

The Orient.



March 1, 1911

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 46

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

WORK OF THE LEVANT AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1910.

This Agency has its headquarters at the Bible House, Constantinople. It is 74 years old. The year 1910 has been the best one of its three quarters of a century of life.

Its field includes Bulgaria north of the Balkans, in European Turkey the provinces of Salonica and Adrianople, Constantinople, Asia Minor, Armenia, Mesopotamia, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and the Egyptian Soudan.

Its stock of Bibles has been supplied to a slight extent from New York and London; but by far the greater portion consists of its own publications. During the year, we have printed at Constantinople 8000 copies in Armenian, 18000 copies in Armeno-Turkish, 5000 copies in Osmanli Turkish: at Beirut 58000 copies in Arabic: at Samokov 15000 copies in Bulgarian: and at London a small edition in Armenian of Psalms for the Blind, in the Braille characters. At Constantinople we have also printed an edition of 5000 copies of John's Gospel, in a language in which no portion of Scripture had ever before been published, viz. the Chulla. It is the language of a black tribe inhabiting the Sobat country near the junction of the Sobat with the White Nile, not far from Fashoda. The American United Presbyterian Mission, a few years ago, was assigned a field for its activities in that region by Lord Cromer, among a naked and wild, but peaceful tribe. I was personally acquainted with the Missionaries who were brave enough to undertake that mission in the face of unusually trying circumstances. I never saw anywhere more unselfish devotion to principle. They found there a language without signs or characters of any kind. They mastered it, adapted to it the Roman alphabet, and sent to us for publication this translation by themselves of the Gospel of John, to be the first printed portion of Scripture available to this interesting tribe.

It has been difficult to meet the increasing demand for Scriptures in the various languages of the Levant. This difficulty would have been far more embarrassing but for the fact that for some years an important part of the Agency's work has been the manufacture of Electro-plates, so that now we have such plates for nearly all our Arabic, Turkish, Armenian, and Armeno-Turkish Scriptures. This of course greatly facilitates the speedy production of new editions as they become necessary. During this year, plates have been in process of manufacture for two very important books, not previously stereotyped, viz. a large reference Armenian and a large reference Arabic Bible. Then at London, the Agency

has had stereotyped the Book of Psalms, and the Gospel of Luke, both of them in Armenian and in the Braille characters for the Blind. At present, the Gospel of John is being stereotyped in these same characters in the Armeno-Turkish for the Blind. All these plates of Scriptures for the Blind are kept at London, as there the editions needed can be printed with greater facility.

The active work of Bible distribution has been carried on through Missionaries, and Bible Colporteurs. In Bulgaria 5 colporteurs have been employed: in European Turkey and Constantinople 11: in Asia Minor 23: in Syria 3: in Egypt 20: and in the Soudan only one. Many of these men have had the assistance of Missionaries, Preachers, Armenian and Greek Ecclesiastics, Turkish Hodjas, teachers, prominent citizens, shopkeepers, travelling peddlers & c., in their work of distribution. In all, 154000 copies of the Bible or parts of the Bible have been distributed, which is 41000 more than last year and 25000 more than ever before in any one year.

In this distribution 28 languages are represented.

The Arabic heads the list with over 89000 copies. This is the famous and scholarly version begun by Dr. Eli Smith of the Syrian Mission in 1848, and finished by Dr. Van Dyck in 1864. The work was done under the auspices and at the expense of the American Bible Society.

Next in order is the Armenian with its nearly 19000 copies: but besides this to be reckoned in Armenian distribution were some 11000 copies in Ararat Armenian, Armeno-Turkish and Armeno-Kurdish. After the Armenian comes the Bulgarian with a distribution of nearly 13000 copies. Among these is included an edition of the Four Gospels issued by the Bulgarian Synod. This edition seemed to be a good one and was taken up by the Agency after careful investigation by competent Americans and Bulgarians. Later on, however, as it became better known it was severely criticised by Bulgarian scholars, and its further circulation was discountenanced. There is talk of a new and improved edition. The Agency welcomes these efforts by the Orthodox churches, and is quite ready to co-operate with them in the distribution, when satisfied as to the worthiness of the translation.

In Osmanli Turkish, there was a distribution of over 6000 copies. In Greek 4000, and in Greco-Turkish 3000 copies were circulated. In English there were nearly 3000 copies, in languages for the Jews, also, about 3000: and smaller numbers in French, German, Russian, Syriac, and various other languages.

Bible Colportage has been free from the petty official annoyances, which formerly hampered us. Our men have travelled and worked with perfect freedom in the villages and

among all classes of the population. As a rule they have everywhere and by all been treated with respect and courtesy. The hardships of travel in Turkey have not yet grown less. There are the same difficulties in securing horses and conveyances, the same impracticable roads, the same rude stopping places. Three cases of attacks from robbers have been reported. In one case the brigands were waiting for a government shipment of arms into the interior, and were greatly amused when they found they had mistaken their game and lighted upon a meek purveyor of books. The colporteur was wide awake to his opportunity. He invited the attention of the robbers while he read to them from the New Testament. The leader of the band was greatly affected and declared that had he come in touch with this wonderful book before, he would not have had the blood of his 150 victims to answer for, and that he would never kill another man. The story does not tell whether he promised to abandon his intention to rob the government: let us hope that that also finally became incorporated with his good resolutions.

One of our colporteurs recently died at the height of his usefulness, Mr. Evangelos Zikas of Trebizond, a humble, devout Christian man, an earnest and unselfish worker. During the last four years of the reign of Hamidianism, this good man was held up by the authorities and effectually debarred from prosecuting his work. He did what he could in a quiet way, but the situation was very trying to him, and probably aided the disease which was beginning even then its insidious work. The day after the constitution was proclaimed, he zealously resumed his work like a free man, doing his best for promoting the circulation of God's Word. In general, the work of the Colporteurs is quiet and unheralded, but rich in its results. I was quite recently permitted to call together at Cairo our 22 Egyptian colporteurs. Our two days conference was most interesting and stimulating: and I was greatly encouraged by the increasing sense of responsibility shown by these men, as well as by their steady advance in spiritual life.

The United Presbyterians in Egypt and the Soudan greatly appreciate the Bible Society's Colportage work, and heartily co-operate in efforts for its steady promotion.

In our Publication work, also, we have been subject to no official restrictions whatever. Formerly no Bible could be printed without a permit from the Department of Public Instruction. That permit when secured was good for only five years, and then a renewal was necessary. Things had become so bad, that even to secure such a renewal of the permit required six months and some times a whole year. Now Bibles can be printed in Constantinople with the same freedom as in London or New York.

The present year is the Tercentenary of the King James version of the English Bible. The Bible Societies are making a special effort to interest the public in the history of the English version, and the immense influence it has had in all the better developments of modern life. The exact date of the publication of the King James version is unknown, and no date can be assigned as preeminently the day for the celebration. The American Bible Society has recommended that April 23 be observed, and calls on all friends of the Bible to gratefully acknowledge the supreme place which the King James translation has filled in the spiritual life of English people throughout the world.

M. BOWEN.

THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

45th Session (Feb. 22). The Minister of Finance was given the floor for his declaration concerning the Budget of 1327. He gave a brief history of financial conditions since the advent of the new regime. At the proclamation of the Constitution, Djavid Bey said that there was a balance in hand of 329,000 piastres, and an immediate loan of Lt. 4,500,000 was of necessity secured. In 1909 an extraordinary budget of Lt. 5,300,000 was voted by the Chamber after the counter-revolution in April. The Austrian indemnity gave the treasury Lt. 2,500,000; while at Yildiz were found Lt. 500,000 in cash and Lt. 450,000 in securities; and at the German Reichsbank, Lt. 733,000. Certain real estate belonging to the civil list or the war department was to have been sold, but a good price could not be obtained for it and it was not sold. The budget of 1326 (1910-1911) reached 37 million liras, as against receipts of 26 millions. Against this deficit, four banks advanced half a million liras each; and a second loan was contracted. The Minister explained in detail the placing of this loan, and went on to speak of the prospects. The harvests of last year were excellent. The railroads had done so much better that only Lt. 500,000 had to be paid as kilometric guarantees in place of Lt. 900,000 estimated. The first nine months of 1326 indicated a substantial increase of receipts from taxes and from customs dues.

46th Session (Feb. 23). Continuing his address on the budget, Djavid Bey explained the expenses of the year 1326, commenting on the difficulties he had inherited from the despotic regime and the consequent need of extraordinary budgets. He then dwelt on the new budget, calling attention to the principle he had quoted to the Chamber, «The deficit in the budget has an educational value,» in that it compelled thought as to methods of balancing the budget; also to the words of the Commission on the budget, «States that are obliged to have recourse to foreign loans to cover their deficits, limit their own national future.» He pointed out the means of attaining national prosperity as of two kinds, means for preserving the state, and means for ensuring internal progress; and said that funds expended on army and navy constituted a sort of insurance premium, while money spent on public works was productive money, so that both were justifiable. After reviewing both sides of the new budget, he said the deficit of Lt. 7,000,000 was not really so bad, since Lt. 3,000,000 had been saved from the year 1326. He pointed out new sources of revenue from which an increase of Lt. 5,000,000 was expected. His whole speech was cautious but optimistic.

47th Session (Feb. 25). In reply to the question of Kegham Effendi (Moush), the Minister of Agriculture, Mines and Forests acknowledged that the cattle plague known as epizooty was raging in the provinces of Erzeroum, Van and Bitlis; and that, owing to the scarcity of veterinary surgeons and of serum, the necessary measures could not immediately be taken to eradicate it. The supply of both serum and surgeons was to be increased as fast as possible, and the Minister said the plague would be stopped in a few years. Kegham Effendi

di stated that in Moush 3,200 cattle had died, and in Baibourt 1,900 within three days. The Chamber proceeded to discuss the increasing by the Senate, without consultation, of the salary of its first secretary from 3,000 to 4,000 piastres per month. The Constitution having given the Chamber the right to discuss all details of all budgets, it was decided that the 12,000 piastres thus drawn extra by the first secretary of the Senate be refunded to the treasury, and that in future the budget of the Senate be discussed in detail by the Chamber.

48th Session (Feb. 27). Mahir Said Bey, on the part of the budget commission, reported that the estimates of the Minister of Finance had been cut down Lt. 500,000, in the interests of economy, and that the commission felt that they ought to have been reduced another million liras. He expressed regret that the budget of expenses was increasing at the rate of three millions a year, while the receipts did not show a corresponding increase; and praised the declaration of Djavid Bey that after the year 1327, no further loan should be contracted. Many deputies followed with criticisms of the financial policy of the government, among them the *ulema* Hafiz Ibrahim Effendi, Mr. Cosmides, and Loutfi Fikri Bey. The Greek deputy from Constantinople was not choice in his use of language and was forced to retract some phrases. Loutfi Fikri Bey inveighed against the heavy budget of the war department and the crime of giving so little to public works and to education.

A COMMUNICATION FROM THE BALKAN COMMITTEE.

A leader in the *Tanin* this week dwells at length upon the impression made by certain utterances of Mr. Noel Buxton, M.P., President of the Balkan Committee in England, during his recent stay in Sofia after a visit to Constantinople. The Sofia reporter misquoted the honorable president, representing him as saying that the Christians of Macedonia ought to unite against the Young Turks. The *Tanin* now reports the receipt of a letter from Mr. Buxton, declaring that he never expressed such an opinion. Thus, says the *Tanin*, the regrettable phase of the question is closed.

Such a calumny might well draw out a denial; for the Balkan Committee is the friend of every race in the Balkan provinces of Turkey, and has already shown its true friendship for the Turks as well as for the other Ottomans. And a fresh proof of this universal interest has just come to us. In a letter to Mr. Peet, received on Monday, Mr. Buxton reports a decision of the Balkan Committee to collect funds for helping the educational movements of all the different nationalities, specifying in his letter the Turks, the Albanians, the Armenians, the Bulgarians and the Greeks. This certainly ought to indicate to the Young Turkish leaders that in the eyes of English people the various nationalities are all important and all worthy of such aid. And every well-wisher of the Ottoman Empire joins with the Balkan Committee in desiring the educational advance of all the races in the country. No one

of them can be neglected without injury to all the rest. The budget now before the Chamber of Deputies makes a most painful impression upon the friends of the empire, in that it proposes a reduction of the already too small appropriation for public instruction, cutting off Lt. 26,398 as compared with the budget of the previous year. More than ten times as much is appropriated for the war department as for education, aside from the amounts for the gendarmerie and for the navy. The hope for the future of the country lies in the right kind of education; and the Balkan Committee by this its latest step is proving itself a true friend of every race in the empire.

PROJECTED RAILROADS IN TURKEY.

When all the projects for new railroads now on paper are actually carried out, the map of the Ottoman Empire will be considerably modernized. These most essential arteries of trade will also do wonders in building up the commerce of the country. In addition, the railroads will be invaluable from a military viewpoint, in facilitating the movement of troops in case of trouble. Such large enterprises, however, in the present economic state of the empire, are possible only with the aid of foreign gold; and the discussion of new railroad projects is therefore fraught with international complications, especially in the case of the extension of the Baghdad line. The recent flurry caused by the interview of Tsar and Kaiser about Persian railways shows that in regard to their junctions with the lines of other lands there are other international complications brought in. The thorny question of the political status of Koweit, on the Persian Gulf, has its connection too with the Baghdad Railroad.

Four lines, in four widely separated sections of the empire, may be said to be actually on the point of starting construction. One is to go from Koumanovo, on the Nisch-Salonica line, to Kustendil, in southwest Bulgaria, to connect with Sofia. This line goes nearly east and west, and serves the territory between the Serbo-Turkish line and the main line of the Oriental Railroad, chiefly Turkish territory. It is to be constructed by the Oriental Railroad Co. A second line is that from Samsoun to Sivas, going through Kavza, Amasia and Tokat. This is to be built by the Turkish Government, but with foreign financial aid. The engineers and workmen are reported as at Samsoun, and only awaiting better weather to commence operations. The already enormous traffic of this route will be still further facilitated by the advent of this railroad. The third line now starting is that between the capital of Yemen, Sanaa, and its port, Hodeida. This is hindered for the present by the overcharged political atmosphere; and so long as military operations are being actively pushed along that route, the civil engineers will lay low. The fourth enterprise now practically under way is the prolonging of the Baghdad Railway from Eregli through the Taurus Mountains and via Adana and Osmanieh to Helif. From an engineering point of view, this is the most difficult

section of the whole line. The remaining 600 kilometres to Baghdad is much more nearly level. The present section will also open up the rich Cilician plain, and connect with the Adana-Mersin route to the Mediterranean. To these four projects of the immediate future can be added the doubling of the track of the Oriental line from the Sirkedji terminus as far as San Stefano, the work on which is to be begun this month.

Several other lines are decided upon, and will be commenced very soon. One is that from Bandurma, the ancient Panormus, on the Marmora, southward through Balukesir to Soma, connecting with the line from Manisa (Magnesia) through Ak Hissar (Thyatira) to Soma. The independent *sanjak* of Balukesir is a province unusually rich in mineral wealth of all sorts; and comparatively few mines are yet being worked. The advent of the railroad, with probably a branch to Edrenit (Adramyttium), will do much to develop these mineral resources. Another assured line is to run north from Baba Eski, on the Oriental Railroad, to Kurk Kilise. This is a strategic necessity from a military point of view, but will also do much to develop the central portion of the Adrianople *vilayet*. Another scheme, apparently still somewhat vague, is for the continuation of the Eski Shehir to Angora railroad as far as Sivas. This would supposably go through Yozgat, and would make Sivas a very important junction. For here is where another and a very large project begins, which is especially interesting to Americans, — the Chester-Colt project. This syndicate proposes to run a line eastward from Sivas through Harpout, Moush and Bitlis to Van; and from somewhere not far from Harpout, another section southwest to Youmourtaluk, on the gulf of Alexandretta, thus crossing the track of the Baghdad Railroad. This latter, fully aware of the advantage of such a southern seaport, is already negotiating for a branch to run to the town of Alexandretta. As to the continuation of the Baghdad line to the Persian Gulf, the line as far as Basra is practically assured; while the British are eager to have it carried around to Koweit as well.

Another short seaport connection projected is a line from Tripoli in Syria northeast to Homs, to connect with the line from Aleppo to Damascus.

There are two other lines in European Turkey whose routes are not yet fully determined. One is that which is to connect the Greek railroads with the Turkish, and run between Larissa and Salonica. But while the Ottoman Government wishes this line carried inland, the Greeks prefer to have it on the coast. This question will delay operations, as each side seems insistent on its own view. The second is a proposed Danube-Adriatic railroad, for which two distinct routes are suggested. The more northern route goes through the cities of Prishtina and Prisrend and reaches the Adriatic at San Giovanni de Medua. This is the shorter of the two routes, and also by far the more difficult of construction, involving several tunnels, each a mile or more in length, and the carrying of the line to a height of 1,400 metres. The other route goes from Usküb through Kalkandelen to Alessio, very near the other seaport. While this line would go through a more productive country, and would need to be carried only 900 metres high, it would make the distance from the Adriatic to the Servian frontier 335 kilometres in place of 270 by the other route. A French company is trying to obtain this concession.

SEVERE WINTER WEATHER CONTINUES.

Letters from many points tell of extraordinary cold and snows. Mr. Wingate reports the thermometer at Talas on Feb. 2nd at 15° below zero, with roads blocked by snows. Dr. Tracy writes from Marsovan on Feb. 14th, "There has been for several weeks heavy snow all over the country here; the roads are blocked between here and Samsoun, in many places with drifts higher than a man's head, and no mails have passed either way for some time. We hope the ways may be getting open as we have not heard from our friends for about two weeks from any source otherwise than by telegraph." Dr. Christie writes from Tarsus, Feb. 6, "The *third* severe snow-storm within 12 days! From 3 to 10 degrees of frost every night for two weeks. Deep snow all over the plain. A man of 80 years says he recalls nothing to equal this weather. We hear of many deaths. Mrs. C. is out every day, helping the most needy." From Jerusalem comes a despatch announcing 40 centimetres of snow all over that region, and a severe storm which at Jericho has damaged hotels and uprooted trees. Many small boats were wrecked at Jaffa. In the midst of very severe snowstorms, an earthquake shock was felt at Erzeroum on Feb. 24th, and on the same day at Kastemoni and its environs. At Sparta and Ak Shehir, the schools have been obliged to close on account of the severe cold, the thermometer showing -25° C., or -13° F.

The following despatches just received by Mr. Peet, speak for themselves:—

Diarbekir, Feb. 20.

Two hundred Jews starving. Implore immediate help from Jewish headquarters.

WARD.

Marash, Feb. 13.

Heavy snow fall continues in Marash. Great suffering. Speaking only of the Christians, 2000 workmen having families have not been able to do any work for forty days. The condition of the villages around Marash is even more deplorable. We need Lt. 300 at once.

GOODSELL.

Aintab, Feb. 18.

In five weeks only one post. Six blizzards. Heaviest snow in sixty years. Lowest temperature recorded. All work stopped. Communication with villages cut off. Great distress in city for food and especially fuel. Charcoal twice price of bread.

MERRILL.

GOOD NEWS FROM MACEDONIA.

STROUMNITZA KAZA, KOLESHINO VILLAGE.

Feb. 17, 1911.

Dear Mr. Peet,

I have been away from home touring three weeks tomorrow, and may be two or three weeks more. Possibly a few notes will interest you, or the readers of the *Orient*, or both.

About St. Demeter's Day (Nov. 8), a conference of Evangelical Churches of central European Turkey was held in Monospitovo village of Stroumnitza Kaza. It was greatly enjoyed and seems to have aroused the local church to new life. When the Week of Prayer began, the villagers poured out in crowds to the meetings, regardless of distinction between Orthodox and Protestant. So great was the interest that the people asked to have the meetings continued another week. Then a preacher from Doiran went to help the local preacher, and so the meetings went on nearly four weeks. Differences among church members were healed, and new converts made. To me, who came in at the end to help gather in the fruits, the case of one young man gave especial joy. He had become deeply absorbed in the revolutionary movement, some years ago, and seemed to have lost all his spiritual susceptibilities. His very face was gross and hard. I have watched his development for sixteen years. On beginning to preach Saturday evening, Feb. 4, I quickly noticed him among the hearers, and marked the change in his look at once. His face had softened and got back its long-ago boyish aspect. He staid to enquirers' meeting after the sermon, and what a handshake we had! He hopes to be received at the next communion along with several others. We received five to this church last Sunday.

Afterwards I held meetings for nine days in the neighboring village of Murtino. Here again the building was usually packed and some standing through the sermons. The church can hold 200 if crowded. Some fourteen people expressed desire for a new life in these meetings.

This village of Koleshino is the one in which the Evangelical church building was burned in Nov. 1908. You remember that eleven men were sentenced to life imprisonment for this crime; they appealed to the Court of Cassation, obtained a retrial, and were acquitted. Of these, two are regular attendants now at the services in the new and better building since erected. Their mother has applied for reception to communion. The Doiran preacher held five meetings here last week, in which 23 people gave their names for membership. The previous total membership (communicants) was 24. In the two years since the building was burned, the community has increased from 20 or 30 to 100. There is every prospect of steady future growth. The long years of revolutionary activity were years of spiritual drought. The people now look back on them as a time of temporary frenzy or insanity. In this district, at least, there is a sound as of coming "showers of blessing."

EDWARD B. HASKELL.

P. S. Monday, Feb. 20.

Yesterday was a red-letter day. I had the privilege of receiving twenty-seven communicants on confession, thus bringing the number up in a day from 24 to 51. In the evening meeting, three others asked for prayers, and probably soon will be ready to be received. I do not think that such a number ever were received before, on a single occasion, in the history of the European Turkey Mission. One of the men accused of burning the building was received, with his mother.

They afterwards invited me home, and gave me a royal welcome. Religion is more commonly the topic of conversation on the streets and in the shops and homes of this village than any other place I know. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS.

Weather Report for the week February 18-25.
(Observations taken at 8 A. M. daily)

Maximum temperature (February 20)	54.2° F.
Minimum " (February 18)	26.° "
Rainfall for the week	1.84 inches

On Wednesday afternoon there was a Concert given by the music students and the Chorus.

On Saturday evening some of the students had a very successful carnival party in the Pagoda.

On Sunday February 26th Mr. D. Alton Davis, Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. for Constantinople addressed the students on the work of the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations and the World's Student Christian Federation which is to meet here this Spring.

We should have noted last week the lecture of M. Santo Semo, Engineer, on Mesopotamia, its history, peoples, irrigation, canals and schemes ancient and modern, with a description of the plans of Sir William Willcocks, which was given on February 16th at the Preparatory School at Arnaoutkeuy. The lecture was illustrated with 100 stereopticon slides.

PROPOSED AUTONOMY FOR YEMEN.

A project has been submitted by Loutfi Fikri Bey, of the Dersim, to the chamber's committee on bills, granting a large measure of autonomy to the province of Yemen. This proposal, coming from the Opposition, has yet in it so much of hope for a favorable solution of the South Arabian difficulty that it will doubtless receive at least an interested hearing on the part of the government. Loutfi Fikri Bey proposes the appointment by the Sultan of a governor-general who shall reside at Sanaa, and shall be assisted by a council of five müdiris, or directors of departments, for the interior, education, justice, agriculture, and public works respectively, as well as by a legal counsellor. The legislative power is vested in a diet, or general assembly, composed of the tribal chiefs, of representatives from the cities, elected by the people of the cities, one to each 5,000 inhabitants, of the higher officers of the province, and of a number of *seids* or men educated in the religious law, - these last to be nominated by the governor-general. The governor is to have absolute veto power, subject only to appeal to the Grand Vizier. Any measure passed by the assembly that is contrary to the Ottoman constitution or to the treaties, may be annulled by the council of State at Constantinople. The imperial government is to make up any deficit in the provincial budget up to Lt. 100,000.

EMPIRE NEWS.

The Capital.

The British steamer *Ottawa*, recently bought by the Ottoman government for use as a hospital ship, is none other than the famous old White Star liner *Germanic*, 5,000 tons, built in 1874. She is fitted with refrigerating machinery, and submarine signalling apparatus, and makes 16 1/2 knots an hour.

The new cruiser ordered by the Admiralty from the Ansaldo firm, is to be delivered at Constantinople in September.

The new central heating plants at the custom-houses in Stamboul and Galata have just been completed and inaugurated with great ceremony.

The city prefecture announces that henceforth the Karaeuy bridge, commonly known as Galata bridge, will be open for the passage of merchant ships nightly from 1:30 a. m. to 3 a. m. except on Fridays and holidays.

His Majesty the Sultan is to be represented at the coronation of King George V. of England by the heir-apparent, Prince Yousouf Izzeddin. On his return the Prince will visit the international exposition at Turin.

The *Ekklesiastike Aletheia*, the organ of the Greek Patriarchate, gives the number of Greek gymnasia in the archiepiscopate of Constantinople at 9, with 167 teachers and 3425 students; 64 lycées, with 257 teachers and 12,401 students, besides 5 private schools, with 87 teachers and 705 students, or a total of 78 Greek schools with 16,531 students.

Mgr. Vahram Mangouni has been chosen as *Locum tenens* of the Armenian Patriarchate.

The Turkish dailies announce that Assif Bey, secretary in the Senate, has invented a machine that is to be used in the army. This machine is guaranteed to free the troops in time of war from danger of cold in winter and from lack of water in summer, as well as to preserve them from every sickness; it can boil water and cook food as well. This remarkable inventor has also produced a tent so arranged that the soldier can sleep a half-metre above the ground, thus ensuring the freedom of the soldiers from dysentery.

The Hamburg-American tourist steamer *Meteor* visited this port last week with 200 German tourists on board. The White Star liner *Arabic*, with 600 American and British tourists, arrived Sunday night, Feb. 26, and left Tuesday afternoon.

THE PROVINCES.

The Bulgarian Sobranje has unanimously passed the provisional Turco-Bulgarian commercial convention.

From the Russian Black Sea port of Novorossisk comes the news of the wreck of two British steamers and one Greek steamer, in the recent storms.

The Turkish steamer *Hürriyet*, which was returning from the Red Sea with pilgrims from Mecca, was burned at sea near Yambo on Feb. 23rd. All the 800 persons on board were saved.

Earthquake shocks continue at Ochrida and other places in the vilayet of Monastir, and considerable damage has been done. H. I. M. the Sultan has sent Lt. 200 as aid to the sufferers.

The government has met the appeal of the authorities at Ourfa with an appropriation of Lt. 500 for aid to the sufferers from the extreme cold of this winter.

A great deal of complaint is made by the Copts in Egypt especially in Upper Egypt, that the local authorities discriminate against them, taxing them heavily and not granting them educational advantages equal to those of the Moslems.

Colonel Lapathiotis, formerly Greek Minister of War, who was arrested by order of Mr. Venizelos on suspicion of inciting acts of insubordination, has been acquitted by a military court.

A battle has taken place at Menahe between the forces of the Imam Yahya and the imperial troops, in which the rebels were put to flight leaving 130 dead on the field. Sixty-one of the troops were killed.

It is announced that His Majesty the Sultan will make a tour through Macedonia and Albania in the spring, going by sea to Salonica.

The Russian S. S. *Tsar*, which had stranded on the island of Tenedos, has been refloated and has proceeded to Odessa.

Monday, Feb. 26th, was the fiftieth birthday of King Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

NOTES.

On Feb. 17th, a long and useful life was brought to a close at Beyrout. Mrs. Mary B. S. Crawford, widow of the late Rev. John Crawford, was for many years a missionary in Damascus, but had latterly resided in Beyrout. She was born at Argyle, New York, March 30th, 1835, and was thus nearly seventy-six years old.

We regret to announce the death at Buyukdere, on Monday night, of Mrs. Manougian, daughter of Hagop Effendi Boyadjian, the Civil Representative of the Protestant community. She leaves three children.

Today is the 78th birthday of Rev. George Washburn, D. D., ex-president of Robert College.

Rev. T. F. Barker and Mr. Luther Fowle left this morning for Ereğli by rail, en route to Everek and Talas respectively.

Mrs. Carter, wife of the American Minister, has returned from a visit to London.

LIFE AND FIRE INSURANCE.

"Royal" and "Lancashire" Insurance Companies.

Funds over £16,500,000 Stg.

Absolute security, liberal conditions, prompt settlement of Claims, etc.



CHEMICAL FIRE EXTINGUISHER

The "Underwriter".

Of American manufacture, superior construction, portable, always ready, and simple to operate. A necessity in every household, and particularly schools, public buildings, etc.

PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING MACHINERY

Of every description and latest models.

For above, Apply to

A. W. SELLAR & Co.

Altiparmak Han, Tchitchek Bazar, Stamboul.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE.

INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Assets Exceed £11,000,000.

This Company, so favourably known throughout the States, has recently opened a **Branch Office** for Turkey in Constantinople. Prompt attention will be given to proposals for **Fire and Life** business and expert advice on Life business will be gladly given on application to **WALTER SEAGER & Co.**, Agents at Constantinople, or **N. K. PLUMMER**, Branch **MANAGER**.

W. W. PEET, Esq. has kindly consented to answer any enquiries for references.

CONSTANTINOPLE HOTEL BRISTOL

BUILT EXPRESSLY WITH ALL LATEST INNOVATIONS

The only one with an American Elevator

One of the most luxurious Hotels of the Continent

SPLENDID VIEW OF THE BOSPHORUS AND THE GOLDEN HORN

Ladies Drawing Rooms Reading and Smoking Rooms; Post, Telephone, etc.

SPLENDID PORCELAIN BATH ROOMS AT EVERY APPARTMENT

Perfect English Sanitary Arrangements

BEST ENGLISH & FRENCH COOKING
(COOK'S SPECIAL COUPONS)

Dr. C. F. MALBON

AMERICAN DENTIST

13, Rue des Petits Champs

CONSTANTINOPLE.

Office hours.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

THE "ECONOMIC" CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY L^{TD}

CONSTANTINOPLE.

HEAD OFFICE: 1, Rue Hezarène, Galata.

Branches: **PERA**, 12, Tepe-Bachi.
KADIKEUI, 21, Muhurdar Djatessi.
STAMBOUL, 15, Rue Eski Zaptié.
PERA, 5, Tunnel Han. Book, & Newspaper.

Special Parcel Post Department for all the Towns of Turkey. Goods shipped also to Bulgaria, Servia, Roumania.

Price lists in Turkish, French, or English giving full Details, free from the Head Office.

1, Rue Hezarène, Galata.

Telegrams "ECONOMIC" Galata

