

The Orient.

Vol. IV., No. 32

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE, August 6, 1913.

Price, One Piastre

THE BUCHAREST PEACE CONFERENCE.

On Wednesday last the conference of delegates from Bulgaria, Greece, Montenegro, Roumania and Servia met at Bucharest, the aged Roumanian statesman Mr. Majorescu being elected President. The first act of importance was an agreement to a suspension of all fighting for five days, beginning July 31st at noon. Many private conferences between the delegates of Bulgaria and Roumania and between other missions took place between the plenary sittings of the conference proper, and efforts were made to come to an understanding. Servia and Greece made the following propositions:—

1) The frontier to start from the point where the Struma river leaves the former territory of Bulgaria, between Dubnitza and Djumaia, and end at the Gulf of Lagos, between Xanthi and Gümüldjina.

2) Bulgaria to give up all claim to any and all islands in the Aegean; defining once more of the Serbo-Bulgarian frontier; guarantees of the rights of Greeks in Thrace.

3) The Allies not to demand any war indemnity, but only an indemnification of the inhabitants of ravaged territory.

On their part the Bulgarians made the following counter-propositions:—

1) The frontier to go west of Egri Palanka and Ishtib to a point near Monastir, then south of Doiran and Serres, to the Gulf of Orphano, at the mouth of the Struma; thus leaving to Bulgaria Kotchana, Ishtib, Stroumitza, Doiran, Serres and Kavalla.

2) The conference of ambassadors at London has taken the question of Aegean Islands out of the hands of the Allies.

3) Bulgaria cannot recognize the right of the Allies to demand an indemnification of the population.

4) The Serbo-Bulgarian boundary to be referred to an international commission named by the Powers.

5) Both parties to give full liberty to the nationals of the other parties within their territory as regards schools and churches.

Mr. Venizelos, the Greek Premier, has made a statement to the *Neue Freie Presse*, to the effect that Bulgaria will have to content herself with Dedeaghadj as her only Aegean port, and that Greece absolutely refuses to give back Kavalla. The opinion seems to prevail at Bucharest that Bulgaria will be obliged to yield on this point.

We are also assured that the Roumanians and Bulgarians have reached a complete understanding with reference to their

new frontier line, which gives Roumania Turtukai and Balchik.

In regard to Turkey's most recent move, the Bucharest Conference has apparently taken the ground that that is purely a question as between Turkey and Bulgaria, and as such it does not directly interest the Peace Conference, which has no delegate representing Turkey. On this subject the Turkish daily *Ikdam* says:—

"We should like to place the truth (about Adrianople) before the eyes of the Servian, Roumanian and especially Greek statesmen and journalists. We cannot help regretting the failure of the Balkan States to invite Turkey to the conference at Bucharest; if we had had at this moment a delegate at the Roumanian capital, he could have explained all these truths to the other plenipotentiaries. Our presence would have made easier the securing of a real equilibrium."

The suspension of hostilities has been extended to three days more, so that it lasts officially till noon on Friday next. It is hoped that by that date the main items regarding peace may have been agreed upon.

WILL TURKEY RETAIN ADRIANOPOLE ?

His Imperial Highness the Heir Apparent with Prince Ziaeddin Effendi, whose visit to Adrianople we chronicled last week, received while there a visit from the foreign consuls, the French Consul being spokesman for his colleagues. Such official recognition of the Turkish reoccupation of the city has naturally grieved the Bulgarians sorely, and has caused widespread surprise, especially in England. The British Consul was not in Adrianople at the time.

From Adrianople the imperial princes motored over to Kirk Kilisè, where another ovation awaited them on the part of the populace. At each town the troops were reviewed by Prince Youssouf Izzeddin, who briefly addressed the officers in charge, voicing his congratulations on the reoccupation of the region.

On Friday last the Heir Apparent and Prince Ziaeddin Effendi returned toward evening to the Sirkedji terminal, and immediately motored to the Palace to present their respects to His Majesty the Sultan.

According to competent testimony, the Ottoman troops now at Adrianople number 300,000. Large quantities of arms, ammunition and provisions are being sent up there every day; the Turk has decided to stay there. A cartoon in one of the local dailies represented the Turk with Miss Adrianople in his arms, while Dame Europe in a rage shouts out at him, "Give her to me!" And he replies, "Come

and take her." This is a fair picture of the attitude of the Ottoman authorities. Both civil and military leaders have expressed themselves as determined to keep the city at all costs. And the question which brings a smile of satisfaction to them is:— Who will come to wrest it from them? Hardly the defeated and dejected Bulgaria.

Within the week two personal friends of the editor, of different nationalities, have returned from Adrianople to this city; and they agree in saying that aside from some 35 Bulgarian wounded lying in a hospital there, under the tender care of Miss Mary Haskell, of the A. B. C. F. M. mission, there was hardly a soul in Adrianople who was not glad to see the Ottoman Army re-enter the city. The Bulgarians had shown themselves hard masters, and their arrogance and partiality had alienated all classes of the population. These are now really happy to have the Turks there again.

It was expected that there would be a joint memorandum presented to the Porte by the "Powers" this week about the restitution of Adrianople and Kirk Kilisè to the Allies. But up to date this has not taken place. According to the local dailies Mr. Marling, British Chargé d'Affaires, has not yet received his instructions from London.

Many have been the speculations as to what measures the "Powers" would use to persuade or coerce Turkey into this step. Among these were suggested the bait of some Aegean Islands, of the increase of customs taxes from 11% to 15%, the substantial modification of the Enos-Midia line, etc. But the Turks stoutly insist that Adrianople is not for sale.

A glance at the figures showing the population of the city and the province of Adrianople before the war, will show why the Turks feel that the exigencies of the inhabitants are against a Bulgarian occupation. The "Annuaire Oriental" gives the population of Adrianople city as 83,000, of whom 40,000 are Turks, 23,000 Greeks, 15,000 Jews, and a negligible number of Armenians and Bulgarians. The whole province, including the Gallipoli, Rodosto, Gümüldjina and Dedeaghadj sanjaks, is given as about 1,000,000, of whom 580,000 are Turks, 380,000 Greeks, 100,000 Bulgarians 19,000 Jews and 18,000 Armenians.

THE FUTURE OF ALBANIA.

Representatives from various parts of Albania, and especially Kortcha and other towns in the south, are now in London, trying by personal touch with the ambassadors of the "Powers" who are discussing its southern delimitation, and by letters and appeals through the press, to prove the great desire of that whole section to be turned over to Greece. That Greco-Albanian frontier problem is a thorny one, and yet it will be settled, and apparently soon, and Greece has bound herself to accept the decision of the Ambassadors' Council. Whether Kortcha and Argyrokastro and Delvino and Premeti are included in the new state or handed over to Greece, the boundary will be drawn, and there will remain Greeks in Albanian territory and Albanians in Greek territory.

There sits at present in Valona, — Avlona, — a committee of ten, known as the Provisional Government of Albania. Six are Moslems, three Orthodox and one Catholic, but all are first Albanians and then whatever religion they like. One of the Moslems is reported to have a Russian Orthodox wife. The President of this gathering is old Ismail Kemal Bey, in whom the Albanians trust, but who is too shrewd and farsighted to accept permanently the headship of the country.

What the people want, great and small, is a prince, and a prince they will have. But to the intense disgust of their Turkish friends, they are a unit in not wishing a Moslem prince. Nor do they desire any Albanian; they will have a foreigner, and if possible one from one of the reigning families of Europe. And since there are both Catholics and Orthodox Christians in the land, as a compromise they would prefer a Protestant Prince. And we will not quarrel with them on that point. Many have expressed a preference for an Englishman; but as England is one of the six "Powers" whose petty jealousies are dangerous things, maybe a Swede or a Dane would do better.

Albanians are a substantial class; not financially rich, but good traders, good agriculturists, good students. Many who have been to America have proven their industry and profited thereby. Not a few have held high offices under the Ottoman government in times past and have proved capable in these positions. Given a fair chance, these million and a half or two million people ought to make good, and justify Europe in the step she took in keeping them from becoming the booty of the Allies.

ECHOES FROM THE MARASH MEETING.

Adana, July 6th, 1913.

We returned from the Marash Meeting on Friday. The Baghdad R.R. helped us tremendously. Three-quarters of the trials of the journey are removed. We had a very good meeting and much legislation was indulged in. Let's see what the exclusive will do. Hadjin has a year's vacation. Miss Cold is not well. We hoped she would be with us this winter, but Dr. Shepard advises Aintab and little work. Miss Vaughan was voted a furlough. The oversight of the Station was voted to Adana. As soon as the ladies pass over the books, treasury work etc. will be in my hands. I have not much to do, you know! My present thought is to keep the treasury work separate for each station.

The work in Adana was greatly emphasized as to its very great importance. The country seems absolutely indifferent to the tragic events in Constantinople. The telegrams are published daily. They are read with interest, — little less than platonic interest is apparent.

W. NESBITT CHAMBERS.

ROUMANIA.

The country that has so suddenly sprung into prominence in Balkan affairs within the past six weeks has had a stormy history in the remote past, though a very quiet one in recent years. Not to go back to Dacian times, when the Romans conquered the territory, the Vlachs come into view in the 13th century, and the two states of Wallachia and Moldavia develop separately. The Wallachians were allies of the Hungarians in the battle of Kossovo, 1448; and though they surrendered to the Turks, many of the prisoners were massacred. The next three centuries were a time of continuous struggles between the Wallachian princes and the Turks, while Russians and Hungarians in turn tried to secure the province. The story of Moldavia is similar, that portion being the bone of contention between Poland, Hungary and the Ottoman Sultans. Mohammed II., the Conqueror, invaded the country, but was unable to keep his foothold. Süleiman the Magnificent laid the province under tribute; and in the 18th century both provinces were ruled by Phanariot Greek princes sent there by the Sultans. Finally, as a result of the Russo-Turkish war which ended in the peace of Kütchük Kainarji, the two provinces were united as an Ottoman dependency under the name of the Danubian Principalities, with a virtual Russian protectorate. In 1857 the Principalities, after the Treaty of Paris, united to form the state of Roumania, and in 1861 Prince Cuza was elected as its ruler. He was compelled in 1866 to abdicate, and Prince Charles of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen was chosen in his place. He came to Constantinople and received here from the Sultan the firman of investiture and the right to maintain an army of 30,000 men. He married in 1869 the Princess Elizabeth, who is known in the literary world as Carmen Sylva. In the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-78, Roumania helped Russia, especially at Plevna; and in return she obtained recognition as a wholly independent state. On May 22, 1881, Charles was crowned as King of Roumania, the royal crown being made of steel from Turkish cannon captured at Plevna. Since that time relations have been at times very strained with Russia and Austro-Hungary; but the worst difficulties of Roumania have been with party politics within. During the past eight or ten years diplomatic relations with Greece have been ruptured several times, owing to the conflict regarding the Koutzo-Vlachs of Macedonia, and their relation to the Roumanian state church. The policy of King Charles has, however, usually been conciliatory and successful.

The Roumanian language represents the original rustic Latin of Roman provincials in Mœsia and Dacia, as modified by centuries of alien rule. By far the largest proportion of the 6,850,000 inhabitants (Encyc. Brit.) are Vlachs, less than a million being Jews, Armenians, Gypsies, Greeks, Turks, Tatars, etc. The Jews are about 300,000 and are more in proportion than in any other country. The state church is the Orthodox Eastern Church, having a Holy Synod presided over

by the Metropolitan Primate of Roumania. It recognizes the Ecumenical Patriarch at Constantinople, but is independent of his authority. Education has made great advance since 1900, but up to then in some rural communities 88½% were illiterate.

The Roumanian parliament consists of a senate and a house of deputies. The heir apparent is the nephew of the King, Prince Ferdinand. No woman may ascend the throne. The peace strength of the army is about 100,000; but its war footing, aside from the militia, is 225,000. The fleet in 1910 comprised one cruiser, the "Elisabeta," till recently in Constantinople harbor as part of the international squadron, seven gunboats, eight torpedo-boats, six coastguard vessels, and numerous police patrol boats.

SYRIAN HAPPENINGS.

The Medical Missionary Association of Turkey will hold its 3rd meeting at Jerusalem from August 15th to 23rd. A very full and attractive program has been sent out, and if only a portion of it is carried out it will be a memorable meeting.

The first week in August the educational conference of the Syria-Palestine Education Association will be held in Jerusalem.

Mr. Rawlins, the British Acting Consul General at Beirut by his personal influence and good sense and mental and physical activity quelled what threatened to be a sanguinary riot at Suq-ul-Gharb on Lebanon on July 15th. Two outlaws shot twice at a Druze, the bullets piercing his trousers and turban, but not wounding him, and then heaped curses on him as they ran away. The Druze collected about 250 men from his own and neighboring villages and came armed and prepared to wipe out the village of Suq unless the outlaws were delivered. The matter has quieted down, but the outlaws are at large and there is still an undercurrent of ugly feeling.

Mr. Charles Douglas Stephens, of Amberley, Gloucester, England, died at Beirut, July 19th of pleuro-pneumonia. Mr. Stephens had served the Syrian Protestant College with great fidelity and devotion for over 5 years as cashier and accountant in the treasurer's office.

A man of most genial, lovable personality, he was rarely gifted also as a musician and sportsman. An excellent singer, he performed upon the piano, pipe organ and violin. He was the champion golfer of Gloucestershire, and no one in Syria ever came near him in the game. He was a cricketer and foot-baller of distinction, and he played base ball with enthusiasm.

Every member of the faculty has lost a friend, and assuredly the whole student body will feel the same. Mr. Stephens was 32 years of age. He was brother to Mrs. Parfit, wife of Canon Parfit of the British Chaplaincy at Beirut and the 'Ain 'Unub Boarding School for Boys in Lebanon.

W. B. A.

THE HEIR-APPARENT ON HIS TRIP.

His Imperial Highness Prince Yousouf Izzeddin has made an interesting statement for publication in the *Tanin*, relative to his recent visit to Adrianople. We quote a part of it:—

"I believe this trip to Adrianople will be a very useful thing. When I visited Thrace the last time, I found the army tired out and in a miserable condition. I was deeply touched by the sight. But this time my journey will counteract the feeling of last year.

"Adrianople is indispensable for us. It has an importance not merely strategic but also historic. This beautiful city is the centre of the greater part of our traditions. Yet the retaking of Adrianople is not enough to blot out the memory of the tortures and excesses inflicted on us by the Bulgarians.

"During the war we acted in a defective manner. The Ottoman army is valiant. Under the command of intelligent and courageous officers, it is invincible. The Ottomans need to be valiant. There was among us a certain fear, which our elder statesmen felt. This fear we must eradicate as much as can be from our hearts. Please God, this day will show that high resolve is one of the most important factors in success."

The correspondent of the *Tanin* adds that His Highness the Heir Apparent also expressed his regret at the recent turn of European politics.

SYRIAN PROTESTANT COLLEGE

There were two celebrations of Independence Day this year at Beirut. Like our English cousins we celebrated it on another day, June 28th, by a baseball game for the championship of the University. The nine from the Preparatory Department teachers challenge the "World," and the "World" team is made up of teachers in the other departments. Each nine had won 4 games this spring, and an interesting struggle was anticipated. We had it; but before the game, everyone, players and "rooters," gathered at Prof. Nickoley's, where Mrs. Nickoley served tea, hot to those with cold feet, cold to those whose enthusiasm needed cooling off. The traditional lemonade and ginger cake, — and other cakes, — were served, and then the game. Prof. Brown was umpire. The Preparatory team was beaten 10 to 8, but the score hardly reflects the enthusiasm, the interest and the closeness of the contest.

The regular celebration of the day came after the close of the College and after many had departed to America and others to the Lebanon and other vacation places. A basket picnic supper on the campus was the form it took. Like all American picnics there was a great superabundance of good things to eat, and a merry hour was spent sitting on the grass on the Semi-Lune in front of College Hall. The day was also notable for the finishing of the stone work on Rockefeller Hall. The building committee had promised the workmen a

feast if they completed the walls by July 4th. They kept their part of the contract and so did the committee; and moreover the committee had to feast with the workmen, there could be no other way.

At the close of the two feasts the Americans, with a number of British guests, were invited by the workmen to the Athletic Field to see the illumination of Rockefeller Hall with Chinese lanterns and the fireworks the contractor had provided. It was a beautiful sight, the fine lines of the great building as a back ground for the pyrotechnics, that made us forget we were not in the home land.

And then the workmen gathered in front of the grand stand and cheered for the two Presidents, (college and country), for America and for all Americans, and they trusted in God that we would erect a building every year. And then we sang the old familiar songs of our home land, and in the midst of the singing the workmen lugged in a huge tub of ice cream and served it to us all. It was a great day for the children, — "booza" twice in one evening! And then we sang "My country, 'tis of thee," as best we could on account of that temporary patriotic laryngitis that gets most of us when we sing the anthem under such conditions.

W. B. A.

NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR THE REGIE.

An imperial *irade* has just appeared, granting a new set of regulations for the Ottoman Tobacco Régie or Monopoly. This company has been in existence for thirty years, and is now renewed for fifteen years on a basis more favorable to the Ottoman Government. Up to this time it paid an annual royalty of Lt. 750,000; this is to be increased to Lt. 800,000, the increase being secured by the lowering of the rate of interest on the common shares from 8 % to 6 % and the abolition of certain preferred shares. The Government will furthermore use every means to suppress the trade in contraband tobacco, which has not only injured the income of the Régie but has also necessitated the employment of a large force of *koldjis*, or special police, by the company.

The main reason for hastening the renewal of the lease of this monopoly at this time lies in the immediate financial advantage to the Imperial Government, which is in sore straits and had not yet been able to pay its civil officials any salaries since March. The present agreement provides for an advance of a million and a half of liras, of which sum Lt. 300,000 was paid to the Ottoman Bank on July 22nd, and the second instalment, or Lt. 600,000, was put yesterday to the credit of the Government; the third and final instalment, or the remaining Lt. 600,000, is due one month from the date of the imperial permit issued Monday last. This million and a half, or \$6,600,000, will tide the Government over a very serious financial crisis and enable it to meet its most pressing bills without further delay. The new expedition to Adrianople and the re-fortifying of that post are costing a pretty penny. The director of the Tobacco Régie is M. Weyl.

THE ORIENT

A weekly paper, devoted to the religious, educational, political, commercial and other interests of the Ottoman Empire.
Charles T. Riggs, Editor.

Terms: Annual subscription within the Ottoman Empire, one-quarter lira, or 27 piastres silver.

Foreign countries, \$ 1.50 or 6 shillings or 7½ francs.
Single copies, 1 piastre or 4 cents or 2d.

Special numbers, 1½ piastres or 6 cents or 3d.

Cheques, money orders, cash or stamps in payment for subscriptions or advertising should be sent to W.W. Peet, Esq. Treasurer, Bible House, Constantinople, Turkey. (Open Mail, via London).

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE.

AUGUST 6, 1913.

EDITORIAL.

As the time approaches for the reopening of the schools and colleges, the problem is again up regarding the supply of teachers and the quality of the available material. Thoroughly equipped men and women are rare enough at best; and recent events have induced a number of these to leave the country. What to do to fill their places, is the question that agitates the minds of not a few principals. One query pertinent to the crisis is this: What is the guiding principle in the choice of teachers? Is it academic attainment, or the possession of a degree, or teaching experience, or a standard of character, or religious profession? Probably all these have their weight. Or is it merely the question of who is available? Or is it merely the length of the school purse? If the object of the school is the developing of strong Christian character in the pupils, then better have no teacher than one of weak morals or uncertain influence. If the purpose of the school be to prepare leaders, both in educational and religious lines and in business life, the best possible characters as teachers are none too good. It is also to be remembered that many a Ph. D. fails as a teacher, because wanting in the ability to inspire students to effort or to impart the knowledge that earned the degree.

But the practical problem before most of us is, where to find any sort of a teacher who will be able to keep the school going. Our normal schools are unable to meet the big demand, for every trained teacher, especially when fitted with the character-training obtained in our mission schools, is snapped up quick. The point we would urge just now is, that the greatest care be exercised to exclude from the teaching profession any one who has been found lacking in moral principle. It were better to close a school than to put in charge of it one whose life and example cannot raise the standards of the pupils.

The reforms announced as projected now for the Arabic speaking vilayets may be regarded as a victory for the people of those districts and their energetic leaders. Not long ago a congress of Arabs and Syrians was held in Paris with the

purpose of securing just such improvements in local administration. This they have attained. But they seem to have won another point as well. Even the most chauvinistic of Turkish leaders appear to have been convinced that the real interests of Turkey demand a closer *rapprochement* with the Arabs, instead of a policy of repression. It would have been far better had they arrived at this eminently sane conclusion several years ago. How far the movements of the Ibn Saud tribes in the Nedjd district, and the driving of the Turks out of El Hassa have influenced this present attitude, does not seem very clear; doubtless these events had their effect. In any case, the conciliatory policy will surely have a far more beneficent influence on the unity of the Empire than several military campaigns. Another proof of the desire of the Government to win the favor of the Syrians and Arabs was the recent recall of Hazim Bey, Vali of Beirut, an uncompromising opponent of reform. Furthermore, it would not surprise those most in touch with affairs if in the near future the Arabic element were given a far greater degree of recognition in the Cabinet. This must not be interpreted as any sign of any Pan-Islamic movement. Christian Syrians are united with Moslem Arabs in asking for recognition of their right to their own language, and to officials who know Arabic. It is one step in the direction of a measure of local self-government; yet it should not be called autonomy, for there is no desire on the part of these Ottomans to be anything but loyal Ottomans. And their loyalty is thus being recognized by the central government. We trust that the central government will be logical, and take the next step by recognizing the equal loyalty of the Armenians and really applying in the eastern provinces such reforms as will make life and property secure for all law-abiding citizens there.

GROWTH AT AINTAB.

"Although a detailed review of the past thirty-seven years of Central Turkey College reveals many fluctuations in the progress of the college, taken in the large the forward movement is unmistakable. By decades, the number of students has risen from an average of 89 for the years 1876-86, to 103 for 1886-96, 155 for 1896-1906, and 192 for 1906-12. Likewise the annual expenditure for educational purposes (excluding the boarding department and aside from salaries of missionaries) has risen from \$1930.37 for 1876-86, to \$2598.60 for 1886-96, \$3460.16 for 1896-1906, and \$5684.84 for 1906-12. The teaching force has risen from three to twenty-two this year. All this is aside from the development of the hospital, which is an integral part of the institution.

"Most significant, however, has been the slow but certain vindication of the principles of equality, co-operation and naturalization on which the college administration was founded. No doubt this policy has involved special and great difficulties, but it has resulted in peculiar and precious success."

— From the annual report of President MERRILL.

MOSLEMS ARE GOOD CUSTOMERS.

A writer in the *Ikdam* says:—

The anti-Turkish and anti-Moslem policy of Europe is hostile to Europe's own interests. The more the welfare and prosperity of the Mohammedans increase, the greater the benefit to Europe. As the Moslems are an agricultural people, they are compelled to procure in Europe all their manufactured articles. If the Moslems increase, the Europeans will sell them all the more manufactures.

Let the Europeans institute a comparison between Turkey and the Christian countries they are protecting. Whatever the Ottoman wears, from his head to his feet, all the articles and implements he uses in his home, are of European manufacture. Where can Europe find another client like Turkey? And yet the Europeans consider worthy of their protection those who pillage the goods of this client and kill his children. We have suffered many misfortunes, but we have not gone so far as to proclaim a moratorium so as to postpone the payment of our debts to Europe. Why does the latter pretend not to see this attitude of Turkey? Why does she not say one kind word of encouragement to these honest Moslems?

I put this question to the statesmen of Europe, to the European press, and to its correspondents in Constantinople.

EGYPT'S NEW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

There has been considerable misunderstanding of the extent and significance of the changes introduced into the Government of Egypt at the instance of Lord Kitchner two weeks ago. A brief statement of the measures taken will be in place. Up to the present there have been in Egypt a Legislative Council and a General Assembly, bodies instituted in 1883 by Lord Dufferin. There has been little power in these bodies, and they have been scarcely representative of the people; for the British administration of thirty years ago did not feel that the Egyptians were ready for much self-government. In the new laws promulgated by the Foreign Office, the Legislative Assembly is a distinct advance on the old Council in several ways. It consists of 89 members, as compared with the former 30. Of these, six are Cabinet Ministers, seventeen are to be nominated by the Government in order to ensure the representation of Copts, Bedouin, medical men, engineers, merchants, etc., and the remaining 66 are to be elected by the representatives of the people. For this purpose the country is divided into 66 electoral districts; and the people in each district choose electoral delegates, one to every fifty voting inhabitants. These electoral delegates elect the member of the Assembly for their district. One-third of the elected members will be renewed every two years. Under the old laws, only 16 members of the Council were elected, and half of these were renewed every three years. The Legislative Council formerly had only consultative

functions, with no power of initiating legislation. The new Legislative Assembly has a certain initiative in the matter of framing laws, the Government reserving the right of veto. The new body has also greater freedom in the discussion of Government measures, as well as of reasons stated by the Government for rejecting any measure proposed by the Assembly.

These new electoral laws are intended to educate the people in the line of self-government. They might well be studied by the Ottoman authorities as to the method of securing equitable representation of minorities. They do not detract from the influence of the Government, but they do tend to place more of a feeling of responsibility on the people themselves. They are far from constituting "home rule" for Egypt; but they tend that way.

Nor do they in the least affect the suzerainty of Turkey. His Highness the Khedive is shortly expected in Constantinople on a visit. Were his relation to his suzerain lord the Sultan changed or strained in the least, this would not be the fitting time to visit his palace at Chiboukli. The new regulations have nothing to do with the position of Egypt with regard to the Ottoman Empire.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPROVEMENTS

IN THE VILAYETS.

According to a circular just issued by the Ministry of the Interior, the Government has decided on the immediate introduction of the following "fundamental reforms" with the object of assuring the happiness and prosperity of the Arab vilayets:—

1. Vakuf properties, whose revenues are to be used for local beneficent purposes, are hereafter to be managed by the local communities according to special new regulations.

2. The recruits of each district shall in time of peace do their military service in their own regions. If however the Government sees the need of sending an expedition to any frontier of the Empire, all soldiers must be ready to join it. The troops now stationed in Hedjaz, Yemen, Assir and Nedjd will be in proportion to the number of local troops in each province.

3. Considering the advantages of the teaching of the Arabic language in schools in regions where the majority of the people speak that language, it has been decided to adopt Arabic for the present in the primary and secondary schools, with the prospect of adopting it later on in the higher schools as well. Still, since the official language is Turkish, this will be taught, as in the past, in the schools at vilayet capitals.

4. Officials sent to Arabic-speaking regions must know Arabic as well as the official language, and this point will be taken into consideration in choosing such men. Functionaries of the second class will be chosen locally by the vilayet in conformity to existing law. Judges and officials of justice will be chosen by the central government, as their nomination has to be ratified by imperial *irade*.

These arrangements have been communicated to the ministries of war, public instruction and the Evkaf.

Foreign inspectors will be engaged as needed in each province, and the necessary funds will be provided to each region to make good any local deficits, especially in the budgets for instruction and for public works. The measures voted by provincial assemblies will receive immediate attention.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

His Holiness the Armenian Patriarch, Abp. Arsharouni, having insisted on the acceptance of his resignation from that high office on account of his state of health, the National Assembly last Friday complied with his request; and Bishop Zaven of Diarbekir will probably be appointed locum tenens. At the Friday session, in place of three members of the lay council, resigned, three new men, all belonging to the Tashnagist party, were elected. Among the new members of the Holy Synod chosen was Abp. Ormanian, the former Patriarch.

The projected visit of Osman Nizami Pasha to England has been deemed unnecessary and has been cancelled.

The big new floating dry-dock from England arrived at Stenia on Monday morning. It is 137 metres long and 29 metres wide, and is capable of lifting a steamer of 8,500 tons, and is equipped in the most modern way.

The Constanza steamer service has at length been restored to its normal quatum of three runs each way weekly.

Princes Selaheddin and Fouad, sons of the late Sultan Mourad V., started on Saturday for Carlsbad, for a two months' treatment at the baths there.

The Telephone Company has successfully laid two cables across the Bosphorus between Roumeli Hissar and Anatoli Hissar.

As a result of the finals in the Therapia tennis tournament on Saturday and Monday last, the Smyrna players wrested from Constantinople the championship of the Empire in both singles and doubles. Messrs. Eric Whittall and Pero-koko won from Messrs. Edward Seager and Cuthbert Binns by the score of 6-2, 6-1, 6-1. This one-sided score was largely due to a fall in the second game of the first set, where-by Mr. Seager broke a bone in his left wrist, pluckily playing out the match in spite of this. In the singles, Mr. Eric Whittall defeated the holder, Mr. Comber, in three straight sets, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

The 25 or 30 wounded Bulgarians remaining in Adrianople when the Ottoman forces entered that city have been brought to the Capital. With them came Miss Mary Haskell, who has devoted herself to caring for these unfortunates. An effort is being made to instal them in what was the American Red Cross ward at the Tash Kushla Barracks.

Two cases of cholera were registered yesterday in Stamboul, both of them recent arrivals from Salonica.

Professor Lepsius of Potsdam, who has been into the Armenian regions making a study of conditions, returned to Constantinople this week.

Rev. and Mrs. Edwin H. Byington left yesterday by Italian steamer for Naples on their way back to America.

THE PROVINCES.

A telegram from the Vali of Bitlis announces the arrest of the murderer of a teacher in the Armenian Protestant school near that city.

Cholera is reported at Smyrna, and a quarantine of five days has been established against arrivals from that port.

The Vali of Mosoul, Mouharrem Bey, has been recalled, and the military commandant, Gen. Essad Pasha has been made governor pro tem.

The sum of four million piasters has been appropriated through the ministry of public works for the building of military roads in the sanjak of Gallipoli.

Large numbers of Moslem refugees from the Thracian regions are on their way back thither from the environs of Nicomedia and beyond.

The fast of Ramazan began at dawn on Monday morning. The Sheikh-ul-Islam has delivered a pronouncement that soldiers in the campaign need not keep the fast now, in case they make it up later.

News has been received of the death of Rev. Khachig Vartanian, for nearly twenty years preacher at Bitlis and teacher in the Girls' School there.

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NOTES.

Mr. W. E. D. Ward, after four years' stay in Harpout as treasurer of Euphrates College and the station, left there on July 23rd returning to America via Aintab and Beirut.

Mr. Carl A. Scheibel, who has for three years been assistant to Mr. Peet as cashier in the treasurer's office, left Constantinople on Aug. 2nd, for Odessa, returning via Boston to pursue his studies in the University of Nebraska.

Rev. E. A. Yarrow and family of Van and Rev. J. K. Lyman, under appointment to Marash, arrived in Constantinople on Monday of this week, coming from America via Hamburg and Odessa.

Mr. J. Roman Way, assistant to the treasurer at Robert College, arrived last week from America.

Rev. Arthur B. Fowler and wife sailed from New York by the "Celtic" on July 24th, on their way to their station at Tripoli, Syria, as missionaries of the Presbyterian Board.

Rev. G. E. White, D.D., left Marsovan July 23rd for a vacation trip to Russia.

Dr. and Mrs. Crawford and Miss Cole, of Trebizond, are spending their summer in Marsovan, as is Mr. Brewster of Smyrna.

Miss Bertha Hoover left Constantinople last Friday for a few weeks' visit to her brother in Talas.

OTHER LANDS.

Considerable anxiety is felt as to the safety of the leaning tower at Pisa, which leans more and more, and is now 14 feet out of the perpendicular as compared with 11 feet thirty years ago.

Mr. Philip M. Brown, formerly First Secretary of the American Legation in this city, has been appointed lecturer in international law at Princeton University for the ensuing year.

By defeating the British Isles in tennis, three matches out of five, America regained the Davis Cup which they lost ten years ago to England.

Severe fighting has taken place at Shanghai, Hankow and other Chinese points, and the northern armies have been generally victorious.

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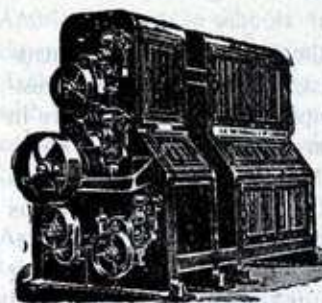
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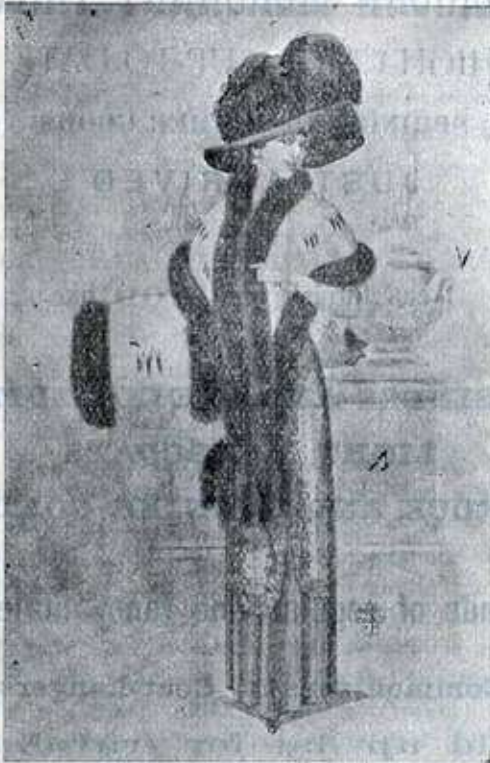


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ULTONIA	(10,402 >)	>	21st.	>
SAXONIA	(14,000 >)	>	28th.	>
PANNONIA	(10,000 >)	Sept.	11th.	>
CARPATIA	(13,600 >)	>	18th.	>

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Printed by H. MATTEOSIAN, Constantinople.