

# The Orient.

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## THE EVACUATION OF CILICIA

As soon as the news of the French agreement to evacuate Cilicia became known, one thought, and one only seemed to take possession of the whole Christian population, —to leave the country, sacrifice *every* thing, but get away. One cannot wonder when we consider that all had been through the fire of the exile, and that many of them had within the past year or two barely escaped alive.

In Adana merchants quietly packed up their goods and shipped them out of the country. Household furniture was sold at any price. What could not be sold or taken away was burned or broken. Men, women and children lined the streets trying to sell paltry little things often of no value. Often one saw babies' cradles. Why keep the cradle when the home was gone? It seemed to be the custom, as each family left the house for the last time, to throw the water jar into the street, breaking it into thousands of pieces, a symbol of their broken home.

Streams of humanity poured down to Mersin. Ordinary passenger trains in no way sufficing, open freight cars were loaded high with baggage, the owners in families perching on top. Soon thousands of people were camping in the streets of Mersin.

Many had started with only a few liras, and almost immediately began to feel the pinch of poverty. Heavy rains and black small-pox added to the distress. The Mission, Near East and Y.W.C.A. came to their aid as far as possible with shelter, free clinic, soup kitchen and milk for babies.

After English and Greek steamers had taken the first installment of these refugees, word came that all ports had been closed to them. Like the Israelites of old, to go forward was impossible, while to go back seemed equally unthinkable.

Now Cyprus, Smyrna, Constantinople and Egypt had closed their doors. Despair began to settle on them.

France opened the ports of Syria, and French steamers came to carry them. At first a ticket to Damascus was 8½ liras, then 4½, and finally free steamers were sent to take away all who wished to go.

Most of them chose the Damascus region as their future home. Whether they will ever reach there, or will be dropped nearer the coast, and how these thousands of people will be able to live within the confined borders of Syria, and whether they will be much safer there than they were in Cilicia, are great questions.

When one considers that all the Christian villages of the Taurus and Amanus mountains have been destroyed

within the past two years, the few survivors being exiles in Cilicia, we can not wonder at the terror of the people at the thought of again being left alone.

The inhabitants of Osmanié, Jihan and Deurt Yol were allowed to go to Alexandretta, the number of refugees there at present being estimated even as high as twenty thousand. The larger part of the people of Aintab have taken refuge in Aleppo. The Mersin pastor, Rev. Geuvkalaijian, remains in Adana to minister to the few hundred Armenians left there. The American School for Girls in Adana and St. Paul's College at Tarsus still "carry on," only the personnel of the pupils being changed. The American Hospital at Adana still continues its work. For the present the Y.M. and Y.W.C.A. will continue, though like the school they must work among a different people. The Near East still continues some relief in Adana, most of the Armenians left there being the poorest of the poor.

Dr. and Mrs. Chambers expect to remain in Adana, the Nilsons with the college faculty in Tarsus, and the Reformed Presbyterian missionaries in Mersin. Dr. and Mrs. Martin with Miss Davies are in Alexandretta helping the refugees there.

The future for this poor Armenian people looks very dark. The Government has taken over all abandoned Christian property, any who wish renting it from them. Their plan is to hold it thus for a year that the owners may return and claim it. This of course means trusting themselves to Turkish rule, and also giving military service, neither of which they dare do without other guarantees of safety than mere promises.

## INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, SMYRNA

Some thirty students from St. Paul's Institute at Tarsus have come to the College, and their admirable spirit cannot but help their new classmates. The Armenian, Greek and Turkish Literary Societies recently held a union meeting in the Auditorium, where speeches in the three languages and in English expressed the wish and purpose of these societies to work together for a better understanding and more intimate personal relations of the races of the Near East. Mr. Fred Goodsell's visit was a treat and he will always have a warm welcome here. Christmas brought great joy, as ever, not only to the Paradise circle but also to the many poor in the neighborhood. Prof. Seylaz's intimate acquaintance with high altitudes enabled him to impersonate Santa Claus with marked success. As a result of Prof. Seylaz's illustrated lecture of his climbing experiences in the Alps, a few days later,



a much more intelligent interest will be taken in mountain climbing in the Himalayas and other great ranges.

Mr. Neville Custance has joined the College Staff as Acting Physical Director. There is keen emulation between the staff and the students over volley-ball and basket-ball. Closely contested matches are played nearly every day. The cnp matches between boarders and day-students have begun. Boarders have won both at volley-ball and foot-ball.

Miss Helen Crosby is spending the vacation in Egypt. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce MacLachlan are passing the holidays with their parents. President MacLachlan left for America on Jan. 2. He hopes to return in May. Christmas vacation commenced Jan. 4, and continues until Jan. 23.

*Paradise, Jan. 10, 1922*

C. W. L.

### Y.W.C.A. SERVICE CENTER, PERA

The holiday season brings many special parties and activities at the Y.W.C.A. Service Center. The middle of December all the club girls joined in giving a Christmas Bazaar; different clubs had charge of the embroidery table, the candy booth, the Christmas tree loaded with gifts distributed by Santa, etc. Of the amount cleared, the club council, consisting of representatives from each club, decided to use a good sum as a loan fund for needy members of the Y.W.C.A. Service Center and to spend the rest for a party for orphan children instead of for their own amusement.

At the European Christmas time, the Camp girls presented a very good program of carols and tableaux. The gymnasium was decorated with small fir trees and other greens, and lighted by candle light only. From the first moment, when the chorus in red capes, each girl bearing a candle, entered singing "Oh Come All Ye Faithful," a quiet spirit of devotion was over all the audience. The tableaux for "Holy Night" and "We Three Men of Orient Are" were particularly impressive.

Because of the interest the Constantinople Y.W.C.A. has always had in the home for girls at Scutari, formerly carried on by the Armenian Red Cross, we continued our former plan of inviting these girls to our Service Center for a holiday party. On January 16th the girls came, and lively games were played under the guidance of members of our normal class in games and recreation. The Christmas tree was loaded with attractive gifts, as well as a big cornucopia of candy for each girl. Later tea was served in the little dining room. The party was a great event in their lives, not only because they got away from institutional life to a place where they met other girls but also because they were so happy to see their old companions that they wept copiously.

And last of all came the big party for 150 orphan children, given by our club gifts, on Jan. 18th. The girls had decorated the tree, had made candy bags, and filled them, had secured a toy for each child and had planned games to play. As soon as the games began, the children played together as all children love to do. They certainly had a wonderful time. It was an interesting sight to watch the expressions on the

faces, when Santa appeared. The children all rushed to the tree, quite as normal children should do. The Near East Relief arranged for the groups and brought the children:— Armenians from the Ortakeuy and Psamatia Camps, Greeks from Halki and Prinkipo, Turks from Arnaoutkeuy, and Baroness Wrangel sent us Russians.

### THE ADMIRABLE CRICHTON

On January 6th, Twelfth Night, the Hissar Players presented in Henrietta Washburn Hall, "The Admirable Crichton" by Sir James M. Barrie. It was an exceedingly difficult play because of the number of people who must be on a very small stage at the same moment; because of the very English characterization; and because of the complicated scenery. But all these obstacles were overcome and the result was a most clever and enjoyable performance. Whereas on former occasions the Hissar Players have, for the most part, worked on very serious plays, this comedy of Barrie's was quite the reverse, light and full of humorous situations, with just the shadow of a serious thought underlying it.

This underlying idea was the theme that all men are equal and that all social barriers are artificial. Lord Loam, the exponent of this theory, has his servants to tea once a month in his drawing-room, to justify his point of view. No one else shares his enthusiasm, however, least of all the servants. When the party is shipwrecked on a desert island, and they are obliged to live near to Nature, social barriers are for the time forgotten, or rather, reversed, and Crichton, who was the family butler, becomes the head of the group and obtains the promise of the hand of Lady Mary. But the party is rescued. On their return to England former relations are resumed and the admirable Crichton, once the recognised head of the island, is again the butler and each member falls again into his natural place.

The part of Crichton, played by Mr. John Seager, was very aptly interpreted, and Lady Mary, (Mrs. H. W. Stock) gave a graceful and happy performance of a very difficult rôle. Dr. Watson as Lord Loam was inimitable and got perhaps the largest number of laughs, though he shared the honors on this score with Tweeny (Mrs. H. H. Barnum) who was a very bewitching and unspoiled kitchen maid. The Hon. Ernest Woolley (Mr. Harold S. Dodge), as the man about town, put a great deal of spirit and vivacity into his rôle. Agatha (Miss May Baker) and Catherine (Miss Joyce Stock) were charming in their parts of younger daughters of Lord Loam. Mr. Treherne (Mr. Bernard Tubini) looked the typical parson. Lord Brocklehurst (Capt. Chapman) made the most of a rather small part and was excellent especially in his short dialogue with Tweeny, and Lady Brocklehurst (Mrs. Edwards) was every inch the aristocratic and strong minded mamma. There is no space to mention the outstanding features of the rôles of the minor characters, but let it be said that these were very well done and contributed greatly to the complete success of the whole play.

E. T. S.



## THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Owing to divergences of opinion on matters of internal policy, there have been four or five resignations among the cabinet and high officials in Angora during the past three weeks, among them those of Reouf Bey, Public Works, and Rafet Pasha, National Defence. These do not, however, seem to have weakened at all the situation of the Kemal government, or affected its foreign policy. Reports indicate as strong a determination as ever to carry on the war against Greece until all the territory claimed by the Nationalists is evacuated by the Greeks. All eyes are now on the Paris Conference of the Allied Foreign Ministers, who are to discuss the situation in the Near East. Meanwhile the resumption of Turkish control in Cilicia has proceeded without unseemly incident, as far as we know. Very few of the Armenian population have elected to stay there, many having crossed over into Syria. In Constantinople, there is nothing to note as to politics. The strike on the trolley system tied up the cars for several days last week and is still on.

## NEWS NUGGETS

A limited number of bound volumes of THE ORIENT for 1921 are on sale, at Ltq. 2.00 per copy, or will be sent postpaid to America or elsewhere for \$2.00. Bound volumes for 1920 may be had at the same figures.

Born:—to Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Stevens, of the Stamboul Y.M.C.A., on Saturday, Jan. 21, a daughter.

Rev. Ernest C. Partridge and Dr. C. E. Clark are sailing on Feb. 4th from Boston for Liverpool by the Anchor Line S. S. "Assyria," and will come thence by rail across the Continent to Constantinople. Mr. Partridge expects to go on to Trebizond, and Dr. Clark to Sivas.

Miss Elizabeth S. Webb, Miss Ida Ashe and Mr. Byron Noone came from Adana with 280 orphan girls and boys, reaching Constantinople three weeks ago. Miss Webb left again Jan. 28th, on her way to Alexandretta via Smyrna and Larnaca.

Mrs. George E. White and Miss Ellen Tsilka each of whom recently underwent an operation for appendicitis, are both making good recovery.

Dr. William A. Kristensen, who sailed from New York Nov. 12th, is visiting relatives in Denmark before coming on to Constantinople on his way to Aintab to work in cooperation with Dr. Shepard.

Rev. S. H. Kennedy, of the Reformed Church Mission in

Alexandretta, who has been in the United States on furlough, is sailing February 25th on the S. S. "Scythia" for England, expecting to spend the summer in Europe, returning to Syria in September.

Mr. Samuel Anderson, who since 1910 has been Treasurer of Robert College, has resigned this post and is returning in June with his family to California. Mr. Anderson was from 1903 to 1910 the Treasurer of the Syrian Protestant College, Beirut, now the American University of Beirut. He and his family will be much missed in Constantinople circles.

Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Adams of the American University of Beirut plan to sail from New York March 21st on the French liner "Patria" direct for Beirut. Dr. Adams has been giving a number of addresses during the fall and winter on Beirut and the Near East, using the beautiful new colored slides made for the A.U.B., in what he terms his "lantern jaw."

Rev. S. Ralph Harlow left Smyrna January 25th on an extended absence, hoping to be back in the Fall. He goes first to Egypt, and on his way to Peking expects to visit several colleges and mission stations, among them Bombay, Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Madras, Madura, Jaffna, Uduvil, Manila, Canton, Foochow and Shanghai. In Peking he is to represent the Near East, at Dr. Mott's invitation, at the World's Student Christian Federation Conference, the second week in April. Then he spends a month in deputation work among the colleges of China, and returns to Smyrna via the United States. Mr. Harlow asks the prayers of his friends, as he starts on this journey.

Mrs. Clement Brown, mother of Mrs. Herbert Adams Gibbons of Princeton, N.J., died at her home in New York city Dec. 22, of pneumonia, aged 66. Her visit to Constantinople before the war will be remembered by many of our readers.

Dr. William Orr, formerly Deputy Commissioner of Education for Massachusetts, is in Constantinople with Mrs. Orr in the interests of the Y.M.C.A. He will address the University Club today.

Among the deaths of the past month were those of Pope Benedict XV., on Jan. 22nd, aged 68, and Lord James Bryce, on Jan. 24th, aged 84.

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The new Ecumenical Patriarch, Meletios IV., is in Paris on his way to Constantinople, after an interesting visit in London. He is to come here via Marseilles or Brindisi.



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The total enrollment at the Tripoli Girls' School this year is 152; the Academic or High School grade having 54; intermediate grades, 51; primary grades, 31; kindergarten, 16; there are 33 boarders and 119 day-pupils; 86 are Orthodox Greeks, 33 Protestants, 29 Moslems; 3 Nusairiyeh, and 1 Jewish. Miss Margaret Doolittle is the Principal.

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A letter from Dr. W. S. Dodd to the International Committee of the Y.M.C.A. written in Konia in December, says:—"We have to thank you most heartily for your generosity in granting to us the supplies that are left here of your stock outside of the five items mentioned. It is a great boon to us in many ways. The Delco engine and batteries have been the saving of us, for ours gave out, probably owing to our not having any proper mechanic, and we put yours in its place."

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The January number of the *Moslem World* contains a striking editorial by President C. F. Gates of Robert College, on What Hinders Disarmament in the Near East, treating not of politics but of the far deeper issues of character and religions. Mr. Samuel Anderson of Robert College has in the same number an exhaustive survey of the Dervish Orders of Constantinople, which is quite illuminating. Among other interesting articles is one on Turkistan, by Miss Jenny De Mayer.

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