

The Orient.

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THE DARDANELLES CLOSED.

On Monday of this week the Dardanelles were closed to traffic of all kinds. This was by official order and was not due to any accident at the Straits as was at first supposed by some. The official communication on the subject reads:— "The fleets of England and France, two of the belligerent powers, are cruising at the entrance of the Dardanelles, and visiting merchant ships, which is decidedly prejudicial to the advantages to be derived from having the straits open. In consequence the Straits of the Dardanelles have been closed. This closing will continue until the aforesaid fleets withdraw from the approach to the Straits and this unnatural state of affairs ends." From an article in the *Tanin* we learn that an Ottoman torpedo-boat that went out of the Dardanelles was ordered back by the British and French warships, and that in consequence the Commandant of the Straits ordered the Straits closed. As a result of this measure, passengers and mails to and from Europe are being conveyed by rail via Kouleli Bourgas to Dedeaghadj, and take steamers there. The *Terjeman-i-Hakikat* ("Interpreter of truth") says: "By this measure the transportation effected between France, England and Russia by the Mediterranean and the Black Sea definitely ceases, and there remain for communication between these powers only two roads: that through Bulgaria, Servia, Montenegro and Italy, and that by the White Sea."

THE WAR.

From the way in which the opposing armies succeed in withstanding fierce attacks on both sides, in the western seat of war, one might think there would never be any great success on either side. The fighting has been very severe, and the casualty lists must necessarily be heavy; for along a front of over a hundred miles, the struggle has been practically continuous. The German right wing, that was threatening Amiens and had advanced south of Noyon, appears to have been gradually forced back till it is said to have its western end at St. Quentin. The British troops have been fairly successful against the Germans in this region. An Italian telegram says the Germans have mined all the region between St. Quentin and Valenciennes, which is the extreme right of their second line of defense. Another Italian telegram says the Germans have repaired the forts of Liège. Still another says the Germans have abandoned their positions to the north of Soissons. An attack in force

is expected, according to another despatch, on Antwerp very soon, and may already have begun, the Germans having brought up there some heavy artillery. The French still hold Rheims, despite heavy bombardment by the Germans; and farther eastward, desperate German attacks have apparently been repulsed with loss. The line from Rheims to the Meuse river at Verdun is practically a straight line; and the furious bombardment at Verdun has not yet been successful. East of the Meuse, the Germans hold the banks till Saint-Mihiel, half-way south to Toul, and thence east to Pont-à-Mousson; and from there southwards the two armies occupy practically the old boundary-line.

The story of Russian troops from Archangel having come around in British transports to reinforce the allies in France seems to have no truth in it. But further contingents of Indian troops are reported as having landed at Marseilles, and wounded Indian soldiers have been brought to England, showing that they are actually on the firing line.

On the Russo-German front, the Germans appear to have attacked the Russians south of Grajevo, in the province of Suwalki, and to have been repulsed. Aside from this there seems to have been nothing worthy of note in that region this week.

As between the Russians and the Austrians, Yaroslaw fell into the hands of the Russians last Wednesday, and they also seem to have entirely surrounded Przemysl. (By the way, the prize of five paras for the first person to pronounce that name correctly still lies in the office of this paper unclaimed.) They also claim to have taken Dembitza, which is nearly sixty miles west of Yaroslaw, and about 25 miles east of Tarnow. At the Pass of Cujok they defeated the Austrians again and entered Hungarian territory.

According to the Servian story, the Servian and Montenegrin armies have advanced toward Serajevo as far as Mount Romania, which is some 25 miles away from that city. On the northwest corner of Servia, from Zvornik through Loznitsa to Ratcha, and clear around to Shabatz, there has been heavy fighting, but neither side has been able to make much headway.

At sea, the most important event has been the sinking of three British cruisers by the German submarine U9, on the 22nd, near the Hook of Holland. These were the "Aboukir," "Cressy," and "Hogue," all of the same build, each 12,000 tons, with a speed of 21 knots and an armament of 14 guns, and about 14 or 15 years old. This is by far the most considerable loss that the British navy has sustained, and it has led to modifications in the naval regulations for the remainder of the war. The German cruiser "Emden"

has been doing considerable damage to British shipping in India waters, and has thus far eluded capture. On the other hand the German cruiser "Panther" has been sunk by a British cruiser near the mouth of the Congo. The British announce officially that up to September 23rd, 387 German merchant vessels had been captured, with a tonnage of 1,140,000, as against 86 British ships captured by the Germans, of which 74 were in German harbors at the outbreak of war, the total British tonnage being 229,000.

A French and British expeditionary force has been landed in the German Kamerun territory, West Africa, and the town of Duala has capitulated to it. There has also been considerable border fighting between British and German forces in southwest Africa, with no definite results.

GERMANY AND KIAO-CHOW.

The situation as between the Germans and the Japanese at the Bay of Kiao-chow is of interest from a missionary point of view, not only because of the presence there of missionaries today, but because of the history of the German occupation. This bay is a large inlet on the south side of the peninsula of Shantung, and it was seized by the German fleet in November, 1897, nominally to secure reparation for the murder of two German missionaries of the Roman Catholic church in southern Shantung. The real cause lay much further back, in the notoriously anti-foreign attitude of the governor of that province. Three hundred German soldiers not only took the port of Kiao-chow, but marched back 20 miles into the interior and took possession of a walled city of 30,000 inhabitants. In the negotiations that followed Germany was allowed a lease of the bay and the land on both sides of the entrance, the lease to run 99 years, Germany to have all the rights of territorial sovereignty, including the right to erect fortifications. The area leased is about 117 square miles, and its population about 60,000. In 1899, Germany declared Kiao-chow a free port. The town of Tsingtao, on the bay, is the trading centre, and is connected by rail with Chinan-fu, the capital of the province.

Besides German missionaries of the German Evangelical Protestant Missionary Society and the Berlin Missionary Society, the Swedes have a mission at Tsing-tao, as have also the Presbyterian Church (North) of the United States. At the present time several of the force of the latter happen to be in the United States on furlough.

The Japanese are said to have landed a strong force of soldiers near the ceded district, and to be bombarding the fortifications of the bay. After their action in Belgium, the Germans can hardly protest against any violation of Chinese neutrality by this landing force of Japanese. Japan has disclaimed any wish to annex the territory she is wresting from Germany but insists she is merely going to give it back to China, to whom it rightfully belongs.

There are reported to be four German warships and one Austrian now in the bay.

THE LOSS OF THE "BELGIAN KING."

The British steamer "Belgian King," Captain W. R. Aikman, one of the vessels bought by the Gumushian Steamship Company, of this city, and which made trips along the shores of the Black Sea, left Trebizond a week ago last Sunday, September 20th, with a cargo of about 3,500 sheep and 400 head of beef, and perhaps 150 passengers, but with no ballast nor any cargo in her hold. About ten or fifteen miles west of Trebizond, the steamer was listing badly; there was no storm, but on the slanting decks the cattle were thrown from side to side of the ship. The captain tried to get the animals taken below, as their presence on that deck made the ship top-heavy. But this proved impossible; and within a very short space of time the steamer listed over and turned turtle. Had it not been for the timely help of the Russian Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Evghenia," which had left Trebizond about the same time, and was quickly put about to give aid, the whole party would have gone to the bottom. The Russians gallantly did their utmost to save the shipwrecked persons, and were able to rescue about a hundred passengers and officers and sailors. The vessel sank very quickly, and all else, including the mail, the sheep and oxen, and most unfortunately a large number of lives, were lost. The rescued passengers and crew were brought by the Russian steamer to Constantinople on Thursday the 24th. A telegram from the Vali of Trebizond to the Minister of Interior expressed great admiration for the gallant and heroic rescue work of the Russian crew.

THE ALBANIAN SITUATION.

The infant state of Albania is having a period of restlessness within, the outcome of which no one can yet predict. Prince Wilhelm of Wied, having retired from the field, ostensibly for a brief absence, is now reported by the *Zeit* of Vienna to have arrived at Munich last week, on his way to his ancestral estate of Neuwied, from which point, the telegram says, he will address a proclamation to the Albanian nation announcing his abdication. He has now, we are told, joined his regiment in the German army. The *Near East* says: "For the moment Albania must be considered as a State without a Sovereign. An armed majority of the population appears to be unwilling to recognize the insurgent administration in Albania. The Albanians will be wise if, during the interval, they abstain from setting up any new Mpret, be he Moslem or Christian, and submit themselves to the rule of just such a regency as that which administered Bulgaria during the long interregnum between the abdication of Prince Alexander and the election of his successor." This seems to be the opinion of many of the Albanian leaders themselves; for we read in a despatch from Durazzo that at a meeting of senators (whoever they may be) elected from all the districts of Albania except

Alessio, Shkodra and Epirus, 28 senators being present, Moustafa Bey was elected President by 19 votes to 9. The Senate thus constituted has assumed the government of the country until the nomination of a Sovereign. The Senate will set up administrations for the various branches of the public service, and appoint governors and officials; it hopes also to come to some arrangement soon with the dissatisfied portions of the Albanian people.

We read also that an assembly at Tirana has voted against the return to the country of Essad Pasha, whose summary arrest and banishment by the young Prince last May is still vividly in mind. The persons who thus voted against him evidently agree that his presence there would even now be prejudicial.

In the south of Albania, a despatch from the *Tribuna* of Rome indicates that the Greeks are doing what they can to secure a foothold; for it says on Sunday last that detachments of Greek troops have occupied Berat and that telegraphic communications between that town and Vallona have been cut.

Candidates for the apparently vacant throne are not lacking. The name of Prince Burhaneddin Effendi, the favorite son of the ex-Sultan Abdul Hamid, is again mentioned; and the Albanian Prince Ghika is championing the cause of Prince Victor Napoleon. It is suggested as not improbable that Italy may send troops to prevent Vallona from becoming a stronghold of the Epirotes, as the Roman Government is generally understood to be nervous about any possible extension of Greek influence along the opposite coast of the Adriatic. The Greek view is apparently that if Italy secures Vallona, Northern Epirus beyond Berat may be ceded to Greece, and that if Albania is still further dismembered, Servia may get Durazzo, in which case she might possibly hand over to Greece the Monastir-Doiran region. This sounds rather far off.

HOW LONG WILL THE WAR LAST?

The Turkish daily *Tanin* writes:—

We are traversing a period in history such that even the greatest thinkers acknowledge themselves powerless to solve the riddle of the future of Europe with the data they now possess. Several weeks ago, in trying to estimate the length of the war and of the present crisis, we had fixed it as at least a year. The results till now of the military operations of these two months prove that it is no longer possible to think of only one year. Those who thought that the war would last at least a year were counting mostly on a rapid move by Germany. But facts have proved an obstacle to any such rapid action. Today military operations from every point of view are moving very slowly. No one of the belligerents has yet suffered a definite defeat; and apparently while one of the general staffs in this life-and-death grapple wishes to push operations with great speed, the other bases its hope of ultimate victory on prolonging its resistance.

Germany, who wished to act rapidly against France, saw

the French armies retreat so as not to waste their strength at the start, and then advance again. As for Austria, not wishing to be crushed by Russia, she has thought it to be best for her interests, after showing by a minor effort the greatest resistance, to retire while waiting to see what her ally would do on more favorable territory.

Furthermore, the course of events in the last two weeks shows that the great struggle now going on in Europe, contrary to the most elementary principles of war, is conducted on political lines. The two parties, while of course showing in their military operations exceptional efforts to crush the adversary on the battlefield, at the same time do not forget the probable political impression that their military operations may produce on the neutral states, and even at times go so far as to give preference to political considerations as over against military necessity.

Two months have passed since war began; and while we do not see any vigorous action toward a definite result on the part of either belligerent, winter, which makes military operations difficult, has begun to appear in some parts of the theatre of war. We do not think that things can move hereafter at a greater speed than the slow rate they have thus far shown. So that Europe will spend the winter in tents and perhaps not before spring will anything definite be done. The armies on both sides are fighting for their very lives. On the one side it is not probable that the Germans will easily be vanquished; while on the other hand we cannot suppose that the French, the Russians and English will lay down their arms without being convinced of the impossibility of keeping up the struggle.

Everything therefore proves that the belligerents will spend the spring and even the summer facing each other. It is a mistake to suppose that nations which have for years been preparing for this war will be used up in one year, unless Germany, which is a united and homogeneous force, succeeds by her rapidity and vigor in crushing her foes by decisive defeats.

In speaking of the probabilities, we are not taking into consideration the attitude of the neutral states. Those who see the dangerous effervescence in the Balkans fear the extension of the war; and they have great reason to be troubled.

Besides all this, even if we suppose that negotiations for peace should begin, at least five months more would roll by before the definite signing of an agreement; so that we may correctly say that the length of the war may be reckoned at a year and a half. And yet even if the war should end in a year and a half, the critical state of Europe would last for an equal time, till normal life could be restored. Consequently the events of these last two months show us that the war will be long and the critical state resulting will be grave. We must not forget this, and we must take steps not to be drawn into the consequences.

THE CAIRO STUDY CENTRE.

The second Annual Report is just at hand for the Cairo Study Centre for Arabic and Islam; and it furnishes most interesting reading. After two years of work, this school for missionary workers can no longer be called an experiment. It has reached the stage of a decided success, as is very evident from this report. It is intended for accredited missionaries of recognized missionary societies only; but any of the lectures are open to others who will pay the fee as regular attendants. During the year 21 students have been enrolled, nine of them from the Egypt General Mission, six from the Church Missionary Society, and four from the American Mission.

The two branches of the course, dealing respectively with Arabic and Islam, are distinct and yet so correlated as to give each its proper place and emphasis. In the course on Islam, an introductory course is followed by one on apologetic, and others on the historical and doctrinal origins of Islam, popular Sufism, and methods of women's work; also on the life of Mohammed, Islamic ritual and observance, and the customs of Moslem women, the latter for women students. There have been special lectures as well by competent persons. In the study of Arabic, a thorough course in Arabic phonetics and careful drill in reading and grammar of both colloquial and classical Arabic have been given. The plan was started in January of last year of teaching the colloquial language first and postponing the study of the classical until after at least six months. This has proved a complete success. The phonetics of Egyptian colloquial and of classical Arabic have been shown to be fundamentally the same, and the colloquial grammar is almost as regular as the classical and well fitted for initial study. The aids used for the study of the colloquial are written in the Roman character, but this has not proved as objectionable as was predicted, and seems to have some decided advantages.

To indicate the results attained by the present method, the report says:—

1. The students very soon learn to understand what is said to them, and are quick to use what they know in talking with Orientals.

2. At five or six months they give a brief address to a group of men or women after three weeks' notice for preparation; at twelve months they give an address after four days' notice for preparation; at eighteen months they give an address unaided after a day's notice for preparation. These are examination tests.

3. After only six months at the classical they acquire a clear and correct style in reading and pass searching tests on the accidence of both grammars without confusing the forms.

The testimonial of two missionaries who had previously acted as language superintendents working along two separate syllabuses on the old lines, is remarkably clear and unequivocal: "After eighteen months of the new system students may be said to be incomparably in advance of two-year students of the old system, both in conversation and in

the delivery of an address in the colloquial. And in regard to the classical language also, students of the new system after one year's study of that language are in every way markedly in advance of those who have studied it for an equal period under the old system."

Aside from the regular work of the Study Centre, a fortnight's course on Arabic and Islam was held last November for missionaries from the Provinces, and the four daily lectures were attended by a score of missionaries of varying terms of service; this course was quite favorably received and will probably be repeated this year.

The two annual semesters begin on September 1st and February 1st respectively, and the examinations occur about January 20th and June 20th respectively; July and August being holiday months. The course is not suited to persons beginning in the middle of a semester. The fees are very small, and board at pensions can be found for eight pounds a month and upwards. The students have had the benefit of the free use of the libraries of Dr. Zwemer and the C. M. S., and it is proposed to secure a reference library as well. Dr. S. M. Zwemer, F. R. G. S., is the secretary of the committee in charge.

CALL TO PRAYER.

During the dreadful struggle which is now convulsing the world, issues, not only of nations, but of the Kingdom of God, are at stake. Christian enterprises suffer from the lack of men and money. The world-wide forward movement of the church of Christ is in danger of being arrested by the closing of doors which have been so wonderfully opened in recent years.

We believe that God, the loving Father of His erring children, can use this calamity, too, for the furtherance of His plan for the world's redemption. The only condition is that He may find Christians who will not despair, who have the eye of faith that sees the possibilities of even such days as these, and who are willing to be the channels of His redeeming and unifying love.

From their very nature and work the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations here as well as in many other countries are in an exceptional position both to feel the hardships of the war and to seize its opportunities. It is with a sense of supreme urgency, therefore, that we unite with the World's Young Women's Christian Association and with the World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations in requesting that Churches, Associations and individual Christians set apart the week beginning with the second Lord's Day in November (Nov. 8-14) for special intercession on behalf of young men and young women and of the work of the Christian Associations throughout the world.

The General Committee of Christian Associations in the Turkish Empire,

C. F. Gates, Chairman.

September 28, 1914. M. M. Patrick, }
S. Panaretoff, } Vice-Chairmen

THE ORIENT

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Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Constantinople.

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EDITORIAL.

A special offer is hereby made to students or teachers in any College or High School in Turkey, of a trial subscription from October first to the end of the year, three months, for *six piastres*. This includes postage. Orders should be sent in immediately. The record of this critical period will be of especial value.

President Wilson has issued a call to special prayer next Sunday in the churches of America for the restoration of peace in Europe. Many even as far away as this will desire to join most heartily and humbly with their friends in America in this supplication. There have been tens of thousands who have been daily voicing a like petition for many weeks already; but such a call for united prayer brings a new impulse for petition to us all. Not alone the citizens of the United States but people all through the belligerent countries as well are begging the God of peace and concord to put an end to this deadly strife. The direct answer to these prayers has not yet come. Is that not a strong reason why our prayers should be redoubled, rather than why we should cease to pray? Let all who read these words or see the call of the President of the United States make Sunday, October 4th, a day of special and united petition for the ending of the great war.

There seems to be little doubt that in the siege of Liège, Namur and Maubeuge, and now in the bombardment of Verdun, the great siege guns of the Germans, said to measure 42 cm., or 16 1/2 inches across the muzzle, have played a very important part. Not only are they bigger than any siege guns ever used before, but they also have a great range; so that the French and the Belgians have been obliged to stand bombardment from such a distance as not

to be able to make any reply. Where the Germans have been able to bring these great monsters into action, the results have been disastrous in the extreme to their foes. British reports speak rather disparagingly of the rifle practice of the Germans; but they have only the highest commendation of the effects of their heavy artillery. We can only hope this successful weapon may not be used as against cathedrals and such edifices.

These are days full of reminiscences of former wars as well as of present battles. Three years ago yesterday the Italo-Turkish war began. A year ago yesterday the treaty of peace was signed between Turkey and Bulgaria. Six years ago next Wednesday Austria began the series of treaty-breakings by annexing Bosnia and Herzegovina. Two years ago next Thursday Montenegro declared war on Turkey. Eleven days later, all the Balkan peninsula was involved. During the past three years, there has been almost continuous war in this part of the world, with brief intervals of peace. Europe is weary of strife, but is not ready to stop. While the nations are daily losing thousands of their choice young men, no one of them dares suggest treating for peace, — nay, there is even an unwillingness to pray for peace. The general thought seems to be: We must fight it through. This war must be decisive. We will not stop till the question of supremacy is definitely settled.

It is not our province to criticise this attitude. We humbly hope that after this war is over, no nation may again be so unchristian as to go to war so as to settle a quarrel. We also sincerely trust that the awful burden of armaments that has so crushed the whole of Europe for the past decade or so will be lifted forever from the necks of the people. And further we hope that the Ottoman Empire may not be dragged into the present conflict, for that would spell ruin to the country. And we believe all these are legitimate objects for intercession on the part of all our readers.

CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE.

The body of students has been increased every day by the coming in of both old and new members; and the principal excitement of the week has been listening to the tales of difficulty by land and sea, told by the incoming members of the faculty who have arrived from Paris and New York.

The Self-Government Association is proving itself especially useful under its most efficient set of student officers.
I. F. D.

CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, Oct. 27th, 1914.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m. Rev. F. W. Macallum, D.D.
UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m. Rev. Robert Frew.
ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles Anderson, D.D.
CONS/PLE COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Mr. E. O. Jacob.

THE TEMETTU TAX.

By virtue of the decision of the Imperial Government to abolish the Capitulations, foreigners are hereafter expected to pay the *temettu*, or income-tax, as levied on Ottoman subjects also. In view of this fact, some explanation in detail is reasonable; for there has been a very general disregard of the provisions of this law on the part of those not heretofore directly concerned with it. Foreign residents in Turkey will hereafter be more particular to be acquainted with the laws of the land, so as to know which ones refer to them and what are their new duties and privileges.

The *temettu* tax was provided for by the Act of December 21, 1907 (Kianoun-Evvel 8, 1323), and concerns in general only those who are engaged in commercial pursuits. It has nothing to do with the clergy; and several other classes are entirely exempt, as will be seen by the résumé herewith given of the provisions of the law.

Article I. With the exception of those hereinafter mentioned, those who are to pay the *temettu* tax are: merchants, tradesmen and artisans living in capitals of *viloyets*, *livas* and *kazas* and other towns of over 2,000 population.

Article II. The following are also subject to the *temettu* tax: proprietors of taverns, cafes, hotels, baths and warehouses at railroad stations, or along the highways between vilayet centres; also those connected with factories and other industrial institutions wherever located.

Article III. Those exempt are: Professors of arts, sciences and languages as well as the various employes in state schools or in schools officially authorized; authors; physicians and pharmacists in *kazas*, *nahies* and villages; all veterinary surgeons; midwives; the personnel of all hospitals and orphanages; registered firemen; assistant masons; manufacturers of liquors who pay special taxes; dealers in liquors, tobacco and stamps; hunters, fishers, sailors and boatmen; mine-owners; farmers who sell their produce at the farm or who have no shop, agriculturists who live in cities; the employes of privileged societies who receive less than 300 piastres a month; and all workers under 15 years old. It is understood that when any of the foregoing excepted persons carries on another trade at the same time, he shall be subject to the tax for the other trade or occupation.

Article IV. Soldiers and reserves are exempted during their term of service and for the year of the disbanding.

Article V. The amount of the tax for each person shall be determined by special commissions formed in the various centres, on the following basis:—

1) Several classes pay a fixed tax: this includes bankers, wholesale merchants, proprietors of factories, dairies, flour-mills, saw-mills, etc.; money-changers, commission agents, master-workmen, etc. There is also a fixed tax on carriages and carts for hire, on beasts of burden, etc. This tax is not to exceed 3% of the income of these classes.

2) Commercial and industrial houses other than those

already specified pay 3/10 per cent. on the value of their property; the employes of specially authorized societies pay 3% on their salaries after deducting three liras per month; those supplying provisions to the army or building roads or farming the taxes pay 3% on the profit they make, which profit shall be calculated on the basis of 10% of the gross value of the contract if under 1,000 liras, and 5% if over that sum.

Article VI. The *temettu* tax affects whole companies; the members of the same company are therefore not taxed separately. But persons carrying on various branches of business will be taxed separately for each branch.

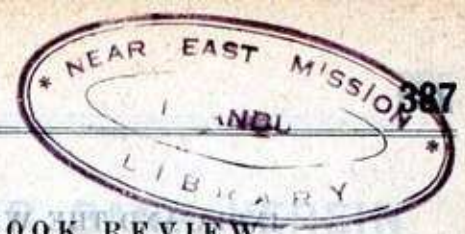
The remaining articles of the law refer to the method of collecting the tax, and the penalties attached to its non-payment.

AMERICAN BOARD ANNUAL MEETING.

The one hundred and fifth annual meeting of the American Board will take place at Detroit, Michigan, October 13th to 16th, 1914. A committee of forty-two, of whom half are women, has been making every possible arrangement for the success of the gathering as far as entertainment and local arrangements are concerned; and the officers of the Board have secured a program that will be inspiring and helpful. Our friend Professor E. I. Bosworth of Oberlin, whose addresses here at the Student Federation Conference and later at Marsovan and Salonica many of us remember, will conduct daily devotional services. The annual sermon will be preached by Rev. Dan E. Bradley, D.D., of Cleveland. The Lord's Supper will be administered by Rev. A. J. Lyman, D.D., of Brooklyn. There will be a special session in memory of the late President Samuel B. Capen, LL.D., at which Dr. Nehemiah Boynton of Brooklyn and Dr. Robert E. Speer of New York will speak. Naturally an important place on the program will be given to the Deputation to India which last fall attended the Centenary of the Marathi Mission. Aside from these persons, the speakers at the meeting will be mainly missionaries fresh from the fields.

Two other annual meetings of the American Board have been held in Detroit, one in 1858, when Dr. Mark Hopkins was president; this meeting was held in the First Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Justin W. Parsons of Bardizag represented Turkey, and Rev. W. M. Thomson, D.D. Syria. The other was held in 1883, again under the the presidency of Dr. Mark Hopkins, and was in the Central Methodist Church. Rev. A. W. Hubbard of Sivas, Rev. E. W. Jenney of Monastir, Miss Corinna Shattuck of Marash and Miss Myra A. Proctor of Kessab were present; and also Dr. Fuller of Aintab and Mr. White of Marash. The report of the Deputation to Turkey naturally occupied much time and attention.

The meeting of this year convenes in the First Congregational Church.



ENGLAND AND THE CAPITULATIONS.

An editorial in the *Manchester Guardian* gives the viewpoint of at least a large section of the British public regarding the step Turkey is now taking. It says:—

None of us in England will make it a grievance against Turkey that she has decided to put an end to the Capitulations. Most of us will be more inclined to say that she is perfectly welcome to do so. The Capitulations are a set of treaties, or rather voluntary grants, some of which date from the fifteenth century. They began as gracious, or slightly contemptuous, permits given by the enormously powerful Turkish Sultans of that time to the unbelieving traders of various European nations to live and trade unmolested in Turkey. As the Turkish power declined and other Powers grew stronger the Capitulations came to be regarded by foreigners as legal rights to be aggressively asserted and extended. At the same time the number of foreign residents in Turkey has pretty constantly increased, so that the Turkish Government has for a long time had in the midst of its own subjects a very large population of foreigners of all nations who, under the Capitulations, paid no taxes except Customs duties, could not be sued in the local courts, and enjoyed the ambassadorial privilege of "inviolability of domicile"—that is to say, each of their houses was, in a legal sense, not in Turkey at all, but was built on an outlying patch of English, German, French, or Austrian territory, according to the dweller's nationality.

Such an arrangement is obviously humiliating as well as troublesome to any Government against which it is maintained. We discovered that for our selves as soon as we came to govern Egypt and found how annoying it was to have to watch a foreign ship full of smuggled goods during the week that might elapse before the Consul of her owner's country found it convenient to come and see us board her—for without his presence it would have been a breach of a Capitulation to do so. If Turkey chooses to throw off a system which we, in her place, have found to be an extreme nuisance, we can only say that we can well understand her motives, and that she may feel assured that our Government will put no obstacle in the way. Everyone in England can guess that she is having no easy time just now, with Germany pestering her to sacrifice her own peace and prosperity on the chance of repairing Germany's failing fortunes in the war. And it is very sincerely regretted here that our exercise of our legal right to take over the two Turkish men-of-war which stood unfinished in British ship-yards at the beginning of August should have been construed as a piece of unfriendliness, as we fear it was, by Turkish public opinion. There is no such feeling in England towards Turkey. There is only a feeling of sympathetic goodwill towards her in the difficulties which we believe to surround her Government's efforts to save the country from being dragged into the European war against its own sense of right and of prudence.

BOOK REVIEW.

The Holy Land of Asia Minor. By Francis E. Clark, D.D., LL.D., President of the United Society of Christian Endeavor. New York; Charles Scribner's Sons, 1914. 154 pp., illustrated, \$1.00.

In March and April of 1912, there appeared in THE ORIENT an account of a visit to the Seven Churches of Asia by Dr. and Mrs. F. E. Clark in company with Dr. and Mrs. Edward Riggs. A series of articles by Dr. Clark on the same journey came out soon after in the *Christian Herald*; and these latter now appear in book form. The volume is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Riggs, who passed away less than a year later; and the graceful dedication refers also to the two ladies of the party. In the book itself we find an interesting and helpful historical sketch of each one of the seven cities mentioned in the second and third of Revelation, and also of Patmos, the island from which St. John wrote the vision. These descriptions of the present appearance of the place are very vivid, and of course correct. And they are not only connected with the ancient history of the cities, each story being given in brief, but the historical outline is made to illumine the Apocalyptic references in such a way that the little volume will be of great help to any student of those chapters of the Revelation, and in fact of the whole New Testament. The survival of the old cities of Smyrna and Philadelphia, against neither of which is there in the letters given to St. John even the slightest implication of censure, is brought into striking contrast with the desolation of Sardis and Laodicea, who were threatened with doom for their sins. "Satan's seat" at Pergamum, and the rod of iron and the morning star at Thyatira are vividly portrayed, as well as the removing of the candlestick from the Ephesian church. Best of all, the message of this book is for the church in general, and the applicability of the separate letters to the universal situation is shown. The sixteen full-page illustrations, mainly from photographs taken while on this trip, make the description all the more complete.

Some errors have crept in, as is inevitable in almost any such book, and they will doubtless be corrected in a second edition. The phrase, on p. 53, "One of the three lines of railway in Turkey," would seem to indicate that there were no more than three; whereas there are more than twice that number of separate companies. On p. 69, Pausanias is made to write 1900 years ago; but he wrote in the times of Hadrian and the Antonines, 130 to 165 A. D. And on p. 102, a period of thirty-five hundred years is allowed to pass from Cyrus the Great (who captured Sardis in 546 B. C.) till the present time. But in the line of the purpose for which the book was written, we have only the heartiest commendation for it, coupled with the hope that many will avail themselves of its help.

The International College, Smyrna, opened its term on Monday of this week, but with a very small attendance.

INDIA AND THE WAR.

So much has been written in the local papers and in fact in many European papers as well, about the probability of trouble breaking out in India against the British if England should be engaged in war, that the unanimity and heartiness of the loyal response of native princes and states throughout India has been especially gratifying to the British heart. One English daily heads an editorial on the subject: "The German Defeat in India." For the Prussian General von Bernhardt had announced an Indian rebellion as inevitable and the German sentiment appeared to anticipate one with confidence. But the very contrary has happened. The average Indian, be he Moslem or Hindu, is very happy under British rule; and the native states are so well cared for that their rulers are notably loyal. Far from wishing to take advantage of England's present trouble to revolt, these leaders have furnished daily proofs of an eagerness to participate in the defense of the British Empire, of which they seem proud to be reckoned a part. Among the princes volunteering their personal services are the Maharajah of Jodhpur and his venerable uncle, Sir Pertab Singh, who is seventy years old; also the chiefs of Bikaner, Kishangarh, Ratlam, Sachin, Patiala, etc., a brother of the Maharajah of Cooh Behar, and the heir-apparent of Bhopal. The Maharajah of Idar has been accepted as a volunteer. Contingents of troops have been accepted from fifteen native states which maintain such troops at their own expense. The Maharajah of Idar has also given £22,000 for the purchase of automobiles for transport, and £5,000 more for the relief of suffering Belgians. Several chiefs have offered to send horses; and one camel corps has been accepted. Various durbars have combined to provide a hospital ship, to be called the "Loyalty," for the use of the expeditionary force. The Maharajah of Mysore has placed fifty lakhs of rupees (Lstg. 333,000) at the disposal of the Government of India for expenditure in connection with this force. Many other chiefs have offered troops, funds and even private jewelry, for the service of the King-Emperor. Even the Dalai Lama of Tibet has offered 1,000 Tibetan troops, for service under the British Government. The Zemindars of Madras have offered 500 horses; and similar offers of various sorts of help come from the Maharajah of Bhutan, the feudatory state of Amba, and the Arab chiefs in the vicinity of Aden. The Gaekwar of Baroda and the Maharajah of Bharatpur have placed the whole of the resources of their states at the disposal of the British Government.

It is an impressive list, but not a complete one. The people of India are not merely passively content with British rule; so far as they have studied it, and are capable of forming an opinion about it, they are ready with all their force to support loyally in its time of danger the country that has given them a fair and firm and beneficent form of government.

The Committee of the London All-India Moslem League recently adopted resolutions desiring to convey, through the

Secretary for India, to the Indian troops their good wishes for success in the opportunity accorded to them to share with their British comrades-in-arms in the defense of the Empire on the battlefields of Europe. They also expressed their hope that the Turkish Government will unswervingly maintain the neutrality which it has hitherto faithfully observed. Evidently the idea expressed a short time ago that there was danger of a Moslem movement in opposition to England in India has no basis of fact.

A FIRE OF 75 YEARS AGO.

The *Missionary Herald* of three quarters of a century ago gives the following vivid account of a terrible fire in Pera in August, 1839, seventy-five years ago. The contrast with the conditions of today makes the story interesting even now. The letter from which the account is quoted was written by Rev. Cyrus Hamlin, then a young man of 28, who had been in this city but six months at the time.

"August 13. Yesterday Pera was visited with another conflagration, similar to the one of 1831. It presented a scene of which the inhabitant of an American city can form but a very imperfect conception. At the first alarm I hastened to the spot, and found a small wooden house on fire, in the centre of a large collection of wooden buildings, separated by streets ten or twelve, and in some places possibly fifteen feet wide. No rain had fallen for six weeks. Every house was tinder. There was no room to work with any hope of controlling the flames. For the distance of half a mile in every direction, every house was pouring its contents into the streets. Boxes, beds and furniture choked the narrow alleys, and were dashed against each other. Men, women and children were attempting to flee with the heaviest load they could carry. Some were knocked down and trodden upon; thousands had so entirely lost all presence of mind as to make no efforts, save to rend the heavens with their shrieks. One or two were killed by boxes thrown from windows; one or two dropped down dead, on reaching the garden of the English Palace, from excitement, heat, and effort. Meantime multitudes from Galata, Scutari and Stamboul came crowding to the spot; and the firemen, with their engines on their shoulders, came rushing along with furious shouts, bearing down everything before them; and a party of mounted police, with true Turkish regard of life and limb, galloped through the main street, which led to the spot. I entered the house of a Greek merchant whom I knew, to offer assistance, but though he was carrying "Boetheson!" he knew not what to save first, when help came. After helping him remove a few articles, I made my escape, not without difficulty and apparent danger, from among the rushing and dashing and falling of furniture in the narrow streets.

"But the fire soon enlarged its circumference in every direction, so as to disperse the people and prevent their crowding to one centre. Though there was no wind, save that created by the flames, yet in a short time all Pera and its surrounding villages seemed on the verge of destruction.

The missionary houses were nearly a mile distant, but all our neighbors began to make preparations for safety — those who had wooden houses by removing, and those who had stone houses, by closing the iron shutters and plastering them on the inside and out with mud. But a gracious Providence held back the winds; and the conflagration, after raging from eleven o'clock in the morning till eleven or twelve at night, and destroying from three to four thousand houses, was subdued. The danger had scarcely passed, when the winds were let loose, which, by being one or two hours earlier, would have swept Pera and all its bordering villages to the same destruction. Our hearts are filled with joy, we trust also with gratitude, at this signal preservation.

"The ruins present many touching scenes. Here and there are families seated in mute despair by the smoking remains of their homes; some are cursing 'the fates;' and as we passed today, some were sullenly expressing their wish that now their property is all gone, their lives might go next. None seem to regard it as the providence of God or as an admonition to lay up more enduring treasures."

CALENDAR OF NOTEWORTHY DATES.

- Oct. 1, 1912, Miss Cora May Welpton, Marash, died.
 > 2, 1872, Rev. Philander O. Powers, Brousa, Trebizond, Antioch, etc., died.
 > > 1821, Tripolitza taken by Greeks from Turks.
 > 5, 1908, Bulgaria proclaimed a kingdom.
 > > 1914, Jewish feast of Succoth, or booths.
 > 6, 1886, Gerald F. Dale, Jr., died at Zahleh.
 > 7, 1908, Austria annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina.

JOTTINGS FROM JERUSALEM.

Jerusalem, Sept. 13th, 1914.

Many Europeans are leaving the city, every now and then, because of the scarcity of food.

The L. J. S. Mission has closed its work, and the workers have left for England.

Two of the biggest French charitable institutions of the city have dismissed their boys.

Yesterday the government sent out the herald to call the people to the Public Garden, where the Mutesarrif and other officials delivered patriotic speeches with regard to the abolishing of the Capitulations. Thousands of people were present at the ceremony.

It is said, and confirmed by some prominent Jewish men, that the Jews of America have sent \$50,000 to the Jews of Palestine to be paid in gold.

Some of the missionary schools have already informed the boys and girls that in view of the situation the schools will not be opened this season.

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M. H.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

Tomorrow a commemorative set of the present issue of postage stamps is announced, to bear the surcharge "Abolition of the foreign privileges" ("Imtiazati Ejnebiéin Laghvu"). The use of the stamps so surcharged is optional.

Professor Elizabeth Kendall of the Wellesley College faculty, left Constantinople for Persia two weeks ago, expecting to make quite a tour through that empire.

A disastrous fire last week in the Halidjioghlu quarter of Haskey destroyed about five hundred houses, most of them Jewish homes.

An error was copied into our last issue from the local daily press. It turns out that Sir Richard Crawford did not leave the city after all, nor has he yet resigned his post as Inspector-General of Customs.

An exciting game of baseball took place between Robert Collège and a team representing the city. The college won, 8-7, after ten hard-fought innings. At the end of the ninth the score was 4-4. Several double plays were made.

THE PROVINCES

The sacred caravan is reported to have passed through Damascus with great pomp last week, on its way to Mecca.

NOTES.

Miss Lyon of the Girls' Collège and Professor and Mrs. Fisher, Professor French and Mr. Bredberg of Robert Collège arrived in the city last week.

Rev. and Mrs. John Kingsley Birge arrived in Smyrna September 11th to join the Western Turkey Mission as members of Smyrna Station. Mr. Birge will be connected with the International Collège. He spent some weeks in Turkey last summer, and returns now for his life work. Mrs. Birge is the sister of Mr. Harlow.

Rev. Cass Arthur Reed arrived in Smyrna September 19th, returning from New York by Greek steamer to Piræus twenty-six days from New York to Smyrna.

Mr. Isaac N. Camp and Miss Lucile McClenahan, under appointment to Sivas as missionaries of the Western Turkey Mission, were married at Pittsburg, Pa., on August 6th.

Rev. James A. McKeeman and Miss Evelyn Aikens, under appointment to Eastern Turkey, were married in Stillwater, Oklahoma, July 23rd.

Professor and Mrs. Panaretoff have gone to Sofia for a short visit, and will return here before going on to their new post in Washington, D. C.

OTHER LANDS.

A second daughter was born on Sept. 23rd to Mr. Maurice L. and Mrs. (Maud Binns) Rowntree, at Scarborough, England.

The moratorium in England has been rescinded. In Bulgaria it is said it will be prolonged for three months more. No announcement has yet been made regarding the arrangement here.

Prince Oscar, son of the German Kaiser, has left the army on account of illness, and gone to Bad-Hamburg for treatment.

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