. The vote was unanimous.

Steps were taken to form a General Armenian Evangelical Association, for the financial support of weak churches and schools.

Other important items were the vote of the Cilicia Union to ordain three preachers, at Kilis, Ourfa and Alboustan, respectively; the examination and licensure of nine graduates from the Marash Theological Seminary, and granting of a license to one lay preacher; the vote of the managers of the Theological Seminary to accept a new class hereafter each year; the levying of an apportionment of two metallics per member upon each church by the Cilicia Union for purposes of publication.

The outstanding feature of the meetings was the willing and hopeful acceptance on all sides of "Evangelization" as the keynote of the evangelical movement and as its great task.

### THE FOURTH AT BEIRUT.

President Bliss writes:

"We celebrated our Fourth of July in ample measure: a reception at the Consulate in the morning, a presentation of a silver inlaid brass platter to the Consul-General with speeches by Dr. Porter, Mr. Hardin, Dr. Hoskins and myself, with the reading of the following letter; an exceedingly mirth-provoking Polo game on donkeys by the members of the Staff; a fourteen-inning baseball game between the "Ephemerals," (viz. members of the Staff who are leaving after completing their three years' engagements) and the "Immortals," (viz. those whose term of service is not over); and a community picnic supper on the grounds of the Marquand House. The day's events were heralded in the *Bazoo*, a witty publication issued by the Staff."

The letter to the Consul-General was this:—

*Beirut, Syria, July 4th, 1914*

The Honorable W. Stanley Hollis  
American Consul General  
Beirut.

My dear Sir:

On this glorious day of patriotic memories it is a great pleasure to address you as our Consul General in Beirut, and to take note of the fact that this completes 25 years of continuous service in the Government of the United States of America. We wish to congratulate you most heartily on this occasion and to wish you continued success and prosperity. We wish to bear testimony to your faithful devotion to American interests, to your interest and sympathy in all our work and to your unwearied activity to promote the welfare of our beloved Country in this part of the world. May your health be ever equal to your ardent desire for service, and may the assurance that your efforts for the well-being of the varied American interests in Beirut, Syria, and in the Near East are appreciated by the members of the American Colony in Beirut, serve as a source of strength to you in your arduous labors.

We beg you to accept as a souvenir of this happy occasion the modest gift which it is our pleasure to present to you.

With all good wishes, we remain

Yours very truly,

THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN COLONY IN BEIRUT, SYRIA

### CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, July 26th, 1914.

BEBEK CHURCH, 8:30 p. m., Rev. Robert Frew.

UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew.

ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles T. Riggs.



## QUO VADIS, PERSIA?

## PERSIA! WHITHER ART THOU GOING?

The Turkish weekly *Ishtihad* thus bemoans the careless folly of the Persians: —

This title and article have been suggested by some bitter and complaining lines quoted in the *Sedai Hak* from the *Terjuman* published at Baghtcheli Serai, Russia. I put the lines written by the *Sedai Hak*, before the eyes of my brethren in faith and race:

"We think it would be right to call this last period in the life of the notables and proprietors in Persia 'a period of sales.'"

All the forests at Mazandaran and Keilan, which may be considered as the largest forests on earth, are sold and gone. The buyers, profiting by the present troubles, and not wishing to let the occasion pass, are treating the purchased forests in an unprecedentedly savage manner. The *Shemshad* and *Duz Paloot* trees, which grow only in the Mazandaran and Keilan forests, are thus vanishing entirely from Persia.

Lately Germans are making endeavors to buy property and get privileges in Azerbaijan. The proprietors think that this is for their own benefit, and give their properties, valued at 1,000 tomans, for 10 tomans and 'cheat the stupid Germans.' But the sale of lands is beginning now. The Germans from Germany, the Armenians emigrating from the Caucasus, and the Jews from Russia, buy Persian lands at prices which are below their worth.

There is no one in Persia to understand that man can live only if he has land, and that if there is no land, man cannot live.

Today in Persia there is nothing sold cheaper than land. If it goes on like this, after a short time not one-tenth of the present lands will remain in Persia's possession. If no lands are left, man cannot be fed. And so, after a short time, the Persian people must rise and live in the air, or they will be obliged to disappear from this earth. We know that they cannot do the first of these; and as to the second, it is much more probable.

The Government is preparing a bill for getting in its possession all the forests in Turkey. The purpose of the Government is to protect the forests and the wealth that exists in the forests. The destruction of the forests has caused scarcity of water.

According to the experience of experts, wherever there are extensive forests, there is much water also, and where there are no forests, no waters remain. After the forests are cut, many rivers have dried up.

Is it possible not to say "Quo Vadis, Persia?" after reading these words? As I said elsewhere the dagger aimed at Persia's heart passes through our bosom, and so the calamities which hit Persia must be considered as a misfortune to ourselves. For centuries, both of us are in the clutches of the same dragon of perdition, but with this difference that they have a Ferdusi, a Saadi, a Hafiz, a Khayam. They have a

Shehnameh, which, if not the masterpiece of the whole world, is at least one of the world's masterpieces. If we run over a period of ten or even fifteen centuries, we may be sure to find a flourishing Persian civilization.

An Oriental song has found lodgment in the Persian, the Turanian and the Turkish head, saying that the promised felicity under the earth is to be preferred to the present happiness upon the earth.

What the Oriental head says is not wrong. But what we want is not simply what is true, but what is profitable and life giving. In my opinion, everything which arms a man with power of will in the arena of the struggle for life and which makes him victorious, every falsehood, every deceit, every nonsense, is the pure right, the pure truth. Because the greatest truth in the world is the the struggle for life. In this struggle every thought that gives you victory, every idea that secures victory for you, is Truth and a capital of Truth.

## CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS STILL CLOSED

The *Tanin* of July 10th says editorially:

Yes, it is still the churches and schools. But this time we must talk plainly. A truly surprising result of the questions of emigration and the boycott has been the closing of the churches. Those who urged this step averred that it was taken to avoid still worse measures. We know not what these other measures may be. Though some time has passed since this step was taken, there has been no change in the attitude of the Patriarchate. Neither the trip of Talaat Bey to Smyrna nor the measures taken by the Government nor the most friendly public declarations of the Minister of Interior have succeeded in changing that attitude. According to the *Neologos*, the Patriarch says the churches and schools will remain closed because the causes that closed them have not disappeared. So all the steps we have taken to show the civilized world our good will and good faith have not moved the Patriarchate from its obstinacy.

Much as we regret that any part of the population should be deprived of their places of prayer, and that so many youth should be unable to go to the schools, we confess that the fact that priests and professors refuse to fulfil their duties makes absolutely no impression on us. If the Patriarchate by such means expects to intimidate the Government, it is mistaken. The emigration and the boycott are internal questions, and we can brook no foreign interference in them. As for churches and schools, as we did not provoke their closing we care not whether they are reopened or kept closed. If we see that our goodwill is reciprocated, we shall show ourselves still more generous; but if our spirit of justice is interpreted as weakness, that will force us to show more energy. Let the demands of the Patriarchate be examined, and what proves worthy of being agreed to, we will accept. The Patriarchate may keep its churches and schools closed, and close up other places too, if it likes. This will not make us change our line of conduct.



## BROUSA NOTES.

Our School year is over and our Commencement exercises took place this week, so it is fitting that we write to *The Orient* that our friends may know how things have gone with us. We have not written since January and many things have occurred since then, but all of them things pleasant to record, lectures, entertainments, and visits, and with it all, steady school work.

Ambassador Morgenthau was one of the first to visit us. As he came during the Christmas vacation he could not see the school in session and comparatively few girls were with us, but he expressed himself as much pleased with what he did see, and we are more than glad to have been included among the visits of our most cordial and sympathetic Ambassador. In March, Miss Willard and Miss Gage were with us for a short but most delightful visit, during which Miss Gage thoroughly revived our Y. W. C. A. which had lapsed amid the strain of the relief activities last winter, and we hope now it will keep continually alive and at work. The next was a most unexpected glimpse of Mrs. Kennedy and her party, who were good enough to spare us quite a share of their one day in Brousa, and who left behind characteristically generous remembrances.

We are sorry that the pressure of business prevented our being able to record another visit from Ambassador Morgenthau at Commencement, neither did we have the Vali of Brousa with us then as we had hoped. However Mr. McNaughton came to our assistance amid the wreck of our printed programs, so we had a fine Commencement after all. He gave the English address and also presented the diplomas, so that the whole affair was most successful. The day before Commencement the girls gave the cantata "Snow-White" very prettily and with a great deal of spirit. We had all our exercises in the garden, and had good weather for them too. Our graduating class numbered six, of which number four are Armenians, one is Greek, and one Turkish, our first Turkish graduate. One member of the class expects to continue her studies at Constantinople College the coming year.

Besides preparing "Snow-White" for Commencement, our girls gave an elaborate and very successful Armenian play early in March.

The girls have kept well, and done good school work throughout the year, and we feel well satisfied in looking back upon it.

Brousa, June 29th, 1914.

E. F. P.

## EMPIRE NEWS.

### THE CAPITAL.

The cornerstone of the new edifice of the Vlanga church at Gedik Pasha was laid with appropriate ceremonies on Friday, July 3rd, in the afternoon. The pastor, Rev. H. A. Djedjizian, presided; Rev. A. B. Schmavonian read scripture

selections; Rev. H. S. Barnum, D. D., and Rev. H. K. Krikorian offered prayer, Rev. M. Bowen, D. D., made a congratulatory address, and the clerk of the church read a historical statement regarding the building. The Western Turkey Mission, meeting in the school near by, adjourned for the occasion and were present in a body.

Dr. Dolmage, President of the National City Dental Society, of Washington, D. C., is expected next week to take the place of Dr. Herant Matteosian while the latter takes a short vacation in America.

The second section of the Seraglio Point park will be opened to the public on the national holiday, July 23rd. A garden party has been arranged, to which the members of Parliament and the diplomatic representatives will be invited.

On the night of *Leilei Berat* the mosque of the Conqueror was lit for the first time by electricity; and the results were so satisfactory that all the mosques are soon to have electric installation.

Sir Louis Mallet, the British Ambassador, left for London on Tuesday the 14th, for an absence of six weeks.

On Saturday, July 11th, the Austrian Ambassador, Marquis Pallavicini presented to His Majesty the Sultan the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Stephen, on behalf of Emperor Francis Joseph.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh E. Poynter of our city have arrived in London on their trip around the world and will soon be returning hither.

A Russian naval training-ship with cadets on board is spending some days in our harbor.

Mr. Hallett Johnson has arrived in the city to take up his duties as Third Secretary to the American Embassy.

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## THE PROVINCES

Several inspectors from the Ministry of Public Works are starting for Samsoun to see to the arrangements for the construction of the Samsoun-Sivas railroad.

The dragomans of the Embassies have returned from their tour of inspection in the region of Smyrna. They saw enough to assure them that grave deeds of injustice had been committed against the Greek population.

A detachment of 30 boy-scouts is reported to have left Smyrna to walk to Constantinople.

The Russian Consulate at Van is to be raised to the rank of a Consulate-General; and Russia will establish consulates also at Diarbekir, Sivas, Harpout and Mosoul.

A German society, excavating at Assur, the modern Kalaat Sherghat, fifty or sixty miles south of Mosoul, has discovered a temple of Astarte, of the 4th millennium B. C., and five sarcophagi of Assyrian kings.

## NOTES.

A boy, Robert Moore, was born to Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Kendall of Arnaoutkey on Wednesday, July 8th. Weight twelve pounds.

The degree of Doctor of Science was conferred last month by Lafayette College on Miss Eleanor I. Burns of Constantinople College, *in absentia*.

Williams College at the last Commencement conferred the degree of D. D. on two of her sons, Rev. G. C. Reynolds, M. D., of Van, and Rev. A. N. Andrus of Mardin.

Dr. Ruth Parmelee and her mother and Mr. and Mrs. Pierce and their boy arrived in Harpout June 20th, after a good journey.

Consul and Mrs. Masterson of Harpout are the parents of a girl, Mary Carroll, born June 23rd.

Mr. Livengood of Harpout, for the past three years tutor in Euphrates College, left there June 26th on his return to America via Aintab, Beirut and the around-the-world route.

Phillip Ernest Jacob arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Jacob at Bèbek on July 12th. Mother and child are doing finely.

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Miss Inez. L. Abbott of Samokov sailed from New York on her return to her post on July 9th, going by Cunard line to Fiume.

Miss Louise B. Wallace, Ph. D., of the American College for Girls, sails on the Cunarder "Ivernia" from New York for Patras Aug. 22nd, on her return to Constantinople. On the same steamer comes Mr. G. C. Lorbeer, going to the International College, Smyrna, as physical director.

Mr. and Mrs. Heck, of the American Consulate, reached the city by steamer on Monday July 13th. They are staying temporarily in Hissar.

### OTHER LANDS.

An exhibition of valuable manuscripts from Antinoë, Egypt, has just been opened in London. It includes a fifth century papyrus of Theocritus, a fragment of Homer, and many works on history, medicine, theology, drama, etc.

Dowager-Queen Olga of Greece, who has been visiting Queen Alexandra of England, left yesterday on her return to Greece.

During the French naval manœuvres, at which the Ottoman Minister of Marine, Gen. Djemal Pasha, was present, the submarine "Calypso" was rammed and sunk by another submarine, with a loss of five lives.

Recent excavations at Meroë, Egypt, have established the fact that at the beginning of the 3rd century B. C. Greek influence began to prevail there. One instance in point is the discovery of a crematorium and a cemetery for the ashes of the dead. Egyptians previous to that always buried their dead.

The astounding statements of Mr. G. F. Williams, formerly American Minister to Greece, about Albanian affairs, and his strictures on the attitude of Europe naturally led to President Wilson asking for his resignation, and its immediate acceptance when tendered.

The *Near East* says the construction of the road from Kirdjali to Gumuldjina is being actively pushed forward. More than 5,000 workmen are being employed, and it is hoped that the road will be completed by the end of August.

Italian excavations at Rhodes have discovered near Kremasti the remains of the ancient city of Ialysus, and have actually unearthed the tomb of the Messenian hero Aristomenes, who in the 8th century B. C. valiantly defended his city against the Spartans and then retired to Rhodes to live and die in Ialysus.



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