

The Orient.

Vol. VI., No. 10

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TURKEY AND THE WAR.

The official communication of March 2nd says:—

"I. The enemy's fleet today unsuccessfully bombarded for three hours the forts of the Dardanelles Straits and were obliged to retire by the effective reply of our batteries. At the same time a squadron composed of four French battleships and some torpedo-boats bombarded our positions on the Gulf of Saros without securing any result. Our airships successfully threw bombs on the enemy's ships.

"II. In the Irak (Mesopotamia) region, there have been encounters near Ahwaz between two squadrons of British cavalry with rapid-fire guns and our reconnoitering columns aided by volunteers; the enemy fled at last, leaving fifty dead and a great quantity of arms and ammunition."

The report of the 3rd says:—

"Today part of the enemy's fleet bombarded without result for a half-hour some of our batteries at the entrance of the Dardanelles."

On the 4th the General Staff reports:—

"I. On the Caucasus front, there is nothing to report save some encounters of advance-guards. No important news has reached us from the other fronts.

"II. The enemy's warships today again kept up their ineffective fire for some time against our batteries at the entrance to the Dardanelles."

The report of the 5th says:—

"I. Late last evening the enemy's fleet, increasing their bombardment, tried to disembark soldiers in boats along a part of the coast out of the range of our artillery, and in the vicinity of the Sed-el-Bahr and Koum Kale positions. At first we allowed the enemy to proceed; but at a given moment we charged. Sixty soldiers who had landed on the Sed-el-Bahr side, fled to their boats after losing 20 killed and wounded. A force of 400 soldiers that had landed on the Koum Kale side was likewise repulsed and compelled to retire in confusion, having 80 killed. In these two fights we had 6 killed and 25 wounded.

"II. After their failure of yesterday, the enemy's fleet divided in several parts and today bombarded, but unsuccessfully, the open and undefended towns of Dikili, Sarmusak and Aivali, on the Aegean Sea.

"III. Two aviators in an aeroplane of the enemy flying over the Gulf of Saros, threw themselves into the sea; a few moments later their machine also fell into the sea and disappeared.

"IV. No news worth mentioning has come from the other seats of war."

On the 6th the report was:—

"I. No change has taken place on the Caucasus front.

"II. An English force consisting of two regiments of cavalry, of about 1500 men, a battery of rapid-fire guns and some artillery, attacked our vanguard at Nessilé, south of Korna (in Mesopotamia). The result of the battle that ensued was that the enemy fled in disorder to Sheabé, leaving more than 200 dead and wounded. We captured a mitrailleuse and made useless two of their cannon. On our side there were 10 killed and 15 wounded.

"III. Yesterday two battleships and a cruiser of the enemy's fleet bombarded the coast forts of Smyrna for three hours but in vain. This morning at 8 o'clock 1 French warship and 3 English, with 5 mine-gathering vessels of large size, began again the bombardment of the Smyrna forts, and stopped after an hour and a half. Our batteries replied and seven shells struck the first warship that had opened fire, and sank a mine-gatherer. In the firing of these two days we had no further loss than 4 killed and 7 wounded.

"IV. Yesterday and today no serious action was undertaken by the hostile fleet at the Dardanelles. It has been ascertained that the hostile aeroplane that fell into the sea had been injured by our anti-aeroplane batteries."

The report of the 7th was:

"Today six hostile battleships continued their fire against the Dardanelles forts, which replied successfully. After noon the English ships 'Majestic' and 'Irresistible' joined the other hostile vessels. But by the fire of our batteries a French battleship was put out of action and an English battleship was damaged by many of our shells. The hostile fleet were obliged at 3:15 to retire and cease firing. Our batteries were not damaged at all."

The communication of the 8th says:—

"I. Yesterday three hostile battleships ineffectively bombarded the Smyrna forts from afar at long intervals for three hours, and then retired. This forenoon they continued their ineffective fire for an hour. These two bombardments cost us no losses.

"II. This afternoon four English battleships bombarded our Dardanelles batteries from beyond the range of their fire and then retired toward Tenedos, without accomplishing anything. While a hostile cruiser was in the Gulf of Saros, firing from afar on the vicinity of Harab Boulair, we noted that two of our shells struck its bridge.

"III. Some English, trying to advance along the Karoun River, sustained a fresh defeat. English forces composed of 3 battalions of infantry, 2 rapid-fire field guns, 2 mountain guns, a mitrailleuse detachment and a squadron of cavalry, tried on the 3rd to attack our positions near Alwaz; but owing to the counter-attack of our volunteers and troops the enemy was forced to the Karoun River, leaving 400 dead, hundreds of wounded and some prisoners, and retreating in disorder on board their ships south of Bender Nassrié. Among the killed are a commandant and four English officers. We captured 3 cannon with their supplies, 500 rifles, nearly 200 horses and a large amount of sanitary material. Our losses were slight."

THE WAR IN EUROPE.

The past week has seen much indecisive fighting, both in the region south of Ypres and northwest of Arras, and in the Champagne and Argonne districts. The fierce French attacks are reported repulsed with heavy losses. The struggle is also severe in the Vosges district near Badonviller and Celles, and there has been inconclusive fighting in Alsace, north of Sennheim and west of Münster. A French aeroplane was captured by the Germans near Peronne in France, and a German Zeppelin flying above Köln was destroyed by a sudden storm.

An official despatch from Berlin tells of the destruction of the German submarine U8 by a British torpedo-boat near Dover, the crew being rescued.

Over on the eastern front, the Russians have been fiercely attacking south and southeast of Augustowo, northeast of Lomzha, east of Plock, northwest of Pzraszysz and southwest of Kolno; but the German resistance has been very stubborn and apparently successful. The German official report admits heavy losses in the great battle at Przasznysz, but says these were insignificant in comparison with the Russian losses near Lyck a short time before. The Germans appear to be still bombarding Ossowiecz with their heavy siege guns. The Russian attack on the Austrians east of Piotrkow, in Poland, was frustrated. Southeast of Rawa the Germans report taking 3,400 Russian prisoners and 16 rapid-fire guns.

In the region west of the Uszok Pass and on the two sides of the Laborcza valley the Russians have been attacking, with undecided results. In southeastern Galicia there has been fierce fighting from northwest of Czernowitz to the Dukla Pass.

The French General Pau has arrived at St. Petersburg, and has been received by the Tsar.

On the 2nd, five Austrian warships are reported to have bombarded Antivari and sunk the Montenegrin royal yacht. From Dedeaghadj comes word of the stranding there of the French battleship "Amiral Charner."

A NEW TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

The *Tanin* learns that in Teheran a number of the chief men are urging the formation of a new triple alliance between Persia, Turkey and Afghanistan. It says this news will be welcomed in the whole Moslem world, and not only in the seat of the Caliphate. This Turkish daily is glad to see how this idea, originally put forth in its columns, has gained favor both east and west. In Austria and in Germany the idea has been eagerly taken up. Men well versed in eastern affairs gave lectures on it, the newspapers commented on the article of the *Tanin*; and now the same interest is being shown in the matter in Persia. This leads the daily to hope that the scheme will gain still greater favor, and attract the attention of all leaders; and if so, we may, it says, see the formation of an Eastern Triple Alliance even before the conclusion of peace in Europe. "For the sake of spreading this idea, the notables of the three countries interested must put forth every energy. We have not in mind the introduction of the religious element into this alliance at present. Community of interests is a most natural bond as between any nations. We set forth in our previous articles what extensive community of interests exists between Turkey, Persia and Afghanistan. If these three neighboring powers with their common dangers and perils, and the important place they have gained in western Asia, unite as the Ottoman Empire has already united with the powers of central Europe, the most important group of nations in the world will have been formed, that in a short time will have attained a powerful and commanding position. The alliance of three such nations, with so many important bonds uniting them, and with ancient and cordial connections through religion and language as well, seems not only urgent but even imperative.

"We repeat that the alliance we recommend is not to be a religious one, but a political one, for our mutual interests and for the securing of the necessities of our life. Had the bond uniting the Ottoman Empire and Persia and Afghanistan been merely a religious one, aside from not standing the strain at extraordinary times, it would not have been founded on a sure basis. The fact is that there are so many bonds uniting these three nations together that it is impossible not to wonder why this alliance was not concluded long ago."

SYRIAN PROTESTANT COLLEGE.

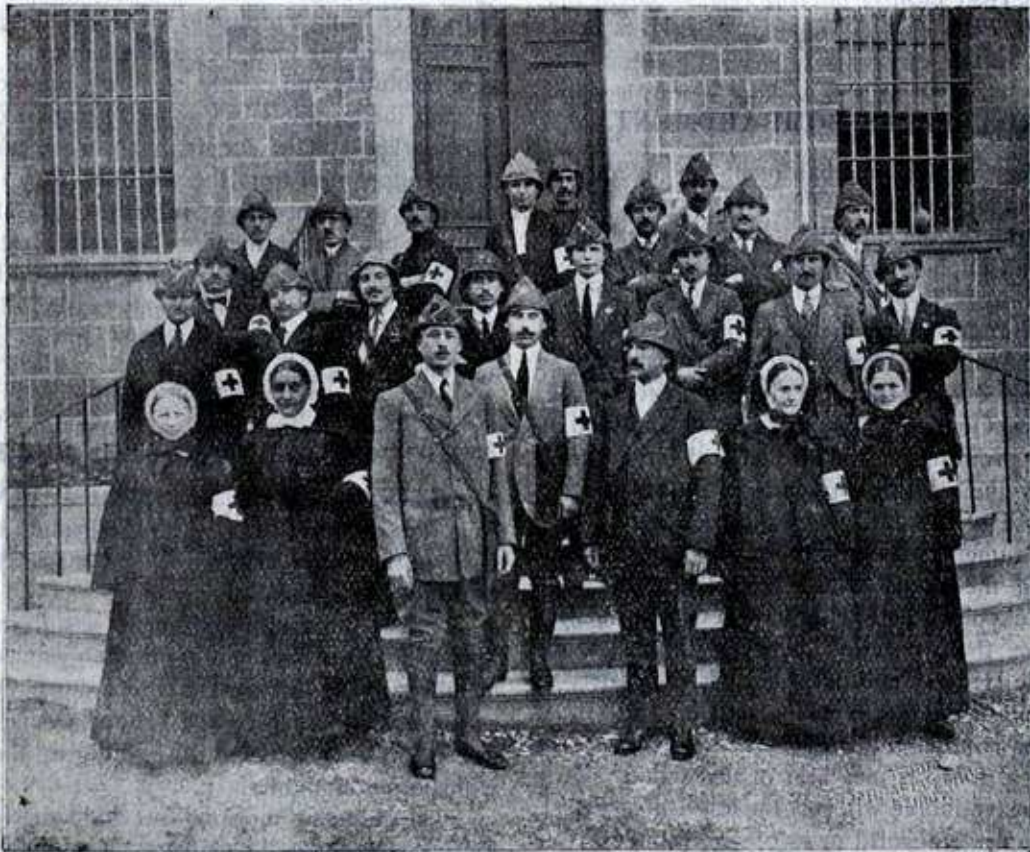
The College has enrolled 780 students as compared with 970 last year. The falling off is chiefly in the Preparatory Department, where 294 students are registered as over against 425 last year. Owing to the difficulty of maintaining regular communication with their parents and friends, many of the Egyptian students left in December. With the closing of the French schools not a few students were added to our roll.

Great interest has been shown in the fitting out of the Red Cross Medical Mission under the auspices of the Beirut Chapter of the American Red Cross. Dr. E. St. J. Ward is the Director of the Mission. He is accompanied by the Rev. George C. Doolittle of Sidon as Associate Director; Dr. Nucho, Dr. Saadeh and Dr. Attiyeh of the College Staff; four nurses from the Deaconesses, and by fifteen students from the Medical, Pharmacy and Dental Departments of the College. An inspection of the Mission was made on January 22nd, at which time all tents were set out and the full equipment was displayed. The Governor General was detained on account of a slight indisposition but he sent the Mektubji, Senny Bey, and his son as representatives. Brief speeches

were made by Senny Bey and Sheikh Tabbara, the editor of the *Ittihad*. "Alma Mater" was sung and hearty cheers were given. The government furnishes all transportation facilities and many of the supplies. The Mission will carry on Hospital work south of Beersheba.

Earlier in the season twenty-five students from the School of Medicine were called to act as Sanitary Assistants in the army. As several of these were assigned to service in Beirut Military Hospital we often see the military uniform upon the Campus.

The Special Services during the first week of January were largely attended. The meetings were addressed by different members of the Faculty and centered about the Great



BEIRUT AMERICAN RED CROSS MEDICAL MISSION.

Facts of Life: "The Fact of Temptation," "The Fact of Sin," "The Fact of Repentance and Forgiveness," "The Fact of Growth," "The Fact of Hindrances," "The Fact of Victory," "The Fact of Opportunity," "The Fact of Christ," "Life Decisions."

West Hall has proved to be a wonderful rallying point for the social, recreational and religious life of the College. It is appreciated more and more as the weeks pass. Bright entertainments have been arranged for every Saturday evening. The Building lends itself admirably to the Bible School Exercises and the Y.M.C.A. Department Meetings. The various Societies of the College have furnished some delightful literary programmes. Merry skating parties are making

full use of the beautiful Skating Rink. A Class of Medical Students take regular exercise in the Exercise Rooms under the direction of our new Physical Director, Mr. John R. Roberts.

The Beirut Chapter of the American Red Cross is devoting a great deal of time and energy to the distribution of relief in the city. The work is carefully systematised—the city has been districted and there is hearty cooperation with the municipal authorities and with philanthropic societies already established. Under the supervision of Professor Reed, Professor of Social Science, a Labor Bureau has been opened and work on the roads has been begun. Already the streets of Beirut show a very marked change in the di-

rection of cleanness. There are many helpers in this work of relief. A large company of students have taken hold of the work with enthusiasm.

The presence of the U. S. S. "North Carolina" has enabled the College to enjoy on various occasions its excellent Band. The sailors have had many baseball games on the College Athletic Field and with the passing of the winter's storms it is hoped that these athletic activities will be renewed.

The S.P.C. takes a very personal interest in the election to the Presidency of Vassar College of Professor Noble MacCracken, in view of the fact that Dr. MacCracken spent three years at Beirut as instructor of English. His career here was very successful. His little book on First Year English is still widely used in the Near East.

Beirut, Feb. 11, 1915.

H. S. B.

THE DARDANELLES BOMBARDMENT.

As to the effect of this bombardment on the Moslem world, the *Ikdam* says:—

"Constantinople, as the capital of the Ottoman Empire and the seat of the Caliphate, has a unique place in the eyes of the Moslem world. Toward her are directed the hopes and aspirations of all Mohammedans. It may truly be said that this city is next to the sacred places of the Hedjaz the most venerated place for them. At the commencement of the war, the English Government, in a proclamation issued by the Viceroy, had promised to the Moslems of India that it would not attack the territory or coasts of the Hedjaz and this for the purpose of reassuring and quieting them. But the British Government will irritate the Moslems of India no less by forcing the Straits of the Dardanelles; for it is impossible to think of a single Hindu or a single Moslem who does not see the connection between the seat of the Caliphate and the Hedjaz, and does not wish the safety of Constantinople and of the Straits which are the key to it. It is certain that the Hindus will revolt with all their force against England as soon as they hear of this action. Any attack against Constantinople will cost the English very dear, and will push the Moslem world to revolt against the Triple Entente. That is why France and England, which powers have the largest number of Mohammedan subjects, should abstain from any action against the seat of the Caliphate or against its representatives."

The Milli Agency gives a graphic description of the fight on land at the Dardanelles:—

"The enemy's fleet, after the bombardment of these last days, thought that no soldier could make a stand on the shores, and so, not counting on the bravery of the Ottoman soldier, tried to land some troops. Three large boats, containing some sixty soldiers, under the protection of five cruisers and seven torpedo-boats, tried to effect a landing. A hero, Sergeant Moustafa oghlou Mehmed, in command of a half-company, who was in position near where they were disembarking, gave the enemy time to advance a few paces; but, unable to check himself, or rather to hold his men, who

were agitated with eagerness to annihilate the enemy that were polluting the shores of the fatherland, rose and with his men charged the enemy with the bayonet. The fight did not last long; and the enemy was routed before the impetuous assault of our men, losing 20 killed and wounded. Mehmed Chaoush, wounded in the head and the right breast, would not give up, but lying on the ground encouraged his men, and kept on firing, as his life blood literally reddened the soil of the fatherland. Finally, when his rifle would no longer respond, this valiant soldier still kept at the enemy by throwing stones at them. In this action we had four killed and ten wounded.

"On the Koum Kalé side the enemy had a bitter experience when they tried to land. The French and English ships, after firing a thousand shells, encouraged by the apparent silence of the forts, began the landing. But our soldiers were resolutely and calmly awaiting the moment so longed for, and the terrible attack came when part of the enemy had disembarked. The enemy, who were not expecting any strong opposition from the positions they thought they had silenced, were absolutely routed, but reinforcements up to 409 men were sent them. The heroic attack of our men finally crushed their force, which withdrew to the boats and retired in haste. The enemy threw their dead into the sea, tying a stone to the foot of each. In this last encounter we had only two killed."

CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE.

On Friday, March 5th, Miss Mary Warren Silliman gave the second of her piano recitals and a large audience testified their appreciation of the masterly technique and charm of her music.

A very amusing little comedy was given by the P.B.T.U. Society on Saturday evening, in the gymnasium, just for the members of the College and Preparatory Department. The acting was remarkably good, and the society deserve great credit for their success in lighting up these gloomy times with fun and laughter.

The Sunday morning service was led by President Patrick, who gave the College an excellent and inspiring address on the vision and the promise of a New Heaven and a New Earth.

Their Excellencies Ambassador and Mrs. Morgenthau came for the Sunday staying until after a tea given in their honor by the Senior class of which Mr. Morgenthau is an honorary member.

I. F. D.

CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES

Sunday, March 14, 1915.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew.

UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Arthur C. Ryan.

ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. C. F. Gates, D. D.

CONS/PLE COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Mr. Owen E. Pence.

THE ORIENT

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Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Constantinople.

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE. MARCH 10, 1915.

EDITORIAL.

The news of the work of grace in China is of special interest to our readers who have had the pleasure, either in Constantinople or elsewhere, of knowing Mr. Sherwood Eddy or Mr. Chengting T. Wang. The latter was here at the Conference of the World's Student Christian Federation in 1911; and the former a year later, just three years ago at this time. Such a surprising response from the official class in the great Eastern Republic to the gospel message is the most encouraging event of the year. The hour has struck for the regeneration of China; and the news of a counter-revival among the forces of Confucianism but confirms us in the belief that the opportunity for Christianity is now. It is challenging to read of how the Christian Chinese are responding to the call for workers and great and small are entering on a province-wide campaign for Christ. Our prayers are with them, and God's blessing will surely crown their efforts. Would that a like zeal could be seen among Christians of other countries, that so in a short time every living being might have the chance to hear the good news of God's love.

CLOSING ADDRESS OF HALIL BEY.

In declaring the Chamber of Deputies prorogued, the President, Halil Bey, pronounced the following discourse:—

My dear colleagues:—

The Government, which had found itself obliged to take part in the general war, wished to secure the advice and approbation of the nation at this historic moment, and for that purpose on December 1/14 last convoked your Assembly, which represents the nation. By your unanimous approval of the propositions put forth by the Government by reason of the state of war, you have proved before the world that the Ottoman nation was rallied around our august Sovereign in a firm, devoted and most dignified attitude. You have

also given the future generations a fine example of political virtue, worthy of all gratitude, and showing that when it is a question of the supreme interests of the nation, personal feelings and party discussions must be silent; and that in the hour of the country's danger, passions, dissensions and hatred cannot find place on this high national platform.

In my speech on May 6/19 last, I said, in explaining the causes and the disastrous consequences of the Balkan war:— "There is no reason for being discouraged. The Ottoman army was the victim of an accident, such as has happened and might happen to any great nation, to any great army." The military operations that have been carried on for four months have most brilliantly proven the justice of my words. The heroic bravery that our army has shown on all the battle-fronts, is increasing the confidence of our friends and is commanding the amazement and admiration of our enemies. The main force of the enemy, that had crossed our frontier in the first few days of the war and had taken its position in the vicinity of Keuprüköy, was dislodged by the bayonets of our heroes from its carefully fortified positions and thrown back as far as Sarukamush in the course of attacks that lasted unremittingly for forty days. The important reinforcements that the enemy brought up, melted away before the impetuous and determined attack of our troops.

Our army charged with the task of emancipating Egypt crossed the arid deserts with irresistible force and advanced inflicting successive defeats on the enemy's forces operating on the east side of the Canal. Our reconnoitering column crossed the Canal, they disembarked heroically on the west bank, under the fire of the enemy's warships and fortifications, and came back after successfully accomplishing their task. It is beyond all doubt that the army of liberation, which is now busy making its preparations with all watchfulness and foresight, will soon strike a decisive blow and deliver the beautiful and fertile land of Egypt from the domination and tyranny of the enemy.

The enemy, who has succeeded in landing a very few troops in the vicinity of Basra, under the protection of his ships, is compelled to take shelter in his trenches, and cannot stir because of the heroic attacks of our warriors. We are firmly convinced that these regions will also be purged very soon of the impure presence of the English.

The enemy, thus beaten on every side, has undertaken to attack the Straits of the Dardanelles with desperate violence. In the continuous bombardment that they have kept up for four or five days, by means of their powerful battleships, they have not scored the least result that might be considered as a success; and it cannot be doubted that here the enemy will suffer the bitterest blow through Ottoman intrepidity. It is not probable that they can force the Straits; but even if they succeed in doing so, they may be certain that this success will only redouble our energy. They should know that the major part of our army is concentrated here, and that the necessary measures have been taken against every eventuality. Let the whole world understand that we are resolved to live, not crawling along the ground, but fighting

like lions; not like miserable cowards, with faces bent towards the ground, but with foreheads high, like free and independent nations, and that if we must die, we will die after rendering its due to the sword of courage and fearlessness that Sultan Osman put in our hands. I cry aloud from this high rostrum: "We shall not die! We shall live! And the road we are traveling leads to eternal safety."

The Russians, who suffer defeat after defeat before our victorious armies and those of our allies, have been reduced to the pass of making demonstrations in their Duma which betray their feebleness. Driven by the necessity of stirring up the fanaticism of their armies, the statesmen at St. Petersburg, who are trembling at the danger of finding themselves deprived of both Black Sea and Baltic, have declared that the hour has come to occupy Constantinople and to have an exit on the free seas. What great weakness in view of the true state of affairs! The Muscovites may be sure that the Ottoman, German, Austrian and Hungarian arms, which are united and planted on the field of battle, will defeat them today and tomorrow as well, with the help of the Almighty. Today and tomorrow as well the Turkish soldier, who guards the frontiers of Constantinople and of Anatolia, is at the same time the heroic defender of Berlin and Vienna and Budapest; and the German, Austrian and Hungarian soldiers will remember that they are at the same time and in the same way the glorious guardians of Constantinople and of Anatolia.

Our enemies have spread the rumor that they had promised to guarantee our territorial integrity in case we should continue neutral. To those who wish to see an example of the countries whose territorial integrity England and Russia had jointly guaranteed, I would point out Persia. Poor Moslem country! You will also be delivered from the domination of the oppressors!

My dear colleagues:—On the 1/14 of last December, the day of the opening of our Assembly, I had said:—"Certain nations find in war a means of avenging themselves; others find in it either victory or punishment. In the present war we shall be victorious, and we shall secure our rights while we also satiate our revenge; while the Russians and their allies will certainly find their punishment." Today I repeat these words, as I send greetings to our victorious soldiers and pray for the repose of the spirits of our martyrs.

GREAT AWAKENING IN CHINA.

[We are glad to be able to give a part of the report sent by Mr. Sherwood Eddy of the success of the mission in China, which occupied the last five months of the past year. Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Amoy, Nanking and other great cities have heard the straight gospel message, and thousands have responded. The concluding part of Mr. Eddy's report speaks volumes. —Ed.]

The last city of the tour was Nanking, the ancient capital of China. Here, as in Canton, there were "many adver-

saries" and adverse circumstances. The officials, however, co-operated in arranging for the meetings in a remarkable way. The Governor had granted the large Exposition Theater and the use of the City railway to carry all students and officials to and from the meetings free of charge. As we drove out to the first meetings we found the roads lined with troops for three miles in honor of the Governor's presence at the opening meeting. As soon as the Civil and Military Governors arrived we began, with an audience of two thousand inside the theater, while an equal number of students were kept standing for an hour in an overflow meeting listening to Professor Robertson's scientific lecture until their turn came to be admitted to the evangelistic meeting. On the second day also over four thousand again attended the meetings. The Governor's wife took the chair at my wife's opening meeting, which was attended by some three thousand of the leading women of the city, including the wives of the officials. On the first day we showed that China's present material bankruptcy is due to her moral bankruptcy, while on the second we showed that Christianity offers the only hope for China in the future. On the last day of the meetings, after speaking for three days with a sore throat, I was forced to stop at the end of five months of almost continuous work in China. Two men, however, carried the meetings to a successful conclusion, far better than I could have done myself. These were C. T. Wang, the former Vice-President of the Senate, who had been our interpreter throughout the meeting, and Mr. Wen, the new convert of whom I wrote you, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chekiang Province, recently baptised during our meetings in Hangchow. It was a significant fact that the man who completed the meetings was himself a new convert of only a few weeks Christian experience. Narrowly escaping pneumonia I was finally permitted to sail for America on the "Mongolia."

Let me now gather up one or two outstanding facts from the tour of the last five months in China. (1) The remarkable attendance which is an index of the present evangelistic opportunity among the students and official classes of China. Last year during the tour with Dr. Mott the student audiences in China averaged two thousand a night; this year there was an average of more than three thousand at each public meeting. The total attendance for last year at the evangelistic meetings was 78,230; This year it was double that number. While last year there were seven thousand inquirers, this year there were over eighteen thousand, the Fukien Province alone reporting 8,894. Foochow reports the first fifty non-Christian students already baptised. Canton reports over seventy. A Buddhist priest from Amoy has just sent me his sacred robes, bell and drum, with his Buddhist Scriptures, and has entered the Christian life after fifteen years of fruitless search for peace in a Buddhist monastery.

(2) The remarkable co-operation on the part of the officials of China. From the President down the leading officials received us with great cordiality, hospitality and openness of mind. The Vice-President and the Governors of the

provinces we have visited have entertained us and requested us to address them, giving us the priceless privilege of bringing publicly before many of them for the first time the claims of Christ and the opportunity to present Christianity as the only adequate solution for China's crucial problems. These officials have in some cases taken the chair at the meetings, erected pavilions for the evangelistic meetings, or sent proclamations through their city or province with favorable announcements of the meetings. They have for the first time as a class given eager attention to the public presentation of Jesus Christ and His Gospel, and have by their remarkable openness of mind thrown open to us not only the official classes but the students and leaders of China for a great evangelistic forward movement.

(3) The development of the new province-wide campaign will make possible the reaching in time of the remotest country district of inland China. We have now proved the success of this new method of training the Christian leaders of a province, sending out the workers two by two to visit secondary cities and from these in turn carrying the Christian message to the outlying towns and villages. In each of the thirteen cities of Fukien the results were beyond our highest expectation. In some towns the mayor with nearly all the leading officials and government teachers of the city joined Bible classes and became inquirers after the meetings. Already other provinces are demanding similar campaigns for next year. After four thousand years of preparation and a hundred years of missions the doors are thrown wide open in China for reaching the officials, the educators, the students, and the leaders of a nation that number one quarter of the human race. Already there are signs of the beginning of a Confucian revival which indicate that this opportunity will not be prolonged indefinitely. We must press our advantage immediately in the length and breadth of the Chinese Republic. And yet just in the hour of this supreme opportunity comes the news as I start for America of the terrible financial stringency at home, caused by the war. To call for retreat, retrenchment, or the closing of work at a time when China is thus open would be disastrous beyond computation. Succeeding centuries may not bring back the opportunity of this decade. As the former Vice-President of the Senate said to me: "Give us a decade and we can have the leaders of China for Christ!"

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

The Protestant elective assembly last week elected as Civil Representative Professor Zenop Bezjian of Aintab. Professor Bezjian has been granted by Central Turkey College a year's furlough, and it is hoped this will enable him to accept the election. He is a son of the late Professor Alexan Bezjian and was graduated in the class of 1880, the first class to graduate from the College. After teaching there a few years, he went to Paris and took a course in law, graduating from the law department of the University there.

Returning to Aintab, he has since been occupying the chair of French, History, Political Economy and International Law. He is about 53 years old, and has a wife and four children. He has always been active in church work, a member of the committee of the Second Church, and is prominent in Y.M.C.A. work also, besides being interested in the secondary schools. His knowledge of French, English, Turkish and Armenian fits him well for the post to which he has been elected.

Counterfeit nickel piastres have been found in circulation, the metal being largely lead, and having a darker color than the genuine coins.

La Turquie tells of an interesting discussion that took place in the last session of the general council of the Vilayet of Constantinople, on the subject of maps for the schools. The department of public instruction for the vilayet had asked for ninety liras for the purchase of such. Agha Oghlou Ahmed Effendi declared that the maps would undergo changes as a result of the general war, and proposed to postpone the purchasing of any, so as to avoid renewed expenses at the close of the war. Mouheddin Bey replied that the war was no reason for dispensing with the aid of maps in the teaching of geography; and that if changes of frontiers took place, the pupils could mark such with red ink on their old maps. No decision could be reached on the matter, which was referred to the budget commission.

NOTES.

Congratulations are due to our Consul-General, Mr. Ravndal, on his promotion from the third grade to the second, in the ranks of Consuls-General. Simultaneously the post at Constantinople has been raised to the second grade, in view of the growing commercial importance of the city.

Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Pye of Marsovan have a third son, Willard Dickison, born Feb. 20th. Rev. and Mrs. Edward B. Haskell of Philippopolis also have a baby boy, born last month.

OTHER LANDS.

Premier Venizelos of Greece on Saturday last presented his resignation to King Constantine, who has requested Mr. Zaimis to form a new cabinet. The latter asked for twenty-four hours to consider the matter.

The new Greek minister to Turkey is Mr. Streit, a Greek of German parentage, who has been Minister to Vienna, and later a member of the Hellenic Cabinet. He is expected here shortly, having already received his commission.

WIENER BANK-VEREIN

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