

# The Orient.

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BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 21

## THE OTTOMAN IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

The building of the Ottoman Imperial University is situated in Stamboul, near the Mosque of Sultan Bayazid, and occupies one of the best and highest positions in the city. This building was originally the palace of Kiamil Pasha of Egypt. It has a long frontage and is three storeys high, with many extensive halls and expensive, highly decorated, and painted ceilings. But the building is not at all adapted to serve the needs of the University. There has been some thought of pulling it down and of erecting a new building on the same spot. It is said that the cost of such a building as is needed will be one million Turkish Pounds. When the Parliament building, the *Tchuraghan* Palace, was burned to the ground last winter, it was suggested that Parliament meet in the University building until the *Tchuraghan* should be rebuilt. Fortunately the Minister of Public Education entered a strong protest against this plan, and the matter was dropped.

The University was inaugurated eight years ago, and includes the following six branches. If we take the number of students in each department into consideration, we must mention first, the Law School, *Mektebi Hookouk*. There are about 2,500 students in this branch. Attendance is not obligatory and the instruction given is in accordance with the Lecture System. Students of this and of all the other branches, are required to pass only a final examination at the end of the school term, in July. All the examinations are oral. The number of the instructors in the Law School is more than fifty. Several of them have completed their studies in Europe, the majority at the University of Paris. The most necessary condition of registration is to have an *Iddadieh* (a college) diploma. The courses of the Law School cover four years. The graduates may become lawyers, or they may be employed in the offices of the Department of Justice. The school is open to all nationalities, and Fridays and Sundays are kept as holidays.

The students in this and in other branches are charged one half a Turkish lira as a matriculation fee, one half lira for examinations, and three fourths of a lira for tuition.

Last year a bill was passed in Parliament that indigent students who bring proper certificates from their local officials should be received free of charge, the number of such students being forty per cent of the total number. The Law School was founded before the University.

Second comes the School of Politics, *Mektebi Milkieh*. Here attendance is obligatory for one half of each year. In

this department there are more than three hundred students divided into three classes. They are given a full day's work, while in all the other branches only three lectures a day are given. They have only one holiday in the week and that is Friday. The graduates of this school receive appointments as governors in the Provinces, or as *Mutasarifs*, and *Kaimakams* in *Livas* and *Kazas*. This school, also, antedates the foundation of the University. During the time of the old regime many of the graduates of this school occupied the chairs of professors and instructors in the *Iddadiehs* (colleges). This department has produced many Grand Viziers and able Ministers. The curricula of the *Hookouk* and *Milkieh* are nearly similar to each other, excepting that special attention is given in the latter to the study of the languages, namely Turkish, Persian, Arabic, French, Armenian, Greek, Bulgarian, etc.

The third branch of the University is the Theological School, *Ulumi Dinieh*. The course of study covers four years and, generally speaking, is confined to subjects connected with the Mohammedan religion. The students number about 140, and receive instruction from ten Professors, or *Hodjas* as they are called. Graduates of this school and of the following are prepared to serve as professors in the *Iddadiehs* (colleges).

The fourth department of the University is the School of Literature, *Edebiat*. There are three classes with a total of one hundred students and seventeen instructors. The languages taught are Turkish, Persian, Arabic, and French.

The fifth department is that of Natural Sciences, *Ulumi Tabiyeh*. It has ten instructors and ninety students with a three years course of study. Graduates of this school are employed in laboratories, custom-houses, and as professors in the *Iddadiehs*.

The sixth department is that of Higher Mathematics, *Riazieh*. It has about eighty students and seven instructors. The course of this school covers three years and is given wholly to pure mathematics. Graduates are called to be professors of Mathematics in the *Iddadiehs*. They may be employed also in the Department of Finance. In order to give a general idea about the instruction given in University, I will mention some of the courses in the school of Mathematics.

Three years are given to Mathematical Physics, two to Mathematical Astronomy, three years to Calculus, Differential and Integral, one year to Analytical Geometry, one year to Descriptive Geometry, one year to Advanced Algebra, half a year to Spherical Trigonometry.

Besides these six branches under one faculty there is the Medical School, with its own faculty, in Haidar-Pasha,

near the terminus of the Anatolian Railway. The enormous building for this school is said to have cost 650,000 Turkish liras. It is well to remember that this was built in Abdul-Hamid's day and undoubtedly the amount of money spent is far in excess of what the building actually cost.

The course of study covers five years. The departments of Dentistry and Pharmacy, with a course of three years each, are situated at Kadurgha, in Stamboul.

The new Teachers College, *Dar ul Mouallumin*, will open this fall at the beginning of October. It will be a boarding school and every expense will be met by Government. It is to have three divisions, namely, (1) College, (2) High School, and (3) Primary. Graduates of the first and second schools will teach in the colleges and High Schools respectively, and graduates of the third will teach in the Primary Schools.

In order to be registered in the first and second schools it is necessary to have an *Iddadieh* diploma, or that of any American College. When the number of registered students exceeds the limit set, then all the students must take a competitive examination, and those who have *Iddadieh* diplomas will be preferred to those who do not have them.

There is also a School for Civil Engineers, *Muhendiz Mektebi*. It has five regular courses, each having one hundred students. There is also a sixth class for those who are not prepared to enter the regular courses. This school was originally a military boarding school, but is now altogether civil, with no boarding department, and is under the control of the Minister of Public Affairs, H. E. the Hon. Bedros Haladjian.

G. H. HAGOPIAN

This article was specially prepared for the *Orient* by Mr. Hagopian, who is a graduate of the American High School of Talas and is now a very successful student in the Imperial University in the department of Mathematics.

The author of the article has failed to include in the University the School of Fine Arts, *Mektebi Senai Nefiseh*, which was established about 25 years ago. The courses are as follows, Architecture 5 years, Painting 6 years, and Engraving 3 years. There are 150 students in this school, the majority of whom are studying Architecture. The conditions for entrance are a fair knowledge of Turkish and a common school education. The Principal of the school is Vosgan Effendi, a celebrated sculptor who has won a reputation in Europe. There are about 12 instructors, native and foreign. The building is of Grecian style and stands near the Imperial Museum.

The Editors.

## THE SUMMER SCHOOL IN SAMOKOV.

A happy thought, which occupied the heart and mind of Miss Haskell all winter, was realized this last month.

It was to call all the pastors' wives, teachers, and Bible women in S. Bulgaria, and some from Macedonia, to a two weeks' summer school.

The pastors' wives in Bulgaria take an active part in the work and carry a considerable portion of the burden and responsibilities of their husbands, as elsewhere, but some of them have only a limited education—and almost none have ever had any preparation for becoming pastors' wives. Until now almost nothing has been done for enlivening and encouraging their spirit, so that the calling of this school was most timely and useful. There was once such a school under the direction of Miss Stone, but it was only for the Bible women. Most of the invited came, and the school proved a great success, more so than many expected. Miss Haskell was tireless in her efforts to make it so.

Mr. Cooper from Salonica, who was on his vacation in Samokov, gave four lectures on "How to Win Souls to Christ," and one on "The Model Sunday School." Dr. Haskell gave five lessons in "Homiletics"; Mr. Thomson gave two excellent lectures or talks, one on "How can we work mutually God," and the other on "Prayer as power for uplifting the world," and a doctor from the city gave three lectures on "Tuberculosis." There were other lectures on timely subjects by the guests themselves, especially on the training of children from infancy up to maturity, such as: "The Individuality of the Child," "Obedience of Children," "Friendship between Parents and Children," "Living with our Children in all wisdom and love," "The Adolescence of Children," etc. The program was very full, but very well carried out. There were four lectures a day, but two came in the morning from 10-12 and two in the evening from 4-6, so that there was plenty of time for rest and social intercourse. There was plenty of music on the piano and by a small orchestra made up of mandolins and guitars. There was also an evening entertainment with music and a lecture on "A journey to Oberammergau and back, and the presentation of the Passion Play" by one present, who saw the play this year. The entertainment was very well attended. The proceeds from it were given to the orphanage in the city.

All took their meals together for which they paid a reasonable sum, and slept in the dormitories of the G. B. School. Their travelling expenses were paid. As most of them were former pupils and graduates of the school, they were happy to be together in the dear old familiar place, and many of them slept in beds in which their daughters had slept during the past year. A beautiful spirit of love and harmony pervaded all.

The husbands of three or four of the guests were present all the time, together with some other gentlemen, and their opinion, as the opinion of all who heard the lectures is, that the wives of the Bulgarian pastors, as all graduates from the Am. G. B. School in Samokov, try to keep up with the times

to grow mentally as well as spiritually, and to be conscientious and useful daily. All went away refreshed, happy, and grateful for all they saw and heard, and with high resolutions for still better work in the future.

Many thanks to Miss Haskell for all the benefit received in this summer School, which, we hope, will not be the last.

"ONE OF THEM."

### A GRAVE INCIDENT.

On Monday evening the Baron Mayor des Planches, accompanied by a dragoman and a kavass, landed from the Embassy launch at Tophaneh on their way to Pera. The driver of the only available cab insolently refused to take them. Two gendarmes, who were standing near, when appealed to, replied that they had no authority to interfere. Finally the Ambassador found an official of the Municipality who, on learning the facts, ordered the cabman to take the party to Pera, and asked the Baron and Baroness to enter the cab. They did so and the kavass took his seat beside the driver who turned on the kavass and threw him violently to the ground. During the scrimmage that followed the Ambassador leaped from the cab and struck the cabman over the head with his cane, cutting a deep gash. The infuriated driver then turned from the kavass to attack the Ambassador. The kavass drew his sword and beat the man off while the Ambassador and the Baroness, who was in a fainting condition, retired to the launch amid the jeers of a fanatical mob who shouted, rather irrelevantly, "Down with the Bulgarians!" and again "Death to the hat wearers!" which was more to the point. The Ambassador lost no time in going direct to the house of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. On learning of what had occurred the Minister expressed deep regret and apologised in the name of the Government. On the following day the Government sent special emissaries to present regrets and apologies to the Baron and Baroness, while every assurance was given that the cabman and the negligent gendarmes would be severely punished.

Two prominent Turkish papers devote very little space to the incident, one of them at least seeming to take the part of the cabman. The character of the outrage, with all the attendant circumstances, has left an exceedingly bad impression in European circles.

### FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS IN TURKEY.

Constantinople, Aug. 31.

After prolonged negotiations Mr. Straus, the United States Ambassador, has succeeded in obtaining a decision of the Council of State, approved by the Council of Ministers, exempting from the provisions of the Ottoman Law controlling associations all American religious, educational, and benevolent institutions, the legal existence of which is now re-

cognized. The decision will equally apply to similar establishments of other nations. The settlement of this long-pending question, affecting some 300 American institutions, will enable them to hold their landed properties and their corporate names and will free them from the restrictive provisions of the said law.

The Mail.

### A PLEA FOR ORTHODOXY.

An article published in the *Neiri Hakikat*, contains the following:—"A normal school, opened in Elbasan and using the Latin characters for the Albanian language, and a school opened in Geurumdjeh, using the same system, have been closed, because they are considered harmful from a religious and a political standpoint. These schools, in spite of the fact that the students were Moslems, were open on Fridays and shut on Sundays. It is not difficult to understand the reasons for this arrangement. Our compatriots (the Albanians) do not wish to see that they are unconsciously following the wrong road, which leads towards the abyss. They make a great mistake in following an idea which grieves the whole Moslem world. Our Albanian brothers have constituted, for five hundred years, a loyal and devoted element in the Empire and we will meet them at the very start, on those dangerous paths in which they are being led, and we will say to them, 'This path will lead you into evil places; do not separate from us; adapt your language, your ideas, and your feelings to ours.' Two reasons constrain us to give this counsel, one is religion and the other politics. These two factors bring us near to our brothers. They must not leave us and we must not leave them. We are ready to sacrifice our lives for our country and for our *Khalifa*. In this way only can we establish a stable government."

### EMPIRE NEWS.

#### The Capital.

The Minister of the Interior telegraphed to the provincial authorities to take care that no Moslem should break his fast, which began on Monday. The Sheikh-ul-Islam, also, wrote to the Department of Public Safety to exercise the same care, because Moslems who break their fast are liable to severe punishment.

In reply to an appeal made by the Armenian *Miatzial* Association to the Catholicos at Etchmiadzin for assistance in their educational work, the Catholicos replied that he intends to undertake the establishment of a National Fund for education.

The revenues of the Custom House, during the month of July, exceeded the revenue of the same month in 1909 by 3,445,762 piasters.

A tramway car in Stamboul side ran over an eight year old boy and cut off his leg at the knee. The car driver was arrested.

On Sunday morning, in the Greek Patriarchate at Fener, the election of two representatives for Constantinople to the General Assembly took place. The Patriarch made an address in which he said that the Synod and the Political Council were unable to carry the heavy burden of the present difficulties and had therefore decided to call a General Assembly. "We have a right to call a National Assembly, first, because it is our right of long standing, second, because there are precedents." He said that the sole object of the Patriarchate was to defend the rights of the Greek people within the limits of the law. In spite of this, such insults and persecutions had been endured in the Provinces as had not been witnessed one hundred years ago, nor even under the tyrannical regime. He expressed great surprise that the Government should threaten punishment for what is wholly legal.

Letters received from the Caucasus indicate that the Russian Government is dealing very severely with those Armenians who are charged with being Tashnagists, and their sympathizers. In the city of Tiflis alone 600 Armenians have been imprisoned.

A British company has been organized which will apply to the Ottoman Government for the concession of employing forty steamers for traffic and passengers along the Turkish seacoasts. The request will be made that the Mahsouseh be merged in their company.

A Greek paper says that negotiations are in progress for handing the Mahsouseh Company over to the *Deutsche Bank*, the conditions being the same as those which were drawn up originally for the British Company which has thus far failed to come to an agreement with the Government. The only difference is that the Red Sea line will not be obligatory.

The *Ikho* publishes the following from a correspondent in Sophia. "I learn on good authority, that at its last meeting the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, in view of the political situation, decided to undertake certain precautionary measures. The Minister of War has issued the necessary circular. The New Greek Minister at Sophia, M. Panas, while presenting his credentials had a long interview with the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs. According to the information I have received, the Bulgarian Government will make a satisfactory arrangement with reference to the Greek churches and schools in Bulgaria.

The *Ikho* says that the Grand Vizier, who is still absent in Europe, has constantly counselled the Government to deal with great patience and moderation, under the present difficulties. Hakki Pasha has become aware that the Great Powers

would be averse to war. The same paper declares that, the Ministers are not in complete harmony with reference to Greek and Bulgarian affairs. The Ministers of War and Foreign Affairs are entirely opposed to the idea of war.

The Government has officially informed the Oriental Railway that it must be prepared to transport 12,000 soldiers during the space of one week. At the same time the Government is endeavoring to secure a number of special steamers for the transportation of fifty thousand troops from Bandurma to Rodosto. These soldiers are the Redifs (reserves) who will take part in the approaching army manoeuvres. The *Ikho* says that in Bulgarian circles these preparations are considered as directed against Greece and Bulgaria.

Several officers sold four sheep at auction for the benefit of the Ottoman Navy. The price paid for the sheep amounted to 300 Turkish liras. The sheep were sacrificed on the arrival of the new warships.

The two warships bought from Germany, the *Barbaros Khayreddin* and the *Torghood Reis*, arrived at the Capital on Saturday. Great Crowds of people lined the shores to welcome their arrival. They anchored in front of the Dolma Baghtché Palace.

## THE PROVINCES.

The number of arms collected in Macedonia up to the present time amounts to 150,000.

A telegram from Ferizovitch announces that the *kaymakam* and principal police officers have been arrested on the charge of sedition and have been sent under guard to Preshina to be tried before the Military Tribunal.

The forty Albanians, who succeeded in evading arrest and were condemned to death by the Military Tribunal in Ferizovitch, have been captured. An Imperial Iradeh, sanctioning the sentence, has been issued and the condemned men will be hung in the various cities to which they belong. Among them are the chiefs Hadji Rusta of Prisorand, Byramtzav of Debrei Zeir, Suleyman Djafer, and Hussein Abbas.

Near Islahieh in the province of Adana, Mitcho Mehmed, a brigand, and his band had a fight with gendarmes. The leader was killed and the rest escaped.

Djemal Bey, the governor of Adana, has undertaken the plan of settling nomad tribes in various parts of the province. He believes that their wandering habits are due to traditional customs, rather than necessity, and that they will settle down if they are given favourable places in which to cultivate the soil.

The construction of the first eighty-five kilometres of the Samsoun—Sivas Railway will be begun during the month of November. The general superintendent for this section will be M. Affides the architect of the Public Works Department. The cost of a whole line will be eighty million francs.

**WALTER SEAGER & Co.**

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**CONSTANTINOPLE.**

**NOTES.**

Miss Burrage and Miss Richmond returned to Talas on Aug. 27 from Marsovan, where they had spent their vacation.

Miss Cole and Miss Mary Fowle celebrated Dr. Farmsworth's eighty eighth birthday by starting from Talas for Sivas on Aug. 29.

The new kindergarten building in Cesaria is approaching completion and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy during the latter part of September.

Mr. William H. Sligh, magnetic observer of the Carnegie Institution, arrived in Cesaria on Aug. 28th. He expects to continue his journey, via Sivas, to Diarbekir and beyond.

Miss Mills, of the American Collegiate Institute, left Proti for Smyrna yesterday.

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