

# Bulletin of the Near East Society



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## The Northern Area

### GREECE

#### Greek Diet Still Below Prewar Level

Under a program initiated by the Greek Ministry of Economic Coordination, the nourishment level for the Greek people gradually is being raised from 2473 calories per day per person last year to 2650, the prewar level, by the year 1952-53. This year the calorie consumption will be 2520.

Even the high prewar level was insufficient and was a detriment to the health of the people, resulting in tuberculosis and other serious illnesses. The Greek Government considers improvement of diet important for the general welfare of the people, for the physiological development of the children, and for the strength of the workers so they may help speed reconstruction.

The Greek Ministry of Economic Coordination reports that the consumption of primary food items is much lower per person than in prewar years. The Greeks are eating less animal proteins and more vegetable produce which is cheaper but less nourishing. Consumption of meat and cheese now is 60%, fresh milk 44%, and eggs 75% of the prewar index.

Because of domestic conditions and the world economic picture, the Greek Government is attempting to provide more nourishing foods at the lowest possible cost. Wheat is mixed with soya flour to provide a good protein content bread. Importation of large amounts of canned fish helps alleviate the meat shortage. Frozen meat, powdered and evaporated milk have been included in the diet. School children are served a breakfast of milk and a piece of bread and raisins to supplement home fare. Milk is distributed to preschool children, to expectant and nursing mothers and to tubercular cases.

### TURKEY

#### Parties Start Campaigns for Elections

President Ismet Inonu of the Republican or Government Party and Celal Bayar of the new opposition Democratic Party are campaigning in preparation for the coming election. This election is the culmination of Ataturk's evolutionary program to establish a true republic in the place of the old Ottoman Caliphate.

A four man mission of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has gone to Turkey to study projects for: 1) irrigation, flood control and hydro-electric power, 2) constructing and improving seaports, 3) grain storage facilities.

In the meantime Turkish production and industry has made encouraging increases, and during the past year the exports have increased by 143,000 tons.

Turkey has recently granted foreign press correspondents a 50% reduction in cable prices, an 80%

reduction in railroad fares and free entrance to all government museums, expositions and public meetings.

Asphalt is being obtained at Raman to surface the new roads now being constructed with the help of American money, machinery and technical aid. The finest of these roads is the multi-lane highway between Ankara and Istanbul.

The most romantic is the eastern route which will pass through Erzurum and connect Turkey with Iran. This is the great northern route followed by the Chinese silk caravans since Hellenistic times when the merchants of Ephesus and Miletus served as middlemen between the Far East and the rich markets of Italy and the Aegean.

#### Economic Progress in Many Areas

A manganese mine is being developed at Trabzon, a new chrome mine at Acipayan and a million dollars is being spent to improve the Divrigi iron mines. The petroleum wells at Ramandag — Southeastern Turkey appear promising, with a proved reserve of at least thirty-million tons.

Russia herself is cooperating with Turkey on a joint project, the construction of a dam across the Aras River (the Arabes, where Zoroaster was supposedly born), to provide water for irrigation in both Turkey and Armenia.

Turkey plans to spend \$350,000 for cotton irrigation in the Igdir Valley near the ancient Armenian capital, where Pompey conquered Tigranes (or Dikran).

[Continued on page 11]



H. H. Kreider

Headed by veteran Professor, Frank L. Hewitt (front center), returning to teach in Turkey after a year of retirement, these young Americans arrived in Istanbul on the Khedive Ismail early in September. They will teach at Robert College and the American College for Girls.



# The Water Runs Pure In Athens

By R. W. GAUSMANN

*Mr. Gausmann, a Trustee of Athens College, is the author of a manuscript book, "Water for Athens," from which the material for this article was taken. The history of the Athens water supply became a hobby with Mr. Gausmann while he was in Greece on the construction of the Marathon Dam. —EDITOR*

An easily defended site with a hidden spring of water was, according to our scholars, the reason why some early nomadic tribe camped on the site we know as Athens. From that time, some three to four thousand years ago until today, the struggle to keep the violet crowned city supplied with water has been almost continuous; almost never has the supply been abundant and frequently it has been woefully inadequate.

A natural cleft on the north side of the Acropolis leads to one of the early springs. There is evidence of a stone-filled, timber-cribbed stairway which led to the spring, so located it could not be cut off in time of war.

## MARK ANTHONY DRANK HERE

The Clepsydra on the northwest slope of the Acropolis, from which Mark Anthony on the advice of the oracle took a full jar to insure victory over the Parthians, still provides water. This spring was surrounded by a wall when the Greeks fought the Turks for their independence.

Kallirhoa, a very famous Athenian spring in whose water brides were bathed to make them fruitful, apparently was located close to the ancient Greek Market.

Wells, cisterns and small aquaducts which brought water to the city from springs on the outskirts, supplemented the meager supply of the city springs.

The first Athenian supply with any pretence of adequacy was the aquaduct bearing the name of the Emperor Hadrian, completed in 140 A.D. by his successor Antoninus Pius. This underground tunnel collects rainwater that has penetrated the pervious limestone and sands. It is 15.5 miles long and in the smaller sections is large enough to permit a stooped-over man to walk. The Hadrian Aqueduct is a remarkable engineering accomplishment, for quite apart from the



Marathon Dam, source of Athens' water supply, was built by an American firm. Although far superior to previous water systems, the Marathon Dam may have to be supplemented before many years because of increasing need for water by the inhabitants.

many man hours of labor is the engineering judgement and experience which enabled the engineers to know what parts might remain unlined. It has been estimated that this aquaduct might deliver 25 gallons per day to each of the 100,000 people who are believed to have lived in Athens then; possibly 20,000 were slaves who were given a little over a gallon per day. Thus the wealthier citizens and their families were liberally supplied.

As the power of Rome declined the cultural influence of Athens waned and Alexandria, Pergamos and Constantinople took its place. Justinian dealt the death blow when he closed the school of philosophy in 500 A.D. Pirates raided the city of its treasure and then came the Frankish invasion leaving little but misery and some square towers poorly constructed with bits of masonry from ruined temples and public buildings. These swashbucklers in gorgeous silks, satins and velvets and glittering armor

eventually were driven out by the Turks in 1456, after Constantinople's fall.

Under Turkish rule the once proud city shrunk to a hamlet of possibly 5000. Even its name was lost and English maps of the 17th century show it as Salenos, Settines, Saithenes. Setines or Satina probably phonetic spellings of the Greek pronunciation.

## AQUADUCT RESTORED IN 1847

The Hadrian Aquaduct was lost during this period and Athens was once again supplied by springs and wells. The aquaduct again was discovered in 1840 and put in service in 1847 or 17 years after Greece was declared an independent and sovereign kingdom. Under the new government the city grew rapidly and repairs were made from time to time, but almost always the water supply was insufficient. After a serious break in 1923 when water had to be hauled in over 100 miles of railroad, the

(Continued on Page 6)



# ISLAM AND THE MODERN MOSLEM

BY OMAR A. KHADRA

*Mr. Khadra is a young Moslem who is related to the leading family of Jerusalem and who spent his childhood among pious Moslem people. After completing advanced studies at the American University of Beirut and Princeton, he now is advisor to the Saudi-Arabian delegation to the United Nations and is engaged in diplomatic work in Washington. He is a representative of a large group of young Mohammedans, who are loyal to the faith of their childhood, but are confronted with the problem of adapting it to the modern world.*

EDITOR

Islam, like the two other monotheistic religions, has evolved and progressed throughout the ages. Although it has become more complex and varied, it nevertheless has added invaluable wealth to its treasures.

From the start Islam has been a dynamic religion. Some writers say that Islam is an inflexible religion, and that Moslems in general are not amenable to reform. That is not true. The Moslems of the Near East, especially the educated ones, are conscious of the need to reexamine the role of their religion. They do not intend to undermine the basic tenets of their religion, nor do they plan radically to alter its contents. Their sole aim is to introduce reforms that will adapt Islam to modern life.

The writer proposes to consider the subject of his religion by breaking it up into three major components. The first is the relation of Islam to the political situation in a country (the problem of Church and State). Second is Islam and its regulation of secular matters, and third, the problem of religion *per se*.

## I

Just as the proponents of the High Church theory have argued that the Pope, as the vicar of God on earth, combines in himself spiritual and temporal authorities, so many of the religious leaders of Islam maintain that the two authorities are inseparable.

The modern Moslem takes exception to such an interpretation. There is no need to offer a rebuttal to this religious theory. This has been done by the religious leader, Ali Abd al-Razik, in his book *Islam and the Fundamentals of Authority*.

The modern Moslem is convinced of the soundness of the interpretation of the theory of the two swords, as advo-

cated by Pope Galesius I at the end of the fifth century. The need for a surgical operation is all the more necessary because of the spread of the concept of nationalism in the Near East.

For better or for worse, nationalism has replaced religion as the mode of allegiance. No better example can be cited than the Arab revolt of 1916, when Moslems rebelled against the authority of the Caliph, and fought on the side of the Allies in the first Great War in return for a promise of independence.

To assume that church and state should not be separated is considered not only deleterious to the interest of the nation, but is contrary to the spirit of our time. Islam is not, and should never be, a theocracy. Furthermore, separation is the more plausible since it should eliminate completely the feeling of sectarianism which in the past has been fostered by foreign powers for political purposes.

## II

With regard to the relation of Islam to secular matters, the modern Moslem undoubtedly is influenced largely by the example of the West. He views matters arising from his personal relations with other people in his community realistically and with a sense of social fairness.

First, come the marriage customs and the question of polygamy. The modern Moslem not only refuses to condone it; the whole idea is an anathema to him. He is convinced that legislation to outlaw polygamy and make it a criminal offense should be enacted.

Similarly, divorce should no longer remain the monopoly of the male; or, as in some, though very few cases, the privilege of the female. Divorce, he believes, should be entrusted to a judge appointed by the State. The judge should interpret the law in each case, and use his discretion to grant or reject a divorce plea. In case the judge is convinced that there are strong grounds for the annulment of a marriage, he should be authorized to pass a verdict. He also should rule on alimony and make sure of the care and education of children.

Inheritance is another problem. There are no reasons why a woman, as the

situation is in some cases, should receive half of a man's property, or why a man should get preferential treatment. Furthermore, legislation designed to standardize all matters of inheritance is much needed.

The problem of the veil has received considerable attention in Moslem countries. The modern Moslem not only fails to see any justification for the practice; he also considers its continuance harmful, since it deprives the Moslem community of half its members. There is no doubt that the unveiling of women and their equality with men would in the long run benefit the whole society.

Such reforms would take away more and more authority from the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical court and entrust it to national courts of law. This proposal, however, raises the legal question of the kind of law the national courts should follow.

Some Moslem lawyers contend that a great amount of Islamic jurisprudence could be moulded so as to suit the requirements of the Moslems, and that the only change necessary is to transfer the authority of the execution of the law from religious bodies to their civilian counterparts. Others, however, would rather draw on the West completely.

Once the need for reform is conceded, then the problem of its character could be agreed upon. Whether these changes should be put through by a ukase issued from above, or should be brought about progressively through education and other channels, is immaterial. The essential point is that the need for reform be accepted in principle.

It can be observed that in all personal matters, modern Moslems do not differ substantially from modern Christians. Many have been subjected to the same kind of education, and therefore it should not cause surprise to see them arrive at similar conclusions.

## III

Finally, let us consider the views of the modern Moslem toward Islam as a religion. There should be no misunderstanding if he assumes an attitude that can be best described as one of nonchalance. Yet as a Moslem he continues to cherish the values and ideals that his



religion has given to the world. He rejects any idea or philosophy that purports to the non-existence of God, and always is inclined to attribute to that supernatural phenomenon, which he calls God, the whole *raison d'être* of our being.

Without belief in the existence of God, he would argue that life is senseless, meaningless and purposeless. He furthermore would refuse to accept any interpretation that is promised solely and basically on a materialistic concept. He nevertheless is realistic and aware of the conditions of his time.

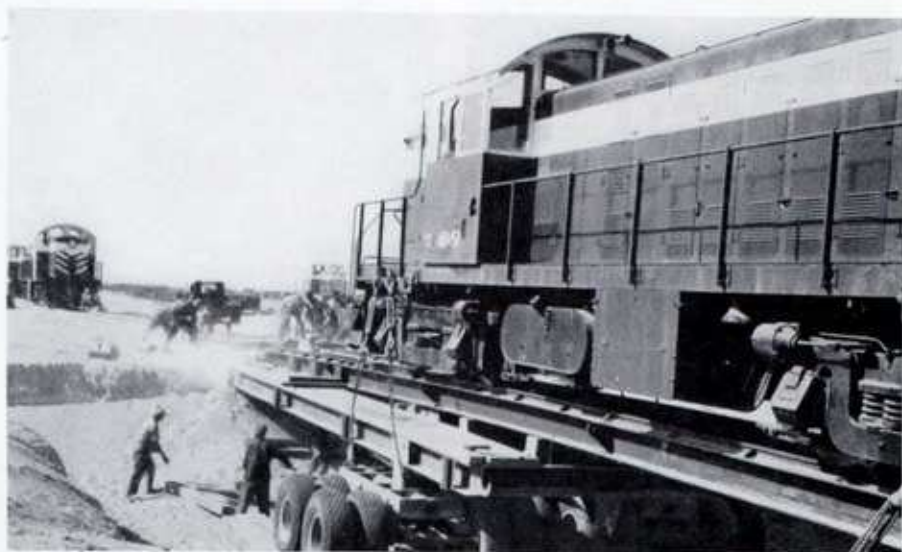
Although a modern Moslem is a non-atheist, he is indifferent to the details of his religion and only falls back on it when he finds it necessary. He leaves it to his conscience to pass judgements on all his actions, based on the store of ethical principles he has acquired from family, religion, school and society.

As to the *Koran* and its teachings, most young Moslems are inclined to believe that it is more the work of Mohammed than the word of God. Whether Mohammed was inspired by God, or was influenced by the incidents of the life at his time and the civilization of the surrounding empires, is something that he does not know. The fact that in Islam there is no religious hierarchy between man and God in the performance of the religious duties is greatly admired by him. Simplicity in the matters of religion is his goal.

During the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries two reform movements were started. One was headed by Sheikh Mohammed Abduh, and the other by the Wahhabi and the Sanusi in Saudi Arabia and North Africa. Abduh taught Islamic religious leaders courses other than religion. The modern Moslem insists that they be taught the significance of scientific progress so that they may interpret to the new generation matters arising from problems of faith and reason.

Such are some of the thoughts that come to the mind of a young Moslem. They undoubtedly are rather nebulous, since he is not well versed in all the matters of his religion. They are important because they are indicative of his thinking. If ideas precede action, then it is not difficult to foresee a number of reforms which may be introduced in some Moslem countries.

## NEW CARAVAN FOR THE DESERT



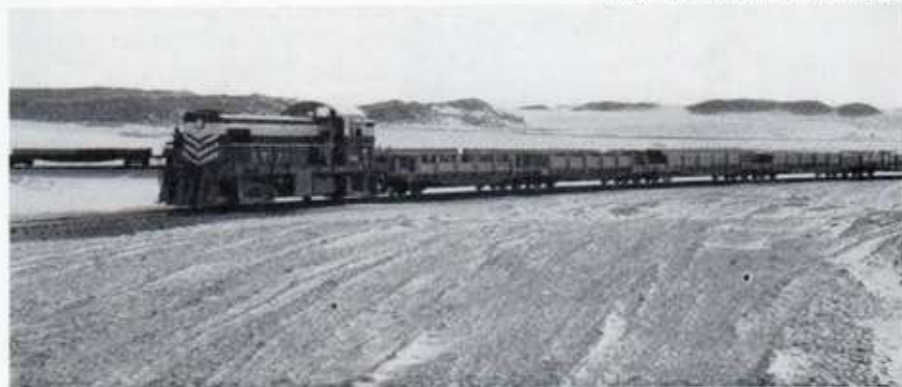
*Arabian American Oil Company*

To the roadbed of Saudi-Arabia's new railroad came this 148-ton Diesel Locomotive transported on a multi-wheeled trailer over 50 miles of desert. The railroad to run from Dammam on the Persian Gulf to Riyadh, capital of Saudi-Arabia, is being built by the Arabian American Oil Company and is paid for by oil royalties received by Saudi-Arabia.



ABOVE: Lengths of pipe being loaded on a siding near Dhahran. BELOW: The modern "caravan" pulled by a 20th century iron horse moves across the desert from Dhahran to Abqaiq. Quite a change from camel days.

*Arabian American Oil Company*





## The Water Runs Pure

(Continued from Page 3)

engineer in charge replied to a reprimand from his Minister to the effect that in civilized countries objects 1800 years old were retired to museums and not expected to provide service.

A cast iron distribution system was laid in 1870 and by 1888, when the population had reached nearly 110,000, sources of an additional supply seriously were being discussed.

In 1899, Mr. Tzoures, an Inspector of Public Works, proposed bringing water from the copious springs at the foot of Mt. Parnassos. This project was studied and recommended by Walter E. Spear for the American firm of Ford, Bacon and Davis, who discovered and recommended the construction of the Marathon Reservoir as a first phase of the Parnassos Project.

From 1888, when the necessity for a new supply had become evident, to 1931 when the first water was delivered from the Marathon Reservoir, the population of Athens, Piraeus, and their environs had grown from 145,000 to more than 800,000 and the per capita consumption was reduced to only about  $2\frac{3}{4}$  gallons per day. Even this was not distributed equally so that some families of five or six had only a five gallon tin a day while others had all the water they could use.

Water was distributed intermittently and could be drawn from the pipes for about one hour every third or fourth day at which time pots, pans, tubs and other receptacles were filled. This was a most unsatisfactory situation. Those who could afford to, bought drinking water in clay jugs carried in by cart or donkey back from the spring at Amourisi.

The construction of the Marathon Project by the American firm of Ulen & Company ended this misery and by 1938 the average daily consumption was 17.8 gallons per person. Although lower than that of the average Mediterranean city, this is considered adequate.

The Marathon Project consists of a storage reservoir having a capacity of 10.6 billion gallons, a tunnel 8.33 miles long, twin siphons 3.6 miles long, a purification plant and 755 miles of distribution pipe, the distance from New York to Indianapolis. Some 30% of this

pipe has been placed subsequent to the completion of the contract. Athens is one of the few European cities with a safe supply of drinking water.

Despite the opposition of ill-advised politicians, construction of tunnels and aqueducts with a total length of over 100 miles, which eventually will bring water from the rich springs at the foot of the Parnassos mountains to Athens, gradually is being carried out. If money is available, the project should be completed by 1957. This should provide for the cities' needs until 1966.

Thus, the water supply system for Athens or any live city is a never ending problem.

## SOIL EXPERT RETURNS TO VISIT ROBERT COLLEGE

Istanbul.—Dr. Karl Terzaghi, Austrian-born pioneer, writer, and teacher of soil mechanics, returned in September to visit Robert College where he taught nearly twenty-five years ago (1918-25). Professor and lecturer on soil engineering and geology at Harvard University and the University of Illinois, he recently arrived in Istanbul from Brazil on a special assignment for the Turkish Government in connection with dam projects on the Sakarya River and at Seyhan.

At tea he told how he was called in as a consultant in 1918 when it was proposed to make a railroad tunnel under the Bosphorus or to span the European and Asiatic shores with a suspension bridge. He said he discouraged both projects.

As the pioneer and leading authority on soil mechanics, Dr. Terzaghi's services are much in demand throughout the world.

—HERBERT LANE.

## NES STAFF CHANGES

Frederick E. Frazier began his duties last month as General Secretary of the Near East Society. He will head up the program and development work for the Society.

Allen M. Bailey, editor of the Bulletin of the Society since it began in May, 1948, has resigned to take a position with New York Life Insurance Company. Taking his place is Miss Virginia Botsford who comes to NES from the State Department.

Mrs. Arlene Beveridge has been appointed regional director for Texas.

## Foibles and Fables

Anecdote taken from a French translation of IBN KHALLIKAN —EDITOR

Sissah of India gave to the Arabs the game of chess. He taught it to a king, who was so pleased he told Sissah:—"Ask me for whatever you desire".

"I demand", replied Sissah, "that a grain of wheat be placed in the first square of the chessboard, two in the second, and that the number of grains be progressively doubled till the last square is attained: whatever this quantity may be, I ask you to bestow it on me."

The king thought this request too modest, until he learned:

On the sixteenth square there would be 32,768 grains, equal to a pint measure. On the fortieth square there would be 174,762 Irdabb or bushels, which would fill a storehouse. On the fiftieth square there would be the contents of 1,024 storehouses, enough for a large city. On the sixty-fourth square there would be grain for 16,384 cities. The ancient account says:—

"Now, you know that there is not in the world a greater number of cities than that for geometry informs us that the circumference of the globe is eight thousand parasangs; so that if the end of a cord were laid on any part of the earth, and the cord passed around it till both ends met, we should find the length of the cord to be twenty-four thousand miles, which is equal to eight thousand parasangs."

This story was written two centuries before Columbus.

## Near East Society Bulletin

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ORIENTAL OUTLOOK, SYRIA

## Near East Camera



INONU, TURKEY

A. S. Dunlap



### Brocades

Ivan Dmitri while on his recent expedition for American Export Lines caught these scenes of contrast in Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. At the left is the old Bazaar where bolts of yard goods are stacked high to attract the buyers.

On the right is the new look not only in dresses, but in fabric stores. Mr. Dmitri pictures here a Paris designer who has brought the model in the center to Beirut to try out some of the Damascus brocades. The merchant is Khalil Sarkis, a graduate of the American University of Beirut, who has his shop in the St. Georges Hotel.





# CHROME -- TURKEY'S NUMBER TWO EXPORT

*The following is based on material furnished by the Turkish Information Office.*  
—EDITOR

Chrome ore, today Turkey's second largest export ranking next to tobacco, first was discovered in 1848 at Harman-cik, 25 miles north of the city of Bursa.

Within twelve years after this discovery, Turkish chromium gained world-wide reputation and maintained its superiority for a long time.

## HIGH QUALITY CHROME

After the proclamation of the Republic, production technique was reorganized, and in 1948 the annual output reached 285,353 metric tons, a sharp contrast to 1908 when it was 11,058. Despite increasing competition from other countries, Turkish chrome still is known and sought for its better qualities.

Chrome deposits in Turkey are scattered all over the nation; so far, more than one hundred veins have been traced. The principal centers are Elazig, Antalya, Balikesir, Bursa, Eskisehir, Kutahya and Mugla. The Guleman chrome mines in Elazig are owned and operated by the state owned ETIBANK\*.

Nearly 20 other mines located in the above mentioned cities are operated by private individuals. Ore reserves in the Guleman mines, according to present estimates, are about 8 million metric tons of chromium. This is considered the richest deposit in the world.

The distance between the railroad station serving the Guleman area, and the

port of Iskenderun, the Black Sea port for export of Guleman chrome, is 544 kilometers or 340 miles. The chromium mined at Guleman first is carried to the railroad at Maden by means of a ropeway 11.3 miles long.

As far as transportation is concerned, chrome deposits in Southern Turkey are better located than those of Guleman. Their distance to the ports of export is only 5-10 kilometers. On the other hand, the chrome mines near Kutahya and Bursa are about 250-400 kilometers away from their respective export ports.

The average total number of engineers, technicians, officials and employees serving in the Guleman mines varies between 80 to 90; the workers in the same mine number between 300 to 400.

The annual total amount paid out for wages, which involves all workers employed by both private and state-owned mines, is between 400-500,000 liras.\*

## PROVIDE BENEFITS

The average amount of wages paid in the state owned mines is about 250-300 piasters. Besides this, the workers are provided with free clothing, food, shelter and medical treatment. The daily total of this social assistance per employee is around 150-180 piasters.

TABLE A shows Turkey's chrome production in metric tons between the years 1938-1948. The production of Guleman and that of privately owned mines are shown in separate columns. Decreases in production for certain years of production indicate sale fluctuation.

Measures have been taken to make use of Marshall Plan aid funds to obtain machines and equipment for the expansion of production and for the opening up of new mines.

\*At the official rate of exchange the dollar is worth 2.80 Turkish liras.

The chrome production in 1949 from Guleman mines alone will reach 126,000 metric tons, and that from Sori in the same area will be 40,000 metric tons.

When the Palu chrome mines are put into operation in 1950, the total production of ETIBANK will reach 200,000 metric tons. The annual internal consumption will be 1,000 tons; the rest of the output will be exported.

TABLE B shows the amount of chrome exports and their respective values in Turkish liras between 1938-1948.

The United States is the chief customer for Turkish chromium. From 1938 to 1944 fifty percent of the total export of 871,706 metric tons was purchased by U. S. A., and 22 percent went to Germany during the war years 1940-1942. Exports to Germany were stopped from 1945 to the end of 1948. The total export in 1949 of Turkish chrome is expected to reach 388,789 metric tons; 60% of the total has been purchased by U. S. A. and the remainder has been sold in small lots chiefly to France, Italy, Sweden, Norway and Great Britain.

In 1938 Turkey exported products valued at 144.9 million Turkish liras. Of these the tobacco exports totaled 39.3 million liras and chrome accounted for 5.1 million. In 1948 all exports brought in 551 million liras of which tobacco amounted to 173.4 million and chrome, 25.6 million.

## CHROME EXPORTS JUMP

Chrome exports, therefore, have increased five-fold in the 10 year period, while tobacco in liras has increased a little over four times and the total value of all exports not quite four times. Chrome exports in liras jumped from a low of 2.5 million liras worth in 1946 to 14.1 millions in 1947 and almost doubled again in 1948.

## TURKEY'S CHROME PRODUCTION

YEAR	MINES OPERATED BY ETIBANK	MINES OPERATED BY PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS	TOTAL AMOUNT
	(IN METRIC TONS)		
1938	121,010	87,395	208,405
1939	133,367	58,277	191,644
1940	117,123	52,700	169,823
1941	81,496	54,218	135,714
1942	51,315	65,027	116,342
1943	79,730	74,782	154,512
1944	95,361	86,747	182,108
1945	83,137	63,579	146,716
1946	65,854	37,313	103,167
1947	51,940	66,035	117,975
1948	125,703	159,650	285,353

## TURKEY'S CHROME EXPORT

YEAR	AMOUNT IN METRIC TONS	VALUE IN TURKISH LIRAS
1938	208,055	5,138,000
1939	120,542	2,873,000
1940	110,037	3,224,000
1941	86,208	2,527,000
1942	116,848	3,618,000
1943	80,828	3,026,000
1944	149,188	9,891,000
1945	62,682	4,296,000
1946	36,330	2,479,000
1947	183,777	14,103,000
1948	306,000	25,555,000



# You Don't Bargain In A B C Stores...

By ALLEN M. BAILEY

To a land where buyer and seller have matched wits for centuries, the ABC Stores in 1933 introduced a new concept of marketing.

It was Camille Khattar's idea to establish in the Lebanon the first stores where there would be no argument between customer and clerk. Mr. Khattar was a student at the American University of Beirut in 1927-28 taking among other courses, one in economics. His assignment one day noted the "five and ten cent stores" in America as an example of a type of retail selling.

Seeking further information he asked his teacher, Harry Snyder, to describe these stores. Mr. Snyder obliged with a 15 minute discussion of the five and tens, their immense variety of merchandise, and the low price system based on volume.

Mr. Khattar, thereupon, began to dream of similar stores for Syria and Lebanon. It was not until 1933 that he was able to open his first "shop" at a desk in the University. Here he placed samples of some of the goods to be sold when his ABC store officially opened.

Within a short time after he had begun business, one of his university professors saw Mr. Khattar standing in front of his store, the door closed. Fearing the worst, that the fixed price policy had proven a failure, he inquired, "What has happened? Are you bankrupt?"

"No," replied Khattar, "We have no more goods to sell. The store is 'goods-rup'."

## STUDIES LONDON STORES

In back of this success was careful planning and severe disappointment. Mr. Khattar studied this new venture from every angle. His major obstacle was lack of capital. After graduation he taught in the preparatory section of the University for three years. He wanted to observe the five and ten's in action, so he made plans to spend a summer in England. A possible backer of his venture offered him 35 pounds sterling for the trip, if Mr. Khattar could raise the other 35 pounds he needed. Mr. Khattar went to London. He sent frequent reports to his Lebanese backer and placed orders for goods, subject to cabled con-

firmation when he returned to Beirut. The ABC store seemed destined to open that fall.

## BACKER BACKS OUT

But Mr. Khattar was due for a shock. The first person to meet him when his ship docked at Beirut was his backer. Quickly he explained that some of his merchant relatives had advised him that such a store would only be a glorified peddler's shop. Discouraged by this setback, Mr. Khattar returned to teaching. That fall he sent out a questionnaire to many women in Beirut. He invited them to tell him what merchandise they would like to buy which they could not find and what business practices they found unsatisfactory.

This information was available when a second backer appeared—returning to his homeland after many years abroad. Thus, the ABC stores, using American techniques of display were started. Today the ABC monogram appears on the facade of the stores, on stationery and on the sales girls' uniforms. ABC has a slogan too, "8000 articles used daily".

The 65 employees rarely have to argue with the customers over prices. Almost everyone accepts fixed prices now. Meanwhile, Mr. Khattar has become a member of the Board of Directors. He now makes occasional trips to the United States in connection with his Trans-Mediterranean Company. This organization acts as exclusive agents and wholesale distributors for United States and British manufacturers.

Thus Camille Khattar's dream as a student at the American University has stimulated trade between the United States and the Near East. At the same time it has provided a new method of merchandising to the Near East and new convenient shopping for the women of Beirut and Tripoli.

ABC in English means "Always Better and Cheaper".

Thousands of items are carried in the ABC Stores. Above: A customer gets a sales talk and looks unhappy because he can't bargain here. Center: American brands of consumer goods such as Kolynos are getting well known in Beirut. Below: The ABC monogram dominates the store front. It's as well known to the Lebanese as 5 & 10 to Americans.







This frightened little girl (above) came to a "Pedopolis", but three months later she had forgotten the terror and had begun to live as is shown in the photograph below.



## THE QUEEN AND "PEDOPOLIS"

By providing equipment and trained leaders, Near East Foundation is cooperating with the Queen's Relief Fund for Northern Greece.

The program in Epirus begun by the Foundation includes three "Pedopolis", or refugee children's villages; a canteen, milk distributing centers and a day nursery.

To the "Pedopolis" have come children from the guerrilla raided areas who have experienced terror and the loss of families and friends. In the children's villages they quickly adjust to a new and constructive life.

Shops have been established there to permit the children to learn various trades such as carpentry and weaving, as well as to become farmers, cobblers and blacksmiths. The children are screened to see what they are best fitted to do as well as to fill the needs of their village.

Last spring during "Work and Victory" week, some 3,000 children of Macedonia and Epirus, now being cared for

in the "Pedopolis" of Athens and vicinity, participated on the National Independence Day program in the Athens Stadium. This event was attended by 70,000 persons. The demonstration of the refugee children who had been saved for Greece was also a reminder that 26,000 other Greek children had been abducted by the guerrillas and were being brought up behind the "Iron Curtain".

The Queen of Greece and the Near East Foundation through the "Pedopolis" are determined to help the homeless children of Greece and to provide them with the ability and health to help restore their country.

### WHAT IS IT?

The photograph on page 12 shows women of a village in Iran engaged in preparing grain for flour—certainly the hard way compared with twentieth century practice.



The Queen of Greece receives and gives a hug to one of the thousands of "homeless" children.

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[Continued from page 2]

E.C.A. funds will be allocated to buy 4,000 tractors and plows. Six localities already have opened courses to teach peasant children how to use mechanized farm machinery; 500 more students are to be enrolled in seven additional centers.

In one month Turkey was able to ship to Britain alone  $\frac{3}{4}$  million dollars worth of tobacco and a similar amount of fresh vegetables and fruits.

Seven million dollars is being spent on tuberculosis hospitals and three and a half million for X-ray apparatus and equipment. A new 250 bed maternity hospital has recently been opened at Ankara.

## Southern Area PALESTINE REFUGEES

### United Nations Mission Studies Plight of One Million

During the past month the United Nations Economic Mission to the Middle East has been surveying the conditions and negotiating with Israel and the Arab states.

The first problem to be brought up undoubtedly will be the fate of nearly a million so-called "Arab Refugees", over half of whom are displaced and penniless, while the others are reduced to poverty.

During the coming month, recommendations are to be made to the U. N. Assembly to aid the refugees by short term work projects. Some direct aid also will have to be continued for children and aged people who cannot work.

An even more important, though less urgent, problem for the Economic Mission to study is the reclamation of river valleys, like those of the Orontes, Tigris, and Euphrates, in order to raise the standards of living for sharecroppers, nomads and refugees in lands as close to Russia as Virginia is to Pennsylvania. It is appropriate that the Mission should be headed by Gordon R. Clapp who has had experience with river control.

## SYRIA AND LEBANON

### Syrian Women Emancipated; Suffrage Adopted

On Columbus Day Mrs. Alice Kandaleft Cosma, known for her work with the U. N. Commission on the Status of Women, gave a reception at the American Woman's Association in New York to celebrate the recognition of the Syrian women's right to vote.

It is an epoch making event for a reactionary Muhammedan country to adopt woman's suffrage. The emancipation of women is one of the most important aspects of the great renaissance movement which is shaking Asia to its foundations during our life time.

Considerable excitement has been stirred up, because the public has begun to talk about a closer alliance between Iraq and Syria. The two leading political parties of Syria are said to favor such a move; significantly, the Regent of Iraq received a royal welcome when he visited Damascus.

The cabinet of the Lebanese Republic has under-

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gone a reorganization, but the changes are so slight that there probably will be no important alteration of the government's policy.

Emile Edde, former president of the Lebanese Republic, died recently. Educated by the Jesuits in Beirut and later in France, he became a successful lawyer in the Lebanon. At the height of the French Mandate, he became leader of the strong Maronite and pro-French party. He was chosen president of the Lebanese Republic and was instrumental in trying to keep Lebanon autonomous under French protection, at a time when there was no serious thought of breaking with France. During the ten day reign of terror in 1943 Edde sided with DeGaulle when he sought to force the Lebanese to accept a treaty or a protectorate instead of freedom, Edde was finally forced out of office and saw his rivals develop Lebanon as an independent republic.

## IRAN, EGYPT, JORDAN

### Near East Foundation Aids Iran at Dezfool

The authorities in Iran have been impressed so favorably by the reconstruction work accomplished by the Near East Foundation in the Mamazan region of Persia, that the Government has asked Acting Director, Theodore H. Noe, to survey Dezfool. As a result of his studies, the Sazeman Shahanshahi health organization has granted Mr. Noe \$200,000 to clean up Dezfool.

The Ministry of Health has also asked the Foundation to undertake malaria control for three large cities and seventy-five villages of Azerbaijan, where there are over 140,000 people.

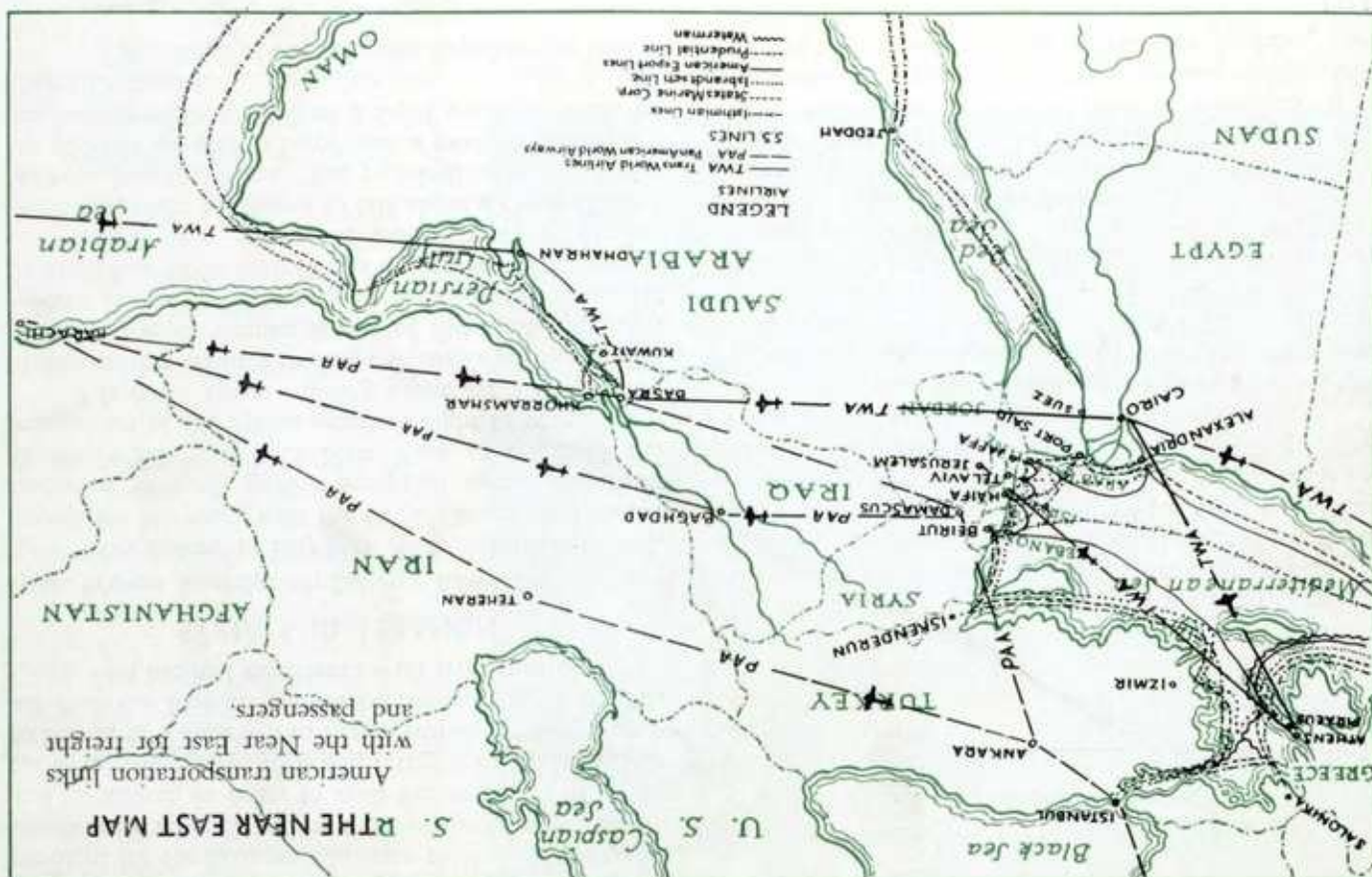
### Power Station and Dam Planned in Uganda

Christian and Neilson Ltd., a Danish-British syndicate, has been awarded a contract to construct a dam and electric power station at Owen Falls in Uganda, where the Nile flows from Lake Victoria. The dam will be 400 yards long, 30 yards high, and will cost seventy million pounds sterling.

### Jordan to Build Museum at Amman

A new museum is to be erected at Amman in the Jordan Kingdom. The future of the beautiful museum, which Mr. Rockefeller built at Jerusalem, is so uncertain that persons interested in archaeology will welcome this new building across the Jordan.





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