

The Orient.

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MONTENEGRO DECLARES WAR.

Yesterday afternoon the dreaded blow was struck, but from an unexpected quarter. It had not been anticipated that Montenegro would take the initiative. Her Minister, M. Plamenatz, sent a note to the Ottoman Government to say that, all peaceable means for obtaining satisfaction having failed, Montenegro broke off all relations with Turkey and left the conclusion of the difficulty to the arms of her soldiers. M. Plamenatz left Constantinople by the Roumanian steamer for Constanza, and the Ottoman government immediately wired its chargé d'affaires at Cettigne to quit Montenegrin territory, confiding Ottoman interests to the German legation. The Montenegrins are said to have immediately crossed the frontier and besieged Berana.

War-clouds had been gathering over the Balkans so thick and fast the past week that he who persisted in being optimistic was looked on with pity as suffering mentally. There is no gainsaying the fact that the "danger-zone of Europe" had not presented for at least thirty-five years such real and imminent danger as during this period. Apparently the country most eager for war is Bulgaria; but feverish preparations are still being pushed by Servia, Greece and Turkey also, while Montenegro was always ready anyway.

It is needless to inquire the reason for the crisis. Reasons are as plenteous as flies, and each side has grievances enough to fill several blue-books. The most eloquent commentary on the history of the case is the decision of the Ottoman Government, under this pressure, to put in operation in Roumelia the reforms decreed in 1880, and never yet realized. The burden of the contention of Bulgaria, Servia and Greece is that promised reforms are never carried out; and the present danger is that nobody can convince Bulgaria that Turkey does now actually intend to put them in operation, and is able to do so. The hapless plight of the non-Moslems of Macedonia has so far roused the sympathies of the surrounding states that they are determined to strike for real amelioration.

Throughout the past week the representatives of the great Powers have been busy trying to come to a mutual understanding and also to influence the Balkan States for peace. It is not for the interests of Europe to have war, and their agreement on that point seems complete. How to offer Bulgaria any guarantees of satisfaction without war is another and more difficult problem. M. Sazonoff and M. Poincaré and Count Berchtold have been visiting and talking and planning, but all the time Bulgaria has been mobilizing and so have

the rest. The rift in the cloud caused by the announcement that Turkey was bound to carry out the reforms of 1880 is now rudely and darkly closed by the sudden leadership of little Montenegro.

A little more hopeful is the announcement that France will not advance money to Bulgaria so long as she is arming for war. Without the sinews of war, no country can enter a campaign; and the financial question is after all a determining factor, if not the determining factor, in the crisis. The Balkan States are none of them rich, and for a conflict of the size of this, where it is a question of keeping on a war footing an army of 600,000 or 700,000 men for an indefinite time in winter, King Ferdinand may well ponder. Despatches from Sofia scout the idea of any financial straits, and point to a large gold reserve; but with war expenses, the figures given would not last long.

Preparations for actual war are being pressed. Greece and Bulgaria have called in their reservists even from as far away as America; and the Ottoman government is considering the advisability of drafting into service even non-Moslems up to 45 years of age, who have never had military drill. The supreme command of the Bulgarian army, under the king, has been entrusted to Gen. Savoff; the Crown Prince of Greece has been made Generalissimo of the Greek army, and Gen. Nazim Pasha, the Minister of War, has been placed in command of the Ottoman forces. King George of Greece has hastened back from his European trip, to take care of his country. The Bulgarian army is reported to be concentrating at Harmanli, near Moustafa Pasha. Martial law has been reestablished in Constantinople, and we are thus debarred from giving details as to Ottoman military movements. We can only say that several train-loads of troops have been despatched from the Capital for Adrianople, and two battleships and a cruiser and some smaller units of the fleet have arrived in this harbor from the Dardanelles. Greece is stated to have acquired four new torpedo-boat destroyers in England that had been built for the Argentine, also a submarine in France, all which are on their way to reinforce her fleet.

NOTICE.

The annual communion service of the Evangelical Alliance will take place at the Bible House on Sunday, Oct. 13th, at 3:30 p. m. Rev. J. A. Campbell and Rev. A. C. Ryan will have charge of the service. All friends are invited to be present.

Next Wednesday, Oct. 16th, is the day set apart for special prayer for the Moslem World. The issue of *The Orient* for that date will be particularly devoted to the Henry Martyn centenary.

ARMIES AND NAVIES OF THE BALKAN STATES.

A comparison of the fighting forces of Turkey with those of her various neighbors is of interest at this time. The Statesman's Year Book being taken as the basis, we find the following figures, which are admittedly not exact.

The population of Turkey, exclusive of Egypt, Cyprus, Crete and Samos, is given as 24,813,700; that of Bulgaria, 4,284,844; Servia, 2,688,000; Greece, 2,666,000, Montenegro, about 250,000.

The peace strength of the various armies as stated is: Turkey, 375,000, Bulgaria, 57,800; Servia, 35,605; Greece, 29,000; Montenegro, about 30,000.

The total war strength is placed at: Turkey, regulars and first reserves, 420,000; artillery in fortresses and engineers, 30,000; second reserves, 375,000, *müstahfuz*, 90,000, total, 915,000; Bulgaria, total 235,000; Servia, 175,000; Greece, 50,000, Montenegro, 50,000. In other words, the combined war strength of Turkey's four neighbors in the Balkans is placed by the Statesman's Year Book at 510,000 combatants, in comparison with Turkey's 915,000. This allows a much larger army for the small states in proportion to their total population (1:19) than for Turkey (1:27).

Whitaker's Almanack gives similar estimates, the figures given being for the peace footing: Bulgaria, 58,000; Greece, 25,500; Servia, 35,000; Turkey 320,000. War footing: Bulgaria, 275,000; Greece, 65,000; Servia, 95,000; Turkey not given. No figures for Montenegro, whose population is put down as 225,000.

The *Times* says Turkey should be able to place in European Turkey for fighting purposes 500,000 men and 1,000 guns; Bulgaria, 250,000 men with 700 guns; Servia, 150,000 men with 500 guns; Greece, 80,000 men with 350 guns, while in Montenegro, every able-bodied man is a soldier.

On the other hand, the estimate of probable strength of the four Balkan states is given in a recent number of the *Near East* as: Bulgaria, 300,000; Servia, 200,000; Greece, 130,000; Montenegro, 50,000. And in its special Servian supplement, the Servian army alone is given thus: Peace strength, 36,174; war strength of active army, 168,501; reserves, 156,129; or a total of 324,630, not counting the "last defence" of 143,000 men between 18 and 21 and between 45 and 50. This is out of an estimated population of 2,945,950.

When it comes to navies, Servia and Montenegro may be counted out; and Bulgaria has only a few small torpedo-craft. Greece has a navy of 4,941 men, on one armored cruiser, the *Averoff*, of 10,000 tons, and three smaller ships, *Hydra*, *Spetsæ* and *Psara*, of 5,000 tons each, with a score or more of torpedo craft. The Ottoman navy consists of some 1,000 officers, 30,000 sailors and 9,000 marines, on three battleships, the *Messoudié*, *Barberousse Haireddin* and *Torghoud Reis*, each of about 10,000 tons; two armored cruisers, the *Medjidié* and *Hamidié*, of about 3,500 tons each, and four or five smaller warships and about a dozen torpedo craft, besides a variety of small gunboats and destroyers.

CONSTANTINOPLE DAY BY DAY.

War excitement has run high here these past few days, and has sometimes broken through restraints. Almost daily meetings of the Council of Ministers and the Council of War have taken place. The War Department has been requisitioning all the horses it could find in the city, even from the tramway company, and also a lot of wagons, for use in transporting supplies as well as in mounting its cavalry.

Thursday last was the anniversary of the birth of His Majesty the Sultan, and the usual round of congratulatory visits and decoration of embassies, legations and steamers went on. A meeting of the students of the Imperial University, to the number of some 2,000 was followed by a procession to Yildiz, where they were addressed by Kiamil Pasha, who assured them that the government would take all needed steps to guard Ottoman interests. His Majesty the Sultan also addressed the students in person. The same day the reserves, who were being called to the colors, in the course of a patriotic procession through Pera, stoned the windows of the Greek Consulate. Later on, the Bulgarian Legation and the deserted Italian Embassy suffered in the same way; and finally the French Post office was pelted with stones, the mob evidently mistaking it for another building. Fearing the consequences, the authorities immediately made an apology to the French Ambassador for this.

Two great mass-meetings in favor of war were held on Friday in the great square of the Mosque of Sultan Ahmed. In the morning that organized by the "Hürriyet-İtilaf" or Liberty and Agreement party, was addressed by Diran Eff. Kelekian, Ismail Bey of Gümüljina, the Albanian Dervish Hima Bey, Gen. Ismail Hakki Pasha, Dr. Riza Nour-Bey, and others. Resolutions were passed demanding war in preference to any conference or foreign interference. The afternoon meeting was under the auspices of the "İttihad-Terakki" or Union and Progress party. Among the orators were Djelal-eddin Arif Bey, President of the Ottoman Bar Association, Senator Batsaria Effendi, Pashayan Effendi of the Tashnagists, Mr. Emmanuelides, ex-deputy for Smyrna, Nissim Mazliah Effendi and Eumer Nadji Bey. The burden of their discourses was that the Ottoman flag should once more float over Sofia, Athens and Belgrade, and the Danube be once again the boundary of the Ottoman Empire. Resolutions were adopted expressing the united desire of Ottomans of all races that the integrity of the fatherland be preserved at all costs. Each meeting resolved itself in turn into a parade over to the Dolma Baghtche Palace, where each was greeted by His Imperial Majesty. The same day Mme. Sarafoff, the wife of the Bulgarian Minister, left the city with her daughter by Austrian steamer for Bulgaria. This gave rise to the rumor that diplomatic relations had been ruptured and that M. Sarafoff was leaving, a report at least premature.

On Sunday there were various patriotic gatherings in the city. Jews and Albanians as well as Turks are having demonstrations for the defence of the common fatherland. Turk-

ish women have also met to arrange for making bandages and clothing for the Red Crescent Society, and some have offered their services as nurses. The Red Crescent is planning hospitals at Adrianople, Salonica, Elassona and Shkodra.

At midnight Sunday night the Oriental railway was cleared for the use of the military, only six trains a day to the suburbs as far as San Stefano and Kütchük Chekmedje being allowed. The capacity of the road is supposed to be over fifty trains per day; but owing to lack of adequate preparation by the army authorities, only five trainloads of troops left on Monday, the first one not till one o'clock after noon. Some of the Bosphorus and Island boats were also taken off, and it is said they will be used for transporting troops across the Marmora.

Monday evening a large crowd of manifestants assembled at the Sublime Porte and demanded of the Grand Vizier that they be sent to the front, and that war be declared. It was with some difficulty that the police succeeded in dispersing the crowd, which began to show the mob spirit. Thereupon martial law was again decreed, both in the Capital and in the European provinces, as it had already been enforced in Bulgaria. Open-air meetings and demonstrations are forbidden, and secret meetings must have police permission. The press is warned against any publications liable to be interpreted as in any way inflammatory.

Greek steamers and sailing vessels now in Ottoman waters are not being allowed to leave, and military officers and soldiers have been placed on board several of those in Constantinople harbor, the captains being informed that the boats are needed for transports, but will of course be remunerated. Great indignation is felt at this step in Greece, where it is characterized as high-handed injustice and a *casus belli*, and also in Russia, for several of the steamers are loaded with Russian grain. It is difficult to see how the Ottoman government is to justify this procedure.

CONDITIONS IN TRIPOLI TODAY.

A correspondent of *The Near East* writes thus of the Tripolitan cities under Italian rule:—

"Benghazi is a picturesque town of 25,000 inhabitants, all seemingly happy, and to all appearance oblivious of the war. The public services work admirably. The landing of passengers and merchandise entails, however, great danger, and the construction of a port would be of prohibitive cost. The oases surrounding the town are very fertile; fruits such as grapes, figs, dates, olives, pomegranates abound. We noticed a large number of native and Sudanese soldiers in the Italian service. They are employed against desert marauders, and have fought well in skirmishes with the Turko-Arab forces.

"Misrata has only recently been occupied, and the inhabitants are now returning in large numbers. The town is situated in fertile oases, and the port would seem destined to become of some importance.

"Finally, Tripoli presents the aspect of a modern town with up-to-date public services. The future water supply of

the town is assured. Life is, however, expensive in Tripoli, and it is impossible to find board and lodging under £ 25 per month. The population counts 45,000 souls, exclusive of the Army of Occupation. The construction works on the port are being actively pushed, and to all appearance will be finished in January next. A railway line of 90cm. gauge connects Tripoli with Zuara and Ain Zara.

"Trade is active, in view of the necessity for feeding an army of 100,000 men, and all the population of the coastal districts. Besides the Banco di Roma, which has opened agencies in all the occupied towns, the Banca d'Italia has established a branch in the capital."

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OF ROBERT COLLEGE.

[The following description has been kindly furnished us by the Dean of the Engineering Department at Robert College, and will show how complete is the plant now under construction and already in partial use.]

In two respects the present year is an important one in the history of Robert College. First it is the fiftieth year of its existence; secondly, the present year sees the opening of the Engineering Department. This important acquisition to the course of instruction will prove of inestimable value to Turkey in years to come. The Imperial Government has recognized this need for engineering instruction by promising to issue an *Irade* recognizing the Engineering Department as a school of University grade.

Although the Building proper has not yet been completed, it will be ready for occupation by the time students have finished their course of preliminary instruction, which is necessary before they undertake special work in the shops.

Ten students have already been enrolled, and other applications are being received. It has been found that several of the students are deficient in English and Mathematics, and for them special classes have been arranged. Regular classes have been commenced in Engineering Drawing, Applied Mechanics, Descriptive Geometry, and Technical English; and this course of instruction will be developed in accordance with the degree of progress shown by the students.

The first portion of the Engineering Building to be completed will be the Forge Room. Very rapidly in succession there will be completed the Foundry, Machine Shop, and Wood-Working Shop. When these shops are completed the College will be able to place at the disposal of Engineering students a combined practical and theoretical training which will compare favorably with that of similar institutions in Europe and America.

The following staff are at present carrying on the work of the Department:—

John Robins Allen, M. E., B. S., Dean and Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

Lynn Adolphus Scipio, A. B., B. S., M. E., Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

John Gray Scott, M. I. E. E.; F. R. S. A., Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering.

Vinton Douglas Tompkins, B. S. (M. E.), Superintendent of shops.

Frank William Gaulin, Instructor in Machine Shop.

John Gottlob Geiger, Instructor in Wood work and pattern making.

Halouk H. Fikret, Instructor in English and Technics.

Additional instructors will be added as the need arises, in Mechanical, Electrical and Civil Engineering. The preparation in modern languages, mathematics, chemistry, physics and electrical measurements will be given by the regular staff of instruction in the Collegiate Department. An important feature of the Department and one which will prove of incalculable value to those students who have joined the College at this stage is the fact that a large amount of work is being carried out by the Department under the immediate supervision of the Dean. This construction work includes the erection of new buildings, central lighting and heating plants and tunnel system. The buildings in course of construction are the Engineering Building and the Academy Building, and preparations are now being made for the erection of the new Infirmary Building. A considerable quantity of stone required for building is being quarried in the College property. Lighting of the buildings and grounds is by electricity generated in the Power House, which is fully equipped with boilers, engines and generators representative of the most modern American and English practice. The wiring of the buildings for electric light has been carried out by the Department during the recent vacation. The fittings of pipes and radiators in the buildings in connection with a complete heating system is being carried out in a similar manner. Tunnels are being constructed to provide a convenient means of transmitting steam for heating and electricity for light and power in an efficient manner, and cables and pipes will thus be always accessible.

The Engineering building is on the south slope of the campus. It is a four story building, so arranged on the side hill that each floor has an entrance from the ground. The upper or fourth floor is entered from the campus level. The present edifice is the west wing of the building which we expect to build. It is proposed to construct a second wing similar to the present building and then connect these two wings by a main building facing the campus. The east wing and the main building will be added as the College has need for them.

The Carpenter and Pattern Shop is located on the fourth floor. This shop is equipped with the latest type of electrically driven wood working machinery. The equipment includes one 30 inch planer, one 16 inch jointer, one 20 inch rip and cross cut saw, one combined shaper tenoning, chain mortising and slot boring machine, one 36 inch band saw, two turning lathes, a universal trimming machine and tool grinder. Work benches and tools are provided for the use of students.

The Machine Shop is located on the third floor and contains some of the very finest metal working tools on the market including a 14 inch lathe, a 36 inch gap lathe, a planer with a foot bed, a shaper, a milling machine with all attach-

ments, a speed lathe, a large drill press, a small sensitive drill, a wet grinder, and also all necessary tools and equipment for doing all classes of machine shop work.

The Foundry is located on the second floor and is equipped with a 36 inch Whiting Cupola, brass furnace, core oven, flasks, blowers and all necessary moulding tools. The foundry is equipped to make castings up to a weight of one and one-half tons.

The Forge Shop is located on the lower floor and contains one instructor's forge and six students' forges, all of which are down draft and have electrically driven fans for air supply and the removal of gases. The forge shop is also equipped with punch and shear.

The College is also equipped to do all classes of piping and plumbing work. The equipment consists of a pipe-cutting machine, cutting to six inch pipe, three sets of dies, a complete set of taps and reamers, lead melting furnace, together with all necessary tools and wrenches.

A portion of the laboratory building and the boiler house have already been constructed and the laboratory building will be completed later. The Boiler Room contains two 150 horse-power water-tube boilers made to carry 150 pounds pressure. These boilers will be equipped to burn both fuel oil and coal. The Engine Room will be equipped with a 20 K. W. 220 volt generator driven by a vertical engine of 30 horse power.

This engine is now in service on the campus. There will also be a 60 K. W. 220 volt generator driven by a slow speed horizontal four valve engine of 90 horse power. The switch board for the electrical generators is especially arranged for the use of students in measuring the output of the machines.

All of the above equipment will be used for the instruction of the students in the testing and operation of boilers, engines and electrical generators. In addition the college is provided with a forty horse-power locomotive type of boiler with a thirty horse-power single slide valve engine, also a 7½ horse-power Otto Engine together with the necessary indicators, gauges and electrical instruments for testing and measuring the power output of all its machines.

The College has other laboratories for both Physics and Chemistry which will be used by engineering students. Allied subjects in the theory of electrical engineering will be taught in the Physical Laboratory.

DANGERS OF TRAVEL NEAR VAN.

A letter from Dr. C. D. Ussher dated Van, Sept. 18th, says:—

"I went to Shadakh last week to escort our teachers, who were afraid to go on account of the unsafety of the roads. Murders and pillaging, carrying off cattle and highway robbery are becoming very general. We hear that Mr. and Mrs. McDowell were attacked by Kourds on their way to Julamerk. They escaped without injury. Mr. Honey, the British Vice-Consul of Mosoul, who killed a Kourd on his way up to Qudshannis, has been having a hard time and is expected here daily. Kavasses were sent to escort him."

THE ORIENT

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Charles T. Riggs, Editor.

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BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE.

OCTOBER 9, 1912.

EDITORIAL.

Let us not forget the Annual Meeting of the American Board, now in session in Portland, Maine.

The account sent us by Dr. Bowen of the missionary conference held this summer at Hamadan is a very cheering one. That such a conference could be held, and with such good attendance, at a time when Persia is in confusion and political turmoil, is a tribute to the perseverance and fearless devotion of the Christian workers there. So similar are the missionary problems of that empire to that of its western neighbor that it will be of practical value to the workers in the various missions in the Ottoman Empire if the conclusions of the discussions at the conference can be put, at least in brief, in their hands also. We are told that almost incredible results have already been attained among non-Christians. This is most encouraging, and should incite all to more earnest prayer and more believing effort for a similar work of grace in this country. There is no rock that will not open to our Master, once His benign influence has been exerted faithfully and continuously by His servants. Prayer, tact, perseverance, grace, and above all a mighty and inclusive love, are potent means to this end.

The storm has burst. Can it be localized? Or will Bulgaria, Servia and Greece, as anticipated, follow the lead of their brethren of the Black Mountain?

Never since the dark days of 1878 has a blacker cloud overhung the Constantinople horizon than that which made everyone stop and think most seriously last Friday and Saturday. War seemed inevitable; mobilization was being pushed at such a pace that with the movement of troops ordinary traffic was almost at a complete standstill. When men of all classes, up to forty-five and fifty years of age, were being summoned to the ranks or ordered to hold themselves in readiness for instantaneous service, people grew unwontedly sober at the thought of the awful possibilities of such a con-

flict. The breaking-up of homes, the sacrifice of human life, and especially of the lives of wage-earners and heads of families, the stoppage of all sorts of business, the dislocation of commerce, prices soaring far above their already painful height, the uncertainty of domestic order and security in time of war on the frontiers, — all were borne in on the public mind with painful and sobering effect. Even the grand public demonstrations and meetings intended to stir up the war spirit had in them a deep undertone of pain and of a hope that the seeming inevitable might yet be avoided.

We were grateful for the rift in the clouds that allowed of a little hopefulness. The Ottoman Government has shown a sincere desire to preserve the peace by resolving to put into application the reform measures decreed long ago. If a general war is averted, and these reform measures are actually put into effective operation, we shall be saved a terrible calamity. For war at this season of the year and under existing conditions of racial and — to a certain extent — religious animosities, would be more bitter and venomous than the world has recently seen. We might expect to see no quarter given on either side, and fierce and bloody reprisals would not be unforeseen. Add to this the evident uselessness of such an appeal to arms when the mind of Europe is so clearly set on maintaining the *status quo*, so much so that whichever party were victorious there could be no territorial acquisition or change of frontier, and we have reason enough to pray the God of peace to avert such a foolish conflict.

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF MISSIONS.

The October number of this increasingly valuable and indispensable quarterly brings its first year to a close. It contains much food for solid thought and quiet study and reflection. The servants of Christ are going about His work with a more intelligent and imperialistic conception than ever, the result of careful study of the message itself, the methods in use, and the fields so rapidly whitening to the harvest. This Review presents the results of some of these investigations. Africa, China, Japan, Syria, India and the United States are the fields under view in the present member. Rev. J. du Plessis, Ph. D., of the Dutch Reformed church, contributes the first article, on The Missionary Situation in South Africa. This is followed by a paper on The Opportunity and Need for the Mission School in China, by President F. L. Hawks Pott, D. D., of St. John's University, Shanghai, who is also President of the Missionary Educational Association of China. Professor J. Stewart Crawford, of the Syrian Protestant College, Beirut, follows with the fourth article in the series on The Vital Forces of Christianity and Islam, wherein his life-long touch with the problem shows itself in the helpful treatment of the subject. The most exhaustive and comprehensive article in this number is a study of Islam in the West and Central Sudan, by Professor Westermann, of Berlin, for eight years a missionary in Togo. The author treats of the spread of Islam in that region, its present distribution, the principal factors in its expansion, the motives leading to its adoption,

and the results of its spread. The picture painted is a dark one. An impressive map of Africa accompanies the article, showing the present distribution of Islam all over the continent. Then follows a Japanese Statesman's View of Christianity in Japan, an interesting statement by Count Okuma, made to Mr. Galen M. Fisher of the Y. M. C. A., and revised in its written form by the Count himself. Principal A. E. Garvie, D.D., of New College, Hampstead, Eng., treats of The Christian Challenge to the Other Faiths. Miss Minna C. Gollock, of the Women's Department of the C. M. S., writes of The Share of Women in the Administration of Missions. The fourth article in the series on The Growth of the Church in the Mission Field is contributed by Rev. W. L. Ferguson, D.D., for seventeen years a missionary of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, on the Telugu Mission of that Society. Principal A. G. Fraser of Trinity College, Kandy, Ceylon, contributes some Impressions of Hampton Institute. Some twenty-five recent books bearing on mission problems are ably reviewed, besides which there is a valuable bibliography of recent missionary literature.

THE INTER-MISSION CONFERENCE AT HAMADAN.

July 14 - 28, 1912.

BY REV. MARCELLUS BOWEN, D.D.

Delegates to this Conference had been expected from India, from the Persian Arabia Missions, from the C. M. S. Missions in Southern Persia, from the London Mission to the Jews, and from the two American Presbyterian Missions in North Persia.

Owing to the disturbed condition of the country and other circumstances, the three last were the only ones actually represented. — the London Jews Society by two delegates from Ispahan, the West Persia Mission by six delegates, and East Persia Mission by 18. In addition to these were Mr. G. D. Turner of the Y. M. C. A. movement in the Punjab, and myself representing the American Bible Society and requested by the Western Turkey Mission to act also as its delegate.

The following are worthy of mention as among the salient features of this Conference.

1. Its downright earnestness and sincerity. There was a remarkable freedom from religious sentimentalism, and a very striking disposition to take hold of problems, and work out their solution in the most common-sense and matter-of-fact way. No conference in the industrial or professional world could be more impressive in this regard.

2. The highly *practical* character of the questions discussed, and their important place in the great religious movements of our times. Among these were such as the following: the evangelistic side of educational and hospital work; the best method of impressing scripture truth on non-Christians; what Scriptures to make use of with different classes; the entering wedge; how to deal with applications for Christian baptism by non-Christians, how to develop strong Christian workers both for educational and for evangelistic work,

especially among non-Christians; how to evolve higher institutions of learning in preparation for the rapidly increasing demand for education among both sexes; how to unify educational methods throughout the country; how to facilitate the production of an adequate Christian Literature in the different languages; conditions of church membership; church organization; deepening of the spiritual life among all friends of Christ; the possibility of union among all evangelicals in one strong, harmonious "Church of Persia"; how to reach the as yet unreached tribes of Bakhtiaris, Lurs and Kourds.

3. The impressive seriousness with which all questions were handled, relating to Christian effort among non-Christians. The reform of the old Christian churches was recognized as of vast importance yet the great question after all was how to push the forward movement among the people who are alien to Christ. We must act on the fundamental fact that non-Christians respect Christians who respect themselves, and have the full courage of their convictions; while ever manifesting what is essentially the Christian spirit of kindly, sympathetic, and altogether tolerant appreciation, there must be no compromise as to basic principle. We must urge the Christian message of Life eternal, with Christlike love and Christlike courage. As to the *possibilities*, there was a minimum estimate of difficulties, and a maximum estimate of the opportunity, emphasized by the almost incredible reports of results already achieved. From the beginning to the end of these meetings, the non-Christian populations of Persia were upon the mind of every delegate, with no disposition to wild or prophetic utterance, but with a vivid business-like sense of the actual problem, and deep unconquerable purpose to arrive at the best possible solution.

4. The importance attached to medical and hospital work as of supreme importance in reaching all the races and tribes of Persia. The trend of all present day Christian missions in this respect is of vast significance. The mission enterprise in Persia is not and does not mean to be in the rear ranks of this great Christianizing agency.

5. Above all we must mention the marvellous spiritual warmth of these meetings. The devotional services were a notable feature of the Conference, from beginning to end, most uplifting and stimulating. Throughout them all there was a deep spiritual consciousness, an underlying sense, of personal responsibility for spiritual life and power in the work of Christianizing men, and of the insignificance of methods as compared with this spiritual life. Every one seemed spiritually vitalized, and out of this soil sprang sincere, earnest, life-bringing prayer; and in this soil noble, uplifting addresses took quick root. This spiritual consciousness and sentiment were not exhausted with the devotional meeting, but gave high tone and character to all the discussions and proceedings, so that the convention was preeminently a spiritual one.

If I were asked to characterize the Hamadan Conference in a word, I should emphasize the general thoroughness of its work, the prevailing good sense shown in its discussions, and its deep, sincere, faith-grounded spirituality.

THE NEED OF THE HOUR.

Sept. 23, 1912

Dear Editor:—

In this last number of *The Orient* I met more than one encouraging item:— "A Brighter Outlook," "Call to Prayer for the Moslem World," "Progress at Konia" and "Robert College Growing." The last item was the more notable to me for the reason that I was just reading in a book, "Holiness and Power," these words, — "A great College and Theological Seminary baptized with the Holy Ghost is the need of the hour." These words went down into the depths of my heart, and I cried, "Amen!"

I certainly love all our Colleges in Turkey. I heartily love my two Alma Maters — Euphrates College and Marsh Theological Seminary. I would, indeed, be very glad to hear that they are lively year by year with "great building activities," as was Robert College during the past summer, and "growing." Yet I cannot but cry out through *The Orient*, that, much as our Educational Institutions need additional resources, "the need of the hour" is to see their Faculties and then their students "bending before God seeking a baptism with the Holy Ghost and personal sanctification." Yes, Brother, is not this the great "need of the hour" in Turkey? The author of that book says, "The Colleges that have millions of money are numerous; a great College and Theological Seminary baptized with the Holy Ghost is the need of the hour."

Let us all know and appreciate this timely and important truth, while complying with the "Call to Prayer for the Moslem World," the most important part of which is our country — Turkey.

May God bless us all, and especially the Presidents and Professors of all our Colleges and Theological Seminaries, for the praise of His good Name.

Sincerely Yours in His Love,

A. Z. YEGHOYAN.

Uchtenhagen, Germany.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

His Majesty the Sultan celebrated his birthday on Thursday last. He was born Nov. 3rd, 1844, but his birthday moves around with the lunar year, so that *à la turque*, he is 70 years old.

Large numbers of Greek, Montenegrin and Bulgarian subjects have left this city for their respective fatherlands. Many Moslem families have likewise arrived here from Bulgaria and are being installed by the prefecture where room can be found.

The Government has forbidden the export of wheat, flour and timber from this empire for the present.

The *Yeni Gazetta* announces that the Government has decided to expel all journalists who are Greek subjects; but this lacks confirmation.

Reiterated messages from Switzerland assert that a complete understanding has been reached between the Italian and Turkish representatives on the subject of terms of peace. Reshid Pasha has now returned to Constantinople to make his report.

Sir Gerard Lowther, British Ambassador, returned to his post last week after an absence on leave in England.

Mr. Hoffman Philip arrived last Wednesday as expected, to act as first Secretary of the American Embassy; but the departure of Ambassador Rockhill has been indefinitely postponed on account of the danger of an outbreak of war.

Hüsein Djahid Bey, editor of the *Tanin*, who was sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment last month, was pardoned last Sunday by His Majesty, after serving twenty-six days of his penalty.

The strike of carriage-drivers noticed in our last issue was ended last Wednesday evening, the municipality agreeing not to collect the obnoxious tax pending action by the next Chamber of Deputies on the subject.

THE PROVINCES.

Owing to preparations for war, all passenger and freight trains between Turkey and Bulgaria have been suspended since last Thursday, and all ordinary trains even to Adrianople and Dede Aghatch have been suspended since Sunday. Mails from Europe and America come around via Constanza.

The Servians assert that the population of "Old Servia," including the Vilayet of Kossovo, and the sandjaks of Novi Bazar, Debre and Shkodra, are nearly all orthodox Servians. The "Annuaire Oriental" says that more than half of the population of Kossovo vilayet are Moslems.

According to the local dailies, the court-martial at Kotechana has condemned one Moslem to be hung, another to fifteen years at hard labor, and several others to various lighter penalties, for having taken part in the recent massacre there.

A bomb exploded at Serres on Wednesday last, injuring seven persons, three of them seriously.

Rev. O. P. Allen, who recently reached Brousa from America with his daughter, Miss Annie T. Allen, writes that there are up to date 133 girls in the Brousa school, of whom 57 are boarders.

NOTES.

Rev. Mr. Ehmann, of the Deutsche Hilfsbund work in Mezireh, passed through Constantinople this week on his return thither from Germany.

Miss L. O. Unger of Hadjin left last Thursday by Messageries steamer, for Naples and Rome.

Miss L. B. McDowell, who went out to Van two years ago, has arrived in this city on her way to America.

Undaunted by the difficulties of travel in Turkey, Dr. and Mrs. Francis E. Clark are starting out on a continuation of their visits to the haunts of St. Paul, and are expected in Smyrna about Oct. 25th, on their way to Tarsus, probably overland.

OTHER LANDS.

On the representations of the French and English naval officers at Samos, the Ottoman troops sent these last weeks to that island have been withdrawn.

The Mansion House Fund for sufferers from the recent earthquakes on the Marmora shores was closed by the Lord Mayor of London after £1,500 had been subscribed.

In return for the stopping of Servian war materials by Turkey at Üsküb, Servia is said to have resolved to stop the consignment of ammunition now on its way from Germany to Turkey.

The trial of those engaged in the Cyprus riots of last May resulted in the sentencing of eighteen Turks and Christians to terms of from 15 years to 9 months imprisonment and varying fines.

A railway line is projected to connect Sofia with Samokov and continue to Kotcherinovo, near the Turkish frontier, a distance of 124 kilometres, the estimated cost being 20 million francs.

Greece has completed the purchase of four torpedo-boat destroyers that have just been constructed in England for the Argentine government.

The death is announced of Judge Alexander W. Terrell, of Texas, who was U. S. Minister to Turkey from 1893 to 1897, under President Cleveland, all through the period of the Armenian massacres. He retained to the very last his warm interest in American missionary work in Turkey. He was 85 years old.



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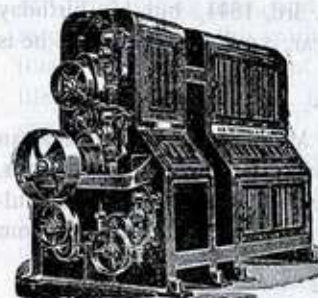
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