

The Orient.

January 18, 1911

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 40

THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

25th Session (Jan. 11). A committee report appropriating 2,400,000 piastres from the Budget of the coming year for the repair of Imperial buildings, was read and approved. Ismail Pasha (Amasia) stated the result of the committee's consultation with the Ministers of War and of Instruction regarding the enlistment bill, as follows:— Students in all departments of the Ottoman University, of Government High Schools such as the Milkié, agricultural and trade schools, the government normal schools, and such private schools as have programs equivalent to those of the Government schools and are subject to Government control and whose teachers hold certificates confirmed by the authorities, and lastly all students sent abroad by the Government, provided they pass their examinations and at the close of their studies enter the service of the State, are to be exempt from military service. After some adverse discussion, this 5th paragraph was referred back that it might be written out and distributed in its amended form. The 6th paragraph, exempting from Military service all students of Moslem and non-Moslem schools of theology and those in Monasteries, was warmly and boisterously discussed till the noon recess ended the discussion. In the afternoon session the bill appropriating money for a prison building outside the Seven Towers was withdrawn by the Ministry of the Interior, to be submitted later in an amended form. A bill appropriating 1,500,000 piastres, saved from various parts of the Budget of 1326, for the repair of warships, was approved, as was also one providing for the printing of account books and documents for the registry of real estate. The Minister of Education then read the 5th paragraph of Article 6 of the enlistment bill in its amended form, which included students in Europe studying at their own expense as well, as exempt. A prolonged and inconclusive discussion followed. At the adjournment it was announced that no session would be held on the Oriental New Year's Day.

26th Session (Jan. 16.) Several requests for supplementary appropriations, for irrigation in Mesopotamia and for pensions for imperial princes, were referred to the Budget Committee. The Minister of War offered some explanations regarding the disputed clauses of the enlistment bill, and asked for equal treatment for all students of equal rank in their studies; and that those exempt be those in government higher schools, and in private schools recognized by the Ministry of Education as of equal grade, providing their programs were conformed to those of the government schools, and the diplomas of their teachers were ratified by the Ministry, and providing that the examinations in these schools be held in

the presence of a Committee of the professors of the Ottoman University. A long and spirited discussion followed, in the course of which the Minister of War stated that students in the two upper classes of such secondary schools as have a course of seven years, are excused from service till they complete their course; also the Minister of Education stated that the government does not forbid foreign professors to teach in Ottoman schools, but merely places certain conditions on their so doing. The bill as proposed by Mahmoud Shevket Pasha was finally approved, with the understanding that students studying abroad should be exempt only when pursuing their studies in schools recognized as of higher rank than those of the Empire. In the afternoon session Paragraph 7 of Article 6 was taken up, but no decision was reached before adjournment.

TROUBLES IN SYRIA AND ARABIA.

General Sami Pasha, who was sent to the Hauran to quell the turbulent Druses of that mountainous region, had no sooner secured the upper hand there and restored comparative order when he was forced to direct his attention farther south to Kerak, a town east of the southern end of the Dead Sea. Here some twelve to fifteen thousand Bedouin are in revolt, ostensibly over the questions of disarmament and enlistment in the Ottoman Army. They first destroyed a section of some 120 kilometres of the Hedjaz Railroad and its telegraph line. Then they attacked Kerak, and killed some five hundred inhabitants; but the garrison held out until the Bedouin were forced by the arrival of Sami Pasha and his Army to retire. In the mean time a party of nine American tourists is said to have been attacked and robbed by the Bedouin, in the region east of the Jordan. Warfare against an enemy of this nature is extremely difficult; and Sami Pasha has requested several batteries of quick-firing guns, and a much larger force of cavalry with which to pursue his evanescent hornet-like foe.

At the same time the Government is forced into another campaign in the Yemen, south of Mecca, where the revolt of some Arab chiefs is assuming serious proportions. The self-styled Imam Yahya Hamideddin has placed himself at the head of several tribes in the mountains east of Sanaa, and has repeatedly attacked Turkish outposts or isolated bodies of troops, with disquieting results. Meanwhile from the sanjak of Assir, some 300 miles farther north, Seid Idris and his followers are moving southward, apparently with the object of cutting the Turkish line of communications between Sanaa and its seaport, Hodeida. Little brushes with the Imperial troops, in the course of which these Arabs lose a matter of 200 or 300 killed and wounded, seem to have no more effect on the rebels than the cholera epidemic on the balls of Pera society; and while the *morale* of the troops is reported as excellent, the Government has decided to send reinforcements immediately from Constantinople and Smyrna, amounting to two whole divisions, or thirty battalions, of infantry, with their complement of artillery and cavalry, and a sanitary corps.

THE EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM.

The Bulgarian daily "*Pravo*", issued in Salonica, writes with reference to the question of language in government schools:—

"The Turkish language is the language of the Empire. This we acknowledge; but this language has no right to be regarded as the only one to be used in teaching the primary government schools. From the beginning of Ottoman rule, each nationality has made use of its own language and has flourished as a nationality. These other nationalities are not in the minority as compared with the Turks, but quite the reverse. The non-Mussulman nationalities from the beginning even till yesterday were so recognized before their spiritual authorities, and had, as they have today, a recognized autonomy as regards religious and educational matters. And these nationalities have made such progress that the ruling Turkish race has been left far behind. This the Turkish rulers themselves have acknowledged from the rostrum of the Parliament.

"The Constitution found these nationalities with ecclesiastic and educational self-government dating back 500 years. And the Constitution was proclaimed in the interests of all the nationalities. The revolts of Greeks, Bulgarians and Armenians were revolts against their inequality as compared with the Turks, and not for the purpose of strangling their recognized rights and strengthening the rule of the Turkish nationality. Emroullah Efendi does not take into consideration the numerical strength of the non-Turkish races and their educational superiority to the Turks; and he has obtained a false idea from the laws of other lands and has introduced it into his scheme for primary education. In this scheme he looks to the establishing of governmental community schools using the Turkish language, and disregards these other races, acknowledging their right to their own schools, but taking away their complete autonomy and loading them with a school tax to be applied to Turkish schools only. The proposed regulations of Emroullah Efendi compel us to conclude that the Constitution was proclaimed in order to strengthen Turkish rule and to deprive the Christian nationalities of the rights which they had until its proclamation. This is a block in the way of the speedy realization of the motto 'The Union of the Ottoman elements.'"

THE REAL ESTATE OF RETURNING EMIGRANTS.

One of the difficult questions of the day, resulting from the customs of the old régime, is the status of properties forfeited by those whom the tyranny of those days drove out of the country. During the later years of Abdul Hamid the law was, that any subject wishing to leave the country must sign away his rights as an Ottoman subject, and promise not to return to this country. The formalities and inconveniences and expense connected with this process were so great as to lead many an innocent man to get away secretly to some freer land. Whenever the Government discovered any such case,

the real estate and other properties of the fugitive were seized and declared confiscated by the State. Most of those who thus suffered were Armenians, and the Armenian people were the ones to bring up the question of the possibility of righting this injustice. The main points of a projected law on this subject have just been made public, and the project is before the Council of State and will shortly be placed before Parliament. This statute divides into three categories those Ottoman subjects who left the country previous to July 23, 1908, and who now wish to return.

1. Those who on leaving this country voluntarily gave up their status as Ottoman subjects.

2. Those who, without any such voluntary abandonment of rights, have by the Government been declared deprived of their legal status.

3. Those who have run away, but who have not been declared deprived of their status as Ottoman subjects.

In regard to the first class, inasmuch as they have voluntarily placed themselves beyond the jurisdiction of this Government, no legislation is proposed.

In regard to the second class, those who come back and are again recognized as Ottoman subjects, in case their property has been sold at auction, shall receive in return either the money value brought by their real estate, or a plot of land equal in value to that which they formerly owned, as they may prefer. Such plots of land shall be assigned from unoccupied or seized lands near their former land. Naturally, if the property in question has fallen to the heirs of those who have thus migrated, the Government will not have any indemnity to pay. But where these abandoned estates have by the Government been turned over to *mouhadjirs* (immigrants), the former owners are to be recompensed as in the previous case.

Such indemnification or rehabilitation is to be possible only within a term of three years, and after that period no such claims will be allowed.

Such a proposition bids fair to appeal to these voluntary exiles as very just, providing it is conscientiously carried out, although the price of real estate sold at auction will not represent its true value.

ROBERT COLLEGE.

Mrs. Gates gave an informal and impromptu tea on Tuesday, Jan. 17, to celebrate Miss Hart's birthday. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Chambers, of Bardizag, visited us the same day.

Miss Burns, of Scutari, has been visiting on the hill during the holidays. Messrs. Limper and Schalkmann are visiting the Seven Churches of Asia, and Mr. Cushing has gone to Moscow.

BROUSA NOTES.

The months of December and January have furnished many helpful as well as enjoyable occasions for the Brousa School. The first was the visit of Mr. Stambolian and Mr. Demirjian of Constantinople. They came Dec. 23, and on Sunday held four services in the church. In the morning, there was the preaching service, followed by the communion. As it was our Christmas Day, this was especially helpful. In the afternoon, there was an open meeting for the Y. M. C. A., then the Christmas exercises of the Sunday School, and a preaching service in the evening. On Tuesday morning, the two gentlemen spoke at the School, at the opening exercises. Their visit was a most valuable one for the church and school.

On Jan. 6, school closed for the vacation. On the morning of that day, the closing exercises of the upper school were held: Christmas songs, Bible verses, and appropriate recitations were given by the girls. In the afternoon, an entertainment was given by the children of the Kindergarten and Primary Departments. The school room was crowded with guests, and everyone seemed much pleased. There were songs and recitations, and three Christmas plays or cantatas, two in Armenian and one, the longest, in English. It was really wonderful that Kindergarten children could give, in a foreign language, so many songs and dialogues. Dr. Barnum, who was present, said that children in America could not have done so well.

Dr. Barnum's visit was a very pleasant one for us all. Coming on Friday of the week of prayer, taking part in the meeting on that evening, leading the meeting on Saturday night, and preaching twice on Sunday, besides speaking at Young Men's meeting, he, in a most helpful way, brought to a close a week that had been full of interest for all.

On Monday evening, Dr. Barnum gave a lecture at the School, and as he kindly gave it in Armenian, although he had expected to give it in English, we were able to invite several friends from outside. Dr. Barnum gave an account of his trip to Italy and Switzerland last summer, and it was a great pleasure to us to follow him as he told of one interesting place after another, which he had visited. The evening was a very enjoyable one to all.

Christmas was very good to us; in connection with the Kindergarten entertainment, we had the tree for the little ones, with presents and cards and candy for each one. Mrs. Winslow, who always remembers the School at Christmas, sent a box, which enabled us to provide richly for all. On Friday evening, Jan. 13, the evening before the New Year, for our girls and teachers, we had a tree for those who stayed with us through the vacation, and for the day scholars. Kind friends in Oakland, Cal., in Concord, N. H., and in Boston, through their very pretty gifts, gave joy to a great many that night. If they had been present, they would have felt well repaid for the work they had put into the preparation of the boxes and packages. Every one was very happy at being so well remembered. One of the teachers as Santa Claus, gave out the presents, and as the girls had prepared a little enter-

tainment, which was given first, and then had chosen games, which we played afterwards, the evening was a very delightful one.

School will reopen Monday, Jan. 23, and all will be very busy preparing for the midwinter examinations.

Several shocks of earthquake were felt in Brousa during the first week of January, some of sufficient severity to make noticeable cracks in the plaster on the outside of the school building. In one part of the city, a minaret was badly injured and part of a wall fell. In one of the neighboring villages, several houses were destroyed.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

The *Ihdam* of last Thursday publishes as its leading article a communication from the Proprietor of the paper, now at Vienna, entitled, "Not the Reform of the Medresés, but the Organization of Religious Instruction." The main points of the article are as follows:—

"Religious instruction should form a Department of the University, and if the medresés (schools for theological instruction attached to mosques) are retained, it should be as dormitories and refectories, no teaching being given there. There is ample scope for thorough instruction in the religion of Islam, but the instruction now given is very meagre. In Europe, men come to a course of four years of theological and religious instruction after finishing courses of thorough training in the exact and the physical sciences, knowing also Latin and Greek. In like manner our theological students should be masters of Arabic, our sacred language.

This is the program of studies in the Theological Department of a European University:—

Interpretation and Principles of Interpretation of the New Testament.

The Ordinances of the Catholic Church.

Science of Christian Instruction. (Homiletics).

The Hebrew Language.

Interpretation and Principles of Interpretation of the Old Testament.

Creeds of Christendom.

Church History.

Letters of the Apostles. (N. T. Epistles).

Systematic Theology.

Defence of Christianity. (Apologetics).

Christian Philosophy.

Critical Examination of the Text of the Old Testament.

Christian Character.

History of the Various Christian Sects.

It is a mistake to suppose that Europeans do not care for religion. Austria and Bavaria are devotedly attached to the Catholic Church. England, possessor of a greater liberty than any other people, fervently grasps Protestantism with both hands. And where church and state affairs are separately administered, it does not mean that religion is held to be unimportant. In Europe religion is not being neglected."

THE FESTIVAL OF EPIPHANY.

This church festival, which falls on Jan. 6th, or Jan. 19th, which is the 6th old style, is one common to all branches of the Christian church. To residents in the Orient, and especially on the shores of the Bosphorus, it is an unfailling source of interest to see the stately procession of ecclesiastics wind down to the water's edge and see the cross flung out into the chilly waters (not too far), while the naked youths, who have long and expectantly stood shivering on the shore, dive and swim and struggle for the possession of the coveted emblem, which the victor brings back to land, to receive his *bakshish* from his smiling friends.

Most residents of the East know that the Greek Epiphany coincides with the Armenian Christmas; but not all are aware that the Armenian church celebrates Epiphany as well on this same day, nor that originally all branches of the Eastern church kept January sixth as the double feast of Christmas and Epiphany, owing to a too literal interpreting of Luke 3:23. It was only late in the fourth century that December 25th was substituted by the majority of the church as the date for the Christmas festival; and the Armenian church has always adhered to January 6th for this also.

It may also be of interest to our readers to know that the significance of Epiphany is differently understood by the Eastern and Western churches. The name signifies the *manifestation* of Jesus Christ as the Son of God; and by the Eastern church the day was held to commemorate the baptism of our Savior, when He was "manifested" by the descent of the Spirit in visible form and by the voice from heaven. Owing to this, the day was a favorite one for the baptism of catechumens; and on this day the water of the font was consecrated. Baptism was held to illumine the soul; and hence the day was called, and is still called by the Greeks, τὰ φῶτα, "ta Phota", or, "the lights". Chrysostom tells us, however, that this day was not observed as a baptismal season by the churches of Antioch and Constantinople. Chrysostom also tells us that people used to take home with them some of the consecrated water, and kept it for a year, or even three years, and still found it good. It is also said that those who lived near the Jordan used to bathe in the river on that day, in memory of Christ's baptism.

In the West, on the other hand, the Epiphany, or manifestation of our Lord, was held to have been by means of the Star in the east; and therefore this feast has been held to be the commemoration of the visit of the Magi. These three (for tradition makes this the number) are said to have descended from Shem, Ham, and Japheth respectively, and to typify the firstfruits of the heathen world to Christ. In the Latin Church this day is known as "festum trium regum." There is a legend that the empress Helena, who is said to have discovered the holy sepulchre, and the true cross, also discovered the bodies of these three Magi, and brought them to Constantinople. These bodies were afterward taken to Milan, and later to Cologne, whence they have been called the Three Kings of Cologne.

To this day, on Epiphany, the sovereigns of England make an oblation of gold, frankincense and myrrh at the altar of the Chapel Royal. Though now performed by a deputy, this ancient custom was till quite recently performed in person.

The more common designation in English for this day is "Twelfth Day", -- being the twelfth reckoned from Christmas day.

GEDIK PASHA SCHOOL.

If the phrase "a month of Sundays" read "a month of Christmases," it would describe very well our last month here at the American School. Our own Christmas started things off modestly on the twenty-fifth of December with a form of entertainment suitable to beings who no longer believe in Santa Claus or care to arise at dawn to investigate lumpy hosiery. The evening of Sunday, January eighth, found all our Greek pupils, from the kindergarten up to the Senior girls, arrayed in their Christmas best and seated in the upper end of the Audience Room facing the lower end-ful of proud mammas and papas. What a soul-satisfying entertainment it was! I think every one of the seventy or eighty children must have performed, singly or in a group!

The following Friday came the School's Christmas party. The three kindergartens had theirs upstairs; the rest of the school assembled in the Audience Room. The main number on the short program was a little Christmas play written by one of the teachers and acted by seven children: three little Turks, three Armenians, and one Greek. What an uproar there was when Santa Claus popped up right through the middle of the luncheon-table on the stage (a borrowed idea, but new to the audience); and what screams of delight applauded the littlest boy when he and his chair tumbled over backward in a fright, or when he stuffed his mouth so full of goodies that he couldn't make his next speech! After the entertainment Santa was discovered in the kindergarten room and dragged back to give out a pack-ful of small presents.

On Sunday evening again, came the Armenian Concert which resembled the Greek, a novel feature being added, however, by two or three of the babies who, taking part in a pretty little tableau where they had to lie down with their heads on each other and pretend to sleep, actually did fall asleep, and were removed from the platform at the end of the tableau with much difficulty -- to the great delight of the audience!

To-day concluded the "month of Christmases" with a tree for the Sunday-School. Real presents -- from America! How excited we all were! Mr. Santa Claus having been unavoidably prevented from presiding over the festivities, was ably represented by Mrs. Santa Claus, who seems to be a help-mate worthy of the name! And so the festal month has closed with all its many, merry, Merry Christmases!

GREEKS AND BULGARIANS.

In a recent interview, Mr. Malinoff, the president of the Bulgarian council of ministers, expressed himself regarding the relations between the two races as follows: --

"You understand that if we wish in Macedonia full protection for all nationalities, our policy is also directed toward suppressing conflicts between the Christian races of the Balkans. But if we wish to live on good terms with all the states of the Balkans, we must above all cultivate good relations with Greece. It is not true, however, that Bulgaria has concluded an agreement with Greece. Personally I am opposed to all alliances, for Bulgaria is a small state, and what we wish is merely such a policy as will give us full liberty and will have no other object but the maintenance of our national interests."

In regard to the relations between the Bulgarian exarchate and the Greek patriarchate, Mr. Malinoff said: --

"A *rapprochement* has been reached in the interests of both Bulgarians and Greeks, and this will be of great advantage for the peaceful life of those of the two races living in Macedonia."

GREEKS AND ARMENIANS.

La Turquie, in its issue of Jan. 18, publishes the following letter:

"The negotiations and *pourparlers* between the patriarchate of Phanar (Greek) and that of Koum Kapou (Armenian) are following a favorable course, with a view to a complete understanding between the two patriarchates on the two very important questions of instruction and of military service, questions that have already been the subject of numerous official documents sent from these ecclesiastical centres to the Ministry of Justice and of Religions. This mutual understanding is also being reached by the negotiations between the Greek and Armenian deputies in Parliament.

"At the command of the ecumenical patriarch the archivist of the Phanar patriarchate went yesterday to the Koum Kapou patriarchate to talk over this topic with the high ecclesiastical and lay functionaries of that religious centre. His object was to give in minute detail the Phanar point of view on these two questions, and to draw out the counter-propositions of the Armenian patriarchate, that these also might be discussed. He had also copies for the Armenian patriarchate of certain former *takrirs* (official papers) sent by the Greek patriarchate to the Ministry of Justice and Religions. This is not the first visit of the Phanar archivist to the Koum Kapou patriarchate.

"We have said that an understanding is being reached simultaneously between the Greek and Armenian deputies. These will hold a meeting tomorrow, Thursday, which is the feast of Epiphany, old style, at the Tokatlian restaurant for a five o'clock tea, to which the Bulgarian and Servian delegates have also been invited. It is even said that an invitation has also been sent to Suleiman el Bistani Effendi, vice-president of the Chamber, a Maronite Catholic, although this gentleman follows the other calendar and for him the feast of Epiphany is past.

"According to the statements of the *Politike Epitheoresis*, the organ of Boussios Effendi, Greek deputy from Serfidje, who has taken the initiative in this gathering, no political speech will be made there. It is not the object of this meeting of deputies to make addresses, but to celebrate in common a great solemn religious festival which coincides with Armenian Christmas day. In any case, this will be the first time that Christian Ottoman deputies, belonging to four nationalities, will come together for a fraternal love feast."

ECHOES OF THE MISSIONARY CRUISE.

The following letter from the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, Cal., whom many enjoyed meeting here last summer, speaks for itself.

My dear Mr. PEET:

May I wish you a happy New Year and thank you for sending me the file of the *Orient*.

I see no reason why such a missionary cruise should not be repeated every summer. I would not advise people of feeble health to venture into the hotter places of the Levant during July and August, but I see no reason why many an able bodied pastor and his wife as well as other men and women should not go on such a cruise. Your plan to have them leave the ship at Samsoun and cross Asia Minor, including such interesting missionary points as you suggest, is a good one. And if the detour is not too far to one side, a tour to the principal Hittite ruins, which, as I recall the conversation of Mr. Partridge, would not require more than a day's extra time to visit.

Mrs. Day joins me in all good wishes.

Faithfully yours,

WM. HORACE DAY.

December 29, 1910.

RELICS OF ANTIQUITY.

A society has just been formed, called "The Society of the Friends of the City of Constantinople", having as its object the preservation of the antiquities of this city. Among its members are Emroullah Effendi, Minister of Public Instruction; Halil Bey, director of the Imperial Museum and brother of the former director, the late Hamdi Bey; Ismail Bey, Grand master of ceremonies; Count Ostrorog, counsellor of the Ministry of Justice; Vedad Bey, an architect, and Dikran Eff. Kelekian, political editor of the *Sabah*. Recalling the recent effort of enterprising contractors to obtain permission to use the stone in the ancient Walls of the city for building purposes, we congratulate posterity on the formation of this much-needed Society.

Together with this news comes the word that the governor-general of Trebizond has applied to the Ministry of the Interior to grant to the municipality of Sinope the ancient walls around that city for the purposes of paving the city and constructing a quay for the harbor. Does not Sinope need a second Diogenes?

When this Society has attained more strength, it ought to include in the scope of its endeavors the study of the archaeological history of the city, and also the unearthing of much that certainly lies buried beneath the débris of the centuries.

Such a place as the Hippodrome, while probably not quite rivaling the Roman Forum in its subterranean treasures, yet challenges every student of archaeology who looks down at the base of the obelisks and of the bronze twisted serpentine column. There is small doubt that the systematic and careful clearing out of the many cisterns of the ancient city would bring interesting and perhaps priceless treasures to the light. The site of many an old temple, long forgotten, ought to be established and excavations carried on there. The municipal authorities are perfectly right in preventing such work from being carried on by private amateurs; but such a society as has just been formed can undertake it with the necessary wisdom and appreciation. It ought not to be difficult to secure the funds for such work.

EMPIRE NEWS.

The Capital.

The customary round of receptions, official calls and congratulatory despatches was observed on Saturday last. There were receptions at the Russian Embassy, the Greek and Bulgarian Legations, the Greek and Armenian Patriarchates and the Bulgarian Exarchate. His Majesty the Sultan sent telegrams of congratulation to all the crowned heads for whom this was New Year's Day. The Grand Vizier and the Ministers, Ahmed Riza Bey and many other functionaries spent the day in making calls. Particularly cordial were the interviews of Ahmed Riza Bey at the Armenian and Greek Patriarchates.

Two more newspapers have been suspended during the past week, for publishing articles supposed to be injurious to the public good, — the Greek daily *Nea Ephemeris*, and the comic paper *Ghidik*.

His Majesty the Sultan has sent to the Ministry of the Interior the sum of Lt. 200, to be distributed among the suffering poor of the city.

THE PROVINCES.

There were more pilgrims to Mecca this year than usual, according to the official reports. Some 90,000 reached Mecca by way of Jeddah, while 30,000 more went by way of Medina, and 30,000 to 50,000 through other Arabian ports, besides some 30,000 inhabitants of the Hedjaz and surrounding districts, making a total of nearly or quite 200,000 pilgrims.

An Egyptian princess is reported to have donated to the Ottoman fleet a farm whose annual revenue is given as Lt. 7,500, in addition to which she leaves in her will for the same patriotic cause Lt. 600,000 worth of real estate.

The management of the Agricultural School at Halkali has secured authorization to purchase a large tract of ground adjacent to the school, to be used for the practical training of its students.

The first instalment of the new nickel coins appeared on Wednesday the 18th. The new coinage will include 5, 10, 20 and 40 para pieces, but all these will not be issued this current year.

Forty naval cadets have been chosen from among the graduates of last year at the Naval Academy at Halki and these will receive further training on board the cruiser *Asari Tewfik* which has been fitted up as a school-ship.

During the week ending Jan. 17th, 9 new cases of cholera were reported in Constantinople and its suburbs, and 8 deaths, bringing up the totals to 1317 cases and 793 deaths; but during the last three days of that week there were neither new cases nor deaths.

The populace of Monastir have sent a telegram to the central government, protesting against the granting of the request of Niazi Bey, the hero of the revolution, to be allowed to retire from the service.

A Hungaro-Turkish school has been founded at Buda-Pest by the Commercial Club of Turks and Hungarians, for Turkish pupils living in Hungary.

The application of the new law regarding the contested church edifices in Macedonia seems to have worked well, and there exists a decidedly better feeling between Greeks and Bulgarians there in consequence.

The Greek National Assembly is scheduled to meet in Athens on Saturday next, the 21st. It is expected that Mr. Dragoumis will be elected as presiding officer.

It is reported from a village near Rethymo, in Crete, that an encounter took place this week between four Mohammedans and some Greeks, in which the former, one of whom was a woman, were badly wounded. The government of the island has started an investigation.

Measures are being taken, under the leadership of Eyoub Sabri Bey, of the Party of Union and Progress, to establish a telephone service between the principal points in Albania.

Italy and Turkey will each send a delegate to Hodeida to inquire into the seizure at that seaport of an Italian sailing-vessel accused of smuggling arms into Arabia.

A French company has been granted the concession for a railroad from Hodeida to Sanaa, in the province of Yemen. Work on the first section is expected to begin in a short time, if local conditions permit.

NOTES.

Mr. James Riggs Brewster, formerly an instructor in Anatolia College, Marsovan, has been appointed a missionary of the American Board to the Western Turkey Mission.

The necrology of the year 1910 among Americans formerly resident in Turkey and Bulgaria includes the names of Dr. Henry H. Jessup, of Beyrout; Dr. H. N. Barnum, of Harpout, died May 19; Miss Corinna Shattuck, of Ourfa, died May 22; Mrs. L. S. West, of Sivas, died Sept. 15; Rev. Wm. L. Livingstone, of Sivas, died Oct. 11; Mrs. Americus W. Fuller, of Aintab, died Nov. 6; Mr. Paul T. B. Ward, of Robert College, died April 29; John Holley, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Ostrander, of Samokov, died July 6; and the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, of Talas, died Nov. 8.

Mrs. Carter, wife of the American Minister, leaves for London this (Wednesday) evening.

We are glad to be able to announce that Mrs. Ozmun is making very satisfactory progress, although still unable to leave the German Hospital; and that the operation has not been found necessary.

Mr. Ravndal, the new Consul General at Constantinople, who has completely recovered, was joined on Wednesday by his wife and five children. It is probable that they will live in Bebek.

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