

Bible House, Stamboul, January 2nd, 1929

Dear Friends:-

A Happy New Year to everybody in the family! May the rich blessings of our Heavenly Father crown the year for each of us, and may we be conscious of them every day, and live worthily of them.

Our sympathies go out to Mrs Alexanian of the American Academy, Scutari, who had the misfortune last Thursday to break her arm while boarding a steamer at the Bridge.

The 104 girls in the Girls' High School at Aleppo (all day pupils) should be added to the list of attendance at American institutions given in our issue of four weeks ago, bringing up the total in American Board institutions in Syria to 907, and that in all American institutions in the Near East to 5273.

Nedjati Bey, Minister of Public Instruction at Angora, died there yesterday, after an unsuccessful operation for appendicitis. The Turkish University in Stamboul is closed today in consequence, out of respect to his memory. Until the appointment of a new Minister, Ismet Pasha, the Prime Minister, will direct the department.

Miss Greeno, Miss Eastman and three of the instructors of International College, together with a score or more of the students, have arrived in Constantinople to spend their winter vacation. Three of the American staff of Athens college for Boys are also in this city for the holidays.

News has come of the birth of a baby boy to Mr and Mrs (Dorothea Chambers) Blaisdell, who are now at Columbia University, New York. We regret our inability to give the exact date.

Miss Lucille Day, of the Salonica Girls' School, has been spending part of her Christmas vacation in a trip to Italy.

Several copies of "Constantinople Today" the social survey of the city made during the armistice period, by a group of Americans, are on sale at the Bible House, and may be ordered through Treasurer Fowle. The mass of information contained in this book is of increasing value, as the copies available become rarer. Reduced price: \$2.00.

Mr and Mrs J. K. Birgo are planning to go to Adana this week, in addition to the delegates for the Regional Conference already mentioned.

The Mission Language School has resumed its sessions, after a Christmas vacation of two weeks.

The annual Twelfth-Night performance of the Hissar Players will be given in the Social Hall of Robert College on Thursday afternoon, January 4th at 2:30, and on Saturday evening, January 5th, at 8:30. The play to be presented is "Trelawny of the Wells" by P-inero. Reserved seats may be obtained by application to Mr Adams, Bursar, at Robert College.

The annual Calendar in Turkish and English, issued by the International College, has appeared for 1929. It is attractively printed, in two colors and with a few illustrations.

Miss Edith E. Lamme, of the Presbyterian Board Mission in Tabriz, Persia, arrived in Constantinople today, on her way to America on furlough.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

The Mid-year Council or, as it is now called, the Regional Conference, is meeting this week in Adana to transact the customary half-yearly business of the Mission. Delegates from Constantinople were Messrs Riggs, Goodsell, Fowle and Markham while Mr and Mrs Birge went along for company. Dr Reid represented Smyrna, Miss Noyes Merzifoun; Mr Nilson, Talas and Caesarea; Messrs Isely and Pence, Aintab; Mr Lyman Marash. It was expected that the sessions would last from the seventh through to the evening of the ninth.

The summer climate of Adana is justly famous. Any one who has experienced a few days of it will be glad to furnish particulars. This ambitious city is now making a strong bid for the winter tourist business as well. The previous paragraph shows that it is an excellent center for conferences. The Misses Kinney, Lindsley and Nash of Scutari, who returned yesterday from a holiday visit to Adana, are warm in their praises of its hospitality and its winter sports.

The sudden death on New Year's Day of Nejati Bey, Minister of Education, is an event which closely affects the educational work of the Mission in Turkey. Nejati Bey was a man of great energy who, though only thirty six years old, had held several important posts in the Government before his appointment as Minister of Education a little over two years ago. Since then he has pushed the building of schools all over the country, and to him fell the heavy task of teaching the whole Turkish nation the Latin characters officially adopted the first of November. The appointment of his successor is awaited with interest by all who are responsible for schools in Turkey. The name of Vasif Bey, at present Minister in Moscow, is mentioned for the position. For the present, Ismet Pasha has assumed the portfolio.

The popular schools for teaching the new characters opened on the first of January. All persons of both sexes between the ages of 16 and 40 are compelled to obtain the certificate that they can read and write. Those who can pass the examinations immediately do not need to attend, but all others must attend until they learn. Women come during the afternoon, if possible, the men and employed women in the evenings. Over fifteen hundred such classes have been opened in Constantinople alone. To visit one of these classes, where fifty grown men who have never learned to read are wrestling laboriously but hopefully with their ABC's, is to receive a new faith for the future of Turkey.

Born to Dr and Mrs Riefstahl, at the American Hospital, Constantinople, a son. A similar event took place in Philadelphia early in December when Virginia Fisher Schwartz arrived to cheer the home of "Mary M. Fisler" (Mrs Schwartz).

Miss Edith Lammé of the Presbyterian Mission at Urumiah, Persia, sailed for Italy and America on the 5th. She reports that Persia is following step by step the same course which has been taken by the Turkish revolution. The "Pehlivi" caps with their stiff, black visor are universal and have recently made their appearance among the Persians of Constantinople. The unveiling of women and the introduction of compulsory secular education are going forward rapidly. After their late difficulties with the Department of Education the mission schools are now permitted to give a course of "Teachings of the Prophets" which satisfied both parties. In Urumiah the Government supports separate schools for the Jews and Syrian Christians just as it does the regular schools.

A gala New Year's reception took place at the Talas School on January 1st. The parents and friends were greatly pleased with the progress which is being made.

The Week of Prayer is being observed by the Protestant community at Gedik Pasha Church. The meetings are alternately in Armenian and Turkish and commence at 7:30.

Yours truly,

Lyman MacCallum

Dear Friends:-

The Regional Conference of the Turkey Area of the American Board Mission in the Near East had a very successful and happy meeting in Adana. Organization was perfected Saturday evening, January 15th, and there were appropriate services on Sunday, including the sermon by Mr Woolworth, the Lord's Supper administered by Mr Birge, and the little Mary Carmelite Nute by Dr Goodsell, as well as reports in the evening from the eight Turkey stations.

The Conference voted the designation of Miss Feichtinger to Smyrna, Miss Colmyer to Merzifoun, Mr and Mrs Blake to Erenkeuy, Constantinople for three years, and Mr and Mrs Meyering to Tarsus. Other locations are more or less tentative, depending on Committee and Interim action.

An invitation was sent to Dr Albert G. Weidler, Dean of Labor at Beres College, Kentucky, to spend three or four months visiting the schools of the Mission next year, ending up with being present at the Annual Meeting of 1930.

Everybody enjoyed greatly the hospitality of the Adana people, whether at the well-organized Hotel at the Girls' School, or at the Hospital, or at the Nute home. Those who had the chance to visit Tarsus after the meeting, were most comfortably cared for by Mr and Mrs Woolworth. The sessions lasted only through Monday and Tuesday, and then various delegates visited Mersin, Marash, Aintab, and Konia; while the Board of Managers of Tarsus College had a business meeting at Tarsus.

Mrs Block, with Messrs. Clark and Hazen, took a trip to Talas during the winter holidays from Tarsus. From Salonica, Dr Lietzau, Miss Roberts and Mr Hine visited the Peloponnesus; Mr Brewster, Mrs Sewny, Miss Arnold, from the College and the Russell family from the Farm School went to see the Meteora Monasteries, above Trikkala; while the Miller sisters from the American Schools at Sofia journeyed via Salonica to Athens.

Mrs Lindbergh, mother of the bird-man, who has been teaching since September at Constantinople College, made a visit to Angora last week as the guest of Ambassador and Mrs Grew. A grand reception was given there in her honor by the Turks, and she was presented with a gold medal by the Aviation Society. On her return here, she left almost immediately for Egypt, from which she will probably go on to America.

The Salonica delegates to the Inter-station Conference at Athens were Dr Lietzau, Mr Brewster and Mr Compton. We are informed that it had one of the most helpful sessions thus far.

The dedication of the newly constructed building of the Second Greek Evangelical Church at Athens took place Sunday afternoon, January 6th. It is a pleasant building, though the facilities for Sunday School work have not as yet been completed. The pastor, Dr Xenophon P. Moschou, is to be congratulated on the achievement.

Miss Noyes of Merzifoun, who has been studying in the Language School after her year of furlough, left Constantinople on Saturday last by steamer for Samsoun on her return to her station.

Miss A. M. Burgess, formerly of Koum Kapou, Constantinople, has returned to her work in Corfu, Greece, after six months absence in England, during which she sold Lstg. 3,000 worth of the hand-work she is superintending among the Armenian refugees.

Dr Goodsell would like to locate his copy of William Adams Brown's Beliefs that Matter, which some one probably forgot to return after the Annual Meeting of last summer.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

Rev. R. F. Markham and Dr C. A. Reed returned last week from a very successful and pleasant visit to Aintab and Marash after the Adana Conference. They got it all in before the severe storm which still harrasses Constantinople and Anatolia; and after a few days' stay in this city, Dr Reed started back last evening by steamer for Smyrna and his duties in International College.

News comes from Dr and Mrs Martin, in Claremont, California, of the birth of a granddaughter; the child of their daughter Isabel, the little one's name being Dorothy Martin Tracy. Dr. Martin had recovered from an attack of influenza, and was quite well.

The Stamboul Branch of the Y.M.C.A. is celebrating its eight anniversary this week Friday. It has just secured a large number of new members.

Word has come from Miss Ida W. Prime, formerly of Constantinople College and of our Mission, that she has quite recovered her health and has gone back to her old home in Huntington, L.I. New York, where she has many friends.

A very disastrous fire occurred last night in the Tatavla quarter of Pera, when the high wind swept the flames beyond control, and hundreds were left homeless and shelterless in the deep snow as their houses went up in smoke. A church, a monastery, and the Tatavla Club were also burned.

Rev. J. K. Birge of the Publication Department has gone to the American Hospital and put himself under the surgical care of Dr. Shepard for a few weeks.

Mr and Mrs Dana K. Getchell of Salenica, who have been spending the first half of their furlough in Melrose, Mass., have started out toward Denver, Colorado, making several visits on the way, to relatives and friends. They are in better health, but still have to be careful.

On Friday next, January 25th, at 3:30 PM., occur the graduating exercises of the Nursing Class of 1929 of the American Hospital of Constantinople. The exercises will be held at the Nurses' Home, Bedfettin Apartment, Nishantash, Pera. The class consists of six Turkish students, and the Institution is to be congratulated on the success of their training. Tea will be served at half-past four o'clock. Friends of the Hospital are cordially invited to attend.

Miss Diantha Dewey, who has been invited to help out to the Girls' School at Adana until her permit to go to Mardin is forthcoming, and perhaps for the rest of this school year, is expecting to start from Constantinople in a week or so.

Word has just been received of the death during the last week of December of Mrs John F. Stearns, who with her husband was for a time on the teaching force of the Samkov Schools, Bulgaria. Mr Stearns is now a student in Chicago Theological Seminary, where Mr Frank C. Ferguson, former tutor at the Erenkeuy School Constantinople, is also studying.

Mr Zenop Bezjian, formerly Head of the Protestant Chancery in this city, and Mrs Bezjian, who are not living in Beirut, made a visit of a month or so to Aleppo, spending Christmas and New Years Day there among relatives and old friends.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

Queen Marie, Queen Dowager of Roumania, spent four or five days last week at Robert College. She came from Bucharest on a shopping expedition, and was entertained at the home of Prof. and Mrs. Huntington although they themselves are in America. Mr Damon acted as host, assisted by Prof. L. S. Moore. Mrs. Damon is also in America. She and Mrs Huntington must have sighed in despair over missing the royal visit. Princess Iloana accompanied the Queen, also an aide-de-camp and two or three ladies in waiting. They left on Thursday on their return to Roumania.

Dr Maurice Parmelee, son of the late Dr M.P. Parmelee of Trebizond, and brother of our Dr Ruth Parmelee of Athens, has been in Constantinople since January 20th, on his return from a visit in Russia for the study of conditions there. He stopped in Trebizond on his way, to see the place where he was born; and he goes on from here to visit his sister at her hospital in Kokinia, Piraeus, on his way back to New York, where he lives.

Miss Diantha Dewey left Constantinople January 27th on her way to Adana, where she will assist in the Girls' School while hopefully waiting for permission to proceed to Hardin.

Dr Walter Wright, of Princeton, N.J. who is now studying Turkish in the Mission Language School, gave an interesting address at the American Luncheon Club last Thursday, on the Earliest Americans in Constantinople, speaking of the business men who came here before there was any treaty with Turkey, or between the years 1789 and 1831, including such men as Mr Offley, Mr Rhind and others, up to Commodore David Porter.

Since there have not yet been printed any wall maps in Turkish in the new alphabet, and since there may very soon be an order forbidding the use of those in the Arabic characters, it has been suggested that each school get some of its best artists to make on cloth a map or a series of maps, lettering them with the new characters. Any school which could exhibit such an up-to-date wall map would doubtless earn great merit with the authorities.

We would express our sympathy with Mrs. Raymond White, of International College, now in the Language School, who has just received news of the passing of her father, in America. He was seventy-seven years old.

A party of American Boy Scouts from Beirut went up by train on Saturday, Jan. 19th, to the snow on the top of Mount Lebanon, to have a game or two of snowball and other like winter sports. These boys, living in Beirut, never see any snow there, so this excursion is as it were a restitution of their birthright as American boys.

The ~~boys~~ boys and girls of Constantinople did not have to go far to get their snowballing and coasting, about the same time; for this city saw three or four days of real coasting on the hills above the Bosphorus. Even children of a larger growth shared in the fun.

By an error, this News Sheet stated last week that Mr and Mrs Bezjian were not living in Beirut. The corrected text reads that they are now living in Beirut.

In the great fire at Tatavla, Pera, mentioned in our last number, between four and five hundred houses were destroyed, most of them being the dwellings of the poor, though some rich also suffered. Since the fire-engines had difficulty in finding water in the hydrants the Dercos Water Company is being investigated.

Messrs. Martin and Thompson of the Erenkeuy School have just returned from a vacation trip to Bulgaria. They visited the Samokov and Sofia American schools, and also got in some winter sports at Cham Koria. Three of the Robert College tutors also went up there during their vacation.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Rigg

Dear Friends:

No trains are running, no mails are coming, and there is nothing to talk about with you this week except the great storm. And of that we can only speak as related to Constantinople; for reports have not yet come in from other places. Seldom if ever have we felt so isolated in all directions.

Just a week ago, on Tuesday, the storm began with wind and rain. It increased in violence on Wednesday; and was a veritable gale by Thursday. That afternoon the snow began; and it was not long in whitening the ground. Friday, many people were glad that the Government regulations made it a compulsory holiday; for it was a good day to stay at home. Trolleys ran with difficulty, if at all; and the steamer service to the islands was suspended. Saturday was much worse; and plenty of people were storm-bound. A large proportion of the shops and stores of the city were closed up, as the snow piled higher and higher. The gale drifted the snows so that it was impossible to guess at the depth on a level, for there was no level. Sunday it seemed as if there were a little less wind, but still the drifts mounted, and going became more difficult on the streets. Church services were meagerly attended; and the places of worship were bitterly cold, for the wind pierced through closed doors and windows, and snowdrifts formed in supposedly tight rooms.

By Sunday night, the elements appeared to feel exhausted; the rush of the wind was less terrifying, and people who had sheltered in good buildings slept as they had not for several nights. But the snow kept right on as if the skies were as full as ever. All day Monday, and most of all, through last night, the snow grew deeper and deeper, till the outlook this morning is rather more like Moscow than like the Constantinople of our dreams.

The proverbial oldest inhabitant has been heard from; and he says there has not been a storm like this in the memory of man. There may have been higher winds; we have not yet consulted the city's meteorological records; there has undoubtedly been lower temperature at times; and nobody can assert as to the depth of snowfall, for there is no way of measuring it today, unless as to the height of drifts. But nobody can remember such a combination of fierce winds, intense cold, and constant snow of such depth, continuing for a whole week. Nor can anyone guarantee that we are through with it yet. The north wind still blows, and the sky is very much overcast. But everybody has plucked up courage to come out and dig himself and his shop out, and clear the sidewalks as far as that may be possible.

The daily papers have given us many snow pictures that prove all the above; but unfortunately this little sheet cannot do likewise. Great piles of snow block the main streets and especially the side streets. Many poorly built roofs have caved in from the weight of snow; and inside the Bazaars, the windows in the arched roofs are bulging with the snow that did not cover the goods and showcases.

The papers tell of quite a number of persons frozen to death, and there has been pitiful loss in dogs, cats, and birds. Most parts of the city have still enough to eat; but it has been hard to get bread in places. Many accidents have occurred, in motor and other wheeled traffic. The tale of the sea is yet to be told. Sinister rumors are afloat of steamers ashore, of others not yet heard from on the high seas, etc. in both Black Sea and Aegean and Mediterranean. A number of small craft have been sunk in the harbor, and some lives lost.

We do not yet know how widespread the storm is. Apparently the whole of Central Europe has suffered, and all of western Anatolia. No trains are running on either railroad, not even the suburban trains, which may perhaps commence again today. Passengers on various stalled trains at points along the line have had thrilling escapes with the aid of villagers. Wolves are reported to have come down quite near to houses at the Sweet Waters of Europe, at San Stefano, and on the upper Bosphorus.

Yours very cordially,  
Charles T Riggs

Dear friends:

"With malice toward none, and with charity for all," and with deep sympathy for the Atlantic Monthly, we steadfastly refuse to be drawn, even by the anniversary of today, into the discussion of the genuineness of the Lincoln-Rutledge letters.

Since a great thaw seems to have started today, making the streets swim with slush, and difficult to navigate, it is a comfort to look back to the low temperatures of last week as a thing of the past. It would be hard to find a record of colder nights than last Friday night, when the mercury touched zero, Fahrenheit, and even went below it in some parts of Constantinople. At least, the undersigned saw it at 17 below Centigrade, and the local papers state that in places it went to 25 below. Which being interpreted, is 13 below zero Fahrenheit.

No trains have as yet come through from the north; but the passengers from one stalled at Alpoullou were carried across ~~the~~ to Rodosto, on the Marmora, and brought here by steamer from there. The Anatolian Railroad is running trains to Angora, though with some difficulty.

Among recent visitors to Constantinople (coming by steamer, of course) have been Miss Ingram and Miss King, nurses in the Peking Union Medical College Hospital, the former a daughter of American Board missionaries in Tung-cho, North China. Also Mr Richardson, prominent Chicago Congregational layman and publisher, a distant relative of our Mission Treasurer.

Mr E. O. Jacob, our old friend formerly of the Constantinople Y.M.C.A. staff, has recently taken up his new work in Athens as General Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. there, arriving with his family last month.

Mr J. K. Lyman of Marash went to Aleppo for the meetings of the Managers of Aleppo College and of the Marash Theological Seminary, the latter part of January; and Mr H. E. Riggs persuaded him to go with him to Beirut before returning. They had plenty of snow and cold in Aleppo - not so very common there - and when Mr Lyman got as far as his homeward journey as Aintab, he was blocked there by more snow. On January 31st Mr Isely wrote that on that day the new snow scared the driver, who went as far as Bash Funar and came back. Letters from Talas state that there also they have been having more snow than has been seen for years.

Our Treasurer's office sends out the following note: "The London bookseller, Elliot Stock, has recently sent back to the Treasury Department orders from Constantinople, Aleppo, Brousa, Adana and other stations, for the O.K. which makes them chargeable to the Mission account. For promptness in getting your orders, and correctness in a detailed account, please bear in mind this essential red tape. Furthermore, sending the Treasury Department a carbon copy of your order for the Treasury files while the original is passed on to Stock with Treasury O.K. is a bit of thoughtfulness always appreciated."

Yesterday the Moslem month of fasting, Ramazan, began. Tomorrow is AshWednesday. Thus the Moslem and Christian fasts, so different in method, coincide this year as closely as they can.

A municipal order has been communicated to the police of this city, that the inhabitants of each house or shop are held responsible for keeping the sidewalks cleaned in front of the building, on penalty of a fine of five liras for the first offense. Presumably the second offense will involve something more serious.

The date for the Inter-Mission Conference to be held at the Bible House, Stamboul, is March 3 to 5. Rev. William Paton, one of the Secretaries of the International Mission Council, and editor of the International Review of Missions, is to be the chief speaker. He has had long experience in mission work in India.

An edition of the Book of Proverbs has been issued by the two Bible Societies, giving on opposite pages the text in the new Turkish alphabet and in the old Arabic characters. This may be secured from the American Bible Society, Bible House, at fifteen piasters.

Yours very cordially,  
Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:

Trains are again running in both directions with fair regularity, after impassable drifts for a time. For a week, no trains got through from Constantinople to Adana or vice versa. A train started out from Adana but could get no farther than Konia and turned back from there. Passengers on the trains that were stalled in Thrace tell of a rather monotonous existence during the ten or eleven days they were marooned in Cherkesskeuy or Alpoullou, their main suffering being from the cold, when the pipes of the train froze and burst.

From Bulgaria comes word of unusual snows there also, around Samokov and Sofia. All public schools in Sofia were closed for a time in consequence. Our friends there write of a coal shortage as well.

Rev. S. W. Gentle-Cackett of the Bible Lands Missions Aid Society was in Salonica for a few days about the end of January, and visited the Mt. Olympus Orphanage with Mr. C. C. Thurber, Director of the Near East Relief in Greece.

Sunday afternoon, February 3rd, the Anatolia College circle, Salonica, enjoyed a fine concert by the Russian choir. The program consisted of Russian sacred and folk music.

News from Dr and Mrs G. E. White of Salonica informs us that they are well and busy. The last of January Dr White made a visit to the Pacific Northwest, visiting Whitman College and Pacific University.

We are shocked to learn of the sudden death of Harold Haskell, sixteen-year-old son of Dr and Mrs E. B. Haskell of Sofia, at Claremont, California, where he was studying. No particulars have as yet come to hand.

A book entitled "Yoljuluk" with the subtitle "Random Thoughts on Life in Imperial Turkey" by Rev. William Nesbitt Chambers, D.D., has just been issued from the press of Simpkin Marshall, Ltd. London. Copies of it are on sale at the American Press, Beirut, the price being three shillings six pence. Many of our colleague's friends will be glad to secure a copy.

President Floyd H. Black, of the Sofia American Schools, who has been on a brief trip to America in connection with the financial campaign of the Near East Colleges, was expected in Sofia on his return about February 15th.

Mr Luther Fowle, after considerable investigation, has given out the following as the interpretation confirmed by the Turkish Foreign Office to several of the foreign Embassies, regarding the children of foreigners born in Turkey. Article 4 of the Turkish Law of Citizenship No. 1312, dated June 4, 1928, reads: "A child born in Turkey of a foreigner who was also born in Turkey after January 1, 1929, is a Turk. Such person within six months after reaching age of majority in accordance with Turkish law, may choose the citizenship for either father or mother." Apparently the entire issue is thus postponed one generation, and relates to the children of those who may thus be born in Turkey after January 1st, 1929.

Miss Eleanor I. Burns of Constantinople College left by steamer on Thursday last on a vacation, which she expects to spend mainly in Paris. On the same steamer there left Constantinople after three days' stay Mrs Theodore Roosevelt, widow of our former President, on her way home to America after an absence of several months.

"Safed the Sage" (Dr W. E. Barton) has just visited our city in the capacity of lecturer on the great S.S. Homeric, one of the numerous tourist ships.

Yours, very cordially

Charles T. RIGGS



Dear friends:-

Among the bits of wisdom and light from "Safed the Sage", as quoted from ear-witnesses on his recent tourist visit to this city, the casual remark stands out: -"You cross the Galata Bridge from Europe into Asia." We only hope this was intended to have purely a psychological meaning; otherwise it betrays a lamentable geographical vacuity.

Other recent visitors to Constantinople on the tourist ships which are now coming thick and fast, have been Miss Margaret Byington, daughter of the late Dr and Mrs Theodore L. Byington of Constantinople, whom some of our older readers will remember; and with her a cousin, Mrs Dupont, whom some may recall as Ethel Hallock, granddaughter of the missionary printer who came out to Malta in 1826, Homan Hallock.

BORN: on February 21st, to Mr and Mrs Rector of Tarsus a 9-lb. daughter, Betty Jane. All goes well.

Mr Alford D. Carleton and Miss Mary D. Cashmore were married at the home of the bride, in Jericho, Vermont, on February 1st. Miss Cashmore was teaching in the American High School for Girls at Aleppo from 1925 to 1928; and Mr Carleton came out to Tarsus in 1924, and after teaching in St. Paul's Institute there two years, and trying unsuccessfully to secure permission to go to Mardin, spent the year 1926-1927 teaching in the Boys' High School in Aleppo. He then returned to America and has been studying at Hartford Theological Seminary. Our best wishes go with the new family.

May we ask our readers whether any one of them can supply a couple of missing numbers of the "International Review of Missions" for the Mission Library? These are the October, 1918, and January 1919 numbers. Aside from these, the Library has a complete file since the inception of the quarterly, seventeen years ago; and the publishers are unable to supply us with those two now. We very much wish to secure an unbroken file, and would gladly pay for the two numbers desired. Possibly someone would be willing to treat his own file for the sake of the Mission Library.

Arrangements have been about completed for the Inter-Mission Conference which is to be held from Saturday evening next to Tuesday evening, March 2-5. As already announced, the main speaker is to be Rev. William Paton, Secretary of the International Missionary Council, who is expected to arrive from Aleppo by train on Thursday or Friday of this week. A preliminary session for organization will be held Saturday evening at the Bible House. On Sunday afternoon, Mr Paton will address a meeting of the Constantinople Christian Workers' Union at the Personnel House of the Y.W.C.A., Taxim, Pera. There will be an informal service of praise and prayer at the Bible House Sunday evening. On Monday and Tuesday mornings, after a devotional hour, the chief topic of the Conference - "The Missionary Enterprise and ~~Secular~~ Secular Civilization" - will be discussed by the various delegates. It is expected that, unless prevented by some unforeseen circumstance, Mr Paton will give an address each afternoon at 3:45, also at the Bible House. Among those expected are Mr Vrooman of International College, Smyrna, Mr Brewster of Salonica, Dr Haskell of Sofia, Mr. D. Alton Davis of the Y.M.C.A. and possibly Mr E. O. Jacob of Athens.

We regret to announce the very serious condition of Mr Harding associate of Mr Asa Jennings at Smyrna, who is now in the American Hospital, Constantinople. Mr Harding returned on Sunday from a trip to Angora, suffering from an acute case of appendicitis. Dr Shepard immediately operated on him for that; but his case is complicated by supervening peritonitis, coupled with diabetes. Mrs Harding and their baby are also at present in the hospital undergoing treatment.

The local papers tell us of disastrous floods in Thrace and Macedonia, and especially in the Vardar and Maritza River valleys, following the unusually heavy storms of the past three weeks. Many villages have been ruined and the inhabitants forced to flee.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

Constantinople was treated to a most thrilling and unprecedented sight last week Friday, when from early morn till frosty eve, the Bosphorus was filled with myriads of cakes of floating ice, being borne swiftly down stream by the current, and so filling the entire strait that no steamers could ply all day between the city and the suburbs, on either side nor cross the Bosphorus. At times it seemed as if one might walk on the ice from shore to shore; and many people got out on the floes to have their pictures taken in so unusual a setting. The explanation of this strange phenomenon was that the dangerous blockade of ice near the mouth of the Danube River had been blown up with dynamite, and a sudden rush of millions of tons of ice into the Black Sea was borne down by the high winds till it was caught in the current going into the straits. Occasional little bergs still appear, and float past into the Marmora.

Following on the ice festival, came one of the densest snowstorms of this snowy winter; but the temperature kept fairly high except for one clear snappy night, and the slush under foot was the most disagreeable feature. Trains were again blocked for several days but are beginning to come in once more.

President Minnie B. Mills of the Athens Junior College for Girls sends us the following joyful news, under date of February 23rd: "You will be glad to know that the American Board now has a perfectly good title to about thirty-one acres of land on Phaleron Bay, about four miles farther out than Old Phaleron. I think \$30,000 a conservative estimate of the market value of this land. We paid \$1,123,00 for this, and the fees will not be, I think, more than \$75, so you see it was practically a gift. The Refugee Settlement Commission and the Government have been generous in their terms. We shall begin at once to build walls and dig a well." Our Athens Station friends and the whole Mission are to be sincerely congratulated.

Dr Grace N. Kimball, who from 1882 to 1896 was a missionary of our Board at Van, Eastern Turkey, and has later served as physician at Vassar College, and who is a Trustee of Constantinople College, is expected in Constantinople tomorrow, after visits in Beirut and Athens. She will spend some time at Constantinople College, and is to give the Charter Day Address.

Rev. and Mrs Leslie J. Adkins have accepted the invitation of the Mission to return to its service and will be located in Aleppo. They will probably come out the latter part of the summer.

Although Dr E. B. Haskell was prevented by influenza from attending the Inter-Mission Conference, and Dr D. A. Davis was stopped at Philippopolis on his way to it by reason of the storm, which prevented trains from running, and others were kept away for various reasons, still the Conference, held Monday and yesterday, was of deep and vital value to all who were privileged to attend. Rev. William Paton, of India and England, contributed deeply to its success, by his very presence, as well as by his addresses and the part he took in the deliberations. Rev. Lee Vrooman of Smyrna and Rev. J. R. Brewster of Salonica also arrived, and their help was appreciated. Representatives from six or seven organizations in this city were there. The main topic was: "The Missionary Enterprise and Secular Civilization." Most of the discussion was on this theme. The general conclusion was that the prevailing secular civilization of our day was a challenge, and might be a help and incentive to greater missionary effort. Rev. F. W. MacCallum, D.D. was chairman and the undersigned secretary of the meeting.

As was anticipated, Vassif Bey, who once before was Minister of Public Instruction, has been appointed to that post to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Nedjati Bey; and he has entered on his duties.

We are glad to say that Mr Harding, who was so seriously ill at the American Hospital here, has made gratifying improvement and is now hopefully better.

Yours very cordially,  
Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

The engagement has been announced of Professor George Michaelides of the School of Religion, Old Phaleron, to Miss Domna Andreades, who has for several years been assistant in the Treasury office of the Athens Station. Many of our friends will remember Miss Andreades while she was in the Treasury office at the Bible House, before she and her mother went across to Greece. Our sincere congratulations are offered to both parties.

Dr George N. Kimball, Trustee of Constantinople College, reached here yesterday, coming by train across Asia Minor from Syria. She was held up at Eskishehir in consequence of an accident to a train from Constantinople which occurred near Geyve, when a rock fell on the locomotive and caused a wreck involving the death of three persons and the serious injury of thirteen others. Dr Kimball will give the chief address at Constantinople College Charter Day exercises, on Wednesday, March 20th, at three o'clock.

Miss Lucille Day writes of a concert given recently in Salonica, at Anatolia College, by a Russian choir, for the benefit of Mrs Basset's refugee school. The cold weather has been very hard on these poorly housed refugees. The soup kitchen (run by Greeks) has been feeding over a thousand every day. The Refugees Bazaar is full of old samovars, silver trays, brass candlesticks, brought in during those cold days, - family heirlooms that have been hung on to for five years or more of want, but have at last had to be sold to get the means to live.

Mrs Woolworth writes from Tarsus that "a men's grey scarf was left here by one of the Regional Conference guests, and we'll be glad to send it to the owner when we learn who he is."

During the Bairam vacation, which was to begin last Friday, the Tarsus friends were expecting a visit from Misses Loughridge, Dewey, Martin, Brauer, Borel, Van Cleft and Hallett, to stay three or four days. A trip to Eski Tarsus was on the tapis, and the tennis court was being fixed up for recreation, at the College, (By the way, Constantinopolitans do not get much chance to play tennis at this season! Even the almond trees, that frequently blossom here in January, have not yet had a chance). In Tarsus, the Woolworth garden is lovely, with heaps of violets in blossom.

Rev. Richard S. Rose, who hopes to sail April 20th with his wife to join the force of the School of Religion in Old Phaleron, underwent an operation at Clifton Springs, N.Y., about three weeks ago, and is reported to be doing well. This illness is not expected to interfere with his sailing as per schedule.

After calling on the Greek and Armenian Patriarchs on Wednesday last, and addressing the prayermeeting at the Gedik Pasha Evangelical Church that evening (interpreted into Turkish), Rev. William Paton, who so greatly helped to make the Inter-Mission Conference of last week a success, left on Thursday morning for Athens, on his way back to England.

Rev. J. Riggs Brewster left Constantinople by rail for Salonica on Thursday evening last; and today Rev. Lee Vrooman starts back for Smyrna. Mrs Harding and her child also go by the same steamer.

The verdict of the Court of Appeals in the case of the Brousa School teachers has at last been communicated to Miss Jillson. This decision confirms the sentence of the lower court, of three liras fine for each of the three teachers, and three days of "light imprisonment" to be taken by staying within their school, without guard. The decision is stated to have been by majority vote in the case of Miss Jillson, but unanimous in the case of the other two.

Dr Lorrin Shepard and Mr Luther Fowle have ~~gone~~ gone to Smyrna for a brief visit to our Station there. They expect to be back in Constantinople in a few days.

The fast of Ramazan ends this evening at sunset, and Bairam is to be celebrated for the next three days. Many schools have already begun a vacation on this account, and all others are to remain closed tomorrow and Thursday, as well as, of course, Friday.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends,

On St. Valentine's Day, February 14th, which is Dr. Peet's birthday, his friends at the Bible House sent him a cablegram at 10 AM., which reached him in Pilgrim Place, Claremont, California, at 10 AM on the same day. Thus is space annihilated by the telepathy of friendship! Dr Peet writes: "It really seemed like a handshake with you all. I thank you for your kind thoughts and wishes, all of which go, I am sure, with your cabled "greetings". Others also remembered Dr. Peet's seventyeighth anniversary; he received a large birthday cake from a good friend in Waterloo, Iowa, and another from a niece in Claremont, and a third from the table where he and a score of others, most of whom have been in foreign mission service, take their lunches. Dr Peet also celebrated by speaking at a meeting in behalf of the Near East Colleges. Just a few days earlier, he met Mr Morgenthau in Los Angeles, had a delightful talk with him, and heard him speak on his experiences as Chairman of the Refugee Settlement Commission in Greece.

Among recent visitors to Constantinople have been Mrs Cass Arthur Reed, of Smyrna, Mr Perry Avery, instructor in International College, Smyrna, and Mrs (Kate Chambers) Seelye, of Beirut. The latter came up with the cruise aboard the S.S. "Scythia", in charge of Near East Relief goods, and went back overland, stopping at Adana for a brief visit at her old home.

Our sympathies go out to Miss E. T. Parsons of Smyrna, in the death on March 1st of an aunt with whom she had made her home. Also to Mrs J. K. Lyman of Marash, in the recent death of a brother, in America.

Miss Sara Corning arrived here from Merzifoun on Friday last, having had a fairly comfortable trip on the previously very stormy Black Sea; but she had to wait a whole week in Samsoun for a steamer. She expects to go now to Athens and Salonica for a visit with friends there.

Dr George Soteriades, Chancellor of Salonica University, gave a lecture on February 27th at the School of Religion, Old Phaleron, on "The Acropolis,- Its Meaning for Athens and Mankind".

Sheker Bairam, the great Turkish feast, as usual brought good weather to Constantinople. Bright sunshine has been the rule ever since its first day, last week Wednesday.

Word has come from Miss Elizabeth Trowbridge of Aintab, who is taking her furlough visiting various parts of Europe and the Mediterranean coasts, that rather than spending the time she had mapped out for stops in Egypt and Jerusalem, she is going to a German Missionheim on Mt. Carmel for a good rest. She had planned all along to go there for a visit with a friend; but she has decided to lengthen her stay there.

Consul Otis Glazebrook, who, after serving in Jerusalem as American Consul from 1914 - 1920, has been Consul in Nice, France, has decided to retire from the service. He is in his eighty-fourth year. Many of our readers will recall his years in Jerusalem. Previous to entering the consular service, he was for over forty years a rector of the Episcopal Church, most of the time in Virginia and in New Jersey.

An intensely interesting circular letter from President Floyd H. Black of the Sofia American Schools, tells of his thrilling experience in dodging snow blockades when he made his first visit to Samokov after returning from America, and had to abandon his automobile and get back to Sofia by taking a sleigh to Kostenats-Banya station, being fortunate enough to find a train from there to the Capital. We understand King Boris was caught in this same storm, before starting on his trip to Italy. But that is another story.

Mrs E. T. Perry of our city starts out tomorrow on the tourist steamer "Adriatic" for a trip down the Syrian coast, expecting to have thus a vacation of perhaps a fortnight.

Yours very cordially, Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

Charter Day exercises at Constantinople College were very successful, last Wednesday. Dr Grace N. Kimball made the chief address, urging the girls to use their talents for the good of their country. Ambassador Grew gave a brief address; also Mebruke Hanum, and Mrs C. E. Binns; and President Adams outlined her hopes for the development of the College plant. A trio of piano, violin and cello furnished good music.

Robert College observed its Founders' Day on Saturday last, with an address by Dr Gates in the afternoon, followed by a gymnastic exhibition and a football game; and in the evening a banquet to the alumni of the College. A new oil painting of the late Professor Djedjizian was exhibited.

Dr John R. Voris and a deputation of Sunday School executives on the "Adriatic", on a trip through the Near East, to further the religious education work of the N.E.R. and relationships with the Eastern Churches, had a luncheon last week at Tokatlian's, meeting with a dozen or so Constantinople representatives of American institutions, for conference on these topics. It was all too short, but may do good.

Miss Mildred F. Field, lecturer at the Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham England, passed through Constantinople lately on her way to Athens from a visit to Brummana, Lebanon. She is giving a course of six lectures at the School of Religion, Athens, last week and this.

Two thousand metres of wall to build, to surround the new property of the Athens Junior College, does not daunt Miss Mills and her associates, and they are blasting the stone from their own grounds to start right in. Dr Marden's help and counsel in the job are most valued. Miss Mills will not go to America till after school opens in the fall.

Among recent deaths in America are those of Dr Howard A. Bridgman, from 1887 to 1921 an editor of the "Congregationalist", and Judge Livingstone Cleaveland, of New Haven and Mountain Rest, whom many of our missionaries on furlough affectionately remember. Both were born in 1860.

Cards are out for a reception tomorrow at the American Embassy, where the colony will meet Vice-Admiral Dayton, U.S.N., who arrives on the cruiser "Raleigh" for a brief visit.

Mr J. W. Patton, a volunteer worker at the Salonica Farm School, returned thither last week after a brief stay in Constantinople. Miss Sara Corning of Merzifoun also left last week for Athens, and expects to visit Salonica later.

We are all getting thawed out. Paul Nilson in Talas reports thawing out frozen waterpipes on March 21st. Henry Riggs reports the railroad to Damascus across the Lebanon at last open, after an unprecedented blockade of eight weeks; but the automobile road not yet dug out. And the road from Sofia to Samokov was impassable from snow for more than a week, also unprecedented, and causing our workers much extra work.

Miss Olive Greene of Smyrna has just been on a brief trip to Beirut, Damascus, and Jerusalem, going by rail through Adana and Aleppo.

Mr and Mrs D. K. Getchell of Salonica, after assisting Dr White in a campaign ~~in~~ in Minneapolis on behalf of Anatolia College, have gone to Denver, to visit Riggs relatives till they turn their faces East.

The Constantinople American colony and friends enjoyed on Thursday night last a minstrel show and various stunts staged by talented members, all for the benefit of the Hospital fund. The entertainment was in the Union Francaise, but the death of Marshal Foch caused the cancelling of the dance which was to have closed the evening's fun.

Mr and Mrs Blake and Miss Feichtinger of the Language School and Mr Lyman MacCallum of the A.B.S. have gone to Athens for some special study in the School of Religion, expecting to be gone till after Easter.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

Dr and Mrs Edgar Ve Moffatt, parents of Mrs Lorrin A. Shepard, and her sisters, the Miss Moffatt are leaving our city this evening, after a visit with the Shepard family of three and a half months. They go by steamer to Marseilles, and thence across France to England, and after a brief stay there, back to America.

The U.S. Cruiser "Raleigh" 8,000 tons, has been having a gale time on its visit to Constantinople. The Ambassador and Mrs Grew have a reception for Vice-Admiral Dayton at the Embassy last week, and a dance last evening. The Admiral has been making a round of official calls also. This afternoon tea is being served and a dance given on board the cruiser for the American colony. Last evening the minstrel show put on some time ago at the Union Francaise by the American colony was repeated for the "gobs" and this evening it will be given again for the officers of the "Raleigh". In each case a dance follows. The American children, and groups of students from the American colleges, have been received on board at various times. Last Friday the sailors played baseball all around a local American combination, on the Robert College campus. The "Raleigh" sails away on Thursday, after a most satisfactory visit.

On the evening of March 21st, the Tarsus American College faculty invited all of the teachers of the city with their wives (when they possessed such) for an evening of games. All included, there were some 65 present. The Mudur of the Mersin Orta Mektebi, who is also a member of the College faculty, and the local Maarif Muduru, lately transferred there from Mersin, Ali Ali Bey, were present. Mr Woolworth says:- "We played some games which they already knew, and introduced some others. I have been informed that some of them were particularly pleased with the Virginia Reel. And we ourselves were glad to get better acquainted with the teachers."

The rainfall for Smyrna is so much heavier than in any recent year, that much flooding has occurred. The ordinarily small stream which borders the International College campus on the north has twice flooded parts of the usually high and well-drained campus, and made parts of the Vrooman, Caldwell and Lawrence gardens into small lakes. The College gauge shows for the year beginning July 1st, 1928, a total of over 43 inches of rain against an average of something over 20.

Ali Kemal Bey, a graduate of International College in 1926, was awarded his M.A. degree in Education by New York University in February last. He is spending a fourth semester at Columbia, but is returning to rejoin the International College staff in September.

Among recent visitors at International College are Assistant Professor Hara of the Imperial University and Mr Watanabe of the Educational Department of Japan, who visited historical sites in the region of Smyrna with one of the Turkish instructors; and Mr Harold Lamb, author of the well-known recent books on Genghis Khan and Tamerlane. Mr Lamb is working on two additional volumes on the First Crusade from the Turkish point of view.

Mr Lyman MacCallum returned yesterday from Athens, after a brief but profitable stay. The Blakes and Miss Feichtinger remained for an extended trip around the Peloponnesus and to other points in Greece, Miss Sara Corning joining them for a part of the way.

In connection with the celebration of Easter, music from Wagner's Parsifal was rendered on piano and organ at Robert College on Good Friday by Messrs. MacNeal and ~~Edwards~~; and on Easter Day in the afternoon the Robert College Chorus gave Schubert's Mass in E flat, the Chapel being well filled.

Mr Harry R. Meyering of the Language School left today for Mersin on his way to visit his new station of Tarsus, expecting to return by rail.

Yours very cordially,

\* Fisher.

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

During the latter part of March, Dr and Mrs E. B. Haskell visited twelve of the thirty-three sites offered them for the village folk-school they expect to start. A committee of three Bulgarians and three Americans was to go on Friday last to examine one of the most likely of these; and the choice had already narrowed down to one of five places, so that the decision may soon be made.

Dr Haskell writes from Sofia April 5th:- "We were amazed by a heavy fresh snow beginning to fall on the 3rd, making trees and everything beautifully white the morning of the 4th. The snow stopped till noon of the 4th, and then began again, so that all is white again this morning. It is melting rapidly, however, and the sun is struggling to shine." Snows within the past few days are also reported from northern Italy and from Belgrade and Serayevo; and Constantinople has had a cold wave, with rain in grateful abundance.

Dr Fred Field Goodsell left last week Thursday for Samsoun on his way to Merzifon, where he will remain a few days before proceeding to Talas. He plans to visit also the southern stations of the Mission, being gone from Constantinople about a month.

On Saturday Dr F. W. MacCallum left by steamer for Beirut, where he will have a little visit with his daughter Mrs Laird, before the meeting at Brummana of the Council for Western Asia and Northern Africa, to which he goes as a delegate.

Mr H. H. Kreider has also just left Constantinople, going via Mersin to Tarsus, and expecting to be absent from his post for about a month, mostly in Cilicia.

Mr Henry Atkinson, son of our late Harpoot colleague, Dr H. H. Atkinson, is married and will go in May to pastorate in Montana for a year before taking his final year in the Theological Seminary. His sister Alice is in her Junior year in College.

Owing to a failure to come to an understanding with his colleague the Minister of Interior, and with the rest of the Cabinet, Vassif Bey, recently appointed Minister of Public Instruction, has tendered his resignation. He could not carry his scheme of administrative reforms. His place will be taken by Djemal Husni Bey, who has been at the head of the Turkish delegation on the Mixed Commission on the Exchange of Populations. The slow progress of that Commission is laid to the fact that the leading delegates on both sides were not men of the compromising type.

A very charming little fairy play, "Fairy Gold" written by Mrs. Prof. Tilley of Robert College was performed last week as one of three short plays in the Spring production of the Hissar Players. It proved a very popular and beautifully staged performance, reflecting great credit on its author, who was enthusiastically called out before the footlights by the delighted audience.

Mr. Sylvester S. Bliss, son of the late Dr Isaac G. Bliss, predecessor of Dr Bowen as representative of the American Bible Society in the Levant Agency, is arriving with his wife from a trip to Beirut in about two weeks, to visit this city where he spent his childhood. He is presenting to the Bible House, erected through the efforts of his honored father, a tablet in memory of Dr Bliss.

Miss Margaret Byington, who was mentioned some six weeks ago as passing through this city, has now returned from a trip to Syria, and is spending a few days in town on her way back to America.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

Dr Philip Marshall Brown, formerly instructor ~~at~~ at Robert College and later Charge d'Affaires of the United States at Constantinople and now Professor at Princeton University, and his wife are spending a few weeks at Constantinople. He spoke last Thursday most interestingly to the American Luncheon Club.

Miss Elizabeth Leslie is at the American Hospital of this city making a good recovery after an emergency operation for appendicitis on Friday evening last. Dr Shepard was surprised at the sang-froid of his patient. Apparently the operation was in the nick of time.

Mrs A. W. Staub, wife of the American business representative of the Near Eastern Colleges, was here for a few days last week with a part of ladies, coming up from Beirut by rail.

Miss Elizabeth Webb, of Beirut, went to Latakia for a tour, the latter part of March, and on Easter Sunday in going to church, fell in the yard and dislocated her shoulder and bruised herself up generally. We have not yet had word of her recovering sufficiently to return to Beirut.

Miss Elizabeth Trowbridge, of Aintab, who has been spending some time at Mount Carmel, came to Beirut about the first of April and is reported to be staying with Miss Mary Webb for a visit.

Mr Glenn Harding, colleague of Mr Asa Jennings at Smyrna, who has been undergoing prolonged treatment at the American Hospital, Constantinople, left with his wife and child for America two days ago, taking steamer for Trieste where they will transship. Here's hoping they may be coming back some day, to stay longer.

On Good Friday, Mrs. James M. Moore, a member of the Prudential Committee and former President of the W.B.M.I. paid a visit to Salonica. She is from Chicago, and has always been much interested in the Salonica Girls' School.

Some fifty delegates met in Jerusalem two weeks ago for the biennial meeting of the United Missionary Council of Syria and Palestine. A couple of dozen other members of member missions were also in attendance, and the sessions were held in the library of the English Cathedral, most of the delegates being quartered in a Swiss pension. A fine spirit of cooperation was manifest. Among the measures adopted was a plan for including in the future, as constituent bodies in the Council, the native evangelical churches of that area, with the arrangement that the body does not thereby lose its missionary character, nor take on any ecclesiastical functions. Among those present were Dr Merrill, Miss Shane, Miss Barker, Miss Silliman, Miss Hall, Miss Dorothy Merrill, Mr. H. H. Riggs, Mr Nicol, Mr Freidinger, and Professor Close.

Dr Frederic Jennings Parsons, son of the late Rev. Justin Parsons of Baghtchedjik, and brother of the late Mrs Charles W. Riggs of Aintab, died in Paris April 6th, after an illness of two months. He was a resident of Paris for thirty-three years, and was the Assistant Director of the Thomson-Houston Company there. He was a graduate of Williams, '81, and received a Ph.D. there in 1884. He taught there and at Northwestern University. He was sixty-nine years old, and was an Officer of the Legion of Honor. His wife and a son ~~xxxx~~ survive him.

Mr Luther Fowle left last evening for a brief visit to Angora, expecting to be back by about the end of the week.

The rising cost of living in Constantinople has been attracting the attention of the Turkish press of this city. Statistics are quoted to show that prices of bread, meat, eggs, fowls, yoghurt, beans, artichokes, milk, and such common articles of food have gone up practically 50% since the corresponding season of 1927. We trust this may not prove true for the entire year; but prices now are certainly high.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, April 23, 1929

Dear Friends:

Mrs William L. Mute and her son Cyril started out on April 18th for Marash, Mrs Mute being very eager to see her birthplace once more before Miss Blakely leaves there; and Cyril being always willing for a jaunt. The railroad runs as far as Eloghlu, now, which apparently will be the nearest point for Marash when the road is complete.

There has been a great scare of meningitis in Tarsus, over a hundred cases having occurred there. Tarsus is a town of 22,000 inhabitants. There have been sporadic cases in Adana also. The Government is taking active measures to combat the epidemic.

Miss Hotson, Miss Van Cleft and Miss Martin of Adana went up on Friday last from Adana to Birijik for the day, to make sure the place will be there when they wish to go up this summer to their "yaila."

About eighteen students from Robert College expect to go to Smyrna during the Bairam holidays, to test the athletic prowess of the International College students, meeting them in football, basketball/volleyball, and track and field contests. The results are in the lap of the gods, but these young men from Constantinople make the invasion with high hopes of bringing home the bacon.

Mr Sheldon Collier, son of Professor and Mrs Collier, who were for some time connected with the Constantinople College faculty at Arnaoutkey, has accepted a position at Robert College for the ensuing two years, as successor to Mr Theodore Ward, in the Social Work. He is graduating from Brown University, and is a prominent athlete, one of the American representatives in the hurdles at the Olympic Games last summer. Another new instructor at Robert College this coming September will be Mr G. Plimpton Adams, a nephew of President Kathryn Adams of Constantinople College. Thus are the bonds between the sister colleges being strengthened.

Mr Luther Fowle returned on Friday last from Angora, having had pleasant and encouraging interviews with some eight or nine Government officials, and feeling that several matters under discussion regarding our Mission activities were on the way to a more complete understanding and to favorable action by the authorities.

Just as we had begun to feel that spring had come in this region, a sudden change brought a new snowfall on Thursday last, and several nights of bitter frost. It is stated that great damage has been done to the crops in Anatolia by this cold wave. On top of the wintry weather of March which carried away a sad proportion of the sheep and lambs, this will be a severe blow to the poor population.

Mr and Mrs Burt S. Gifford, of the Presbyterian Mission in Persia, with their seven delightful children, are passing through Constantinople on their way to America on furlough.

After an enjoyable Easter vacation, the Language School returned to its place on Saturday and began work. However, they have become so used to vacations that they are having two days more on account of the Turkish holiday of "Assembly Day" today.

Mr and Mrs Richard S. Rose, who go to the School of Religion at Athens, were booked to sail from New York by the S.S. "Providence" for Piraeus on April 20th; so they are probably out on the briny now.

M. André Maurois, the well-known French author, was in this city last week, and gave a charming lecture at the Union Française on "How to write a novel".

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Rev. F. W. MacCallum, who had gone to Beirut and Brummana/ Syria, came back to Constantinople overland by rail, through Aleppo and Adana, but without stopping at those places; and arrived in Constantinople Saturday afternoon last, having had a very pleasant trip.

Mr Sylvester S. Bliss and wife and Miss Davidson reached Constantinople last week Wednesday by train, coming from Syria. Mr Bliss is the youngest son of the late Dr. Isaac Bliss, under whose efforts when he was Agent of the American Bible Society, the Bible House was erected. He and his wife had been visiting their daughter Virginia, who is a trained nurse in the Beirut Hospitals. They spent three very full days visiting all the sites in Constantinople dear to the youthful memory of Mr. Bliss, who had not seen the city since 1883. In the course of their jaunts, they were on a Haidar Pasha steamer when, on Friday last, in a dense fog, it ran aground between Scutari and Haidar Pasha, and they had to be taken off in small boats, with all the other passengers. On Saturday they left for Paris on their return to New York.

Mr Shen, rector of an Episcopal church in Nanking, and a professor in the University there, has been spending some days in our city on his way from China to England, where he goes for a year of graduate study.

Messrs. Lyman MacCallum, of the American Bible Society, Scott Morrison of the British School, Galata (Scotch Mission), and Rev. R. C. Macanna, pastor of the Union Church, Pera, have gone to Smyrna on a trip among the Seven Churches of Asia.

Miss Emma Zbinden of Merzifon, who has been spending most of the year since last June in Switzerland on furlough, returned to Constantinople on Sunday last, and will study Turkish in the Language School for several weeks before going back to her station.

Mrs Henry B. Dewing, wife of President Dewing of Athens College, and her son Charles have come for a week in this city during the Easter Holidays of Athens College. With them are Mr and Mrs Snyder of the same institution. Dr Dewing was for some years Dean of Robert College and his wife and son are visiting again the familiar places in Hissar and other parts of the city.

Rev. Lee Vrooman of International College was in town yesterday and today on his way back to Smyrna after a visit in Angora.

Mrs Kreider and baby, Mrs Wright and Miss Wetherbee have returned from their southern trip, coming now from Aintab. Mr Kreider and Dr. Wright are stopping at some other places and returning more slowly.

Dr MacCallum and Dr Goodsell attended the meeting of the Council for Western Asia and Northern Africa, held in Brummana two weeks ago. It was a good meeting; and one action taken there will be of general interest:- the organization is hereafter to be known by the shorter and easier title of "Near East Christian Council". The area covered remains the same; but more and more of the bodies working within that area are coming into membership in the Council.

As a result of the observance of "Children's Week" in Constantinople, the Turkish children themselves have passed resolution asking for laws forbidding begging by children, and the employment of children as porters; also asking for the opening of cinemas especially suitable for children, and for public gardens for poor children; also for pure milk and pure water supplies.

Among recent visitors in this city have been three Mt. Holyoke professors: Miss Wild (Bible), Miss Hinsdale (German) and Miss Hahn (chemistry); Miss Morris, Dean of Women at Brown University; Mr Edward Plimpton, uncle of President Adams of Constantinople College, with Mrs Plimpton, who was formerly a member of the Woman's Board; Miss Andrews and Miss McLennan, daughters of Oberlin professors.

Yours very cordially,

CHARLES T. RIGGS

Dear Friends:-

Mrs Thomas D. Christie, who for forty-three years was a missionary in our Central Turkey Mission, the last twenty-seven of them at Tarsus, and who is now in Pasadena, California, writes of heavy damages done to her premises by recent winds and rain. Her daughter Jean is still teaching in Occidental College, Los Angeles.

BORN:- at Winsor, Vermont, on April 6th, 1929, to Mr and Mrs W. H. Washburn a son, Stewart Putnam Washburn. Many of our readers will remember Mrs Washburn as Miss Josephine Dana, of the Treasury Department at the Bible House.

Word has come of the sudden passing of Rev. Pandeli Philadelphes, in Springfield, Mass. on April 13th last. Mr Philadelphes was for many years pastor of the Greek Evangelical Church in Ordou, on the Black Sea coast. He was a graduate of Marsovan Theological Seminary. Of late years he has been living near Boston, Mass. In the course of his work among the Greeks of Massachusetts, he was struck by an automobile while getting off a trolley car, and lived, but a few hours without regaining consciousness. The address at his funeral was made by Secretary Ernest Riggs. By special request no flowers were offered, but the equivalent of their value, over \$50 was sent to his former flock, most of them now in Katerina, Greece, to establish some memorial of him.

According to the local dailies, Mr Trotsky, the famous Soviet exile, has rented the Arab Izzet house on Prinkipo Island, where he will spend the summer.. Germany has apparently refused his request for permission to go there.

Rev. Edward B. Cobb, D.D., of the Japan Mission of our Board, with Mrs Cobb, arrived in Constantinople last Thursday on their way to America, coming around via Hong Kong and the Suez Canal. Dr. Cobb is a Professor in the Doshisha University, Kyoto. They are staying with Prof. H.H. Barnum of Robert College, an Amherst class-mate of Dr. Cobb.

Herr Max Hoppe, formerly of the Mission Language School, who has been working among the Moslems of Bulgaria, especially in Rustchuk, is in Constantinople for a brief visit. He has many encouraging reports to give of the work there.

Dr Refik Bey, Minister of Hygiene, and Assim Bey, Director of Hygiene, left last Friday for a visit to the United States, going by way of Berlin, Hamburg and London. They go at the invitation of the Rockefeller Foundation, which has arranged an itinerary of 48 days, taking them from Boston clear to Alabama, and west at least as far as Cleveland and Lansing, and showing the chief features of rural health projects.

Mr and Mrs Paul Rowland, Mr Kilpatrick and Miss Vassileva of the Sofia American Schools, are spending their Easter vacation in seeing the wonders of Constantinople, from the shelter of the Mac-Callum home.

Dr Albert W. Dewey and family are settled comfortably in Vienna, where Dr Dewey is already well under way with his medical studies. Miss Anthony and Miss Corning were also putting in some time in Vienna, and had a May-day picnic with the Deweys; but the specialist whom Miss Anthony consulted was to allow her to return this week to Salonica.

Mrs Henry Be. Dewing and party left Saturday afternoon by Roumanian boat for Piraeus on their return from a fully occupied visit here.

A second joint Anglo-American Luncheon was enjoyed last week at Tokatlian's by 89 men. The speaker of the day was Mr Sidney Webb, M.P., member of the Labor Cabinet of Mr Ramsay Macdonald, who with his wife was making a brief visit in the city.

Yours very cordially,  
Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Dr and Mrs Cobb, of the Doshisha University and of our Japan Mission, left Constantinople for America May 8th, going by Italian steamer, and across Europe.

Mr and Mrs Paul Rowland, Miss Vassileva and Mr Kilpatrick seem to have enjoyed to the full their visit to this city. They left yesterday by afternoon train, returning to Sofia.

Rev Albert W. Palmer, D.D., pastor of the First Congregational Church of Oak Park, Ill., with his son and two friends, are making a very brief stay in Constantinople, arriving yesterday and leaving this evening. Most of the members of our station had a chance to meet them at a tea given by Dr and Mrs Goodsell at their home.

It is expected that Rev. Manasseh G. Papazian, now of New York will visit the Near East this fall, coming to Constantinople probably after a stop in Athens and perhaps Salonica,

Mr Theodore D. Frost has been appointed as tutor in the American Collegiate Institute at Erenkeuy, and is expected to arrive in time for the opening of the fall term.

Miss Jennie E. Paige has been secured as nurse for the Talas Hospital for a term of three years, and will be coming out this fall with Dr Wilson F. Dodd and family. There is hope that she may later become a permanent member of the Mission.

Mr Edward S. Treat, of Cleveland, Ohio, has been engaged for a three year term as instructor in the Boys' School at Talas. This school is rapidly securing the confidence of the whole region around it.

The annual Sustaining Membership campaign of the Constantinople Y.M.C.A. is being held this week. Ten or eleven teams are competing with each other for the best record in securing results. A daily lunch together at the "Turquoise" keeps up the spirit of unity in effort.

A new Pocket Dictionary of 2500 selected English words with their Turkish equivalents, has just been compiled and edited by Kenan Halet Bey, a Robert College graduate. It contains a list of the sounds for the Turkish letters, making pronunciation easy. Probably nothing so compact and handy can now be found, and many will value having such a help in their pockets, and at their finger-tips. It sells for 75 piasters, and may be obtained through Robert College, or through Mr Fowle at the Bible House.

The 53rd Annual Meeting of the Bulgaria Mission was held in Sofia May 1st to 4th. Dr Waskell was the Moderator, and Mr King Secretary. The entire staff of the Mission now on the field were present at the sessions. A note of joy was struck at the start by the announcement that the Woman's Board had voted \$4,000, available at once, for the use of the Community House, in Sofia. This will enable our friends to complete the exterior of the building. The Mission also learned of the plan of the Bible Lands Missions Aid Society, to purchase the school property in Samokov formerly belonging to the Board, for the use of summer conferences of the Bulgarian Evangelical Society, and as a place for summer vacations for pastors and their families, and possibly as a home for an orphanage.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, May 21, 1929

Dear friends:-

This being the second day of Kourban Bairam, the Language School celebrates its second day of holiday with a grand picnic to Heybeli (Halki). The Goodsell and MacCallum families joined with them in this.

Mr and Mrs Birge have left Constantinople for a tour in Asia Minor, going first to Angora and thence to Caesarea and Merzifoun. It does not take as long to do this in these days as it did for our pinneer predecessors.

Miss Ellen M. Blakely of Marash and Miss Elizabeth A Bury of Aintab arrived in Constantinople on Saturday last on the afternoon train. It took them only two days from Marash. Miss Blakely expects her sister from Mount Holyoke College to meet her here, and they will travel through Europe together, and back to America. Miss Blakely is retiring from the Mission on age limitation, although her looks belie this utterly.

Professor Whitelaw of Rutgers University was among the recent visitors to Constantinople, and gave attention while here to seeing some thing of the Mission work.

Mr W. Earl Ward and Mrs (Dora Mattoon) Ward reached Constantinople yesterday, on their way on furlough from India, where he is a Y.M.C.A. Secretary, to America. They came via Bagdad and Beirut, and are staying with Miss Belle Harley in Scutari, who was formerly their associate in Harpout. They expect to go on by Friday's Simplon Express, visiting various places in Europe on their way.

Athens Junior College for Girls is rejoicing in a gift of \$35,000 from Miss Ida Hill, through the Woman's Board, for a building on their newly acquired site. Miss Mills and her associates will have many to felicitate them on this and rejoice with them.

The Government has notified the Scutari Academy for Girls and the Scotch Mission School in Galata that they are permitted to teach the New Testament as well as the Old Testament to their non-Moslem pupils. This is a very welcome concession.

Miss Alice Caldwell, daughter of Professor and Mrs S. L. Caldwell of International College, Smyrna, is passing through this city on her return from Smyrna to Germany for piano concerts. She goes from here to Athens.

The National Congregational Council will meet next week in Detroit; and Friday, May 31st is set aside for the American Board Meeting. At this, Dr Cyril H. Haas will be the representative of the Turkey Mission, and Rev. V. D. Furnadjieff will speak for Bulgaria. Other addresses are on the program from Miss Calder, Miss Seabury, Dr Patton, and several missionaries from other fields.

Field Secretary F. F. Goodsell, D.D., expects to start on Saturday for a brief visit to Athens.

Mr H. H. Kreider and Dr Walter Wright have returned from their southern trip, having made interesting stops along the way at Karaman, Konia, Akshehir, Afion Kara Hissar, and Kutahia. Mr Lyman MacCallum is also back after a visit to the island of Rhodes, following his trip through the region of the Seven Churches.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Mr Vincent Astor and his family visited Constantinople lately in his yacht, "Nourmahal". Through some needed medical attention given a member of the party by Dr Lorrin Shepard, he became interested in the American Hospital, and before he left he gave a thousand liras for the expenses of that institution. May this be but a foretaste of further substantial interest.

The first official interscholastic Field Day ever held in Aleppo was successfully carried through on May 16th. The participating schools were the American Boys' High School, the North Syria School for Boys (of the Presbyterian Board), The College el-Faroukie, the College de Terre Sainte, and the College Armenian Catholique. The Bureau of Public Instruction had sent formal information that the boys of the Government Lycee might participate, but there were no entries, as the boys said they could not give time on account of examinations. About seven hundred people gathered to see the tene vents, six races and four field events. The American High School carried off the meet with 75 points; the College de Terre Sainte was second with 28 and the North Syria School third with 15. The ribbons to the winners were presented by the British Consul, who was present with his wife.

Dr Merrill also writes:- "The decision has finally been reached to move the school for Girls from Jemiliyeh to Aziziyeh, to a nearer location and a quieter neighborhood. Trucking on the Jemiliyeh pavement has become so bad and noisy that it is impossible sometimes to carry on a conversation in parts of the present building.

On May 10th, the Talas Boys' School joined with the Normal School in Zinjirdere in their mass drill and field day events. The boys in our Talas School are now divided into two athletic teams, the Reds and the Yellows, and are competing in a series of track events. They try to run off a different event each day. Interest in sports as well as team spirit is steadily growing.

We are asked to say to guests coming to Erenkeuy for the Annual Meeting, that they are requested to bring with them mosquito nettings; also such conveniences as bathing suits, tennis rackets, etc. Any who desire to stay at the school until August 1st can be accommodated if they will write to Mrs Markham about it.

Mr and Mrs Earl Ward, formerly of Harpout, later of the Y.M.C.A. in Bombay, spent only three days here last week, going on by train on Friday for Paris and thence via London to America.

Rev. Ernest C. Partridge arrived from Aleppo by rail two days ago, and leaves Constantinople today on his way to America via Athens and France on furlough.

Intercollegiate athletics between Robert College and International College were the order during the week end last week at Smyrna. The visiting teams with Prof. Barnum and Mr Allen arrived Wednesday. On Thursday Robert College beat International at Volley-ball, later to be beaten by International at Basketball in one of the hardest and most exciting games of the season, in the third extra period. On Friday Robert College won the track meet, 76 - 46, Gantcheff winning 27 points and the high-point medal. The Vali of Smyrna, Kiazim Pasha, presented the medals. The football game Saturday resulted in a victory for International College by 2 to 0.

Dr R. M. Riefstahl, of Columbia University, has completed his series of six lectures on Turkish art at International College, Smyrna.

Mr and Mrs Birge returned yesterday to Constantinople after a very interesting trip through Angora, Caesarea, the Hittite ruins at Boghazkeuy and Merzifoun.

Yours very cordially,

Charles E. Riggs

Dear friends:-

A letter from President Pye of the School of Religion dated May 31st, gives the following most welcome news:- "Today is the closing day of the School. The Managers were in session yesterday and continue a second session today. I would like you to know of the exceeding great satisfaction which I had yesterday morning in presenting to the Board of Managers the Decree from the Ministry of Education which recognizes and defines the status of the School with the Hellenic Government. This has come only after the patient efforts of good will through a period of five years, and it comes without any diplomatic pressure, but wholly as a result of seeking relationships of understanding and cooperation." Our heartiest congratulations to President Pye and the School!

The usual exercises of the American colony of Constantinople for Memorial Day were observed on Friday last at the Ferikeuy Cemetery. Ambassador Grew presided, and made a brief address, which was followed by the main address of the day, by Professor Davison of Robert College. An abundance of beautiful roses and other flowers were strewed over the graves of the Americans who lie in that charming spot, after which the children of the community sang Katherine Lee Bates's hymn, "America the Beautiful". Dr Gates offered the closing prayer. About a hundred Americans were present, some thirty of them children.

Mrs Arthur C. Ryan has issued invitations to the marriage of her daughter, Blanche Theodora, to Stanley Gordon Elder, on June 18th, at the First Church in Oberlin, Ohio.

Miss Bertha Blakely, Librarian of Mount Holyoke College, has arrived in this city to join her sister, Miss Ellen Blakely, and take a trip through Europe and back to America. They plan to leave in a couple of days. Our best wishes go with our colleague as she leaves the country of her adoption.

Abundant and most gratifying rains have fallen over most of Anatolia, assuring good crops, we trust. In Smyrna and Merzifon some damage was done to mission property by these rains; and the Euphrates, Meander, Halys and other rivers have in places overflowed their banks.

Mr Pye and family expect to leave Athens June 10th on their furlough, going from Patras to New York on the S. S. President Wilson.

The Grand National Assembly at Angora has adopted the budget for 1929, which goes into effect immediately. It totals expenditures of Ltq. 220,408,481, of which Ltq. 68,500,000 are for national defence, Ltq. 33,706,000 for religious affairs (the old Evkaf Ministry), Ltq. 8,900,000 for the gendarmerie, and Ltq. 8,100,000 for education. This means that about  $3\frac{2}{3}$  per cent, of the budget is for education, as compared with  $1\frac{3}{4}$  percent, before the war; while 31 percent is for national defence, as compared with 23 percent before the war. The allotment for public works has grown in that period from  $1\frac{3}{4}$  percent to 15 percent.

The annual track and field games of Robert College took place last Friday afternoon in perfect weather, and with a very large attendance. Everything was successfully carried out, and ~~three~~ records were broken. The broad jump record had stood for fifteen years, but was bettered to 22 ft. 7 inches. The Junior class carried off the first honors.

Miss Benton formerly Dean of Women at Carleton College, had been visiting Beirut and her childhood's home at Bhandoun. She is the daughter of the late Rev and Mrs William A. Benton, who were missionaries of the American Board from 1847 to 1860 in Syria.

Mr Edward Treat, whose appointment for the Talas School was chronicled a few weeks ago, is the son of Rev. E. P. Treat, pastor of the First Cong. Church in Spring Valley, N.Y. and is a Senior at Oberlin.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

BORN:- at the American Hospital, Constantinople, to Mr and Mrs Luther R. Fowle, a son, Richardson, on June 9th. All goes well.

Dr F. F. Goodsell returned last Saturday from his brief but well-filled visit to Athens and Salonica. He gave the address at the Commencement exercises of the School of Religion at Athens on May 31st, on the subject "The Challenge of Secularism."

Mr and Mrs Paul Bobb, Miss Hostetter, and Miss Margaret Smith have come on from Merzifon to Constantinople, though not all at a time. Miss Smith, having completed the period of her loan from the North China Mission, is on her way back thither, expecting to leave Turkey in ten or twelve days, and go via Egypt and India to her station at Tunghsien. Mr Bobb is one of the delegates to Annual Meeting and the first to arrive here.

Mr and Mrs Richard S. Rose, who arrived in Athens a short time ago to join the staff of the School of Religion, expect to attend the Annual Meeting at Geuz Tepe and spend a little time in Constantinople before going on to Europe for the summer. They have been connected with the Marathi Mission, at Sholapur.

The annual catalogue of Beirut University has just appeared. It shows a total student attendance for the current year of 1097, which is twenty less than the previous year. The high-water mark in attendance was in 1925-26, when there were 1183. The falling off has been mostly in the Preparatory Department, where the enrollment has fallen from 569 to 395. On the other hand the College Department has grown from 385 to 519.

Contrary to the announcements of some weeks ago, the President of the Republic, Gazi Mustafa Kemal, is not to spend the summer in Constantinople, but expects to come here for a visit in September. The President of the Grand National Assembly, Kiazim Pasha, has arrived in this city, and has taken up his summer quarters here; also Ismet Pasha, President of the Council of State and Prime Minister.

On Friday last, a flotilla of thirty-five Italian hydroplanes flew over the city, settling down on the peaceful waters of Buyukdere Bay. It was a beautiful sight, as they come in, in regular formation, to the tooting welcome of all the whistles in the harbor. They left again the next morning, going to Constanza and Odessa. They are due back here tomorrow, and will leave on Friday for Italy.

Two houses at Cham Koria, Bulgaria, are for rent for the summer season for \$250 to \$265 apiece. Both are recommended by Mrs. Manning of Robert College as exceptionally nice. Those interested, write either to her or to the undersigned.

An interesting discovery was made at Beirut University, the last of May. A new medical laboratory is being erected, and in the centre of the building two pillars were to be set up. In digging for the foundations, the workmen in one of the pits came upon a metal sarcophagus; and at almost the same time those digging for the other column came upon one of terra cotta. Both seem to date from the Roman period, and both had been rifled. A few coins and a small remnant of one skeleton were all that were found in them.

Preparations for the Annual Meeting of the Mission are being pushed. It promises to be a large gathering; big and little there seem likely to be over eighty souls present. Friday, June 28th, is the day.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear friends:-

Mrs E. D. Marden writes May 27th from California:- "An All Turkey meeting was recently held in Los Angeles, where many gathered who have been in Turkey for a longer or shorter period. The affair was started by Mr and Mrs Gardner, formerly of Hadjin, now of Whittier, in honor of Dr Peet, and was staged in the International Cafe, kept by an Armenian from Adana. For luncheon the menu included pilaf, sarma, paklava yoghurt and Turkish coffee. Short addresses were made by those at the table. There were about thirty present. The names sound like the roster of an Annual Meeting, in the old times. Dr Peet and Mrs Hemphill - of course "Peet Stamboul" was the important personage;- then there were Mrs Christie of Tarsus and her daughter Jean, Dr and Mrs Martin of Hadjin and Aleppo, Miss Bartlett of Smyrna, Mrs E. D. Marden of Constantinople, Miss Ainslee of Marash, Miss Bissell of the Y.W.C.A. in Stamboul, Mrs Gardner of Hadjin, Miss Ida Richter, one time Dr Peet's secretary, Dr Underwood of Bitlis, Dr Christensen of Marash, Miss Peck of Adana, and Miss Weir of Constantinople College. Also as honorary members Mrs Reed, mother of Dr Reed of Smyrna; Mr and Mrs Rice, parents of Miss Rice of Athens; Mr and Mrs Ferguson, the latter a niece of Mrs MacLachlan, formerly of Smyrna; Mr Ford, a business man of Smyrna, and Mrs Ford. Paul Gardner, son of the Gardners of Hadjin. Regrettable illness kept Mr Gardner in bed at his home. The day was fine, as are all California days, (she later speaks of "this perpetual land of sunshine where all the month of May has been foggy") the table decorated with abundant flowers, and the food real Turkish food, which tastes so good to us here in exile. As the occasion centered about Dr Peet, the addresses made him their theme, and Dr Peet in a warm way responded to all. It was a most enjoyable occasion."

Rev. Leslie J. Adkins writes from Boston, May 27th: - "Edith and I are leaving for California next Friday, where I shall have the chance of seeing her people. I return to Columbia University the middle of July for the summer school; and we sail from Boston September 1st for England. After three weeks there, we leave October 1st via Paris, arriving in Constantinople October 5th. We stay about a week, and arrive in Aleppo about October 15th .... Sally Ann fell out of a second story window at the Missionary Home three weeks ago, but did nothing worse than breaking her forearm. Everything is coming along fine; in two more weeks she will have the cast off."

Miss Isabelle Harley of Scutari left on Thursday last for a vacation trip to America, going via Venice and Paris. Miss Woods of Brousa left this city last Saturday, going via Italy to England. Miss Hostetter of Merzifon left for a summer in Europe on Wednesday last. On Wednesday there arrived here Mr and Mrs Rector of Tarsus with little Betty; and Mrs Rector and the baby sailed on Saturday by the S.S. Sinaia for New York. Miss Margaret Smith of Merzifon has been on a brief trip to Angora and Brousa, from which latter city she returned yesterday to Constantinople.

Miss Sara Corning of Merzifon, who has been visiting friends in Athens and Salonica, arrived in Constantinople on Sunday, and is soon returning to Merzifon.

Prof. and Mrs Paul Monroe, of Columbia University, are in this city on a short stay. Prof. Monroe gave the Commencement address at Constantinople College yesterday.

President Gates of Robert College was prevented by illness from giving the Baccalaureate Sermon to the graduating class at Robert College last Sunday; but it was hoped he would be in condition to preside at the graduating exercises this afternoon.

Commencements are crowding on each other's heels this week. We hope to give some account of a few next week.

Yours very cordially

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Bright skies and not too much heat have aided in making Commencement season at Constantinople a success. The American Collegiate Institute at Erenkeuy had its exercises first, among the American institutions; and a class of fifteen listened to paternal advice of a high order from Dr McNaughton and Rev. J. K. Birge. The American Academy for Girls at Scutari graduated a class of twenty-five; the American Ambassador gave an address in English and Orkhan Saadettin Bey of the Turkish University, one in Turkish. Robert College and Constantinople College each gave diplomas to a class of thirty-six, eighteen of these at Robert College being in the Engineering Department. At the C. C. graduating exercises, Dr Walter Wright gave the chief address; - and here the News Notes must acknowledge an inexplicable error in the last week's issue. It was at Robert College that Professor Paul Monroe gave the Commencement address, and not at Constantinople College. President Gates was unable to deliver the Baccalaureate sermon and Professor Davison took his place; but by Tuesday last, Dr Gates was so much improved that he presided at the closing exercises, and handed the students their diplomas, and gave them his parting words of advice. Ambassador Grew also gave the class some wise counsel. Last in the list came Gedik Pasha School, with its closing day last Friday. A class of ten girls and nine boys took their diplomas. Mr Walter Wright gave the address.

Miss Helen Wells, who has this past year been Principal of the Merzifon Girls' School but who is retiring to America, came to Constantinople with her mother last Wednesday, and on Saturday they started with Miss Margaret Smith by Roumanian steamer for Egypt. From there, Miss Smith goes on via Bombay to China, her missionary location, while Mrs Wells and Miss Wells go by way of Italy to America.

Dr Charles E. Clark of Talas arrived in Constantinople on Tuesday last, and left on Friday with Mr Rector of Tarsus for Italy, where they meet Mr James Clark. Dr Clark is on his way home on furlough; and Mr Rector comes back to teach next year in Erenkeuy School.

Mr Luther Fowle and Miss J. L. Jillson were in Angora last week, and secured some hopeful information that looks toward permission for the reopening of the Brousa Girls' School. Mr Paul Bobb and Miss Jeannette Odell were also in Angora at the time, and they were delighted to learn that the official recognition of the Merzifon Girls' School program has been granted, much to the relief of that institution.

BORN - On Tuesday, June 18th, at the American Hospital in Constantinople, to Mr and Mrs J. R. Gordon of the American Express Co., a son, their second.

Among recent visitors in Constantinople have been Professor L. J. Richardson of the University of California, and Rev. Walter Spooner, Associate Superintendent of the Illinois Congregational churches; the latter coming overland from Syria via Tarsus and Caesarea.

Dr J. Oscar Boyd, Secretary of the American Bible Society at Vienna, is in the city on a brief visit to consult about the work of the Society in our region.

Miss Sylvia Eddy of Talas Hospital passed through here last week, on her way to America for a visit. She left by American Export Line on Monday.

Miss Harley of Scutari, Miss Ellen Blakely of Marash and her sister Miss Bertha Blakely, and Rev. Lee Vrooman of Smyrna travelled on the Lloyd Triestino to Venice, and via Paris to sail from Cherbourg for America.

The Mission Language School had its closing exercises last week and all the class successfully passed the dread examinations. We are asked to say that the correspondence course in Turkish will be discontinued for the summer months.

Miss Mary Webb has arrived in Constantinople from Beirut, and Miss Lucille Day from Salonica, and Miss Orvis from Adana.

Yours very cordially

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:

July 2, 1929

The Annual Meeting of the Turkey Mission is now in session at the American Ecumenical Institute, Erenkeuy. It was called to order on Friday morning, June 28th, and the delegates from the various stations are the following:

Adana:- Miss Brauer, Miss Hallett, Miss Hotson, Miss Orvis,  
Mr. Woolworth.  
Aintab:- Mr. and Mrs. Pence, Mr. Isely  
Aleppo:- Dr. and Mrs. Merrill.  
Athens:- Miss Pinneo, Miss Mills, Dr. Marden, Mr. & Mrs. Rose  
Beirut:- Miss E. S. Webb, Miss Loughridge  
Caesarea:- Mr. and Mrs. Nilson  
Constantinople:- Dr. McNaughton, Miss Odell, Mrs. Perry, Mrs.  
Shepard, Mr. Birge, Mr. Blake, Miss Jillson  
Marash:- Miss Cold, Mr. and Mrs. Lyman  
Mardin:- Miss Dewey  
Merzifon:- Mr. Bobb, Miss Zbinden  
Salonica:- Miss Day, Mr. Brewster, Mr. Compton  
Smyrna:- Miss Greene, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard, Miss Feichtinger  
Ex-officio:- Dr. MacCallum, Dr. Goodsell, Dr. Shepard, Mr. Fowle  
Mr. Markham, Mr. Riggs.  
The Bulgaria Mission has sent as their fraternal delegate, Mrs. E.B.Haskell.

Aside from these, there are present for the whole or a part of the time, Mrs. Woolworth of Tarsus, Mrs. Bobb of Merzifon, Mr. and Mrs. R. White of Smyrna, Mr. and Mrs. Meyering of Tarsus, Miss Colmyer of Merzifon, Miss Honiss of Aintab, and Miss Silliman of Aleppo, and nearly all the other members of Constantinople Station.

There are also an unusual number of the children of the Mission present, including Caroline Goodsell, Robert Birge, Kingsley Birge, William Birge, Curtis Fowle, Farnsworth Fowle, James Fowle, Joy Fowles, Howard Reed, John Maynard, Edward Maynard, Dorothy Woolworth, James Pence, Robert White, Donald Bobb, Nilson, Sylvia Nilson, Frederick Shepard, Alice Shepard, Robin Shepard, Eleanor Jean Markham, Markham, and Maynard Kreider.

Business sessions are held in the mornings only; and at three o'clock daily Dr. Merrill leads a Round Table on the relations between Moslems and Christians. On Saturday afternoon the members of the Language School presented a play in Turkish by Halide Edib Hanum, - "The Shepherds of Canaan," being the story of Joseph, dramatized. It was extremely well done.

The reports from the various stations and departments of the Mission's work were given on Saturday and Monday mornings, and proved very interesting and encouraging. Today the Educational Conference takes place, and later there will be discussions on Rural Problems, and other important ideas.

An interesting service took place at the Erenkeuy School on Sunday afternoon. The Annual Meeting Sermon was preached by Rev. Paul Nilson of Talas, on Matt. 6:33. Three mission babies were baptized by Dr. F. W. MacCallum as Pastor of the Mission Church, -- Richardson Fowle, Sylvia Elaine Nilson, and Maynard Lincoln Kreider. Before the sacrament of the Lord's supper, Robert Bowen Birge was received as a member of the church on confession of his faith. Nearly one hundred persons were present.

Word has come of the appointment as permanent missionaries of the Board of Miss Katherine O. Fletcher, of the Scutari Academy, and of Miss S. Evelyn Woodward. For term service there have also recently been appointed Miss Mary Hill, Miss Hannah Nollen and her sister Miss Sarah Nollen, all for Salonica, and Miss Goodenough for Athens.

Dr. Cornelius S. Patton, for twenty-five years Secretary of the Home Department of the American Board, was elected Secretary Emeritus at the Annual Meeting of the Board in Detroit, and will retire from active service in October.

On Sunday June 2nd there was solemnized at Athens the marriage of Professor George Peter Michaelides, of the School of Religion, and Miss Dorina Andronides, of the Treasury Office of Athens Station. Our best wishes are extended to the happy couple.

Yours respectfully, C.T.Riggs

Dear friends:-

We are happy to announce the arrival on Monday last, at the American Hospital, Pera, of Marjorie Ruth Bobb of Merzifoun. The little girl and her mother are doing finely.

In addition to those who were mentioned last week as in attendance at the Annual Meeting at the Erenkeuy School, Miss Martin and Miss Borel from Adana and Mr. Hazen from Tarsus, have arrived and joined the gay crowd. The meeting is nearing its end, and several delegates have already left to go to Europe or elsewhere on vacations.

Games and contests of various forms furnish recreation for the hard-working delegates. A tennis tournament in men's singles has been won by Mr. Thompson of the Erenkeuy School, with Bob Birge as runner-up. The women's singles final will be played between Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Birge. Two baseball games out of three between teams representing Europe and Asia were won by the former; Europe also won the volley ball series. Time did not suffice to finish up the other contests, in swimming, etc.

Yesterday several went up to Hissar to spend the night, and this morning, despite a strong wind and current, swam across the Bosphorus to the Asiatic shore. They included Caroline Goodsell, Miss Lucille Day, Curtis and Farnsworth Fowle and Miss Warner of the Y.W.C.A. staff, and a student from Constantinople College. The feat has been accomplished by plenty of people before this, but never before, we believe, by so large a representation from our Mission.

Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have left the School of Religion, Athens, on their return to the United States and Miss Clarke has returned from the Junior College at Athens.

Mrs. Cass Arthur Reed, with her son Lachlan, and Messrs. Avery and Pilliod of the International College staff, are making the pilgrimage to Egypt, Palestine and Syria.

Miss Mabel Pihl, who has for the past three years been on the staff of the A.C.I., Smyrna, left June 22nd to join her sister and two friends in Naples for an automobile trip through Europe, sailing later from Sweden. On the same boat from Smyrna went Prof. Albert Seylaz and Prof. and Mrs. William Fozler and child for their summer abroad.

Messrs. Darwin Hand and Ralph Boyer, who have finished three years' service in International College, are returning to California via Russia, China and Japan. One of them will study in Union Seminary next year, the other at Columbia.

Prof. Edgar J. Fisher of Robert College and family, Prof. and Mrs. Paul Monroe, and a party of students returned last week from a trip to the Seven Churches from Smyrna as a base.

Ambassador and Mrs. Grew held a well attended reception for the American community and other friends on the Fourth of July at the Embassy. In the afternoon the Ambassador and his good wife visited the Erenkeuy School and took tea with the Annual Meeting delegates, and had a good chance for conversation with friends from faraway points.

It is particularly pleasing to be able to felicitate the American Collegiate Institute at Erenkeuy on the reception of their formal recognition by the Turkish Government as of Lycee grade.

Mr. Lars Anderson, formerly American Ambassador to Belgium and to Japan and Mr. John Gardner Coolidge, former Minister to Nicaragua, with their wives, recently visited Smyrna on their yacht "Sayonara", and called at the International College.

Word comes from California that Mrs. S.L. Caldwell of International College, on her return from a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Paulison, formerly Y.M.C.A. workers in Smyrna, now in Honolulu, found her second daughter Helen seriously ill in the Upland, California, hospital. Prof. and Mrs. Caldwell expect to return to Smyrna in the fall.

Miss Jean Honiss has left Constantinople for Aintab, but will spend the rest of the summer in Marash on her way.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs.

Dear friends:-

By error, two events were mixed up in our last issue. It was Dr Fisher and Prof. Larsen with his cousin, and a party of students who went on the visit to the Seven Churches; while Mrs Fisher and Dr and Mrs Monroe went to Brousa instead.

BORN:- In Marash on July 13th, a daughter, Louise Elizabeth, to Rev. and Mrs Walter B. Wiley. Weight, 7 lbs. So the Mission grows!

Miss Mary I. Ward of Marzifon arrived in Constantinople yesterday morning. She expects in about a fortnight the arrival here of Dr Edwin St. John Ward of Beirut University Medical Department, and also of Rev. F.P. Beach and Mrs (Ruth Ward) Beach and children, of Fukien Christian University, Foochow, China, and who are on their way through to America, or to Europe.

Mrs Elizabeth Laird, Librarian of Beirut University, and daughter of Dr and Mrs MacCallum of our city, reached here on Sunday last, on her return from attending a Conference of Librarians, held at Rome and Venice. She came back via Athens.

News comes from Deerfield (Mass.) Academy, where a number of missionary children have had their training, that Paul Ward, son of Dr and Mrs Edwin Ward of Beirut University, won the Senior Scholastic Prize at the Alumni Banquet of the Academy; and at the same time the announcement was made that the Junior Scholastic prize was won by Richard Fowle, son of Mr and Mrs Charles W. Fowle, formerly of the Near East Relief at Beirut. These two young prize-winners were formerly classmates in the Beirut Faculty School. As Paul's class numbers 97, and Dick's class 70, their high standing is a big feather in the cap of the Faculty School, and incidentally a credit to their Near Eastern parents. We like to add that in each case the great-grand-parents of these boys were missionaries of the Western Turkey Mission, namely, Dr and Mrs Edwin Bliss, and Dr and Mrs Wilson Farnsworth.

Mr and Mrs Paul Nilson and their children have been staying on at Geuz Tepe since the Annual Meeting closed. They start tomorrow, with Miss Bertha Colmyer of Merzifon, for Talas via Angora.

Mr Lincoln Goodsell, son of our Field Secretary, and Mr Davis Post and Miss Effie Post, children of Dr Post of Robert College, reached Constantinople from America on Sunday last, coming via Venice. They will spend the summer here with their families.

A most fitting conclusion to the Annual Meeting at Erenkeuy was at the closing evening devotional service, which took the form of a Commissioning for two members of the Mission who have received appointment as permanent missionaries since our last Annual Meeting, but have not been in America to receive their commissions. These were Miss Emma Zbinden of Merzifon, who has been connected with the Girls' School there for nearly sixteen years, and Evelyn Woodwafd, who has been for the past two years teaching at the Gedik Pasha School. Each gave a sketch of the way they came to be connected with the work of the Mission; and on behalf of the Board, Mr Birge, formerly Candidate Secretary of the American Board, welcomed them to our fellowship. Dr Goodsell was in charge of the service. This was on Wednesday evening last, and the meeting then adjourned sine die.

Miss Myrtle O Shane, who has resigned from the work of the Board, left Beirut two weeks ago, going to America by way of Egypt. Miss Loughridge, who has been teaching at Adana, but was formerly in Beirut, has been asked to take up the principalship of the Girls' School at Beirut for the coming year.

We are sorry to have to report that Miss A. B. Francis, lately head-nurse of the American Hospital, Constantinople, is lying critically ill at the St. George's Hospital in London.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

With sorrow we have to announce the death on July 9th in the St. Georges' Hospital, London, of Miss Francis, formerly Director of the Nurses' Training School at the American Hospital in Constantinople. The disease came on so suddenly that when she left here a few weeks ago, it was not realized even by the physicians how seriously ill she was.

The question of income tax in Athens has been satisfactorily settled, writes Dr Marden, who reached Athens July 13th on his return from Annual Meeting. The Minister of Finance issued instructions to the effect that the foreign personnel and the schools (American Junior College for Girls, the School of Religion; and Anatolia College Salonica) are free from income tax. This is a very courteous thing for the Greek Government to do.

Two disasters of major proportions have just afflicted the Turkish Republic. In consequence of torrential rains in the Trebizond and Rize district, the villages in the vicinity of Surmene and Off have suffered terribly, whole villages being wiped out, and with a total of human lives lost estimated at from 700 to 1000, and very great material loss.

The other was a big fire in Angora, where last Thursday five hundred shops, a hundred houses and several hotels were burned up. The origin of the fire is being investigated. The disaster resulted in a serious shortage of bread, meat, and other eatables, and building lumber was practically unobtainable. Fortunately there was no loss of life.

Miss Imogene Johnson, of Athens, Tennessee, has been secured as a nurse at the American Hospital of Constantinople, and is expected to arrive in the near future.

Miss Margaret Knapp, niece of Miss Kinney, of Scutari school, is coming out this fall to teach in the American Academy there, to the great satisfaction of Miss Kinney and her associates.

A fine site has been purchased at Biridjik, near Bozanti and not far from the Cilician Gates, by our associates in Adana Station. To their delight this deal was completed in June. They hope to make it a health and re-creational resort, especially for the Hospital staff; later it may serve as a mountain annex to the Hospital work.

The Annual Meeting joke on Mr Merrill Isely has come true. He and Curtis Fowle had complete success in transferring to Aintab an Italian queen bee, with her minions, who it is hoped will aid in the bee-culture side of our agricultural project there.

Mr Nulson on his return journey to Talas reports having a good visit with Messrs. Jennings and Ted Gannaway in Angora, who see before them a life-time job cooperating with the Turks on a social-recreational-moral program. These friends are always glad to see members of our Mission passing through the Capital.

If all goes well, during August our legal adviser, Hamid Bey with his wife are planning, in company with Mr Fowle and perhaps two of his quartet of boys, to visit all of our interior stations, from Aintab to Merzifon. One can easily see the great advantage of such a journey, in the better understanding of all situations.

Dr and Mrs Wilfred M. Post are expected to pass through Constantinople some time next month, on their way to the Caucasus and later to Syria, for a medical inspection connected with the Near East Relief work. Dr Post was formerly in our Mission at Talas, and later with Dr Dodd in Konia.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, July 30th, 1929

Dear friends:-

Five whole years and a few days have rolled by since this news sheet began its weekly service. Very few have been the weeks when it has failed, and it is fitting to acknowledge here the great help given by a group of faithful friends in furnishing grist for our mill. Without such aid, the issue of a weekly set of notes would be an impossibility. And the more contributions we receive from other points, the better the result.

Miss Parsons of Smyrna, Miss Day of Salonica, Miss Odell of Merzifon, Mr Blake and Mr Thompson of the Collegiate Institute at Erenkeuy, have all gone to Europe to attend before their return the conference next month of the New Education Movement, at Elsinore, Denmark.

The Turkish Minister of Hygiene, Dr Refik Bey, returned to Constantinople yesterday morning from his trip to America, on which he started early in May. He expresses himself most enthusiastically as to the cordiality of the reception he experienced, and the value of what he saw in the United States, under the guidance of the Rockefeller Institute. He stopped on his way back in London and Berlin.

For the benefit of our readers in Anatolia, we may remark that the contests for the Davis cup in international tennis have resulted in the retaining of that cup by France, whose team defeated the American challengers three matches to two, this past week.

Professor Samuel L. Caldwell, of International College, Smyrna, sailed from New York July 15th on his return from furlough. Ali Kemal Bey, M.A., New York University, who is also returning to International College, is attending the Geneva Conference, as is Professor ~~Madwick~~ Mustafa Bey of Smyrna.

Professor Lee Vrooman, of International College, was coopted as a member of the International Missionary Council meeting at Williamstown, Mass., to which Mrs George Huntington and Miss Constance Padwick were the regular delegates from the Near East Christian Council.

Muzaffer Sherif Bey, a graduate of International College and of the Turkish University in Constantinople, has been appointed by the Government for graduate study at Harvard University, and has left for America.

Miss Margaret Hinman, of the Collegiate Institute in Smyrna, has come to Constantinople for a short vacation trip. Mr Maynard and family, and Howard Reed, are returning to Smyrna the end of the week.

The official statement of the acceptance of the Merzifon School program, and of the recognition of the school as of "second class orta" or Middle, grade, reached Merzifon July 18th. The course of study covers six years, and also one preparatory year of intensive English study.

Rev. and Mrs Edward Perry expect to leave in a couple of days for a vacation trip to Switzerland.

Of our Annual Meeting guests who have been staying on to enjoy a Constantinople summer, Mr and Mrs Compton expect to start back this week for Salonica, Mr and Mrs Pence for Aintab, Miss Brauer and Miss Martin for Adana. Miss Olive Greene left last Friday for Smyrna.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Dr Albert W. Dewey, who after spending three years with the Near East Relief work in the Caucasus, mainly at Leninakan, Armenia, has been studying in Vienna since April last, arrived in Constantinople last Thursday, on his way to Talas where he will pack up his goods to remove them to Aintab. His wife and children remain in Vienna for a couple of weeks more and then come on, expecting him to join them at Ulu Kishla on the railroad south of Cawsarea, and escort them in to Aintab.

On Thursday also there arrived a party from Beirut by Messagerie steamer "Lotus", including Dr and Mrs Edwin St. John Ward (Called in the local Turkish papers "Mr Vorlt") and their son Philip, and Rev. and Mrs (Ruth Ward) Beach of the Board's Foochow Mission, China, with their three children; also Mrs Ward's sister, Miss Allen. Miss Mary Ward of Merzifon was awaiting her family, and they had two days together in this city. Saturday noon the steamer sailed for Piraeus and Marseilles carrying the Beach family on their way to America on furlough. Miss Ward went with them as far as Athens; but Dr E. S. Ward and family took train the following day from here to Vienna, for a shorter vacation in Europe. They plan to return to Beirut via Italy.

Mr and Mrs Harold Pence, who have been detained here after Mr Pence's return from Salonica by his being under the weather, left on Friday by rail for Fevzi Pasha and thence to Aintab by automobile.

The same day, Mr and Mrs H. A. Maynard of International College and their two younger boys, with Howard Reed, left on their return to Smyrna, having spent a delightful month at Geuz Tepe.

Yesterday quite a party left for Adana Station, including Mr Woolworth, Miss Martin and Miss Brauer, and Miss Edith Cold for Marash and little Anne Birge, the latter going to join her parents and brothers at Bridjik, the new mountain resort near the Cilician Gates, Mrs Woolworth stays in Constantinople a little longer with Dorothy. Mrs Edith Laird, of Beirut University, went with them, on her return to her librarian's post.

According to the Constantinople dailies, beginning with September there will be a through service between London and Bagdad, arranged as follows:- Crossing to Calais, one takes the Simplon Express to Sirkedji Station, Constantinople, whence a quick ferry takes you over to Haidar Pasha; from there with close connections a train whisks you on through Konia and Adana to Nisibin, east of Mardin, which is now the rail head. Thence automobiles rush you down to the north end of the railroad to Bagdad, and that narrow-gauge road finally brings you in to the City of the Caliphs.

Constantinople city is gaily decorated with flags today, as His Excellency the President, Ghazi Mustafa Kemal Pasha, is arriving from the Capital. It is believed that he will remain here about a month. Angora was getting too warm for comfort, with the mercury reported at 96 degrees Fahrenheit. The summer in our city has proved quite bearable, even with a high degree of humidity.

Mrs Lydia A. Flint, of International College, Smyrna, came up yesterday to Constantinople to meet friends coming from America. Apparently a summer even in Smyrna agrees well with her.

Professor and Mrs Davison of Robert College with their two sons have returned to Constantinople after a successful and pleasant trip to Syria and Palestine, going as far south as Jerusalem and Hebron without finding any intolerable heat.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:-

Camping on Mount Olympus (the Asiatic, not the Thessalian) is not a common stunt of Americans on a summer outing; but Dr Dorwin Shepard has taken his family to a spot considerably higher than Brousa, up toward the summit, for a month's vacation, in a tenting outfit rescued from custom-house oblivion just in the nick of time.

We eagerly await news of this camping party, since this morning's newspaper tells of torrential rains on the slopes of Olympus, doing damage in Brousa and the villages. There have also been heavy rains in Nicomedia and its region; and the village of Sapanja near Adabazar has suffered much. Floods of rain are also reported from Trebizond, with much havoc in and around the city.

Dr Dewey has gone in to Talas, to gather up his belongings for the trek to Aintab, where he and his family are eagerly awaited.

Mr Luther Fowle left last Friday with his son Farnsworth by rail for a visit to the south and east. He will be joined in Aintab by his elder son Curtis; and with Hamid Bey, the Lawyer, they expect to touch five or six of our Stations in Anatolia.

Mrs Emily Block is in Constantinople on a short visit, coming from Tarsus, where she has been at work, and is now on her way to her future field of labor at Talas.

Mr and Mrs Dana K. Getchell of Salonica, who have been spending several weeks in Colorado, visiting numerous relatives, came back to Malrose, Mass., July 26th, to remain there with Mrs Edward Riggs and other relatives till they sail a week from today on their return. They take the Fabre Line SS "Asia" from Providence, for Salonica.

Miss Honiss of Marash and Mr David Julius of Aleppo went from Marash to Talas a week ago; Miss Honiss is staying on there for a while, but Mr Julius left yesterday on his way to Constantinople for a visit.

Mr and Mrs Nilson of Talas had some anxious days and nights the first of this month, when their little Paul had seven days of high fever. Dr Rasim Bey called it light pneumonia, and nursed him through it with good care.

A Summer Institute of six weeks is being held in the Turkish Normal School at Zinjirdere, with about 100 teachers in attendance, 15 of them women. They are vekil-teachers (substitute) who have not yet secured their full certificates. Our Paul Nilson is giving them a course of stereopticon lectures on educational subjects. Zinjirdere is also the site of a summer camp for the Lycee and Normal Schools, lasting four weeks; and here also Mr Nilson has given a stereopticon lecture. Their program calls for military drill under a Lieutenant, and those who take the course thereby cut off several months of their later military service.

Paul writes:- "No one has climbed Mt. Argaeus yet this year!

Applications are coming in for the Talas Boys' School; and as the plan is to take in only one entering class of from 30 to 40, there will be little trouble in getting the number filled up. Local cooperation seems fine.

President Henry B. Dewing of Athens College and his daughter Elizabeth are in Constantinople for a brief visit, making their headquarters at Robert College.

Miss Sarah R. Riggs returned yesterday to Constantinople from a month's travel through England and Scotland.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Mr. Wilson writes from ~~Wales as a rumor~~ ~~around town~~ that an American airplane company was planning to take over the uncompleted German airplane factory at Caesarea. This may be merely a rumor; but it is probably related to a recent fact. A party of Turkish aviation specialists has gone over to America, through an arrangement by M. Julian Gillespie, American Trade Commissioner at the Embassy, for the study of American methods of building airplanes, of training pilots, and of commercial and military aviation. They will visit many airports and factories, and may perhaps be led to recommend the adoption of American methods along this line.

Miss S.W. Orvis of Aana is spending her summer at Hofgastein, south of Salzburg, Austria. She leaves Venice by steamer Sept. 7th on her return.

Miss Myston, formerly of the YWCA staff in this city, passed through Constantinople last week on her way from America for a two-year period of service with the N.E.R. in Leninakan, Armenia.

Mr. Birge and family returned to Constantinople yesterday from Bidjik, after a very successful outing of a month to the south and east.

Mr. and Mrs. B.C. Partridge of Aleppo went during the first week of August to Lewiston, Maine, to see Mrs. Partridge's father, who is 83 years old. With them went all their children, except Edward and his wife and baby daughter. Their second son, George, just married, took along his bride. On their way they stopped in Massachusetts, just in time to take part in the silver wedding anniversary celebrations of Mr. and Mrs. Dana E. Gatchell, of Salonica, at the home of Mrs. Edward Riggs, formerly of Marsovan.

Dr. Shepard and family are having a wonderful time camping on Mt. Olympus, at an elevation of 1500 metres; they are on the edge of a large clearing, surrounded by forests of pine and fir. They expect to be back in Constantinople in about ten or twelve days. Dr. Shepard has been wild boar hunting, and has seen very near their tents two rather big brown bears.

A large party from Beirut arrived on Sunday in the Bosphorus on the Fabre liner "Alesia," on their way to America. It includes Dorothy Merrill of Aleppo, John Dorman, Preston Bacon, and Sanborne Brown, sons of A.U.B. professors; Mr. and Mrs. Ogden and two children, of the Presbyterian Mission in Tripoli; Prof. and Mrs. Snyder and their baby, of the A.U.B.; Miss Burnett, nurse in the A.U.B. Hospital; also Mr. Hampartsoum Hampartsoumian, pastor of the Armenian Church in Cairo. There is also on board a party of 70 or 80 members of a Travel Institute for Bible Research, returning to America. The steamer sails from here tomorrow, Lincoln and Caroline Goodsell joining the party on their return to America; also Prof. W. L. Wright of Lincoln University, Penn., with his daughter, who have been visiting his son in Hissar. Prof. Wright was a former Staffite at Beirut.

The Turkish Government has definitely refused to allow the reopening of the Drousa School, under Miss Jillson, as had been requested by the Mission.

Mr. Lyman MacCollum left last Thursday for a fortnight's trip to Italy. He went to join his aunts, Misses Emily and Edith MacCollum. The former is on her way back to Athens to resume work, while the latter will soon be starting back to her position as Librarian of Tusculum College, Tenn.

Miss Dorothy Barker of Aleppo and Miss Rachel Hill of Beirut are spending a brief vacation in Constantinople.

Yours swelteringly but hopefully,

Charles W. Riggs

Dear friends:-

On Thursday last there was quite an exodus of our friends from this city in various directions. The Fabre line S.S. "Alesia," scheduled to sail earlier was delayed till that afternoon, and took away the Beirut party, including Dorothy Merrill of Aleppo; also Prof. Wright and daughter, and Lincoln and Caroline Goodsell. The same day, Dr. Cyril H. Haas of Adana, with his two new nurses, Miss Dora F. Shank and Miss Sarah A. Stone, sailed for Mersin on the Sitar S.S. "Umbria," which had brought them from Naples the previous day. Miss Shank comes back to Constantinople shortly, to take the Language School course before permanent service; while Miss Stone is to be in Adana for one year. On this same steamer went also Miss Rachel Hall, returning to Beirut, and Miss Dorothy Barker, to Aleppo, after a brief vacation trip. A third steamer, the Seiri Sefin S.S. "Ankara" sailed in the late evening with Mr. and Mrs. P.F. Bobb and their two children and Miss Mary Ward, for Samsoun and Mersifon; also Mr. and Mrs. Harry Meyer-ing, going to visit Mersifon and Talas on their way to their station, Tarsus.

**Mrs. Albert W. Dewey and her three children arrived last week from Vienna, on the way to join her husband at Ulu Kishla and go with him to their new station of Aintab, or Gaziantep, as the Turks now call it. She is spending a few days on the way at Scutari.**

Mr. Arnold J. Toynbee, the well-known author of "Turkey" and other books, is in Constantinople with his wife and two children, guests at Constantinople College. Mr. Toynbee goes on soon via Bagdad and India to China; while Mrs. Toynbee returns with the children by automobile, just as they came, to England. It is an interesting but rather difficult journey.

Dr. Bertram V.D. Post of Robert College and his son Davis have gone on a trip to Westphalia, Germany, expecting to return next week.

Constantinople has been sweltering under a most unusual heat wave, the past two weeks. The mercury has rarely gone below 70° at night, and has frequently been over 90° during the day; and the north winds have furnished little relief, being so hot themselves. Such a warm time has rarely lasted so long within the memory of those now living here; for in general our city is a pleasant summer resort.

The death is announced at Munich, Aug. 24th, of General Limon von Sanders Pasha, who was head of the German Military Mission sent here after the Balkan wars to reconstruct the Turkish army, and who took a prominent place in the Turkish army during the General War.

Mr. Verner McGinness has been secured for a five year term of service at Anatolia College, with the expectation that this will develop into permanent service. He sailed August 19th from New York with Mr. and Mrs. Dana K. Gatchell, returning to Salonica.

Dr. Wilson F. Dodd and family and Miss Jennie B. Paige are booked to sail from New York Sept. 21st, to take charge of the medical work at Talas.

The return of Miss Mabel E. Emerson to America has been delayed by poor steamship connections from Africa, so that she is not expected in Boston before September 20th.

Rev. Manasch G. Papazian, of Fresno, Calif., is expecting to start soon from America on a six months' visit to various centers of evangelical work among Armenians in France and the Near East. We hope soon to be able to give his itinerary.

The Annual Meeting of the so-called Cilicia Union of Churches began its sessions at Kessab, Aug. 21st. The Regional Conference of the Syria Area of our Mission occurs there also at this time, with Dr. and Mrs. Merrill, Miss Foreman, Miss Webb and Mr. E.H. Riggs as delegates.

Yours very cordially

Charles E. Riggs.

Dear friends:-

The past week has been a time of comings and goings, so rapid that one can merely give the kaleidoscopic effect, by any brief recital. Summer vacations are closing; people are getting back to work.

Mrs. A.W. Dewey and her children left here Wednesday last, to join Dr. Dewey at Oulou Kiehla and go on with him to Aintab, where the friends were eagerly awaiting his reopening of the Hospital work.

Last Thursday Dr. and Mrs. Goodsell, with Dr. and Mrs. W.L. Wright, left by steamer for a tour of the north shore of Asia Minor. They were to go as far as Rize, near the Russian frontier; and on the way back they were to stop off at Samsoun and go to Merzifon for a week, taking the next week's steamer back to Constantinople.

Mrs. H.A. Flint, of International College, after a brief trip to Vienna, passed through our city last week on her way to Smyrna.

Messrs Rector and Zwahlen from Tarsus had an interesting summer trip through Europe, ending up by coming down the Danube River by steamer, and across to Varna, whence they came to Constantinople last Wednesday. Mr. Zwahlen goes back to Tarsus, while Mr. Rector is to spend the coming year teaching at the A.C.I., Erenkeuy.

Miss Odell returned last week from attending the Progressive Education Conference at Elsinore, Denmark. Miss Hostetter also returned from Europe, and they go on Thursday by steamer for Samsoun and so to Merzifon. With them goes Miss Arlene Hallett, who summered in England, and wishes to see Merzifon and Talas on her way back to Adana.

Miss Harriett Yarrow of Gedik Pasha, and her mother, Mrs. Millicent Yarrow, who was formerly in the Board office in Boston, arrived last week; they spent about a fortnight each in England, France, Switzerland and Italy. Mrs. Yarrow will be helping this coming year in the teaching at Gedik Pasha, much to the happiness of the staff there.

Rev. and Mrs. E.T. Perry have also returned to their home in Stamboul, after an invigorating trip to various parts of Switzerland.

Mr. Luther Fowle and his son Curtis came back Saturday last after an interesting journey through Anatolia with Hamid Bey and his hanum, but they had to leave Parnsworth at Birtjek, near Pozanti, sick with the mumps, he is in good care and reported to be doing finely.

Miss Emily McCallum arrived in Athens last week on her return from America; she will again help in the Junior College at Phaleron. Mr. Lyman McCallum, who met her in Italy, came with her, and reached Constantinople Sunday afternoon.

Besides Mr. and Mrs. Gatchell and Mr. McGinness, reported last week as sailing on the "Asia" from Providence Aug. 20th for those parts, several others were in the party:- Miss Bertha B. Morley, returning after four years in America, and going to Salonica; Miss Mary Hill, also for Salonica; Miss Goodenough, to the Junior College, Old Phaleron; Mr. Treat for Talas, and Mr. Frost for the A.C.I., Erenkeuy.

After a most successful camping trip on Mt. Olympus, Dr. Shepard and family have returned to take up the Hospital work again. Miss J.L. Jilson of Bronze came to Constantinople with them, having closed up her work there.

Others returning to the Erenkeuy school are Mr. & Mrs. Markham and Messrs. E.C. Blake and Fred Thompson.

Yours very cordially

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Our friends in Greece have been delighted to learn that the Minister of Finance has issued instructions to the effect that the foreign personnel of our schools, and the schools themselves, namely, the American Junior College and the School of Religion at Phaleron and Anatolia College, including the Girls' School, at Salonica, are free from income tax. This is a very courteous thing for the Greek Government to do.

As a consequence of the new Turkish alphabet, some variety of practice has arisen with regard to the Board's registered telegraphic address in Constantinople. The correct registered form is PEET, CONSTANTINOPLE, or, PEET ISTANBUL. Cables from America, Greece, Syria, and most of Turkey continue to come in this form. To transliterate this code address into new Turkish tends to confuse the definiteness of our name, and in fact corresponds with no code address registered with the Constantinople office. Hence it is suggested that all use the correct form as above. --Treasury Department

Mr. Z. D.S. Papazian, Bible House, has for sale an upright piano, of the German Schmidmayer firm. Apply direct.

Dr. and Mrs. A.W. Dewey and their four children (not three, as was inadvertently stated before) reached Aintab August 30th, to the great joy of the Aintab circle. They are living in the Hospital house.

Miss Ilse C. Pohl and Miss Clara C. Richmond, both formerly of Caesarea, have been spending some time at Mountain Rest, Mass., under the kind care of Mrs. Cleaveland, whom many of our number know and love. Miss Pohl expects to be doing some deputational work in Pennsylvania and the middle West until November, and then start back, visiting friends in Germany on her way to Caesarea.

Mr. James Clark of Tarsus was in the party with Messrs. Rector and Zwahlen, arriving here last week, but was not mentioned in our last issue, by mistake. He is still here, but starts on soon for Tarsus.

On Monday the S.S. "Asia" came into the Bosphorus, with Messrs. Treat for Talas and Frost for Erenkeuy on board; also Professor and Mrs. Irving S. Wood, of Smith College, on their way to Jerusalem with their daughter, for a stay of some months, where Prof. Wood is to lecture at the American School for Classical Studies. This same steamer brought out Miss Dorothy Goodenough, to the Junior College at Old Phaleron; Mr. Mills going back to International College, Smyrna, and Mr. and Mrs. D.K. Getchell and Miss Morley, returning to Salonica, and Miss Mary Hill, and Mr. McGinness coming out to that point.

Miss Adelaide Dwight has arrived in Constantinople from Talas for a brief vacation. With her came Miss Ruth Woodsmall, of the Y.W.C.A., who plans to stay a while here on her return from India and Syria.

Dr. and Mrs. Wilfred M. Post arrived here last Sunday, on their way to the Caucasus in the interests of the Near East Relief. After a stay of about three weeks, they return here to go to Syria and Greece on similar work, going back to America in November. Dr. Post is well known to most of our number, having served in Talas, Konia, and Constantinople.

Miss Jeannie L. Jillson has left Brousa and is in this city for a brief stay. She has been appointed by the Mission as Director of the Beirut Girls' School, and plans to reach Beirut about the last week of the month.

Our former Smyrna Colleague Ralph Harlow, now Professor of Bible at Smith College, was granted the degree of Ph.D. by the Kennedy School of Missions this summer. Miss Ruth E. House of Salonica received the degree of M.A. at Teachers College, Columbia, at the same time; and Prof. George H. Huntington of Robert College received the honorary degree of D.D. from his alma mater, Williams College.

Yours very cordially,

Charles J. Riggs

Dear friends:-

The Conference of the North Syria Union of Churches and the Syria Section of the Near East Mission, was held at Kessab, Syria, August 21-28, and was well attended and profitable. The problems of village congregations were uppermost in the discussions; there were also sessions on spiritual life in the church and in individuals, evangelistic problems, educational questions, methods of personal work, etc. The Union voted to accept the invitation to enter the United Missionary Council of Syria and Palestine, and appointed its full quota of six delegates. The whole Conference had a very democratic atmosphere, and there were moments of great earnestness and impressiveness. Several of the delegates climbed Jebel Akra, the ancient Mt. Cassius, 5100 feet, and got the wonderful effect of the sunrise from the peak.

Miss Edith Parsons of Smyrna reached Constantinople last Tuesday on her return from the Elsinore Educational Conference, and left on Friday for the A.C.I., Smyrna. With her went Miss Hinman, who has been staying here several weeks.

Miss Margaret Rydberg, on her way to the Sofia American Girls School, reached Constantinople on Wednesday morning last, and left the same evening by train for Sofia. With her came from Italy Miss Katherine Torrey of Providence, R.I., to teach in the Community School of Robert College.

Anatolia College, Salonica, is having many more applications than they can possibly admit. They are trying out this year the plan of competitive examinations for those who wish to enroll.

The Constantinople Christian Workers' Union had the pleasure of listening last Sunday afternoon, at the Y.W.C.A. Camp, two stirring addresses by Dr. Sherwood Eddy and Mr. Kirby Page, who are on their way to India. Dr. Eddy, with Mrs. Eddy and Mrs. Page, has just come from a visit in Russia, and described vividly the results of ten years of Bolshevism. Mr. Page joined them here from a trip through the Balkans; he spoke on Internationalism. Mr. Page took the service that morning in the Union Church, Pera; and both of them spoke again in the evening at Robert College to an interested group.

Dr. W.L. Nute, of Adana, has come to our city with his son Billy, on his way to put the young man in school near Geneva, Switzerland.

Constantinople Station gave a farewell tea at the MacCallum home to Miss Jeannie L. Jillson, last Wednesday, as she leaves soon for her new responsibilities at Beirut. In a felicitous way Dr. MacCallum on behalf of her colleagues presented her with a travelling bag as a token of remembrance and appreciation. Both Brousa and Constantinople will miss her sorely.

With the return last week of Miss Belle Harley and Miss Margaret Nash, and the arrival of Miss Margaret Knapp, niece of Miss Kinney, the staff of Scutari Academy seems to be complete and ready for the new term.

President Kathryn N. Adams of Constantinople College was among the arrivals of last week, also several others of her faculty; and on Sunday came President and Mrs. G.F. Gates of Robert College, with their son Caleb and his wife, and other teachers for that College. Prof. Hewitt had returned a few days earlier after a year in America. Both Colleges open their doors on Saturday for the new year.

Mr. Luther Fowle has left for Angora, to consult with the Minister of Public Instruction on some matters connected with our schools.

We are asked to draw attention to the five Missionary Fellowships, of \$750.00 a year, and the two Missionary Scholarships, of \$450.00 a year, which are available each year at Union Theological Seminary N.Y. for missionaries on furlough and for especially qualified nationals of Mission Bands. Twenty fully furnished apartments are also available for missionaries on furlough. Applications for 1930-31 should reach the Chairman of the Committee on Missionary Apartments, Prof. D.J. Fleming, at the Seminary, By January 1st, 1930.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs.

Dear friends:-

President Floyd H. Black of the American College, Sofia, writes: "We have been busy all summer with our building program. The building season is short and we have to push the work as rapidly as possible between April and October. We expect to have 19 constructions, including teachers' houses, ready for use by Christmas. We are moving the older boys from Samokov in September, and the younger ones during the Christmas vacation. We have had an unusually large number of applicants this summer. 249 were admitted to our entrance examinations, which are competitive. 114 have been received. Our enrolment is 195 boys and 224 girls; total, 419. The teaching staff this year numbers 45. The work of the year begins on the 18th for the boys and on the 25th for the girls."

With the arrival of Mrs. Woolworth in Tarsus yesterday, the faculty of the American College was complete. Mr. Woolworth has been there since July; then Mr. and Mrs. Meyering after their trip through Anatolia; the Mr. Hazen from Namroun, and a week ago Mrs. H.H. Allen, the new matron and teacher, coming from Constantinople with Messrs. Clark and Zwahlen. School begins Oct. 1st, and applications are coming in well. Mr. Woolworth and the Meyerings took a jaunt up to Güzne for the day, one day last week. "All of our friends are invited to visit Tarsus during the year. We shall enjoy their company, and hope they enjoy ours" - says William Sage.

Mrs. Mary W. Eaton, a daughter of the late Rev. Austin Wright, M.D., who was connected with the Nestorian Mission from 1840 to 1860, reached Constantinople a week ago, and is visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C.T. Riggs. Her husband was long a professor in Middlebury College, associated at first with Dr. Cyrus Hamlin.

Rev. George Allchin, D.D. from 1882 to 1920 a missionary of our Japan Mission at Osaka, arrived in Constantinople Sunday, and after a brief stay will proceed to Bulgaria to visit his daughter, Mrs. Paul Rowland. With him came Miss Imogene Johnson, the new nurse for the American Hospital here, who, with Miss McKnight of the Hospital, has had previous experience in Albania.

Rev. and Mrs. Lee Vrooman, returning from a summer in America, passed through Constantinople last week, sailing Friday for Smyrna to resume their work in International College. Miss Feichtinger came back from her home in Austria in time to go with them, to the Smyrna American Collegiate Institute.

The third Medical Congress for Turkey closed its very successful sessions in Angora on Sept. 19th. Five hundred doctors were present of whom ten were women. What would Dr. Mary P. Eddy, the only American woman doctor to secure a full medical permit from the Turkish Government, have said to this, had she lived to see the day?

Miss Caroline D. Smiley, Associate Secretary in the Home Department of the American Board, reached Constantinople yesterday, coming from Smyrna after visiting Bulgaria and Greece.

News has been received of the death at Beirut, on Sept. 15, of Mrs. Franklin E. Hoskins, widow of Dr. Hoskins of the Presbyterian Mission.

Dr. and Mrs. F.F. Goodsell expect to leave on Thursday of this week for Athens, spending a few days there on their way to America. Dr. Goodsell has been asked by the Prudential Committee to come to Boston to attend the full meeting of that Committee, October 21-23.

On his trip through Anatolia in August, Mr. Luther Fowle traveled from Adana to Antab, Jerablus, Marash, Adana, Nigde, Taurus, Sivaz, Tokat, Merzifon, Boghazkey, and to the Çerikli R.R. Station on the Caesarea-Angora road, - all this way in a new model Ford car. The whole trip took 65 hours 35 minutes of actual traveling time to cover 1943 kilometres, or just over 1200 miles, at an average speed of 29.25 kilom. per hour. This may not seem fast driving to our friends in America; but you just ought to see our roads!

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

After a visit of five days in Constantinople, Miss Carolyn D. Smiley left last Saturday for Talas, stopping over a day at Angora. She expects to go on thence to Adana and Tarsus, then to Aleppo and Beirut, and so on to India and around the world. This trip is in preparation for more efficient work as she enters the Publication Department of the Board.

Dr. George Allchin, formerly of Japan, also left us Saturday, going to Sofia to visit his daughter, Mrs. Raul Rowlandd

The Ecumenical Patriarch of the Orthodox Church, Basil V. died on Sunday, after a brief illness. He was eighty-seven years old, and was a famous scholar and literary man.

A very pleasant reception was given on Friday last at the American Academy at Scutari, by the Faculty in honor of its new members, Miss Esther Mary Hirst and Miss Margaret Knapp. Many friends from various parts of the city gathered to welcome them.

On Thursday last, Dr. and Mrs. Fred Field Goodsell left by Italian steamer for Piraeus, intending to spend about a week in Old Phaleron at the School of Religion, and then go on via France to America. The Prudential Committee has requested Dr. Goodsell to attend a full meeting of that body in Boston Oct. 21-23. He will probably be present also at other important gatherings right after that. They have in mind to return to Constantinople about the first of December.

The President, Gazi Mustafa Kemal, went back to Angora yesterday by special train, after a stay of nearly eight weeks, during which time he visited Yalova, Brousa, and other near-by points, making frequent use of his yachts.

The Turk Odjaghi of Stamboul gave a tea yesterday in honor of Miss Ruth Woodsmall, of the Y.W.C.A., who is on a journey of the Near East in connection with the Rockefeller Institute, studying the progress of women.

Rev. and Mrs. Leslie J. Adkins are leaving Marseilles today for Beirut by direct steamer, arriving there Oct. 8th. Just as they were sailing from America, their friends presented them with a new Ford car; and they crossed France in it and are expecting to motor up from Beirut to their new home in Aleppo.

The Girls' School at Merzifon begins with 32 boarders, and eight more expected, and about ten day scholars so far. They are giving considerable attention to weaving, among their industrial classes, and the girls take to it with enthusiasm.

#### Saturday

The Mission Language School opened its new term yesterday, Miss Shank having arrived from Adana at five a.m./on her delayed train, to enroll as the first student. She has as a classmate Miss Rutherford of the Y.W.C.A. and these two, with Miss Lowry of the Y.W.C.A. as a second-year part-time student, constitute the School. Mr. Perry takes charge in the absence of Dr. Goodsell.

A letter from our old friend Rear-Admiral Mark L. Bristol to Mr. Fowle, dated Chefoo, China, August 11, says:- "Mrs. Bristol and I are planning to go back by the Trans-Siberian Railway. I have less than a month to serve now, as I am to be relieved on 9 of September next. I hope to shove off the next day and go by way of Manchuria, but if not that way then from Japan to Vladivostok. Our plans had all been made, and now this trouble between China and Russia inconveniences us very much. Still, such is life. We hope to be in the United States either in the early part of November or of December. Mrs. Bristol is now in Japan to get away from the heat of China. I know she joins me in best regards to you and all of our old friends. Address hereafter, General Board, Navy Department, Washington, D.C."

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear friends:-

Miss Harriet C. Norton of Aleppo returned to her post on Sept. 30th, after a year's furlough in America, coming on the "Edison" as far as Beirut, and thence by rail.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hoskins left America for Beirut on receipt of word of their mother's serious illness, and made the trip in the record time of 11½ days; but they were too late to see her. On their return trip they stayed over a few days in Constantinople, last week.

Dr. and Mrs. Wilson F. Dodd and their two children arrived in Constantinople from America on Saturday last, and are spending a few days at the MacCallum home before going to Talas. With them is also Miss Jennie E. Paige, the new nurse for the Talas Hospital.

Miss Adelaide S. Dwight of Talas, who has been spending about four weeks in Constantinople, left on her return last Thursday.

The Consulate-General in this city informs us that the periodic registration of the American citizens in Turkey has again been ordered. All American citizens are requested to call at their earliest convenience at the Consulate in person, taking with them their American passports and completing the formalities of registration or re-registration as the case may be. The Consulate regards the present notification as sufficient in regard to this matter for the personnel of the American Board Mission in Constantinople. Americans at other points will doubtless receive further word later.

Ismet Pasha, the Prime Minister, who has been spending the summer in Constantinople, returned yesterday to Angora, the capital.

The death of the Ecumenical Greek Patriarch was announced last week. The funeral took place on Wednesday; and yesterday the Holy Synod met and elected as his successor Photius, Metropolitan of Derkos, who has quietly taken up the functions of his new office.

Miss Margaret H. Steen, of Ardmore, Pa., who formerly taught the Community School in Hissar, arrived in Constantinople on a visit last week Monday. She goes on later to Beirut, where a brother taught some years ago in the Syrian Protestant College.

One of the significant changes in the Turkish schools this year is the abolishing of all lessons in Arabic and Persian grammar, and the substitution of courses wherever possible in French, English, or German. Thus the public eye is once more turned toward the West.

The Aintab Hospital reopened on Sept. 16th, and all the staff have more than they can do. Dr. Dewey's right to practice was fully recognized, and relations with the Health Officer and the new city hospital doctor have been very friendly. Free clinics are held Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at which times more come than Dr. Dewey can possibly see. Miss Honiss and Dr. Hamilton have also enough work to satisfy them. The nursing staff is new and needs a lot for training. Both the Americans and the people of the city are very happy over the fact that the Hospital is open again.

Mr. H.C. Jaquith of the Near East Relief arrived here from America yesterday, and leaves tomorrow evening for Angora. Dr. and Mrs. Wilfred M. Post and Mr. Miller, also of the Near East, returned this morning from the Caucasus, and will leave in a few days for Aleppo, expecting to join him in visits to Syria and Greece.

Will any of our subscribers whose addresses need modification send us word immediately, so that we may make all necessary corrections in our mailing list?

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:

Our schools in Salonica and Smyrna report excellent starts with large registration. We hope soon to give a table showing attendance at all schools in the Mission. Everywhere teachers seem to be busy.

Among the returning teachers at the International College, Smyrna, are Prof. S.L.Caldwell and Ali Kemal Bey, who has spent the last two years in New York City. Prof. and Mrs. Macfarlane and Prof. and Mrs. White, who were in language school last year, are happily settled and at work. New teachers include J.Leland Mills, brother of the bursar and a graduate of Pomona College, and Frank W. Cheney, an experienced teacher of woodwork who has spent 12 years in developing industrial education in the Philippine Islands and was subsequently head of the carpenter shops of the Long Beach, California, school system. New equipment at International includes a small press, which is directed by Perry D. Avery, and a new lathe which will enable Prof. Caldwell to give instruction in metal work.

Mr. and Mrs. George D. White of Anatolia College left Salonica Sept. 8th for their year's furlough in America. It is now more than nine years since they came to render their service to the Near East. All their associates rejoice that they can now have a year of well earned rest. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Parr were among the arrivals on the S.S. "Asia" on Sept. 7th from America. Mrs. Parr, who was formerly Miss Esther White, will act as her father's private secretary at Anatolia College during the year.

At the request of the Board of Managers of the School of Religion, Rev. J.Riggs Brewster has been released by Salonica Station to spend the first semester at Old Phaleron, helping out with executive duties and giving some courses in the absence of both President Pye and Dr. Goodsell. Mr. Brewster arrived at Athens Oct 9th and is at work.

Aintab Station on Sept. 1st held the first of a series of musical evenings. Every member of the station took part in a varied program of vocal and instrumental solos and duets. The Deweys' House-warming in their candle-lighted dining-room, with icecream and cake, furnished a delightful close to the evening.

Mrs. Leslie writes that Eliza-beth has entered the second year of High School at Hinsdale, Ill., where Mrs. Leslie will be found, at 52 South Lincoln Street, after a good visit with her mother at Northport, Mich.

Dr. and Mrs. Wilfred M.Post left Constantinople Thursday morning by rail for Aleppo, on their way to Beirut. They expect to return to America via Greece.

Miss Margaret B. White, formerly of the YWCA in this city, who has been visiting her parents at Anatolia College, Salonica, has gone to Athens where she is to be in charge of the YWCA activities.

Dr. and Mrs. John Henry House returned on Oct. 6th to their work at the Farm School, Salonica, after a furlough in America.

Dr. E. St. J.Ward of Beirut University, is making a good recovery after an operation for appendicitis.

Admiral Field with the battle-ship "Queen Elizabeth", the airplane carrier "Courageous", three destroyers, and the Admiral's yacht "Briony" arrived at Constantinople Saturday, for a stay of a week or more. The Admiral went yesterday to Angora to pay his respects to the Turkish capital. On Friday next there are to be airplane evolutions by the British air squadrons, between Moda and Serai Bournou. The British colony is en fete.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:-

Miss Johanna L. Graf, formerly of Mardin, is making her home with Mrs. S.S. Dewey, also from Mardin, at 843 1/2 North Main St. Springfield, Missouri.

Mrs. Rachel North Trudeau, who was before the war in Mardin and previously in Talas and Konia, and has lived for some years in Minitonas, Manitoba, lost her aged mother on July 24th last. Within two years she has also been bereaved of her husband, father, and sister.

The enrolment of the Adana Girls' School a fortnight ago was 115, of whom 35 were boarders; but applications were still coming in. The territory from which pupils are drawn is becoming more extensive. This year girls have come from Antalia, Deurt Yol, and ElAziz, as well as from nearer points.

Dr. W.W. Peet and Mrs. Hemphill were entertained on Sept. 19th at a banquet gotten up by his Armenian friends, many of whom Dr. Pitt had known on this side the water. He gave them a 40-minute address, which was deeply appreciated.

Dr. Peet would be very glad to get some trace of a book of his, "The Great Palace," by Dr. Alexander Pasmati, which he does not find among his library after going to America. If any of our readers know of its whereabouts, please write Dr. Peet, at Pilgrim Place, Claremont, California.

Rev. and Mrs. Leslie Atkins, with the charming young Sally Ann, reached Beirut from America October 8th, and spent the best part of a week, before proceeding to their new home in Aleppo, in getting their automobile and boxes out of the custom-house. They were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Dodd.

Miss Carolyn D. Smiley passed through Beirut Oct. 9 and 10, spending only one night there on her way to Egypt by rail, to take steamer there for India.

Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Dodd, with little Helen and Bobbie, and with Miss Jennie Paige, the new nurse for Talas, left yesterday by train for Caesarea, via Angora. But a wire from Merzifon had asked that Dr. Dodd come there to attend Miss Odell; so he leaves the rest today at Yerkeuy, between Angora and Caesarea, and goes by automobile to Merzifon. We trust he may not be long delayed, but may soon be able to leave everybody well there and go home.

The budget for 1930 which will be presented to the Grand National Assembly, convening Nov. 1st, totals Ltq. 222,058,483, or nearly two million liras more than last year. The largest figures are:-

National Defence	Ltq. 56,000,000	Ministry of Economy	Ltq. 8,351,000
National Air Defence	41,215,000	Public Instruction	8,100,000
Public Works	33,750,000	Ministry of Justice	7,252,000
Public Debt	32,182,000	Posts and Telegraphs	5,970,000
Ministry of Finance	15,042,000	General Security	4,529,000
Gendarmerie	8,885,000	Custom Houses	4,450,000

This represents a substantial increase in National Defense, by reason of the appearance for the first time of an item for aviation. It is a decrease from last year in the amounts for Public Debt and Public Works, and the figures for Public Instruction and most of the rest remain about the same.

Miss Minnie B. Mills left Athens for America Oct. 16, sailing from Patras on the "Vulcania". Miss McCallum resumes charge of the Junior College during her absence. Miss Mills hopes to be able to organize a Board of Trustees in America, and secure funds for the development of the College.

The British squadron composed of the battle cruiser "Queen Elizabeth", the airplane carrier "Courageous", three destroyers and the Admiral's yacht, sailed away from the Bosphorus Sunday afternoon, leaving everybody still amazed at the remarkable aerial evolutions of the fleet of thirty planes that performed over the city and harbor on Friday. As a parting salutation, some sixteen airplanes formed in the shape of a crescent and star, and flew back and forth the length of the city.

Yours very cordially,  
Charles Riggs.

Dear Friends:-

Dr. and Mrs. E.B. Haskell have established themselves in their new quarters at Pordim, near Plevna, Bulgaria, where the Folk School is to be. They went into a private house there on Oct. 9th, since the walls of the new buildings are not yet dry enough for safe occupancy. They are to install their own electric plant, as Pordim has none. The 75 acres of land have been plowed up, and are to be sown probably to barley. It is hoped that the School will open on St. Demeter's Day, Nov. 7th.

The School of Religion at Old Phaleron has this year twelve Armenian students, five Greeks, four Bulgarians, one Syrian and one Russian. Eight of the twenty-three are women.

There has been much emigration this year from the refugee Armenian congregations in the vicinity of Athens, so that a serious decrease in attendance was expected in the schools under American care. However, as some pupils leave, others come in, so that Miss Rice has still about 800 in school under her supervision in the settlements, as last year. The Kindergartens are particularly popular. Kokkinia is making full use of the new building, for both day and night schools. Lipamata grammar grade graduates have organized an alumni association.

Mrs. William H. Peet, whom many will remember as Elsie Jennison, at Constantinople College from Iowa State College, and is now Associate Professor in the Home Economics Department of that College. William himself is an electric engineer.

Word has been received that Mrs. Wilson Dodd and children and Miss Paige reached Talas about eleven o'clock in the evening of Tuesday last, the second day out from Constantinople, greatly rejoicing the hearts of our friends in Talas. Also that Dr. Dodd himself was expected in Talas after a few days, having accomplished in Merzifon the medical assistance needed, and being able to leave his patients there in good shape.

Professor Karl Weston, Professor of Art at Williams College, accompanied by Mrs. Weston, is in town for a stay of a week or two.

Confirming our statement of a few weeks ago, there comes the following notice from the American Consulate-General:-

"A modification of the regulations governing the registration of American citizens in American Consulates promulgated by the Department of State makes it necessary that every American citizen resident in Turkey register at the American Consulate in the consular district in which he resides. A head of family may have included in his or her registration the registration of a wife and minor children. Those residing in outlying districts may be registered by mail and to that end should apply in writing to the appropriate Consulate. The above does not apply to citizens who have registered at the American Consulate-General at Constantinople since Sept. 13, 1929."

Mr. and Mrs. J.K. Birge have gone to Angora for a few days' visit expecting to witness the opening of the new session of the Grand National Assembly on Saturday of this week.

The village of Pordim is 135 miles from Sofia on the railway to Varna. It has 3,000 inhabitants and a progressive mayor and village council. It is the railway centre for eight large villages of peasants who are wideawake and responsive. To facilitate the work of the Folk School the Ministry of Agriculture has secured the passage of a bill importing lumber duty free, and has promised to support a teacher of agriculture in the school, while its chief architect has voluntarily drawn the plans of the buildings and is supervising their erection free. The Ministry of Railways has made a fifty percent. reduction on freight of building materials.

Miss Theda B. Phelps, returning to Aintab after her furlough, writes that she is leaving on the S.S. "Sinaia" Oct. 21st and arriving in Constantinople Nov. 17th.

Yours very cordially  
Charles T. Riggs.

Dear friends:-

Mr. W.E.Hawkes of Salonica is spending the year at the International House, New York, and taking courses in Teachers College and in Union Seminary. He met Dr. and Mrs. Goodsell when they landed from the "Homer" Oct. 16th; and he is constantly seeing friends from the Near East for there are at International House former teachers from Smyrna, Sofia, Beirut, Robert College, Cairo, etc.

The Gaziantep group recently enjoyed a visit from the Wiley family of Marash. Messrs. Wiley, Isely and Pence greatly enjoyed seeing the making of pekmez at a near-by village, from the cutting of the grapes in the vineyard till the first dipper of the finished product was lifted out to the chanting of the first verse of the Koran.

The American College at Sofia continues to receive every favor and kindness from the Bulgarian Government and public. The timber concession granted the College by the Government as an aid in building has brought in about \$34,000 to date, with approximately \$30,000 yet to be received. The building program is now about two-thirds complete. The girls' dormitories are up, and Kehaya Hall, a splendid building with living accommodations for 150 boys and 10 teachers, is completed. Ostrander Hall, with classrooms for boys, will be done by Christmas. Two sections of the workshop have been finished, in which the furniture for the boys' buildings is being made. An infirmary for girls, begun in April is in use. The central heating plant is just complete. The Administration Building, which will be begun in April, will complete the first unit of the new plant. With the exception of 130 boys of the lower classes, who remain in Samokov till Christmas, all the students are now occupying the new quarters in Sofia. Total registration, 420, of whom 227 are girls, 193 boys.

Apology is due for several errors in the last number of this sheet; more especially in the note about Mrs. W.H. Peet, whose name was given as Elsie, her sister's name, instead of Louise Jenison; and the important fact was left out that she received in June the degree of Ph.D. from Iowa State College, where she is Associate Professor.

Miss Hotson writes from the Adana Hospital:- "We are expecting a visit from Dr. and Mrs. Ward of Beirut. Dr. Ward has recently been operated on for appendicitis and has not made a very rapid recovery. Mrs. Ward writes that he is anxious to see the medical work in Adana and Aintab, so we are inviting them here for a week's stay. All goes well with us here, our work flourishing like a green bay tree."

Miss Ethel W. Putney left Constantinople on Friday last on her furlough, and will first visit Smyrna and Athens for a while on her westward way. Dr. Wm. L. Nute returned last Saturday from his four weeks of study in Vienna, and left yesterday for Adana to resume his work in the Hospital with Dr. Haas. Yesterday Dr. Shepard left Constantinople by steamer for Samsoun, going to Merzifon on a hurry call to attend Mrs. Bobb. Dr. Dodd had reached Talas a week ago Saturday, from Merzifon. Mrs. Shepard accompanied him.

Oct. 26th, St. Demetrius's Day, was celebrated at Salonica by picnic parties and excursions. One such party climbed the mountains back of the city; but the climb might have proved fatal to one member. The College cashier, Mr. Markoglou, returned with his coat showing the marks of several stray shots from a hunter's gun. With this narrow escape, the victim described the sensation of being shot as "peculiar" to say the least!

Salonica has its share of gay times. A week ago the ladies at the Girls' School gave a dinner in honor of Miss Sara Nollen's birthday. Mr. and Mrs. Brewster's "At Home" on Thursday was carried out, even in the absence of Mr. Brewster in Athens. Saturday last, Pres. and Mrs. G.E. White had a house-warming in their new home on College Hill.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Dr. F.F. Goodsell writes that after a very busy week in Wellesley and Boston, he and Mrs. Goodsell were starting on Oct. 25th for the West, making brief stops at New Britain, Oberlin, Minneapolis and Grinnell, and going on for a little time with their relatives in California. Dr. Goodsell also hoped to run down to Claremont and see Dr. Peet and Mrs. Hemphill.

Miss Diantha Dewey arrived in Mardin on October 26th, after an absence of ten years. Her friends there were most glad to see her again, not the least so was Miss Fenenga, who has so long held the fort alone.

Miss Woods, who was with Miss Jillson in Brousa teaching music, has rejoined her in the Girls' School at Beirut. They find a very different atmosphere there from what they had been breathing, and are quite happy in their new surroundings.

The word has come that the Institute of Social and Religious Research, in the United States, has made a grant of something like \$19,000 for a survey of religious education in the area of the Near East Christian Council. Details in regard to this are not yet announced, but will be of special interest to our workers in this field.

The new movie film, "Ankara Postasi" which is described as the first Turkish film of any success, and which is showing now both in Constantinople and in Smyrna, features one of the Senior class girls in the American Collegiate Institute of Smyrna as the patriotic heroine. "What a thrill," - says the Maine-in-Turkey Letter, - "to be a movie actress, and what a drop after a big opening night to return calmly to school and begin the day on algebra."

We should like to call the attention of all our readers to The International Review of Missions, the quarterly magazine which represents the International Missionary Council, and is edited by our friend Mr. William Paton, at 2 Eaton Gate, Sloane Square, London S.W.1. It holds a unique position among missionary journals in the English language, and deserves a far wider circulation than it has. Certainly each Station in our Mission ought to have at least one subscription, and if possible, each family. In no other way can one keep so well abreast of the science of Missions, or get so worldwide a comprehension of its scope.

From Merzifon comes word that Mrs. Bobb is somewhat better, and is starting today with Dr. and Mrs. Shepard for Constantinople. Also the following:- "School work is going on delightfully. There are great advantages in not having very large numbers. The development of character is marked. The new Turkish teacher is like one of ourselves in her attitude and effort, for the school."

Capt. George F. Gracey, D.S.O., who was with Miss Shattuck some twenty years ago in Ourfa, has resigned the secretaryship of the "Friends of Armenia," which he has held since 1923, to accept the post of Overseas Delegate for "The Save the Children Fund," with offices at 26 Gordon St., London, W.C.1. His successor is Commander F.C. Corbyn, R.N., who saw service in Constantinople during the Allied Occupation, and was in charge of Russian refugees on the Island of Halki.

Miss Theda B. Phelps is expected to arrive from America on Sunday next, on her way to her post at the Gaziantep Hospital.

We regret to report that the Prudential Committee has been forced to make a cut of ten per cent. in the appropriations for 1930 for the General Work of the Near East Mission, and a like cut in nearly all the other Missions. This will come hard on all our Stations.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

Herewith is a table of attendance at the various American schools in the Near East during the current school year. We regret that the figures for the Merzifon Girls' School have not arrived yet.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Prim.</u>	<u>Prep.</u>	<u>High S.</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>Boarders</u>	<u>Daysch.</u>
<u>A.B.C.F.M.</u>							
<u>In Turkey</u>							
Adana Girls	115		35	80		37	78
Scutari Girls	302	35	171	96		130	172
Erenkeuy Boys	146		18	128		82	64
Gedik Pasha (M)	240		164	76			240
International C.	301		10	221	70	153	148
A.C.I. Smyrna	127		69	58			127
Talas Boys	48			48		11	37
Tarsus Boys	71		25	38	8	57	14
<u>Greece &amp; Syria</u>							
Athens Jr.C.Girls	160		61	74	15	55	105
School of Religion	22				a 22	17	5
Anatolia G.Salon.	198		24	109	65	92	106
Salonica Girls	102		30	72		46	56
Aleppo College	186		59	100	27	25	161
Aleppo Girls	102		46	56			102
Beirut Girls	116		36	80		29	87
<u>Independent</u>							
Consple College	409			183	226	135	274
Robert College	746		346	139	b 261	387	359
Am.Univ.Beirut	1371	153	60	364	c 794	600	771
Athens College	307		132	175		112	195
Amer.Coll.Sofia	420	d	232	188		400	20
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5490</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>1518</b>	<b>2285</b>	<b>1488</b>	<b>2368</b>	<b>3122</b>
a- Graduate students							c- Including Graduate Departments
b- Including Engineers							d- Boys, 193; Girls, 227
Merzifon	46		36	10		38	8
	<b>5536</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>1654</b>	<b>2295</b>	<b>1488</b>	<b>2406</b>	<b>3130</b>

Mr. and Mrs. Alford Carleton, both of them (she as Mary Cashmore) formerly connected with Aleppo, and Miss Sylvia Eddy of Talas, have been appointed as regular missionaries of the Board to the Near East Mission. Mr. and Mrs. Carleton were commissioned at the recent New Britain Regional Congregational Council.

Dr. Rufus M. Jones, of Haverford College, gives this afternoon the final lecture in his course of five lectures at the School of Religion in Old Phaleron, Greece. His general subject has been "The Nature of Religion, and Man's Approach to it."

Mis s Theda B. Phelps of Aintab reached Constantinople yesterday on her return from her furlough in America, and will be leaving shortly for her post.

Rev. R. Finney Markham has been officially appointed as Principal of the A.C.I. at Erenkeuy, to succeed Drm McNaughton who has resigned in anticipation of his withdrawal from active work.

Rev. Paul Nilson and Mr. Treat are both teaching in the Turkish Lycee at Caesarea. Paul has fifty boys in a beginners' class, eight of whom are the Afghan boys sent last year by Amanullah Khan.

Mrs. Betty Lewis Smith, whom Constantinople friends will remember, writes Oct. 26th:- "I had a card from Myrtle Nolan Wilson several weeks ago, announcing the arrival of her second baby. Her letters sound very happy."

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

The belated figures for attendance at Merzifon Girls' School have just come. They have 38 boarders and 8 day scholars; 36 of the total are in the preparatory grades and 10 in the first Lycee or High School class. This brings the total in all schools up to 5536, as ~~xxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ compared to 5169 for the same schools last year. In American Board schools, there are 2283, as compared to 2147 last year.

Rev. John F. Stearns, formerly for four years in the Samokov Boys' School, has accepted a call as Assistant Pastor of the First Cong. Church of Los Angeles, Calif., to which Dr. Carl S. Patton has returned as Pastor after three years as a professor in Chicago Seminary.

Miss Lucille Day, now on furlough, is spending some time on the Pacific Coast, speaking for the Board. She writes of giving her 52nd talk on Turkey, and of having engagements following that for a month in Washington before going home.

Work has just come of the death, on Oct. 31st, at Randolph Centre, Vt., of Mary Elizabeth, wife of the late Dr. David H. Nutting, a medical missionary of the Board for 22 years in Diarbekir, Ourfa, Aleppo, and vicinity. They resigned in 1876, and resided in Randolph Centre, where he died in 1916, Mrs. Nutting was in her 100th year.

BORN:- on Nov. 22nd at Aintab (Gaziantep), to Mr. and Mrs. Harold T. Pence, a second son, David Hamilton.

BORN:- on Nov. 21st at the American Hospital, Constantinople, to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Erdman of Robert College, a daughter, Barbara Gertrude.

Miss Mary Page Wright, formerly of Harpout and Marsovan, is now living in Iowa, where her address is 442 Clark St., Iowa City.

Mrs. Nellie F. Brooks, formerly in the American Bible Society office at the Bible House, writes of seeing Dr. Goodsell at the Mid-West Regional Conference of Congregational Churches at Minneapolis, early in November. Last summer Mrs. Brooks motored from her home in Waterloo, Iowa, to Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Worcester, Toronto, and other points of interest, stopping on the way at Windsor, Vt., where she saw Mrs. Josephine Dana Washburn and Mrs. Eleannor Ketchum Horn for a fine Bible House reunion.

On the 53rd anniversary of the opening of Central Turkey College, in Aintab, some two hundred students, alumni, and other friends gathered in Aleppo on the new site of Aleppo College, and ground was broken where the College well is to be dug. Mrs. Isabel Trowbridge Merrill, and Mrs. Flora Bezdjian Khalfayan, daughters of the original founders, together struck the first pick, thus symbolizing the close cooperation between foreigners and people of the country which has always marked the policy of the College.

For some time the School of Religion has been carrying on a Translation Service for articles of interest appearing in the Turkish press. It aims to keep friends in other places in touch with educational, social and religious developments in Turkey. If others besides those now receiving these Translations would like to have copies sent them, they should write Prof. L. Levonian, 49 St. Alexander Street, Old Phaleron, Greece. This Translation Service has thus far been free; but there may be a small charge to pay for paper and postage.

Mr. Paul Nilson writes from Talas that the Reading Room for which he has been trying for some time seems now assured. He had given up hope of immediate starting; but now the Nahie Müdürlüğü, or Mayor, has asked him to start it, and is pushing hard for it. It will be called "Halk Okuma Evi."

Yours very cordially,  
Charles T. Riggs



Dear friends:-

We regret to learn of the death of Mr. Sylvester S. Bliss, youngest son of the late Dr. Isaac G. Bliss, under whose administration the Bible House was built here over fifty years ago. Mr. Bliss died at his Tarrytown, N.Y., home on Nov. 1st, just a week after a serious operation. He and his wife will be remembered by many friends in Beirut and Constantinople, which towns they visited last April. His Widow has now gone to New Haven to be near her daughter, Mrs. C.H. Blatchford.

Dr. W.W. Peet writes that he has built on to his house in Claremont, Calif., a room sixteen feet square, for his books and souvenirs; and from its walls there smile down upon him the faces of sixteen Patriarchs, Archbishops, and other friends; and his "Gontags," or Patriarchal decrees of appreciation, with his framed pictures of Constantinople, Jerusalem, Saint Sophia, etc., his ikons, beads, and other reminders of his long life abroad, give the room an interest all its own, for his friends as well as for himself.

A letter from Dr. Fred Field Goodsell states that he and Mrs. Goodsell were to start East from California November 18th, and expected to sail for Constantinople on Dec. 7th or 11th. This ought to bring them home for Christmas.

Ambassador J.C. Grew, who has been in Europe on quite a trip, came back to his post last Sunday. Sir George Clerk, the British Ambassador, returned from Angora the day before.

Among other recent visitors to Constantinople has been the well-known writer, Emil Ludwig. He visited Angora also, and yesterday morning took train at Haider Pasha for Aleppo, going thence to Palestine and Egypt.

The Turkish financial circles and even the experts are greatly troubled by the fall of the lira in value. The latest quotations for the pound sterling were above 1080 piastres, and for the dollar, 220½ piastres. This is about as low as exchange has ever been; and there seems to be no assurance that it will not continue to go downward.

President Cass. A. Reed of International College was in town this past week, completing the grand circuit of the Near East Colleges. Starting from Smyrna to accompany "Admiral" Aza K. Jennings, of Angora, - who is unfortunately compelled by his health to take a trip to America - he visited Athens, Salonica, thence in company with Mr. Carl Compton to Sofia, and then spent the better part of a week with the two Colleges in Constantinople. He left Sunday for Smyrna, just too early to escort thither some new blooded livestock for the International College farm.

The American Express Company has been appointed general agent for this part of the world for tickets to the Passion Play at Oberammergau this summer. The performances begin May 11th, and occur each Sunday through from then till the end of September, and also each Wednesday from July 2 to September 10. Tickets may also be obtained through Mr. Riess of the Y.M.C.A. in Salonica, who is a personal friend of Mrs. Anton Lang. Mrs. Lang writes:- "Tell your friends that it will be better to come to the early performances, for we can get over so much better tickets."

Mrs. George D. Marsh, formerly of Philippopolis, now lives in Claremont, Calif.; and her son Mr. George Marsh is at present visiting her after his return from Athens, and is giving addresses in various churches.

Mr. Harold T. Pence of Aintab arrived in Constantinople yesterday to take over a consignment of livestock for their farm project.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

No. 266

Bible House, Stamboul, Dec. 20, 1907

Dear Friends:

Mr. Harold Pence and his new Guernsey heifer and bull are starting today from Constantinople by steamer for Mersin, and thence inland to Aintab. The bovine race should be benefited by this new strain. They are from highly blooded stock; a son of the great-grandfather of this bull sold for the record price of \$35,000, and a cow of the same line for \$25,000, while two cows of this family each produced over 1000 lbs. of butter-fat within twelve months.

Rev. George M. Rowland, D.D., and Mrs. Rowland arrived in Constantinople yesterday, on their way from Japan, where they have been members of our Japan Mission for forty-three years and have now retired. They go shortly to Bulgaria, to visit their son Paul, who is on the faculty of the American College at Sofia, They are stopping with Dr. and Mrs. MacCallum.

Word has come of the death of Mrs. Alexander Van Millingen, widow of the Robert College Professor, at a nursing home in London about the last of November. Dr. Van Millingen died some nine years ago. A son and a daughter survive her.

Our hearts go out in sympathy to our associates Miss Elizabeth Trowbridge and Mrs. Merrill and Rev. S.V.R. Trowbridge of Cairo, in the passing away of their brother, Edward D. Trowbridge, at Detroit, Mich., two days before Thanksgiving, in his sixtieth year. His wife died about a year ago. His was a well-known electrical engineer.

A small museum of Turkish hand work is being opened at International College, all the contents of which have been contributed by students. The Carnegie Foundation has sent to the International College Library a number of new books bearing on peace and international relations.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Balch, formerly of Robert College, are located in France, at Le Vieux Moulin, Chantilly-Gouvieux (Oise), and their home is becoming quite a stopping-place for Constantinople friends. Mr. Balch has about recovered from his long illness since they left Constantinople.

The dance held last week for the benefit of the American Hospital was quite a success, netting for the institution about Ltq. 2700.

Rev. Ernest Pye of the School of Religion is taking a period of complete rest at the Clifton Springs Sanitarium, New York, where Mr. Charles W. Fowle is business manager. Dr. Goodsell stopped to see Mr. Pye on his way East from California. Dr. Goodsell expects to attend both the Greek Area and the Turkey Area Regional Conferences during the following month.

Mrs. Paul Bobb of Merzifon, who has been under Dr. Shepard's care at the Cons/ple Hos-pital, being treated for relapsing fever, has so far recovered as to be up and around again. Little Marjory is in splendid shape.

Under energetic efforts by the Government, the Turkish lira, which had gone so low that it took 230 piastres to buy a dollar, has now recovered somewhat, the latest quotation being 217 psts. to the dollar.

President Ghazi Mustafa Kemal has gone for a short stay at Yalova, on the Marmora, where the famous baths are being put in good shape once more at his instigation. It is expected that they will attract large numbers of health-seekers next season.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Arrangements are being perfected for the Turkey Regional Conference which is to be held in the Bible House, Stamboul, beginning at ten o'clock Friday morning, Jan. 3rd, 1930. One delegate is to represent each of the eight Stations in Turkey. The names of some of these delegates have already been received, but not yet all.

Miss Dorothy A. Goodenough, of the Athens Girls' College, has been visiting Miss Hill of Salonica. These two, with the Misses Hanna and Sara Nollen, also of Salonica, are planning a trip to Egypt during their winter holidays. Miss Doris Roberts will probably go to see some winter sports up in Bulgaria.

Mrs. William A. Shedd and Miss Wilma Pease, of the Tabriz and Urumia Stations of the West Persia Mission of the Presbyterian Board, are in Constantinople for a few days, on their way to America on furlough.

Rev. Henry H. Riggs of Beirut, in company with Rev. Leslie J. Adkins of Aleppo, made during the latter part of November quite a circuit of the evangelical communities in northern Syria. Starting from Aleppo they visited Kuruk Khan, Alexandretta, Fartuslu, Beylan, Yoghounolouk, Antioch, Kessab, and other places, going to all in Mr. Riggs' car. At Korkun they found that of the village of 170 souls, two-thirds are children under ten years of age. At Beylan the school situation is most interesting. It is a union school, managed by representatives of the Protestant, Gregorian and Catholic churches, with the Montenegrin Moslem Mudir, or Governor, of the village as their chairman. The Government furnishes one teacher and pays his salary; the Mission pays most of the salary of a second, and the Catholics and Gregorians together employ a third, the Protestants furnishing the building and paying the rest of their teacher's salary. Mr. Riggs returned to Beirut two days before Thanksgiving.

The Syrian Government has begun actually demolishing the Armenian Refugee Camp at Beirut, which has been a sanitary liability for some time; and the people are hard at work making themselves new homes. The League of Nations Commission is helping a good deal; and our Mission is aiding in the administration of a fund for the purpose granted by the B.L.M.A.S. The main centre of the new houses is a fine site outside the city, bought by the government and parcelled out on easy terms of purchase.

Arrangements are being pushed for the Fifth International Congregational Council, which is to be held at Bournemouth, England, from July 1st to 9th, 1930. The general topic is "The Living Church", and strong addresses are expected on the subject. The Moderator is Dr. J.D. Jones, C.H., and the Council Sermon is to be given by Dr. Jay T. Stocking.

Rev. Manasseh G. Papazian, of Fresno, Calif., formerly of Marash, was to sail Dec. 14th on the S.S. Berengaria for England; he will then visit the Armenian churches of France, and later proceed to Greece, Cyprus, Egypt and Syria, doing what he can to quicken the spiritual life of the churches, and to draw together in constructive activity such leadership as may be found in ~~the~~ places where no organized Christian work is yet active. His trip is expected to last about six months.

Dr. and Mrs. George M. Rowland of Japan left Friday ~~the~~ evening by train for Sofia, expecting to spend the winter with their son and daughter who are in the American College there.

The Gilbert and Sullivan operetta "Pinafore" was given three times most successfully this past week at Robert College Social Hall, before capacity audiences, by a Robert College caste, in which the stellar parts were taken by Mrs. Barnum, Mrs. Smith, Messrs. Larson, Karabekir, and Adams. Mr. Estes and Mr. MacNeal trained the chorus; and the costuming was in charge of Mrs. Estes, and contributed largely to the success of the production.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends.

All friends of the Near East Mission will feel a keen sense of disappointment and regret that we must manage hereafter without the present aid and help of Dr. and Mrs. Fred Field Goodsell. After a careful study of the situation involved in the call he has received from the American Board, he has decided that it is his duty to accept the position of Executive Vice-President of the Board, with headquarters in Boston. Dr. and Mrs. Goodsell went in September to America, as noted in our weekly; he was present at a full meeting of the Prudential Committee, and also at large and representative Conferences, East and West, and traveled extensively and intensively, examining the matter from coast to coast. While we shall miss him sorely, we have confidence that in this new office he will be able to do a great work, not for one Mission alone, but for all the Missions of the Board, and for the denomination as a whole. Our congratulations are due to the Board on their securing such an able first incumbent in the post. Dr. Goodsell has accepted for a period of five years; and we cling to the hope that at the end of this time, he may feel it possible to turn over the arduous duties to another, and resume his place in his own Mission.

Dr. and Mrs. Goodsell were due in France Dec. 20th, and were to leave Paris Monday last, arriving in Salonica today. After attending the Inter-Station Conference in Greece, they expect to come on here, arriving Dec. 30th, in time for the Turkey Regional Conference at Constantinople. A telegram of Christmas greeting announces their arrival as far as Belgrade.

Miss Ilse C. Pohl was booked to sail from New York on Dec. 7th, for Rotterdam on the S.S. "Veendam", expecting to visit in Germany and Austria on her way across Europe, as she returns to her work in Caesarea Station.

Rev. and Mrs. William P. Clarks, of Bulgaria, were to sail from Boston Dec. 13th for Liverpool on their return to Bulgaria, and were to visit her relatives in Switzerland on the way.

Born:- At Adana, Dec. 19, to Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Woolworth of Tarsus, a son, Robert Sage. Here's hoping his hair is the same sage color that his dad's is.

Mr. Paul Bobb and his son Donald arrived in Constantinople Christmas morning, in time to spend the day with the wife and mother and little sister, at the Shepard home.

Word has come of the passing away of Miss Agnes C. Salmond at Monifieth, near Dundee, Scotland, Dec. 5th, in her 83rd year. Miss Salmond first came to Turkey in 1880 to assist Mrs. Bowen in Smyrna. She also acted as matron in the Girls' School there. Returning to England, she became in 1887 the first woman worker in the East End Mission of London. In 1898 she came out again, to Marash as representative of the Friends of Armenia, and was engaged in orphanage and relief work there until her retirement in 1921. Hundreds of orphans were trained by her, their Christian character developed, and habits of industry formed, and some trade or occupation learned for future self-support. She was an untiring worker, a fine organizer and executive most efficient in accomplishing wonders with very limited funds. The boys and girls under her charge look back to her with deepest gratitude; and her American associates will always cherish her memory as a dear friend and a completely consecrated and successful Christian worker.

Prof. Ellsworth Huntington, Ph.D., of Yale University, with his wife and three children, has come to Constantinople and they are visiting their brother, Prof. G.H. Huntington, and their sister, Mrs. Damon, in Hissar. Dr. and Mrs. Huntington and Charles, the eldest, are leaving soon for a trip to Egypt and other parts of Africa, while the two younger children stay with their relatives until their return to this city.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear friends:-

The best wishes for a Happy New Year go with this issue to all our readers, to each one of whom we should like to send personal greetings.

Dr. and Mrs. Goodsell arrived this morning from Athens on the Messageries S.S. "Angkor", after a stay of a day in Salonica and two in Athens. They had a fine smooth passage across the ocean, between storms, and a prosperous journey all the way. They are expecting to stay till April before going to take up the new work in Boston.

Dr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Huntington and their son Charles left Constantinople yesterday for Beirut on their way to Egypt. Prof. Huntington goes as far as the Soudan and Uganda, and comes back here in April; but his wife and son return from Egypt, in February.

Mr. Lyman MacCallum, of the American Bible Society, and Miss Edith Habel Roberts, of the English High School for Girls, Pera, have announced their engagement. Our heartiest congratulations to "the office boy", who has so frequently and efficiently aided this weekly sheet. Miss Roberts is from Bournemouth, England, and is in her second year of teaching here.

Miss Grace Towner, Principal of the Adana Girls' School, is booked to sail from New York January 29th direct for Constantinople on the Fabre Line S. S. "Providence", arriving here about February 2nd. With her comes Mr. Ezra P. Young, who goes to Adana as social worker for the three years. Mr. Young is a graduate of the University of Michigan and of Chicago Theological Seminary, and comes from Sewickley, Penn.

The total amount of contributions and paid-up pledges toward the purchase of the new site for Aleppo College is 194.40 gold liras, or about \$355. The cost of the site was 239.36 gold liras, and there will be further expenses for marking the boundaries and digging the well.

FOR SALE:- A revolving book-case and swivel revolving chair, both in cherry and of large size; also a roller-top office desk, large size, and a small cabinet organ, both in oak. All of the above are in good condition. Prices will be made to suit purchasers. Address: J/P. McNaughton, Bible House.

Miss Dewey writes from Mardin: - "Our Christmas will be a happy one, not only because the Lord has permitted me to come, but that he has spared our Pastor to his ninetieth year. This has been his only pastorate. He has served here sixty-two years. We are going to celebrate. The Midyat pastor and the other three preachers are coming and we are going to ordain one of them as pastor-at-large. His home is in Azakh, near Jezire. He already preaches in other places, where he is well known. He is a man of much experience. Miss Fenenga spent two weeks lately in Midyat and was much pleased with the people there. They seem more progressive than the people here. They have always been more religious. There are about four hundred in the community there, nearly four times as many as here.

Miss Dewey also reports on December 23rd in Mardin a penetrating south wind with wet snow and rain, after a couple of days of fog, Constantinople hasn't had its first wet snow yet!

Mrs. (Mary Whittle) Monedjikoff, of the Sofia American College, arrived in Constantinople Saturday for a couple of weeks' visit, and is the guest of the Fowle family. She reports heavy snows in and around Sofia. The papers even speak of wolves in the principal park of Sofia, driven in by the cold.

Mrs. E. E. Count, Principal of the Methodist Mission School for Girls at Lovetch, Bulgaria, passed through this city this week with several of her teachers, going on a vacation trip to Syria and Egypt.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs