

# The Orient.

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## THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AT SMYRNA.

Owing to unfortunate circumstances, three of the colleges originally intending to send representatives to the Conference of American Colleges in Turkey were prevented from taking part, namely the Syrian Protestant College, Beirut; Central Turkey College, Aintab, and St. Paul's College, Tarsus. Those represented were thus but four: the International College, Smyrna; Robert College and the American College for Girls, Constantinople, and Anatolia College, Marsovan. Each of these had three regular delegates, including the president in each case. There were present also a number of others connected with the institutions at Smyrna, and Miss Dodd of Constantinople College; Mr. E. O. Jacob, Traveling Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. for Colleges, and Mr. C. T. Riggs,



MACLACHLAN HALL, INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE.

Secretary of the Western Turkey Mission. Though originally announced for Jan. 13th and 14th, the conference was postponed one whole day in the vain hope that the delegates from the south might arrive. The sessions did not actually commence till 2 p. m. Wednesday, and there was thus time for much previous informal exchange of opinions and experience, as valuable in its way as the discussions of the regular sessions. The suburb of the heavenly name (which dates from Roman times) is on the Aidin R. R., only a few minutes' run from the Point, and is easily reached with an excellent train service. Remains of Roman aqueducts and tessellated pavements in the immediate vicinity point to the place being a resort for the rich Smyrniotes of the days of the Roman Empire.

Wednesday afternoon the assembly met in the library

room in MacLachlan Hall, in the beautiful new grounds of the International College at Paradise.

The opening prayer was offered by President White of Anatolia College, and President MacLachlan made a felicitous address of welcome. While generously acknowledging the magnificent view of the Mediterranean and Lebanon enjoyed at Beirut and the matchless charm of situation of the two colleges on the Bosphorus, unchallenged as far as earthly comparisons went, he said they were still not Paradise. He welcomed the delegates to the institution which had the unique honor of being the first to be transferred bodily to Paradise, and which was also the youngest of the American Colleges in Turkey, and now in its new home as proud as a boy in his first long pants,—with pockets. Pockets are a source of pride, even if as empty as those of this youngest sister among the Colleges. He alluded to the importance of the questions to come up for discussion, and also to the commanding position occupied in the country by these educational institutions, a position made possible by the favor shown them by the Government.

The Conference was then formally organized by the choice of President Gates as chairman, President White as vice-chairman, and Rev. Cass Arthur Reed of International College as secretary.

President Patrick presented the first paper, on the Reasons for Proposing the Conference, the first incentive to which, as she stated, came from Miss Grace Dodge of New York. Several reasons were mentioned, such as the desire to gain strength by a comparison of methods and of ideals, the discussion of financial problems, the question of the importance of organization, the relations of our colleges to the Government and to other schools in the Empire, the problem of religious instruction, the question whether a world-standard or a special uniform standard should be adopted. The speaker also emphasized the benefit of the resulting closer touch as between the colleges.

A paper was next presented by Professor Huntington of Robert College, on Methods of Promoting Cooperation between Colleges. He mentioned seven: the systematic exchange of all literature pertaining to the colleges, such as catalogues, books of rules, circulars as to new courses, college journals and magazines; an exchange of information as to students and teachers that should enable justice to be done when these went from college to college; a frequent exchange of visits by the presidents, to secure the benefit of the experience of each; the exchange of professors, for a term of teaching; the establishment of a common basis for admission, and of common requirements for the A. B. degree; the securing of



cordial reciprocal relations between the colleges and their feeders, the preparatory schools: and lastly the establishment on a permanent basis of an Association of American Institutions Working in the Ottoman Empire. He made several suggestions as to this permanent organization. As a result of the discussion that followed, a committee was appointed to consider the question of thus organizing.

President McLachlan read the next paper, which was on the Peculiar Educational Needs of the Ottoman Empire, and How they can Best be met by our Colleges. He said that the situation was full of peculiar factors. One was the lack of a central authoritative system of education, that should co-ordinate the various elements. The community system in vogue was a disintegrating force. Another peculiarity was the absence of any common language, since Turkish, the official language, was hardly known in Syria, and not generally in large sections of Armenia and Kourdisan. This is the most serious block to any national system. Our problem is, How can our colleges and schools serve this situation? Each college is rendering valuable service, and we are contributing to these peculiar needs. In fact our colleges more nearly approximate meeting the need than any other institutions; for here all races and religions meet on the same basis taught by the same standards and ideals. We are thus breaking down prejudice as no other institutions are doing, and are teaching true patriotism and the service of our fellow-men. Our system is differentiated from the others by its insistence on a broad but definite religious basis and its teaching that character outweighs all other qualifications, that the lives of men are of far more importance than their names.

During the discussion on the methods which followed, President Patrick made the interesting announcement of a prospective visit of Professor Samuel T. Dutton, of Teachers College, Columbia, to Constantinople for the purpose of establishing, as soon as funds permit, a School of Education in connection with Constantinople College. The hope is to include in this a normal course, and also several industrial training courses, and to make it somewhat on the lines of Teachers College, Columbia.

A recess was taken for tea, after which came probably the most vital discussion of the whole conference,—that on Religious Life in our Colleges. President White of Anatolia opened the topic with a thoughtful paper, in which he emphasized the prime importance of the religious aim. What a man is, is of vastly more consequence than what he knows or does. He told of a recent visit to the college by the Governor of the province in which Marsovan is, when in answer to a query of the Governor as to the motive of these Americans in this institution, a representative of the College said it was two-fold: first, to win men to Christ through the power of Christian truth; and second, that the missionaries saw a new day dawning in this Empire, and coveted the honor of assisting in bringing in the new day. Dr. White then described the religious life of the College, with required attendance at morning prayers for all pupils, and Bible classes to which all belong except that Moslems are excused till they know English enough to be given that lesson in English. On

Friday all those Moslems who so desire are allowed to go to mosque to the noon prayer. The character of the faculty as a group said Dr. White, has much to do with the aim of the College to train *some* students for definite religious work among their own people. The individual spiritual life of teachers must be cultivated, to counteract the dangers incident to their position. Attention is specially paid to this at Anatolia.

The discussion following this paper was prolonged and earnest, and revealed a general unanimity in the fundamental character of positive Christian teaching in our Colleges, and very little difference of view on the value of required attendance at chapel and Bible classes for all students. Methods of strengthening the religious life among students were discussed, as well as the results of work hitherto.

In the evening there was a more informal session when the various colleges represented gave their experiences and described recent movements therein.

On Thursday morning the Conference met again. After an opening prayer by Secretary E. O. Jacob of the Y. M. C. A., a prayer was read by Miss E. I. Burns of Constantinople College on "The Ideal Standardization of College Curricula," in which she dealt first with the topic of entrance examinations, and then with the courses of instruction. She referred to the utter lack in Turkey of such a thing as the College Entrance Examination Board, which has done so much for the standardizing of requirements for entrance to Colleges in the United States. She then proposed six general topics to serve as model requirements for entrance to the Freshman class in our colleges: 1) English; the ability to speak, read and write it correctly, grammatically and easily. 2) Vernacular; a fairly complete knowledge of the modern vernacular of each pupil, in speaking, reading and writing it, and in its literature. 3) French, German, Turkish, or some other language not the vernacular of the pupil. 4) Mathematics, including a thorough knowledge of arithmetic, and of algebra through simple quadratic equations. 5) Geography, both political and physical. 6) History, or Science, or some other subject. In view of the complaint of the preparatory schools that their work is handicapped because of the entrance requirements of colleges, the question was raised whether we should give more latitude in these requirements. Also it was asked if the system of accepting pupils on certificate, which is a right granted usually to American preparatory schools, could be extended to include non-American schools.

As to courses of instruction, it was found that all the American colleges in Turkey require courses in English, the vernacular, and one other language, mathematics, history, science, and some form of Bible study; and that all alike are burdened by the language study requirements. Is it then time to regard the language work as out of proportion? and if so, what can be left out? The fundamental question is, how many courses can a student carry and do well? Miss Burns described the elective system in the American College for Girls, in the Junior and Senior years. There are four groups: 1) All the sciences; 2) Mathematics, Philosophy, Psychology and Education; 3) History, Economics and So-



ciology; 4) Ancient and Modern Languages with their literatures, and Art and Music. Each student is required to take eight hours a week in one group as a major, and one course in each of the other three groups, besides the required courses. The value of the elective system is in its elasticity and adaptability, while its danger is in making possible the failure to study some essential subject, or one required in a foreign university or in the government educational system. So that a student needs to be guided or controlled in the choice of electives.

In the course of the discussion, a most practical suggestion was that each parent be consulted, at least once a year, either personally or by letter, as to the course their son or daughter should pursue. A paper on the same topic by Rev. T. A. Elmer of Marsovan was read by Dr. White, comparing Moslem ideals of education with the essentially different Christian ideals, and advocating a frankly and distinctly American ideal standard for our American institutions, rather than a colorless cosmopolitan ideal.

A committee consisting of Miss Burns, Professor Huntington and Professor Murray was appointed to prepare a scheme for the standardization of requirements for admission to the Freshman class in our colleges, and to report at the next Conference.

Professor Lawrence of International College read a paper on Vocational Courses. He spoke of the good being done by the ones now in operation, and advocated the establishing of another medical school, in the northern part of the empire, presumably at Marsovan, the addition of mining engineering to the courses at Robert College, and greater care in the standardization of commercial courses. He also favored the opening of courses in agriculture, dairying, stock-raising, methods of dealing with insect pests, etc.; also of more normal training and industrial training. As a result of the discussion on this paper, a committee was appointed to examine into the possible improvements in the commercial courses and to report at the next conference. This committee consists of Prof. Lawrence of Smyrna, Prof. Nickoley of Beirut, and Prof. Morgan of Robert College.

The account of the exercises of Thursday afternoon appears in another place. The concluding session of the Conference was on Friday morning, when after Scripture reading by the chairman and prayer by Prof. Huntington, the committee on permanent organization reported through its chairman, Prof. Huntington, as follows:—

1. That a second Educational Conference be held at Constantinople during the school year 1914–15, preferably during the Easter vacation, the final decision as to time and place to be left to the executive committee.

2. That each of the eight American colleges possessing charters be invited to send to this conference 3 delegates, and that each unchartered institution or preparatory school that fits for at least the Freshman class in college be invited to send one delegate. Members of the teaching staff of any American educational institution would be welcomed unofficially.

3. That the question of the permanent organization of an Association of the American Educational Institutions of the Ottoman Empire and the Balkans be postponed for more definite consideration at that time.

4. That an executive committee consisting of a chairman and five members be elected by the present conference to make complete arrangements for this second conference. This executive committee will be empowered to enlarge its membership at its own discretion.

This report was adopted and the executive committee was appointed as follows:

Chairman; Dr. GATES, also Drs. PATRICK, WHITE, Mac LACHLAN, BLISS, & MERRILL.

A committee consisting of Prof. Reed, Prof. Huntington and Miss Burns was appointed to take the necessary steps to preserve permanently the records of the conference.

President Gates then read a paper on The Relation of our colleges to the *Idadi* Standards, accompanying it with an exhibit of the standard twelve or thirteen-year course adopted this year for the *Sultani* schools. The great difficulty, as he explained, is in the lack of common standards both in our colleges and in the *Idadi* schools. There were formerly five-year and seven-year courses in the *Idadi* schools, and the latter in Constantinople was somewhat higher than our high school courses. On graduation from these schools a student would enter the Junior year, if the courses were actually up to their paper standard. By the new law now in preparation, there is hereafter to be a six-years preparatory course, and a seven-years course in the *Sultani* schools, and after that there will be no exemption from military service for any Moslem, while non-Moslems may pay an exemption tax and escape service. But the whole subject is still unsettled, so the rules may be entirely changed. The *Sultani* schools are to be somewhat higher than the old *Idadi* were. All preparatory schools are to be free, and obligatory. Our colleges should probably receive recognition as *Sultani* schools; but to ask recognition as *Mekteb-i-Ali*, or universities, would place us in a false position. Our colleges need a uniform standard, at least for admission into the Freshman class.

Professor Cass A. Reed of International College presented a related paper, on the actual working of the *Idadi* schools. His investigations in the city of Smyrna showed a similar uncertainty regarding courses and the relation between *Idadi* and *Sultani* grades. While the courses in Turkish were described as very good, and as setting the standard for the study of Turkish in ours, the French courses were found to be poor, and those in English negligible.\*

In the discussion that ensued, much emphasis was put on the absolute necessity of conforming to government regulations regarding military service, and of teaching the students to "render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's." Our schools cannot shelter from military service those who legally ought to render that service.

A paper by Professor J. J. Manissadjian of Anatolia College opened the discussion on How far American Models



may Influence the Coming Educational Reform. He drew attention to the influence of environment on American plants in the soil of Asia Minor; and showed how, instead of being instruments for denominational propaganda, they were aiming at a really liberal education, and were preparing men and women for leadership here, not merely for emigration to America. He spoke of the transforming influence of the American idea of liberty as opposed to the despotic idea, of the emphasis on quality of work rather than quantity, of the teaching of religion without sectarianism, and of the benefit of athletics. On the other hand, he drew attention to the looseness in general discipline and to a certain contempt for teachers, as undesirable outgrowths of the liberty in American schools, and of the need of further modifications.

The last paper presented to the Conference was one by President Mary Mills Patrick, on the Educational Outlook for Women in the Ottoman Empire. She described the present system of girls' schools culminating in the *Dar-ül-Mouallimat*, a two years' course of normal training, where there are 143 students. Some of these are Armenians and Hebrews; the principal is a Swiss woman, who has a Turkish co-principal. Men-teachers are employed for certain courses. Much attention is paid to the five daily prayer-hours and the ceremonial ablutions required therewith, all of which seriously interferes with the program. Dr. Patrick also described the Professional School for Girls, opened this year with a Belgian woman at the head, and which has already 570 pupils. It gives a three years' course in various branches of domestic work, including dressmaking, lacemaking &c., and a further course of three years leads to a diploma qualifying one to teach these branches. Dr. Patrick gave also an outline of the Hebrew, Armenian and Greek schools at the capital. The Hebrew schools are mostly under the Alliance Israélite Universelle; those of the Armenians are either under the Patriarchate or private, and those of the Greeks are all under the Patriarchate. There is an Armenian Normal School with 108 pupils; and in the Greek Zappeion there is a two years' Normal course. Dr. Patrick mentioned the 38 women thus far sent by the Ottoman government to Europe for study, some of whom are now teaching; also the eight girls now supported by the Government in Constantinople College.

At the close of the discussion of this topic, on motion of President Patrick a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. and Mrs. MacLachlan, their colleagues of the International faculty, and the ladies of the Collegiate Institute for their generous and hospitable entertainment of the delegates. The secretary of the conference then read the minutes, and after some closing remarks on the value of such a conference, Dr. Gates closed the sessions with a prayer.

#### CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, Jan. 25th, 1914.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Rev. H. S. Barnum, D.D.  
UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew.  
ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. G.H. Huntington.  
CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE, 11:30 a. m. Mr. E. O. Jacob.

#### TREBIZOND NEWS.

The Trebizond Church is very thankful for the good supply of "Topics for the Week of Prayer" sent by the Publication Department. These were in Armenian. We hope they will be published in Greek also for the coming years.

The Pastor and Missionary distributed them in person, tarrying for a few words of prayer in each house. As a result, the sun-rise meetings each morning were well attended, and cottage meetings, begun during the week, will be continued through the winter.

There is an evident reaction from the spirit of atheism which has been rampant in our region.

The whole city, as well as the Orthodox Greek Church, is rejoicing in the return, as Bishop, of the former Deacon, Chrysanthos, after a four years' post-graduate course of study in Germany and Switzerland. He is a broad, spiritually minded man and an able winning preacher.

Kevork Vartabed Tourian, formerly of Rodosto, is now acting, (and it is hoped the appointment will be permanent,) Ecclesiastical Head of the Gregorians. He has taken degrees, after courses of study, in Colorado College and Harvard University.

Rev. Kevork Chakarian, Pastor of the Protestant Church, has accepted an invitation to become a member of the Committee of the Gregorian Schools. He is from Ordou, a graduate of Marsovan College and Seminary.

The Ordou Greek Protestants, (notwithstanding great losses by fire in their Summer market-place,) are erecting Y. M.C.A. rooms near their Church. The Armenian Protestants of Ordou, after long years of hindrances, are now beginning work upon their new church. Their young people who have emigrated to America are helping greatly in both of these undertakings, but the tasks are large, and if any readers of *The Orient* feel like helping, subscriptions, large or small, will be very acceptable.

L. S. C.

#### CALENDAR OF NOTEWORTHY DATES.

Jan. 22, 1804, Daniel Ladd, missionary to Brousa and Constantinople, born.

- 1913, Miss Phoebe L. Cull, Marsovan, died.
- 23, 1913, Unionist coup d'etat; Nazim Pasha shot.
- 24, 1816, Mrs. C. S. Sherman, missionary to Jerusalem, born.
- 25, 1825, Dr. Henry Lobdell, medical missionary to Mossoul, born.
- 1862, Dr. H. G. O. Dwight, Constantinople, killed in R. R. accident.
- 1911, Rev. H. M. Allen, founder of *The Orient*, died.
- 26, 1883, Dr. Wm. G. Schaffler, Constantinople, died.
- 1900, Dr. W. W. Eddy, Aleppo and Beirût, died.
- 27, 1855, Rev. Nathan Benjamin, Greece and Turkey, died.
- 1894, Mrs. Joseph K. Greene, Constantinople, died.



## THE ORIENT

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**Charles T. Riggs**

Bible House, Constantinople.

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE. JANUARY 21, 1914,

## EDITORIAL.

A storm on the Marmora delayed the Editor twenty-four hours on his return journey from Smyrna. We ask the indulgence of all subscribers for the consequent delay in the publishing of this number.

The condition in Albania is a very troubled one and in some districts approaches to anarchy. Ismail Kemal Bey, who was at the head of the provisional government, has given his resignation because, as the *Stamboul* states, documents seized prove that he was one of the principal originators of the movement for seating Izzet Pasha on the Albanian throne, while professing to be loyal to the Prince of Wied, the appointee of the Powers. Greece has declared that the southern portion of Albania, occupied by her troops, will be evacuated without pressure by the Powers, and the evacuation should be complete when our paper goes to press. It is said that friends are seeking to persuade the Prince of Wied to postpone his entry to Albania, but he adheres to his purpose of entering as soon as the loan he considers necessary is guaranteed by the Powers.

A London telegram says that Sir Edward Grey, the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, is well pleased with the reply of the Powers of the Triple Alliance to his proposals, and declares that the form of the three replies shows that the Concert of Europe is not an empty word. Quotations which we give from Turkish papers show how hard it will be for Turkey to accept the decision, especially with reference to Scio and Mitylene. This is natural, considering the proximity of these islands to the Turkish coast. On the other hand the inhabitants of the islands are mostly Greek and would probably, if the question were submitted to them, prefer to belong to Greece. Mr. Venizelos, the Greek Premier, says that inasmuch as the Powers forbid Greece to fortify the two islands, it is to be understood that they will defend her right

to what they have assigned to her. This seems logical, and yet there is no report of such an assurance given by the Powers.

We trust that the shade of Oliver Wendell Holmes was not offended by the outrageous misspelling of his name in our last number. The proof was corrected and the correction seemed understood, but it was the evening of Jan. 13th, and at sundown on that day the Oriental New Year began. The compositor was naturally in haste to reach his home and the correction was overlooked. It is on the New Year's eve rather than at Christmas that presents are given and the evening meal is one of the chief feasts of the year. It begins with a sweet soup, and includes a variety of fruit and confectionery, together with a large flat *cheurek*, or cake, quite different from the Easter *cheurek*, and made only for the New Year dinner.

The boys in some of the suburbs of the capital know when the Occidental Christmas and New Year come, and "with an eye to the main chance," appear at the doors of the houses occupied by foreigners with their songs and tambourines, but they always come soon after dusk, supposing that it is then that our Christmas and New Year begin.

M. de Giers, the Russian Ambassador, left Constantinople Sunday evening for Paris, whence he will go to St. Petersburg. His departure was delayed by a hitch in the negotiations relative to the reforms to be introduced in the eastern provinces of Anatolia. Substantial agreement has now been reached, as the *Stamboul* learns from sources it regards well informed, with reference to the duties of the inspectors-general, who will be named by the Great Powers, and chosen from the smaller and neutral European States, and will be appointed by Porte for a period of ten years. All the points with reference to the powers of these inspectors, their relations with the local government, the method of settling questions on which they and the central government differ, are said to be regulated. A few points remain not fully settled, among them the proportional representation of the different elements of the population in the general council, and the amount of aid to be given to Armenian educational institutions. The Russian Chargé d'Affaires, will discuss these questions with the Turkish Government.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Edmund P. Platt of Poughkeepsie, in the state of New York. He was the father of Miss Miriam Platt, now Mrs. Carey, who was for several years a teacher in Harpout, and his own two visits to this country are most pleasantly and gratefully remembered because of the deep interest he showed in all forms of useful work. He contributed liberally toward the erection of the new buildings of the Normal School at Sivas and to other objects, and was one of the trustees of the Central Turkey College at Aintab. The Poughkeepsie papers announcing his death call him the leading business man and most



successful merchant of the city. He was also a leader in Christian work, for years Sunday School superintendent, a leader in his youth in Y. M. C. A. and always prominent in the counsels of that association, a member of missionary and other committees, and a man so highly esteemed for his valuable qualities that his death is deeply mourned, not only by the whole city, but by a far-reaching circle of those who have been helped by him, or have been inspired by his example.

It was a happy idea which combined the Educational Conference with the inauguration ceremonies at the International College. Despite the failure of the delegates from three colleges to the southeast, the presidents of four institutions were there to grace the platform on the great day. Add to these the civil and military governors of the province, the heads of the Orthodox and Gregorian communities, and the American and British Consuls-General, and you have a galaxy impressive enough to satisfy the most fastidious. Everything went off with the punctuality of a chronometer and the smoothness of an engine. And well-deserved tributes were gracefully paid to the unwearying and determined enterprise of the one man to whom above every other human being the College owes its success, — President Alexander MacLachlan. Only one thing was lacking in the inaugural ceremonies. At least a dozen ordained clergymen were present besides the ecclesiastics named, yet there was not a single prayer offered. This, however, was not in accord with the desires of the College authorities.

Of the Conference itself one carries away most hopeful impressions. It is confessedly only a beginning, the initiation of closer cooperation as between all the American institutions, which have hitherto in the main steered each its independent course. But it was not merely a hopeful beginning. It showed to a remarkable degree an already prevailing unity, in purpose, methods and results. The ideal, in all the institutions represented, is a distinctive one, and might well be studied by the other educational establishments in the country. Briefly stated, it was shown to be character-training for the uplifting of every race in the Empire. Stress was laid on the absolute need of the religious note at the foundation of every program. Emphatic assertion came from all sides of the importance of systematic Bible study for all students. And all were agreed that development was needed along two lines especially, — teacher training and vocational courses. The interesting fact was brought out that while uniformity in requirements for entering the Freshman classes of our American institutions was lacking and desirable, in the government schools as well as in many community schools there was, in addition to this lack, a deplorable want of system in the program for each year, and a most lamentable uncertainty as to what are the courses required. And at the bottom of this confusion lie two main facts. One is the insufficiency of trained teachers with the required moral backbone; the other the uncertainty as to requirements for military service. While our institutions must conform strictly and loyally to Government decisions regarding the latter, we have a splendid oppor-

tunity for service along the former line. From our colleges and normal training schools may go forth annually such a force of young men and women of Christian character and modern pedagogical training as shall deservedly take the lead in the coming educational reform in this country.

We look forward with still greater expectations to the second Conference, which will probably be held about Easter time of 1915 in Constantinople.

#### INAUGURAL CEREMONIES AT INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE.

Without a serious hitch of any sort, the Inaugural ceremonies at the new grounds of the International College at Paradise, Smyrna, were carried out on Thursday, Jan. 15th. The weather was cloudy and cool, but no rain fell, and everybody was happy. Although it was vacation, quite a large number of students were there, and a most astonishingly large crowd besides. Fully three thousand must have been on the campus and in the buildings during the four inaugural hours. And thanks to the tireless energy and vigilance of President MacLachlan and his able assistants, the entire program went off without a hitch. Many a college president, when half of the expected visiting presidents failed to turn up, would have been in the depths of despair. Not so our canny Scotch Canadian friend. It disappointed him, of course, when a telegram announced that Drs. Bliss, Merrill and Christie had missed their boat; but the ceremonies went on just the same. Promptly at two o'clock the Vali of the Province appeared in his motor car, outside the north-east entrance to the grounds. Close behind him were Gen. Pertev Pasha, Military Governor of the district, the Greek Metropolitan of Smyrna, the Grand Rabbi, and other dignitaries. They were joined here by the British and American Consuls-General, the members of the College faculty, the invited guests and others, and all proceeded through the gates to the main building, MacLachlan Hall, which was formally opened in a fitting speech by the Governor, His Excellency Rahmi Bey. The Right Reverend Chrysostom, Archbishop or Metropolitan of Smyrna, then called upon all to join him in prayer to Almighty God for a blessing on the indefatigable president of the college and those associated with him; upon the generous donors whose gifts made these buildings possible, and on the students assembling here for their preparation for life. On behalf of the Board of Managers of the college, Sidney La Fontaine, Esq., then proceeded to unveil the tablet over the main entrance, which revealed the name of the building, and threw open the door. Part of the great gathering passed in and witnessed the unveiling of a tablet to the memory of the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart Kennedy, the donors of the building fund. President MacLachlan made a very appropriate address in doing so, and was followed by President Gates of Robert College, who spoke of the connection of Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy with Robert College as well. The procession then went to the Gymnasium, which was formally opened in a speech by the American Consul-General, Hon. George Horton. After that the procession went over to the



new Auditorium, where the British Consul-General, Henry Barnham, Esq., C. M. G., made an address of dedication and declared the building open.

As many as could make their way into the Auditorium thereupon crowded in, till probably a thousand were packed in, and all standing room was taken. President MacLachlan expressed gratitude for the presence of the Vali, the Mayor of the City, the head of the Bureau of Public Instruction, the Metropolitan of Smyrna, the American and British Consuls and other notable guests. He then spoke of the kind assistance and consideration shown by the Ottoman authorities in the transfer of the institution to Paradise; of the splendid gifts of its friends in America; and of the faithful, painstaking work of architects, builders and common workmen, alluding to the remarkable fact that of the three hundred and more workmen employed in the erection of these buildings, not one had met with any serious accident. "Above all," said he, "we are grateful for the guiding, sustaining and helping hand of God. He has in many and diverse ways directly answered our prayers."

President Gates of Robert College began by quoting an Arabic proverb to the effect that "the greatest of fools are the teachers of schools." This, he said, is an obsolete opinion of a bygone age. We have before us its refutation in the work of a master-mind. He congratulated the people of Smyrna on the inauguration of a new plant in the greatest business in the world, that of making the future better than the past, of training men to bear their part in the commonwealth. The one great need for progress is for men, and these institutions seek to furnish men of Christian character.

President Patrick of Constantinople College spoke of the special sympathy of her college for this, since it expected in a short time to go through a similar experience of moving into a new plant. There is not only an increase in numerical strength but also an increase in inspiration given by new surroundings. This campus and these buildings owe their existence to the reality behind them,—of long years of academic progress and sacrifice.

President White of Anatolia College then gave an address in Turkish, on the text "Oukhouvvet" or brotherhood, which he said had been found to be a necessary supplement to the Liberty, Justice and Equality of the Ottoman motto. If brotherhood is genuine, all the others follow in natural course. He referred to the visit to Marsovan recently of the Vali of Sivas, Mouammer Bey, and his cordial brotherly attitude, as an illustration of his subject.

Mr. C. T. Riggs, secretary of the Western Turkey Mission, spoke in Greek, referring to the various purposes of students in coming to college, some to be better able to get rich, others from the mere love of learning, and still others with the desire to be prepared for life service for their fellow men. He said that the object of the college was not to make its faculty rich, or to teach certain books and courses, but to train the character of its students along true, strong Christian lines.

Professor C. W. Lawrence then read the Inaugural Ode which he had written for the occasion, and which we give in full :—

## INAUGURAL ODE.

By C. WAKEFIELD LAWRENCE.

Rejoice, auspicious day! ye friendly skies,  
That form a crystal canopy on high,  
Take on your deepest blue; thou golden sun,  
Whose eye hath conned the scroll of history,  
Benignly smile on this, our festival;  
And ye protecting mountains, echo back  
In sympathetic tones our notes of praise!  
O Paradise, the earthly! may we seem  
Not to be rash intruders, who are come  
To violate thy haunts of ancient peace;  
But rather friends, with license to extend  
Thy precincts to the bounds of this great land.

Time's car rolls swiftly on; the seed is sown,  
And though the day seem very far removed  
When, from the branches of a mighty oak,  
The feathered bards sweet melody will make,  
Yet will that wondrous miracle take place.  
The babe is born; the joyous parents bend  
Over the tiny cot, and speculate  
Of how, in seeming endless years of time,  
That laughing jewel will become a man  
And have his own responsibilities;  
Yet, all too soon, the flying years will pass  
And leave the babe a bulwark of the state.  
So with the seeds of learning, or the babes  
Of education; planted tremblingly,  
Or nursed with anxious care, at last they grow  
To sturdy giants, bearing nations up  
Above the baser life of former times.

We meet to-day to celebrate a change,  
The coming to maturity of this  
The youngest College in the fair Levant.  
The seeds were sown long, weary, years ago;  
And she, whose prayers were earnest, did not live  
To see her vision stand materialized.  
Yet he, to whom the larger meed is due,  
And they, whose labor and whose sacrifice  
Have aided in the task, stand here to-day,  
High privileged above the common lot,  
To witness the fruition of their hopes.

Let gratitude be given to Him above,  
Whose bounty and whose love to human kind  
Have been responsible for all good things.  
Let warm acknowledgements be made to those,  
Who, in the other corners of this land,  
Have blazed the way,—time-honored pioneers,—  
And made the name "American" a pride.  
Let deepest thanks be rendered, too, to those,  
Especially the great philanthropists,  
Whose gifts and sympathy in troubled times



Have made the years of labor not in vain.  
And let congratulations fall on him,  
Whose efforts have been crowned with such success!  
Long may he live, and, like those veterans  
Of kindred place, sink to a green, old age,  
Beloved and honored by a host of men!

And may this land, whose hospitality  
Makes possible this College and this day,  
Be richly blest! Nature has done her part,  
And, with no niggard hand, has scattered wide  
Her choicest gifts; these old Ionic coasts  
Gave Greece her early art and choicest lore;  
The saintly John, the bold Apostles, too,  
Have breathed this balmy air; on yonder hill  
Great Polycarp was faithful unto death.  
With such incentives, and the ample scope  
The courteous Ottomans extend to all,  
Surely 'twill not be long ere vast advance  
Is made; when if we all are faithful too,  
Jehovah the All-Loving shall extend  
His fullest sanction, and throughout this realm  
Justice and truth shall have their endless reign.

All through the proceedings, between the different speeches, the students assembled in the gallery gave cheers for the speakers and sang college songs in true American style and with much vim. The Governor of the province must have been quite surprised at this sort of outburst of college spirit, so utterly un-Turkish, but so characteristic of American college life. The Boy Scouts, too, in their natty uniforms, under the leadership of Rev. S. R. Harlow, were prominent in helping to keep order and hold the crowds in check.

The exercises of inauguration were closed with the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Brett, British Chaplain.

At five o'clock the auditorium was again packed with an enthusiastic audience that listened to a most enjoyable concert given by the full orchestra of the Smyrna Philharmonic Society. They played some rather difficult pieces by Schubert, Ponchielli, Pessard, Gluck and H. Berlioz, and rendered them in a manner that did high credit to their able conductor.

Thus closed a day which should ever be a red-letter day in the memory of President MacLachlan and his able corps of associates. Seldom, if ever, has such an assembly been gathered before, in Turkey or elsewhere, for such a scholastic purpose: it was eminently international and polyglot in character, and well illustrated the unifying object of the International College.

A word must be added in recognition of the unlimited and untiring hospitality of all connected with the College, who cordially threw open their homes to the guests; also mention should be made of the decorations, flags and other ornaments, so tastefully adorning all the buildings, inside and out, as well as the entrance to the campus. These represented many hours of work on the part of several unknown friends, and added decidedly to the æsthetic effect.

## COMBAT IN PALESTINE SCHOOLS CONTINUING.

A telegram from Jerusalem addressed to the *Zionist Gazette* contains the following:

The struggle as to whether the Hebrew tongue as the national language of the Jewish people is to have supremacy in the Jewish schools in Palestine, or is to be replaced by the German language, has led to the result that almost all former teachers of the Hilfsverein have, as a means of protest against the preferential use of the German language, resigned their positions and have founded new Hebrew schools in different cities. As a consequence of the ejection of their teachers by the German Consul and policemen, the great majority of the pupils of the German Hilfsverein schools have left these institutions and entered the new Hebrew schools. The Hilfsverein, on account of its forceful procedure, has lost all the sympathy of the population. A statement made by the German General Consul, v. Schmidt, now explains that he acted under a misapprehension of the situation. In an interview with Herr v. Schmidt, the former Head-Mistress of the Girls' School of the Hilfsverein in Jerusalem, explained to him that there was no animosity on the part of the Jewish population against the German language, and that the latter was to have a prominent place in the curriculum of the new Hebrew institutes. Thereupon the German Consul authorised the Head-Mistress to publish the following statement:—

"I should under no circumstances have entered the school with the policemen, if I had known the real conditions. Now that I have personally looked into the matter, I feel sure that the teachers would have quietly continued their work without any attempt to prejudice the pupils."

The large French daily papers declare themselves in full sympathy with the brave defenders of the Hebrew language.

## JEWISH INSTITUTE HELD UP AS EXAMPLE TO TURKISH SCHOOLS.

The *Zionist Gazette* has received the following telegram from Constantinople:

"Thirteen prominent Mohammedans of Haifa have published in Constantinople daily papers their views on the new Jewish Technical Institute to be opened in their city. They advise the Vilayets of Syria and Beirût to take this Institute as a wonderful example of the cultural and economical advancement of certain communities in Palestine. The whole native population of the Ottoman Empire approves of Hebrew becoming the general language of instruction in the new Institute, whereas Turkish and Arabic are to be compulsory, and foreign languages to be optional subjects. The well-known Turkish politician, Agaief Ahmed, has published an article in the Constantinople daily *Terdjouman Hakikat*, in which he emphasizes the fact that the schools in Palestine are authorized — according to the Turkish law — to use Hebrew as their language of instruction."



### TURKEY AND THE ISLANDS.

Since the purchase of a new battleship, the Turks have been more insistent than ever that the Aegean islands must be retained. The *Tanin* says:—

"Turkey cannot renounce her sovereignty over these islands. The islands we deem necessary for our Asiatic safety, including Mitylene and Scio, are those that form the line of defense for Asia Minor. One could not conceive of a more logical demand. It merely avoids all possibility of events arising from centers of dangerous agitation that would be troublesome. The possibility of signalling to the Anatolian coasts by fires lighted on the heights of Mitylene and Scio is a fact makes us reflect, and we have decided to prevent this by every possible means. Every other solution of the islands question is unacceptable by us.

"The government has hitherto seized every opportunity to explain its intention on this problem of the islands, and the press that is the interpreter of national sentiment has on its part considerably enlightened public opinion.

"We will now change the question put by the *Neue Freie Presse* and ask in the name of civilization and humanity, in the name of history which does not forget great injustices: What will Europe do if Turkey will not accept a solution inconsistent with her own life and safety?"

On its part the *Jeune Turc* says:—

"The powers have come to understand that the day of tergiversation, of hesitation and of cowardice, has definitely ended in Turkey. Our government is firm and determined, and has back of it a united Ottoman nation, welded together by the misfortunes and injustice it has suffered in the course of recent months. An unjust sentence, no matter what power or force may have pronounced it, will never be accepted by the government, and will be rejected by the whole nation. And let us not forget another point. Will the powers that have pronounced a sentence opposed to right and morality, further proceed to carry their injustice into practice? We are certain they will not. Among the members of the Concert of Europe there is not one who will consent to use its force to compel us to bow to a decision of which our conscience disapproves. In fact there cannot be the least doubt that the cession of Scio and Mitylene will never be accepted here; however pacific a government may be, however desirous of living on good terms with the whole world, there are questions on which no agreement seems possible: these are questions imperilling the honor or life of the nation.

"The entire Ottoman people has placed its confidence in those who are today at the helm; over and over again these men have proved to us their reliability. They will not fail us in this national crisis. The country's honor is in secure hands; whatever comes we are sure it will be safeguarded."

Twelve Bulgarians, among them several priests, who had been condemned by the Court Martial at Constantinople, have been set at liberty, in accordance with a clause in the treaty of peace between Turkey and Bulgaria.

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## EMPIRE NEWS. THE CAPITAL.

An American delegation is now in our city consisting of Mr. Andrews of New York, Mr. Brown of California, and Mr. Rees of Illinois. They represent the Panama-Pacific International Exposition which is to be held at San Francisco in 1915 to celebrate the completion of the Panama Canal. Their Mission is to Turkey, the Balkan States, and the countries along the Mediterranean, to secure their participation in the Exposition.

Fifty-four Englishmen, who are to work in the navy yard and have part in the proposed reorganization of the Turkish Navy, arrived at Constantinople Jan. 13th. The superintendent who is to have charge of the works, is Mr. Burns. On the evening after their arrival a reception was given them at the British Sailors' Home, at which the British Ambassador and many of the leading members of the British community were present.

In official circles it is said that the new Parliament will be able to meet in two months from the present time.

## OTHER LANDS.

The population of the territory annexed by Bulgaria as shown by the census recently taken is 494,190 in Thrace, and 175,070 in Macedonia. In the district of Moustafa Pasha, out of a population of 33,130 only 4000 are males, which shows the loss of life caused by war.

The replies of the Powers forming the Triple Alliance to the proposals of Sir Edward Grey have been officially communicated to the British Foreign Office. The three Governments accept Sir Edward's proposal with regard to the Aegean islands occupied by Greece, which is that they all remain to Greece except Imbros and Tenedos, which are necessary to Turkey for the protection of the Dardanelles. The adhesion of the Powers to this arrangement is conditioned on the evacuation of Albania by the Greek troops by Jan. 18th.

The French aeronaut Bonnier, now at Cairo, has been offered 500 pounds sterling by an English journal if he will continue his aerial voyage to the Cape. It is said he has decided to accept the offer.

It is reported that the Catholicos at Etchmiadzin in the Caucasus, the highest ecclesiastic in the Armenian Church, is dangerously ill.

The Bulgarian Parliament, having refused to pass the urgent measures presented by the Government, has been dissolved by royal decree which states that the dissolution was necessitated by the inability of the Parliament to accomplish any work.

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