

# The Orient.

July 27, 1910

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE

No. 15

## THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

**122 Session** (June 25). Those parts of the budget of the Ministry of Forests and Agriculture which had been amended by the Senate were, on the report of the Committee, voted and passed. The chairman of the Finance Committee announced that the total deficit for this year would be 10 1/2 million liras, but as two millions of the appropriations were not likely to be used and the income for last year had exceeded the estimates by 1 1/2 million and was likely to exceed this year by two million, the actual deficit would be five million liras. The vote in favor of building a railway from Soma to Banderma was 110 against 22. The second reading of the bill for the contested churches and schools in Macedonia was begun and the first three articles were passed. After an amendment had been offered by the Greek Deputies and rejected by a vote of 90 against 26 they rose and left the house in a body.

**123 Session** (June 26). A proposition to pension officers who had been unconditionally dismissed from the army was read, but at the suggestion the Minister of War a bill was prepared and accepted to the effect that pensions be given only to the needy families of such officers, not in excess of pensions provided for orphans. The 4-12 articles of the contested churches bill were accepted with the exception of the 8th.

**124th Session** (June 27). Cosmidi Effendi demanded that the protest of the Greek Deputies be recorded, but without effect. The proposal of the Government to pension teachers and principals who had served 20 years was carried in the face of stout opposition. The bill providing 180,000 liras a year for the women of the deposed Sultan's harem was passed. A document from the Senate with reference to the revision of the Constitution was referred to the Committee. The report bearing on the articles substituted for the 13th and 50th of the Military Service bill was read and the substitutions were accepted, which provide that an officer can resign only after 15 years of service and that pensions are to be given to Commanders after 25 year's services and to other officers after 30 year's service. The law for the prevention theft was taken up for discussion and the 220th article of the penal law was accepted.

**125th Session** (June 28). It was not thought necessary to vote pensions for Abdul Kerim and Eumer Pashas because as officers they receive their salaries, but 50 liras a month was voted for Ali Haidar Bey, son of Midhat Pasha, until such time as he is called to office. After the transaction of minor

details of business speeches by the Grand Vizier and the President of the Chamber marked the closing session of Parliament. An account of these final exercises was given in the *Orient* under date of July 6th, but the date of closing was erroneously given as June 21st. It should have been June 28th.

## THE MISSIONARY CRUISE

### at Bardezag.

The *Athena*, chartered by the University Bureau of Travel and bringing about fifty American friends arrived at the head of the Nicomedia Gulf early on Sunday morning July 17th and anchored near the Bardezag landing. At the appointed hour the visitors began to arrive in the village and were warmly welcomed by the missionaries convened at Bardezag for the annual meeting of W. T. M. and representing twelve stations in Turkey.

The first service of the day was held in Chambers Hall, a fine building erected by the Alumni of the Bithynia High School. Mr. Perry of Sivas presided and introduced in succession Mr. Partridge, Mr. Chambers of Adana, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Peet who spoke briefly on the work which had been done in the Western, the Central, the Eastern, and the European Turkey Missions. Immediately after this conference all present walked down to the Protestant Chapel in the center of the village where divine service was held and Dr. Day of Los Angeles preached an effective sermon on "the root of the matter." At noon lunch was served in the spacious dining room of the school. In some respects the most interesting service of the day was that held under the auspices of the Bardezag Y. M. C. A. in the Armenian National School building. The large hall was densely packed and many were standing. One of the Gregorian priests presided in a most creditable manner. The address of the afternoon was made by Prof. Harlan P. Beach. It was a rousing talk to young men to live for the noblest things in life and was fixed in the minds of his hearers by a skillful use of the blackboard. He was followed by Mr. Chambers who spoke briefly on present conditions in Adana, laying emphasis on what was hopeful and reassuring. Finally Torkom Vartabed Koushagian, acting Bishop of the See of Sivas, was called on to speak. After a graceful introduction in which he referred to the pride Bardezag felt in welcoming its American visitors he spoke of the work which had been done by the American Missionaries among the Armenian people. He divided it into three phases,

religious, educational, and philanthropic. It was the first time, so far as is known, that an Armenian ecclesiastic has ventured to mention in public the spiritual work of the American Missionaries. He expressed satisfaction also that they were beginning to discover evidences of the Gospel spirit hidden beneath the accumulations and excrescences of their ancient church. He emphasized the importance of the educational work of the Americans in every province of the Empire, and finally paid a warm tribute for the noble and humane work of rescue carried on through hospitals and relief agencies. He mentioned by name Mr. Peet, Mr. Chambers and others who had done so much to alleviate suffering. Words like these from the lips of a sincere man who stands high in office and influence in the Armenian Church are well worth pondering.

At 4 o'clock an impressive service was held in Chambers Hall. President Tracy of Anatolia College preached an earnest sermon on Jesus Christ as the Rock Foundation. The other parts of the service were conducted by the Rev. Robert Frew of the Union Church of Pera. Following this the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by President David N. Beach of Bangor Seminary and Dr. George F. Herrick of Constantinople. Few are likely to forget the tenderly reminiscent character of Dr. Beach's words on this memorable occasion. Mr. Peet of Constantinople and Mr. Arakelyan of Boston acted as deacons. Shortly before sunset nearly all of the visitors and the missionaries went to Vespers at the Gregorian Armenian Church. The dim old Church, the altar lighted with tapers and the rays of the setting sun, and, for those who understood, the beautiful language of ancient Armenia in Psalms and prayer for God's protecting hand through the coming night, left a deep impress on the minds of all present. In the evening at an informal gathering in Chambers Hall a summary of Torkom Vartabed's address was given in English and some information about the organization of the Armenian National Church.

Those who were not too weary, after this strenuous day, had the pleasure of listening to some delightful vocal music by Miss Platt of Marsovan and Mr. Hartshorne of the Yale Divinity School. The following morning the missionaries from other Stations and the Cruise Party bade goodbye to their Bardzag hosts and hostesses and boarding the *Athena* sailed for Constantinople.

All those who have had the pleasure of welcoming these warmhearted friends from the Homeland to Turkey and of enjoying their helpful fellowship for a few days, unite in expressing their appreciation to Mr. Van Ogden Vogt, whose energy and leadership made the Cruise a reality and a success.

## ABSTRACT OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

W. T. M.

Held at Bardizag, Turkey, July 11 - 17th, 1910.

**DELEGATES** - CESAREA - Miss Dwight, Mr. Fowle.

CONSTANTINOPLE - Miss Jones, Mr. Allen.

ADABAZAR - Miss Kinney.

BARDIZAG - Mr. Ferguson.

BROUSA - Miss Powers.

MARSOVAN - Miss Platt, Dr. Tracy.

SIVAS - Miss Fowle, Mr. Perry, Mr. Partridge.

SMYRNA - Miss McCallum, Mr. Caldwell.

TREBIZOND - Dr. and Mrs. Crawford.

EX OFFICIO - *Treas.* - Mr. Peet.

*Sec.* - Mr. Riggs,

*Pub. Dep't* - Dr. Herrick.

**Also present** - Dr. and Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Fowle, Mrs. Perry, Mrs. E. D. Marden.

**Central Mission** - Rev. W. N. Chambers, Miss E. S. Webb.

**Eastern Mission** - Miss McLaren, Miss Bushnell, Miss Atkins.

*Chairman, Mr. Caldwell.*

**COMMITTEES:** - **Plans and Measures:** - Dr. Chambers, Mr. Perry, Dr. Crawford, Miss Platt, Miss Mills.

**Finance:** - Mr. Peet, Mr. Partridge, Miss Dwight.

**Press:** - Dr. Tracy, Mr. Fowle, Mrs. Crawford.

**Education:** - Mr. Ferguson, Miss McCallum, Miss Jones.

**Relig. Exercises:** - Mr. Perry, Miss McCallum, Miss Powers.

**Letter to Boston** - Dr. Crawford, Mrs. Perry.

• • **Am. Bible So.** - Mrs. Fowle, Mr. Allen.

• • **Am. Tract So.** - Miss Kinney, Mrs. Chambers.

• • **Bible Lands M. A. S.** - Dr. Herrick, Miss Fowle.

• • **Rel. Tract So.** - Miss Pohl, Mrs. Ferguson.

**Corresponding Members:** - Miss Pinneo, Miss Newnham, Mr. Carl Scheibel, Mr. L. P. Chambers, Rev. and Mrs. Crossley, Dr. W. S. Dodd, Dr. W. M. Post.

**Monday, July 11, 6-7.30 p.m.** Organization. Minutes of last year read, also letters from the Mission House.

**Tuesday, July 12, 9.30 to 12, and 2 to 4.30.** Committee appointed; minutes of Com. ad Interim read; Stations reports and report of Treasurer read.

**Wednesday, July 13.** Letter of appreciation from Eastern Mission regarding transfer of Rev. E. W. Riggs to that mission. (Acknowledged.) Letter from Mrs. Geo. L. Manning regarding formation of Bands of Mercy in schools and Colleges. (Highly commended, and Education Commission recommended that space be given in regular curriculum of each institution to course of study in this line.) Letter from Cesarea Station, with several requests. (Referred to Com. on Plans and Measures.) Letter from Central Evang. Union to Prudential Committee, asking for increased grant for general work in Turkey. (Endorsed and forwarded.) Letter from Cesarea station asking for Lt. 200 more from W. B. M. for Cesarea kindergarten building. (Forwarded, requesting cable reply, and Mr. Wingate authorized meanwhile to put

on roof.) Letter of Nev-Shehir Church regarding relations with Cesarea missionaries. (Answered by letter by special committee.) Rev. W. N. Chambers reported conditions in Central Turkey Mission. A committee was established, to consist of one person to be appointed by each station, to secure a contribution from W. T. M. toward erecting the proposed Memorial Church at Osmanieh, in memory of the murdered preachers. Letter from Dardanelles, asking Lstg. 100 for that chapel. (Request forwarded to Prudential Com., endorsed by Mission.) Letter from Nicomedia, asking for Lt. 200 for their church building. (Request forwarded to Prudential Com., endorsed by mission.) Committee on Sustentation for evangelical laborers reported action of Central Ev. Union proposing the following scheme:— From salary of each evangelical laborer, 2% to be reserved; the congregation to which he ministers to add 3% thereto; and this 5% to be put in hands of Mission Treasurer, Constantinople, to be deposited in a savings bank. A Com. of the Union to decide on cases presented for relief, and amounts to be asked for such relief. This scheme was recommended by the Mission to the Bithynia Union and the Greek Ev. Union for adoption.

Rev. and Mrs. P. J. S. Ferguson tendered their resignation as missionaries, on account of Mrs. Ferguson's poor health.

A proposition from Central Turkey Mission that an all Turkey Conference (i. e., of the 4 A. B. C. F. M. Missions) be held in June or July 1911, at some central point, perhaps Marsovan, to discuss various suggested problems, was referred, with the hearty endorsement of the Mission, to the Com. ad Interim for correspondence with all stations of 4 missions.

Resolutions of regret and of appreciation were passed on the retirement of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. J. K. Greene of Cons'ple, Miss Laura Farnham of Adabazar, and Mr. J. G. H. Carson of the Treasury Dep't.

Letters of sympathy were sent to Mr. Leopold Favre, on the death of his nephew, and to Mrs. H. N. Barnum, on the death of her husband.

*Thursday, July 14.* Dr. Herrick was appointed on the mission's Committee on Language Study, in place of Dr. Greene, to act with Dr. Barnum and Mr. Riggs; and these were instructed to outline a new course of study and suggest text books and arrange for examinations; a cooperating committee of two to be appointed in each station. The opening of a High School on the Black Sea Coast was deferred for the present; Dr. White was requested to visit Ordou and Trebizond before next Annual Meeting to study the problem and also its relation to Anatolia College and to the problem of work in Russia; and the Mission strougly urged the granting of £ 30 to strengthen the Greek work in Ordou by the appointment of a well qualified teacher.

After statements by Drs. Dodd and Post as to medical and other work in Konia and vicinity, the mission adopted the following.

For as much as by agreement between the American Board and the Talas Hospital Board, Konia has been indicated as a center for the medical missionary work of Doctors

Dodd and Post and their staff, and for as much as the Committee ad Interim has, on the approval of the stations, recognised the wisdom of the plan in the circumstances, but has left open the delimitation of the field in which Doctors Dodd and Post are to carry on their operations, the Committee on Plans and Measures recommends that the Mission welcome Doctors Dodd and Post to the occupancy of Konia, with the expectation that they will extend their activity to the neighboring unoccupied territory.

We recommend that these brethren be asked to state definitely their purpose to restrain their native workers as far as possible from unduly concerning themselves with the affairs of any congregation of the Cesarea field.

Deeply pained by the necessity which has arisen for this division is the Cesarea field, and earnestly hoping that, under the guidance of the Spirit of Love, cordial relations may eventually be reestablished, we recommend that the Mission suggest to the American Board, and the Talas Hospital Board the desirability of having this portion of the field remain as an integral part of American Board territory.

Furloughs in 1911 were requested for Rev. C. K. Tracy and family, and Rev. H. K. Wingate and family. The return at the expiration of their furloughs was requested, of Rev. H. M. Irwin and family, Rev. A. MacLachlan and family. Dr. C. E. Clark and family, Dr. and Mrs. Edward Riggs, and Miss Rice. An ordained man and his wife were called for, to fill the place of Dr. and Mrs. Greene at Constantinople; a second lady teacher for Brousa in place of Miss Allen; the appointment as missionaries of Mr. Lawson Chambers and fiancée in place of Rev. and Mrs. Ferguson at Bardizag; the sending of Mr. Cross or another as tutor at Bardizag in place of Mr. McDonald; the sending of Miss Gage to Marsovan as a fifth teacher; the appointment of a lady teacher to Marsovan in place of Miss Jaynes; a lady missionary for Smyrna Coll. Inst., in place of Miss Jillson, transferred to Brousa; the transfer of Rev. and Mrs. J. P. McNaughton to Brousa, on condition that the place at Smyrna be not left vacant; a new medical missionary to be located at Brousa, the Kaya Bashi property being available and also the outfit left by Dr. Carrington; a new medical missionary for Talas (and a letter of invitation to Talas was sent to Dr. E. St. J. Ward of Diarbekir), in place of Drs. Dodd and Post; also a trained nurse for Talas; a new man for Marsovan, in view of the increasing work there and of the advancing years of the senior members of that station; the previous agreement for the transfer of Mr. and Mrs. Macallum to the Publication Dept. was also insisted upon.

Miss Cole was designated to Trebizond; Miss Holt to Adabazar, and Miss Kellogg to Gedik Pasha, Constantinople. Permission was requested for Wilson Fowle, aged 14, to go to America.

The Estimates were considered in Committee of the whole, and were adopted by the meeting.

*Friday, July 15.* In response to a letter from the missionaries at Alexandria, voted to open subscription in the *Avedaper* for help in work for Armenian immigrants there.

The Education Commission recommended:— (a) that Miss Pohl and Dr. Chambers prepare a model course of study for common schools, and a list of recommended text books, and report next year; (b) that Dr. White and Mr. Wingate investigate the relations between high schools, and between them and our colleges, prepare a suggested course of study for high schools, and sets of model examination papers for high schools and college entrance, and report next year; (c) that Miss Willard and Miss Pohl outline a course of normal study for introduction into high school curricula, and report next year; (d) that our institutions adapt their courses of study to the present conditions in Turkey so as to meet government requirements toward official recognition of our graduates (especially in Ottoman history, political science and the Turkish language); (e) that practical subjects and manual training, agriculture, sericulture, engineering, sanitation etc., be given more importance; (f) that our teachers be helped to do extension work by popular lectures, newspaper and periodical articles, clubs, evening classes, and cooperating with the government in disseminating hygienic and other information. The Commission is further to study (1) military drill in our institutions, (2) the system of equivalents, (3) bands of mercy. From the lump sum of appropriations to the Mission for 1911, Lt. 25 is to be taken before the appropriations are divided, to cover traveling, printing, and other expenses of this Commission.

An annual financial statement is hereafter to be required from the Greek Ev. Union by the treasurer of Smyrna Station, as to grants from Board Funds, and amounts given by churches thus helped. A request from the Cilicia Union, that the subscription list of the Turkish *Avedaper* be turned over to them in the interests of a new paper under a different name to be published by them, was referred to the Publication Dep't.; and for the consideration of this subject and connected questions, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Mission were appointed to act with the gentlemen of that Dep't.

In view of the important work and inadequate funds of the Sivas Normal School, the Mission strongly emphasized the request for Lt. 200 additional, in the estimates, for this School.

Mr. L. P. Chambers, Traveling Secretary of the Y.M.C.A., gave by request a report of his work; and on his announcement that Mr. Jacob had been appointed College Traveling Sec. for Turkey, and Mr. Davis Gen'l Sec. for Constantinople, the mission extended to these two gentlemen a cordial welcome when they shall come.

*Saturday, July 16.* The letters to various societies were read and endorsed.

Dr. Herrick offered the following resolution, which was adopted:— (1) That the Mission put on record its conviction that the time has fully come for the uniting of the Theological Seminaries of the Turkish Missions in one institution. (2) That a special Committee be appointed to correspond with Boston and with the other Missions in regard to this question during the coming year, in the hope that within a year the question of the location of the new institution, and all other conditions of its successful opening, may be settled.

Dr. Crawford was authorized to go to Marsovan in the Fall, to help that station until the return of Dr. White.

A resolution of appreciation of the delightful fellowships and helpful communions enjoyed during the meeting at Bardizag, and of cordial thanks to our hosts and hostesses, was unanimously adopted by standing vote.

Officers for the coming year:

*Treasurer*— Mr. PEET,  
*Auditors*— Dr. BOWEN and Mr. RIGGS,  
*Secretary*— Mr. RIGGS,  
*Librarian*— Mr. RIGGS.

Trustees of Mission Theol. Sem..

The gentlemen of Marsovan Station, and Mr. Fowle and Dr. Crawford.

Committee ad Interim, —

The gentlemen of Constantinople Station, Miss Jones, Miss Jilson and Miss Kinney.

Committee on Publication, — The Committee ad Interim.

*Preacher for 1911* — Rev. EDWARD RIGGS, D.D.

*Alternate* — Rev. Mr. HOLBROOK.

A committee to correspond with all stations in Turkey with reference to the human, or race problem in the Empire, and report to the Com. ad Interim, as follows:—

Messrs. Peet, Riggs, White, McNaughton, Crawford, Wingate, and Partridge.

Committee on Uniting Theol. Seminaries, —

Dr. Herrick, Dr. Tracy, and the Secretary.

The minutes were read and approved, and ordered printed in resumé in the *Orient*, with a suggestion that the other Turkey missions do likewise.

*Sunday, July 17.* About fifty members of a cruising party on the steam yacht *Athena* were present at Bardizag, and the following services were held:—

9 a. m. — Rev. H. T. Perry presiding; Chambers Hall

Addresses on the work of the various Turkey Missions—

Western, — Rev. E. C. Partridge.

Eastern, — Rev. H. M. Allen.

Central, — Rev. W. N. Chambers.

European, — W. W. Peet, Esq.

10.30 a. m. — Protestant Church,

Rev. Dr. Day of Los Angeles preached on Job 19: 28

Dr. Der Stepanian translating into Armenian.

1: 30 p. m. — Gregorian school "Lusaran," before the Y.M.C.A.

Rev. H. P. Beach of Yale University, on "China's Message to the Y. M. C. A."

Dr. Der Stepanian translating into Armenian.

4 p. m. — Chambers Hall

The Annual Sermon, by Rev. C. C. Tracy, D.D. of Marsovan, on "Let us Rise up and Build," — Neh. 2: 18.

The Communion Service. Conducted by

Rev. G. F. Herrick D.D., of Constantinople, and Rev. David Beach D.D., Pres. of Bangor Seminary.

Deacons, — Mr. Arakelyan of Boston.

Mr. W. W. Peet.

CHARLES T. RIGGS,

*Secretary.*

## THE EDINBURGH CONFERENCE.

### CLOSING SCENES.

On Wednesday the time was given largely to discussion of the report on the Preparation of Missionaries.

Thursday was the last day. The following paragraphs taken from an article in the *Scotsman* give some idea of the sessions that brought the Conference to a fitting close.

The greatest of all Missionary Conferences came to-night to an end, in a scene of much impressiveness and solemnity. Edinburgh will henceforth have a great place in the history of the expansion of Christianity. Dr. Arthur J. Brown, of New York, did not use the language of extravagance when he said that "Edinburgh had been identified with a gathering that would be considered by future historians as the most remarkable assemblage of the people of God that this world had yet seen." To-day the Conference resolved to send a message to the Christian Church in Christian lands. These messages are couched in dignified and worthy terms. "The next ten years will in all probability constitute a turning point in human history," says the first message "and may be of more critical importance in determining the spiritual evolution of mankind than many centuries of ordinary experience." And to the missionaries the Conference says—"We thank God for the longing after unity which is so prominent among you, and is one of our deepest longings to-day. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for all the inspiration that your example has brought us in our homelands." Right noble messages are these which go forth from Edinburgh to the uttermost ends of the earth to cheer the lonely toilers in alien climes.

The last of the great mission reports was submitted to-day, that on the "Home Base of Missions." Rev. Dr. J. L. Barton, Boston, submitted the report in a speech of characteristic American directness. He carried conviction when he said that the question resolved itself into the condition of the Church at home. If only the Church were spiritually alive and alert there would be no lack of men and money.

To-day one tried to gather up the impressions of these last ten days. The foremost is that a great step has been taken towards the realisation of greater unity, if not union, among the Reformed Churches. It is a great step forward to have the dignitaries of the Anglican Church taking part freely with Christians of every order and class. It is a matter of congratulation that the great Anglican Communion has shaken itself loose from the pathetic policy of isolation. No speakers spoke with greater power than the Bishops of Birmingham and Southwark. Those who hitherto knew but little of the Anglican Church felt its power. One felt also how great an education it was for the Anglican dignitaries to listen there to some of the greatest theologians and thinkers of the world outside their pale. They sat among a crowd of many races and many forms of faith—and they were one with them. Whatever other good this Conference will do, it has at least done this good—it has given missions a place in the common consciousness of the common man such as they

never had before. The spectacle presented by the Conference, the meetings growing larger day by day, the three great halls in the city being night after night filled simultaneously, the impression made by seeing and hearing some of the ablest and keenest brains in the world set themselves to solve the question of how to make the Christian ideal operative throughout the whole world; the way in which the public Press reflected the aroused interest—all that has brought home to the man in the street the fact that the greatest uplift in the world to-day is the work of Christian missions. The men who would stand up and because of some outworn theory would justify separation from their brethren—they will find the words die on their lips. For this Conference has made again audible the cry of the Lord that His followers may be one—and the cry has evoked a passionate yearning for the day when the power of a United Church will be manifested in the world. When Dr. Mott asked the greatest audience that has assembled in Edinburgh for many a day to dedicate themselves to this work—and sudden silence filled the hall—that was the supreme moment of the wonderful Conference. All of a sudden the unseen became real to a great crowd. The city of God and the palaces there of glowed and gleamed—and they are not afar.

These were the last words sung:—

Now blessed be the Lord our God,  
The God of Israel.

For He alone doth wondrous works  
In glory that excel;

And blessed be His glorious name  
To all eternity.

The whole earth let His glory fill,  
Amen, so let it be.

And with these words of triumph still ringing in our ears men and women, hushed and still, poured out into a night in which the lamps glowed through a haze. In their heart they felt the throbbing of the passion which will win the world. And in the coming days they will carry the glow of it and the quickening of it to the ends of the earth. Thus the great Conference of Edinburgh will usher in a new day over all the world.

## THE ARMENIAN PATRIARCH'S TRIBUTE.

### A LETTER TO MR. PEET.

We were grieved to hear of the death of Miss Shattuck, a worthy member of the American Mission. Our national annals will ever record her devoted services and the supreme efforts she made in Ourfa, during the calamities of 1895, to save the wretched victims from massacre and not to allow the remnant of the bloodwashed people, miraculously escaped from certain death, to perish from famine. Amid those dismal scenes of massacre and ruin Miss Shattuck, impelled by the spirit of Christian charity and heroically inspired by the unspeakable miseries undergone by a multitude of innocent and helpless people—men and women and children—faced and fought all alone the murderers who were butchering the poor creatures as though

they were sheep. Miss Fraser also in her time, animated purely by a humanitarian spirit and with no other motive whatever, rendered very important services in the days of massacre and terror at Van. And was it possible to cherish a different spirit toward the Armenian people, who were being martyred in the name of Christianity and who, bearing all and suffering in patience, worked for the civilization of the country?

Blessing the memory of these two persons, a memory cherished and honored in our nation, we beg you to convey our deep sympathy and condolences to those to whom they are due.

We pray that the benevolent and Christian spirit that was in them may be the guide of all who are called to the same field of labor, the service to suffering people, and that the blessing of God may rest upon their labors.

We remain with prayers,

YEGHISHE TOURIAN,

*Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople.*

#### MEDICAL WORK AT BUSRAH.

Four months of last year were spent in going to Stamboul for our hospital Iradé, which happily has terminated successfully, so that eight months of solid work were reported.

There were 13,562 treatments given in the dispensary of which 4,632 were new cases. We performed 601 operations of all kinds, 411 of which were kept in our rented hospital wards. Of these 244 were eye operations and the rest were major and minor surgical operations. There was a mortality of slightly over 1% of the whole.

Five prominent sheiks were treated and the fees turned in by those who could pay amounted to Rs. 12,674, or \$4,114.

This spring the Vali told me that he would officially lay the corner-stone for the new hospital and so when the appointed day came, he summoned the Commander of the troops Ghamal Pasha and the commander of the Persian Gulf Gun-boat fleet Hookmet Pasha, besides innumerable other officers and the band, to take part in the celebration. The Vali made his speech which was translated into Arabic by his dragoman, and then I replied to him in an Arabic written-speech, which I of course read, then Abed El Wahab Pasha spoke very highly of our work and Rev. James E. Moerdyk our clergyman closed the exercises with prayer. It was an impressive gathering and goes to show how far the liberty of the Young Turks has reached. We feel ourselves in the farthest corner of the Empire, but we are beginning to realize that true progress has arrived in the shape of our Vali, Suleiman Nazif Bey.

We are established in Koweit and have a dispensary running there all the time with an attendance ranging from 20 to 90 per morning. Wherever a doctor is employed here as a Christian Missionary he can keep busy most of the time. Medical work is, of course, only a means to an end, and if we do not constantly keep this in mind we lose the real purpose of our coming.

ARTHUR K. BENNETT,

## EMPIRE NEWS.

### The Capital.

CONSTITUTION DAY. On the 23<sup>d</sup> of July the people of Turkey celebrated for the second time the revival of the Ottoman Constitution. Extensive preparations had been made to make the day a memorable one. The streets of the Capital, public buildings, stores, and residences were gay with red and green flags. Banners of every hue and shape, bearing all kinds of patriotic mottoes were being sold at every corner together with a great variety of fire works. Many thousands went out to Liberty Hill to pay their tribute of respect to the brave soldiers who died to save the city at the time of the Mutiny, but the great event of the day was to be the Naval Review at the mouth of the Bosphorus. Seraglio Point, always picturesque with its background of marble kiosks set in dark foliage and generally deserted, was on Saturday the liveliest and brightest spot in all the city. From this point the parade could be seen to the greatest advantage. The tents erected here and there, the booths of sellers of every variety of food and cooling drinks, the intermingling of European and Asiatic costumes, the gay colors of the *tcharshafs* of the Turkish women, who had a special place assigned to them, made a brilliant scene such as even Constantinople seldom affords. The view on the water between this historic point and what was once Chalcedon was no less interesting. Every variety of craft from the graceful birdlike caique to modern steamers, large and small, rocked gently on the current and waited in anticipation of the coming event. Special steamers had been chartered for the members of Parliament, high officials of the Government, the foreign diplomatic corps, and the Press. Finally a volley of cannon announced that the Imperial Yacht had left Dolma Baghtche with His Majesty the Sultan on board. When the *Ertoghrul* arrived at the place of review the Navy was not yet in sight. Three quarters of an hour passed when at last the patience of the unnumbered thousands on sea and shore was rewarded. The gray hulls of the warships loomed up through the haze of the Marmora, and shortly after the silence was broken by the roar of cannon fired from each ship. About twenty ships, large and small, passed the Imperial Yacht in single file into the Bosphorus where they anchored. In the evening the illuminations on the warships and along the quays presented a scene of rare brilliance and beauty and was enjoyed by enthusiastic thousands far into the night. The Khedive of Egypt was the Sultan's guest at the review and in the evening at the Palace.

This celebration made at least two things evident. The enthusiasm of the Ottomans for the Constitution is steadily increasing, due no doubt to the confidence that it has come to stay. It is also plain that the patriotism of the people is being directed toward the Navy by the leaders, who realize that Turkey's future will depend largely on the strength and efficiency of its Navy. One cannot help regretting however

that this necessity of spending millions of pounds for engines of war is due to an international policy in which Christian nations are the leaders.

At a meeting of the Synod and Mixed Council in the Greek Patriarchate it was decided to call a National Council with reference to the contested churches and schools in Macedonia and, in case permission to hold the Council is refused, to close all churches, schools and monasteries and present the resignation of the Patriarch the Synod and the Council.

On Sunday, July 24, the Tashnagists attempted to hold a meeting the Armenian Church of the Holy Trinity, contrary to the decision of the Catholikos and the Council. The determined opposition of the people and the counsels of the Patriarch caused them to desist, but they declare their intention of holding meetings in the churches.

Among the 300 persons condemned for various offences and pardoned by the Sultan on Constitution Day is Bishop Moushekh of Adana. He was under heavy sentence as an agitator. At the time of the massacre he was absent in Egypt and is now in Paris.

The Government has just purchased in Germany a Dreadnought of 17,000 tons displacement. Plans are being made to purchase another vessel of the same type which has a displacement of 19,000 tons.

Ten of the twenty armed revenue cutters ordered for the protection of Turkey's trade will be built in the Government Navy Yard.

By imperial sanction a new order of decoration has been created. It will be known as *Meziat* (order of merit) with five degrees and will be bestowed on those who render signal services to the country. It will rank above the *Osmanieh* and *Medjidieh* decorations.

### THE PROVINCES.

Vartgess Effendi, Armenian Deputy from Erzroom, was received in Erzroom with unusual honors. The Vali and other high officials went out two hours' distance to meet him.

The Moslem people of Aleppo received with great ceremony a hair from the Prophet's beard which the Sultan had presented to a certain mosque of the city.

The silk crop of Brousa is only one half of the amount produced last year.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* is authority for the following figures as showing the present population of Turkey. Total population 25,000,000; 6 1/2 million in Roumelia, 17 1/2 million in Anatolia, and one million in Africa. One half the population in Roumelia is Moslem, the majority being Turks. The Albanians are almost equal to the Turks in number. The Greeks in Roumelia are a little over one million. Then come the Bulgarians 700,000, the Serbs 700,000, the Jews 190,000, the Armenians 150,000, and the Vlacks 100,000. The Greeks in Anatolia number one million, the Armenians 1,250,000, the Koords 1,250,000, the Arabs 5,000,000, and the Turks 7,500,000. Jews, Yezidees, and other nationalities make up the remaining million.

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