

Bulletin of the Near East Society



Dawn on the Bosphorus at Istanbul

Turkish Information Office

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Henry A. Byroade, director of German-Austrian affairs in the State Department, is slated to succeed George C. McGhee as Assistant Secretary of State in charge of Middle East, Near Eastern, South Asian and African Affairs. Mr. McGhee is scheduled to go to Turkey as ambassador next year, where he will replace George Wadsworth.

Mr. Byroade, a West Point graduate, served for eleven months as one of General Marshall's top aides during the tenuous truce before the renewed outbreak of the Chinese civil war led to the final defeat of the Nationalist Government.

Syria underwent another military coup late in November when Colonel Adib Shishekly arrested the new premier, Marouf Dawalibi, and his cabinet less than twenty-four hours after they had taken office. President Hashem al-Atassi, who is more than 80 years old, and has been acting head of the nation since August 1949, resigned in the crisis and Colonel Shishekly, who is Army Chief of Staff, took over sole executive authority. He has disclaimed all ambition to become a dictator, announcing that all government responsibilities are in the hands of Colonel Fawzi Silo, whom he named head of state, premier and defense minister. Colonel Shishekly said that the new government would study carefully western proposals for a Middle East defense plan. Dr. Dawalibi is noted for his pro-Soviet sympathies and is in favor of closer Arab-Russian ties.

"Unrest in the Middle East", an editorial in *The New York Times* November 30, 1951, said:

"The bewildering succession of events in Syria during the past few days is symptomatic of the profound unrest, the bitter rivalries, the groping for solid solutions that characterize the whole Middle East today. The accent goes on different places in different countries but each struggles with constant factors - nationalism, Moslem fanaticism, political corruption, a tiny wealthy ruling clique, mass poverty, disease, ignorance, and behind it all the danger of communism . . . The region is vital — vital as the only land bridge between Eurasia and Africa, as the only year-round, all-weather air and sea route between East and West, as the source of more than one-third of the world's oil. Even then it might be left alone if another specter were not haunting it, the same specter that the 1848 Manifesto said was haunting Europe — communism. In Syria the deposed Premier wanted to deal with Russia. In the whole Middle East the ultimate dilemma is communism or Western democracy. We say that the answer must be Western democracy, partly because if it isn't the West probably cannot survive."

Dr. Mossadegh of Iran requested a U. S. loan of \$120,000,000 during his stay here. At this time, the

loan is still under consideration by the State Department.

The Iranian government announced in late November that it would start selling oil to the "Eastern bloc" as soon as formalities were completed. Deputy Premier Hossein Fatemi said Iran is now "legally free" to sell oil where it pleases because former purchasers have had ample time to make offers and those offers have not been forthcoming.

William E. Warne, with the rank of Minister, is now in Iran to administer the \$23,000,000 United States aid plan under the Point Four program.

The Kuwait Oil Company has concluded a new agreement whereby it will share equal profits with the Sheikh of Kuwait, Abdullah al Salim al Sabah, whose territory has become Britain's chief source of oil in the Middle East since the Iranian industry closed down. Kuwait is a small principality on the Persian Gulf. The Kuwait Oil Company is an Anglo-American enterprise, owned by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and the Gulf Exploration Company, a subsidiary of Gulf Oil Company in the United States.

The new fifty-fifty agreement, which will give the Sheikh of Kuwait the equivalent of about \$140,000,000 a year, follows the pattern established last year between the Arabian American Oil Company and the Saudi Arabian Government.

It is expected in Kuwait that the ruler will devote almost all of his money to the welfare of Kuwait's Moslem tribesmen. He has already awarded contracts for a distillation plant to turn sea water into sweet water, and a program for building power stations, schools, and hospitals.

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Arabian Renaissance

Today more than 850,000 barrels of oil a day are pouring from the oil fields of Arabia to oil hungry markets in Europe and the Far East. It is a miracle of engineering skill, scientific know-how and the unremitting efforts of more than 25,000 people, Arabs and Americans.

Perhaps more significant than the oil itself in the long run, however, is the renaissance occurring within Saudi Arabia due to oil by-products in terms of jobs, royalties and certain features of the western world which the Americans have brought with them. The two most important of these are medical and technical knowledge. They have meant a great improvement in the health situation in eastern Arabia — scene of Aramco's operations — and the installation of an extraordinarily comprehensive educational program.

The standard of living has risen in Saudi Arabia at a rate probably unequalled elsewhere in the world. Fifteen years ago the national income was approximately ten million dollars a year, most of it coming from fees and duties paid by pilgrims making the holy trip to Mecca. Today the national income is about fifteen times greater. Fifteen years ago an unskilled Saudi Arab laborer was lucky to get a job paying him a quarter of a riyal (about 7½ cents) a day. Today the average Saudi Arab employee of Aramco is being paid fifteen times as much, in addition to numerous benefits including housing, medical aid, savings plans, etc. He is being paid that much because he is worth that much. In the intervening decade and a half he has absorbed new skills and this increase in his productivity has justified the rise in salary.

Aramco, currently the number one oil producing company in the world, had its inception but nineteen short years ago. At that time — May 31, 1933 — representatives of the Standard Oil Company of California signed an agreement with His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud for the development and production of oil deposits which might be found in eastern Saudi Arabia. Three years later the Texas Company joined the operation as a 50% owner. Four years



Arabian American Oil Company
On-the-job training, one of the most successful methods of Aramco's extensive industrial training program, pays off in big dividends as Arab employees become competent in operational and judgment skills. This class near the Buqqa gas-oil separator listen to their Indian instructor describe the workings of the complicated machinery.

ago Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and Socony Vacuum entered the enterprise. Ownership is now divided among the four companies, with Socony Vacuum holding 10% and the other three 30% each. The area under concession now covers more than 400,000 square miles, equivalent to the states of Texas and California combined.

Original development was extremely slow. Almost all supplies had to be brought halfway around the world. Homes and offices had to be built. Unlike American operations where utilities, retail establishments, suppliers, roads, railroads, air transportation and specialized firms are available, the company was forced to provide everything. Even today Aramco is spending \$1.20 for construction of non-oil facilities as compared to every dollar for direct oil installations.

Three years of initial geographic work were followed by two long and heart-breaking years of drilling before oil was found in commercial quantities. In 1939 the first small driplets of crude were shipped offshore.

Shortly thereafter, however, the European war broke out and it was necessary, because of supply difficulties, to sharply curtail operations. At one point Aramco was down to one hundred Amer-

icans and slightly more than a thousand Arabs. Primarily, their job was to maintain the equipment which had been shipped in before hostilities started. In 1943, realizing the eventual shifting of hostilities to the Far East and the essentiality of increasing Middle East output to support the necessary forces, the American Joint Chiefs of Staff gave top priority to a 50,000 barrel a day, \$50,000,000 refinery. Despite the loss of vital ships the job was carried through to completion on schedule, the entire cost being borne by private capital. Today that refinery at Ras Tanura is turning out more than 160,000 barrels daily of gasoline, crude oil, diesel and kerosene.

In five short years crude oil production has jumped from 165,000 barrels per day to the current level of more than 900,000. To help feed this oil to western Europe the world's biggest oil pipeline was laid from the Persian Gulf to Sidon on the Mediterranean. This pipeline has meant elimination of more than 3500 miles of tanker haul around the Arabian Peninsula. The capacity is 300,000 barrels a day and in the first recently complete year of operation Tappan delivered more than 100,000,000 barrels of urgently needed crude to tankers in the Mediterranean.

Three hundred thousand barrels of oil

is a great deal of petroleum. From it enough gasoline can be produced to operate 2,840,000 automobiles on an average day's driving. That would take care of all the cars in New York state. Three hundred thousand barrels of oil would produce enough fuel oil to heat 259,000 average homes for twenty-four hours. That would be sufficient for the heating needs of Philadelphia for a day.

Tapline proved to be the greatest peacetime movement of men and materials in the history of the world: 325,000 tons of steel alone were hauled approximately 3,000,000,000 ton miles. In the Middle East alone more than 150,000,000 ton miles of trucking were needed to complete the project which has meant the release of 65 tankers which would otherwise be needed for the additional haulage around the Arabian Peninsula.

Saudi Arabia is now producing slightly more than 7% of the world's oil. The value of Aramco's oil to the western world is incalculable. In the rebuilding and defense of Europe oil has proven second in importance only to food and much of that oil has come from Arabia.

Of even more importance than the oil itself, however, may prove to be the impact of the oil on the country. Until the Americans entered 18 years ago the Arabian Peninsula had, for the most part, been virtually isolated for a thousand years. Their economy was agrarian and nomadic with vast tribal movements making a semi-annual trek north and south in search of food. Politically they were emerging from hundreds of years of strife caused by external aggression and internecine warfare. The country was in the process of being unified under one of the great men of our times, Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud, who had recaptured his ancestral city of Riyadh and in the intervening years brought an end to tribal raiding and achieved domestic political stability. There were, however, few opportunities for economic advancement. This lack of economic future was mirrored in the standard of living and the available educational and medical facilities.

Today that condition no longer exists. The impact of Aramco, though centered in the eastern portion of Saudi Arabia, has extended throughout all parts of the country.

Education has been made available to all Aramco employees through an intensive program. Schooling falls into three major categories. Last year marked the first full year of a long-range five-year program. After being put on the payroll the Saudi Arab employee spends ninety days in a "pre-job" program. Through use of the most modern testing devices and methods his experience and potentials can be pretty well assessed. The next phase of the training program is called a "one-eighth time" operation. Saudi Arab employees are removed from operating jobs for as much as one-eighth of the production working schedule so that they can give their undivided attention to the instruction they are receiving. The objective is to equip Saudi Arabs with greater manipulative skill, new techniques for improved productivity and broader knowledge and awareness of their field of work in preparation for increased responsibilities. Upon completion of their training, the employees are expected to be competent workmen skilled in one phase of an operation. Courses are designed to fit the special job needs of the individual Saudi Arab and are given at job sites or in training centers, depending upon the type of instruction required. In this connection, more than one hundred different trades are currently being taught.

Training is intensified to the point where upgrading is accomplished just as rapidly as an employee becomes competent for a better job. An interesting and outstanding example of this program occurred last year when a group of experienced Saudi Arab employees, following intensive training, took over the complete operation of a gas-oil separation plant — a complex operation. It is the first such unit to be operated completely by Saudi Arabs.

The third internal step, education-wise, is an Advanced Trade Training Unit. The training is offered on a full-time, intensive basis for as long a period as necessary, up to two years, to develop qualified uni-skilled Saudi Arab employees into highly trained multi-skilled craftsmen. Candidates are carefully screened, and only the most capable and promising are selected. Those selected are granted leaves-of-absence with full salary to enable them to devote their en-

tire time and energy to thorough vocational training in related and more theoretical phases of their jobs. Judgment skills are introduced to supplement manipulative skills with the objective of developing craftsmen who are not only highly proficient in all aspects of their crafts or trades, but who also have potentialities for supervisory responsibilities.

An external five-year, \$270,000 scholarship program to send Saudi Arabs to Middle East universities has recently been announced by the Company. Approximately fifty Saudi Arab employees will receive higher education in fields of their own choice under the program. They will receive tuition, room and board, transportation, a clothing allowance and 75% of their present salaries while studying. The students will work for Aramco during vacations while under the scholarship program, but are under no obligation to remain with Aramco after they complete their courses. The married men in the group will be able to take their families with them to whatever Middle Eastern school they choose.

The scholarship program is designed to continue the intellectual development of Saudi Arab employees whose progress has been outstanding, and who have reached the point where Aramco can no longer provide further advanced training for them in Saudi Arabia. The program sends an average of ten Saudi Arabs to colleges each year. Each scholar's progress is reviewed every year in terms of achievement, ability, and capacity to absorb further instruction. If his progress is satisfactory, the Saudi Arab student will remain in school until he receives a degree, whether it be four, five or six years, or even more.

All of the men in the first group will receive preparatory training at Beirut and Aleppo before they enter the universities themselves. They have indicated a wide variety of study fields — engineering, social sciences, accounting, industrial relations, languages, mathematics, and business administration.

Similar progress has been made in the medical field. Four years ago the malaria rate in eastern Saudi Arabia ran 98%. In three years it was reduced to approximately 3% by an intensive drive.

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NEAR EAST DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

This article was prepared for the BULLETIN by the Division of Public Liaison of the Department of State

EDITOR

The Technical Cooperation Administration of the Department of State has established in its Washington headquarters the administrative nucleus of a new organization to carry out an expanded Point 4 program to be launched this year in the Near East. The new organization is the Near East Development Service, "NEDS" for short.

In Washington, NEDS consists of a small staff headed by E. Reesman Fryer, formerly chief of the health, manpower and education division of TCA.

In the field, NEDS plans to have in each country a team of technicians working at the grass roots level in agriculture, health and education. Reinforcing these teams on project planning and special problems will be a regional pool of technicians with headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon. Recruiting of the personnel of the country teams and the regional pool has begun. Most people in the field before the establishment of NEDS will remain.

NEDS is to serve Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Yemen, among the Arab-speaking countries, and, in addition, Israel and Iran. Point 4 projects are now in operation in all of these countries except Yemen, but only in Iran does the program encompass basic agriculture, health and education under an administrative structure resembling that contemplated by NEDS. The program in Syria is concentrated on the improvement of rural agriculture, health and education as in Iran, but it is being carried on by a private organization, the Near East Foundation, with the help of a Point 4 grant-in-aid rather than under a country technical cooperation team.

As Mr. Fryer described NEDS for the BULLETIN, its establishment is important because it signifies the growing awareness of Near Eastern and American government officials of the need for improving economic conditions by action which has a direct effect on great numbers of average citizens.

"The establishment of NEDS does not herald any great change in the administration of Point 4 in the Near East but a sharpening of its emphasis and its di-

rection," Mr. Fryer said. "We will call upon the same government and private sources of manpower, technical knowledge and skill as before. The chief of the American diplomatic mission in each country will have general supervision over Point 4 activities in that country as in the past, while a chief of technical staff will have direct responsibility for operations in the field.

"Each team will report through the American ambassador or minister to NEDS in Washington. The technical director and his associates will work with officials of the host country's appropriate ministry. Point 4 projects will be coordinated with programs of any United Nations agencies in the host country so that there will be no duplication of effort. In these respects, NEDS involves nothing new.

"What is new", Mr. Fryer continued, "is that instead of undertaking technical cooperation projects at random just because they are sound projects, or to put it another way, regardless of how diverse or numerous our projects may be, our first emphasis in each country will be on programs which strike at the root of evils which plague a majority of the people.

"The majority of the people in all the Middle Eastern countries are farmers and the evils which plague them are hunger, first of all because agricultural production is held down by a lack of irrigation and water control facilities; preventable diseases — malaria is practically universal; and illiteracy — in education our primary effort must be to cooperate in establishing rural school facilities specializing in practical education and in building up the supply of rural teachers of vocational subjects.

"By dealing with these basic problems in each country Point 4 can contribute to the strengthening of the Near Eastern economy as a whole. Further, because these countries have certain physical characteristics in common — similarity of climate and of soil — NEDS will contribute to the accumulation of a certain geographical body of knowledge and competence.

"Although the Point 4 program can

be said to have had a nation-wide impact in Iran in 1951, its chief value in the Middle East as a whole in its first year has been in developing working relationships between Middle Eastern governments and our own. They understand more clearly the purposes and methods of Point 4, and we understand more clearly the problems they must solve to enable their people to achieve decent standards of living. From now on, we should be able to put more manpower and more effort into basic economic development."

Instead of sixty technicians in the field on June 30, 1951, the program contemplated by NEDS calls for nearly 400 technicians in the field by June 30, 1952. It is hoped to increase the number of study and training grants for Middle Easterners from about 160 to 600. Meanwhile, the larger technical staffs in the field can train more people locally.

An integral part of the training program will be the program of the American University in Beirut which, with a Point 4 grant made in 1951, has established special curricula in health, education, agriculture and public administration for professional and sub-professional trainees. These "Point 4 Fellows" will enter public service in their respective countries.

Plans for NEDS were worked out in consultations in Washington and the Middle East among TCA and other Department of State officials, our chiefs of diplomatic and technical cooperation missions in the Near East and officials of Near Eastern governments. Mr. Fryer spent several weeks in the Near East during the summer on NEDS planning.

The village improvement program in Iran was a year old — on paper — in October. It was the first integrated health, agriculture and education program undertaken after the Point 4 program became one of the basic elements of American foreign policy with President Truman's signing of the Act for International Development on June 20, 1950.

It took several months to recruit the nucleus of the technical corps and move necessary supplies to Tehran, so that the

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Near East Camera



Water wheel on the Orontes river at Hama, Syria (above). The perimeter of the wheel is fitted with scoops which lift the water to the top where it is emptied into a stone aqueduct.

Mists rolling down from Mount Parnassos wreath the Doric columns of the ruined Temple of Apollo at Delphi in Greece (below).

National Tourist Organization of Greece



British Information Service

The village of Pedhoulas on the island of Cyprus appears at the upper right.

Demavend (right) which rises to a height of 18,600 feet in northern Iran. It is the fifth highest mountain peak in the world.

At the lower right a village scene near Isfahan preserves the picturesqueness of old Persia.



The Orthodox Church

BY THE REV. CHARLES T. BRIDGEMAN

This is the second of a series of articles on the ancient churches of the Near East by Dr. Bridgeman. The first article, "The Background of the Christian East", appeared in the December BULLETIN EDITOR

Some years ago I went on an all night fishing expedition along the Palestine coast with some ruffianly but picturesque Arabs who made a precarious living trying to catch the shy *buri* in Jaffa's small lighter basin. After the night's sport we gathered in a small cave along the shore to await the dawn and have a bite of breakfast. Two of the fishermen and I were seated at the mouth of the cave while within a third was making coffee and frying freshly caught fish. As the eastern light strengthened and day was about to break the cook interrupted his duties to say his prayers like the good Moslem he was. One of the two Arabs seated with me leaned forward and said *sotto voce*: "Do you know how to pray?" I replied that I did, but could not do so in Arabic. He signified that that did not matter as he knew how to do so. Then he in Arabic for himself and his companion, and I silently in English made our respective matin devotions. When we had finished, the Arab like his companion an "Arab" Orthodox Christian, observed that one must always pray in the morning because one never knew what the day would bring forth.

These Orthodox Christians of Palestine had been Christian long before the Moslem conquest of their country and for centuries before my Anglo-Saxon ancestors had received the faith. Up and down Palestine and Syria you will find in the villages as in the towns evidences of the once dominant Christian faith. In Moslem villages it may be the sad ruin of an apsidal church, or some ancient Christian building now used as a mosque. But in the thinly scattered Christian villages the Orthodox Church is the largest and most important structure; sometimes a church of great age, at others a modern building in traditional style. There the local priests shepherd the remnants of what was once a great community, and faithfully recite in Arabic the liturgy they hold in common with Greeks of Hellas and Constantinople and with Russians and other Slavs in Eastern Eu-

rope. Although the language of the services is Arabic and the music typically Eastern, the fact that some of the inscriptions on the icons may be in Greek or Old Slavonic reminds one that here is no local sect but part of a world-wide Church, with its roots deep in the past. Indeed when you ask in Arabic to be directed to the Orthodox Church of a village you must ask for the *kaneiset er-Rum* or "the Roman Church," the church, that is, of the old Roman Empire of the East.

A visit to such a venerable shrine as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre or the Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem strikes the same note: the main services are in Greek, the mother language of Eastern Orthodox Christianity, but special parts of the service may at times be in Arabic, Old Slavonic, Rumanian, and even in English.

The Eastern Greco-Russian Orthodox Catholic Church, to use a fulsome title sometimes employed as more fully descriptive than briefer designations as the "Orthodox Church" or the "Greek Church", is indeed the great international Church of Eastern Christianity. She traces her origin in an unbroken line to Pentecost; she spread far and wide among diverse peoples in the early centuries; her theologians were responsible for much of the classic formulation of Christian doctrine; and she was the official Church of the Eastern or Byzantine Roman Empire. It was from her as the parent body that the other Eastern Churches seceded, when for reasons satisfactory to themselves they felt it necessary. And the Orthodox Church up to the time of the great Schism of 1054 maintained communion with the Latin Church of the West. When the tragic parting of the ways came the Orthodox Church considered that she alone was the true Catholic and Orthodox remnant, from which the earlier Eastern sects and Rome alike had diverged in their respective directions.

The primitive Catholic Church in the age of the great councils had for administrative reasons been divided into five areas under metropolitan bishops known by the title of "patriarch". These patri-

archs occupied the four Apostolic sees of Rome, Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem, and the see of Constantinople or New Rome, which, at least in the East, was regarded as co-equal with old Rome. When the East-West schism came the four Eastern patriarchates refused to agree to what they regarded as the novel claims of their brother in Rome. These four had a natural bond: geographically they were Eastern, linguistically they used Greek, liturgically they had similar services, and politically they had once been part of the old Byzantine Empire.

The fateful fifth century with its bitter theological disputes and Eastern schisms had weakened the Orthodox Church from within. But the greatest blow to Eastern Christianity as a whole came in the seventh century when in a few dramatic years the newly awakened Arab Moslems quickly gathered to themselves the fairest provinces of the Eastern Roman Empire, Syria, Palestine and Egypt.

Moslem Arab rule was for the most part tolerant of Christians as long as they remembered that they were a conquered, subject peoples, wards rather than citizens of the new Moslem states. But the members of the Orthodox Church did not fare as well as did the dissidents of the East. The Eastern sectaries who had been hard pressed by the Byzantine State and Church almost welcomed a change of master when the Moslems came in, and in turn were consciously patronized. But the Orthodox Christians who owed spiritual allegiance to patriarchs of the defeated Byzantine Empire found themselves objects of special suspicion: they were "Romans" and natural sympathizers with the one great power which was withstanding the advance of Moslem rule.

The Orthodox Church under thirteen centuries of Moslem rule naturally suffered from the general tendency of Christians to escape the restrictions which beset them as a despised minority by becoming Moslem. But in the Patriarchates of Alexandria (Egypt) especially the Orthodox found they could escape some of their special disabilities by becoming adherents of the more favored

minor Eastern Christian groups. Only in Asia Minor, Greece, European Turkey and the Balkans did the Orthodox Church maintain her pre-eminence. And with the spread of Orthodox Christianity to the pious Slavic nations she remained numerically and culturally strong.

The Christian minorities of Egypt, Palestine and Syria eventually lost their knowledge of Greek and of their local vernaculars and adopted Arabic, not alone in the shop and home but also in the Church. This Arabization of the Eastern Christians, going along hand in hand with the Hellenization of the primitive Arabs, has brought about the assimilation in life and customs of the adherents of Christianity and Islam. Prior to the rise of modern nationalistic ideas in the East the divergent religious loyalties of the two groups tended to keep them fairly distinct, but now that Western political notions are dominant, the Christians share with the Moslem fellows a sense of common citizenship in the new states. The Christians' proven loyalty to the new Arab states and their generally superior educational equipment as well as their long recognized leadership in commerce, the professions and letters, has opened for them a prominent part in political life. Thus it is that the Orthodox Church is well represented among Near Eastern delegates to the United Nations.

The four Eastern Orthodox Patriarchates present today diverse internal conditions despite their community of faith and liturgical homogeneity.

The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople is still honored as *primus inter pares* by his brother patriarchs. But after the exchange of populations between Turkey and Greece the Orthodox practically disappeared from their famous communities in Anatolia. Only in European Turkey does the Orthodox Church have many Greek adherents. The autonomous Church of Greece is rapidly recovering her former strength; and the Churches of the Balkans, despite the new problems raised by being under the shadow of Communist Russia, seem not to have lost that vitality they were displaying in freer days before the last war.

The Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria (as distinct from the numerous Coptic Patriarchates) lost most of her

people under Arab and Turkish rule. But when great numbers of Greeks migrated to Egypt, The Sudan and down through Africa in the last century the Patriarchate took on a new life. Most of the faithful are Greek in race and speech, but there is a considerable Arab population which has come in mainly from Palestine and Syria. No part of the Orthodox Church is more progressive and vital.

The Patriarch of Antioch, caring for the Orthodox in what today we call Syria and The Lebanon, long ago forsook the decaying city of Antioch and settled himself in the Arab capital of Damascus. The faithful were strongly Arabicized in the middle ages. Early in the present century they asserted their national feeling by refusing longer to have the Greek Patriarchs and bishops sent them during the heyday of the Ottoman Empire and chose these ecclesiastics from among the Arabic-speaking clergy of their own country. The Church there is thus Arabic in speech and personnel.

The Patriarchate of Jerusalem, comprising what is now the Kingdom of the Jordan and the State of Israel, presents a more complex picture. The laity having become Arabicized are provided with priests of their own number to hold services in Arabic. But Jerusalem and Bethlehem have an international character. There at the great shrines Greek is still the major liturgical language. The Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulchre which protects Orthodox interests in the interconfessional shrines has maintained its Greek character, and the Patriarch is chosen from their number. This difference between the hierarchy and the people became in this last century a fruitful source of national rivalry within the Patriarchate, fomented by Czarist Russia for her own ends. But now that the faithful of the Patriarchate have suffered with other Arabs in the tragic events of the last few years and great numbers of them are scattered as refugees in Transjordan and adjacent countries, the common sorrow seems to have drawn Arabs and Greeks closer together. However the dire poverty which has come alike to the Brotherhood and the Arab laity has placed great obstacles in the way of advance in education, of which there was great promise under the able

leadership of the hierarchy and eager laymen.

Meanwhile for a century or more the Orthodox Church in all the Arab countries has had to suffer from too zealous friends from abroad.

Western Christians have gone to the East hoping to spread the Gospel among non-Christians and to give comfort to the Christian remnants. Unhappily they have felt called upon to disseminate Western ideas of the faith and have had little sympathy with or understanding of traditional Eastern Christianity, which, whatever its losses during long centuries of isolation, had been loyal to the primitive faith and had the strength and vitality to hold for Christianity a not negligible minority.

Ever since the Crusades the Roman Catholic Church has sought to bring the Orthodox and other Eastern Christians under her rule. Sometimes her missionaries have tried to teach the Orthodox to accept the Latin liturgy. Those who have done so are known as *Latin*s. But for many centuries there has been another approach: the offer to allow the Eastern Church to retain her own liturgies, her married priesthood and her canon laws, provided only that she recognize the Papacy and certain distinctively Roman teachings. This union or *Uniat* movement has in the last century had some success among the Orthodox, especially in Syria and northern Palestine. These former Orthodox, still so like them, are known as *Greek Catholics*, or, less often as *Melkites*, (Royalists), because they represent the old royal Church of Byzantium.

Non-Roman missionaries from the West have also sought to win from among the Orthodox adherents to their respective viewpoints. The Presbyterian mission in Syria and The Lebanon, though mainly working among Maronites, has drawn some of the Orthodox into the Evangelical Church. The Anglican mission in Palestine, though officially not supposed to make proselytes of other Christians, did in fact in the last century Anglicize some of the Orthodox. The Lutherans did the same, and a dozen minor Western Protestant missions as well.

Dr. Bridgeman's next article, "Syriac Christianity," will appear in the February issue.

NEAR EAST FOUNDATION'S PROGRAM FOR DISABLED CIVILIANS IN GREECE

The rehabilitation program for disabled civilians in Greece, a cooperative project of the Ministry of Welfare, ECA, and the Near East Foundation, grew out of the rehabilitation program which was established by the Foundation in 1945 at the request of the Greek Government. It was organized by American specialists in physical therapy, rehabilitation and social medicine and was entirely financed by the Near East Foundation as a demonstration until July 1949. Now, as an expanded program, the rehabilitation work in Greece for the past two and a half years has helped over five thousand men and women in making a useful adjustment despite their handicaps.

Eligibility for the centers' facilities is restricted to amputees and persons with physical disabilities of the non-chronic type such as the blind. (The incidence of amputees in Greece is pathetically high because of the frequent injuries from land mines scattered in the fields or maliciously concealed in the farms and apurtenances during Greece's seige of guerilla warfare.) Care is taken to exclude applicants afflicted with diseases other than of the orthopedic type. The minimum age limit is sixteen years; children under this age limit are taken care of by the government in other institutions.

The present Rehabilitation Center offers the following services:

1. Social and reception services
2. Clinical diagnosis
3. Procurement of orthopedic appliances
4. Physical therapy and kindred treatment
5. Vocational training and re-adjustment

In the BULLETIN for May 1951 an article "NEF Help in Greece" told the story of Christina Exindaveloni and her successful adjustment after the loss of both legs. Christina's story is multiplied many times as the Foundation's workers provide the vocational training that enables these handicapped civilians to make a useful life for themselves.

The procurement of artificial limbs and other prosthetic aids has been from the beginning the object of special attention. Past experience with appliances supplied by state services indicated that

little if any attention was given to the physical and psychological preparation of a patient for the reception of prosthesis, and in many cases the appliance was rejected as "clumsy and useless", leaving the patient as helpless as before. After experimenting with private limb manufacturers, it was found advisable to make arrangements with the limb factory of the Ministry of War, and close cooperation has been insured in the making and fitting of artificial limbs and braces at reasonable cost. These arrangements are supplemented with appropriate preparation of the stump and careful training in the use of the appliance. The patient is thus assisted to return to his work with hopeful expectations and renewed confidence in his capability. Special workers are assigned to the handling of the amputee from the time of his first clinical examination until the fitting of his artificial limb.

Eligibility for vocational training is determined by a study of the applicant's physical capacities, his mental aptitude and the potentialities of the selected trade in his place of residence. Upon completion of the training, the handicapped person is supplied with the tools needed for starting in his trade. Employment assistance is offered within the possibilities of present conditions, but it has been found

that re-training in independent trades offered better possibilities than preparation for industrial or business employment.

For women there are courses in dress-making and cutting, and for the men there are courses in tailoring, shoe-making, cobbling, and watch repair. The blind are trained in chair-caning, broom-making, basketry, music, and typing. They are also instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic in Braille.

The Residential Center for the bodily disabled at Psychico, a suburb of Athens, provides accommodation for 100 persons. It also includes the vocational training shops for men, while the dress-making workshops for women are operated in the Therapy Center, which is housed in a wing of the Rizarion Hospital in Athens. The Residential Center for the blind is located in Athens, and includes training workshops.

The work at the various units of this program is carried out by a Greek staff, under the general director of Miss Emilie Willms, R. N., from Paterson, New Jersey. Under the training of American specialists who at various times worked in the Centers, the Greek staff members have acquired admirable skill in their tasks, and the enthusiasm they display is praiseworthy.



Setting-up exercises at the Near East Foundation's rehabilitation center in Athens

NEW BOOKS ON THE NEAR EAST

Cairo to Damascus by John Roy Carlson. Alfred A. Knopf, 1951. 474 pages. \$4.50.

Here is a book that is both unfortunate and unfair. Unfortunate, because the author, whose name (a pen-name of a journalist of Armenian background) is well known since his previous books have had a wide circulation and this book, which will no doubt have large sales too, presents a most regrettable interpretation of recent events in the Near East. Mr. Carlson's story and its distorted implications will be accepted naively by the average American due to the tragic ignorance in America of the Moslem world. Unfair, because with incred-

ible bias and prejudice, admittedly using deceitful methods to secure the information, a one-sided picture, from the lowest types and most fanatical kinds of sources, has been given of what has been going on in Arab lands. How much we do need in this country a book for popular reading presenting fairly and intelligently the Arab with his achievements, his failures, his problems, his ideas, and his crucial and strategic relevance in the present world struggle for peace and freedom!

This review was written by:

CHARLES TUDOR LEBER, *Administrative Officer of the Board of Foreign Missions and Overseas Interchurch Service of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

ARABIAN RENAISSANCE

(Continued from Page 4)

The Government and the Company cooperated on the project and it's now being extended inland. There is but little doubt that malaria, once the scourge of Arabia, can and will be eliminated for all practical purposes.

Innumerable public works have resulted from the royalties and taxes paid on oil production. New modern airports have been built. Piers have been constructed in Jedda and Dammam. Schools, hospitals and adequate government buildings have been constructed. Large-scale housing projects are under way. To provide low-cost regular transportation into the interior a \$50,000,000 railroad — the first in Arabia since the famed Lawrence destroyed the north and south line running along the Red Sea — has been installed running west from the Persian Gulf to Riyadh, the capital. Built and financed by Aramco, the line is being paid for entirely by the Saudi Arabs and is expected to produce large-scale economic benefits for Saudi Arabia.

One of the great contributions to the economic life of the country was initiated five years ago when Aramco formed the Arab Industrial Development Department. This group of 16 men spend their full time counseling and advising Saudi Arabs who wish to set up their own firms. Starting with four employees four years ago, more than nine hundred firms of independent entrepreneurs with

more than nine thousand employees of their own have been formed since then. They have been encouraged to take any contracts they are capable of handling for Saudi Arab activities, as well as company activities. A hitherto non-existent economically strong middle class, firmly sold on the free enterprise system, is rapidly being developed.

There have been large sociological as well as material benefits. One unanticipated effect occurred during the building of the trans-Arabian pipeline system. Since earliest antiquity hundreds of thousands of Bedouin nomads have ranged all over the vast desert lands southwest of Tapline's route. Each March or April they have migrated three hundred miles or more northeastward to grazing lands in the Euphrates Valley. Then in October or November there would be a return migration for winter grazing in the desert. During those hard migrations a large percentage of herds died, but that was the only known way of life on the desert and it was philosophically accepted.

It was so accepted until Tapline's first water well came in. Then, as if word had spread across the desert by mental telepathy, the horizon darkened with converging tribes. They made their camps by the water.

As far back as a year ago a rough count indicated that one well alone was supplying water to 12,000 Bedouins, 20,000 camels and 40,000 fat-tailed sheep and goats. It was estimated that during the

summer of 1951 Tapline was supplying free water, all along the line, to more than 150,000 camels and perhaps double that number of sheep and goats. Some 100,000 Bedouins had by that time set up camp around the water holes. There are water tanks at each pumping station and troughs have been erected to facilitate the watering of livestock. It is not unusual to see several thousand animals lined up waiting their turns at these troughs.

The nomad Bedouins have never until now received any medical service by trained doctors and dentists. Tapline doctors are working overtime to keep up with the demand for their services.

The story of oil in Arabia is an exciting one. It has meant a new life for the inhabitants of that area. It has meant oil for Europe and Far East. Most important of all, however, it has brought Arab-American friendship, mutual understanding and cooperation in what has often been described as the most strategic area in the world today.

WHAT IS IT?

The photograph on page 12 (from the National Tourist Organization of Greece) shows the ruins of Philippi where Paul preached the Gospel for the first time in Europe in 50 A. D.

Near East Society Bulletin

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ROBERT S. HARDY, *American Director*
Near East College Assn. Inc.
46 Cedar St., New York 5, N. Y.

E. C. MILLER, *Executive Secretary*
Near East Foundation, Inc.
54 E. 64th St., New York 21, N. Y.

ALVAH L. MILLER, *General Secretary*
Near East Society
46 Cedar Street, New York 5, N. Y.

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VIRGINIA BOTSFORD, *Editor*
46 Cedar Street, Room 1209
New York 5, N. Y.



Mrs. Hubert Davis instructs a class at Athens College in typing and stenography under the provisions of Point 4 aid.

Point 4 Aid at Athens College

From all over Greece ninety-four young men have gathered at Athens College this year to study science, commercial subjects, and to learn manual occupations under a program administered by the Technical Cooperation Administration (Point Four Aid).

In addition to their tuition, many of these boys are receiving board and room, medical attention, school supplies and clothing, textbooks and travel allowance. The total expenditure of the Point Four grant for these ninety-four scholarships for this year is more than fifty thousand dollars.

It is interesting to note that the boys come, not only from Athens, but from all over the historic islands and provinces of Greece. Macedonia, Attica, Epirus, Crete, Chios, Mytilene, Missolonghi, Sparta, and other distinguished places are represented by youths who are learning vocational skills by American methods at Athens College. Since 1925 the college, a member of the Near East College Association, has been serving the young men of Greece. Its current enrollment is more than a thousand. Dr. Homer W. Davis has been president of the institution since 1930.

It should be emphasized that the Point Four grant is specified for certain courses and for a certain length of time. The students at Athens College who are studying in the field of commerce and manual

training, as designated by the provisions of the Point Four agreement between the college and the United States Government, are special students and their period of study will cover two years. The grant cannot be used for students enrolled in the regular curriculum, and the funds cannot be used for the building construction program of the college.

NEAR EAST DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

(Continued from Page 5)

start of village rehabilitation activities actually dates from about March, 1951. But progress is already visible.

For example, the income of the villagers of Isfahanak (little Isfahan), near the ancient Persian center of art and culture, Isfahan, has risen ten percent. The improvement is seen in a lower malaria rate, the result of the introduction of DDT and simple techniques of mosquito control. It is seen in fields yielding better crops, the result of the introduction of a few improved varieties of seed and a few simple innovations in agricultural and irrigation practices. It is seen in vegetable patches flourishing under the care of the eager students of Isfahanak's first school.

From a handful in March, the American technical staff had grown by mid-summer to a score, with teams working out of two regional centers, Isfahan and Shahriar. By next March, the American staff, including the central administrative and technical staff in Tehran, is expected

to total about 120 with teams working out of ten regional centers. Five new centers, in Shiraz, Meshed, Brabul, Hamadan and Tabriz, are now being staffed.

The average village improvement team consists of seven American technicians: a chief and an administrative assistant, a doctor, a nurse midwife, a sanitarian, an agriculturist and a rural education specialist. Their ranks are bolstered by Iranian technicians in several or all of these fields and as quickly as possible the teams train village inhabitants to become teachers.

Ruth Johnson, Point 4 nurse midwife in the Shahriar district, wrote to NEDS headquarters recently about her work in the village of Ali Shah Avaz:

"As soon as the people in the villages become better acquainted with the program, village girls will be recruited to train as health visitors. Few of the village girls can read or write and the people are not keen on women working outside the home, so the job is not easy.

"Yesterday while I was teaching a mother how to prepare powdered milk for her baby, about thirty people gathered in the courtyard of the house to watch the procedure. An interested audience is always available, whether in the home, roadside or clinic, so our health program is growing."

The village improvement program is regarded as the most significant phase of Point 4 cooperation in Iran because it is laying the foundation for long term, general economic development in that country. But more dramatic and of great significance for the Middle East as a whole as well as Iran itself is the progress already made in malaria control and locust control.

A malaria control campaign begun in 1950 by the Iranian Government was expanded this year with the aid of 220 tons of DDT supplied by Point 4. In its first year, the campaign reduced the incidence of malaria in thousands of village homes from eighty to thirty percent. This year the incidence in these and other thousands of homes should be further reduced, perhaps to fifteen percent. Iran can now hope to become malaria-free in a few years.

Aerial spraying as a locust control measure in Iran is helping to rid the country of these age-old pests.

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Near East Development Service
The Orthodox Church

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ROOM 1209, 46 CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney N.A. Fisher
60 West South St.
Worthington, Ohio

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NEAR EASTERN LEADERS

Mohamed Fadhil Jamali (photograph at the left) has been Iraq's permanent delegate to the United Nations since 1949. He is head of the Iraqi delegation to the current General Assembly.

Born near Baghdad in 1903, Dr. Jamali was educated at the Higher Teachers Training College in Baghdad, and graduated from the American University of Beirut in 1927. He studied at the University of Chicago on a Macy grant in 1929-32 and received his M. A. degree and his Ph.D. degree at Columbia University.

He was an elementary school teacher in Iraq in 1924-1929. In 1932 he served as an attaché to the Monroe Commission which was in Iraq to make an educational survey. He was a lecturer in educational philosophy and school management at the Higher Teachers Training College in Baghdad from 1932 until 1942. He held the positions of supervisor-general, director-general, and inspector-general of educational and public instruction from 1932 until 1942.

Dr. Jamali has made a study of educational systems in England, France, Germany, Turkey and Egypt.

He was Director General of Foreign Affairs, with the rank of minister in 1944-1946. In 1946-1948 he was Minister of Foreign Affairs, and in 1949 he was Iraq's minister to Egypt. In 1949 he was named permanent representative to the UN.

He represented Iraq at the Arab League conferences in 1946 and 1948, and at the Palestine Conference in 1946 in London.

Dr. Jamali is an author as well as a teacher and statesman. He is president of the New Educational Fellowship Society of Iraq.



United Nations