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GREAT FIRES IN STAMBOUL.

A most disastrous fire added a sinister illumination to the scene of last Sunday. About 2 p. m., very near the corner where Finjaujilar Yokoushou turns up toward the Grand Bazaar, a scant hundred yards from the Bible House, the fire began. A strong north wind fanned the flames; and the entire section from there up the hill to the great square of the War Department, and half-way down to the Golden Horn, was destroyed. The large palace opposite the War Department in the direction of the Bible House, burned fiercely for hours, and was entirely destroyed. While this blaze was at its height, another fire broke out west of the War Department, back of the Turkish Law School, and proved ten times as destructive. In fact, the flames burst forth in several separate places; and there is suspicion the fire was incendiary; some of the fiends were caught in the act. Those arrested were Turks. This second and much more extended area covered the territory between the Shahzadé Mosque and Vlanga gardens, extending westward as far as Ak Serai. The Mousalla school of the English Friends' Mission was at the eastern edge of the fire, and was unharmed. The Laleli and Validé Mosques were saved, though the fire raged all around them. The old Bodroum Jamisi, formerly the church of Myrelaion Convent, was destroyed. The fire was finally got under control by sunrise on Monday, though the ruins were still ablaze in some places till noon. Firemen, police and soldiers worked heroically to stem the blazing tide, and it is said that some soldiers fell a prey to the flames. The quarter destroyed was mainly a Mohammedan quarter; and about 90 mosques and two schools were burned. It is impossible at present writing to give correct figures for the number of houses burned, but it is safe to say that the area covered was fully three times that of the great Chirchir fire near the mosque of Mohammed the Conqueror, two years ago. Estimates place the number of houses at from 7,500 to 10,000.

Hardly had the fire-companies reached their homes on Monday forenoon when another great fire broke out at Aivan Serai, on the Golden Horn, and spread into Balat, destroying some 800 houses before it was stopped at about 10 p. m. The quarter thus burned out was occupied mainly by Jews, and most of the wooden shacks were too poor to be insured. Several thousand more poor human beings were thus made homeless.

Just before midnight, still another alarm of fire was heard, but fortunately this fire, in Scutari, not far from the American College, was confined to one house, situated in a garden.

There are persistent rumors that these fires are the work of reactionaries.

REMINISCENCES.

BY GEORGE F. HERRICK, D.D.

(TO HAVE BEEN PRESENTED AT MARSOVAN)

(Continued)

Coming now to a review of our educational work under the subdivisions of education through schools and through the Press, we meet a great contrast in these two related departments of our work. In publication work we have made progress backward. During the first thirty of these fifty years, the books and tracts issued annually by the Mission were far more numerous than during the last twenty. Our resources then from the Board and Tract Society grants were fourfold what we now receive. Since the great opportunity opened before us, during the last three years, for publishing Christian literature in Osmanli Turkish, it has been only because of generous responses to personal appeals that we have been able to enter this open door, especially to issue, as we have now done, a book which we have waited fifty years for a relaxation of censorship which would make it possible to present to Turks, — the Unique Person, Teachings, Works and Claims of Jesus Christ. We must not fail to observe, that, in recent years, the periodical work of the Department of Publication has assumed greater importance and has absorbed a much larger proportion of our resources than in the earlier years. We have, however, now retired from the Armeno-Turkish field in periodical work, and other plans are under discussion which do not come within the scope of this review.

The growth of our educational work through schools has been phenomenal. The changes that have taken place have been so great that we seem to have passed into another world. These changes are often called radical. Perhaps they are no more radical, great as they are, than the change in my garden on the Bosphorus, presented by a Norway pine, which sixteen years ago was the size of my wrist and as tall as a man and had to be tied to a post to keep it straight, but is now a foot in diameter and fifty feet high, as straight as an arrow, its branches extending over 900 square feet of surface, all dependencies long since outgrown. It is however the same tree that I found and nourished long ago.

Fifty years ago all education conducted by the Mission was purely eleemosynary. We had primary schools, and primary Theological Seminaries. No college was yet dreamed of, no High School existed. Of women teachers there were three within the bounds of this Mission. Those schools were the acorns from which have sprung the oaks that have so

multiplied, have grown so tall, have extended their branches so widely, that those missionaries who planted the seeds and watered the tender plants, and even their successors, are quite overshadowed and lost sight of by the mighty and irresistible growths.

The very men who conducted the eleemosynary institutions were the men who founded the colleges of today. This is nowhere more in evidence than in the institution within whose walls our Mission now holds its annual meeting. The four men who constituted Marsovan station in the eighth decade of last century, engaged in no destructive work when they established Anatolia College. In the wall which had previously shut out all except candidates for the ministry, they opened a wide door and gave to worthy youth the *privilege* of making some pecuniary return for opportunity of mental and moral training; and what those men did was done elsewhere, and has now been done everywhere. It is sometimes said, "We ought to have begun our educational work in the fashion in which we now conduct it." But hold! Was that possible? No, it was not possible. Fifty years ago, thirty years after missionary work was begun in this empire, any general desire for education did not exist. The course of necessity adopted, had the result, in one generation, of awakening and fostering that desire. There is no sense in the Western farmer who cultivates his 300 acres with steam plows, reapers and threshers, looking back with contempt on men who trod the single furrow, wielded the sickle and the flail. But for the earlier, the later appliances had never been.

With all our mutual congratulations over the phenomenal growth of our educational work, work whose beneficent influence is now felt and recognized by *all* races in this land, and is bearing fruit in hundreds of schools for which we have no responsibility, even while these congratulations are unstinted and exultant, we cannot conceal from ourselves the fact that the educational problems of the near future in this empire are graver, more complex, more difficult of solution than those already met and solved. Any consideration of this matter lies beyond the scope of this paper of reminiscences. Happily the number of those missionaries whose business it is to solve these problems is ten times as many as fifty years ago.

When we take a look backward at the development of philanthropic work, we find a change has taken place even greater than in the educational work.

We can hardly speak of philanthropic medical work at a time when the chief, almost the sole reason for sending medical missionaries to this land was that they might care for their associates and their families. These men were so few that they were obliged to make many and long journeys in the discharge of their duty. Even so, a man like Dr. West, single handed and alone, became the great doctor of half Asia Minor and instructed a class of young men who have done good work as physicians, and have done more perhaps than any other influence to raise up a group of native physicians. I once attended a lecture of Dr. West to his pupils. He used a language which they understood, but I have never

found it set down among the languages of civilized lands. "Felis sedit by a hole" was classical in the comparison. We all know, for the whole growth is very recent, how scientific healing has developed in our Missions and with what far-reaching and measureless beneficent results. The work is more than philanthropic. It is Christian in the highest sense. It is not yet twenty years since at Anatolia College our hospital was one attic room with three beds for patients, and one for a pupil who knew nothing of nursing, superintended by a missionary who knew nothing of medicine, and served by a doctor in the city, who did pretty well when he could be had, but whose patients died, in two cases, at least, by his own confession, because of neglect on his part. If you wish to know what Anatolia College hospital now is, look around you!

I cannot tell when Relief Work had its beginning, but I remember that when I joined the Mission, there was an item for "Charity" included in the yearly estimates. It was not large and it was soon dropped. But in certain years, quite within the memory of most of those attending this annual meeting, the time and the money expended in relief of the distressed and in the care of orphans means many years of service and millions of dollars.

It is this philanthropic work more than all else which has given to the American missionaries in this empire, in the eye of the people of all races, and in that of the government, a position of unexampled and unmatched influence, and, what is better, the misunderstandings concerning our aims and our work which were common until fifteen years ago, have mainly disappeared. We are not welcomed or loved by every body, but we are everywhere credited with sincerity and unselfish Christian motives and aims.

As before intimated it is thought germane to the object of this paper to estimate the significance and the promise of our past with reference to our future work in this land. Eighty years ago the purpose of the Board's missionaries in entering Turkey was first to promote a genuine reformation within the Christian communities of the empire. That this reformation has been but partially realized even within the Armenian church and people we shall agree in acknowledging. It is doubtful if agreement would be found to exist among us touching the attitude we should hereafter assume toward movements within these communities. In the judgment of the writer, our relation to these movements, including those within the Protestant communities, should be hereafter practically confined to the sustaining of our Higher Schools, our Press and our Hospitals.

The ultimate object of the American missionary enterprise in Turkey is to bring Christian education, and Christian philanthropy into close and fruitful touch with the Mohammedan population of this empire.

However inconspicuous the fact may have been, yet the main object and effort of my own missionary life has been to tell Mohammedans of the one Savior of mankind. The difficulties of this work have been almost overwhelming. But is it not much that the Word of God has not only been offered

to Turks but has been received by them and read, to the extent of at least half a million copies of the Bible or portions thereof? It has been my privilege to put into circulation in Osmanli Turkish ten volumes, six of which are pronouncedly Christian. Turkish pupils enter our schools, knowing them to be Christian schools. Our hospitals and dispensaries are thronged with Moslem patients. We live in close touch with Moslem peoples. If we can be patient concerning those results that can be put into statistics we do actually occupy a position adapted to commending Christianity to Mohammedans in ways and to a degree which has never been paralleled since Islam arose in Arabia. Intelligent sympathy, unwearied tact, infinite patience, and prayer in confident expectation to their Father and ours. These are to be our equipment for the work which now expands before us, which beckons us to larger undertakings than those of past years, with rich promise of future harvests.

In every memory of the past, in every anticipation of the future, one radiant Form, one all-pervasive personal Presence and Power illumines and dominates the entire scene.

Let us each faithfully do the work appointed us till our day of service on earth closes. For we work under the benign and inspiring influence of that Presence, with the unshaken confidence that He who has guided the fathers will never fail the children, and that work which was begun at the call of God will go right on, till in all these lands and among all these peoples one Master Jesus Christ shall fully come to his own.

GEORGE F. HERRICK.

MARASH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

Like other institutions in Central Turkey the Theological Seminary is not entirely under missionary management. The Board of Managers is composed of four Americans and four Armenians, all of whom are elected by the Cilicia Evangelical Union. With the exception of questions pertaining to the American members of the faculty and certain financial arrangements, the affairs of the Seminary are under the control of the Board of Managers. It is perhaps well for those interested in the question of seminary consolidation in Turkey to bear in mind the important share in the control of local institutions which the Evangelical Christians of Cilicia have. Real weight should be given to their opinions.

The Board of Managers at its recent meeting in Marash voted to admit to the regular class to be admitted next September ten students, two of whom are graduates of Euphrates College, three of Central Turkey College, and five of St. Paul's Institute. Experience has shown the wisdom of refusing to receive students who have not had full college training. The Seminary does not hesitate to refuse men of inadequate training, believing that the interests of an efficient ministry demand the best.

Income through the Higher Educational Fund made possible the addition of a second native professor to the faculty. Rev. Garabed Haroutunian of Marash, who has acceptably

assisted in the work of instruction heretofore, has accepted the invitation of the Board of Managers for the coming year. After about ten years of experience in the ministry he spent 14 months at Mansfield College, Oxford, studying chiefly Church History and History of Doctrine. Together with his Seminary duties he will continue to do the pulpit work of the First Church, Marash.

Owing to the great and immediate need in the smaller churches, arrangements are being made for a three months' Christian Workers' Course which will include elementary instruction in Church History, Methods of Christian Work, Studies in the Old and New Testaments and Church Music. This course will probably begin Oct. 1st.

With a faculty of four instructors and a new class of a dozen bright students, the coming Seminary year promises to be as busy as any the Seminary has had. Prof. Simon Terzian at the recent Conference of the Cilicia Union and Central Turkey Mission gave a very interesting account of the history of the Seminary with which he has been connected as teacher since 1885. Over one hundred and fifty men have been graduated from the full course. The standard of the Seminary has constantly risen and its constituency steadily widened. There is as much need of it in Cilicia as ever.

The new Seminary year begins September 20th. Correspondence should be addressed to Rev. F.F. Goodsell, Marash.

—Owing to the death of her sister who was caring for an invalid mother, Miss E. M. Blakely of the Central Turkey Girls' College of Marash may find it impossible to return to her work in Turkey next autumn. Her absence this year in America has thrown very heavy burdens on Miss A. E. Gordon and the prospect is not a desirable one.

—Miss Echart of the German Mission of Marash died June 28th 1911. Her work was in connection with the boys' orphanage in which she performed her duties with rare faithfulness and diligence. This is the first time that death has invaded the German circle at Marash.

—The Central Turkey Mission held its Annual meeting in Marash June 21st to 29th. A report of the meeting will be ready shortly.

F. F. GOODSSELL.

JULY TWENTY-THIRD.

The national festival of "On Temmuz", or July tenth (old style), was observed on Sunday with many decorations and illuminations, in all parts of the city. The awful conflagration described elsewhere lessened considerably the enthusiasm which the day, and especially the presence of the great Japanese General Nogi, out to have called forth. However, at 9 a.m. the monument on Liberty Hill, Shishli, reconstructed since last year, was dedicated with great pomp in the presence of Mahmoud Shevket Pasha, Hourshid Pasha, Ahmed Riza Bey, and many other notables. A military review took place right after this, several battalions of cavalry, infantry and artillery taking part. At Kadiköy a large assembly listened to patriotic addresses by Faik Bey, Governor of Scutari, and Hüsnî Pasha, former minister of marine.

A POET PATIENT PLEADS WITH PEET.

Tarsus.

Dear Bro. Peet:—

You there, I here
 Good friends have been this many a year.
 Now friendship, as the whole world knows,
 By mutual service ever grows,
 This truth will justify to you,
 The strange "teklif" I have in view,
 That you will copy this Account,
 And verify the whole amount,
 Th' original then to Boston send;
 (the copy let your desk defend)
 With twofold meaning may I say,
 Like Hamlet in his mournful lay,
 I'm "ill at these numbers Ophelyay"!
 To add, subtract, is bad for me,
 They bring again this dread "Atchee!
 "Atchee, Atchio" —The trumpet blows,
 I'm paying for it "through the nose".
 Have pity then, upon your friend,
 And to him this assistance lend.
 For our success here it is meet,
 Large credit should be given to Peet,—
 And so 't is writ in Balance sheet,
 Still larger credit will be given,
 In books on earth and books in Heaven,
 If he will hearken my request,
 And let me from these "numbers" rest!

P. S.

We still are working on the hall
 That bears the name of good Saint Paul.
 Saint Patrick is your builder there,
 In whose blest work you have a share;
 That Lighthouse on the Western shore,
 When high upreared will do far more,
 T' illuminate the Bosphorus,
 Than mountains huge of — phosphorus!
 Now let your pardon rest on me!
 "Ill at *these* numbers".

T. D. C.

(On behalf of Dr. Christie)

The patient who your help implores,
 Has struggled weeks at asthma's doors.
 To sap more strength and keep him down,
 Bronchitis' cough of bad renown,
 Has tried him sore both night and day,
 At last it seems they've had their sway!
 But this' well known, with such a strain
 To keep accounts wearies the brain.

I sign my hand to his request
 Assuring you he's done his best.

Nurse in attendance
 H. E. W.

TUBERCULOSIS.

To the Editor of *The Orient*,

It was good to see the *Orient* inquiring "What can we do?" in reference to the dreadful prevalence of Tuberculosis. Your surmise that, for several reasons, the mortality from Tuberculosis is probably greater than the percentage recorded, is correct. A physician who is a member of both the Municipal and the Imperial Board of Health says that in all the larger cities of the Empire, the number of deaths from this cause is more than 30%.

For the past two years I have been in communication with the National Association for the prevention of Tuberculosis in the United States and other organizations engaged in this work, such as the Department of Health of New York City, the State Board of Health of Pennsylvania and the Organized Charities of New York. These organizations use not one, but every possible means for education as to the prevention and cure of Tuberculosis, and have or are establishing means of harmonious action in order to secure greater efficiency. Among the methods employed are:— circulars for general distribution, circulars to be used in the instruction of school children, posters for homes, placards with pictures, fortnightly bulletins for the Press, public lectures and exhibits.

Other organizations are also at work. Thus the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., of New York, has its own large illustrated circular entitled "A War upon Consumption". The Social Service Department of the Massachusetts General Hospital is doing a great work in sending Doctors and Nurses to the poor especially to those who reside in the suburban quarters in which it is difficult or expensive to secure skilled attention. The pulpit has also been brought into line and a Tuberculosis Sunday was arranged, on which thousands of ministers spoke to their congregations on this topic. Money has also been raised for Sanitaria for the curable and others for advanced cases, and although the full effects of these efforts will naturally require a number of years for their realization, the mortality from the "Great White Plague" has already been reduced in the state of New York which has been the centre of this activity.

It is intended to secure helpful legislation also, but as a law is of little value when unsupported by public opinion, the education of the people to the point where they will take a vital interest in the subject, which will stir them to give personal effort and financial support to the cause, is the first step.

From my experience with the hygiene lectures for women, which included lectures on Tuberculosis, and the public lecture in Armenian given on this subject, I am sure that the native people will be found eager for such information.

I have several hundred circulars in Turkish on How to Prevent and How to Cure Tuberculosis, which I shall be glad to furnish to anyone who has the opportunity to distribute them.

EMILY RAY GREGORY.

THE ORIENT

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THREE YEARS OF THE CONSTITUTION.

On July 23, 1908, a constitutional form of government was proclaimed at Monastir, Salonica and Erzeroum; and the next day this was confirmed by imperial edict at Constantinople. The new régime has fixed upon the earlier date for the annual celebration of this momentous event; and the method of its observance at the capital is described in another column. The question on many lips is, Has the constitution, al régime made good? Are the watchwords, Liberty, Justice Equality, Brotherhood, more than high-sounding phrases? Is the country as a whole better off than under Abd-ul-Hamid? Have the Young Turks demonstrated their ability to deliver the goods?

In lieu of a preface to these remarks, we put forth a challenge to one and all to show us a single country where a reform government, following conditions even feebly corresponding to the hopeless and intolerable state of Hamidian affairs, has been able in three short years to transform chaos into cosmos and satisfy all classes of the population. With which preamble we go on to remark that in the present instance nobody is satisfied. Turk and Albanian, Armenian and Arab and Kourds, Greek and Bulgarian and Jew, each complains. And has one not a right to say that the fact that these complaints are heard is in itself a sign of progress? Five years ago no one dared open his mouth. Now criticism flows freely, though the method of its utterance in the press is restricted by martial law. The airing of grievances is encouraging. But there is much more. One can point to instance after instance where complaint has resulted in reform. To be a pessimist is as easy as the proverbial descent into Avernus. But is it fair to look only on the dark side? Real and lasting improvements are also clearly seen. The process of decentralization is going on. It is not, as one cynic has put it, merely decentralization of *baksheesh*. Provincial governments are more efficient than they were ever before allowed to be. Where all power had been concentrated at Yildiz, the Porte has regained much of its executive function, while Parliament is a real legislative force, and often truly constructive. The terrors of espionage are gone, though political murders are no more unknown here than in other civilized countries. A recent article by Rev. G.

E. White, D.D., in the *Congregationalist*, set forth the wonderful changes regarding freedom of the press and freedom of travel. We might also mention among the great improvements the freedom of assembly. Under the tyranny, pastors and preachers were not allowed to hold prayer-meetings in their own homes. If five men got together anywhere in Beshiktash, they were liable to arrest for conspiracy. Gatherings of the Evangelical Unions were often hindered, and when held were attended with great difficulty and personal risk. All this nightmare is past. As for other things, the present is more than ever before the era of railroad and carriage road construction. The railroad from Tripoli to Homs has been opened; that from Bandurma to Soma is under construction, as is also a long section of the Baghdad railroad; while the Samsoun-Sivas line and that from Hodeida to Sanaa are about to begin. Many highways are being built. All these operations give employment to thousands. In the army, improved uniforms, better care of the soldiers, regularly paid wages, and the construction of better barracks, must be noted. The navy is rejuvenated, and has made several successful cruises, and is now visiting ports in the Aegean. Public instruction does not make rapid strides, but the improvement in government schools within three years is real and encouraging. The sending of embryo teachers to Europe and America and to the American College for Girls, and the starting of the Imperial Lyceum for Girls at Candilli are among the facts. In the government offices the elimination of a horde of useless salary-eaters and the introduction of longer and more regular hours, based on the European system of time, is remarkable; and it is interesting to note the adoption of European time on all the railroads, and in practically every institution in Constantinople. While the bribe is not yet unknown, any more than it is in the Lorimer case and other American instances, no one can doubt that bribery is not as rife as it used to be, and that justice is more frequently done.

The problems of equality and brotherhood have not made equal progress toward solution. Here is where the most deep-seated difficulty lies. The clash of personal, national and racial interests fills the air with electricity. Some of the steps taken by the new government have been of doubtful expediency. No one can deny that the empire is now at a most delicate crisis. Yet, as in the case of many a disease, if the patient can be kept optimistic, this is of immense aid to the physicians. Let each well-wisher of the Ottoman Empire realize that the situation is not hopeless, and this will aid in the discovery of the right remedies for the present political, social and moral diseases.

Rev. Herman Neander, of Upsala, Sweden, who has spent many months in Athens, Mt. Athos and Jerusalem studying the Greek Orthodox Church, is in Constantinople for few weeks, and proceeds hence to Russia, to continue these researches.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

During the fire on Sunday, Gen. Mahmoud Shevket Pasha was injured by a falling brick while standing close to the burning Department of the General Staff, facing the Ministry of War. His condition is not serious.

Col. Sadik Bey, formerly of the Party of Union and Progress, has organized a new political party, which is rumored to be more numerous than the former.

An effort is being made to have Parliament assembled in August in special session, on account of the Albanian complications.

Cholera is on the increase at Constantinople, and a quarantine of 24 hours has been decreed against this city in all directions. Cholera is also reported to be raging at Manisa, but has well-nigh disappeared at Smyrna.

General Nogi, the Japanese hero of Port Arthur, arrived on Friday last in this city. He was received in audience on Saturday by the Sultan, and later called on the Heir-Apparent. Sunday Gen. Mahmoud Shevket Pasha tendered a dinner to the distinguished visitor at Beylerbey Palace. Gen. Nogi returns to Japan via the Trans-Siberian railroad.

A collision between the Bosphorus steamer No. 54 and a small steamer flying the Russian flag occurred in the harbor Saturday afternoon. In the ensuing panic on the former steamer, seven persons jumped overboard, and three of these are said to have been drowned.

THE PROVINCES.

Fifteen thousand more troops are being sent to the Yemen, to cope with the persistent rebellion there.

The Ottoman fleet and the British Mediterranean squadron, the latter under Admiral Gamble, met in the harbor of Mitylene and celebrated together the anniversary of the Constitution.

Abdullah Pasha, the new Commander-in-chief of the Ottoman forces in northern Albania, leaves tomorrow for Shkodra.

Two daughters and one granddaughter of Gregorian priests have been teaching in the Protestant day and Sunday schools of Trebizond this year. Two former pupils of Anatolia Girls' School have also taught in our schools and two others in the Gregorian schools. One former teacher and

one pupil of the Adabazar school have been teaching in the Gregorian schools. Anatolia College has furnished the Sultanieh School of Trebizond with a master of English in the person of Mr. Michael Papadopoulos, of the class of 1908. Of his work Dr. Crawford writes: — As we were invited to assist at the examinations, we can bear testimony to good work done; and were glad to indorse the certificate of the Master, recommending one of the graduates, a young Turk of our city, to Robert College.

Sir William Ramsay has recently discovered what he believes to be the last vestige of the power of heathendom in Asia Minor, in the shape of a temple to the goddess Mna, at the site of Antioch of Pisidia, near the modern village of Yalovatch. Tablets were here found telling of the recanting of certain Christians and their return to idolatry; and other indications point to a date of about 400 A. D. for this temple.

A severe earthquake at Kegli, near Erzeroum, occurred last week Thursday. Details are wanting.

NOTES.

Rev. James P. McNaughton arrived here on Thursday from Smyrna, and went right on the next day to Brousa, his new post.

Dr. and Mrs. Geo. F. Herrick sailed by the German steamer *Stamboul* for Genoa on Thursday last. They will go thence direct to Champex, Switzerland, where they will stay at the Hotel de la Poste. A large number of friends were at the steamer to bid these travelers *bon voyage*.

Mr. and Mrs. Getchell of Marsovan sailed from Constantinople yesterday for Alexandria, on their way around the world. They expect to spend two weeks in Ceylon and South India, and a couple of months in Lintsingchow, China, reaching America probably in December.

OTHER LANDS.

The ex-Shah of Persia, Mohammed Ali, has returned to Astrabad, in the north of Persia, determined to regain his throne. An armed force is being sent against him.

The Grand Sobranje of Bulgaria has just been dissolved by King Ferdinand at Tirnovo.

A typhoon in the Philippines last week caused damage estimated at \$ 7,500,000.

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