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8 Miss Frearson
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April, 1928.



THE STAR



IN THE

QUARTERLY REPORT
OF THE

EAST

BIBLE LANDS'

MISSIONS' AID SOCIETY



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SEVENTY-FOURTH YEAR.

Bible Lands Missions' Aid Society

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Office: 76, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. 2.

This Society exists to aid Gospel workers by money grants in Bible Lands, but it does not initiate missions nor employ agents.

These Lands include the following countries:—

GREECE, wherein by mission enterprise an Evangelical Greek Church has been founded, which yet needs foster-help.

MACEDONIA, so famous in apostolic story.

ASIA MINOR, in which American missionaries for 90 years have won noble results.

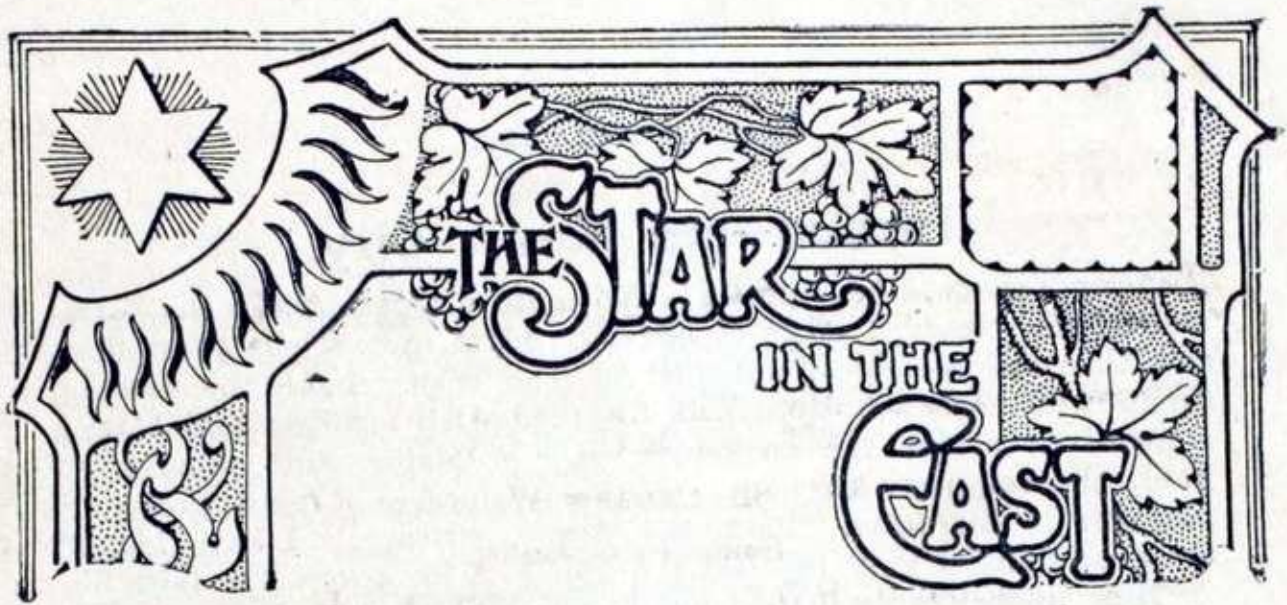
PERSIA, once covered by Nestorian Churches, long since blotted out by Muslim conquest.

ARABIA, the cradle of Islam, and now entered by Christ's Missioners.

EGYPT, the land where for over seventy years the American U.P.M. has been greatly prospered of God. Finally

PALESTINE, SYRIA, and CYPRUS, countries laden with the richest memories of Christ and His Apostles.

Our Funds are used for sustaining native churches, evangelisation, orphanages, educational, medical, book-distribution work, &c., provided that the objects and labourers be under some recognised and responsible supervision.



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NEW ADDRESS.

Will our Friends kindly note that owing to the expiration of lease and the necessity of structural alterations of premises we have removed the offices of the Society to:—

76, Strand, London, W.C.

Phone No. : Gerrard 4131.

May we also remind our Missionary and other Friends in Bible Lands that the abbreviated address

for Marconigrams and Cables (*via Eastern Co.*) is

BIBLELANDS LONDON.

Tarsus—no Mean City.

PAUL OF TARSUS, the Apostle! No more dramatic figure has ever crossed the crowded stage of history. First the zealous persecutor and then the matchless upholder of The Way. Paul, the flaming brand who burned away the bonds of Jewish legalism and blazed meteor-like across the darkening sky of Hellenistic speculation. Paul, the composer of many of the grandest and most profound passages in literature. Paul, the weary, writing, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith!"

How interesting it would be to discover something more about the boyhood, schooling and home life of Saul of Tarsus. The streets of Tarsus still ring to the shouts of Mehmed, Ali and Hussein, playing at games which Saul and his chums most surely have played.

In that city stands the buildings known as St. Paul's College, a monument not only to Christian philanthropy but to the clear vision and untiring energy of Dr. and Mrs. T. D. Christie. The spirit of the boy Saul still lives and learns and dreams on that sunny campus. The school is being carried on under leaders who are eager to serve the youth of the Turkish Republic in the same spirit in which Dr. and Mrs. Christie served the young men of the Ottoman Empire. Opportunities press on every hand, but financial limitations hamper every proposal for larger service. This is not the place to recite the painful economies that have to be enforced, the private subscriptions of the staff, the daily anxious forethought of those in charge, without which the slender budget could not meet the needs of even ninety-four students.

The College at Tarsus turns for help to you. Your frequent prayers and generous gifts are asked, not merely because this institution is serving the Kingdom uniquely at a strategic point. The appeal for your intelligent co-operation is based on the claim that this is just such a situation of human need and divine opportunity as any for which Paul was ready to imperil his life. Will not you give back through the College at Tarsus something of what you owe to the great Apostle? FRED FIELD GOODSSELL.

Albania.

WE are still praying and hoping that some Mission Board will enter Albania to carry on this work. In the interim of waiting, thanks to the help of consecrated Christian friends, we are endeavouring to do all in our power to conserve what has already been started here along these lines. Of course our work receives no grant from the Albanian Government.

We rejoice with the Albanians that their little country, lying along the Adriatic and just north of Greece, is now a republic full of promise under God's blessing and protection. The majority, some 570,000 of the population, are Moslems, representing two important sects. Of the remainder, some 300,000 are about equally divided between the Roman Catholics in the north and the Orthodox Christians in the centre and south.

Our present school year opens with over 100 pupils. Our Sabbath-School, with its nine large classes, occupies nearly every available part of our school building, so that we have felt necessitated to build an addition to it as shown in the accompanying picture.

Our regular preaching and outside evangelistic services are being continued.

As the maintenance of this work is entirely dependent upon the voluntary prayers and gifts of God's people, we ask the continuance of your help. . . .

PHINEAS B. KENNEDY.

Committee.

WE are glad to welcome as members of committee: Harry Fear, Esq., J.P., who presided at the afternoon meeting of our anniversary gatherings. On that occasion he remarked that formerly he had no faith in foreign missions, but it was a journey up the Nile in company with the Secretary that had convinced him of the good work being done by the missionaries. Mr. Fear has also accepted the office of treasurer (*pro tem.*).

Also Mr. E. T. Pascoe, who has travelled a good deal in Syria, Palestine and Greece, visiting the various mission stations and relief centres. His first-hand knowledge which he brings will be very acceptable.

Both these gentlemen propose to visit, at their own expense, the nearer stations aided by the Society. Mr. Fear, accompanied by the Secretary, will journey through Serbia and Greece. The itinerary will include the colonies established with Bible Lands funds, orphanages, refugee camps, and the various agencies working for the relief of the distressed and the spiritual welfare of various peoples. When Mr. Fear returns, Mr. Pascoe hopes to meet the Secretary in Athens and proceed to Constantinople, returning through Bulgaria, visiting Philippopolis, Samokov, and Sofia. The Bulgarian Evangelical Society has again invited the Secretary to deliver a series of lectures at their conference, which is timed to take place during his visit.

Welfare Work in Bab-El-Sharia.

“ Inasmuch as ye have done it unto these, even these least, ye have done it unto Me.”

THE child welfare work is in a densely populated Moslem section. Friends will be interested, therefore, in the following two excerpts :

“ These welfare centres in Cairo are in charge of a nurse, Miss Jane Smith. The work done here is so marvellous that a trip to Egypt is not complete without a visit to them. They treat the eyes of 50 to 150 children and women a day, and thus save many from blindness. These centres would look a little primitive compared with those of our district nurses, but they use everything to its greatest efficiency. . . . The children under a native teacher are given a kindergarten lesson while there. The mothers who bring the babies have a native Bible teacher. Then a lady shows them posters on feeding the baby, the danger of flies, the good results of cleanliness and fresh air, and explains these to them. There is no expensive equipment in these clinics. . . . When one will take such work as this, it is teaching practical Christianity to these people. It is greatly appreciated by them, as they can scarcely understand such welfare work, which is never thought of in their religion.

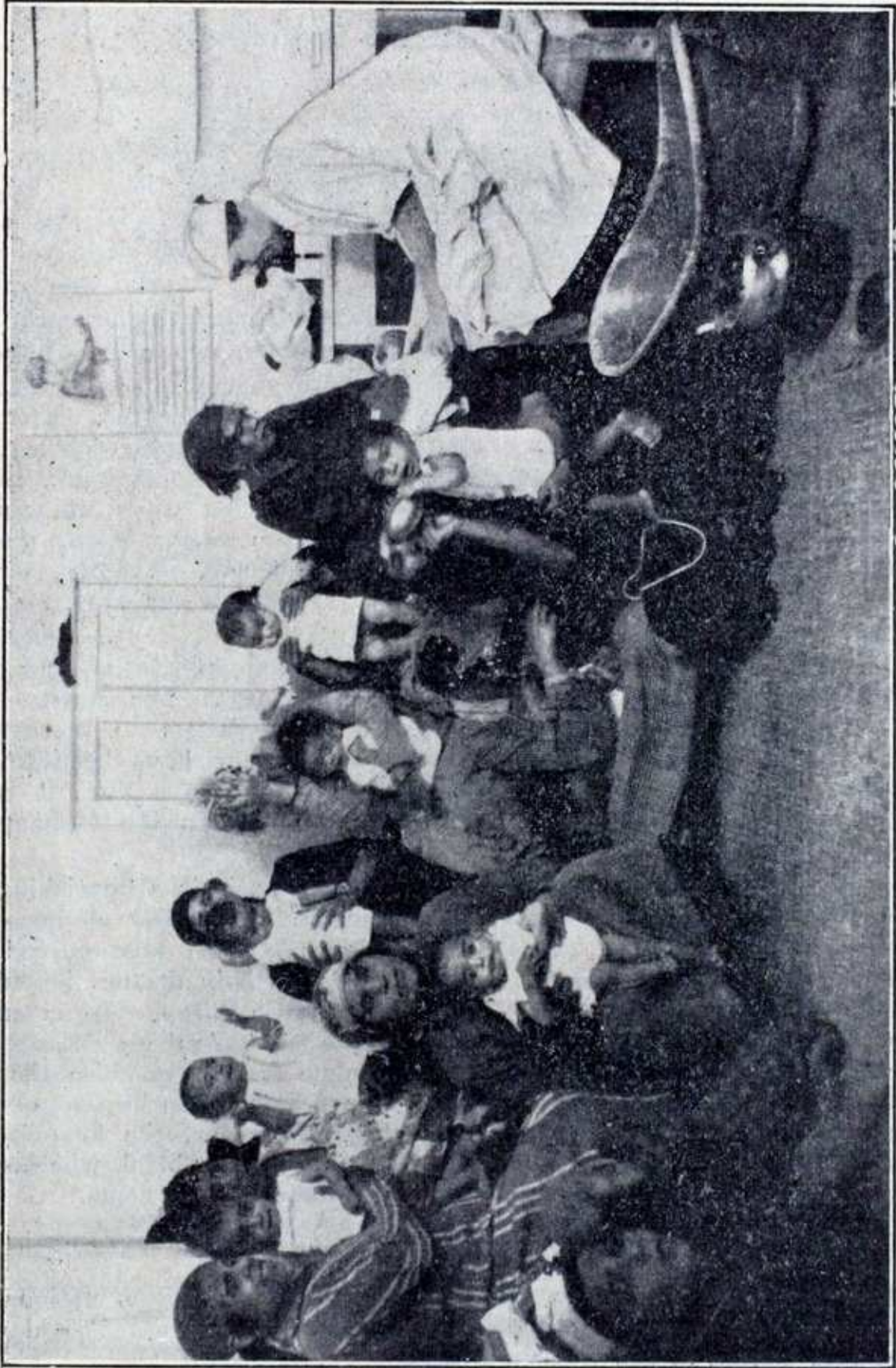
I believe that nowhere in the world are such great results accomplished on such a small capital as here, and those of us who had the privilege of spending a day with Miss Smith never saw as great efficiency.”

The second excerpt is from the report of the Bab-El-Sharia Welfare Centre :—

“ The work for the past year has been even more gratifying than one might expect with the crowded quarters. 6,203 treatments have been given throughout the year in addition to the treatment of 45 school children. These consist of the regular routine eye treatments, infected ears, and otitis media sore heads, impetigo, injuries, abscesses and mild afflictions. In addition to the treatments every woman hears some kind of a Bible lesson and receives some instruction in the care of her baby.”

REFUGEE CHURCH—A NOBLE EXAMPLE OF SELF-SACRIFICE.

THE Camp Church at Aleppo, entirely on its own motion, has sent a letter to the station committee to say that, beginning with this year, the church will try to pay two gold liras more each month on the salaries of its two pastors, the Rev. G. M. Ketenjian and Mr. Aram Hadidian. This will mean an increase of about £20 for the year.



CHILD WELFARE.

Arabia.

THIS year it is my privilege to express to you, in name of the Arabian Mission, our heartfelt thanks for your generous contribution towards our work during the past year. Some years your gift is used for very special objects, and at other times it has been devoted to the general work. Owing to the financial straits in which the Mission found itself the last year, we used your money this time for the work as a whole. And it is really wonderful what good such a gift does. For if it is true that the last straw breaks the camel's back, the reverse is also true, that a little help given at just the right place will often prevent great loss, and thus accomplish good far out of proportion to the effort. That is the case here. Where, after practising the utmost economy, it would still have been necessary to close down some work, to shut up a Bible Shop here or dismiss a teacher there, it was just the extra help supplied that prevented the retrogression. So we thank you most heartily, I might almost say, fervently, for your gift, and we trust that your active interest in our work may long continue.

Just as in other sections, stupendous changes are sweeping over this section of the Mohammedan world also. The spirit of inquiry is about everywhere, and the opportunities to present the claims of Christianity are greater than they have been for years. These days, while the minds of men are in a flux, it is the most opportune time to press Mission work in the Mohammedan world.

As far as personnel is concerned, the Mission is in a flourishing condition. Counting the language students and those at home on furlough, we have now 38 missionaries on the Mission roll. To meet our medical needs, one man and two lady doctors joined our Mission this year. One of these, Dr. Esther Barny, we greeted with peculiar interest because she is the first Arabian Mission child to return to our field. Reports come from home also that three more very promising candidates have applied to be sent out as soon as they complete their studies. However, the financial condition of the Board is such that it is very doubtful whether it can send out any more missionaries for some time to come.

G. J. PENNINGS.

THE Turkish Chamber of Commerce has petitioned the National Assembly at Angora to declare the Christian Sunday the official day of rest instead of the Moslem Friday.

Armenian Work in Alexandria.

DR. CALDWELL and the Rev. Mr. Skellie of the American Mission would acknowledge and thank you for the most timely and welcome gift you sent to us. I hope you will not object if I also add a few words about our work here. Let me mention in the first place that Mr. Gilmor after an absence of a year and a half returned with his wife last month.

I think it is needless to say that we were exceedingly glad and encouraged to receive your most worthy gift, and we thank the Lord most heartily that he has put it in your mind to help regularly this poor refugee Church and its pastor. Next to our dear Master you have the greatest share in the success of His work among us. How grateful and indebted we are that you enabled us again to close the year without debt!

During the last Communion on the 1st day of January we received 10 new members to the Church on confession, and three also from churches of other towns. We praise the Lord very very much for it. We expect to receive some more at next Communion about Easter time. Our services are well attended by the Gregorian Armenians also; they come to us very regularly. While this church receives so much gift from outside yet it makes one feel real glad that they also according to their ability try very much to help their fellow men who have been less fortunate than they.

During the year we bought 102 Bibles and gave them to 102 orphan boys who are located at the Orphan Boys Home in Mooharrim Bey district of the city. We sent 400 P.T. (100 P.T. = £1) to Mameltain (Beyrout) Hospital for consumptive people; 320 P.T. to Baghdad (Iraq) Gospel Mission; 164 P.T. to a poor sick girl to send her to Lebanon; 630 P.T. for an orphan boy's return from France to his mother in Alexandria; 322 P.T. to a church building in Feyyourn (Egypt); and 538 P.T. on the Golden Rule Sunday—December 18—for the N.E.R. For the Bibles we paid 490 P.T., and 15,400 P.T. also for the general expenses of the Church—altogether giving 18,264 P.T. or 182 L.E. and 64 P.T. in one year. There are about 10 families in our Church who can earn more than 25 or 30 piasters a day, others fall below that number!

During the year I have visited regularly more than 130 families besides having six religious services a week. If the Lord permits, to-morrow I will go to Cairo to spend a couple of weeks to hold evangelistic meetings as I have already done twice during the year.

S. MELKONIAN.

Bible Lands Home for Aged Widows.

A FEW steps from the Orphanage back gate there stands a square-looking two storied house. In the upper storey, which is reached by a separate outer door and stone stairway, the widows are now happily settled, and the "Big Hannam" (lady), as they call Miss Frearson, is very thankful that they are so near at hand.

The dear old women, three of whom are idiotic, and the majority of whom are hampered by some physical defect, need firm, as well as kind, handling for their general health and happiness, and the problems that arise in the home call for much strength of purpose and patience in those in charge. Prayer for God's undertaking in all the details of these difficulties will be greatly valued.

How it would have filled you with glad thankfulness if you could have joined their happy family for mid-day meal on Thursday, December 29, when Christmas was celebrated. The large dar (or hall) is so arranged that the long narrow table and forms are in one part forming the dining room, while a low divan with the usual hard cushions propped against the wall, fits in the corner and extends along two walls of the outer part, forming, with a killim (a thin carpet) over a large straw mat for sitting on the floor, the sitting room. On the day of our visit to lunch, the Christmas Tree was in the centre and looking very gay; its candles were to be lighted in the evening when everyone would receive their present, and it was very pathetic to see so many blind whose only way of seeing the tree was to feel it.

What a sight it was when all were seated in their places at the table with their individual dish of steaming food, their coloured paper bag of sweets and orange on the white cloth before them, and their worn old faces alight with gratitude! Some of them were muttering thanks all the time, and some continued to ask a blessing when the rest of us had begun our food, and some, who finished first, sat quietly opening their hands in front of them looking up to heaven as the custom is among some Armenians when they pray.

I think the family's choice of Christmas dinner will interest you. Of all the many things they might have asked for, sheep's heads and boiled whole wheat (dolma, as we call it) were selected, and how good they were! Of course they were not complete for the widows without vinegar flavoured with leeks, but this I carefully avoided.

Two new members of the family have lately come from Latikiya, and we noticed them especially as they sat together and seemed so contented. They were named Martha and Mary, and, poor dears,

arrived with scarcely enough old rags between them to form one bed cover. The American missionary who asked us to take them wrote that they had come from the most poverty-stricken homes she had ever seen and that they really had nothing. As I think you already know, this missionary kindly sent five Syrian pounds (about 15s.) as a contribution; half from her Sunday School scholars and the rest out of her own pocket, to help to get their beds. How grateful they are for their happy home here I cannot tell you, but I do know that Mary would tell you if she could, as she told us with tears of joy, that God has answered her prayer and given her her heart's desire.

Yeghiia Horja, an earnest Christian and our senior man teacher, now lives in the Widows' Home; his wife had to go to Beirut to make a home there for their children at school, and so he was willing to join the family and take prayers for them daily. He is a great favourite with them all and the spiritual talks he gives them from time to time are much appreciated.

One advantage of the Home being so near to the Orphanage is that on fine Sundays some of the widows come to the services which are taken in Turkish, and which they find really helpful and enjoy so much.

It is a very great privilege to be able to help these poor, unwanted, worn-out old people to true and lasting peace.

Aged Pilgrims.

BESIDES the Bible Lands Home in Syria, we support other groups in other countries. Here is a report from one centre :—

For some time we have been as cautiously as possible distributing to Armenians relief-money sent us by you. At the time of the last remittance you told us to let you know when we needed more. We have come to that point.

At the present time we are giving monthly sums totalling about 35 dol. to a group of 24 people, all except one of these being women. The one man is aged and has a wife. Several of the women are blind, some are lame and need people to help them when they come for their money. We made payments to-day, and have not enough left for three more times.

I have recently returned from a year's furlough. If anything, these women seem more in need than ever before. One point which several bring up is that now they have to pay rent, and this takes the money that previously they could use for bread.

From time to time we have been helping people travel to where they more easily find work or have relatives who can care for them

there. Some are able to go on to relatives in other countries, especially Greece. We have one such case now. The man of the family is a "hamal" (porter) in Athens, and can take care of his family if someone will help meet the expenses of travel.

Among others who have come to me for help since my arrival are two women, each with a babe in arms and another just able to walk. The husband of one is dead, and that of the other is at home, sick. With our present funds the most we can do for these people is to give them a tiny bit of money for two months.

Possibly you did not receive the letter written earlier in the year concerning the same problem, but as their condition is so terrible and, in view of the lowness of our funds, the station has asked me to write you of our need. We sincerely hope that you and your Society will be able to continue helping these people.

Among the Refugees—Athens.

I HAVE meant to write and tell you of some of the people we have been helping with the money sent us in November. We have given weekly and lately monthly from this fund, to help old Mr. and Mrs. Minassian. They, you may remember, were Christian workers in Smyrna, he, a preacher, though not ordained. They lost everything, including a son of whom they had been so proud, and have of course had a very struggling time since. They do what little they can, making basket work and she helps with handkerchiefs, but they are so old and feeble they cannot do very much. She has rheumatism badly in the summer, so that we gave her extra for hot baths, as we realised that if she became more crippled with that, it would be harder than ever. They have always been exceedingly faithful in helping all they could in the Derghouti Church.

This refugee preachers' fund will not last long. Is it possible for us to have any more?

A Bible Woman, Faithful but Old.

We have another problem on hand just now. One of the Bible women, Maritza Yozgatlian, 77 years old, has now become so weakened through high blood pressure and other trouble that she is unable to go any distance from the house. She, on account of her dizzy spells, has to lie down much of the time. For over 25 years she has been actively engaged in definite Christian work. First in Smyrna, and since the Smyrna disaster, here. She is one of the saints of the earth. She probably cannot live very long, but we want to take care of her that she may not suffer from want

while she does live. We are doing what we can for her and certainly would be thankful for any help.

Let me add a few of our relief cases :—

1. One I visited yesterday we are helping for a few weeks. It is a grandfather, grandmother and the little grandchild of 10 going to school. The grandmother usually carries pails of water to neighbours to help themselves, but the grandfather is now confined to bed with cancer, and will probably not last long. He is so weak his wife has to stay with him, so we will try to help till she can again work.

2. A father with four children. Oldest 12 years old. Father now sick in bed. The neighbours try to help a little but we give a trifle a week to help also.

3. A grandmother with three grandchildren. The oldest 11 years old. The grandmother's eyes are so weak that she has a hard struggle supporting the children.

4. Nuritsa Kaiserlian. Has the care of the four little orphans of her sister and she is sick now.

5. Dikrouhie Shevasslian. A woman with the care of six people. Her aged mother and one of her little children now very sick and she not able to work to support the sick ones and her other little ones. Will try to help them till mother can again work.

I could go on with the many other cases we are trying to help. We help mostly women and children you see, all those we help are the very worst cases, those we simply cannot refuse. I wish you could see their gratitude. So often a little help keeps up their faith in God and humanity, tiding them over the hard days.

(Mrs. H. M.) GENEVIEVE D. IRWIN.

Athens Medical Relief.

AMONG the children your fund has assisted during the last few months, is a crippled boy of the name of Atam Atamian. Tuberculosis of the spine caused paralysis in both legs for some time. At present he is a little hunchback with very weak legs. A kind-hearted neighbour has cared for him as one of her children. When her own resources were nearly exhausted and she had not been able to provide for her own children, she came to me with the little boy one day hoping that we could take him into the Orphanage. He was at one time provided for through the Lord Mayor's Fund in its Orphanage at Corfou, but since it was closed, he has been living with this Armenian woman. Providing her with cod liver oil and a little money has made it possible for him to be comfortable this winter.

Another case is a widow whose husband died a few weeks ago from tuberculosis. He has left several small children poorly nourished who are in danger of acquiring the same disease. Little assistance to this poor mother to secure some extra milk and fresh eggs for the children till she can find some means of supporting her family may save these children from becoming victims of tuberculosis.

It is for such cases that I have been conservatively using the money you placed in my hands. JESSE K. MARDEN.

Christmas with Children in Refugee Camps.

DEAR Friends of the Children,—Your Christmas donation for our refugee schools has already been acknowledged, but you will desire to hear of the joy that it actually brought. We were able to give some Christmas cheer to pupils in the refugee settlements of Derghouti, Lipasma, Kokkinia, Syngrou, Corinth and Laurion, 1,375 in all. Most of the children received some sweets and one little gift—either a pencil and sharpener, a handkerchief, a toy, or a picture. On account of Customs duties, only small parcels could come in from outside friends. Some Armenian girls in Paris sent new clean Christmas cards; other friends sent more cards and coloured papers, out of which our Kindergarten children made tree decorations. Through the help of Greek and Armenian friends, we were able to buy economically, spending on the average less than 10 c. for each child.

Miss Rice adds: I wish that you might have seen the joyous celebrations at each place, but I can only express the children's gratitude first hand by quoting one letter which well expresses what all would like to say:—

“Dear Miss Rice,—We wish we could find some more effective words to express our thankfulness instead of saying merely ‘Thank you?’ but we don't know any other. So we teachers say ‘Thank you very very much for the nice handkerchiefs, cards and money.’ Then you may understand much more than the mere words, ‘Thank you?’”

To-day we distributed the children's presents. I wish you could see how much they enjoyed them, and all with one voice said, “Thank you!” and clapped hands. They asked of us to write their special thanks to you and to all the beneficent friends who opened their hands and hearts for these nice presents.—Sincerely yours,

“TEACHERS OF ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL SCHOOL, KOKKINIA.”

Rescue Work.

MARIAN'S father was a soldier in the Turkish Army, but while he was serving the Turks, these were vile enough to deport his wife and children. They came to



MARIAN, A RESCUED GIRL.

Ourfa in a perfectly miserable condition more dead than alive from starvation and fatigue; but, after a short rest there, they were driven on through the desert to Deir-el-Zor. On this horrible journey Marian's mother and her brothers and sisters died from their sufferings. She a lonely child, reached Deir-el-Zor, where an Arab took possession of her, and shortly afterwards sold her for a sheep to a Gipsy tribe. She was not only violated by the Gipsies, but had to earn money for the tribe by dancing, fortune-telling, theft, and the like.

Once the tribe on its way came near Aleppo, and, knowing that Gipsies very often have Christian girls with them, we

sent our rescue-car and one of our men to try to free any of them. The man got hold of one of the Gipsies, whom he paid some money, after which the man brought Marian near to the car; she just jumped in and off it went.

Later we found her aunt here in Aleppo, and she is now living with her.

(Signed) KAREN JEPPE.

HOME CALL OF DR. W. S. DODD.

A BRIEF announcement is to hand of the sudden death of Dr. William S. Dodd. He was the brother of Dr. Isabel F. Dodd, and the father of Dr. Wilson Dodd, of Beirut. He was the son of the Rev. Edward M. Dodd, one of the pioneer missionaries of the American Board, who died in Anatolia in 1865. The late Dr. Dodd conducted medical work in Cesarea from 1886 to 1910, and in Konia from 1911 to 1924.

Relief in Syria.

WE received through Dr. Dodd the sum of £30 from you to be distributed to special cases. I do not need to tell you how grateful we were for this gift, which we use to help men—especially family-fathers, who are out of work and, in most cases, have lost their tools as means to work.

Our Mission Board (K.M.A. Women Mission Work) especially helps old, sick women, children, babies, with flour, milk, clothes, etc., which is indeed needed; but that has often made me think that it is most unfortunate to be a man—sick, without a job, weak because of under-nourishment, and with wife and children to provide for—because of the many widows and fatherless he will not easily come into consideration. Therefore, we are using the money you sent us in such special cases. I shall tell you about a few such:—

Near by the Beiruth river—an unhealthy but cheap place—a man lives with his wife, a nice quiet couple. Two children died—malaria was raging there during the summer—the wife got sick and had to go to hospital for an operation. Having lost their things two years ago by the Damascus disaster, the little the man could earn was swallowed up, even his tools he had to sell—he was a shoemaker. He worked as day-labourer, but with the rain the work stopped. Now, he was in great despair. A friend who was leaving for Brazil gave him tools, but he had no money for which to buy leather. By giving or rather lending him five Syrian pounds (15s.) he was able to start work and support himself and his wife.

A young man has to support wife and child plus mother and mother-in-law, earning only half a Syrian pound (1s. 6d.) a day. Anybody can understand that is impossible, but as he only knows how to sew, and not to cut the clothes, it is all he earns. We gave him money to take a course in cutting, and after this he will have 1½ Syrian pounds (4s. 6d.) in a day.

A poor man living in a village had his hut burned down by the children playing with matches while he and the mother worked in the fields. Only the children were saved—bedding and clothes lost. He is now very sick with pneumonia, but happy in the hope that I will give him a small sum to buy what is needed for him in his trade—he is a tinker. Then a former teacher, a doctor and a preacher, being very destitute, have got help in their time of trouble and sickness.

Later I may give you other instances. Be assured that in such cases I always ask myself: Is this what you would have liked to do with your money?

K. M. PETERSEN.

Bulgarian Relief Work.

IF heaven should bless you 1 per cent. part of the prayers and blessings expressed by our poor for the good Christians from Great Britain for the old clothes sent through me, you will have the richest blessings you ever dreamt of having. As the poor, dejected, often shivering people get a small bundle of clothes their faces light up, they pick up courage, and walk off pouring thanks and benedictions for sympathetic folks in this God's world. Let me take you to make a visit. It is a family of six : husband of 39 years of age, in the third period of tuberculosis contracted from misery and all kinds of privations as a refugee; the wife, a pale face and shaking frame of body; and four children, three boys and a girl. No income. No home of their own. The oldest son is just 11 years, and the youngest in his second year. The mother cannot go to work, husband sick, she is weak, and children are small. And suppose you took to this family some 5 or 6 yd. of flannelette for children's underwear, a warm woollen shirt for the sick man, a wrapper for the faithful woman, and some clothes and shoes (boots) for the youngsters; and on top of it you bring along with you 1 cwt. of coal for their fireless and sunless room; do you think you can go out without a prayer for God's benediction upon these unfortunate sheep of our Lord and Saviour? Do you think they will not each take turns to kiss your hand, to bend down and brush the dust off your boots, and cry aloud : " Many thanks to these good people that have heard God's voice in our destitution and have sent us relief."

D. N. FURNAJIEFF.

Armenian Settlement in Syria.

MANY will remember that a challenge was made at the annual meeting to double whatever amount the Society would give towards the new scheme to settle Refugee Armenians in Syria. The land had already been promised by the French Government.

We rejoice that the committee has been able to send £2,000, which means that £4,000 is now being used to help these unfortunate people through the efforts of our Society.

A request has been received for a representative to visit Syria for inspection and consultation. The chairman of committee, Rev. G. Robinson Lees, M.A., has been appointed and will proceed shortly. He hopes on the return journey to pass through Palestine, visiting among other places Jerusalem, where he formerly resided. We wish him God-speed on his journey.

The Editor's Notebook.

THE MOHAMMEDANS OF EUROPE.—The total population in Albania is 831,871. Of these 584,675 are Mohammedans. In Jugo-Slavia the Moslems form a minority. Out of more than 12,000,000 inhabitants, there are 1,337,000 Mohammedans, chiefly found in South Serbia; 700,000 in Bosnia; 600,000 in Bulgaria. There are about 750,000 Mohammedans in Greece; a small minority in Rumania, 50,000; in Poland, 6,000. In the whole of Russia, the total number of Mohammedans is put at 19,218,000. These are found chiefly in the Crimea Kazan and Bachkirie and the Trans-Caucasus.

* * * *

HER Highness the Begum of Bhopal, known as the Queen Victoria of India, has given the whole of her private property for the propagation of Mohammedanism—reputed to be several million pounds. She will also devote the remainder of her life to this cause.

**This is a Challenge to Christianity.
What shall be our reply?**

* * * *

AN order prohibits priests from wearing outside of the churches or mosques in Constantinople the dress peculiar to their religious office. The lordly turbans and flowing coloured robes of the Moslem priests are aimed at. These depend a great deal on their appearance and dress to impress their followers wherever they are seen.

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