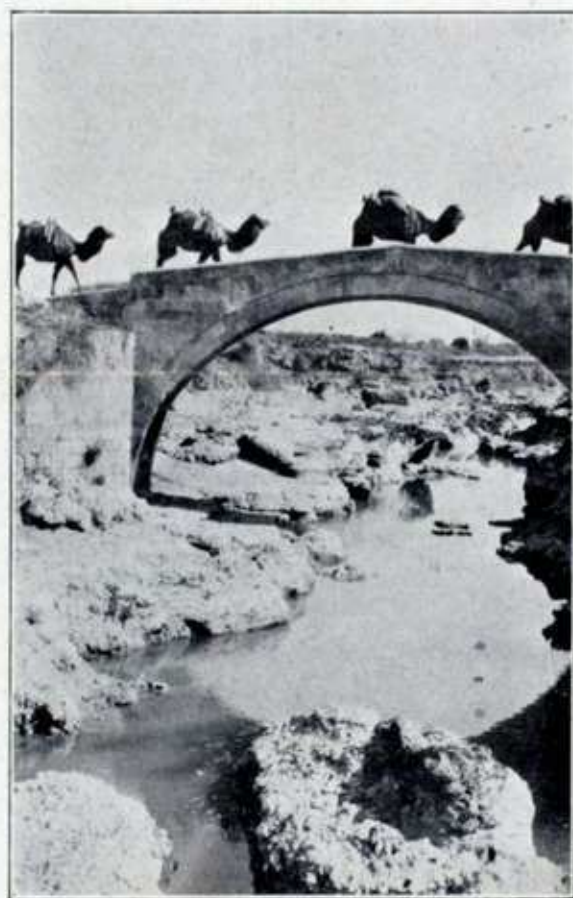


TARSUS COLLEGE

NEWS LETTER



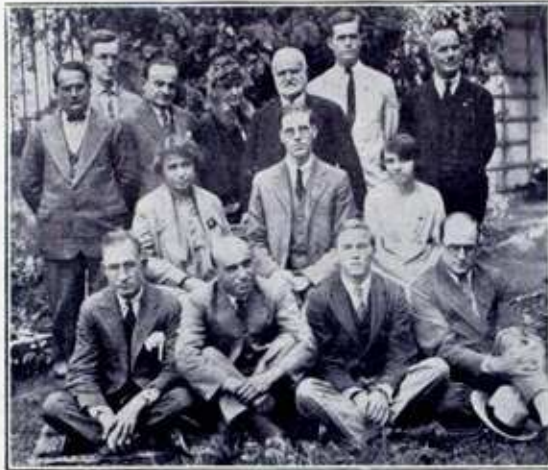
THE ROAD TO TARSUS
Birthplace of St. Paul
Training Place of Turkish Youth

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE, TARSUS

Board of Trustees—The Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

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THE FACULTY



Standing: Sukru Bey, Hazen, Ahmet Bey, Mrs. Allen, Dr. Tahsin, Clark and Ibrahim Bey. Sitting: Mr. and Mrs. Woolworth, Mrs. Meyering. Front row: Nuri Bey, Ali Bey, Zwahlen and Meyering.

William Sage Woolworth—Director, New York, New York University, Union Seminary.

Mrs. W. S. Woolworth (Pauline Rehder)—Minnesota, Moorhead, Minn., State Normal School.

Dr. Tahsin Bey—Turkey; College of Medicine, Constantinople, Turkey.

Ibrahim Ahmet Rebzi Bey—Stamboul, Boys' Normal College, Stamboul, Turkey.

Nuri Murat Bey—Turkey, Egypt Military School, Egypt.

Ali Azmi Bey: Turkey; Adana Sultanic School, Turkey.

Sukru Mehmet Bey—Turkey; Stamboul University, Constantinople.

Ahmet Bey—Turkey; Stamboul University, Constantinople.

Mrs. Henrietta Allen—Chicago; University of Chicago, University of Arizona.

Allen Tracy Hazen—Connecticut, Yale University.

James Stanford Clark—Sivas, Turkey; Oberlin and Michigan State College.

Jean (John) Louis Zwahlen—Switzerland, Ecole Normal Cantonale de Neuchattel.

Harry Ralph Meyering—Michigan, Ferris Institute, Michigan State Normal College.

Mrs. H. R. Meyering (Fern Awrey)—Michigan, Grace Hospital, Detroit; Hartford School of Religious Education, Hartford, Conn.

NOTES OF THE YEAR

Let us introduce you to some of our boys. Halil, of whom we speak elsewhere, is the one on your left holding the banner. In the second row, third from the left, is young Yaya Nuri, with the stripes of his blazer just distinguishable. On his right, your left, is Oguz. To the far left is Nesim, who is earning his way in part by photography. On the top step seated next to the boy with his face on his hand, and with a very dark complexion, is the young lad who recently remarked to the teacher who had taken an objectionable book from him, "And if I don't steal some book of yours, then I have no honor." We hope that his code of honor will soon change. Mehmet Zeki is sitting near him, wearing a hat. He is the one pupil who is keeping the Moslem fast this year, and this in spite of the fact that we insist on his keeping up to the mark in lessons and athletics. Two boys on the right have their arms about each other; one is Moslem, the other Christian, but they come from the same city. To their right, seated and in light suit, is Saffet, who is Mrs. Allen's interpreter in the boarding department and in addition carries some supervisory responsibility. Yusuf Kemal, the boy at the right in the front row, waits on table—he is an Arab. The boy behind the banner and wearing a sport shirt is Nedim, a senior. Last summer, aided by the commercial courses he had taken with us, he was able to handle the accounting in one of our Tarsus banks.

The faculty we have listed in formal style so need not talk about them individually, but it is a pleasure to note how we are increasingly becoming a unified group. Turks and Americans are learning to appreciate each other's points of view and all seem to be working for the good of the school. We have been holding our meetings in two groups based on language, but now we are resolved to meet together despite the difficulties involved, since our decisions can be so much more sound when reached by the united consideration of the whole group. The language problem may some day be considerably simpler since all of us Americans learn some measure of Turkish, and the Turks are interested in getting English. Two of them are attending a class with our first year boys, not to mention other special study.

A gift from the Higher Educational Fund has enabled us to add to our physics and chemistry laboratory outfit. The coming of Mr. Meyering has helped us to plan more definitely for our trades department, and we have added to carpentry some elementary agriculture, and expect to introduce household mechanics next year.

In this connection it is interesting to note a change of attitude on the part of the government. A very short while ago it was held that to give work such as waiting on table, to a boy who was receiving financial aid, was to demean him and violate the principles of democracy. But now the local government has accepted the fact that so far as possible we give work to all aided pupils, including those sent to us by the government itself. In order to earn their way boys wait on table, help in the laundry and library, keep the book store, do secretarial work, and one even polishes shoes.

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STUDENTS AND FACULTY, 1929-1930

SCHOOL SUPPORT

The College has four sources to which it looks for support. The American Board grants the salaries of two families and two "tutors"—young men on three-year terms of service. Besides this it gives a limited sum of money each year. Interest on invested funds comes next in importance. The fees of the boys are intended to cover the expenses of the boarding department and part of the teachers' salaries. A day pupil pays \$22 per year and a boarder \$110. The final source to which we look is the loyalty of our friends who support us with their interest, gifts and prayers.

Financial aid given to pupils total about \$1,200, of which half goes to boys in return for services rendered and half as straight aid, although so far as possible some responsibility in the school is given to each person aided. The allowances range from \$5 given to one or two day pupils up to \$110 each to the government appointees. In general the grants do not exceed half of the boy's fees, and in all some twenty boys are aided.

With the turnings of national and international events, most of the Christian population of Tarsus left the country in 1925, thus leaving us practically without pupils. But almost at once Turks began coming to us, and with the passage of time and increasing confidence on their part, our student body is gradually growing. However, since this is only their fifth year, the pupils are still comparatively few, and fees fall short of paying the teachers' salaries.

The much needed athletic field has been given to us for a very reasonable rental, but naturally the expense of preparing it for school use has fallen

(Concluded on Page 4)

A FEW OF OUR BOYS

Halil Efendi is perhaps 20 years old. An Assyrian by birth and a Christian by inheritance, training and choice. He is working his way through school by taking care of the Diesel engine in the electric light plant. On Sunday morning he helps us interpret a Sunday school lesson, which deals on some actual life problem in this part of the world, to his fellow Christians. At 10 o'clock he leads the services in a struggling little Armenian church. He is interested in stories of missionaries as he plans to be a missionary to the Moslems.

Kaya Nuri is 11, the youngest and the smallest boy in school. His mother is dead and the school is his home. He enjoys books with plenty of action.

Oguz Efendi is 26. A Moslem who comes from central Turkey. Through the influence of some of our fellow missionaries he has seen much and heard a little about Christianity. He keeps a note book in which he writes interesting statements from the Koran and the New Testament. In another part he takes notes comparing the actions of the followers of Mohammed and the followers of Christ. He is studying to be a dentist and hopes to return to his native home. Judging by the influence he has on the student body we congratulate his home town. He enjoys books of the Booker T. Washington type.

The American College has a good library of some 2,500 volumes, but many of the books are too advanced for our pupils who are beginning English. We would welcome easy English readers and story books that are no longer in use at home. They come to us free of duty by book post.



Stickler Hall

NOTES OF THE YEAR

(Concluded from Page 2)

This year we have rented an adjoining plot of land and turned it into an athletic field, with special reference to the national game of football (rugby). This gives us the additional space really needed to carry on our program of active sports for all the boys. One of the city schools has used the field a number of times, and since entrance under the fence is easy, it is in constant use by the small children of the neighborhood.

On the evening of the 4th of February our celebration of a birthday was interrupted by the information that the building—the Meyering house—was on fire. Some one had apparently lit a match or a forbidden cigaret in the basement wood room. It caught in some tinder and when first seen had blazed considerably. The boys soon formed a bucket brigade and the city department came quickly and did efficient work. At 11 o'clock, three hours after the alarm, the fire was out. The boys' play room on the first floor was a complete loss, and the fire had threatened the Meyering apartment on the top floor, eating two holes in the floor and smoking things considerably. But happily it got no further. During the fire all their furniture was taken out by the students. The buffet was half full of dishes when it was removed, but nothing broke. The sympathetic interest shown by officials and other friends who attended the fire or called later has been a matter of deep gratification to us.

These notes began by talking about the boys, and should conclude the same way. Thinking of whence they come, we find that the list of fathers includes twenty-one merchants, fifteen farmers, ten professional men (one leader of Moslem worship, two Christian preachers, three teachers, two lawyers, one physician), ten officers and officials of the government, six business men and two artisans. Thinking of whither the boys go, two of our graduating class expect to attend the Turkish University in Constantinople and the third wishes to continue his commercial studies, if possible, in England. Two boys who were with us last year have by competitive ex-

SCHOOL SUPPORT

(Concluded from Page 3)

into this year's budget, and the items total about \$100.

Possibly if we define our need in another way, it will be more concrete. Five dollars will carry a day pupil for two months; \$22 will pay the tuition of a boy who is caring for his own board; \$100 will cover the cost of preparing the athletic field or will be a substantial help in paying some teacher's salary. Checks may be sent by registered post either to W. S. Woolworth, Jr., American College, Tarsus, Turkey, or to Luther R. Fowle, Treasurer, Box 142, Central Post Office, Constantinople, Turkey. May we thank you most sincerely for the money which you may be able to send, and more for your interest and prayers.

"SCHOOL SIDELIGHTS"

The first project in the manual training class this year was to paste a colored picture on a piece of board that had been sawed to measure. This proved to be a popular task, as the Moslem is no more superstitious about pictures.

* * *

Three languages are used in the College, Turkish, English and French. Some interesting mixups result. Ali Riza, a beginner, wanted an excuse to see his "husband," meaning his father. One American meant to say that he was busy, but actually claimed that he was very famous.

* * *

Bath night is a big event. The boys bathe "a la Turka" by pouring hot and cold water over themselves in a steam-filled room. American efficiency, however, takes out some of the joy as it does not allow them to continue bathing all evening.

* * *

The climate of Tarsus is moderate in winter. Our roses began to bloom at Thanksgiving and have continued three months. Some of our fruit trees began to blossom early in February. In summer it is very hot—it is a land of oranges and palms—and those who can, find some cool spot in the near-by Taurus mountains.

* * *

Turkey is the land of towels, nargiles (hubble bubble pipes), and coffee. Fezzes and Arabic characters have gone, and now we have caps and derbies, not to mention new schools for children and night schools for the grownups.

* * *

The boys are very fond of sugar cane which can be bought at the gate for a cent a stalk.

aminations obtained work in a post office and in a bank. Others have gone into business and onto their fathers' farms. And with it all, we hope and pray, they are going with a new realization of the dignity of labor, increased abilities, and a share in the vision which makes life more abundant.