



# The Orient.



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## AMBASSADOR'S NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION.

The entire American colony of the city was entertained at the American Embassy on New Year's day by Ambassador Morgenthau and his daughter Mrs. Fox. Every one seemed in the best of moods, and the genial Ambassador made all feel, as he said, that this was the American Embassy and not his. Refreshments in great abundance and variety were served; an excellent orchestra discoursed sweet music, and those who felt so inclined found the spacious hallway below the reception room cleared away for dancing. Such gatherings as these give more of a feeling of unity and solidarity to the American community here, whose range of interests has so greatly widened during the past five years.

## REFORMS SCHEME FOR ARMENIA.

At last there seems to be good reason for believing that the much-vexed question of a reform in the administration of the eastern Anatolian provinces is about settled. The Grand Vizier, Prince Said Halim Pasha, is apparently truly interested in getting a workable scheme that will put an end to the recurring complaints of irregularities in the administration there, and of Kourdish excesses. He has been hard at work for a long time past with the Russian and German Ambassadors on the plan which has now been at least in part made public. *La Turquie* of Wednesday last had the outline of the scheme, which proves to be approximately correct. Between the wishes of the Powers and the desires of the Ottoman authorities there has been found a sort of medium ground, and the outlook for its carrying out is good.

The six vilayets of Bitlis, Van, Diarbekir, Maamouret-el-Aziz, Erzroum, Sivas and Trebizond are to be divided into two administrative districts, with a European Inspector-General over each. These gentlemen will be chosen by the Porte from a list of suitable candidates submitted by the Powers, and will have their powers considerably extended, including even the right of dismissing subordinate officials, a principle which the Porte at first hesitated to grant. Furthermore they will be appointed for a term of ten years each, and will be not removable except with the consent of the Powers. It seems probable that they will be chosen from the smaller or neutral states, such as Switzerland. In regard to the question of settling any differences that may arise between these Inspectors-General and the Valis of the six provinces, some scheme of arbitration by the Grand-Vizier in consultation with the foreign advisers in the service of the Government in the various de-

partments, appears to be favored by the Porte. The earlier suggestion was that such cases should be submitted to the Council of Ministers; but the foreign Powers did not look with entire favor on this solution.

Forward steps have already been taken in some other directions, as indicated in our last issue. The effective command of the gendarmerie has been handed over to General Baumann and his colleagues, new special laws have been promulgated granting proportional representation in the vilayet councils, and also the use of the local native language before the tribunals and in the official publications of each district; and the land question has come very near a settlement.

## A NEW DREADNAUGHT.

The super-dreadnaught "Rio de Janeiro," being constructed by the Armstrong firm in England for the Brazilian Government, has been acquired by the Ottoman Government, and is to be known as the "Sultan Osman." Captain Ismail Bey will be put in command of the "Sultan Osman," and Captain Reouf Bey, of the "Hamidieh," has been promoted to be commander of the "Barberousse Haireddin." The "Sultan Osman" is to be completed by the end of June.

The *Times* gives the following particulars about the newly acquired battleship:

The "Rio de Janeiro" was built by Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., for the Government of Brazil and was launched on January 22nd, 1913. The vessel is of 27,500 tons displacement, with an armament of 14 12-inch and 20 6-inch guns, and a speed of 22 knots. She has a length of 632 feet, a beam of 89 feet, and a draught of 27 feet, and is the longest warship yet constructed on the Tyne. When originally ordered the design provided for a ship of 32,000 tons and an armament of 12 14-inch guns; but later the contract was revised. The building of the vessel after revision of the design was resumed in September, 1911, and she was to be ready for delivery in 1914.

The price to be paid by Turkey for the battleship is by the *Neue Freie Presse* stated to be 80,000,000 francs; but the *Turquie* puts it at 66,500,000, which seems more likely. The latter paper also says that the first payment of 30,000,000 frcs. has been effected; this has been done through the Perier firm in France, which has bought Ottoman treasury Bonds contrary to the advice of the French Government. It was at first supposed that the money thus borrowed by Turkey was to be used for the payment of official salaries; but it has instead been earmarked for the purchase of this dreadnaught.

## EUROPE AND THE BALKAN SETTLEMENT.

Sir Edward Grey sent to Germany, Austria and Italy three weeks ago a note asking for their views on three propositions, concerning respectively the southern boundary of Albania, the future of the Aegean islands now occupied by Greece, and that of those still occupied by Italy. The reply of these Powers of the Triple Alliance was received last Wednesday, and was disappointing in its vagueness regarding all but the first point raised. The three Cabinets agree that inasmuch as the commission that was to fix the southern boundary of Albania was unable to complete its work by the date expected, namely Nov. 30th, the date fixed for the withdrawal by Greece of her troops from Southern Albania be postponed from Dec. 31st to Jan. 18th. Regarding the Islands of the Aegean, however, it has apparently not been possible to reach any definite agreement. The tenor of Sir Edward Grey's proposals was indicated in our issue of two weeks ago. It was that all the islands now held by Greece be retained by her except Tenedos and Imbros, which should be given back to Turkey as essential to the keeping of the Dardanelles; and that those occupied by Italy be dealt with according to the terms of the Treaty of Lausanne.

## THE AEGEAN ISLANDS QUESTION.

The *Ikdam* says, regarding the islands that Italy has administered now for twenty months:—

"Italy should give back these islands to Turkey as soon as the latter has fulfilled the clauses in the Ouchy treaty of peace. But Italy now demands of us, besides the carrying out of these conditions, certain other compensations. She would like a concession for a railroad line from Adalia to Smyrna; but England opposes this, for she has large commercial interests in the Aidin Vilayet and does not wish to risk having them compromised by competition with similar Italian interests. Italy also wishes to be entrusted with the police administration of the islands she now holds, but England objects to this as well. Here is a new problem added to the Eastern question, and it may prove difficult to solve it.

Besides these difficulties, there is the Greek occupation of Chios and Mitylene. Greece, relying on her "Averoff," refuses to leave these islands. She says: "I have captured them; take them back if you can." Taking advantage of our weak fleet, Greece wants to profit by the circumstances, not considering that she is endangering her future, and involving it may be her very existence, for the present possession of these two islands. By proclaiming the annexation of the islands she immediately makes for herself an enemy on the sea who will cut out her work for her. By taking advantage of the weakness of the Ottoman fleet she arrays against herself the powerful Italian fleet. For the Greeks may depend upon it: we shall do whatever need be done to gain the cooperation of Italy. How? That remains to be seen. But whatever needs to be done, we will do it. The Greeks would do

well to think twice before taking such a leap in the dark. It is to their interest to come to an understanding with Turkey who is justly incensed. They should be content with what they have won in European Turkey, and not grasp after other enlargement that we cannot grant them. For this aggressive attitude of Greece, if persisted in, will bring about an Italo-Turkish understanding. Turkey will be forced to seek thus to protect her own interests. A *modus vivendi* could be reached concerning the compensations demanded by Italy for the evacuation of the Sporades. The question of Chios and Mitylene is for us a vital question. The Greek attitude shows that they mean to use these islands as a centre for further disturbance. To hand them over to Greece would be to place two bombs under the structure of our Asiatic domains."

The *Tasviri Efkiar* says regarding the same question:—

"If the Powers actually wish the continuance of peace, even for a short time, the only means is the restoration of these islands to Ottoman sovereignty. Precedents exist for such action. On the intervention of the Powers during the Greco-Turkish war of 1897, the Ottoman army was prevented from entering Athens. Furthermore Thessaly, which had been occupied by the Turks, was restored to Greece. To allow Mitylene, Chios and the other islands near the Asia Minor coast now occupied by Greece to remain under Hellenic domination, would subject Turkey to endless difficulties. Yet it has always been the Powers of the Triple Entente who have stood for our territorial integrity and have demanded reforms. How can one reconcile these assurances with their decisions about the islands?"

"This question of the islands is for us such a vital one that we may find ourselves obliged to settle it on our own hook. This statement is not anything extraordinary. We have no doubt that the nation and the government can together perform veritable miracles when it is a question of such vital concern as this one of the islands. We earnestly hope that the Powers will give due weight to the situation and so modify their attitude. As for ourselves, our safety is in the principle: In time of peace prepare for war."

In its turn the *Tanin* says:—

"Had the Ottoman government let slip their chance and allowed the Greeks to buy the 'Rio de Janeiro,' the whole Empire would have been in mourning and the government would have been severely criticised. To have allowed this dreadnaught to go to Greece would have meant not only the loss of naval supremacy in the Aegean but also the exposure of the Anatolian coasts to a Greek propaganda. The morale of the Ottomans would have suffered, and the dash would have been taken out of their efforts to recover from recent calamities.

"The aggressive intentions ascribed to us may not be serious. We have no intention to conquer Greece. All we wish is the islands that ensure the safety of Asia Minor. We are ready for any needed sacrifice so as to have the islands question settled in our favor. Who can blame us? Do not all the nations have as their ideal the preservation of the fatherland? Are we blamed for holding the same ideal?"

"The diplomats are now asking who will compel the evacuation of Chios, Mitylene and the other islands by Greece. Their legitimate fowner has now acquired a fleet powerful enough to chase out the Greeks."

On the other hand, Premier Venizelos is quoted as declaring in the Greek Chamber that while he was not in a position to disclose the measures to be taken by the Hellenic Government in the matter, he could assure the Chamber that Greece was determined to maintain her naval supremacy in the Aegean; and also that the competent naval authorities in Greece were perfectly easy and not in the least worried.

### THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LEBANON.

In these days when the reforms to be introduced into the Anatolian provinces are being discussed, much has been said about various forms of autonomy, and their possible introduction by the Ottoman Government. A study of the successful autonomous government of the Lebanon province may be interesting at this juncture.

The Province under consideration consists of a strip of mountainous district some ninety-three miles north and south by about twenty-eight wide from east to west; it is east of Beirut, Tripoli and Sidon, and extends to the Bekaa, or valley between the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon ranges. Its main port is Juneh, which has however only lately been allowed to the Province. There is another but even less important coast town south of Beirut. William Miller, A.M., LL.D., in his recent excellent book, *The Ottoman Empire, 1801-1913*, gives the population of the Sanjak of Lebanon as follows: Maronites, 229,680; Orthodox Greeks, 54,208; Druzes, 49,812; Uniates, 34,472; Moslems, 30,422; total, 398,594.

Until the early part of the 19th century the feudal system held undisputed sway among both Maronites and Druzes; but when this system broke up, civil disorders became frequent and the country was in a virtual state of war. Especially violent were the struggles of 1840 to 1845, till the French interfered to secure justice for their Maronite protégés, who are Catholics. The next few years were a period of comparative quiet till in 1854 the quarrels between Maronites and Druzes broke out with renewed fury. These culminated in the fearful massacre summer of 1860, of which a most vivid account is to be found in Dr. Jessup's "Fifty-three years in Syria." The brief statement of Dr. Miller is this:—

"On April 27th, 1860, the Druzes began the massacres of the Maronites; a month later 32 blazing villages illuminated the Mountain. Sidon and Baal-Gad were turned into shambles, where defenceless refugees were butchered; in Deir-el-Kamar, the lofty 'monastery of the Moon,' the ancient palace was strewn with the corpses of Maronites slowly done to death by the Druzes under the eyes of the Turkish soldiers. Even the Pasha of Beirut professed his regret at these horrors; and owing to his influence, on July 16th the Druzes and Maronites signed a treaty of peace. But the 'Syrian atrocities' were not yet over. Three days later the Mussulmans of Damascus, whither numbers of fugitives had fled, attacked the Christian

quarter; for ten days the pillage lasted, and the British consul reported that 5,500 Christians perished. The carnage would have been greater, had it not been for the noble conduct of Abd-el-Kader, the Skanderbeg of Algeria, then living in exile in Damascus. This man strove to prevent and when he could not prevent, to mitigate the massacre even at the risk of his life. His retainers escorted hundreds, who would otherwise have been killed, to Beirut beneath the shadow of the foreign consulates."

This resulted in a French expedition to Syria; the guilty pasha was executed, 57 civilians hanged and 111 soldiers shot; and a new form of government was in 1864 started, making the Lebanon Mountain a privileged Sanjak, dependent directly on the Porte, which acts in consultation with the six Powers. This form has worked well from that time on. The Governor must be a Christian not a resident of the Province; and till now he has always been a Catholic. The first Governor, Daoud Pasha, and the present one, Ohannes Pasha Kouyoumjian, have both been Armenians. The seat of government is Deir-el-Kamar, an old seat of the Druze *Amirs*. The term of office was at first fixed at three years, then increased to ten, but has since 1892 been five years. Under the Governor are seven *Kaimakams*, all of whom are Christians except a Druze at Shuf; and 47 *mudirs*. There is a central council or *mejlis*, of twelve, representing all the religious divisions. The police are recruited locally, and there are no troops in the province unless sent in on special requisition. The taxes are collected directly and must meet the needs of the province before any surplus is sent to the Imperial Treasury. Of the results of this system Lord Dufferin said in 1887: "Lebanon has been the most peaceful, the most contented and the most prosperous province of the Ottoman Dominion." And Dr. Jessup says: "Its army is a volunteer army of Maronites, Greeks, Catholics, Protestants, Druzes, and a few Moslems. The people are industrious and easily governed. Since 1860 the value of property has increased a hundred fold. Vast regions have been brought under cultivation and planted to the mulberry, olive, fig and vine. The very architecture of the houses has improved wonderfully, and macadamized carriage roads zigzag through the mountain range in every direction."

But when we compare the conditions of the Lebanon Mountain with those of Armenia, we appreciate the reason why the system in Eastern Anatolia must of necessity be different. The first essential difference is between a population of 400,000 and one of a couple of million or more. Furthermore any such form of government would give almost limitless chance for the play of politics as between rival interests of the European Powers interested in the development of that section. Probably the suggested division of the six provinces into two administrative districts with a European Inspector-General over each is a more feasible one for Anatolia.

It is officially announced that the Greek Olympic Games of 1914 will not take place.

### DR. YERVANT DJEDJIZIAN :

#### AN APPRECIATION.

To many readers of *The Orient* the name of Djedjizian is a familiar one. Rev. Alexander Djedjizian, of beloved memory, was a man who though "dead, yet speaketh," and the church which he built up here in Adabazar is a living witness to the efficacy of his work.

Dr. Yervant Djedjizian was a worthy son of his father. His exceptional mental ability was proved by the large number of prizes and medals which he received from the University of Edinburgh.

Since his graduation from the university he has practiced medicine in Adabazar with marked success. He was an earnest student, a physician who kept up with the times, and I have often heard that his diagnosis of a case was remarkably accurate and his opinion valued highly at a consultation.

But it is not so much of his mental attainments that I wish to speak. I have known Dr. Djedjizian as school physician and as a member of our Board of Trustees for many years and I can say most sincerely that I never knew a man who was more truly a man of God than he. One always felt in his presence that he lived on a high spiritual plane. He was one of God's noble men, a man from whom one enjoyed taking the cup at Communion service. And with it all he had a keen sense of humor which made him entertaining company and an addition to any social circle.

The school, the church, the whole city has lost a true friend, and we cannot see how his place is to be filled; but we believe that God's purposes are always best and it may be that the inspiration of this life laid down so early may lead others to consecrate themselves to service for their fellow-men.

The day of Dr. Djedjizian's death the people in the city were saying, "The doctor of the poor is dead." Could there be a more gratifying tribute to a noble, tender-hearted, unselfish life than this?

MARY E. KINNEY

#### AN OTTOMAN ANNIVERSARY.

On Dec. 30th there were extensive celebrations here and in Smyrna in commemoration of the founding of the Ottoman Empire. A large procession was organized in Stamboul, composed mainly of students in the Government schools, with detachments from the army and the navy. Gathering at the University, they marched to the Ministry of War, where Gen. Izzet Pasha, the Minister, addressed them. Then they visited the Ministry of Public Instruction, the Prefecture of the City, the Sublime Porte, and then across to the Municipal Headquarters at Pera, and to the Imperial Palace of Dolma Baghtche. Here His Majesty appeared at a window, listened to an address by one of the students, and expressed his pleasure at seeing this patriotic display.

This hastily arranged celebration is said to have marked the six hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Empire by Osman, son of Ertoghroul. By rights, this date came se-

veral years ago; for the year 1300 is commonly regarded as that of the beginning of Ottoman history as such. Osman was from 1288 to 1300 the vassal of the Seljukian Sultan Alaed-din II., who acknowledged his obligation to Osman by granting him the title to the lands he had conquered from the Greeks. Seuyüd, Biledjik, Ainegeul and Yar Hissar thus became the nucleus of the empire; and Osman added before his death the valleys of the Sakaria and Adranos, and the territory southwards to Kütahia and north to Brousa and the Sea of Marmora. He died in 1326.

#### THE SWEDES POLICING PERSIA.

Reports from Persia indicate that the Swedish officers charged with the reorganizing of the Persian gendarmerie have met with greater success than was generally expected in so short a time. Their efforts were at first limited to the region around the capital, not over 150 miles from Teheran in any direction. A year or so later the Swedes undertook to make Shiraz a sort of southern centre; and now a third headquarters has been established at Kerman. It is probable that a similar centre will soon be started at Ispahan; and thus the 35 or so Swedish officers and their 6,000 men, of whom about one-third are mounted police, will have under their care a strip of territory extending from the Caspian at Enzeli to the Persian Gulf at Bushire, and from Kerman to Bunder Abbas.

The beneficent result of this reorganization of the police force is to be seen most of all perhaps in the greater possibility of collecting the revenues; for after all Persia's greatest weakness has long been the lack of financial resources to carry out her own development. When the highways are rendered safe for caravan travel, not only will more revenue come in from customs taxes, but there will at the same time be less claims filed against the Government for highway robbery and the loss of goods in transit. Training schools for commissioned and non-commissioned officers are in working order in Teheran, and are furnishing well-equipped material for future use. These schools are also under Swedish instruction. Some have claimed that British officers of Indian experience would have done better as trainers of Persians. To this there are two replies, one is the splendid results already achieved by the Swedes, and the other is that with Russian jealousy of Great Britain what it is, it would have been utterly impossible for any British system to have been allowed as far north as the Swedes have already gone. There is even hope that the Meshed road, so far under Russian supervision, may also be placed under the Swedish gendarmerie, and thus practically the whole country be on one basis and under one homogeneous system. Colonel Hjalmarson is certainly to be felicitated on the success of this enterprize up to the present.

Captain Reouf Bey, the intrepid commander of the cruiser "Hamidieh," whose exploits caused Greece so much trouble last year, has been visiting London the past week.

### THE ORIENT

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Bible House, Constantinople.

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE.

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### EDITORIAL.

If any of our subscribers have extra copies which they do not care to keep of Vol. IV. No. 42, — the copy for October 15th, 1913, — we should gratefully pay a piastre apiece for a dozen or so of them.

In sending your subscriptions for 1914, kindly remember that a postal money order is for us much easier than a check on an American bank, for the collection of the latter at this distance necessarily involves some extra expense for us.

It is the Week of Prayer; and we doubt not that in many places there are special meetings for prayer going on all this week. But why stop with this one week? At least let no one stop continued and fervent individual prayers for a great blessing on this poor Empire and all its peoples. The annual Prayer Cycle for Asia Minor, etc., is just to hand, most opportunely. The united prayers of the Union represented by this booklet will we firmly believe have their answer as they are offered in faith.

It is always a solemn moment when we step into a New Year. It involves an act of faith as we advance into the unknown. No one can predict what it may have in store for us; but as we look back over the marvellous year behind us, and see not only our failures but also the incomprehensible leadings of Providence all along its days and weeks, we realize our dependence on a higher Power. The greater the faith we have, the greater our assurance that whatever the year brings will be for our good. New Year's resolutions have become proverbial for fragility; yet it is well to make some. Let us resolve that our corner shall be a bit better throughout 1914 for our having lived in it. Let us resolve to seek out the needy person whose lack, whether physical, mental,

moral, social or spiritual, we can and will supply. Let us resolve that we will become so inoculated with the highest things of Life that we can mingle with the lowest and most diseased with immunity, doing them good and being free from danger of contamination. So may the New Year prove the best in our lives, and a year of substantial advance all along the lines.

Such an occasion as that of the Educational Conference at Smyrna, followed by the formal opening of the new grounds and buildings of the International College, next week, is one of great meaning for this Empire. All the American Colleges of the country exist for the good of the land and its people, irrespective of creed or tongue. None of them are on a money-making or even a paying basis. Grounds and buildings such as those at the Smyrna suburb of the celestial name are a gift to the Ottoman youth from foreign benefactors, and are gradually becoming appreciated by the people of the land as such. And the conference to be held is for the discussion of themes connected with the educational outlook in the Turkish Empire, and with a view to securing the best methods for preparing the youth of the land to meet the peculiar problems of this country with the best possible preparation. There is an unfortunate idea on the part of some that these schools and colleges are somehow money-making schemes. It would be hard for anyone to point out the person connected with any of them who has made any money thereby. If money has been made, it is by those who, trained in these institutions, have gone out better equipped to succeed by honest and upright methods in the competition of the markets. But we are inclined to think that it is the exception to find a young man or woman going out of our colleges with the purpose of using his or her dearly bought training for the purpose of sordid gain. The Christian principle of altruism is too faithfully inculcated.

The Colleges that are to be represented at this Conference represent in one respect two opposite tendencies: one represented by such institutions as Central Turkey and Euphrates, whose definite aim, unless we are greatly mistaken, is to turn over in the end the management of the institution to native control; and the other by such colleges as Robert, International and Constantinople, where the control is and is to remain definitely American. In the discussion of one topic in the program printed some six weeks ago, — How far American Models may Influence the Coming Educational Reform, — very likely the standpoint of these two classes of institutions may differ. But of one thing we may be certain, — there will be absolute agreement in the underlying purpose of it all, and that is, the desire to see the coming generations nobler in purpose and better endowed as to character to meet the exigencies of life.

Tomorrow is the twenty-first anniversary of the accession of the Khedive, Prince Abbas Hilmi. A postage stamp of a new design will be issued in Egypt at this time.

### ISLAM IN BENGAL.

In 1206 A. D. India became a Mohammedan Empire, and not a mere dependency as heretofore. Kutb-ud-din Aibak, a slave of Turkish descent, became King of India. Mohammed Bakhtyar Khiliji, a fellow slave, was his general. He began by subduing the turbulent rulers of Bihar, and by slaughtering the monks of Okantapuri, and burning thousands of their valuable manuscripts. He then proceeded to plunder the wealthy of Bengal and conquer the three then known divisions. The first Moslem capital of Bengal was established at Lakhnavati, under the new name of Gaur. From this centre he began the Islamization of Bengal and the building up of the Moslem power in the East of India.

There are today more Mohammedans in Bengal than in any other province of India, and various hypotheses have been put forward to account for their origin and the cause for their preponderance.

In dealing with the present statistical position of Islam in Bengal, we should first mention the changes made in geographical boundaries of the Presidency during the last decade. In 1901 Bengal included Bihar and Orissa, and contained a population of 78,493,410 persons. In 1905, Government caused a partition of territory, and East Bengal and Assam were formed into a separate province. This partition was cancelled on the occasion of the visit of the King-Emperor to India in 1911; and on April 1st, 1912, Bihar, Chota-Nagpur and Orissa were separated from Bengal while Assam reverted to its old form of independent Commissionership. Bengal has now a population of only 46,305,642 persons, of which Mohammedans form 52.3 per cent., and outnumber the Hindus (45.2 per cent.) by over 3,250,000. The actual figures for the Mohammedans are 24,237,228, of which one-half belong to East Bengal, a little over a quarter to North Bengal, and slightly less than one-sixth to Central Bengal.

The census of 1911 shows that Mohammedans have increased in ten years 10.4 per cent., as compared with the Hindus 3.9 per cent.; but that increase comes far short of Christian progress, - 21.7 per cent.

The question arises, How is it that the increase among the Moslems is three times as great as among Hindus? In the opinion of Government officials the more rapid growth is "due not to conversion but to greater fecundity. The contributory causes were found to be greater frequency of widow remarriage, less disparity in the ages of husband and wife, and more nutritious dietary and greater prosperity." There are two Hindu widows to every one among Moslems. Of Moslem females aged ten to fifteen years only 56 per cent. are married, whereas the proportion for Hindu females is 67 per cent., which shows that early marriage is more common amongst Hindus.

The table of distribution of the Mohammedans of Bengal by districts shows that it varies from 82 per cent. in Bogra, North Bengal, to 6.8 per cent. in Midnapore and 4.5 per cent. in Bankura, West Bengal, and 3.5 per cent. in Darjeeling.

Politically, the general condition of the Mohammedans of Bengal has improved during the last twenty years, though it is still deplorable. Socially, the community has inherited the bad traits of both their Hindu and Moslem forbears. Caste prejudices have left their mark upon many. There are about 35 separate Moslem castes in Bengal. Foreign descent still forms the highest claim to social distinction. Islam in Bengal does not encourage its votaries in a literary life, but Government offers many inducements to a sound education at comparatively small cost. Many minds have been disabused of the idea that the recital of the mere text of the Koran is a sufficient education for their boys, and as a result the number of schools where the Koran alone is taught has decreased from 5,729 with 68,043 pupils in 1891 to 1640 with 28,778 pupils in 1911.

Approximately there are two Hindus to every Moslem who know how to read and write. The numbers of literates are as follows: Hindus, 11.5%; Moslems, 5.1%; Christians 46.6%. Among women it is: Hindus, 2%; Moslems, 0.2%; Christians, 40.2%.

The morality of the average Mohammedan is no higher than that of his Hindu neighbor. Islam has very little influence for good on the non-Moslem communities. It is a by-word in East Bengal that the average low-class Mohammedan is an undesirable creature to be always avoided. The Bengali Mohammedan has practically nothing in common with his Hindu neighbors. That there once existed a blood-relationship he will often deny. He scorns to join with them in some form of nationalism; his citizenship is in the heaven of Islam. He shares the soil with the Hindus, but his sympathies are with the Arab and Turk.

It is gratifying to be able to tell of quite a large number gathered into the Bengal Christian Church from Islam. In nearly every district there are to be found Moslem converts, and in most mission stations there are evangelists, catechists, or other workers who have discarded Mohammed and consecrated their lives to the service of our Savior. In one district, Nadia, there is a Christian community, at least 5,000 of whom are either converts or descendants of converts from the Mohammedan faith.

- *The Moslem World.*

### CALENDAR OF NOTEWORTHY DATES.

- Jan. 2, 1809, George W. Leyburn, Missionary to Scio, born.
- » 5, 1811, Cyrus Hamlin born.
- » 6, Western Epiphany.
- » 7, Orthodox Christmas.
- » » 1906, Miss Jessie Taylor died.
- » 8, 1809, Jonas King born.
- » » 1892, Accession of Khedive Abbas Hilmi.
- » 9, 1895, Mrs. Wm. G. Schauffler died.
- » 11, 1857, Rev. Eli Smith died.
- » » 1889, Rev. Henry J. van Lennep died.
- » 14, Oriental New Year.
- » » 1913, Moslem Work Conference, New York.

### BULGARIAN EXARCH'S ENCYCLICAL.

From his new residence in Sofia, the Bulgarian Exarch, Mgr. Joseph, has sent out to his clergy and laity an encyclical directed against those who look, for consolation and hope in the hour of Bulgaria's national misfortune, to the Roman Church instead of to the Holy Orthodox Church and to a greater faith in God. Such a step, patriotic as it is made to appear, says this document, means religious decadence and moral suicide for the Bulgarian nation. Calling attention to the unparalleled generosity, courage and self-denial shown by Bulgaria in the two wars of 1877 and 1912, the encyclical says that these wars were the triumph of the Orthodox Church which is the sole guardian of the Evangelical doctrine and love in the world. To separate the Bulgarians from the Orthodox Church would be the greatest profanation of the memory of the heroes who laid down their lives for the liberty of the Balkan peoples. The encyclical goes on to show that the Catholic Church is tyrannous, and makes its subjects first Catholics and afterwards Christians. Therefore the Holy Synod, deeply conscious of its duty, counsels its faithful Bulgarian flock to beware of any such seductions, which would bring the nation swift destruction. The safety of the Bulgarian nation is in Orthodoxy and in Slavism, for Orthodoxy holds as a treasure the pure truths of the Savior, and is based on self-sacrifice for the good of others. And Slavism has as its task the prevention of any oppression of any Slav people by any other. In 1912 the Bulgarian nation unfurled the standard of these ideas and gave for their sakes the best of her sons. The ideas were victorious. If they were not understood by the others, and if even some of her own sons did not understand them and made mistakes, she will not desert them, for she owes them a duty not only for her own sake but for the sake of the entire Slav world, with great Russia at its head, and for the sake of all humanity, at whose head are the most civilized nations. In the 20th Century Bulgaria has unfurled in the Balkans the flag of right, of love, of brotherhood and of concord. It is the flag of the Orthodox Church and of its pure doctrine. For this flag Bulgaria was dismembered and beaten. For it she wears the crown of thorns. But she is willing to wear this crown and will hold high this banner in the deep conviction that God and right are on her side.

### RELIEVING ALBANIAN SUFFERERS.

*Durazzo, Albania, Dec. 24, 1913.*

Dear Friends: —

We wish you all the greetings of this holiday season. Pray that we may be able to bring some Christmas cheer to these lonely, starving refugees. The past weeks we have been busy organizing a successful plan for the distribution of relief to the half-clad refugees in Elbasan who had fled from their homes in the night with such clothing as they could quickly put on.

We have used some 366 liras Turkish (\$1610) in supplying garments and heavy quilts to some 580 families representing at least 2082 individuals.

It was our aim to help women and children mainly but exception was made in the case of single men who could find no work and of students whom we found living alone in khans. Sewing was furnished to many refugee women who were grateful for the 15 to 20 cents a day we gave them.

While Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Tsilka were superintending this work in Elbasan Mr. Tsilka and I visited the villages in the Goloburda district which were burned or robbed about the middle of October — 720 homes being destroyed and 138 persons killed in this one district alone. One thousand villages have been similarly destroyed throughout Albania. Here we could only distribute 100 liras among these starving villagers.

Mr. W. Willard Howard, Secretary of the American and Constantinople Relief Committee of New York, came from Scutari just as Mr. Tsilka and I returned from our trip. He brought with him a cinematograph outfit. I accompanied him back over the same region while he took photographs of the destroyed houses and suffering people. He has just left for America via London with the intention of arousing a practical interest in them. We hope that funds may be raised soon to supply these people with bread and seed corn.

Sickness is bound to appear later as a result of exposure and lack of food. Smallpox is developing in several of the villages and there are a few cases in Elbasan. Would that we had our proposed hospital there now.

The political outlook is also gloomy. People on all sides are impatiently awaiting the coming of the Prince who alone can unite Albania.

Leaving the relief work at Elbasan in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Tsilka, we now turn to Tirana where we understand the situation of the refugees is very bad. I am sending our Mission Treasurer Mr. W. W. Peet of Constantinople a report of the present condition of our Relief Funds. Unless further assistance continues to come to us, these poor starving, unsheltered people will die before our eyes. Help us to tide them over this critical winter and they will live to bless you, and, we trust, the Saviour also, whose love prompts you and us to help them. Faithfully,

P. B. KENNEDY.

Mr. W. W. Howard of New York, who has just emerged from a long trip through the mountains of Albania, corroborates the stories of fearful atrocities by Servians, whom he reports as having within the past three months destroyed 100 Albanian villages, burning 12,000 houses, killing 4,000 men, women and children, and leaving more than 100,000 homeless.

Dr. Graham of Beirut arrived here from Germany on Dec. 31st, and left for his home on Saturday, Jan. 3rd. On the same steamer went Dr. Marcellus Bowen, of the American Bible Society, who visits Beirut on his way to Egypt where he expects to spend several weeks.

## DAY OF PRAYER FOR STUDENTS.

The officers of the World's Student Christian Federation have issued the following call to prayer for students. By reason of the great growth of the student population in our schools and colleges, this is especially fitting for us.

"In the name of the General Committee of the World's Student Christian Federation, we call upon the members of the Christian Societies of students in all nations and upon all others who have at heart the moral and spiritual welfare of students, to unite in the observance of Sunday, February 22nd, 1914, as the Universal Day of Prayer for Students. As a result of the growing volume of intercession in connection with this observance each year for nearly twenty years, the Christian Student Movement has continued to spread from land to land, until today it is recognized as the principal fact in the religious life of the universities and colleges of the world. The Federation now embraces Christian Associations or Unions in about 2400 universities and other institutions of higher learning with a combined membership of fully 155,000 students and professors.

"In issuing the Call to Prayer this year, we do so with added confidence because the past year has been characterized by greater manifestations of Divine power among the students of nearly all parts of the world than in any preceding year. Moreover, we are in the present year looking out into greater opportunities for Christian activity in the student field than at any time in the past. Notwithstanding the great encouragements, the primary need of this vast, potent, and hopeful field is that of more intercessors.

"Why is it of transcendent importance that more prayer be enlisted on behalf of the student world? Because the most remarkable spiritual achievements in this field have taken place as a result of sincere and faithful intercession. Because the key to the solution of the other problems related to the evangelization of students and the releasing of their spiritual energies lies in the manifestation of the power of God in answer to prayer. Because those who have devoted themselves most to true intercession for students are most emphatic in their expression of conviction that the possibilities of such intercession are simply boundless. Another reason why this matter of multiplying the number of intercessors should receive more attention is because there are so many Christians in all parts of the world who know that they should be intercessors, and that they could be intercessors, but who have failed to master their circumstances and to devote themselves to this most important ministry. There is need of fresh emphasis also on the fact that one of the most Christ-like forms of work is that of intercession, for He not only taught and commanded His followers to pray for others, but Himself likewise prayed for others and ever liveth to make intercession.

"Whatever can be done, therefore, in each country by those to whom this Call comes, to set forth among Christians the urgent need of prayer for students, to create a more realiz-

ing sense of this need of intercession, and actually to discover and enlist intercessors, will be the most highly-multiplying service which can be rendered at the present time in the interest of the Christian conquest of the world.

"On behalf of the General Committee of the  
World's Student Christian Federation,

KARL FRIES, *Chairman*

JOHN R. MOTT, *Gen. Secretary.*"

Among grounds for special thanksgiving at this time are specified the remarkable results of evangelistic campaigns among Oriental Students during the past year; progress in making the Christian Student Movement in India indigenous; the continued advance of the Russian Student Movement and the success of the Conferences at Lake Mohonk, Princeton and elsewhere.

Among special objects for intercession are mentioned the students of Austria-Hungary; the Christian work among students of the Balkan States and Turkey; results from the recent Convention of Student Volunteers at Kansas City and for a steady increase in the reverent and thorough study of the Scriptures in every Movement.

## ORIENTAL ODDS AND ENDS.

### TURKISH TIME.

To the Turk, as to the Hebrew of old, the day ends at sunset, and the new day begins then. Therefore Friday begins Thursday evening at sunset, and Sunday begins Saturday evening at sunset. "And there was evening, and there was morning, one day." One has to be careful, in making an evening appointment with a Turk, to observe this fact. Witness the annual confusion in the minds of foreign residents in Constantinople as to when the night of Power comes!

Therefore sunset is twelve o'clock; an hour after sunset is one o'clock, and so forth. The sun may rise at nine o'clock in summer, or at three o'clock in winter; but he is absolutely punctual about his bed-time, and retires the year round at twelve o'clock. This method of reckoning has been abolished on the railroads and steamer lines, and in the Government offices in the Capital; but it still persists in mosques and among the common people.

When, however, one has neither watch nor clock, there is a more convenient measure of Turkish or Moslem time, which is in general use in farming communities and among the uneducated. This is by the hours of prayer. Your true Moslem must say his *namaz*, or set form of prayer, five times daily. (1) *Sabah*, or morning, as soon as you can distinguish a white hair from a black one, at dawn. (2) *Euyle*, or noon, when the sun is in the south. (3) *Ikindi*, in the middle of the afternoon, or when the shadow of an object is twice its perpendicular height. (4) *Akhsham*, or evening, or sunset. (5) *Yatsu*, or bed time, about an hour and three-quarters after sunset. At each of these times the caller or *müezzin*, gives from the minaret of the mosque, or *djami*, the call to devo-



tions, or *ezzan*; and these form most convenient reckoning points if one is blissfully ignorant of hours, minutes and seconds. "I will come after morning *namaz*," or, "The noon *ezzan* has not yet been read," or, "We have passed the *ikindi*," are illustrations of their use.

## EMPIRE NEWS. THE CAPITAL.

Great enthusiasm is reported among the Ottomans in securing the needed funds for completing the purchase of the two battleships. Prince Ziaeddin Effendi has given Lt. 60, Talaat Bey Lt. 20, Djemal Pasha Lt. 15, the prefect of police Lt. 3. The functionaries of the Department of Interior are said to have given up claim to one month's salary for this same patriotic object (which means that the Imperial Treasury will owe them only five months wages instead of six), and their example has been followed by the officials of the central press bureau. The banker Mr. Camhi has donated Lt. 100 to the Cause.

Five cases of cholera and one death are reported for the week ending Sunday last. This makes the totals since August 191 cases and 82 deaths.

Gen. Izzet Pasha having resigned the post of Minister of War, Enver Bey has been raised to the rank of General, and, as Gen. Enver Pasha, has been made Minister of War. Col. Djemal Bey, who was recently made Minister of Public Works, has also received the military rank of General and the title of Pasha.

Negotiations still proceed with Mr. Pavlovitch, the Serbian delegate, on the question of peace with Turkey.

The new Hellenic Minister to Turkey, Mr. Panas, is due to arrive here next Monday.

The tramway company now announces that by February 15th the trolleys will be running on all the lines on both sides of the Golden Horn, and that they will begin crossing the bridge from Galata to Sirkedji next week.

## THE PROVINCES

The date of the exercises of inauguration of the new College grounds and buildings at Smyrna has been altered so as to come on Thursday, Jan. 15th, immediately after instead of before the Educational Conference.

Gen. Liman von Sanders Pasha, with Colonel von Stempel, his chief of staff, has gone to Kirk Kilise to inspect the army there.

The two aviators, Védrines and Bonnier, who left Constantinople in close succession for a flight across Asia Minor and Syria to Egypt, were both successful and have reached Cairo in the order named, having escaped the fate of poor Daucourt near Adana.

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## NOTES.

Sir Ernest Shackleton has decided to lead another Antarctic expedition, with the object of crossing the Antarctic continent from sea to sea.

Mr. James G. H. Carson, formerly of the Bible House, this city, and Miss Josephine Kingsford, formerly of the Scotch Mission in Galata, were married on Dec. 23rd at Venice, California.

Miss McCallum of the Smyrna Collegiate Institute, and Miss Frances Macallum arrived last Monday for a visit here.

President White of Anatolia College, with Mrs. White and Prof. Manissadjian, arrived here Tuesday on their way to the Educational Conference at Smyrna.

## OTHER LANDS.

Among the New Year's honors conferred by King George of England we note the following: — Hon. James Bryce, O. M., has been made Viscount of the United Kingdom; Sir Rufus Isaacs, Lord Chief Justice, has been made Baron; Sir Gerard Lowther, G. C. M. G., C. B., lately British Ambassador to Turkey, has been made Baronet, and Mr. Owen Seaman of *Punch* has been knighted. Rev. Paul Wagner, Superintendent of the leper asylum at Purulia, India, and Rev. James Shepard, M.D., D.D., missionary of the United Free Church of Scotland Mission at Udaipur, India, have been granted the Kaisar-i-Hind gold medal for public service.

The Radoslavoff cabinet in Bulgaria having resigned, the King has commanded Mr. Radoslavoff to form a new cabinet.

Premier Venizelos of Greece has left Athens on a visit to Paris and probably other European capitals.

The Dowager Queen Sophie of Sweden died at Stockholm Dec. 30th, in her 78th year.

Princess Nazli Fazil, aunt to the Khedive of Egypt, and a most talented and enlightened woman, died Dec. 28th in Cairo.

## CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, Jan. 11th, 1914.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11, a. m., Rev. Robert Frew.  
 UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. F. W. Macallum, D.D.  
 ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. H. S. Barnum, D.D.  
 CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE, 11:30 a. m. (Member of the Faculty.)

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## CUNARD LINE.

Cunard sailing from Naples are as follows:—

ULTONIA	(18,036 tons displacement)	Jan. 14th. 1914
FRANCONIA	(24,421 " " " )	" 23rd. "
PANNONIA	(17,490 " " " )	" 29th. "
LACONIA	(24,421 " " " )	Feb. 6th. "
CARONIA	(30,718 " " " )	" 14th. "
CARPATHIA	(23,243 " " " )	" 21st. "
SAXONIA	(25,100 " " " )	March 1st. "

Cunard sailings from Patras: —

SAXONIA	(25,100 tons displacement)	Jan. 16th. 1914
ULTONIA	(18,036 " " " )	" 27th. "
FRANCONIA	(24,421 " " " )	Feb. 4th. "
PANNONIA	(17,490 " " " )	" 10th. "

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