

1 January 1962

Dear Friends,

A writers' conference sponsored by the Publication Department was held at Uskudar on Nov. 18, 1961. About forty students from the American Academy for Girls, the Girls' College, Robert College, and Darüşşefaka Lise were present at the all-day affair.

Leaders of the conference included Bay Vedat Nedim Tör, director of publications for Doğan Kardeş; Bay Nüzhet Baba, diplomatic consultant and writer; Mrs. Sofi Huri, member of the Publication Department and translator; Mrs. Eloise Enata, assistant professor with the Georgetown University Group in Ankara; Bayan Nurcihan Kesim, writer and translator; Bayan Seniye Pakalin, teacher at the American Academy for Girls; Bayan Mefharet Ersin, translator; and Miss Dorothy Blatter and Mr. William Edmonds of the Publication Department.

The theme of the conference was "Some of the Literature Needs of Turkey Today". In his introductory remarks Mr. Edmonds stated that the Publication Department has felt its job is not itself to make, but rather to create and cultivate an interest in Turkish literature. "The purpose of this conference, he said, "is to help inspire young Turkish writers to this end."

The three special fields under consideration were literature for new literates, children's literature and translation. Lectures and discussions were directed to these topics. A panel discussion led by Mr. Webster was on the subject of translating for publication.

Mrs. Enata discussed the army program for literacy that has been accomplished through the cooperation of the Turkish Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Education, ICA, the Georgetown University Group and JUSMMAT. She illustrated her talk with slides taken of the program in action.

Before starting basic military training, illiterate recruits are sent to a Literacy Battalion at one of the sixteen army training centers. The term of four months and thirty-four hours a week included studies in reading, writing, arithmetic, civics and health. These centers are able each year to teach between sixty and seventy thousand recruits the basic skills of reading and writing. Since April 1959 one hundred fifty thousand men have completed this training. Classrooms have at the most twenty-six men, and the teachers are trained elementary school teachers doing their military service. Early lessons include such basic skills as holding a pencil and training muscles to form the letters. In reading, sentences are taught first, then words, then syllables, and finally letter sounds. Large sentence cards are used as the teacher cuts the sentence into its component units and the students reassemble it. By the end of the four months recruits are well on the way to usable literacy. Thus these men have become better citizens.

Mrs. Enata further developed the needs, problems and procedure in writing for new literates. She gave eight requirements for writing successfully for this group: (a) Know for whom you are writing; know the problems and the way of life of the new literates. Remember that for them low effort and high reward in reading produce the most successful communication. (b) Shape the story around the reader's daily life; help him identify himself in the story, and then lead him through this to greater knowledge. (c) Use a form of expression your reader will enjoy; usually a story is the best. (d) Use a direct and personal style: names, personal pronouns, action verbs and conversation. (e) Choose the simplest words. This is no time to be erudite! (f) Keep your sentences short; in the basic books sentences are four to six words long; an average of eight to ten words is long enough in more complicated writing. (g) Keep the paragraphs short.

With thankfulness,

And let no man deter you.

It may be

That the miracles will be wrought through such as you.

(h) Don't try to say too much at one time; the new literate is not used to holding many ideas in his mind. One or two basic ideas well said are most effective.

Mrs. Enata emphasized the strong desire the new recruits had to become literate at the beginning of their training. This of course contributed greatly to their success. "This strong desire," she said, "must be kept alive through abundant suitable reading material on their level of understanding."

Bay Vedat Nedim Tör, known for many years as the spearhead of the development of children's literature spoke on the need for good children's books in Turkey: "We all know that the chief characteristic distinguishing us as human beings from animals is the ability of human beings to learn how to read and write.... For this reason man has been called 'the most honorable of all creatures'.... The greatest common possession we have with the animals is a body. The body needs to be nurtured to keep alive....

"Our intelligence and our spirit also need nourishment in order to work, to develop, to advance.... Intelligence and spirit also have their special meats, fats, vegetables and fruits. These, too, may either be fresh, clean, strong and useful, or stale, spoiled, rotten, adulterated or poisoned. Nurture for the intellect and spirit consists of books, magazines, films, the theater, concerts and exhibitions.... The important question is to distinguish between good and bad publications....

"The greatest duty in this field falls to the parents and teachers. For, long before the child becomes of school age,... the parents must acquaint him with books. It is necessary to build a 'friendship bridge' between the child and books as early as possible.... Then when it is time for the child to begin school, the books to be given him such as the alphabet, and other school books, readers, arithmetic books, etc. should be richly illustrated with very pretty and well-chosen pictures, well-colored and well-bound and very attractive. For it is these first books that will determine the child's behavior towards reading and learning for all his life....

"We hope that you and others like you when you become parents of children yourselves, will be the helpers in this cause as persons who have understood the significance of bringing up children from early childhood on good and beautiful books. And we hope too that famous writers of children's books will come into being from among you."

The enthusiasm shown on the part of those participating as they met both formally in the meetings and afterwards at tea was encouraging. It is hoped that conferences of this type will become a regular part of the Publication Department's program. Plans for workshops with smaller groups have already taken shape and it is hoped that soon we will have some definite results - articles or stories - which we can share with you through publication.

Anna G. Edmonds

Dear Friends,

A new belle and a new beau, appropriate to the holiday festivities, have been welcomed into the Mission family. Mary Heather was born to the Wallace Robesons in Izmir on December 15, and David Taner was born to the Frank Stones in Gaziantep on January 13. Dr. Virginia Updegraff delivered the Stone baby — her first professional duty since arriving in Turkey.

The second item of news but hardly less important than the arrival of babies — weddings: Marilyn Avery was married to Necip Simer on the 4th of October by her father in Claremont, California and Yuiko Nakajima's wedding took place in Kyoto, Japan on December 27th. In the manner of old Kayserili's, we wish the young couples, "Ayni yastıkta kocayasınız."

The Talas clinic is busy with twenty-five to thirty patients a day. During Beth Miller's fall tour of duty there she was taking care of three or four undernourished babies for several days in her home. Also during the same time she made ten trips with Mary Lou Winkler on the Bookmobile. While Mary Lou distributed on an average of 200 books a week, Beth distributed CARE powdered milk and semolina to the many villages on the route.

The yearly Social Service Seminar was held in Üsküdar December 27 to 31st with students attending from Talas, Izmir, Tarsus, Üsküdar and English High School. More information on this seminar will be given in the next Dear Friends. At the same time the Winter Conference and the Committee on Spiritual Life and Outreach met in Tarsus.

Please keep in mind that plans are under way for a summer school in Jerusalem July 3 to July 24. This is sponsored again by NECC. More information will be forthcoming later.

Gaziantep reports that triplets, Hasan, Hüseyin and Hilmi, were born in the hospital December 9. All were alive and wiggling at five days, with good prospects of continuing so.

Caroline Silliman, formerly head of the Aleppo Girls' School, celebrated her 80th birthday in October. She still drives her own car, and takes much pleasure in her continuing Near East contacts.

Mrs. Leslie, who reports the information about Caroline Silliman also reports the death of Margaret Hinman on December 30. Miss Hinman was teacher and treasurer at the American Collegiate Institute in Izmir most of her twenty-five years in Turkey.

The engagement of Caroline Carleton has been announced and plans are for a spring wedding.

Christmas cards from many people renewed memories of friendships. Among those not recently mentioned in Dear Friends were Gwen Wolsted Davis (a daughter and a son), Ruth McClintock Henderson (married to Dr. Joseph Franklin Henderson December 28 in Washington, D.C.), and the Lloyd Swifts (happy in having a Negro teen ager as part of their family this year).

We agree so completely with the idea expressed by the FOR card sent by the Donn Kesselheims that we wish to end with it:

Be still! Those are the angel voices!
The hopes within your heart are promises,
And the day is right for miracles.

Grasp the glad, brave commitment
With thankfulness,
And let no man deter you.
It may be

Anna G. Edmonds

That the miracles will be wrought through such as you.

Dear Friends,

Not the least of the many overdue changes taking place in Istanbul are the renovations in the Union Church of Pera known as "The Dutch Chapel". Under the direction of an architect from the Netherlands the building is being restored to its 17th century simplicity. The yellow concrete outer covering has been knocked off revealing walls of stone interlaced with brick. The entrance from the street into the church has been levelled; a new linoleum floor throughout the church and a new wooden basic floor in the sanctuary have been put down. New side lights replace the overhead fixtures and there are new windows. The side walls have been painted off-white, the front and the window recesses a greyed brown. Central heating has been installed. The basement, a Dutch prison one hundred years ago and a store-room since, has been cleaned up with a new floor, new windows and a new entrance, and is to be used for some grades of the Sunday School and receptions. New toilets and new gutters have been made and the roof restored. A large part of the cost of renovation is being met by the Dutch government: because of its antiquity the building is under the management of the Department of Museums in The Hague; the remainder is being solicited from past and present friends and members of the congregation. (Contributions can be sent to The Treasurer of the Board, Dutch Chapel Account.)

Several meetings have taken place since the last issue of Dear Friends: Radio Workshops were held January 27 and 28 in cooperation with the Publication Department and the Radio Committee. Mr. Hal Fisher, Director of Program Coordination of the new "Voice of the Gospel" radio station in Addis Ababa, directed seminars on dramatic and religious writing for radio. About forty people attended the meetings.

The Medical Board met in Gaziantep January 11-13; the Publication Department Board of Managers in Istanbul February 3 and 4; the Turkey Schools Board of Managers in Talas March 4-6; the Executive Committee of the NECC, Radio Program Committee and NECCRAVCO kept the Administrative Center of the Protestant Churches in Cairo busy with their meetings February 27 - March 7.

Recent visitors in Istanbul have included the Rev. Daniel Bliss enroute from Beirut back to Boston and Dr. Knox of Old South Union Church of South Weymouth, Massachusetts. Dr. Knox also visited Izmir, Tarsus and Gaziantep before heading for the Holy Lands. Mr. Ripley Tracy, brother-in-law of Miss Jessie Martin and teacher of physics at the American Academy for Girls in Üsküdar, 1952-53, has been here for several weeks. He is on leave from his school in California to study school curricula in Europe.

Greetings to the mission have come recently from Miss Clara Bissell, formerly with the Girls' Service Center and also a teacher at the American Academy for Girls. Miss Bissell had an operation for a cataract on one eye in November and was expecting another one in February. In spite of these, she has been able to drive her own car.

Miss Eleanor Mason, a nurse at the Admiral Bristol Hospital in Istanbul for six years until 1954, now lives in Orlando, Florida with her mother. She was promoted to the rank of Major in the United States Army Reserve Nurse Corps last May.

A son Bruce was born to the Harold Schoups in Gaziantep February 10. Mr. and Mrs. William Sage Woolworth report the birth of a granddaughter, Cynthia Anne, to their son, Bob, on March 7 in New Jersey.

Miss Faye Seager, granddaughter of Mrs. Elvesta Leslie, was married to Michael W. Morier on February 24 in the Olivet College Church, Olivet, Michigan. Mrs. Morier has been teaching in Litchfield, Michigan. Mr. Morier returned to Germany shortly after the wedding for his military service and his wife hopes to join him in the summer.

Miss Phoebe Clary, director of the Girls' Service Center from 1927 to 1957, arrived in Istanbul March 14 for a two week visit.

Anna G. Edmonds

NEW BOOKS

The Publication Department wishes to announce the appearance of two new books which will make fine gifts for your friends. One is Fighter Without a Sword by Jeanette Eaton, or in Turkish, GANDHI, KILIÇSIZ MÜCAHİD. Although this biography of Gandhi is directed at young people, it is appealing to adults as well. A very fine write-up of it appeared in the Thursday March 15th issue of Yeni Sabah newspaper as an editorial by Nezihe Araz. Price TL 3.50

The other recent publication, A Book About God by Florence Mary Fitch, or in Turkish, ALLAH HAKKINDA, is really a remarkable book both from the standpoint of a fine text, excellent printing, and the beautiful illustrations which were made for it by Patricia Rosenkranz of our Izmir School. It is suitable for both Moslems and Christians and should fill the need which parents feel in endeavoring to give to their children a true conception of God. It sells for TL 3.50.

Dear Friends,

BOOKMOBILES

At IZMIR as reported by Barbara Fowler.

On a Saturday morning not long ago two little American Girls joined hands with the children in a Turkish grade school to play Ring Around the Rosie on a large grassy lawn. The words of the song were English, and the music Western, but to the children in the village the expression of fun and friendship was universal and not soon to be forgotten.

The occasion was one of the regular visits of the Izmir school bookmobile to the village grade schools. In addition to carrying the much needed and much appreciated books to the children and teachers, this bookmobile also brings enrichment to the classrooms and to the Izmir students helping with it.

Much of the work of handling the books is done by the students of the lycee section of the American Collegiate Institute. They distribute the new books to the classes in each school and collect the old ones. They prepare stories to tell to the different levels with pictures to illustrate. Usually one girl on each trip has some kind of a demonstration for the upper grades. One time it was a small oil pump that worked on a flashlight battery. Time permitting, the girls answer all the questions they can that the children ask.

In between times of village trips junior high and lycee girls who belong to the Book Club help catalog and reinforce the books. Each time the books come back they must be checked to repair torn pages and covers. This is a big job because the yearly circulation is between two and three thousand books. Students in the Book Club also help select the books from the book stores.

Money for the continuance of the Bookmobile is raised largely from the student-sponsored Springtime Carnival held each year at the school. Students and teachers volunteer their time and their projects for the profits of the carnival. Booths selling stationery, partly used books and records, hand work, and concessions for games are scattered around the upper school grounds. Some sort of a national tea house with girls in appropriate costumes serves cookies, pastries and lemonade which the home economics classes have prepared for the occasion. A yearly attention-getter are the camel rides. So popular are these rides that at least two camels are necessary to handle the business.

Initiated in 1957 by Mrs. Gertrude Drury, the Bookmobile now serves twelve villages about five times a year each. The largest village on this year's run has a population of over 2,000 and a school with seven classrooms. The smallest has 420 people and two classrooms. Many of the schools in these villages are on double and triple sessions, indicating the need for and interest in education. While most of the books are distributed through schools in the villages, they have been distributed through coffee houses, the increasing number of reading rooms in the large villages and the local 4-K (Turkey's 4-H) Clubs.

Perhaps the side of this bookmobile that is the most lastingly valuable is the education that it gives to the Izmir school girls in the ways, thoughts and needs of the village people of their own country. In truth this bookmobile is a medium of cultural exchange.

Recently a principal in one of these schools accompanied one of his students on a violin while the boy sang an old Turkish song for the girls and teachers on the Bookmobile. This teacher plays classical music at his home regularly and shares his talent with his classes. In another village the group of ten were spontaneously invited into the teacher's one-room home for lunch. The students had lunches packed by the school; the teacher's

wife prepared the hot part of the meal bending over a small gas burner set down on the floor level in the fireplace.

Another week the Bookmobile was commandeered to act as an ambulance. A very ill child needed to be taken to the only doctor around, one of two who live in the head village and serve 39 surrounding villages with such care.

Because of the success of the Bookmobiles in encouraging progress in the villages, the Izmir National Library has added its own Bookmobile service to its work. This Bookmobile emphasizes adult literature and distributes its books at present to 36 villages. Thus Mrs. Drury's dream of five years ago is seeing fulfillment in an ever-growing village enlightenment program.

At TALAS as reported by Mary Lou Winkler.

The Bookmobile was started at the Talas Junior High School for Boys as a club in the fall of 1959. The idea was brought to the Student Council and they were enthusiastic and so the club was organized. That year we started by going to two villages, Akçakaya and Endürlük, which were interesting because the one had a modern building with three classrooms and teacher's office while the other was an old mansion which had gorgeously carved but unpainted and weathered doors. In the first building there was a separate room where we could lay our books on the table and the children came in class by class to borrow and return their books. In the second we distributed our books out on the stone seddir at the far end and checked them out at a table from one of the classrooms.

The second year distribution expanded to four villages and now books are out at eight. I say that our book are "out" because there are two villages which have been closed to us because of snow so we have not been able to exchange regularly at them. We have over 1,000 books which mainly are for children. But now we do have a few titles for adults which circulate little because the demand in the villages in our area is small.

The Bookmobile activity is centered in a club of the school with eight to twenty-five active members who more or less regularly come once or twice each week to the Bookmobile Room, which is in the Talas Nute Clinic's basement, to repair and prepare books. These boys in turn are the ones who go to the village, so a relatively small group of boys are getting into the villages, but these are going there repeatedly as we go out each Saturday morning. Other activities of the Club center in collecting money for the Bookmobile through an annual carnival which raised TL 450 this year and through book sales.

The first two years I drove the Clinic's Volkswagon (I am the only woman driver in Kayseri now - the fifth woman in the state to have gotten a license, the other four probably former mission personnel too). This year the Robert Kellers graciously lent their bus so instead of the four boys we are able to take from eight to ten on our weekly trips. Because we are going to more distant villages we have started to take our lunches at times, too, picnicking on the road. This year more of the staff are sharing in the driving.

When Beth Miller was here in the fall, she started going out with the Bookmobile checking the babies in the villages who had previously come as patients to the clinic. The bookmobilers enjoyed going with her to the village homes and helping her in some way. This seemed like an exciting new venture for the boys were seeing first hand some of the health problems of the villagers and were involved in an attempt, small though it was, to meet some of these.

Highlights of our trips are many. There was a trip to Ispile this winter, which usually takes us half an hour at the most. We thought the roads were open, but they had drifted over, so we used some of the fields which were swept clean, but finally came to an impassable spot. The boys were busy pushing, Jerry Miller trying to drive, and in be-

tween these Beth and I and the boys were having lots of fun with snowballs. Finally a truck came from the opposite direction, a second one, and the occupants came out and gave us a push. Before we had passed the spot two buses from Tomarza were stopped, so we had a real crowd out in that lonely spot pushing and shoveling the snow and watching.

On another trip I forgot to check the gas gauge and we ran out of gas in a village (not the one in which we were going to lend books). Mick McCain and one student thumbed a ride back to Reşadiye and from there walked to school to get gas to bring back to the car. In the meanwhile we who remained with the car were entertained at a wedding celebration. Finally a truck came by and we purchased gas and got back to the school before Mick had had time to get his gas and set off.

The boys' favorite trip was the one to Kuru Köprü. Books were given out in the usual way, but when our work was finished, the teacher ushered us into his office and brought us homemade bread, cheese, butter, honey and tea. The boys were enthusiastic about this usual Anatolian expression of hospitality. The teacher however apologized saying he would have a real meal for us the next time.

This month we shall start a new outreach activity with a program of showing films (mainly about health) at the schools while the Bookmobile is there. Through the wonderful help of Ann Davis and Bill Karrigan in Ankara, the U.S.I.S. is lending us a projector, generator, and films. This activity may grow so that we shall show films at night in the villages, too, just as Mr. Paul Nilson use to do a few years ago in this area. We hope to keep it definitely a part of the Bookmobile activity so we might call it a Moviemobile. And this reminds me that at times we have considered our vehicle as the Pushmobile, too, because of its slowness. The big problem we will always face when we really get "out" to the villages is road conditions. For only as Turkey's roads become better can such activities as bookmobiles really begin to get to the really remote villages.

Anna G. Edmonds

Dear Friends,

This report of February's Educational Council meeting has been prepared for Dear Friends by Lynda Blake.

"The eagerly awaited Seventh Educational Council (Şura) has come and gone. The preparation made for it was outstanding. Numerous commissions met as much as a year ahead of the meetings of February 5-15, 1962. Each commission prepared a report, which was then summarized, by a co-ordinating council, into a 115 page booklet. This booklet was sent out along with many of the individual reports, to the elected delegates, so they might study them before the time of the meeting.

"To the meeting at the Gazi Terbiye Institute, in Ankara, came nearly 500 delegates, from all corners of Turkey, although those listed outside of Ankara, İzmir or İstanbul comprised some 110 out of the total in attendance, thus only approximately 25% were from other than the three largest cities. It was noticeable that there were not many women in attendance--the count seemed to stand at about 50, and most of these were in the field of Girls' Technical Education.

"These delegates met in a general opening session--President Cemal Gürsel came, Prime Minister İsmet İnönü came, and the band opened with the national anthem at a fast tempo. The Minister of Education Hilmi İncesulu spoke at considerable length, giving the essence of a longer written report, and touching on many phases of education in Turkey. After that, many 'reports' (tebliğler) - indeed some 46 in number - were presented by delegates with a concern, representing some group like the Teachers' Unions. Originally 15 minutes were to be allotted to each, but time came to be at a premium, so they were ruthlessly cut to 5 minutes.

"By noon of the second day we separated into 6 Commissions that were to study separate subjects such as Teacher Training, Secondary Education Arts and Education, Administrative Organization, Principles of Education and Technical Education. I attended the one on Secondary Education, where the topic of Private Schools was to come up. Our own Commission, after a day of discussion in which the topics were still too large to cope with effectively was again divided into sub-commissions. There in groups of 15-20, real work, with steady communication and genuine encounter between ideas took place. After two days in these smallest groups, we reported back to the Commission, then the commissions presented their reports to the floor of the meeting. The process was well conceived, but I doubt if the results lived up to the hopes of most of the participants or observers.

"There was a good deal of previous discussion of 'Planlama' or Planning. This was a genuine effort to think ahead, to recognize the needs of the country, an effort to try to meet them, instead of continuing in routine patterns. But, perhaps because this planning had gone too far ahead of the group who came to the meeting there seemed to be a gap in understanding, and a resulting sense of frustration. The problems of the smaller, frontier schools, or of the unschooled areas are great. The problems of the over-crowded cities are stupendous--yet they could not seem to come to grips with a solution that was any better than more of the same. The lack of enough personnel, especially at the classroom teacher level, the lack of satisfaction with the rewards, financial or prestige-wise, for the teachers was discouraging. The end result was that in the last three days of reporting, people were voting upon proposals that were vital to many, and yet about which the group as a whole had very little thorough information. This was discouraging

to those who had spent hours and months in preparation of the proposals. I did not feel that people went away with much lift of spirit. Problems, problems, problems and not much inspiration for their solution.

"Specifically, it looks as though a commodities tax may go through to help the educational budget. It looks as though the 'Olgunluks', or Matriculation examinations, are due to return, in a modified form. Technical Education was the important topic of the day, while the Academic Lise was left as a direct preparatory step for the University, instead of a comprehensive high school--though this was a close battle, and is due to come up again I am sure. There has been an amazing growth in the number of Turkish private schools, and from the proposals made and passed, it looks as though everything will be done to foster and encourage this avenue as an aid to the overcrowding in the government schools. The school year may well be lengthened. But all these proposals have to go first through the Educational Commission (Talim ve Terbiye) and then many must be passed by Parliament--this council was a deliberative and advisory body. Contrary to the impression created by the newspapers, it was not a decision-making group.

"It was stimulating for me as an observer to be in the midst of such a group. Many friends were there, known over the years. Kadri Yörükoğlu, head of the Educational Commission; one of the most refreshing contacts was with Bayan Sıdika Avar-- who called herself a missionary. She unhesitatingly attributed the direction that had been given to her life to her contact with Miss Greene, in the İzmir school, from 1923-26. Her leadership in the meeting was apparent, her place of respect in evidence. She had spent a goodly number of years in the Diyarbakır area--I believe people of our Mission have met and known her. Others--Adnan Eseniz (İzmir 1932) now principal of the Atatürk Kız Lisesi in İstanbul, a pioneer experimental school; Feriha Baynur (İzmir) now on the Educational Commission; Mithat Enç, of Gaziantep.

"There was a good deal of opinion expressed that the problems of the country in the educational field had become too vast to be taken up in this way--that for another time, there should be district meetings, perhaps, to take up the matters--or have the Council concentrate on only one or two topics at one time of meeting. Of such is the process of growth in a democracy."

Anna G. Edmonds

American Board Mission
P. K. 142, Istanbul, Turkey
25 June 1962

Dear Friends,

The approaching of the summer travel season has brought several relatives of mission personnel to Istanbul. Dr. James F. Ross, nephew of Miss Dorothy Blatter and professor of Old Testament at Drew University and Mrs. Henry Van Engen, mother of Keitha Van Engen of Üsküdar were here briefly. Mr. Richardson Fowle, son of Mr. Luther Fowle, arrived to spend about a year doing research for his Ph. D. dissertation in Turkish history. Two former residents of Istanbul are in the city for extended visits. Miss Caroline Padelford, teacher of English at Üsküdar from 1956 to 1959, returning for a six-week visit with friends and students will be joining her fiancé, Howard N. Tuttle in Germany. He is doing work for his Ph. D. in Political Science at Harvard University; Miss Julia Bergmark, with her parents in Turkey from 1950 to 1955, is here for the summer on a Student Exchange Program.

The Mission was host to three couples enroute to the International Congregational Council meetings in Rotterdam in July. Rev. and Mrs. Andrew K. Craig, Rev. and Mrs. David H. Sandstorm and Dr. and Mrs. Nelson C. Dreier were here early in June. Rev. Craig is Superintendent of the Indiana Conference, Rev. Sandstorm is with the Mission Stewardship Council, and Dr. Dreier is Secretary for Tours for the Stewardship Council. Mrs. Faith Drobish, presently a teacher of English in Izmir, has been visiting here for two weeks and speaking as the Special Representative of the Women's Fellowship. Miss Marguerite Manning, missionary of the UCBWM in the Bagdad High School in Mansour, Iraq has been paying a fraternal visit to the Istanbul Station.

Gwen Scott informs us that, "Three Mission members were fortunate in having an opportunity to attend meetings of the Second National Turkish Social Services Conference, held in Ankara May 5-8. The subject under discussion this year was in general the one of children. Robert Keller of the Talas School and John and Gwen Scott of Üsküdar School sat in committees which discussed reports on delinquent children and prevention of exploitation of children and better use of their free time. Other committees which brought reports to the general assembly were those dealing with mother and child health. With children in need of protection (this included studies of the present statistics on orphanages, foster families, adoption, and help to families with children in day nurseries and health and psychiatry clinics), with special education for children with physical or psychological disabilities and abnormal mentalities, and a committee studying ways to coordinate better the work of several thousand official and private organizations now working to help children in Turkey."

News comes from America of a visit by Dr. William L. Nutes, Sr. to the Junior Nutes in Auburndale. On their return trip to California via Canada Mrs. Bessie Lyman was their companion. Miss Olive Greene likewise had a cross-continental trip visiting many friends enroute. More recent news from her is of an operation. We wish her "geçmiş olsun." Miss Gertrude Drury has been

teaching classes of about forty children in all, kindergarten through eighth grade, in church school. The Rev. Robert Barstow, Mardin 1911, is celebrating his fourth year of "retirement" as Minister of Visitation for the Second Congregational Church of Greenwich, Connecticut.

We record with pleasure that while not mission members Dr. and Mrs. Rolf Lium have just arrived at the Admiral Bristol Hospital to take up the duties vacated by Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Swanker. Somewhat earlier this spring Dr. and Mrs. Patrick Murphy Malin were welcomed into the Istanbul community to fill the position of President of Robert College left vacant since the departure of Dr. Duncan Ballantine in 1961.

William Edmonds and Paul Nilson were present at the meeting of the Radio Project Committee of the NECC in Jerusalem June 12 to 15.

A letter from Elizabeth MacCallum Lees tells of her and her husband's continuing interest in disarmament. In addition to being a chemical engineer he is secretary of the Chester UNA.

Anna G. Edmonds

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Dear Friends,

About 1800 Muslim, Orthodox, Protestant and Jewish refugees in Turkey are being cared for by the World Council of Churches Service to Refugees (WCC/SR). Housing, food, medical care, clothing, vocational training and annuities are among the types of help being given these people. The Reverend Walter B. Wiley, on loan from our mission to the World Council of Churches, has prepared the following report of this work in which he has been engaged for the past year.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) recognizes as refugees under the Mandate about 2200 people in Turkey. These are people who have struggled with, or fled from, or are afraid to go back to the country of their origin because of political conditions there which they know or fear would result in their death or persecution if they were to return. A few of these fought the Communists in Russia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Albania. The Yugoslavs and Albanians spent up to three years in camps in Greece under the care of the International Refugee Organization (IRO) before coming here. A few fled in King Zog's party when he escaped from Albania and the Communists took over. In addition to these, a few young men are all the time escaping from the Bulgarian border guards and surrendering to Turkish police who screen them for Communist spies and turn over the accepted ones to the agencies of the UNHCR here. Occasionally a passing ship or a Black Sea fishing boat from Bulgaria or Rumania or Russia, or the border patrols on the Armenian border contribute to this number. For these there is help from the United States Escapee Program to move them on to France, the USA, South America or Australia.

However, the majority of the refugees on the agencies' caseload came to Turkey from Yugoslavia and Albania for economic reasons before the political struggle with Communism became acute. Most of these people did plan and some still hope to return to their native land someday. But the communist governments imposed conditions which they fear or refuse to meet, and they have given up their allegiance to the home governments. To most of these the Turkish government has given six months' (in some cases a year) permits as "unclassified" ("sur place") refugees, and for them the UNHCR or his Agencies perform the services of a consular representative.

In Turkey the IRO turned over its functions to the WCC/SR about 1953 when Miss June Stoll was sent here to open an office to finish off the refugee problem in Turkey. Refugees have continued to come, and there is always a hard core not easy either to establish here or to resettle in other lands. Furthermore the immigrants who had not become Turkish citizens and who chose to become stateless rather than apply for Communist passports quickly gave to the agency office a semi-permanency. The time came when the National Catholic Welfare Conference (NCWC) opened its own office in Istanbul. By mutual agreement and cooperation the NCWC took over the Catholic caseload (about 400 in number) and the WCC/SR continued to care for the remaining Muslims, Orthodox, Protestants and Jews.

About two-thirds of the registered refugees look after themselves and may for the time being be considered established. However, during Turkey's present depression an increasing number of these people are joining their requests for help with

the continually needy. A few have found it best to become Turkish citizens. For these, farewell and Godspeed. Most of the few Protestants and Jews are registered for legal and political protection in case of war or public disturbance.

If the agencies were to undertake to loan money and pay debts and dispense general relief, not only would the social workers' investigations become very much more difficult but we should very soon need much larger government resources. The American Surplus Food Program distributions, which for three years were carried on through the WCC/SR, are now an NCWC activity. And food which American and Canadian churches contributed to us through Church World Service has now come to an end due to the demands of vast new refugee camps coming into existence in Africa and Asia. Even the money for buying food on the local market is now exhausted, and next month, unless new sources of help come, the corners of our cupboard will be cleaned out and the last food cards, i.e. credit cards with local grocers covered by the WCC/SR, will be given out.

Clothing continues to come. Twice a year the WCC/SR makes a general distribution to all refugee comers, and all other activities are eclipsed by the surge from the scheduled visitors each morning for two weeks. Clothing and food distributions are financed by the churches or not at all.

In order to be eligible for UNHCR funds projects must be presented, investigated, approved first in an agency office and then by the High Commissioner's office, with perhaps further investigation from that office. One example of this is a Yugoslav refugee, his Turkish wife (of Yugoslav blood) and his small son. Three years ago he received a grant for the purchase of a horse and cart for his liver and tripe trade. He was very grateful, and they were classified as established.

But a year later the stable where the horse was kept caught fire and the horse was badly burned. The cart was rescued. For three days our refugee tried to save his horse with poultices of yogurt, but the horse was badly burned and so it died. Then our man applied again to us for help and in the meantime took to the expensive method of transporting his wares each morning from the slaughter-house to the open-air market of the day by taxi. That meant also that he must sell out by night, even at a lower price or use up the day's profits in another taxi.

Finally in his turn his case was investigated to determine the truth of his statements and the degree of his being "ex-settled". Statements and need being established, one of the staff went with him to the animal market outside the walls of the city one day and bought a horse to his satisfaction and ours, and sent him on his way rejoicing.

All refugees are encouraged to become Turkish citizens or to emigrate. Either project has priority over other forms of help. Some refugees have been refused Turkish citizenship. Many of these have married Turkish citizens. Help is available for Turkish citizens when the head of the household is a refugee, but refugee women who are married to Turkish citizens may have only political and legal protection. However they may receive help in schooling expenses where the child or the father is a refugee. Help is available for them also in some training-on-the-job projects being carried out by Unilever and Philips.

Correction to paragraph 2 line 3 on: But the legal and real estate difficulties have already taken about two years of effort. Men in the foreign community as members of the Refugee Advisory Committee are at the same time members of a "Foundation" which will be the legal owner of the property.

People are always falling sick, especially people who are undernourished, inadequately housed and clothed and unemployed or underemployed. Refugees are most frequently under the heavy hand of all these handicaps. A doctor is in the employ of the WCC/SR to whom sick ones may go and with a slip from our office may get medicine costs paid. The Balıklı Hospital gives WCC refugees free treatment and operations when necessary.

The WCC/SR housing project aims at healthful housing, large enough for the family unit and at a rate commensurate with the individual ability to pay. This will be four buildings with 120 family units in all. But it will still take at least two years before this project can be begun. Men in the refugee community have formed the Refugee Advisory Committee which will become the legal owner of the property.

Coupled with this good, inexpensive housing will be annuities for the many needy ones sixty years of age and over: \$17 monthly for single people and \$25 monthly for a couple. Five years ago a wing of a building at the Hopital de la Paix near Şişli was renovated at WCC/SR expense in return for life-long care for twenty-two people. We find some, of course, who need institutional care. For these people Switzerland and Denmark have been especially helpful.

In 1961 \$9500 of UNHCR funds and \$1500 of WCC/SR funds were disbursed to the most needy welfare emergencies. These amounts have been greatly reduced in appropriations for the current year.

These reductions come because refugee work in Turkey is no longer on a relief basis, but seeks to bring about its own elimination by such help as will lead to resettlement or local integration. Consequently the two foci of the agency's work are the Resettlement Office and the Local Integration Officer. In his hands are the petitions which refugees bring in with hopes for financial help in establishing a business, in getting needed animals and equipment, in renting a garden, or in working out a partnership. Since refugees, like foreigners in general, are not legally employed in competition with Turkish citizens, setting up a business of their own or finding a Turkish citizen who wants a partner become favorite ways of getting a toe-hold in the country. And the projects submitted try to the uttermost the social worker's business experience, ingenuity, knowledge of human motives and behavior, and frequently his social vision.

The agencies have been able to reduce the number on their caseloads very little, but at least they have held the number down. The High Commissioner is now proposing team visitations from countries receiving refugee emigrants to select groups of several hundreds as a source of labor or for health treatments, etc. With such a program, as Sweden has just given encouragement to by taking from Italy, Greece and Turkey six hundred people, the older refugee countries could lose their refugee work in the foreseeable future, and many people be brought to a happier day."

Anna G. Edmonds

Dear Friends:

With regrets the Mission has bid farewell and Godspeed to twenty-one of its members as they depart for home to take up other work: Jackie Blake, Jack and Judy Brown and children, Gloria Castillo, Ray and Barbara Fowler and children, Virginia Hermann, Dan Horiuchi, Ron Kraehenbuehl, Ralph Noyce, Mary Olmsted, Felix and Doris Powell and children, Pat Rosenkranz. In the same manner as they have made themselves a permanent part of our memories we hope that the Mission will remain with them.

Of this group Jackie Blake was married August 5th to the Rev. Paul C. Clayton. Her father, Everett Blake, and her grandfather, Dr. Fred Field Goodsell participated in the ceremony. The Rev. Mr. Clayton is minister of the Congregational Church in Orange, Massachusetts. Their address now is 224 South Main Street, Orange, Mass. Gloria Castillo's marriage is to take place in Pasadena, California on August 25th. Mary Parakilas who visited and worked with her sister Anna at the American Collegiate Institute in Izmir in 1960-61 was married in Athens, Greece the end of July. Devon Yoder, who is spending the summer in the States, will return with his bride in September. Her maiden name was Marcia Schrock.

Presently in the United States on regular furloughs are the Burton Thurstons, Martha Millett and the Everett Blakes. The Thurstons will return to the American University in Beirut in October. Dorothy Blatter is to leave early in September. Addresses for these people while in the States are: Rev. and Mrs. Everett C. Blake, 289 Woodward St., Waban 68, Mass.; Miss Dorothy Blatter, Albion, Nebraska; Miss Martha Millett, Farmington, Maine; and Rev. and Mrs. Burton B. Thurston, 1285 Waller Street, Salem, Oregon.

Miss Katherine Ross left Turkey on June 28 after having spent two years teaching shorthand and typing at the Girls' Service Center following retirement from teaching in Izmir following retirement from teaching in the States. During the time she was associated with the Service Center, one of her pupils, Yildiz Mertel (a graduate of the American Academy for Girls in Üsküdar), won first place in the international competition in speedwriting. Miss Ruth VanMeter, executive director of the Service Center, also left Turkey permanently on July 31. She goes to Honolulu to become the executive director of the YWCA there after October 1. Her address will be 1566 Wilder Avenue, Honolulu 14, Hawaii. The same day Mrs. Elvesta Leslie left having spent a year in Istanbul visiting her daughter, Mrs. John Seager.

To balance the many goings, there have been a few comings: Dr. and Mrs. William L. Nute, Jr. and daughter Christie, returned to the field in June to take up the position of director of the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital in Gaziantep. Dr. and Mrs. Kirk Stetson and family of the Rhodesia Mission have been in Istanbul in August. Dr. Stetson was a teacher at Robert College in 1946-48. Miss Jeannette Rankin, former member of Congress from Montana, visited Harriet Yarrow in Izmir. Rev. and Mrs. Garrett E. DeJong, missionaries sent out by the Reformed Church in America to do work with the American Mission in Kuwait, were in Istanbul on vacation. Mrs. Ruth Horton, formerly a teacher in Üsküdar (1957-58) and at the Girls' Service Center, has been visiting former students in August. Mr. and Mrs. Vern Newbold, active in missionary work through the Colorado Conference, were here in June and saw the work at the Bible House and at the Üsküdar school. Dr. and Mrs. Lewis V. Thomas, formerly

teachers at Robert College and C. C. visited Turkey in July and August. Dr. Thomas is the head of Turkish Studies at Princeton University and is in the Near East doing scholarly research. Professor and Mrs. Victor Kelley from the University of Arizona in Tucson were in Istanbul in August. Both Professor and Mrs. Kelley are active in the Arizona State Conference. Dr. and Mrs. John D. Metzler were visiting here also. Dr. Metzler is the Director of the distribution of surplus food in Athens under Church World Service.

During Annual Meeting guests included Dr. and Mrs. Albert J. Penner, minister and President of the Massachusetts Congregational Christian Conference and a member of the Board of Directors of the UCBWM; Rev. Edwin Luidens, General Director of the Radio Project of the NECC; Miss Marguerite Manning, teacher at the American School for Girls in Baghdad, Iraq; Miss Arkema, enroute to missionary service in Indonesia; Dr. and Mrs. Peter Doghramji, President of Aleppo College and their two sons, Paul and Carl; and Rev. and Mrs. Loring D. Chase and eleven members of the Connecticut Pilgrim Fellowship. Former members of the mission also present at Annual Meeting were Mrs. Leslie, Mrs. Cevat Orhan (Talas), Dr. and Mrs. Paul E. Nilson (Talas), Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Nilson (Talas and Üsküdar), and Miss Arlene Hallett (Adana). Mr. and Mrs. Sowter, parents of Ruth Robeson, and Mrs. David B. Updegraff, mother of Dr. Richard Updegraff were also present briefly at the Meeting.

One other coming of more permanent nature than these visitors should be recorded: Dieter Emre Barry arrived June 20 in Ankara to the pleasure of his older sister and brother and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barry of Tarsus.

Work camps have claimed the attention of Dr. and Mrs. Warren Winkler (near Kayseri), James and Mary Lou Johnson (Karahöyük, Gaziantep), (They were formerly in Talas; now he is under contract to Robert College.), James and Lynn Jorgensen and Virginia Hermann (Yeniköy, this work will be the subject of the next Dear Friends.) and Granthia Lavery (Rhodesia, Africa).

Two corrections should be made of the last issue of Dear Friends; apologies to Gertrude Drury, she has been a Mrs. for longer than we have known her. Also Necla Palamutlu, teacher at the American Collegiate Institute in Izmir was present at the Second National Turkish Social Service Conference in Ankara in addition to the three mission members named. This reminds us that we appreciate being corrected: it reassures us that you do read these letters.

Sincerely,

Anna G. Edmonds

Dear Friends:

"Operation Bridge" is the name of the project initiated by Virginia Hermann and carried out by her, James and Lynn Jorgensen and six students from the American Collegiate Institute in Izmir in the village of Yeniköy during the month of July. The project's main aim was to teach some of the women of the village to read and write; in addition the group gave sewing lessons and help on the care and feeding of babies. The report of the project in Miss Hermann's own words follows:

"You are doing 10 years' work in one month." This is the way the district health officer summed up the village project conducted by the American Collegiate Institute during July, in which three American teachers, six Turkish students, and the six hundred residents of Yeniköy lived and worked together toward mutual enlightenment.

The project evolved as if it were guided by some Divine plan. More than a year ago, the Turkish government, recognizing the need for understanding between city and village dwellers, assigned each city school one or more "sister villages". We were assigned three in the vicinity of Izmir, of which Yeniköy was the most remote and primitive. A few students made periodic visits to the villages and once or twice children from the villages were invited to visit our school, but we felt we hadn't really established the close contact we wanted with our sister villages.

Then last winter I went to Egypt as a guest of the Protestant churches there to talk about the social service program which our school operates. While there, I learned about a village literacy program which the churches were sponsoring and through which 10,000 people had learned to read and write. In Turkish villages the majority of the people are illiterate, so I came back to Turkey hoping that we might put this idea to work here, and was heartily supported by our principal, Mrs. Blake.

We discussed our idea with the leaders in our sister villages, and chose Yeniköy for the project. The village promised us the schoolhouse for living quarters.

The next problem was to find students willing and eager to spend a month of their summer vacation working hard in a village. I wanted six, and we finally found exactly six excellent girls, all of whom later proved more than equal to the task before them.

If we were to teach reading and writing, what methods and materials would we use? After many letters and much study and discussing, we finally decided to use Frank Laubach's method. An alphabet book was available written in this system, but readers to follow it were not, and so we wrote and illustrated our own readers based on the daily life of a village woman, emphasizing good health measures. At the same time, we were deciding what we needed to take with us and gathering equipment and supplies. Mrs. Blake gave us her hand-operated sewing machine for sewing lessons. We arranged for films on health subjects from USIS, and two of the students learned to operate the school movie projector and electricity generator. We ordered a supply of books from the Publication Department, and got pamphlets, posters and a medicine cabinet from the Health Department.

When all was ready, on July 1st, we set out for the village with our equipment loaded into a truck and accompanied by a reporter from Turkey's most widely-read newspaper. The schoolhouse was open and we immediately set to work scrubbing the floor and arranging our beds. We made the room as much as possible like a village home with a few benches along the walls as the only furniture and the floor covered with rugs for sitting. The Health Department had arranged for us to have another room a few houses away, and this we set up as a kitchen.

For a few days we experimented with different ways of organizing our time and effort. At first we tried getting up with the villages at 4 in the morning and working in the tobacco fields until about 10, but we found that we had more village guests in the evening than at any other time, and we decided we could not get to bed at midnight and get up at 4 every day. We gave up the field work on a regular basis and got up luxuriously late at about 8:30 each morning. Our working crew of 7 people was divided into 3 sections each day: 2 girls were in charge of breakfast and lunch; 2 others, in charge of housekeeping and supper; and the other 3 were what we called "the creativity group"---free to do something extra and special like working in the fields or visiting new homes.

More important than the household duties, of course, were the village duties. Each girl was an "expert" in one or more areas of our work. Oya Yazgan was the head teacher, and organized the reading and writing lessons which were given at the schoolhouse principally in the evenings and which everyone, including the Americans, joined in teaching. Oya also "made rounds" once or twice a day to give lessons in the homes of students who could not come in the evenings. Füsün Ergener was the "baby person" and had about half a dozen undernourished babies whose diet and care she watched over carefully, and numerous others whom she saw occasionally. Kerra Tunca and Jale Aksel were on call mornings and afternoons to help with sewing, and I was amazed at the great variety of items - from baby dresses to women's underwear to men's shirts - that they were able to help the villages to make - all without patterns. Esin Akcakoyunlu was the secretary and treasurer of the group as well as assisting Füsün with the baby care and doing much remedial work in reading and arithmetic with village children. Deniz Gümüşayak, during the two weeks she was with us, was in charge of the household, and practiced diplomacy worthy of a U.N. delegate as our spokesman in conferences with village leaders. The Jorgensens joined us for the last two weeks, and their musical and culinary talents raised group spirit considerably. The song "We shall not be moved" became our theme song, and we made up many verses relating to our work. Mr. Jorgensen spent much time in the coffee house with the village men (as it didn't seem wise for him to be too evident in the schoolhouse when the village women were there) and thus he provided a link between us and the other half of the village population. Miss Hermann did the heavy worrying.

One of the things I worried about as we prepared for the project was the reception that the villagers would give us. Would they be suspicious and resentful and, if so, how would we work to overcome their attitude? Perhaps no one would learn to read or write at all. Perhaps the mother would refuse to listen to our suggestions on child care. We never had to face these problems, because right from the start we had the confidence, acceptance and cooperation of the villagers. On our first day we had made an agreement to raise a scarf on the flagpole when it was time for lessons since the villagers do not have clocks. No sooner did the scarf go up than a delegation of a dozen or more women appeared all ready for lessons. Later, however, it appeared that the evening after dark was the most convenient time for lessons. Our

good neighbor, Mustafa Bey, loaned us a kerosene lantern and lit it for us each evening. Each evening one could see by the semi-dim light of the lantern the large school room floor completely covered by small groups of pantalooned village women, their scarf-covered heads bent close to the floor, laboriously drawing the new shapes called letters or sounding out words; each small group with a different teacher and studying a different lesson. More than thirty women took at least one lesson, and by the end of the month, fourteen of these finished the alphabet book and were able to read at least at the minimal level of connecting letter sounds to form words. Four finished the entire reader which we had prepared and began reading Publication Department books for new literates. We are sure that these four, at least, have a functional knowledge, and will become good readers without further help if they continue using their new skill. We have encouraged all four to teach others what they have learned, and have had them "practice-teach" some of the slower students. At first they laughed at the idea of being teachers and said no one would listen to them, but gradually they became enthusiastic about it. The brightest student of all said to us, "Please give me any books you can. I don't want to ever stop reading!" Her brother went away into the army toward the end of the month, and she was delighted that she would be able to write letters to him, which she would not have been able to do a month earlier!

Füsun found that most mothers fed their babies nothing but breast milk, and did not know how to prepare other food, so she set up a "soup kitchen" preparing a big potful of vegetable soup each day, and distributing it to all mothers who came in the evening with empty pans - sometimes as many as a dozen. During the last week of the project she taught the mothers how to make the soup, and other baby foods, and distributed powdered milk sent to us from CARE to babies who were underweight. She also selected an especially progressive mother who had been to primary school, to train to help the other mothers after we left. Füsun gave this mother books on child care and went through them with her, and trained her to prepare foods, bathe and sun bathe babies, treat diarrhea, etc. We hope she will be able to carry on the work.

One small triumph was represented by a baby whose arms and legs were tightly swaddled when we first saw him, and who cried constantly. We told his mother that he would be happier and healthier if he weren't tightly bound. She scoffed at this and said he wanted to be even more tightly bound, but a few days later she appeared with him unwrapped and after that we never saw him swaddled again, and he didn't cry so much. She never mentioned the change, nor did we - the villagers are proud.

One day two of the students and I decided, as our "creativity" project, to visit the village hoca (minister). I was a little worried about how the hoca would receive a Christian guest, but he was very cordial, and we spent a long, pleasant time discussing religion and listening as he read from the Koran and other Islamic writings in Arabic. We asked if we could come to the Friday service at the mosque, but he said that women couldn't come. The next day, however, he came to give us a special invitation to the service, so on Friday we sat in the balcony and watched through the lattice work, while the men of the village went through the movements of their prayers and the hoca and his assistant chanted back and forth to each other from the front and back of the mosque - an awe-inspiring sight and sound.

We were thankful that we had come to the village with a well-stocked medicine cabinet, because every day people came to us with cuts, aches and pains, fever, diarrhea --all sorts of ailments which they expected us to treat. In this, as in everything,

Providence was with us, because all of our treatment was successful - some almost miraculously so. One day a woman who had been badly gored by a bull came. Two of the girls looked at her wound and wanted to call the doctor from the nearest town, because she obviously needed stitches. The woman said she would rather die than see a doctor, so the girls washed the wound, applied antiseptic powder and put on a dressing and crossed their fingers. Each day after that they changed the dressing, and slowly, slowly the wound healed almost as if it had had stitches.

The newspaper reporter who came with us on our first day wrote an article which prompted two letters from interested readers offering us books and medicines. This caused us to think still more seriously about how the work that we had started would continue after we left. We felt that for the sewing machine, books, and medicines which we would leave we needed not only people trained in their use, but also a place where they could be kept and used by the whole community. We talked with the village leaders about building a "village center" for these activities. They showed us an old, abandoned house of four rooms which they agreed the villagers would repair and at harvest time they would collect 1000 T. L. (about \$100) to help pay for materials. We promised them another 1,000 T. L. (although we didn't know where it would come from!) Another concrete need of the village is a bridge across a stream which becomes so high in winter that vehicles cannot cross, and so the village is cut off from Izmir for three months or more each year. We have promised to help obtain government approval to build the bridge, the villagers supplying the labor and the government supplying a supervisor.

As we became better acquainted with the village we gained insights into things we had seen only dimly or not at all before. When those of us who don't know village life think of helping villagers, we think first of cleanliness and health. We learned the hard way how difficult it is to keep oneself and home clean in the village, where water for the home must be carried from the community fountain and clothes are washed by rubbing on stones near the fountain, and dust swirls constantly into the buildings. We discovered that we weren't able to keep our household as clean as the villagers kept theirs. Partly this was because we were not accustomed to coping with primitive necessities such as having buckets full of water at the right place at the right time, and partly because we did not know how to strip our life to the bare essentials - we brought and used too many "trappings of civilization" like kerosene stoves, paper bags, individual dishes. Village homes usually contain only one room (easy to clean). Cooking is done on a tripod over a few logs (neat and simple) and the whole family eats out of one common plate (little dishwashing). Knowledge of good health procedures is important, but the Yeniköy people at least, had heard the same things so many times before that they didn't make too much impression. Healthy living can be taught most effectively on an individual basis, during home visits, when we find some specific thing which can be improved. I think that instead of concentrating on health in our readers and books for new literates, and in the films we show, we should write stories about other social problems (some of which I will mention later), not condemning the old way, but suggesting a better way. Films which expand the horizons of the people would be good; for example travelogues. When they see a film, they want to forget their own surroundings and see something new and exciting.

In Yeniköy the infant mortality rate is high - perhaps 50% of the babies die in their first year, so the need for proper training in child care is great; however, along with this must go encouragement of birth control, because at present the ideal is to have as large a family as possible.

When a girl marries in Yeniköy, she usually moves in with her husband's family, who treat her like a servant. The men in families often allow their women little freedom. Respect for every priceless human individual is a great lesson which needs to be taught.

Adult literacy work is important not only to unlock the door to knowledge for the present adults, but to make them value education for their children. Although there is a primary school in Yeniköy, many of the school-age children don't go to school simply because their parents don't feel it is important for them to go. If this continues, Turkey will have an illiteracy problem for many generations to come. Good books in abundance are necessary to keep the literates literate.

The progress of a village seems to be directly proportional to the number of educated people in it. It will be a long day, I think, before many city people will want to go to the villages to live, so the hope of the villages lies in educating village children to be teachers, nurses, midwives, agricultural experts, and sending them back to the villages to work. For this the Village Institute plan seems ideal. Let's hope it will be revived. At present many of the most progressive villagers want to leave, and move to the city. We must try to convince them that there are better opportunities for them in the village than in the city.

One great barrier to village progress is a lack of civic cooperation. The villagers don't have much sense of helping others outside their own family for the common good of all. When we talked with the women about selling our sewing machine to the whole village so that everyone could use it, some said, "It won't work. We'll fight over it."

The most important effect of our project, I believe, was an increased understanding and appreciation between the village people and us city folks of each other's way of life. "The villagers" will never be to us a faceless mass again, but will be Fadime and Emine and Hatice and little Hasan with their smiles, tears, hugs, and handshakes. In this sense the new bridge which we hope to assist the villagers to build to increase their chance for communication with the rest of the world is a concrete symbol of the spiritual bridge we have already built together."

Anna G. Edmonds

Near East Mission
P. K. 142, Istanbul, Turkey
15 October 1962

Dear Friends:

The yearly change in mission personnel has been made by the following new people: In Gaziantep, Irma L. Nunn, R.N. (3 year appointment, enroute); in Istanbul, Knox Jones (3 years), Patricia Saylor (3 years), Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Scheideman and two children (5 years), Mrs. Katherine Wells (3 years), and Anna Williams (1 year); in Izmir, Margaret Campbell (3 years), Margaret Geroch (3 years), Ruth Jones (2 years), and JoAnn Roda (3 years); in Tarsus, Richardson Fowle (1 year), and Mrs. Devon Yoder (2 years); and in Beirut, the Rev. and Mrs. David Stowe and four children. The Thurstons, the Nutes, the Averys, the Wittlers, the Millers, Mrs. Severinghaus and the Stones we welcome back from their stays in America.

Several missionaries took part in work camps during the summer. Dr. and Mrs. Winkler directed a school building project near Kayseri. Granthia Lavery was in Southern Rhodesia and Alice Darnell was in Austria. Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson, formerly of Talas, were near Gaziantep. It is hoped that fuller reports of all these projects may be the subject of a coming Dear Friends.

The Rev. Robbins Wolcott Barstow, tutor in Mardin 1909 - 1911, died September 17 in Stamford, Connecticut. As Executive Director of the Department of Overseas Union Churches of the National Council of Churches he visited Istanbul several times, most recently four years ago. He also was President Emeritus of Hartford Seminary Foundation. News has also come of the death of Mrs. Helen Elgie Scott, formerly a teacher in three American Board Schools in the Near East. In the years 1925 - 26 and 1928 she taught at Gedik Paşa; from 1931 - 34 she was at Uskudar; and from then until 1936 she was acting head of the English Department at Pierce College in Athens. Her interest in missions was world-wide since previous to this as a missionary sent by the Baptist Church she had been head of a girls' school in China, had worked in community service projects with her husband in Osaka, Japan, and later than this in 1947 she taught home economics at Kobe College in Japan.

Among the numerous visitors to Istanbul have been Mr. and Mrs. James Metzger with AID in Jordan; the Drs. Walter and Catharine Miles (he formerly an exchange professor of psychology at Istanbul University); Mr. and Mrs. Jack Steele, formerly with the University of Nebraska at Ankara University and presently on the faculty of Atatürk University in Erzurum; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Henderson touring the Near East and also visiting Mrs. Henderson's former Mission station (she is the former Ruth McClintock); Dr. Ruth Parmelee who served in Harput, Saloniki and Athens was here briefly with her niece; Miss Ruth Shinn, Miss Eula Redenbaugh, Miss Beth Rhude, and Miss Genevieve Dilts who were all on their way home after a conference for YWCA secretaries in the Far East. Miss Shinn was a teacher at the American Academy for Girls in Uskudar 1947 - 49. Dr. and Mrs. Walter Marshall Horton, retired professor of systematic theology at Oberlin Seminary passed through in the middle of September enroute to Bangalore to be on the faculty of the United Theological Seminary. Mr. and Mrs. Dart from the Bible Society in Bangalore were here at about the same time, as were Mr. and Mrs. Douglas H. Decherd from the Tripoli Boys' School in Lebanon and Miss Holmes with the World Council of Churches Service to Refugees in Melbourne, Australia. Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Hoffmann were here learning about the work of the United Church Board in the Near East. He is Minister of the South Dakota Congregational Conference. The Rev. and Mrs. James G. Fyfe and their 3 sons came through on their way to their teaching positions at Atatürk Koleji in Iskenderun. Mrs. Fyfe is the former Dorothy Nilson; she and her husband were teachers in Tarsus from 1951 - 54. (Dr. Paul E. Nilson noted that in June of this year the Nilson family had completed 126 years of teaching in Turkey.)

Beth Miller announced her engagement to Louis Wilkins the end of August. The couple hope to be married in Talas this coming June. Gloria Castillo is now Mrs. John Liggett and is living at 1411 S. Primrose, Elhambra, California. Kristin Helene is pleasing the family of Pogirskis since her arrival in Talas on September 9. The Wiley's twelfth grandchild, Elizabeth Louise, was born August 21 to Carol and John H. Kinghorn. Arden Bucholz, teacher in Talas 1958 - 60, writes of his marriage in early July at Manhasset, Long Island.

The new executive secretary of the Girls' Service Center, Miss Eleanora Davis, has arrived in Istanbul to take over the position vacated by Miss Ruth VanMeter. Bruce Privratsky is attending Deerfield Academy in Deerfield, Massachusetts. A long article written by Cahit Tanyol entitled "Followers of Father Isely" appeared in the 28 September copy of Cumhuriyet. The essence of the article was an expression of the value of one missionary's service to the Turkish people.

Armenian, English, French, Greek and Turkish were the languages used when representatives of the Protestant Churches in Istanbul gathered at the Aynaliçeşme Armenian Church to observe the annual World Day of Prayer. About 150 people took part in the Communion Service.

Ann Edmonds and Paul Nilson were in Beirut September 12 - 15 for the quarterly meeting of the NECC Radio Project Committee.

A note to new readers: Dear Friends is a publication of news of Near East Missionary activities and interests. It is sent to missionaries on the field and concerned people elsewhere. There is no charge for it; but, since the publication and mailing of it are not without expense, contributions towards its upkeep are gratefully received. Likewise received with gratitude are corrections, amendments, additions.

Anna G. Edmonds

American Board Mission
P. K. 142, Istanbul, Turkey
22 October, 1962

Dear Friends:

The academic year of 1962-63 has begun with a total number of 1,540 students enrolled in the Turkey schools and 146 teachers occupied more or less full time with them. Of these teachers 75 are Board appointees; of the students only eight are other than Turkish.

New Classrooms Open at Talas

Following the opening assembly on September 17, the students and faculty had the great pleasure of attending classes in the first "new" classrooms in Talas since 1906. While Shattuck Hall is unfinished on the second floor, most of the first floor is now in use. In addition to the classrooms, there is the students' cooperative which is doing a thriving business in its new location.

The move to Shattuck Hall has also made possible a science demonstration room in Wingate Hall. This is kept busy many hours during the week by eager teachers and interested students. Also, an art-music room and several new offices have been made possible.

Our faculty includes two Turkish teachers teaching English subjects: one teaching beginning English, the other, a graduate of our school and later of Middle East Technical University, teaching upper math. They help to draw us closer to the Turkish faculty by being able to communicate easily with both language groups.

We expect to open in the near future a room for meditation and prayer for all members of the school community no matter what their station or faith. At the beginning it will likely be a room for Muslim prayer primarily, but it is hoped that during the years ahead its wider purpose will be understood and appreciated by all members of the community.

Robert S. Keller

Leadership Training Emphasized at Uskudar

The 1962-1963 school year at Uskudar American Academy for Girls started auspiciously with better and earlier organization of both academic and extra-curricular activities than ever before. A completely rewritten student handbook was printed for us by the Publication Department. Student activities are under the general direction of Winifred Hertzog who has been given released time for this work. During the first week of school a full calendar of events for the year was in the hands of faculty members and student representatives, election of class presidents was held, and the club program was worked out. Much of this advanced planning has been possible because of the relatively few changes in American teaching personnel this year -- enthusiastic teachers with at least one year of experience on the field can accomplish wonders! (One cannot help thinking of next year, however, when there will be thirteen vacancies to be filled.)

Emphasis this year is again upon leadership training for students and increasingly effective work in the various areas of social aid for which the school already has responsibility. A Career Day will be held this year for the entire lycee division. Plans include a keynote address, a panel composed of recent graduates studying for or working in various vocational fields, and experts in about 25 vocational areas to lead discussion groups of interested students. Each student will have the opportunity to take part in three such discussions. The program will close with an appropriate film.

The year thus begun promises to be one of progress toward our goals of expansion of knowledge and enriched lives of service for students and faculty alike.

Helen L. Morgan

The American Girls's School in Izmir Picks up Threads and Bangs Itself

ACI opened with a bang, in fact a series of bangs which have not yet ceased since Beacon Hall is still in the process of construction. Four weeks after school started with 560 students we are successful in having each class inside a room with floors, windows, doors -- but it was not that way in September!

Special emphasis this year promises to be in the village. Faculty and students have already picked up the threads dropped the first of August when they returned from the month's stay in Yeniköy. (See Dear Friends No. 537, 1 Sept. 1962) Sixty students wanted to sign up for work there this winter, far more than could be trained.

Naomi Foster

Seventy-Five Years of Tarsus

Tarsus College is 75 years old this year. Suppose student No. 1 came with his contemporary No. 1: What would he see that was the same? Of buildings, only the offices hanging over the dusty street. But this ancient No. 1 may have helped in the construction of some of the other buildings whose bones creak with age. The replacement of these is the forward look for 1963-63. Specifications are ready to present to an architect for the building that will house modern kitchen and dining room, up-to-date science laboratories and laundry and bath that will bring us out of the 19th century. This year's No. 1 may have six years in this modern setting.

Of staff, the ancient No. 1 would recognize the pictures of Dr. and Mrs. Christie that hang in the studyhall,--and then he would look around in amazement. "How can these beardless youths be teachers! And the young females!..." Whereupon we fear he would beat a hasty retreat to the grave from which he rose, leaving us to cope with the contemporary No. 1 who led the group of 32 entering Preps this year, and the 21 upper-class students who are new to the school. Eighteen of this number came down from our brother school in Talas. The others entered by examination from here and there.

New teachers this year are three in number, each one coming to us with high recommendations: Marcia Yoder, on the recommendation of Devon Yoder, her husband since July 14, 1962; Anne Woddard Ezal, formerly of Üsküdar and now living in Mersin; Richardson Fowle of Istanbul on the recommendation of many illustrious ancestors in the Mission. The total teaching experience of the staff is higher this year than it has been for many a year, in spite of the absence of Frank and Barbara Stone for language study in Ankara.

Georgianna M. Maynard

Gaziantep Has Two-Year Training Course

Twelve nurse-aide students are enrolled in a two-year training course at the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital in Gaziantep. Courses in anatomy are being taught by Dr. Nute, in English and basic nutrition by Mrs. Nute. Miss Hemingway is teaching other courses such as baby and child care. The hospital is hoping to have one or two residents in training in medicine and surgery and advertisements have been published asking for qualified doctors.

Comparative Statistics

<u>School</u>	<u>Students</u>			<u>Faculty</u>	
	<u>Boarding</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Partial and Full Scholarship</u>	<u>American</u>	<u>Turkish</u>
Gaziantep	12	--	1	3	1
Izmir	51	509	34	27	22
Talas	178	5	17	9	10
Tarsus	195	89	56	14	10
Uskudar	158	343	31	24	26

Anna G. Edmonds