

The Orient.

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AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DINNER.

Over two hundred people attended the first annual banquet of the American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant, and it is safe to say that all went home well satisfied at the success of the evening. The great dining hall at Tokatlian's Hotel was very tastefully decorated and arranged, and the orchestra furnished music with a decidedly American ring to it. The banquet itself was unexceptionable, every course being up to the mark and the service entirely satisfactory. Flowers decorated each table, and the flags of the United States, Turkey and the Balkan States were prominent on the walls. But of course all this was merely the setting, the real jewel being the assembly and its activities.

To begin with the personnel. At the centre of the first table was Dr. Marcellus Bowen, President of the Chamber, with the American Ambassadors at his right and the wife of the Bulgarian Minister at his left. His Excellency the American Ambassador was next to the latter; and the other notable guests were Talaat Bey, Minister of the Interior, Djemal Pasha, Minister of Public Works, Mahmoud Pasha, Minister of Marine, Süleiman Effendi el Bustani, Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, Oskan Effendi, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Mirza Mahmoud Khan, Persian Ambassador, Mr. Mano, Roumanian Minister, Mr. Tosheff, Bulgarian Minister, Mr. Panas, Greek Minister, and Mrs. Panas, Mr. Pavlovitch, Servian Delegate, and Mazliah Effendi, former Deputy. The toastmaster of the evening was Hon. G. Bie Ravndal, the American Consul-General, and without detracting from the value of the work done by many others, it is but just to say that the success of this banquet was due first of all to the tireless energy and efforts of Mr. Ravndal.

On the conclusion of the dinner, Dr. Bowen as President gave an address in which he told of the work and purposes of the Chamber of Commerce, of its noble type of ambition, of its cosmopolitan character, and of its conviction that the highest good and interest of one is the highest good and interest of all. He then proposed the health of His Majesty the Sultan, and of the President of the United States, and these toasts were drunk standing.

Mr. Ravndal followed with a most interesting address in which he spoke of the growing prominence of American commerce in the Levant, of the fact that next to Great Britain America is Turkey's best customer, and of the desire of the Chamber, by promoting direct steamship service, direct banking facilities, an American commercial excursion, and other means, to increase the volume of American imports in-

to Turkey as well. He spoke of the day when American shipping ranked second in the Mediterranean, and a third of the world's mercantile tonnage flew the American flag, — a position from which the Civil War had displaced us. He congratulated the American colony on the arrival at this psychological moment of Ambassador Morgenthau who had the outlook, the energy and the faith required to remove mountains of difficulty in the way of American trade.

Mr. Morgenthau followed with an address which was a veritable thesaurus of facts regarding the progress of American commercial development and the means by which it had been brought about. After referring to the devastation caused by the Civil War, he spoke of the subsequent growth. At the close of the war there were in the United States 35,000 miles of railroads; now there are over 250,000; then there was a population of 34,000,000, and now over 95,000,000; then export and import figures showed a balance against the country of 39 millions of dollars, while now the average annual balance of trade is over five hundred millions in our favor. The Ambassador told how this had been brought about, and what it all meant to the country; he referred to the troubles and tribulations incident to this progress, and of the strong man now at the presidential helm to guide the ship of state. In closing he spoke of the value and energies of the chambers of commerce in promoting business.

Talaat Bey, Minister of Interior, followed with an appreciative speech in Turkish, and expressed the best wishes of the Ottoman Government for the success of the American Chamber of Commerce.

The Persian Ambassador spoke next, in French, congratulating the Chamber on its work. He was followed by Süleiman Effendi el Bustani, who spoke very easily and gracefully in English; he spoke of the phenomenal growth of the Chamber in its three years of existence, and of its achievements, and referred in closing to the record in Moslem history of nine Moslems who, four or five centuries before the sailing of Columbus, had crossed the great ocean and found an immense continent. This event, he said, should bind the hearts of Moslems in a peculiar way to America.

Then followed speeches by the Roumanian Minister, the Bulgarian Minister and Mazliah Effendi, in French; after which Mr. Ravndal introduced an unexpected guest, Hon. John McWhae, of Melbourne, a member of the Australian Parliament, who spoke in glowing terms of the development of Australia and of the affection of its people for the United States, and said the Australians felt that their country was a golden bridge that should serve to unite still more closely Great Britain and America in fraternal bonds.

After the speeches were concluded the hall was cleared for dancing, and the first annual banquet of the American Chamber of Commerce was at an end.

It is impossible to give a full list of those present; but besides the American Ambassador and his family, the Consul-General and Mrs. Ravndal, and Dr. and Mrs. Bowen, we may mention Mr. Hoffman Philip, Mr. G. C. Tarler, Mr. and Mrs. Heizer, Major Taylor, President Patrick, President Gates, Dr. and Mrs. Murray, Mr. W. W. Peet, Mr. and Mrs. Gunkel, and many others.

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE OF A TURKISH GIRLS' SCHOOL IN NICOMEDIA.

On Feb. 23rd it was my good fortune to be an invited guest at the ceremony of the laying of the corner stone of a girls' school now under construction at Nicomedia. It was a function of great impressiveness, at which the officers of the different departments of the Government were present. The scene presented was one of deep interest. From roofs, balconies and walls of surrounding houses were to be seen Turkish women in all the picturesque colors of the East. The girls of the school in dark green uniform, with their teachers in black, occupied the place of honor. At one side was the local brass band, recently organized. With their new instruments and uniforms they presented a very smart appearance, and their music was creditable taking into consideration their recent organization. Songs of a patriotic character were sung by about one hundred students from the Sultani Mekteb, opened last September, by scholars from one of the primary schools and by the girls themselves. The students from the Sultani Mekteb, also in uniform, stood opposite the girls, and in the center, just above the foundation of the new building, was an audience of several thousand spectators. The ceremonies were opened by a very dignified Hodjah who read a long prayer, frequently punctuated by hearty *Amens* of the audience.

Then to my great surprise, a girl of twelve or thirteen years of age was lifted on to a table where she could be seen, and recited an address to the audience, or rather, an appeal for their sympathy and co-operation in the education of girls. Her effort could hardly have been improved. The substance of the address was good, and most appropriate, her delivery almost faultless. There was nothing of the shyness and retiring attitude which we naturally associate with a Moslem girl, so suddenly thrust into a place of prominence. Two lads, a little older, followed her and presented a dialogue of great spirit, enthusiastically recalling the glorious history of the Moslem Golden Age, and with subdued and saddened tone, recounting the decline of the Ottoman power, ending in an impassioned appeal for the new navy and régime.

This was followed by several other recitations by both girls and boys, all delivered with action and spirit; but through them all ran a sad strain, deploring the misfortunes which have come upon them and appealing for union and activity that the ravages of the past may be repaired.

It was of the deepest interest to hear the girl speakers deplore what the nation suffered on account of an uneducated motherhood. I was surprised and delighted at the new spirit which has evidently penetrated into the very sanctities of the harem conservatism which has handicapped the progress of the people.

The last to address the audience was the local governor, the Mütessarraf. He is a man of forty-three but looks much younger, a typical member of the Young Turkey party, educated, keen, progressive, fully cognizant of the needs and evidently ready to apply the remedy, however drastic that remedy may be, that Turkey may rise to the opportunity now presented to her, and strengthen herself for a new development along modern lines. He spoke with great eloquence and force. His diction was refined, strong and appropriate. One could see, as he referred in ringing tones to the causes of the recent misfortunes of the country, how deeply he felt and under what restraint he delivered his address. Without using an abusive epithet in speaking of their enemies in the recent war, he pointed out with fearlessness that it was the pen in the hands of the teachers in Bulgaria that carried her arms victoriously to the forts at Chatalja. Using this as a text he unsparingly criticised a policy that neglected education and left both boys and girls in undeveloped ignorance. The recent humiliation was due to the ignorance of the Turks. The time had come to plant schools everywhere, to give prominence to female education, for the hope of an intelligent posterity was in the liberal education of the prospective mothers of the country.

The governor spoke of his activities in several important centers within the bounds of his jurisdiction. He is now installing a telephone system for military purposes that will call for 25 kilometres of wire. He has been instrumental in opening several schools both for boys and for girls.

In the actual laying of the corner stone the governor, a late member of Parliament, who contributed L.T. 300 toward the erection of the school, took part. With this ceremony the function closed. It was an occasion that reflected great credit on the promoters of the girls' school and on the municipality.

J. P. McNAUGHTON

CALENDAR OF NOTEWORTHY DATES.

- March 5, 1852, Jonas King banished from Greece.
 > 6, 1913, Surrender of Yanina to Greeks.
 > 7, 1804, British and Foreign Bible Society established.
 > 8, 1856, Rev. Joel S. Everett, Constantinople, died.
 > > 1865, Rev. Herbert M. Allen, Constantinople, born.
 > 10, 1812, Rev. Henry A. Homes, Constantinople, born.
 > > 1914, Moslem feast of "Nevrouz."
 > 12, 1914, Partial eclipse of the moon, visible in Turkey. Lasts from 4:38 to 7:40 a. m.

JERUSALEM TO BE MODERNIZED.

Very shortly the streets of the Holy City will hum with the noise of electric cars and its more important thoroughfares will be illuminated at night by electricity. Its old picturesque walls and massive towers are to be removed, and the city given an adequate water supply. The rapidity with which Jerusalem is extending, through the return of the Jews in such large numbers to the city, has rendered these improvements necessary. To the north and west of the old city there have sprung up, within the last decade, large Jewish colonies, populous residential sections, as well as convents, hospices, schools, and other buildings, with the result that today there is a greater Jerusalem without the walls than within.

Four separate tramway routes are to be laid down. They will all start from the Jaffa Gate, the principal entrance into the city, and run outside the city walls through the newer parts of Jerusalem. The first, which will have a length of about two miles, will give easy access to what may be termed the business quarter of the Holy City, while the second, of similar length, will link up the large Jewish colonies to the north with the city's principal entrance. The third will encircle the old city, embracing many of its most historic sites, such as that believed by many scholars to be the scene of the Crucifixion, the Tombs of the Kings, the Mount of Olives, and the valley of Jehoshaphat. The fourth line will run from the Jaffa Gate to Bethlehem, some six miles distant, traversing what is probably the most sacred thoroughfare in the world. It teems with holy places, — sacred wells, tombs, and convents. The work of laying the rails is to commence next April, and according to the terms of the concession, the syndicate have power to extend the lines in any direction within a distance of twenty-five miles. The city walls, which have a circumference of about three miles, and rise in places to a height of 38½ feet, are now being offered by the Government for sale as building material. It is expected however that efforts will be made to save isolated sections, more particularly the massive towers. Indeed, influential citizens of Jerusalem have formed a society and are approaching the Government with a view to preserving David's Tower, which they propose to convert into a national museum.

Of late years Jerusalem has suffered greatly from the want of fresh water. With the exception of a small quantity brought into the city from the ancient pools of Solomon, near Bethlehem, by means of a pipe which runs along the old aqueduct, the Holy City is entirely dependent for its water supply upon the rainfall. Now reservoirs are to be built in the upper part of the valley of the brook Cherith, at the springs of Ain Fariah and Ain Fouwar, where the water will be stored and brought into the city as required. A few months ago a water cart was brought out from England to water the roads which had previously been sprinkled from skins. A year ago the Holy City was equipped with an efficient telephone service, and now its police are to have bicycles.

All over the country modern methods are being brought

into vogue. On the rich plains of Sharon, lying between Jaffa and Jerusalem, one may detect modern harvesting and reaping machines driven by steam, as well as threshing machines operated by motors. This is a vast improvement on the old-fashioned methods of reaping by hand and threshing out the corn on the primitive threshing floors by oxen. The extensive orange groves around Jaffa are now being irrigated by water raised by motor-driven pumps. At Jaffa the French are to build a harbor, which is certainly badly needed. On the Dead Sea a motor boat has been placed, and similar craft are now to be run upon the Jordan and the Sea of Galilee, carrying both passengers and freight. Upon the shores of the Sea of Galilee a fish-curing and sardine factory is to be established. A few months ago the Government began the construction of a railway from Aculeh, on the plain of Esdraelon, near Nazareth, to Jerusalem, passing through Jenin and Nablous. The rails have already been laid across the plain to Jenin. This line will join up the Holy City with Damascus. Then the French have been granted a concession to build a line from Rayak in the north to Ramleh, a station on the Jaffa and Jerusalem railway, from which point it is expected to be continued later southward into Egypt.

(Manchester Guardian)

THE AMBASSADOR'S LECTURE AT ROBERT COLLEGE.

Last Friday afternoon His Excellency Hon. Henry Morgenthau addressed the students and friends of Robert College, on the subject of True Manhood. The dignity of the occasion was enhanced by the presence of the Bulgarian Minister, Mr. Tosheff, on the platform. In a few felicitous words President Gates introduced the speaker, and suggested that the most appropriate welcome the students could give the new American Ambassador was to sing "America," whereupon the big organ pealed forth the patriotic strains and the boys did justice to the hymn.

The Ambassador stated that the true worth of manhood was becoming increasingly recognized. Employers looking for employes value their moral character, and judge them by it. It is much easier to *be* sincere than to *act* sincere. Fully 95% of failures in life are due to moral obliquity, where moral strength has been sapped by dissipation. As a layman the speaker urged his hearers to test the highest moral life, and make up their minds to excel; take the thorny road, for it pays in the end for any temporary deprivation of pleasures.

Mr. Morgenthau then told the students something of what is being done in America in the line of social work. He spoke of the immigration of last year into the country, nearly equalling the population of Constantinople, and of the thirty millions that have come in the past forty years. The problem of dealing with these has developed the new profession of social service. Boys off the street are being organized into clubs; night schools are opening, and in New York city alone over 300,000 persons are in night schools. He told from his own experience in one of these as a teacher, of

how hard it was for adults to retain what they learned. He also described the work of trained nurses among the poor, a work so valuable that insurance companies find it pays to hire nurses to attend their sick patrons. These social workers and other such have gained the confidence of the poor among whom they live and work. They have gradually taken the place of the political bosses of the past, as the ones to whom the immigrants and the poor look for help. Such improvements as public parks and play grounds, better factory laws, and the study of causes of unrest, are due to the activity of these social workers. And this moral tone is lifting America up to a higher level.

The Ambassador closed by giving a well deserved tribute not only to President Wilson and his predecessors, but to the whole American people, saying that those chosen nowadays by the votes of the people were moral leaders, whose great desire was the moral uplift of all the people.

EPIROTES PROCLAIM AUTONOMY.

The inhabitants of the region of Argyrokastro and Himarra, in that part of Epirus that was by Europe assigned to Albania, under the leadership of a Mr. Zographos have declared themselves autonomous and have set up a form of government at Argyrokastro. The Greek Government is understood to have not only disclaimed any collusion with this movement, but also to have ordered its representatives in that region to evacuate the district at the appointed time. The international commission is reported to be deciding to enforce martial law in the region, and ensure its peaceful cession to Albania.

Of this movement the Turkish papers write as if they were convinced that it was a Greek plot. The *Ikdam* says:—

"In view of the complacent attitude of Europe toward her, Greece has full liberty to concoct all the plots she will. Seeing that she is given every facility in spite of her offence, she continues her game without any need of recourse to diplomacy. Her protectors go farther than she does herself, and prepare her way for her. In a word, the Triple Entente gives her a free hand to enlarge her territory, while she hems in Albania, the protégé of Austria.

"On the other hand, also under the auspices of the Triple Entente, the Serbs and Montenegrins are uniting. This is no new thing. From the times of the Obrenovitch dynasty the question of union was already agitated; but Austria, who was not to be helped by such a strong state, prevented the union. With the advent of the Karageorgevitch dynasty to the Servian throne, the bonds between the two countries have been strengthened. King Peter is the son-in-law of the King of Montenegro. As long as the Sanjak of Novi Bazar was between them, this union could not be carried out; but now this obstacle has been removed and the union is a fact.

"There is no doubt that Albania, pushed hard by Greece on the one side and Serbia and Montenegro on the other, will one day be partitioned. As for the annexing of Bosnia-Herzegovina by Serbia, it is only a question of time, and will be

done at the first chance. Thus, sooner or later the balance of power in the Balkans will go to Serbia. The success of Greece and Roumania in maintaining the status quo depends on their alliance with Serbia. Greeks and Roumanians therefore have reason to fear Servians. In case of war between the two groups and the defeat of the Triple Alliance, Bulgaria would also lose all her importance. So that her position is a perilous one, and she knows it.

"To save herself there is but one way,—to modify her attitude and act in accord with Turkey, which means to follow the lead of Turkey in her general policy. We will go further and say that Bulgaria ought to unite with Turkey as Serbia is united with Montenegro. Unfortunately it is true that this lovely project is only a dream, for racial and religious conditions prevent its realization. But Roumania will be obliged to modify her former alliance, as the Serbo-Montenegrin union tends to break the equilibrium she wished to establish; and she must seek another basis for it. The basis we propose is a Turko-Bulgaro-Roumanian understanding."

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SYRIA.

The Missionary Educational Union in Syria and Palestine expects to hold its next Conference at Baalbek at Easter time, the sessions running from Wednesday, April 15th, to Friday, April 17th. The program has not yet been definitely announced, but will probably provide for addresses of a practical and helpful type in the evenings, discussions on the work in High Schools, and business sessions in the mornings, and one afternoon separate sessions for the men and women delegates are suggested, the other afternoons being free for excursions or committee business.

Since the last Conference, practically all the British and American secondary schools for boys in Syria and Palestine have been visited by a deputation from the Union, on which deputation the Rev. J. H. Nicol, Principal of the American Boys' School at Tripoli, has served for Syria schools, and Mr. Stuart D. Jessup, Principal of Gerard Institute, Sidon, for Palestine. Mr. Christofer G. Naish, B.A., of Friends' High School for Boys, Brummana, has been to all the schools in both Syria and Palestine. A very important report of this deputation will be presented at the Baalbek Conference, touching upon the success of the work done, lessons to be learned, etc. Religious work, General Organization, Teachers, Food, Physical training, Curricula, are a few of the points to be discussed therein.

Among the speakers at the Conference will probably be the three gentlemen mentioned, Dr. W. S. Nelson of Homs, Mr. Bayard Dodge of the Y.M.C.A., Beirut, Miss Rachel E. Tolles, of Beirut, Miss H. I. Moody-Stuart, and others.

The last Conference of this organization was held in Jerusalem July 31st to Aug. 3rd, 1913, as was reported in our issue of Sept. 17th, 1913. At that time Mr. Marshall N. Fox of the Friends' Foreign Mission Association, was chosen as chairman for the ensuing term of two years. The choice of Baalbek for the coming Conference will enable those who attend to see a most interesting region.

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Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Constantinople.

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EDITORIAL.

With a touch of something akin to civic pride we record the winning of both prizes offered by the *Missionary Herald*, the official organ of the American Board, in a recent contest in photography, by gentlemen who are not only missionaries in Turkey but also both of them sons of missionaries. The prizes were of \$15 and \$10 respectively, for the best set of four photographs illustrative of missionary work, and the contest was open for all missionaries in the twenty missions of the Board all over the world. First prize was won by Mr. Luther R. Fowle, of Aintab, who has the extra advantage of being also a grandson of missionaries; second prize went to Rev. George P. Knapp, of Bitlis, now at Harpout. Honorable mention was made of the pictures of Dr. Rose F. Beals, of Wai, India. The winning photographs appear in the March *Missionary Herald*.

It is refreshing to read of thoughts expressed so publicly and with such a genuine ring to them by Turks on the subject of the need of education for women and girls, as given in the account of the laying of the corner-stone of the girls' school in Nicomedia. When women not only go up in aeroplanes but go into lectures at the Imperial University, and when governors and orators emphasize the essential need of training the future mothers of the community in order to secure an intelligent posterity, one begins to feel as if the veil over the face could be tolerated if only the veil over the mind and heart were removed, and also that the external veil would not last long if the intelligence and moral character were sufficiently roused and elevated. With Moslem girls in nearly all of our girls' colleges and high schools, a start has been made, to some extent with the cooperation of the Government itself, toward furnishing suitable teachers for Turkish girls' schools; and the outlook is bright for transformation in the lives of the women of Turkey.

It is an interesting account we give this week of contemplated changes and improvements in the city of Jerusalem. The whole world has moral rights in this religious capital of humanity, and in the midst of our satisfaction over the many advance steps to be taken, we cannot refrain from voicing a protest as to one project mentioned. Would that there were some mistake in our information, and that the step were not really in view. We are told that the Government of the city intends to sell the materials of the ancient wall for building stone. Such vandalism merits every possible opposition; and we call upon all friends of archaeology to unite in seeing that such a piece of ruthless destruction is prevented. Some years ago there was such a proposition in regard to the walls of this city; and there was such an outcry as to effectually put an end to the project. We earnestly hope there may be a similar expression of public sentiment in behalf of the no less interesting and valuable walls of Jerusalem. It is not archaeology alone that would suffer from such a step. So much of history is built into those walls that the world would be the poorer if they ceased to exist. Surely some method will be found to prevent their ruthless destruction.

What a pity that the Turks are not to be allowed to read the Koran in their own language. As the article we quote from a Turkish writer well says, when reading and prayer are merely mechanical, and the attempt at communion with God is through the medium of a language not understood by the worshiper, such religion is impotent to influence the life and character of the individual. If the Koran is a book with a good moral influence, why prevent the people from understanding it? If it is God's revelation to man, why limit its good to those who can understand the Arabic language? We believe the step now taken by the government is inconsistent with the principles of true religion. It is also placing religious progress and development on a lower basis than progress along any other line. When Turkey sends her youth to foreign lands to learn in foreign schools, she desires them to learn the language of the country so that they may profit by such advance as the other nations have made. The government is having foreign textbooks translated for use in the Turkish educational system. Is communion with God of less importance to the people of this land than communion with foreigners? Is the sacred book of the Moslems of less importance to the Moslems than the books written by Christian scientists and literati? It is a return to the middle ages to keep people in ignorance of the sacred books of their religion.

CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, March 8th, 1914.

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

UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. George Huntington.

ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. Charles Anderson, D.D.

CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE, 11:30 a. m. Rev. Arthur C. Ryan.

TRANSLATING THE KORAN INTO TURKISH.

Regarding the translation of the Moslem sacred book into Turkish, as recently begun, Ahmed Effendi Aghaieff writes in the *Jeune-Turc*:—

"The translation of the Koran into Turkish has been begun simultaneously at different points. This fact has roused not a little stir in Moslem circles. The undertaking is warmly opposed. We do not here range ourselves on the side of either party, but rather examine the fact itself. As an intellectual and social phenomenon it is highly interesting and will have important results. It indicates the currents that are moving in our community and the new tendencies that are cropping up among us. Readers who have been following our articles will have already formed some idea of these currents and tendencies: the need of a renaissance, not only external and material, but internal as well, and moral, is felt increasingly from day to day. For a time men felt that this need could be met by reconstructing our public institutions; but this has not proved enough. People have come to see that however good and perfect political institutions might be, they are not sufficient in themselves to renew society from within. Something more is needed.

"They have therefore turned to religion,— a necessary and inevitable step, for religion is an active and powerful element in life. Besides, the existing forms of religion have long failed to satisfy the enlightened classes of our society; even those religiously inclined were not contented or satisfied; while the masses saw no need for any reform. But for some time the new tendency has been felt even among these classes; and the religious and radical press, while struggling against atheism and irreligion, has also begun to criticise the existing religious forms and to demand reform and the return to the old bases. It is especially the disasters of the late war which have opened people's eyes; it was astounding to find that the ancient faith had lost its force, and that the appeals of the religious leaders no longer gripped the hearts of the crowd. In examining the causes of this they reached the conclusion long ago reached by the enemies of Islam, that true Islam was strangled by the accretions of centuries which were absolutely foreign to the spirit of true religion; that thanks to these foreign accretions the religion had taken on forms inconsistent with its morals and its dogmas, that the spirit of Islam, choked by the additions, was not reaching the common people, nor enlightening it, vivifying it, or entering its consciousness; in a word, that religion had ceased to be an active element in moral education, but had been changed into mere dry formulas that could not reach the heart or soul of the believer, and which expressed themselves simply in daily mechanical practises with no grip on the heart of the performer.

"A double conclusion is thus reached:— we must place religion in its true essentials within reach of the masses by taking away every obstacle that separates them from it; and then we must purify the religion of these foreign elements that we have mentioned, and give it its true form and spirit

as they were in the beginning of its history. This last process is a long one, and demands somewhat methodical and sustained efforts. We cannot wait till this is done before beginning the first part. We must begin this at once, and show the people that it is possible to reach at once the authentic foundations of our religion. First in rank of these is the Koran. Till now the ordinary Turk read this, committed it to memory, said his prayers and had his communion with God, absolutely without understanding the sense and content of what he read or prayed. Naturally his readings and prayers made no such impression on his heart and soul as we should expect from the reading of a holy book and the reciting of a prayer. Reading and prayer were both mechanical; here was one of the principal causes of the impotence of religion as an educational force, and this obstacle must be removed.

"It is this thought that has led to the translation of the Koran into Turkish; and the remarkable thing, and that which shows how ripe the time is for this enterprise, is that the translation has been begun in quarters utterly at variance with each other in their tendencies. An entirely new religious era is opening in Turkey. We can already foresee that it will be big with beneficent results for the country; and the country is so ready for such work that the protests against the translation have been remarkably feeble and have not even attracted general attention."

We regret to learn that the Government has seen best to stop this enterprise and has ordered all copies of the parts so far issued confiscated and destroyed.

DEATH OF SAID PASHA.

The ex-Grand Vizier Kütchük Said Pasha, who had been nine times Grand Vizier, passed away last Sunday morning at Nishantash, Pera, aged seventy-eight. He had been feeble for a long time. Said Pasha was born in Erzroum, and had held offices in the provinces of Erzroum, Salonica and Brousa besides serving as secretary in the departments of justice, commerce and the grand vizierate. He was also first secretary of Abdul Hamid, Minister of Interior, Minister of the Civil List, Senator in the ill-starred Parliament of 1877, and Prime Minister during the time that the post of Grand Vizier was abolished. In September, 1911, at the outbreak of war with Italy, he was made Grand Vizier again, and although forced to resign in December, was immediately reappointed, and held office till July 16th, 1912, when he was succeeded by Ahmed Moukhtar Pasha. At the time of his death he held the title of President of the Senate, but as Parliament had not been in session since his appointment to that post, it was practically an honorary title. The funeral was on Monday, and the interment at Eyoub Sultan.

Besides holding practically all the highest Ottoman decorations, Said Pasha had been awarded the grand cross of the Legion of Honor by France, that of the order of St. Stephen by Austria-Hungary; that of St. Alexander Nevsky by Russia; that of the Red Eagle by Germany; that of Sts. Maurice

and Lazarus by Italy; that of the Savior by Greece; that of Charles III. by Spain; that of St. Olaf by Sweden; that of Daneborg by Denmark; that of Danilo by Montenegro; that of the Lion and Sun by Persia; that of the Rising Sun by Japan; that of the Roumanian Star by Roumania; that of St. Gregory by the Pope.

SIVAS SKETCHES.

TEACHERS COLLEGE. It is more than ten years since first steps were taken towards the new plant, and although progress has been discouragingly slow, it seems as though every delay only increases our present satisfaction. The building was completed outside and sufficient rooms finished to provide for present needs, when winter put a stop to work.

The library and laboratory apparatus, which were crowded out of the old building, seem very meagre in the new one and must have large additions. The most noteworthy increase this year is the gift by Dr. Perry of the latest edition of the Century Dictionary. While awaiting the promised city electric plant, we are enjoying our own acetyline plant, the installation of which has been recently finished. We are pleased with its operation and with the quality of the light, but are uncertain as to the relative cost with transportation so high.

Another improvement is a water tank, filled by windmill, from which we enjoy a steady supply of running water in kitchens, toilet rooms and laboratory. A gift of \$2,000.00 from a good friend makes possible the completion of the outside wall, and work on this will be pushed in the spring. Our most imperative need is the completion of roads and walks inside the compound and outside towards the city.

Our advanced class of 8 members is studying psychology and pedagogy with great enthusiasm. Three members of this class voluntarily gave up graduating with their class to teach a year in outstations, actuated by the need of teachers, and by the feeling that the last year would be worth more after a year's experience in teaching. Our Junior Class has been augmented by three former pupils after a year of teaching. We have now in our upper classes eight young men who have taught.

MEDICAL WORK. After closing the hospital in July, we made a tour to the Kara Hissar side of our field, spending a month in that city, a few days in Enderes and seeing some patients in the villages. As the population of this region is unusually accessible and almost without medical advantages, we found an abundance of work, and after the first few days our time was crowded full. As news of our presence spread, the throng of sick and needy steadily increased. Two mornings in the week were especially for the poor and our rooms were so crowded with these that we found it next to impossible, with our limited facilities, to cope with the situation. The druggist was the only one of our regular staff who accompanied the doctor, but we found in the city two medical students ready to help, and Mrs. Clark acted as nurse and amanuensis. During a month and a half we saw about 700 patients and did 25 operations under anaesthesia.

Since opening the hospital this fall we have had a good amount of work, both from the city and the surrounding villages. A special grant of \$500 by the Board enables us to take more poor patients and to dispense a good deal of free medicine. For nearly two years since Miss Cole left us, we have been searching for an American nurse. Last year, Miss Ash, an English lady, was with us, but this year we are getting along with native assistants. Without an American nurse it is difficult to induce girls of proper training to take up the work of nursing, and it is impossible to give them the required course of study. Recently the Government has sent here some able and enterprising medical inspectors of the province, and we hope they may be successful in improving hygienic conditions and in raising the general standard of medical practice.

EDUCATION OF GIRLS. Our girls are submitting the more cheerfully to crowding and discomfort in the hope of having a new building next year. It is encouraging to see the piles of stone and lumber, waiting for spring, and to think that soon we shall really see the building going up.

Our school C. E. Society has become a Y. W. C. A., since our work has grown more along association lines, and since we hope to have a general secretary for Turkey, and thus be an active part of this great work. The Y. W. C. A. is working hard to raise money for seats for the new studyhall.

They have recently conducted a bazaar in which their own handwork and cookery was sold. They are also soliciting funds from the alumnae and friends of the school. Each double desk will cost about a lira (\$4.40) and anyone who gives at least half this amount, may have her own or any name she chooses inscribed on a desk. A former missionary has given money for a music room, the ladies of Southern California will provide a furnace, and thus the new school will be full of memories of old friends.

At Thanksgiving every department of the School made an offering for the Golden Jubilee Fund of the Woman's Board. The women of the congregation and alumnae also contributed, and gifts will come from all the outstations.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENTS. The two systems of schools connected with Teachers College and the Girls High School supply pupils for these institutions, furnish means for experiment on Oriental soil of the educational theories introduced from America, and make practise-teaching real and convenient for the pedagogy classes. Building arrangements have made coeducation in these schools impossible. In the boys' schools the two upper classes in four divisions are taught by three teachers, having a common study-hall. Three of the lower grade teachers are last year's graduates from the Girls' School, having replaced two male teachers. Each grade has a classroom and an adjoining room for gymnastics, recreation etc.

The Girls' School system, in addition to a regular grade classification, has a small Greek school under a Greek teacher and two district schools in distant parts of the city. A provisional program is being used in the primary schools since last fall, which includes among new subjects, Story-telling, Nature study, Drawing, Manual Training, and Physical Training.

A system has been adopted to record the weekly progress of each class in different subjects, by the help of which it will be easier to perfect the program for next year.

Teachers' Class:— All the girl teachers of both schools meet regularly for an hour four times a week, with Mr. Raoubian, for instruction in practice teaching.

One day is devoted to hand-work practise and one day to drawing. Class room discussion, observation of each others' classes, sample lesson demonstration and reading are the methods followed in this class. Matters of discipline and problems of ordinary school life are frequently discussed. All the teachers keep records, in addition to the weekly progress in lessons, of pupils' ages, weight, height, health, and general progress. Several teachers from the Armenian National Schools attend these classes.

Children's Activities:— Boys and girls, with the help of teachers, have decorated the rooms and take interest in keeping them clean and beautiful. They keep a diary, each in a small note book, made by themselves, recording changes in weather, degree of temperature (observing for themselves), school events, city news, etc. The sixth grade boys have done a great deal in making desks for the lower grades and in furnishing material for handwork.

Sivas, February, 1914.

ORIENTAL ODDS AND ENDS.

NASREDDIN HODJA GETS RICH.

One day Nasreddin Hodja was in straits for money, and said to himself:— "I need a thousand liras; but I could not do with 999, nor would I accept one lira less than the thousand." A Hebrew neighbor overheard him, and to see what he would do, put 999 liras in a bag and dropped it down Nasreddin's chimney. When the Hodja saw them, he exclaimed: "My prayer has been heard!" He counted them, and found one too few. "Never mind," said he, "Allah, who gave me so many, will give me one more." Soon the Hebrew came in, saying "Hodja Effendi, give me back my liras." "My good fellow, are you mad? What's up with you? I asked Allah for this, and he gave it to me; what need for you to throw me money?" "But, *janum*, I did it for a joke, because you said you wouldn't accept one less." "But I did accept them." "No indeed, we'll go to court and see about this," said the indignant Jew. "All right, but I won't go on foot," said the Hodja. So the Hebrew brought him a donkey to ride. "But I am cold, and must have a fur coat to wear." So the Hebrew brought him a fur coat as well; and together they went to the court. The Hebrew then made his complaint:— "This man took my money, and now he denies it." The judge looked Nasreddin Hodja squarely in the face and told him to tell the whole truth. Nasreddin Hodja replied: "Your honor, I was asking Allah for a thousand liras; now one lira is lacking, but I have received the answer to my prayer. You see this man? He is a bad one; he will even make himself out the owner of the coat on my back

and of the donkey I ride." "Yes indeed, your honor!" burst out the Hebrew, "they are mine too." "O, you Jewish robber!" cried the indignant judge; and the officers beat him and threw him out of court. So Nasreddin Hodja and his coat and his donkey went home happy.

CONSTANTINOPLE DEPUTIES ELECTED.

Last Saturday the election of deputies for the Capital was held at the University in Stamboul. The electors of the second degree began to arrive at 10 a. m., and by noon all the 453 ballots were cast. The counting took place from one to two p. m. Such promptness we commend to the earnest study of election officers in other countries. All eleven deputies elected belong to the Union and Progress party, and their votes range from 450 to 423. Those chosen are:— Shefik Bey, Ahmed Nessimi Bey, Bedros Haladjian Effendi, Emmanuel Carasso Effendi, Mr. Orphanides, Ismet Bey, Hussein Djahid Bey, Victor Bey Tchorbadjiohlou, Mr. Haralambides, Salah Djimdjoz Bey, Krikor Zohrab Effendi. Five of these are Moslems, three Greeks, two Armenians, and one Jew. Besides these several other candidates received votes, among them the former deputies for Tokat and Dersim, Ismail Pasha and Loufi Fikri Bey. At the close of the election the supervisors of the election had their picture taken in a group.

It is now stated that the opening of Parliament will be during the month of March.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

The Ecumenical Patriarch has issued an encyclical to his clergy urging them prevent their flocks from sending their children to foreign schools. This has caused much comment in Smyrna circles, in view of the events at the International College recorded in our issue of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Drexel of New York and a party of friends arrived here Saturday night on their private yacht for a brief visit.

Since the arrival of Mr. Stefanovitch as special envoy of Serbia for the conclusion of peace, considerable progress has been made toward the solution of the points still unsettled, and the signing of the treaty of peace seems imminent.

Gen. Osman Nizami Pasha has been made Ottoman Ambassador at Washington. The new ambassador served in the same capacity at Berlin, and thence went to the peace conference at London as chief delegate of Turkey. He was later appointed Minister of Public Works in the present cabinet last June, but laid down that portfolio in December.

The telephone service in this city has actually begun, this week.

A most distressing accident occurred at Robert College a week ago today, when in the middle of the night a young Greek student fell from the top floor of Anderson Hall out of the window, dying almost immediately, without recovering consciousness. No explanation of the occurrence is obtainable, as every one in the dormitory was asleep at the time. He was about fifteen years of age, and this was his first year in College. The funeral on Thursday was attended by a large number of the students and teachers.

The total receipts of the Fleet Committee up to the present time are given by the *Tasfirî Efkiar* as 193,968,114 piastres, or nearly two million liras.

Professor Estes will give an organ recital at Robert College on Sunday afternoon, March 8th, at 4:30 o'clock. All friends of the College are invited to attend. The program will consist of selections from Bach, Beethoven, Arcadelt, Chauvet, Rheinberger, Bizet, Brahms, Saint Saëns and Dubois. The college male chorus will assist.

THE PROVINCES

The wreck of the corvette "Avnoullah," sunk by the Italians in Beirût harbor, is being cleared away, and parts of it are being conveyed to Constantinople.

The dailies announce that the Government has decided to distribute in the sanjak of Chatalja and some districts of the Adrianople vilayet a million kilograms of barley for sowing.

The flight of the Ottoman aviators from Constantinople to Cairo has come to a sad end by the death of Fethi Bey and his passenger Sadik Bey, who fell with their machine at a point between Damascus and Tiberias on Thursday last and were killed on the spot. The machine was a Bleriot monoplane, and they left here Feb. 8th on their long flight. Fethi Bey was an aviator of much promise, thirty years old, who had studied in England.

NOTES.

Miss Margaret White and Miss Isabelle Darrow of Marsovan sustained painful injuries but were providentially saved from death on February 21st, when they were attacked by a vicious horse which knocked them down. At last accounts they were making a good recovery.

Rev. Charles T. Riggs will lecture on John Chrysostom at Robert College on Friday, March 6th, at 3:15 p. m.

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OTHER LANDS.

The shooting of a Scotchman named Benton by order of General Villa, the Mexican revolutionary leader, has complicated the relations of Mexico and the United States; but armed intervention is still thought unlikely.

Lord Minto, former Governor-general of Canada and then Viceroy of India, died last Saturday.

Rev. S. R. Driver, D.D., Regius Professor of Hebrew at Oxford, and eminent as a Biblical scholar, died in Oxford Feb. 26th, in his 68th year.

The *American Red Cross Magazine* for January, just received, contains the full record of the annual meeting of the General Board at Washington on Dec. 10th, and the granting of five medals for Balkan War relief, gold medals to Mrs. W. W. Rockhill and Major Clyde S. Ford, Medical Corps, U. S. A., and silver medals to Mr. John B. Jackson, Minister at Bucharest, Mr. Hoffman Philip, First Secretary of the Embassy here, and Treasurer W. W. Peet. *The Orient* extends its hearty congratulations to those thus so deservedly honored.

The first sailing of the big new Cunarder "Aquitania" from Liverpool for New York has been fixed for May 30th. Her speed is stated to be 23½ knots.

Official figures just issued give the Servian losses in the Balkan wars as 22,460 killed, and 3,083 maimed for life. The Bulgarian losses are stated to have been 44,313 killed and 10,000 maimed.

The number of immigrants into the United States during 1913 was 1,197,892, of this number, 896,653 came from eastern and southern Europe and western Asia. Only 27,876 came from Ireland, while 43,363 came from England.

It is announced that the Russian Government will make a determined effort to combat by all possible legal means the drink habit, which is gaining ground there.

The London *Times* records the capture by brigands near Elbasan in Albania of five Americans, supposed to be naturalized citizens that had returned to Albania; they are reported to be held for ransom. Mr. Kennedy is not among them, but was at last accounts at Durazzo.

The death is announced of Mr. Orlando M. Baker, President of the G. & C. Merriam Publishing Company of Springfield, Mass., on Feb. 2nd, aged 82.

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| | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|
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| FRANCONIA | (24,421 " " ") | " 20th. " |
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