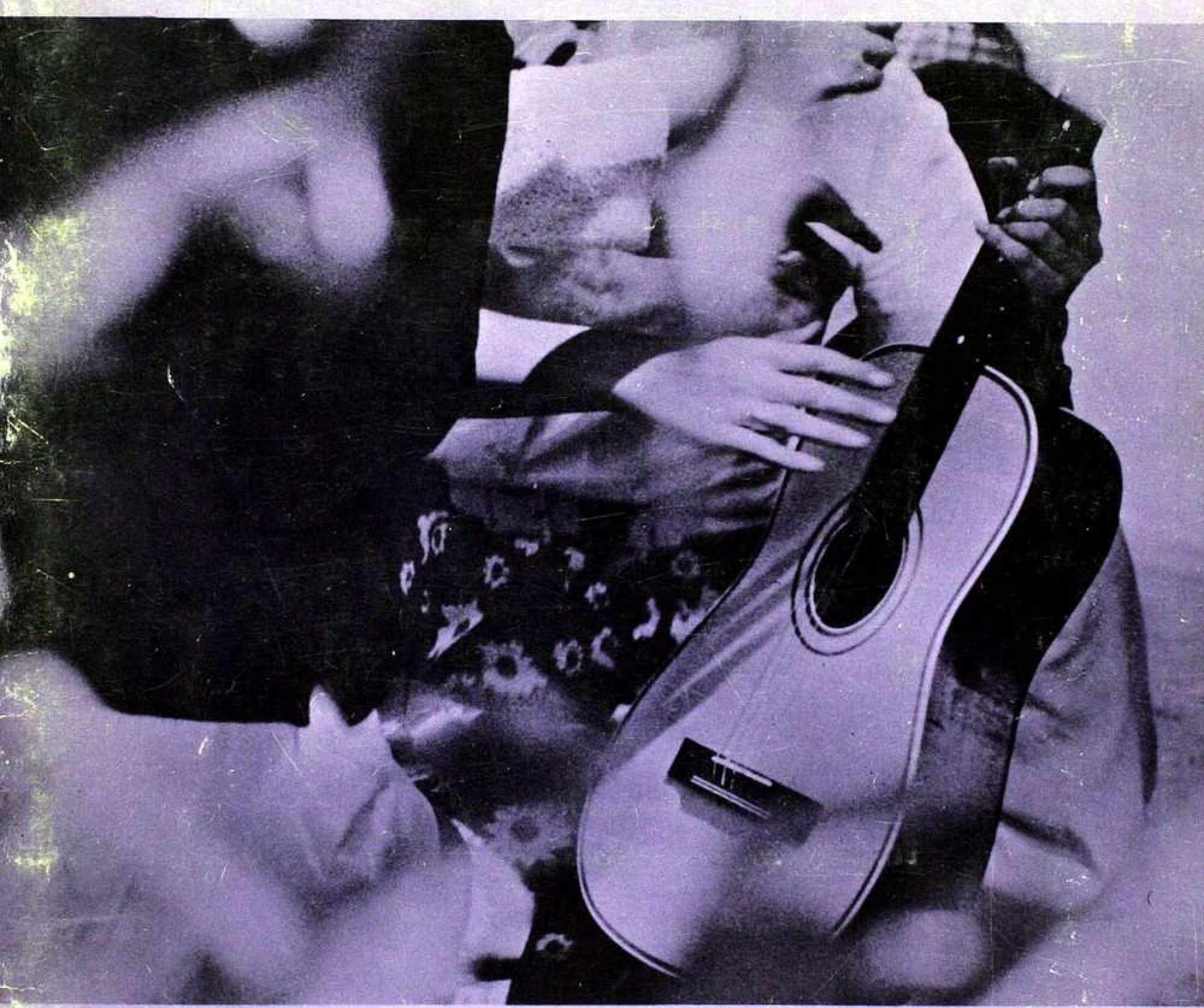
ALUMNAE IN MUSIC



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OLYMPIC AIRWAYS

ALMA MATER
ÖZ OKULUM

For the Alumni of the American Board School in Turkey

«Zaman olur ki hayâli cihan değer»

Vol: III Spring 1970 No. 1

Senede dört defa çıkar

ALMA MATER - ÖZ OKULUM

Amerikan Bord Okulları mezunları için

Sahibi ve Mes'ul Müdürü

Yılmaz Poda

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Published by the American Board Schools in Turkey

Address : P. K. 142, Istanbul

Printed by Çeltüt Matbaacılık Koll. Şti. İstanbul

Dear Readers,

In this issue we are continuing the theme of Alumni in the Arts, this time concentrating on music. Of special interest is the fact that one of our performers is graduating from AKL this spring and will be among our newest alumni.

We are especially pleased with the quality of the student reporting in this issue. The honesty and frankness with which they are able to write is commendable. The purpose of these reports from students is to give older alumni an insight into the present day thinking and life in our Board schools. As Miss Morgan points out in her letter, this is one way in which we can close the «generation gap» of misunderstanding due to lack of communication.

Another interesting feature is the article about the new cookbook in Turkish **Aile Sofrası.** We congratulate this group of AKL alumnae, who with one of their former teachers, has collaborated on such an enterprise. Perhaps other small groups of alumni will be encouraged to undertake similar projects. It is when drawn together by common, current interests as well as by memories of past school days that alumni fellowship is strengthened and becomes more meaningful.

Pleasant reading to you,

Mary Alice Shepard

Editor

Music, Music, Music

AKL Musicians

ESİN DÜREN SÜNKİTAY

Esin Düren Sünkitay, (AKL '55) acquired an early appreciation of the arts from her parents, who were amateurs in writing, painting and music. When she began composing music at the age of six, her enthusiasm was dampened by the discipline of exercises. However, this study prepared her for her first concert, a Chopin program, at the age of nine. At eleven, she played Rachmaninoff preludes on the Ankara radio as a guest artist.

She won third prize in an international competition of art instruction from Illinois in the United States. After one year at the Istanbul Conservatory, she continued private lessons in piano with Ferdi Statzer and in theory with Şefik Gürmeriç.

After graduation from AKL and her marriage to Ercan Sünkitay, Esin lived in Ankara where she studied with Mithat Fenmen and was accompanist for Bayan Fenmen's ballet school.

She has given concerts in the Sanat Sevenler Club and III Tiyatro in Ankara, at the **Izmir Maarif Koleji**, as well as playing a number of times on the radio.

In 1963, Esin was graduated from the **Ankara State Conservatory** with a prime degree and in 1965 she played with the Presidential Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Gotthold Lessing. The following year she continued her studies at the **Munich State Conservatory.**

Esin has two children, Amet, ten, and Ayşe Eren, two. At present she gives private lessons and is preparing for a concert.

She finds time to write or translate articles on music. Her writings have appeared in **«Ayşe»** a new monthly cultural magazine for women published in Ankara.

This magazine was founded by Halide Nusret Zorlutuna and is edited by her daughter, Emine Işinsu Okçu. Esin's writings include a poem, **«Kin»** and articles entitled **«Kadında Ses Güzelliği»** and **«Bestecinin Yaratıcı Kişiliği»**.

Esin feels that if people are to truly appreciate any of the arts they must have a certain basic understanding about them. «Being more specialized in music, I believe it my duty, as well as my delight, to enlighten people of all ages on the dark spots of musical understanding.» Esin believes that most listeners approach music with emotion rather than intellect. Because she feels that we do not enjoy a thing unless we understand it, Esin is working on a book which will be a guide to musical enjoyment. By this means, she hopes that those who are now deprived of an appealing musical library in their native language may be led along the path toward greater enjoyment and delight in music.

YILDIZ YAKUT TEKELİ

«Skillfully and with utmost obedience, she interpreted works of Beethoven, Chopin and Liszt, proving her talent in this sector of the art she cultivates».

«... She gave to a selected audience the opportunity to observe a deeply rooted musical talent...»

Such congratulatory notices have appeared after performances of **Yıldız Yalkut Tekeli** (AKL '57) who studied piano from the age of eight. In addition to recitals before live audiences, Yıldız has been a regular performer on the **Istanbul Technical University** radio and television. She has prepared and introduced their classical music programs.

She is particularly interested in interpreting the works of classical, romantic and modern composers. Among her favorites are Beethoven, Schumann, Ravel, Orff, and Prokofiev. In addition to preparing for these programs, Yıldız enjoys giving private piano lessons. She lives with her husband, Vural Tekeli in Osmanbey, Istanbul.

BANU SÖZÜAR

After a recent music meeting, the girls and I gathered around the piano in the Round House as is our custom. Most of the girls play the piano, several of them very well, but usually we listen to **Banu Sözüar.** We were still overwhelmed by the beauty of her playing at her March 20th concert with the Istanbul City Orchestra at the Şan Sineması.

On this particular day I told Banu that I had been asked to interview her for ALMA MATER.

«What shall I ask you? I've never conducted an interview before.» I said.

«A lady from the newspaper interviewed me the other day. I'll tell you what questions she asked, O K?» Banu answered.

«And we'll help too!» volunteered the other girls.

Answers to the «usual» questions produced this information. Banu was born in Istanbul in 1952. Her interest in music began early when she listened to her mother's piano lessons. One day, when she was about three years old, Banu informed her mother's teacher «You know, my mother plays better than you do.»!

Banu began her musical training at the Istanbul Conservatory when she was six and a half years old by studying piano, theory and harmony. At present she is continuing her harmony studies with Razid Abed and piano with Özen Vazınoğlu. Last summer in Vienna, Banu attended Master Classes for Pianists with three world-famous pianists, Alfred Brendel, George Demus and Paul Badura Skoda. She has also studied with Bruno Seidlhofer and Hans Graf. If her plans work out, Banu will be able to absorb all the music which that city has to offer next year.

For a 17 year old, Banu's list of credits is impressively long. She has given concerts at **Radio House** in Istanbul, at the **Fine Arts Academy** with the Conservatory Orchestra, at **Robert College** and the **Şişli Lisesi** as well as at AKL. She has also appeared on Ankara Television. At her recent Şan Sineması concert, Banu performed piano concertos by Beethoven and Liszt. As soon as she appeared on stage in her long white gown, the audience knew that they might expect delicate subtleties of playing. But none of us, even those who had heard her before, were prepared for the

fire and brilliance of her playing that evening. Banu combines the strength and vitality one usually associates with a man's playing with the refinement and daintiness of a lady.

«We know you like Chopin and Faure very much, but which other composers do you most enjoy playing?» one girl asked.

«Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, Bartok and Bach are my other favorites,» replied Banu.

Her favorite pianists are Samsun François, Sviatoslav Richter, Alfred Brendel, Paul Badura-Skoda and Vladmir Horowitz.

«Do you want to know about my hobbies, Miss Biro?»

«With all your school work and your practicing do you really have time for hobbies?»

«Sure! I like to listen to records and read.»

«And swim in the summer!» one girl added.

It has been my pleasure to work with Banu this year. She has been an excellent and responsible president of the Music Branch. I am eagerly looking forward to our recital together, here at AKL in May. Come and hear for yourself this exceptionally talented, future alumna of AKL.

Elizabeth Biro

AKL Music Department

ACI Musicians

AYŞE KARABECE

Ayşe Karabece (ACI '63) is still in Vienna studying at the Conservatory there. We hear that she hopes to return with her degree next year. She was helped to get a start by the Alumnae Association. Since then she has been working (once as a disk-jockey) and studying at the same time. So, it has taken several years to complete the task she set for herself. We are looking forward to her return, for we feel she has a great deal to say to us with her music.

YÜCEL ÖZYEMİŞCİ NURAL

In the field of voice, **Yücel Özyemişçi Nural**, who left ACI in 1941, started to study in Italy, but was persuaded to leave it for marriage.

JÂLE GÜRSOY SALTUK

Another former student, **Jale Gürsoy Saltuk** has continued her work in voice since her ACI days. While she has not graduated from a specific academy program, she has trained her voice to give joy and delight to many and we hope to hear her in Izmir someday. She is living in Pendik, Istanbul.

TOMRİS YALAZ OSİS

Tomris Yalaz Osis (ACI '55) went to study at the State Conservatory in Munich from which she graduated in 1960. While she was in ACI, the **Conservatory** in Izmir was just becoming established. For a while students like **Tomris** and **Oya Demir** could get degrees both from the Conservatory and from ACI. (**Guliz** and **Deniz Sarmat were** the last ones to able to do this as the Conservatory wanted to have students full time.)

Tomris' specialty is piano and her playing gives joy to many. She has given recitals in Munich, in Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir. Her concert with the Izmir Symphony at ACI last spring was a delight to all who came. Incidentally, it helped the central heating fund as it was sponsored by the *Koruma Derneği*. She hopes to continue her career as a concert pianist, though at present she is involved with a family and teaching pupils at her home. It is a delight to ACI to have her and her husband settle in Izmir.

A WORD OF TRIBUTE

We are proud of our teachers, professors, doctors, architects, engineers, lawyers, and business administration graduates - to say nothing of homemakers. But I must admit to a special feeling of closeness to those who have the courage to go out into the arts, a field that is hard to conquer especially from the financial angle. These people must believe strongly in their talent, for it is only a maturing civilization that will believe in the arts enough to be willing to spend for them. These artists, whatever their line of expression, have to count on their own maturity to face difficulties and on the maturity of the environment within which they find themselves. May none of them be discouraged and may they all enrich the life of Turkey.

Lynda Blake

TAC 25th Anniversary Class

Of the men in the class of 1945 three are in agriculture and living and working in Tarsus: **Ertuğrul Tars, Turhan** and **Orhan Uygur. Ali Alptekin** also continues to live in Tarsus. He teaches English and is assistant principal at the new **Cengiz Topel Lisesi.** Ali Bey taught at his Alma Mater for a while and served as assistant principal at TAC, as well.

Muammer San is Personnel Manager of Güney Sanay in Adana. **Ertuğrul Deniz** is a prominent businessman in İskenderun.

In Ankara are: **Orhan Tece** who works with the American AID Mission and **Oktay İşçen** who is Director of Information in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, one of many alumni in that Ministry.

Kemâl Özger is in business in Istanbul, but we do not have his address.

Feyyaz Ergin is deceased.

Of the following men we have no recent news: **Naci Bayatlıoğlu, Bedri Canlı, Ali Zülfü Gürişik, Zahit Homurlu, Niyazi, Özbelli, İlmittin Tunca, Hüseyin Yeşilkaya.** Who can tell us about them?

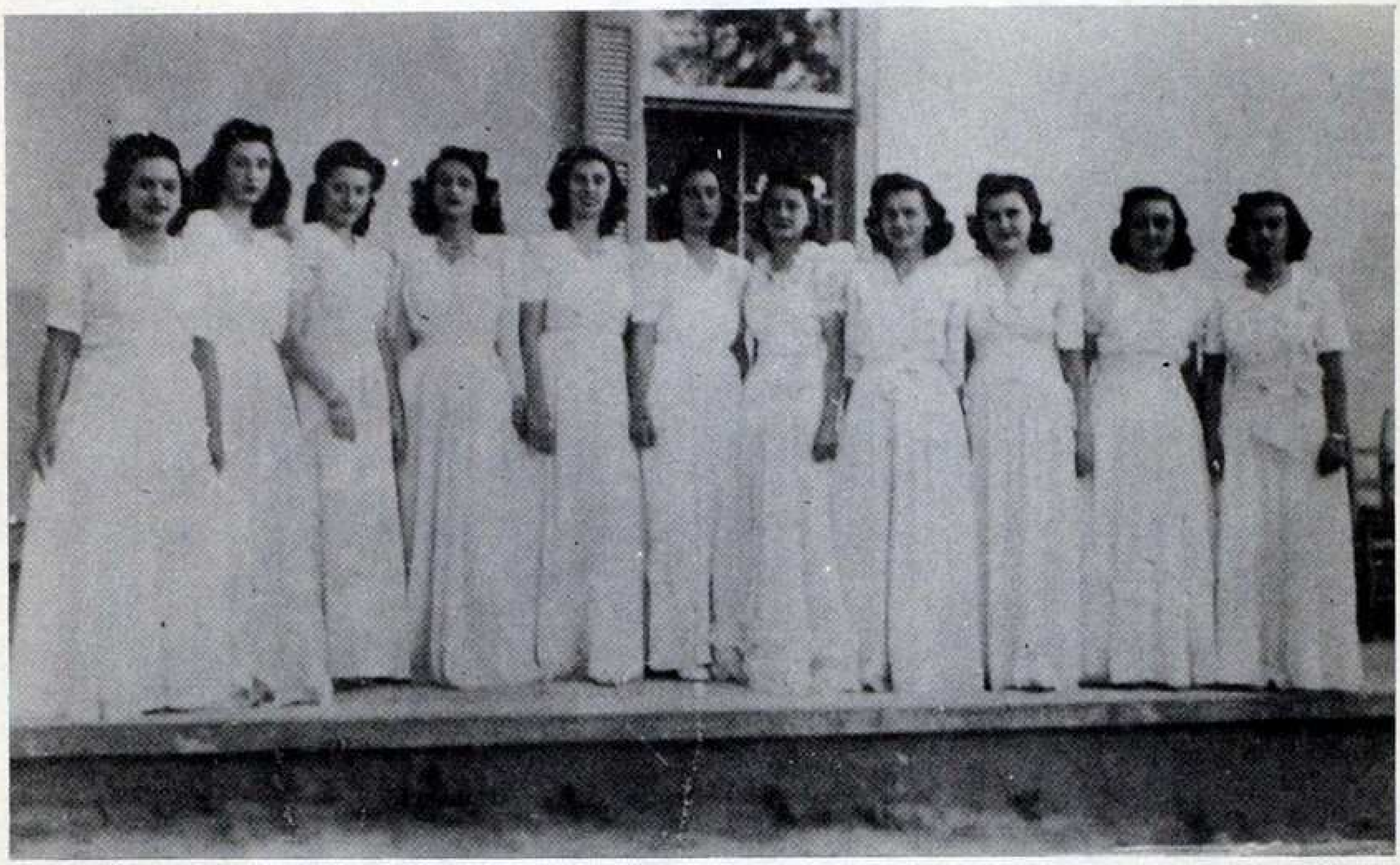
We congratulate the class of 1945 on their twenty-fifth anniversary of graduation from Tarsus American College and shall be pleased to have them visit their Alma Mater. What changes will they notice?

Do you recognize anyone?

Can you remember how it felt?

UPKAY
UN LİSESİ

ACI 25th Anniversary Class



As we were then

We were eleven in June 1945 as we stepped out from school into a nation maintaining a precarious neutrality in the midst of World War II. What did we find in this wide world?

Personal joy and fulfillment. Sooner or later, each of us was married. Our husbands' interests cover a wide range of professions: two merchants, a sales manager for Swissair, an engineer, a dental surgeon, a medical doctor, a businessman, a transportation manager, a lawyer, a director in a pharmaceutical firm.

We have an average of two children each. (**Yolande** excepted, and with **Rejin**'s one balanced by **Sevim Say**'s three.) A perfect total of nine girls and nine boys.

Today, eight of us live in Izmir, **Sevim K.** is in Ankara, and two went to South America. One of these, **Ester Jerusalmi Franco**, is no longer physically with us, though when her husband and children visited Izmir this spring, those who saw them felt very close in spirit to Ester. From **Julya** we have not yet received an answer to our questionnaire.

Only **Sevim Karatekin Somer** seems to have received a formal university degree, Dil Tarih in Ankara. However, **Eti** has by dint of steady hard work, received a special degree in French from the Sorbonne. And she has a pen-name as well, Bülent Ersoy. Under that name she has published some stories.

Our farmerette is **Çiçek**, who enjoys all types of *küçük baş* animals at her Balçova home with its generous garden.

Suzette, Dora and **Yolande** worked before their marriage, but since marriage, only **Maryet** reports working outside the home. However, all of us are committed to good works of various kinds, which we enjoy and feel are essential to our well-being. To the call for alumnae volunteers, **Dora** has responded by offering two afternoons a week in the ACI bookstore or library.

Most of us have travelled in Turkey; **Yolande** the most extensively in pursuit of archeological treasures. Most of us have been to Europe but the distance prize goes to **Maryet** for her visit to Japan and Alaska, courtesy of Swissair.

Four of us have shared ACI with our daughters. **Maryet**'s Anita graduated in 1969, **Rejin**'s Anet is due to graduate in 1970, **Suzette**'s Julyet hopes for 1970, and **Dora**'s Roza graduates from Orta III this year.

Sorrow has touched us all. **Sevim K.**'s daughter, **Yolande**'s mother and our class loss of **Ester** are most poignantly in mind at present. Thus we know the depths of life as well as its heights.

We recall our school days with nostalgia and pride. Says **Rejin**, «I cannot remember. Didn't we ever worry? Did we ever study?»

As we are now

Here are some bits of advice to coming generations from various members of the class. Can you guess who made each statement?

«Try to get the best out of school and you will find it easy to get the best out of life.»

«I don't know whether my advice would be for the children or the parents, because I believe that by wanting to protect our children too much and heaping upon them all the good things without their having to lift their little fingers, we have an irresponsible generation on our hands. Most young people today feel everything they get is their due. I should want them to work harder and try to deserve things and to have ideals to strive for instead of just wanting the ease and comfort of modern life.»

«Today's youth must work hard because education is very important nowadays.»

«Be ambitious for what you can do about yourself, but do not envy others. You can only be at peace with yourself if you root out all feelings of hatred.»

«I hope the youth of today won't forget the obligations of their sex when they are trying to imitate the other sex or trying to catch up with the unisex mode.»

And so you have a composite picture of the class of 1945. Because we were a unit in school and in today's world, we feel a strong, mutual interest in each other. We enjoyed meeting together for our Class Luncheon on March 12. As a token of our appreciation of what we received at ACI, we have pledged an anniversary gift to the **AKK Eğitim Fonu** (Memorial Endowment Fund) of 1000 TL., to be presented on May Day. We say «token» because the treasures of our years at ACI are in our hearts.

Class of 1945 :

Çiçek Özilgen Dokuzeylül
Dora Arditi Hakmen
Ester Bemoaras Kohen
Julya Hayim Alazraki
Maryet Nahum Gabay
Rejin Kori Bankman
Sevim Gürsoy Say
Sevim Karatekin Somer
Suzette Franco Lereya
Yolande Depolo Fercken

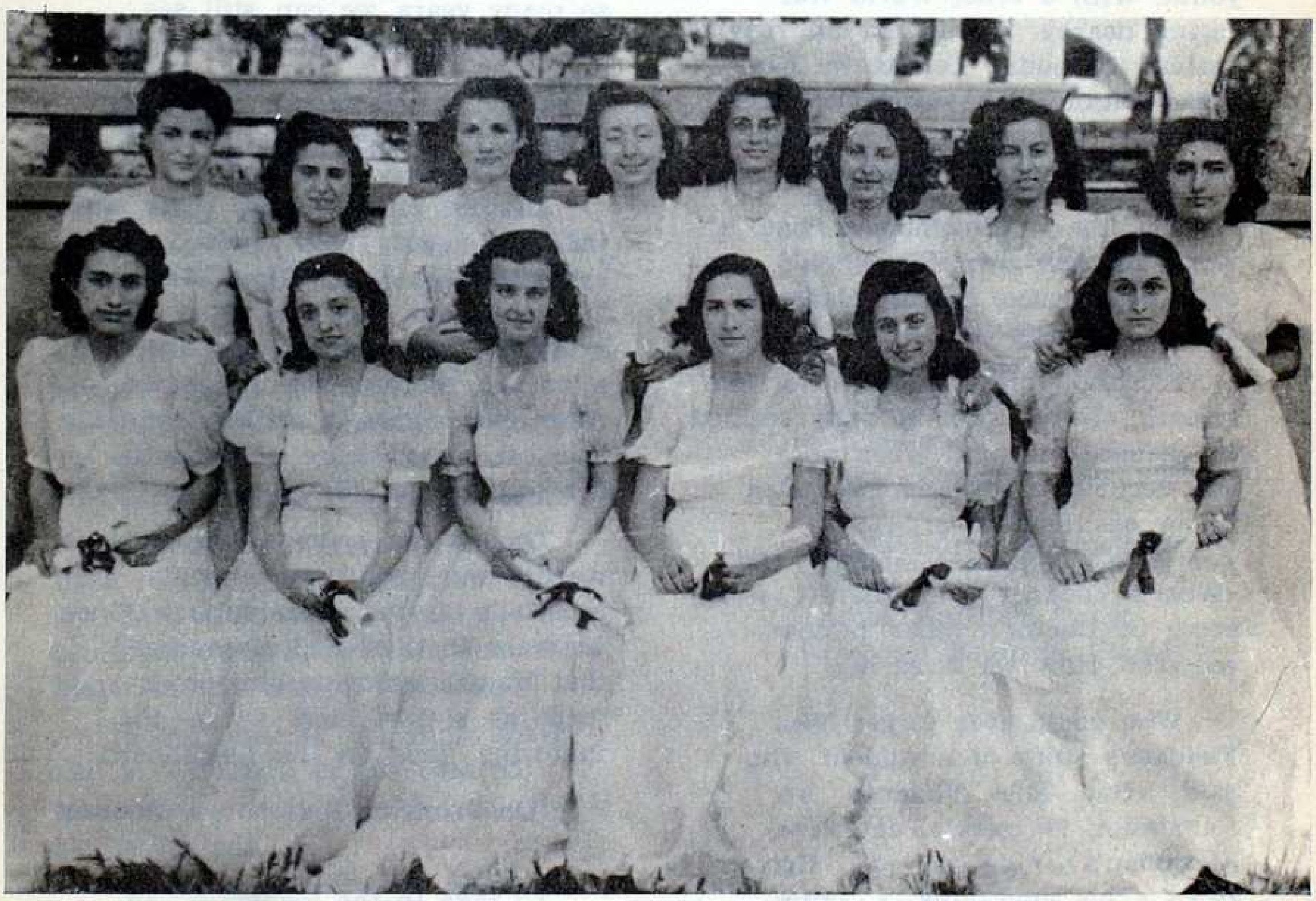
AKL 25th Anniversary Class

«Life begins at forty,» I used to hear people say. This is true only on one condition, I must add. If you are called back to your school days by a God-sent 25th anniversary of your graduation, it makes you feel young, right in the middle of middle age.

It was indeed a moment of realization when **Reyan Zobu Gök**'s excited voice over the telephone informed me of the prospect of celebrating the 25th anniversary of the class of 1945.

«Oh, my goodness!» I moaned silently, feeling the imposing weight of the passing years on my shoulders. In a haze, I hear Reyan talking on... «We are going to spend twenty-four hours at the school, in a dormitory... like the good, old times».

I no longer felt the horror of the passing years, but the thrilling joy and happiness of memories coming alive. Who cares if one is forty-plus, when one has memories to cherish?



A great day in 1945

As I walk in through the familiar, old, office corridor, past the library, the odor is just the same as it was 25 years ago; a sweet mingling of floor wax, old books, heavenly cooking and cabbages! I just smell and murmur to myself, «What's for lunch?». Every corner has its memory, every closed door its story.

When the first committee meeting was held in Rayan's house, we «Untouchables» of 1945 were happy to see that our class motto, «Each for all, all for each» was still true as ever.

Being a young student during the early '40's had its challenging, dark moments besides all the joys of youth. With a cruel World War raging nearby. it was not all rosy. Instead of nudity camps we had bread rations and sugar shortages. Chocolate pudding and ice cream were royal treats in those days.

But the «Untouchables» had a world of their own. They could even cope with **Bülent Hanım's** «*Oturunuz, sıfır!*»

I cannot forget **Doctor's** horrible remark, «Notes too!» Nothing seemed to change her mind when once she decided to include the notes in an examination «*Gözünüz pencerede, aklınız tencerede* and «What's cooking over there?» were some of Doctor's other famous remarks. How we loved her!

Who could ever forget **Miss Fletcher's** story of a student who said, «But, Miss Fletcher, my foundation is weak!», and Mrs. **Alexanian's** «*Yularını çek*», **Rıdvan Bey's** «This apparatus...», «**Miss Martin**, a blue image, so dignified and loving, beloved **Miss Blatter** to whom most of us owe our American style hand writing, and **Miss Konda** eternally trying to silence the room with her finger on her lips?

One afternoon during our senior year, we invited **Miss Helton** to a treasure hunt party. The party room on the top floor of Emir Konak which we had decorated with broken chairs and rickety tables was kept secret from Miss Helton. She came dressed as Robin Hood, with a flashlight in her hand in broad daylight. We were also dressed in the most bizarre clothes we could manage to find. Following the arrows and funny signs on the trees, Miss Helton found the secret room. After so many years we can still see her drinking lemonade and repeating after each sip, «*Oh, canıma değsin!*» just as she had learned from the Untouchables.

Another unforgettable party was the masquerade ball which we attended dressed as Hindu dancers. The ballroom was decorated as a Hindu temple. **Süslü** was sitting at a corner representing a Buddha. After long hours of sitting immobile, she lost her patience, jumped to her feet crying «*Öf be!..*»

Though we were a cheerful lot, we had our agonizing moments, especially during examinations. Once, we were so tired and discouraged that **Madlen** suddenly blossomed forth as a poet and wrote the following lines on the blackboard:

«Oh bring the bus to the door of
the class

To take to the madhouse, all
of us.»

The «Untouchables» at the Masquerade Ball.

Memories, memories... **Nevhiz,** our May Queen; **Beğlan,** our *medarı iftihar*, **Sacide,** the Brain; **Gönül,** the Beauty. How can we forget **Zabel** with her golden heart, **Necla** with her million-dollar-legs, **Türkan** splitting our sides with laughter when she did her famous Pektorin advertisement, **Perran** with her tinkling laughter, **Araksi**'s black eyes fill with horror when someone whispered *«Bülent hanım geliyor»?*

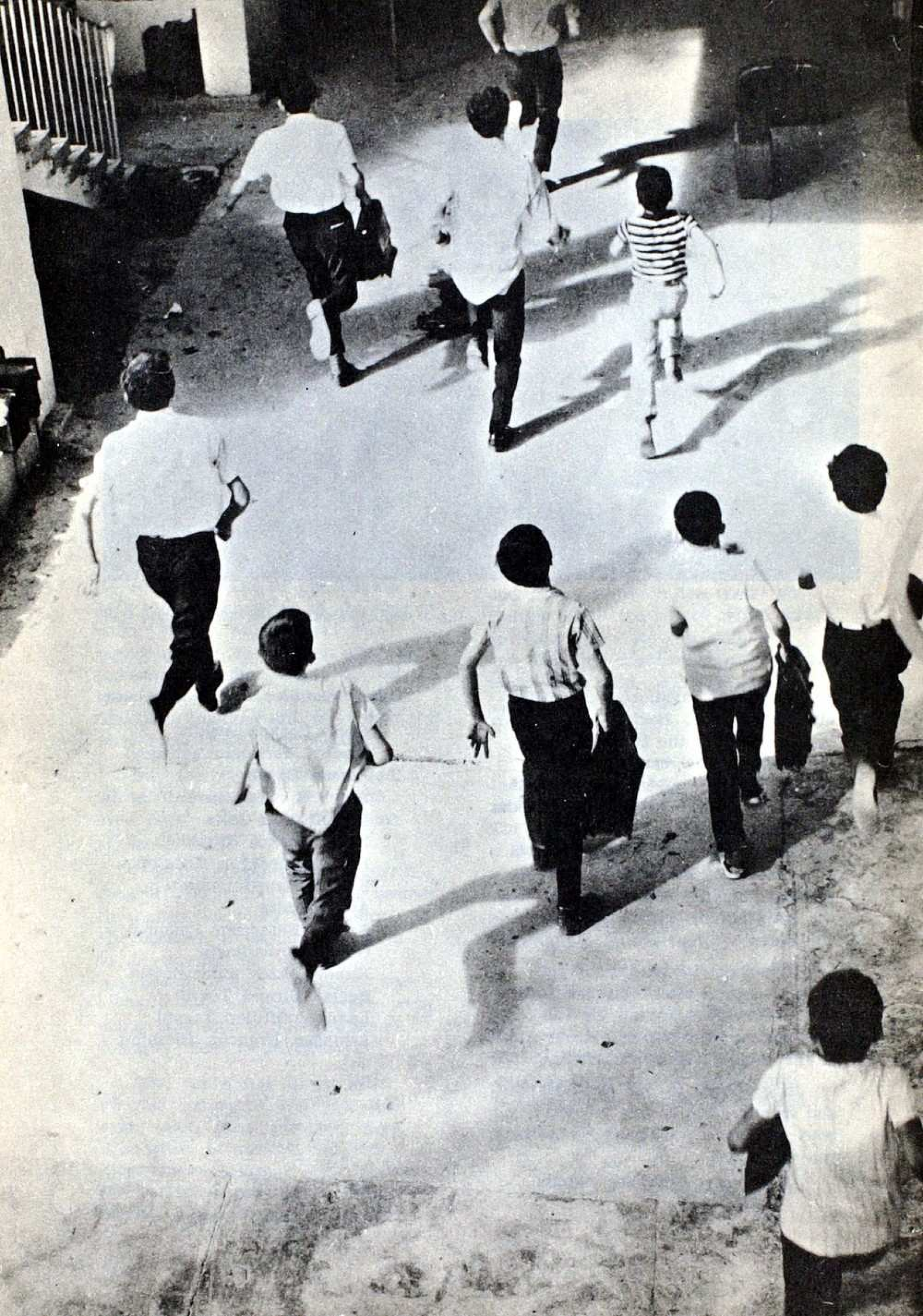
It is most invigorating to go back to school after 25 years, to see that still each is for all, all for each and to be assured that our Alma Mater is still true to its ideals.

In gratitude to our Alma Mater and in adoration of our beloved teachers, we say, «Thank you, thank you!»

Nüveyre Gültekin Akbaş
AKL 1945

Other members of the class are:

Neclâ Coşkun Arıkut
Madlen Terzioğlu Aynacian
Perran Baltın
Aysel Bilgişin Güney
Reyan Zobu Gök
Zabel Berkol Karakoç
Nevhiz Dardağan Kocatopçu
Sacide Samedi Morain
Ayten Özata
Araksi Eksercian Sinanian
Gönül Soyaallıoğlu
Hande Aksoy Sürmelioğlu
Beğlan Birand Toğrol
Lamia Müftüler Tanyol
Armağan Ergürün Ulaşahin



TAC ALUMNI NEWS

Two alumni events were planned at Tarsus this year, the Home coming Weekend in the Fall and the *Kongre* in February. Unfortunately, despite careful planning, considerable effort expended and beautiful weather, each was poorly attended. What can we do to improve this situation?

In contrast to the events at TAC, the receptions held for graduates in Istanbul and Ankara were very successful and have been real bright lights on the alumni scene. We are pleased with news that several of our men in Ankara have become actively interested in establishing a place where alumni might gather informally and which might serve as a clearing house for many activities. **Şanar Hapoğlu** and **Mete Akyol** are the prime movers in this enterprise; any of you who are interested can contact them directly. Perhaps a similar place might be set up in Istanbul as well.

In recent weeks the Alumni Board has become very active in work to find new ways for graduates to provide further support for the school as well as for each other. Members of the Board for the current year are **Muvaffak Kavrar, Fuat Inandı, Ferit Özeltın, Aytok Utkan, Rasim Koca, Haydar Göfer** and **Wallace Robeson.** Things look much brighter for the future of alumni activities.

Correspondence from graduates comes to the school from time to time; an invitation to visit, a question about entrance examinations, a request for a book or an address. It has been my pleasure to read and answer such letters. Here are some messages from alumni scattered around the world.

From Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada came a telegram of greeting to alumni from **Dr. Gabriel Muruve** ('49)

From Buffalo, New York, **Dr. İsmet Hallaç** (TAO '46 TAC '49) requested information on where to send a contribution to the school. İsmet Bey practices neurosurgery in Buffalo.

From Prague, Czechoslovakia, **Metin Göker** ('58) sent an invitation to anyone from TAC to visit him in Prague. Metin Bey is First Secretary in the Turkish Embassy.

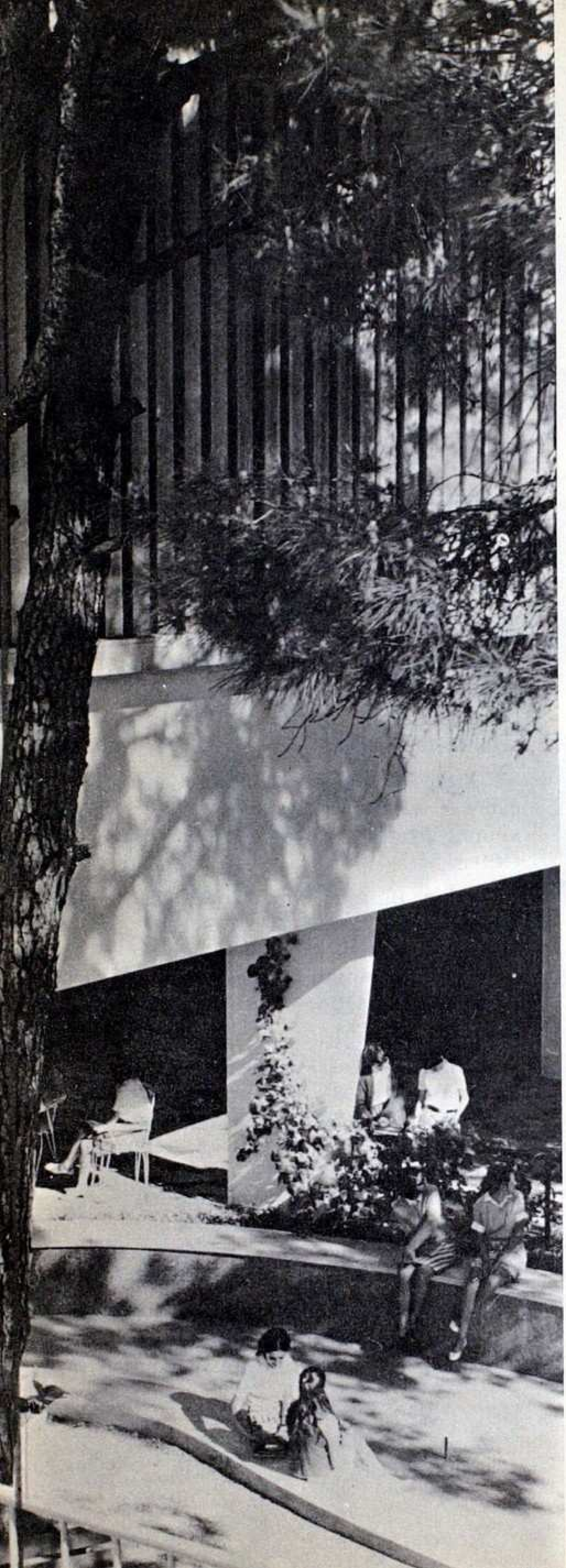
From Kayseri, **Karnik Erkutumucu** ('59) sent news of his classmate, **Ersan Erzin**, who was awarded a distinguished service medal by the «Genel Kurmay Başkanlığı».

We welcome all this correspondence and hope for more from all of you.

Alan McCain

TAC Alumni Secretary

School is over at Tarsus



VISITORS TO ACI

At ACI, I tend to value a year in terms of the variety and type of visitors to our campus. This year has been a rich one.

In October we had the stimulus of a visit from **Dr. and Mrs. Donovan Johnson.** He is professor of Mathematics Education at the **University of Minnesota** and sharpened our math wits during the course of their three week stay.

Atatürk Week was enriched by **Dr. Enver Ziya Karal,** who on November 14 spoke first to the Lise Assembly and then to a full house at the **İktisat Fakültesi.**

During February, **Dr. Frank Stone,** formerly of Tarsus, now teaching at **Hacettepe University,** gave us a stimulating series of lectures, five to the Lise IV Class, one to the faculty and another to the Alumnae. His subject was «The Culture Rub as Shown Through Modern Turkish Literature» He introduced us to some prominent Turkish thinkers

in the field of Education and Philosophy. We were glad that his wife and two of their children could accompany him on the visit.

March was a busy month. **Bay Abidin Elder**, who taught here from 1940 to '45 stayed for a week, giving two lectures to the Lise III Art History class: one on trends in Islamic art and the other a slide show of his own recent works.

Another spring guest was **Bayan Sema Kut** of the **Sosyal Hizmetler Akademisi** in Ankara, who came as the special Helling Lecturer in Social Service. We put her through a stiff program. On Friday she lectured to the various Lise classes on several aspects of social service as well as on the Social Service Academy and the opportunities there. At tea time a number of girls conferred with her about career openings. On Saturday, she went to the village, Sarnıçköy and returned to a windstorm and delayed plane flights. She had just returned from a conference in Honolulu and we appreciate the time and energy she gave from her busy world wide life. And we are grateful to the Hellings for making this social service series possible.

Last fall's lecturer, **Dr. Rasim Adasal**, was so popular with the students that he has been invited to return for Doughnut Day on April 11, when parents and students will discuss with him problems in family relationships.

It is always heartwarming to have graduates return. We have had a good number this year. One of the most touching visits was made by Issac Franco and Rakella and Maurice, the husband and children of **Ester Franco** of the 25th Anniversary class. As noted in the news of the last issue, she was killed in an accident in Italy last summer. They looked at our gallery of graduation photos and were glad to find Ester there in the class of 1945. The purpose of the trip was to visit places that had been significant in the life of their mother. We felt privileged to meet and talk so naturally with them.

I cannot close this column without mentioning visits from former teachers. We are very happy to have **Miss Shaler**, librarian from 1961 to '66, in our midst. On May 28, **Mr. and Mrs. Musser** are due to arrive after a visit to South Africa. **Mr.** and **Mrs. NeSmith** will visit us briefly having been around the world since we last saw them. In mid June, **Miss Drury** will be back for a short visit. She was the librarian who started the Bookmobile nearly 15 years ago. Now it has become an important part of the school life and experience.

It is satisfying to be on the map for visitors. For you too, gentle reader!

Sincerely,
Lynda Blake, Principal
American Collegiate
Institute
Izmir

Translators at work

A NEW COOKBOOK

A small group of AKL alumnae have been working for over a year on the translation into Turkish and adaptation of **An American Cook in Turkey**, which is just «off the press». Here is the story of their work.

When **Mrs. Edmonds** asked me to write an article about the cook book, **Aile Sofrası**, I realized that it would not be easy. When we prepared the book, we did so with the intention of doing something worthwhile rather than something showy.

The idea started not because we felt ourselves accomplished cooks, but rather because Mrs. Edmonds gave **Ülkü Somer, Aydın Uzman** and me each a copy of **An American Cook in Turkey**. That book was a cooperative effort, and under each recipe was the contributor's name. We began with Mrs. Edmond's encouragement and after spending many pleasant days together we have completed our small book. Each time we met, we got a little further with the translation and adaptation of the material. As in any group of women, we also discussed styles, problems with children and politics, enjoying our times together.

The translation was not without its own problems. For instance, there was the name of cooky called «Hermit». Somehow, the Turkish word «*Keşiş*» was misleading, so we named it for **Miss Blatter** because this was the cooky she made that we liked the best. There is a dessert called «Apple Sponge» in English. «*Elma Bulutu*» seemed more like a food to serve our families than «*Elma Süngeri*».

For some recipes we just kept the original titles: Brownies, Pizza, Gnocchi a la Romana, Cobbler. We were puzzled about how to describe candy-making terms, particularly for fudge; therefore you will find an entry in the index for «*Yumuşak Top Kıvamı*».

The book contains a large number of recipes for desserts and a section of practical hints, such as for stain removal. However, we left out most recipes for typically Turkish foods because we felt that people here know how to cook them without looking at a book!

In order to be helpful, we are having a cup made that will have both American and Turkish measuring equivalents marked on the side. The cup will be on sale with the book.

Our purpose in the printing of this book is not to show that we are such expert cooks ourselves, but rather to share with others what we have learned. Ever since we have been married we have used to good profit what we gained in Home Economics classes at AKL. Our husbands have preferred what came from our hands. With this thought in mind, we believe it is not only the good food that we have prepared, but also our husbands whom we have «prepared» that are important. Therefore the book begins with advice on this subject, particularly for our young friends. Be sure to read «*Bir Koca Nasıl Pişirilir*».

We very much appreciate the help that Anna Edmonds and **Handan Cingi** (AKL '63) and the Redhouse Press staff have given in this project. The profits from it will go toward a project of the American Academy for Girls Alumnae Association.

Nuran Bektaş İskit (AKL '52)

TEACHERS ALSO LEARN

Often we hear a teacher comment. «I **learned** so much while I was teaching». This is particularly true of many foreign teachers in Turkey.

Letters have come from two former American teachers at Talas, **Dr. Thomas Goodrich** and **Dr. William Griswold.** Both men had their intellectual curiosity aroused by their experiences here. This led them to pursue advanced doctoral studies in American universities, both returning to Turkey for much of their research. Now they are on the faculties of Near Eastern Studies in American universities.

There are many other foreign teachers who have gained an appreciation of Turkish culture through their years here, a number of whom have gone on to earn advanced degrees in a variety of fields. Should we receive letters from them all, the evidence would be most impressive. As it is, we share with you these two letters, for they exemplify the manner in which the American Board schools foster a reciprocal appreciation. of both Turkish and American cultures.

Dear Friends

In the summer of 1953 it was decided that for the next three years I would work, play and make a home in Turkey. After reading a couple of books on the country, I realized that I knew very little about it except for assorted bits of historical information and that Constantinople is now called Istanbul. The more I read, the more there seemed to be to learn. Seventeen years later, hundreds of books and articles later, after six years in Turkey as a teacher and research student, I feel the same way: there is so much more to learn and so many areas of Turkish life and history to explore.

In four years at Talas and one year at ACI, I made many friends and came to feel at home with Turks of all ages and backgrounds. I had such a variety of experiences all over the land from Doğubeyazit to Edirne, from Tirebolu to Marmaris that I did not want to lose my ties but rather to strengthen them through continued study and visits. I also wanted to share my knowledge with other Americans, as a teacher, so that they too might profit from learning about Turkish culture.

For many years I studied *Osmanlıca* and Turkish history at Columbia University, constantly increasing my awareness of the immense richness of these subjects, especially under teachers like **Enver Ziya Karal** and **Halil Inalcik.**

Presently in my teaching in America, I find that when I am discussing Turkey or Islam or even, European history, my most vivid examples of explanation are those that come from my experiences while teaching or traveling in Turkey. These make a class come alive and get the students to understand things that can never come out of a book.

Turkey has become a wonderful part of my life and I hope it will continue to be so. My wife, the former **Carol Wright** who taught at Üsküdar from 1957 to '60, and I eagerly look forward to our next visit to our second home.

Sincerely,
Thomas Goodrich
Indiana University,
Indiana, Pennsylvania.

When I studied in the National Archives, I became increasingly aware of the greatness of the Ottoman Empire and the debt which modern Turkey owes this now-deceased bureaucracy. For more than fifty years, Turks have been cut off from their heritage and for good reason. There can be no doubt that in 1923 the Government of Atatürk, in order to succeed in modernizing, had to cut the links to the Ottoman past. The script reform and the livening of the language with Turkish rather than Arabic words focused the minds of the young Turks on their future. No one can fault Atatürk in his determination to change the conservative Ottoman past. Nonetheless, this interest in change and modernizing has so preoccupied two generations that connections with the Imperial past are in danger of being lost.

Not all roots have been cut, of course. The Universities turn out some very competent Ottoman scholars every year. But these graduates find it increasingly difficult to find the free time necessary for research scholarship. It seems imperative that there should be more lavish support of the study of the Ottoman past before it is too late. By «lavish support» I would mean not only money but the encouragement of the use of documents in the various archives and libraries, as well as the publication of documents in transliteration on a much wider scale than heretofore attempted. The need for haste lies in the fact that the remaining archivists and librarians who know the intricate language of the Ottoman court are fast ageing and cannot last too many more years.

A regeneration of interest in the Ottoman literary and historic past should provide important channels for a creative national pride.

William J. Griswold
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado

A LETTER FROM MISS MARTIN

Greetings to all, and especially to the graduates of AKL.

What pleasure and refreshment the ALMA MATER brings to those of us who are far way from our second homeland where a large part of our thoughts and hearts still remain! The excitement and eagerness in our perusing the magazine from cover to cover is similar to the way the AKL girls used to greet the «Memoranda». We even read the advertisements! Particularly interesting is news of pupils and teachers who were familiar to us.

It is with pride and gratitude that we who belong to the past years, commend the live, soul-satisfying contents of the ALMA MATER and our thanks go to those responsible for the arduous work involved in preparing and issuing such a worthy, up-to-date magazine.

Although 14 years have passed since my retirement in 1956, my days are not spent in the proverbial rocking-chair as a mere on-looker. We retired ones, too, must get involved in the changes that are revolutionizing the world, in most cases for the better.

If we are alert and interested in progress, all we need to do is stretch our minds in order to understand and accept what seems sudden and revolutionary, but is actually long-delayed. Age should make no difference in our open-mindedness.

The «silent majority» brought to our attention recently in America, are not written up in the news headlines, nor do they take time for demonstrations. They are busy doing their «thing», improving conditions, serving others and quietly showing their concern and responsibility for those in need.

Many years ago, a philosopher who knew nothing about the «silent majority», wrote the following words which are applicable to all age-groups these days :

> «Rather than to speak and be nothing, it is better for a person to be silent and be something, in order that he may work by what he speaks and may be known by what he is silent about.»

Jessie E. Martin
former Principal at AKL
627 Alden Road
Claremont, California

Concentration in AKL Study Hall

Student leaders in discussion

THREE SCHOOLS JOIN IN CONFERENCE

The Student Councils of Izmir American Collegiate Institute, Tarsus American College and Üsküdar American Academy for Girls came together for the first time for a seminar in February. During the course of the conference, students were able to compare the constitutions of each Council and the activities of each school. Many topics were brought up for discussion, resulting in a number of good suggestions.

In order to keep in contact with each other and to continue the friendship between the students, we encourage correspondence through both official and friendly letters. There should be common student activities for each school, such as festivals of folklore and drama, basketball and volleyball tournaments, workcamps and trips during the summer.

One of the discussion topics was «Student Activity Organizations.» Representatives from each school reported on the organization of their Student Councils, which supervise all student activities. We found the activities in all three schools very similar. The main difference was in the organization of the Councils.

Another important topic was «The Student Council's Area of Responsibility». This was essentially defined as: «anything concerning the student body.» Related to this theme, many subjects came to light, especially the rights and responsibilities of the Student Councils to control, supervise, and encourage participation in student activities.

In order to maintain a closer relationship between the Student Council and school administration, it was felt that councils which did not have an administrator as their sponsor should have joint meetings with an administrator at certain times. The Student Councils should also have the right to question the administration on any subject concerning the students which would enable them to operate more effectively.

The three Student Councils shared a common problem; lack of communication with the student body. In some schools, the representatives are not chosen from among the most capable members of the class, but it was agreed that since they are the ones who deal with student problems they should be more powerful than any other student officials.

Another decision was that Council meetings should be held in open session. This would enable students who want to learn what the Councils are doing to come to the meetings and listen.

This much we did. We hope that the close friendly relationship between the student organizations of the schools will continue in the future, and that Student Councils will be organized on a stronger basis. Hopefully such a joint conference between the three schools will become an annual event.

Tamer Özsu, T.A.C. Student Council President

Neşe Güleç, A.K.L. Student Council President

Gülgün Yemişçi, A.C.I. Student Council President

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Gazetemize Açık Mektup...

Son Sınıf Ş

Müzik Gecesi

TAC FACULTY NEWS

William, Amidon, was married to Mary Jill Yousling on March 21, 1970 in New York City. The Amidons expect to return to Tarsus after Mr. Amidon completes his Master's Degree at Columbia University, this June.

John Snyder is a field representative for the American Field Service in New York.

Robert Keller has completed his PhD in Social Work at the University of Michigan and will be teaching at the Ohio State School of Social Work beginning in the fall. The Kellers' lively home has welcomed **Mrs. Ruby Birge,** Mrs. Keller's mother, who has been visiting them for most of the year.

Avni Dabil works in the office of educational aids in the Ministry of Education in Ankara. He was married last year.

TÜRKİYEDE İLK POLYESTER ELYAFI

SASA

T. A. Ş. tarafından

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İsmi altında piyasaya arzedilmiştir.

TUBORG

ACI ALUMNAE NEWS

The ACI Alumnae Association held its Annual Meeting on March 7, 1970 at the Bergama Restaurant. The new officers are :

President — **Sevim Postacıoğlu** ('46)
Vice President — **Efser Kayral** ('40)
Secretary — **Şahika Ayhan** ('48)
Treasurer — **Türel Derebaş** ('61)
Executive Committee members —

Ödel Kaptanoğlu ('56)
Filiz Başaran ('57)
Nurcan Kayin (ex. '54)
Jülide Balin ('56)

This group meets every Wednesday afternoon in the Alumnae Room, opposite the school office. Here is a message from their new President.

Dear Friends,

I am happy to address you as the new Alumnae Association President. Being a member of the Alumnae Committee for twelve years, I am proud to see the development of the ACI Alumnae Association from year to year.

This year is the twentieth anniversary of our association. I remember the first tea we had at the Blake house and the most recent one on March 31, 1970 at the same place. We still feel the same friendship, love, pleasure and excitement when we go there and see our teachers and friends. Without thinking about our difference in age, we are there as the students we were before. We talk and laugh as if we were still in school and forget everything else.

Besides these strong ties of friendship, we are trying to be helpful to our environment. We are giving sixteen scholarships, five in ACI and eleven in several universities. We gave help to **Ege University** for the brain operation on a child, last week. We started a campaign for our unfortunate compatriots of the Gediz earthquake disaster. How proud and satisfied we are when we do something helpful for others. Don't you think so too?

So, I call upon every ACI graduate, old and new and those of the future, to help us. Come and join us whenever you wish. Come and join us whenever you feel lonesome. Join us when you miss ACI and you need friendship, fun and help. We welcome you eagerly.

Love to all,
Sevim Postacioğlu

AKL ALUMNAE ACTIVITIES

We are almost at the end of our 1969-1970 activity year. And what a full one it has been!

The first of the social activities was a luncheon at the Galata Tower on December 17th, and will be remembered by all who attended it On April 8th, we had an evening dinner at Lâlezar. 84 people were there, most of whom were friends of alumnae, If you weren't there you missed an excellent evening of music, dancing, show and delicious food. At a luncheon at the Divan Hotel on April 15th, a fashion show by Suat Ayran was featured. Over 150 people attended and we wished that there had been space to accommodate more. **Oya Aktan** was the lucky one to recéive the door-prize, a lovely red gown designed by Suat Ayran and given as a gift to our Alumnae Association. May she wear it in laughter!

We have tried to have a few cultural events as well, this year. The small attendance seems to indicate that this sort of event has little appeal. Three excellent lectures were given : the first, by Rauf Mutluay, was a critical comparison of women characters in outstanding Turkish literature of various periods The second, was a speech by Şükrü Selçikoğlu on «The Psychology of Women«. It was an enlightening talk on a subject very dear to our hearts. The third lecture was on March 27th by the artist and art teacher, Hasan Kavruk on «Children's Art». His speech was illustrated by slides of children's paintings from Anatolia. These remarkable paintings convinced us that every person has a creative potential and the problem is to give encouragement for developing this gift.

We have also tried to add variety to our activities by sponsoring some musical programs. On April 4th, we had a pop music concert by Moğollar which was very popular with the teen-agers. On Saturday, May 16th we sponsored a classical music concert featuring our Lise III student **Banu Sözuar** and **Miss Elizabeth Biro.**

The traditional *Kermes* on April 18th would have been more of a success had more attended to purchase an item or two. We had a display of just about anything you can think of from kitchen goods and home-made cookies to fancy hand-knit shawls. We hope that more of you can participate in this event next year as purchasers or contributors. Remember every *kuruş* we make on this, as well as other activities, goes to a worthy cause!

You will be receiving a letter from us informing you of the date and place of the Annual Spring Party. Please keep us posted on changes of address so that we can contact you.

We look forward to another year of productive work and fun together.

Fatma Ramazanoğlu
AKL Faculty Alumnae Representative

Home Economics teacher, Şenel Tüzün, (A K L '60) helps a student in trouble

Vasıtanıza ve yolunuza en uygun lâstik Fisk çeşidi arasındadır!

Fisk, piyasanın en yumuşak lâstiğidir.
Sarsıntıları önler, rahat bir yolculuk sağlar.

Fisk, piyasanın en sağlam lâstiğidir.
Terkibinde bulunan Poli-B maddesi sayesinde çelik gibi bir sağlamlık kazanmıştır.

Fisk, piyasanın uzun yola en elverişli, ağır yüke en dayanıklı lâstiğidir.

Fisk, piyasanın fren emniyetini en iyi sağlayan lâstiğidir.

Fisk, savrulmayı ve kaymayı önler.

FISK
sağlam
yumuşak

WHO DESERVES A BOUQUET?

Who is the person at AKL who sees that 1350 copies of the ALMA MATER are correctly addressed? Who is the one who receives your «change of address» post card and makes the proper corrections on a file card? Who is the one who can find out from searching in the files the number of 1956 graduates living in Ankara, the number of alumnae from the class of '63 who have studied pharmacy, or the number of graduates who work for any given business? Who is the person who keeps a guest book in the AKL Alumnae Office and is always ready to receive visitors? Who is the person who has quietly helped AKL alumnae officers plan teas, dinners, lectures, *kermesler* and reunions? Who gets out notices and gathers material for the AKL newsletter? Who takes responsibility for gathering articles and advertisements for the ALMA MATER? Who deserves a big bouquet of roses and a great deal of thanks?

ANSWER:
Mrs. Wanda Brunkow
AKL Alumnae Secretary
1967 to 1970

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sizin olacak...
hem de,
Türkiye'de bir benzeri
daha olmayan
satış usulü ve
genişleyen reyonları ile...

STUDENT REPORT FROM TARSUS

All seniors are faced with a great problem, one that has been disturbing us all year long; the problem of university entrance. Throughout these past months, our conversation has been centered on this subject. With each report of demonstrations, schools being suspended, rumors that this or that university will take no new students for next year, our fears have grown until now, as the end of the year approaches and the «day of judgment» draws near, we can think of little else.

What do the seniors say? «Well, there are always the private universities...», «If my luck helps me...», «If only I could find a scholarship and make my way out of the country...». Unfortunately most of us seem to be hopeless, to lack courage, to have lost faith in ourselves and to be pessimistic about our chances of success in the university entrance examinations. Looking at the success of TAC graduates on these examinations over the past few years, we see a decline and our worries are not unfounded. The situation seems grim indeed.

Who is to blame? Blaming the school would be unfair and we do not hold it responsible for our failures. We are reasonable enough to appreciate that it is we, ourselves, who are primarily responsible. We have not studied hard enough. Either out of weariness of seven long years, out of hopelessness that we won't succeed anyway, or out of sheer indifference many of us don't bother to apply ourselves - but rather concentrate on making life enjoyable and aim only at graduating from TAC.

On the other hand, we do believe that the school program in general does need some reform. The fourteen subjects offered, without consideration to their degree of importance, form a kind of stumbling block for us and keep us from preparing for the entrance examinations. Since each of the science courses is offered in only one year of the Lise, we do not feel sufficiently prepared, except in physics, for a major examination during the summer months.

We know full well that the graduates of past years who studied well succeeded, and they are examples to prove that if we apply ourselves, we have a good chance. The administration is hoping to bring about a change in the school curriculum next year which should solve many of the problems we have been complaining about.

We wish that this year's TAC graduates might leave school with strong minds and have no fear of the future.

Ümit Karadayı
Student Reporter
Tarsus Amerikan Koleji

Uniroyal ve Bilen Şöför Trafik Hizmetinde:

sağdan gidiniz!

Bomboş tenha yollarda sağdan gitmeye lüzum var mı?

Evet. Her yerde, her zaman, EVET! Yolun solundan gitmek, hem sizin, hem karşıdan veya arkadan gelenler için tehlikelidir. Canınızı, malınızı, eşinizi, çocuklarınızı, ananızı, babanızı, düşünüyorsanız.
Bilen Şöför gibi yapınız:
SAĞDAN GİDİNİZ!
Herkes sağdan giderse yollar daha emin olur!

Niçin Bilen Şöför Uniroyal lâstiğini tercih eder?

Çünkü bütün Uniroyal lâstiklerinde iki özel dış kat vardır: Ömür zırhı ve ısı kesici duvar. Uniroyal'in iç katları ise son derece sağlam bir naylon gövde etrafında toplanmıştır.
Bütün bu özellikleri Uniroyal'i memleketimizin en sağlam, en dayanıklı lâstiği haline getirmiştir.

Bilen Şöför'ün lâstiği.

STUDENT REPORT

FROM ÜSKÜDAR

Everyone has her favorite kind of music. Some are carried away by the fast tunes of our time. Others feel their soul captivated by a melancholic adagio. Still others enjoy light, humorous music. Fortunately the Music Branch at AKL provides music for every taste.

Is the student a Pop music lover? Then she should have been at the fall concert of the Yalçın Ateş 6. The music was lively and the program enjoyed by all. On April 4, the Alumnae sponsored a program by Moğollar. Later the Durul Gence 10's appeared in the school auditorium creating wide student interest.

Perhaps a girl likes to listen to a light piece of music like the operetta, «Barbarina» which was performed on November 29 by Lise I B students under the direction of **Miss Elizabeth Biro** and **Mr. Anthony Manna.** The music by Wolfgang Mozart was taken from «The Marriage of Figaro». Although the libretto was changed, the characters were from the original opera.

Maybe the student enjoys more sophisticated, classical music. The Classical Music program in March had many types of music ranging from the passionate, excited and profound music of Beethoven, the calm, comforting music of Bach, the delicate charms of Haydn. to the decorative arias of Handel, interpreted well by Miss Biro.

At the Choral Concert given by the music department on April 7, six classes presented a wide range of pieces including American folk music with guitars, songs from musical comedies, a song and dance routine, as well as classical music.

These are the activities of the Music Branch. Has everything been perfect? Well, nothing is perfect, but the most frequent comment has been «quite successful».

Fahrünnisa Kulluk
AKL Student Reporter

STUDENT REPORT FROM IZMIR

When the Student Council planned its goals for this year, we were agreed on one theme: ACI would not be isolated from the community. We would not be an island. Our hope was to become an active and interested member of the city and of Turkey. We even dared to dream of extending our influence beyond these horizons. To a certain extent we have been able to achieve this goal.

The Leadership Seminar which brought the three Student Councils of the Board Schools together in February was an important step in this direction.

Following that, we were invited to another conference of Mediterranean Schools, hosted by the **Izmir Dependents' School.** Although we hadn't much in common with the other participating schools, this was a good opportunity for comparison.

Club activities have carried on this theme of reaching out into the community. The Folklore Club presented its final performance with boys from **Ticaret Lisesi. The** Fine Arts Club put on a play with boys from **Bornova College.** The Kültür Kolu is busy rehearsing with young actors from **I.T.I. Academy.** A Turkish-English Speech Contest is being planned by the Toast Mistress Club with ACI as the host for other schools in Izmir.

One sunny weekend in March, the Library Bookmobile Club members enjoyed the visit of ten village children from five villages. They took the little guests to the Izmir Fair grounds, to museums and to movies and both groups parted with unforgettable impressions.

We are reaching out in print as well. The Newspaper Club is now exchanging school papers with ten schools in Turkey and three in America.

The Home Economics class participated in a joint fashion show with the **Izmir Dependents' School,** modeling clothing made by students.

This is just a beginning. We hope that our beacon will continue to shine out in ever-widening circles of cooperation, friendship and concern.

Gülercan Uğurluer, Reporter
Sevgin Olcay
Student Council President

İzmir yün mensucat
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Yeni çeşitleri ile
sizleri bekler.

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Handan

FROM THE TRAVELING PRINCIPAL'S PEN

When one is in Turkey at the school, seeing the current issue of ALMA MATER develop article by article, photo by photo, ad by ad, one tries to imagine what it might be like to receive the magazine from a great distance; from the United States, for instance. But it is not until one actually is far away from the school that the nostalgia becomes acute and the pride of association with her deep. For me this means that in spite of my joy at seeing my family, friends and country again, I find my thoughts, when not riveted to some current scene in the United States, go chasing back to Turkey, to AKL at Üsküdar.

Many people have assumed that a «home leave» is a vacation. It is true that a leave constitutes a change of scene and of pace, but it is nevertheless filled with activities which relate to the ongoing progress of the school in Turkey. Already I have had conferences with our Board personnel in New York, interviewed candidates for openings on our staff, and visited several private schools to glean new ideas about organization, dormitory supervision and fund raising. During April and May, I shall be travelling to Pennsylvania, Kansas and Minnesota where I shall be speaking to groups to acquaint them with the work of the Board in Turkey. After a two-day meeting at Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and a training course in Virginia, I shall spend a few days resting with my family before returning to Turkey toward the end of June.

People ask me whether I have experienced «culture shock» in returning to the United States. It is certainly true that reports of bombings, crime and drug addiction even among high school students are shocking and unsettling. The now long-standing problems of urban decay, water and air pollution, civil rights and the war in Vietnam are painfully evident. Yet I feel more hopeful about the resolution of these problems now than during my last visit. Whole sectors of society are waking up, not only to facing the facts, but to working at sensible programs of reform.

I have been particularly aware of the generation gap. One of the most important tasks of schools everywhere is the closure of this gap so that people of all ages even though holding different points of view can work together toward common goals. The student-sponsored seminar at Izmir in February, held for student leaders in the Board schools has opened one avenue for this dialogue. Another is ALMA MATER which brings student and adult populations together through the printed page. Long may it live!

Helen L. Morgan, Principal
American Academy for Girls
Üsküdar, Istanbul

GREETINGS

From an
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in Izmir

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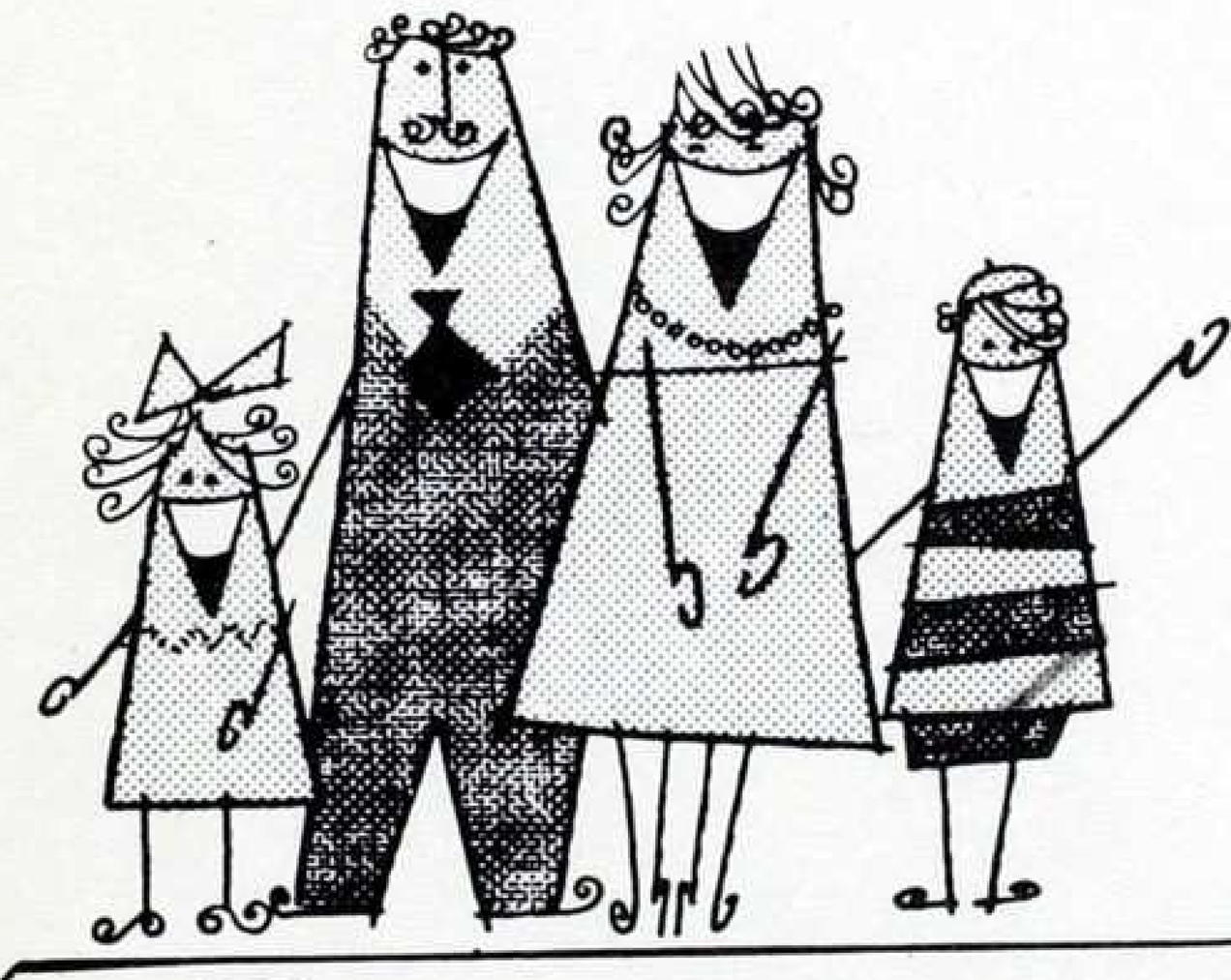

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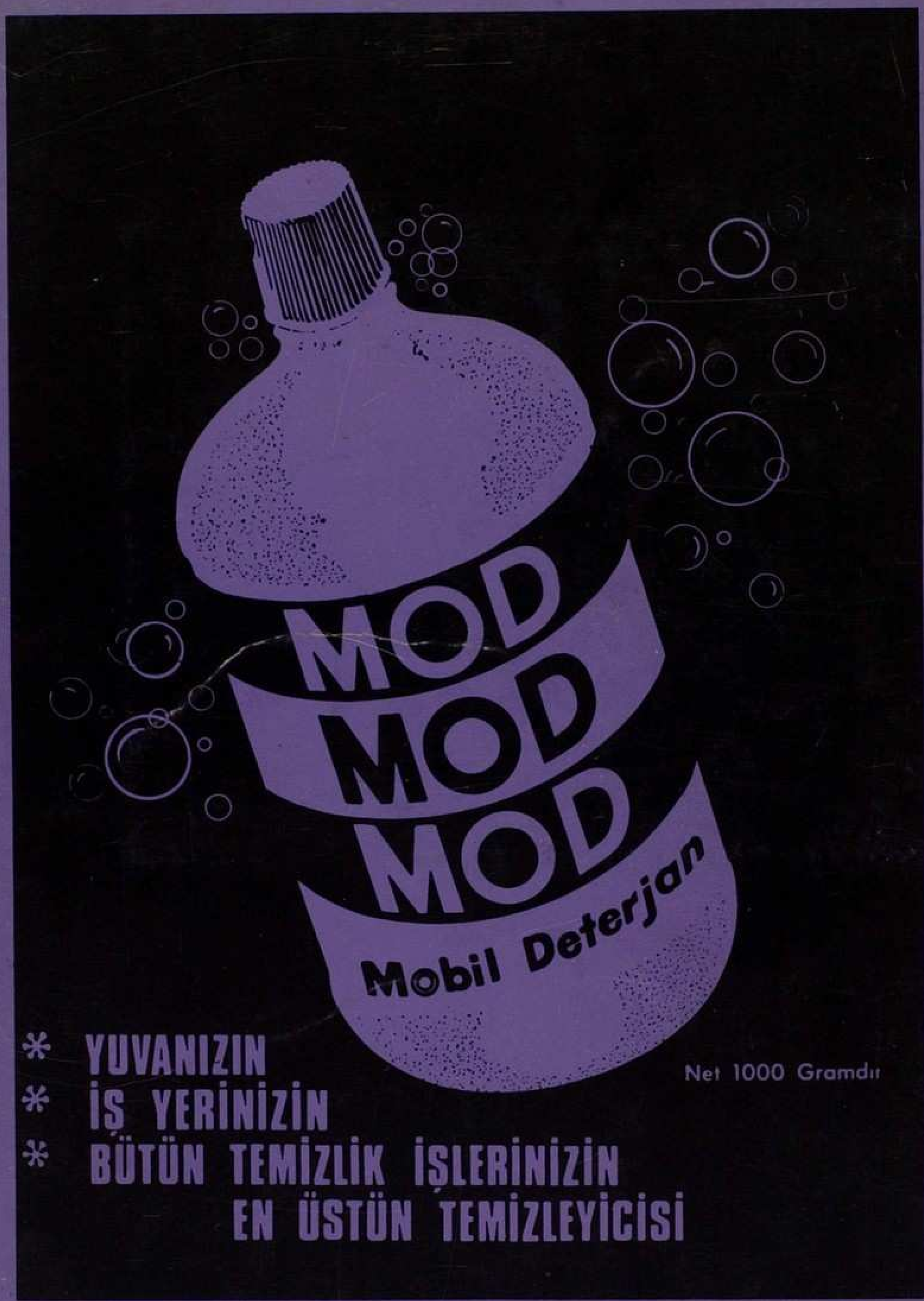
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BÜTÜN TEMİZLİK İŞLERİNİZİN
EN ÜSTÜN TEMİZLEYİCİSİ