

Dear Friends:

A letter from Dr. J. K. Birge dated Princeton, N.J., Nov. 20, says: "Although I have been working pretty hard lately I am feeling just fine." He also says that his eldest son Bob is back in Washington as an officer, working in the Renegotiation Branch of the Quartermaster's Corps and living at home, while Bill has been for several months in the Pacific but a telegram had just preceded his arrival in person, and that while his ship was in drydock he came East and was to be with the family until after Thanksgiving.

The Bishop of Gibraltar was given a reception at the English High School for Girls on Tuesday last, and left yesterday for Smyrna on his circuit of his churches in these parts. He gave the address at the Sunday afternoon service at Bebek on December 31st.

The Class of '84 at Amherst College meets every year, as has for the past sixty years; and at its last meeting eight men were present, among them Dr. Edward M. Greene, son of our former colleague Dr. Joseph K. Greene. The N.Y. Times in its account of the occasion, states:- "The pride of the class from the standpoint of physical condition was 84-year-old Dr. Greene, who won a diving contest last summer at his country club with a perfect back-flip. Dr. Greene was born in Turkey, where his father was a missionary, and he learned to swim in the Bosphorus. Dr. Greene has been a physician for fifty-three years, and has a simple prescription for health in old age: continuous training and no vices."

Mrs. Harrison Maynard writes enthusiastically of the good time she and Mr. Maynard had over Christmas with their son Richard and his wife at Tarsus. There was a fine gathering on Christmas Day, starting with a service attended by a lot of the English from Mersin; and three of the Americans from Adana were there together with Dr. and Mrs. Haas and Mr. Bonnal, to enjoy the delicious and bountiful dinner.

Mrs. Maynard also says that Mr. Stoltzfus is expecting his wife to land in Haifa from America about the middle of January, which would indicate that probably the party for our Mission coming via Lisbon may be arriving at the same time.

Our sympathies go out to Miss Olive Greene, now on her way back to her post in Smyrna, in connection with the news just received by letter from Boston of the passing away of her father in New Jersey about October 1st.

Miss Luella M. Dunning has been engaged as teacher in the Smyrna Collegiate Institute. She comes from Stoneham, Mass., and is a graduate of Carroll College, Waukesha, Wis., with an M.A. degree from Boston University. For the past nine years she has been teaching in the High School at Stoneham, Mass.

The fiscal report of the American Board for the past year has now been received, showing total receipts of \$1,026,055.56, which left a surplus balance of \$5,120.30, as the Board began its new fiscal year.

Friends of the Union Church of Pera, worshipping in the Dutch Chapel, will regret the news that the genial and helpful Dutch Minister here, Dr. Visser, has been promoted to the Legation in the Union of South Africa, and he and his wife are leaving here on Monday next, on the way to their new post. They will divide their time between Pretoria and Cape Town.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, January 26, 1945.

Dear Friends:

Mr. Lyman MacCallum is leaving our city this evening for Beirut, after a stay of nearly two months. He expects to stop over for visits in Ankara and Tarsus. Shortly after returning to his office in Beirut, he is hoping to start out for India, for a visit with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. F. W. MacCallum, who have been refugees in Satara and Wai for the past three or four years after their forcible exit from Greece and after a brief sojourn in Egypt. It is the hope of Lyman to bring his parents back with him to Beirut, if possible. We expect to see him again here some time in May.

The first steamer flying the America flag to be seen here since the war, sailed through the Bosphorus two days ago, exchanging salutes with the two American Colleges, and bringing tears to the eyes of many who saw Old Glory after so long a time. It was followed yesterday by four other smaller craft and one still larger freighter. These are presumably carrying lend-lease materials to a Russian port. More are stated to be following, and this new route cuts off, we are told, nearly a thousand miles as compared with the route via the Persian Gulf.

A movement is on foot among some former colleagues of Dr. Caroline Hamilton, now in America, to establish a memorial to her name, in the line of something that will benefit particularly the women patients in the Gaziantep Hospital, with which she was for so long a time connected.

Mr. Donald Webster, Cultural Relations Attache of the American Embassy, has left for a brief visit to Washington, to help in making plans for the extension of the work of his organization in several parts of the Balkans.

A letter has been received by Dr. and Mrs. Shepard telling of the wedding of their daughter Alice to Otis Cary, which took place in Bradford, Mass., December 9th, in the parsonage parlor of Rev. and Mrs. George Cary, which was trimmed with hemlock boughs and white flowers. The bride was in a simple blue dress, the groom in his dark blue Navy uniform. They gave their marriage vows without any prompting from the minister. The prayer was not only for them, but for all absent loved ones and those in peril. The families were represented by the three Bradford Carys, the bridegroom's two sisters, Mary Alice and Martha; Alice's three aunts, Alice Shepard Riggs, Constance Moffat, and Ethel Moffat Dorr; Mr. Dorr, and Bob and Constance Shepard. Delicious refreshments included a three-layer wedding cake, which Alice "dissected brilliantly." Otis had thirty days' leave. With the loan of a car and thirty gallons of gas, they started for Canada for skiing, then to Washington, and then to the Moffat home in Maine for Christmas.

Rev. W. Clark Kerr writes from Haifa, Jan. 9, that he is hoping to get off to Scotland for a vacation perhaps next month. He has handed over his work in the canteens to his successor, and is concentrating on the church work in getting it ready to hand over likewise when his successor arrives.

The newly appointed Ambassador to Turkey, to succeed Ambassador Steinhardt, is Mr. Edwin Carleton Wilson, a native of Florida, fifty-two years old; he studied at the University of Michigan and Harvard, and has been in the diplomatic service since 1920. During World War I, he was in the U.S. Field Artillery.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, February 9, 1945

Dear Friends:

A cablegram received at Talas from Mrs. P. E. Nilson gave the information that our Lisbon party were still "detained" on January 23rd; no further explanation is yet available.

Miss Turner, of the Methodist Mission Girls' School at Lovetch, Bulgaria, writes that she and Miss Carhart and many of the girls made a happy visit to Sofia during the winter holidays; they closed school December 29th, and a special car was attached to a train for them. On their return to Lovetch, the opening of school was delayed a whole week because coal did not get to them on time; but they were reopening on January 29th.

Mrs. Lorrin Shepard has gone to Smyrna for a visit of about two weeks with Mrs. Helen Haight Orhan and other friends.

The storm of last week was apparently far worse in Smyrna than here; for the freezing snow and ice broke down electric light, telegraph and telephone wires and poles, so that the city was without service for days. Further, all rivers in that vicinity were badly flooded, as they also were in the Brousa plain.

A reception is being tendered to Ambassador Steinhardt on Thursday next at the American College for Girls, by the staffs of both Colleges, in view of his early leaving the country for America and for his new post.

Professor Huntington Bliss, formerly of Sofia College, is expected shortly at Robert College, to join the faculty there.

Mrs. John Monedjikoff (Mary Whittle) writes of her happiness in being again at home on the campus of Sofia College. Transportation to and from the city is still a problem; but there are many compensations.

Mrs. Theodore Riggs, formerly of Merzifon and Thessaloniki, has attained the honor of grandmotherhood, her daughter Mary, Mrs. Harry Humphry, being the mother of Theodore Riggs Humphry, born December 2, 1944 at Denver, Colorado.

The Turkish comic artist, Cemal Nadir, has had quite a series of colored half-page cartoons of late in the daily "Cumhuriyet." The one in yesterday's paper is entitled "Last Acts in the World's Circus," and represents a great circus tent crowded with spectators, on the floor of which Uncle Sam and China are doing an upside-down balancing feat, while John Bull holds on his head one pole of a tight-rope on which France is doing a delicate piece of balancing; while Greece and Jugoslavia cling on to John Bull's arms; Russia on a fierce white charger is galloping around the arena, having upset Hungary and Czechoslovakia; and Italy, Bulgaria and Rumania are already fallen to the ground. Germany is precariously holding on to the flying trapeze with one bent knee, and trying desperately to hold up Japan by one hand, the latter aghast at the danger of crashing down. On the flying rings, Egypt is proudly exhibiting the strong-man feat of supporting Ibn Saud and Emir Abdullah with his two arms; and Franco clings thoughtfully and morosely to the middle of the tent-pole.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:

At last our party of recruits from Lisbon has arrived, after five weeks spent there. They reached Egypt February 5th; and Pres. Ernest Riggs stayed there, hoping to go across to Greece and proceed to Thessaloniki as soon as some delayed boxes of his belongings shall arrive in Alexandria, in perhaps two weeks. Miss Edwards went as far as Aleppo, rejoicing the ladies at the Girls' School there by her coming. Mrs. Nilson went right on to Talas, reaching her lonely husband and her many friends last Monday. Miss Greene, Miss Helton and Miss Dunning were delayed by baggage complications, and finally reached Stamboul only this morning, but the baggage car had been for some unknown reason shunted off the train at Adana. Miss Helton has joined the Scutari Academy staff; and Miss Greene and Miss Dunning will proceed to Smyrna when they can take along their belongings. With this party there came as far as Egypt Mrs. W. A. Stoltzfus, and daughter, where Pres. Stoltzfus met them with his car, to take them to Beirut.

Inasmuch as Rev. Yenovk Gökğüzian has been elected by the Union of Armenian Churches as its representative on the Board of Managers of the Near East School of Theology, the Committee ad Interim of our Mission has appointed Miss Caroline Silliman to fill out his unexpired term as one of the representatives of the Near East Mission on that Board.

A cable from Boston announces the arrival in America of Rev. E.C. Blake on February 7th, joining his family for his furlough; also of Mrs. Philip Ward of Beirut, on February 8th, coming to America for necessary medical treatment. Mr. Ward went with his wife as far as Cairo, but has returned to his post at the N.E.S.T.

Word has just been received through Beirut that Rev. Garabed Stambollian, formerly of this city but now for many years pastor of the Armenian Protestant community in Athens, was recently run over in the streets of Athens by an automobile, and instantly killed. This is a very great loss to the Evangelical church there, to whom our sympathies go out.

Aleppo College has secured the services of Dr. Joseph Skinner, to help in the shortage of teachers for the rest of the current year, thus releasing Mrs. Carleton from a very full schedule of classes. They also have a good hope that for the coming school year, Rev. Howard Hannaford, of the Presbyterian Mission in Japan, and now unable to get back to his field, will come to join in the work of the College.

The latest letter from the Board Secretaries tells us that Rev. Mr. Kalfayan, of Syria, has been chosen to be a delegate at the proposed Seminar to be held by the Board in September, 1945.

A series of lectures has been arranged to be given at the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, on Thursdays, beginning with the first of February. Mr. Friedlieb of the Bible Society gave the first one. Among other speakers expected are Mr. Lyman MacCallum, Dr. Stuart Dodd, Pres. W.A. Stoltzfus, etc.

The local newspapers announce that a visit is expected in Ankara during the coming week from a group of American newspaper editors, under the lead of Mr. Wilbur Forest of the New York Herald-Tribune. These men are on their way here from Cairo, after visiting London, Paris, Brussels, and Athens; and after visiting Turkey they are stated to be going on to Chung-king. They are to be entertained by the representatives of the Turkish press.

Yours very cordially,
Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, March 2, 1945.

Dear Friends:

Miss Olive Greene and Miss Dunning went on from here to Smyrna last week, to the great delight of our ladies there. Miss Edith Parsons is making her plans to start out from there in about two weeks, on her way to America; and Miss Evelyn Woodward will also shortly be moving, retiring to England.

On Wednesday evening of this week, February 28th, Mr. Luther Fowle, our Treasurer, and professor C. E. Estes of Robert College left by train for Angora, hoping to proceed thence by airplane to Cairo, and take a transatlantic steamer at Alexandria. They are both on six months leaves of absence, expecting to come back here by about the first of September next. Mr. Fowle is definitely planning to bring back his wife with him when he comes.

Further news regarding the death of Rev. Garabed Stambolian in Athens informs us that the accident happened on January 10. The funeral exercises were held, first in the Dergouti Armenian Protestant Church, and then in the Second Evangelical Greek Church, where a larger multitude of friends could gather, and where Gregorian and Armenian Catholic representatives joined in expressing their admiration and respect for this splendid worker.

Letters from Miss Mary Ingle, dated Seattle, Washington, Jan. 5th. tell us that she was expecting to spend the month of January and the first half of February touring the State of Washington, doing deputation work; then go on to Oregon; and about the middle of March go to Chicago in the interests of Anatolia College.

Miss Ingle also tells of a good visit from Miss Dorothy Blatter from Nov. 30th to Dec. 4th, in Seattle; she was going on thence to California, hoping to be back in Nebraska for Christmas.

Miss Ingle's brother Wilfred, who was for so long a time interned by the Germans in Paris, was finally set free August 25th, and spent six weeks at liberty in Paris, - incidentally getting engaged during that time to a Swiss girl; and finally reached his father and other sister in England October 10th.

It is probable that by this time President Ernest Riggs is back in Thessaloniki, though no direct word has yet come. The College buildings there were last reported in fairly good condition.

Mrs. Paul Nilson has begun teaching in the Talas School, and will shortly take up the matron's work while Mrs. Block goes to America.

The annual report of the Gaziantep Hospital shows a total of 1289 in-patients for 1944, as compared with 1165 the year before; and clinical patients of 4259 as compared with 3662, but owing to the departure of Dr. Dewey to America, the number of major operations went down from 169 to 116, and of minor operations from 87 to 18.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, March 9, 1945.

Dear Friends:

BORN:- At the American Hospital on Monday, March 5, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Raymond Pearson of Robert College, a daughter, Carol Magda, weight, 8 lbs. Our hearty congratulations.

Professor and Mrs. Harold Scott of Robert College have received from Secretary of War Stimson a letter informing them of the posthumous award to their son David of the medal of the Purple Heart. This decoration, founded by General George Washington during the Revolutionary War, is given "for military merit."

Mr. Luther Fowle and Prof. C.E. Estes succeeded in securing places on the plane from Angora to Cairo, last Friday, according to their plan; and it is presumed they are now either in Egypt or already on the sea enroute for America.

Professor Huntington Bliss, of Sofia College, arrived in Stamboul last week, and has joined the teaching staff at Robert College in the English Department. He expects his family to join him later.

We learn from the Beirut News Letter that Rev. Frank Stoltzfus of Sofia is now one of the Y.M.C.A.'s Field Secretaries for War Prisoners' Aid, working in the South Central States; while Mrs. Stoltzfus is taking a course at Teachers' College, Columbia University.

Miss Alice Cary, daughter of Dr. Otis Cary, and herself also a missionary in Japan and later in Hawaii, has been elected to a secretaryship in the American Board, and will have charge, with Dr. Fairfield, of the Far Eastern work in particular.

Rev. and Mrs. Ernest C. Partridge, formerly of Sivas, are living in Valpariso, Florida.

A Christmas letter from Mr. Oscar S. Heizer, who was formerly connected with our Mission Treasury, and later was in the Consular service, tells us that while the hurricane of October 19th last was very severe in Bradentown, Fla., near which they live, it did not do much damage on their property in Palma Sola Park.

Mr. Heizer informs us that his daughter Mrs. Pauline Heizer Troedsson, who is teaching in Brooklyn College, recently earned her Ph. D. degree, with a thesis on Hemiptera Heteroptera, published in the Journal of Morphology.

He also mentions several of the men formerly connected with the American Consulate or Embassy in our city, among them Leland B. Morris, who is now American Ambassador at Teheran; Cornelius Van H. Engert, who is American Minister at Kabul, Afghanistan; Lewis Heck and Arthur Leavitt, who are in Government service in Washington, D.C.; and also Samuel Edelman, now in Philadelphia, Penn.

A late letter from Mr. Lyman MacCallum stated that he was definitely planning to leave Beirut February 23rd, on his way to India, expecting to bring back his parents from there to Beirut.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, March 16, 1945.

Dear Friends:

Mrs. Tubini of Robert College and her whole family has been much delighted and relieved by a cable from her daughter in Washington, reporting direct word from her daughter Rosemary, Mrs. Wm. Parquette, from the Philippines, that she and her husband are well, and will be coming back to the United States very soon. After three years and more of Japanese captivity and internment, this is indeed cheering news.

Miss Mabel Long has left Aleppo for Beirut on her way to join the staff of Pierce College, Athens, as soon as practicable. Miss McElroy, the President, is already in Athens.

Word has come via America from Mr. Carl Compton, Dean of Anatolia College, that the buildings of the College are practically undamaged; but that the Girls' School by the Bay is in such bad condition that a great deal of repair will be needed to make it usable again.

Unless unforeseen circumstances intervened, we presume that Mrs. Emily Block left Talas for Egypt earlier this week; and according to plan, Miss Edith Parsons is leaving Smyrna tomorrow on her way to Stamboul and then on to Egypt, where in all probability the two will link up to cross the ocean together.

According to the local papers, a weekly steamer service is to be begun on Monday next, between here and Piraeus, via Smyrna. Further particulars are not yet given; but we trust this much is true!

Mr. Gregory Vlastos, known to many friends in this city, is now in Cambridge, Mass., for a year's leave of absence on a grant from the Social Science Research Council of Canada, and is writing a book on the philosophical foundations of democracy in ancient Greece.

Professor Levonian, Acting Principal of the Near East School of Theology, has completed two new tracts on the subjects of "The Problem of Evil", and "The Meaning of Suffering," which will be Numbers 27 and 28 in the series of Woodbrooke Tracts on Religion and Morals.

Arrangements have been made at last for a large number of Turkish citizens caught in Germany to return to this country via England; another considerable group of students who were in universities in Germany are being transferred to Switzerland.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Ray Pearson of Robert College have again taken up their home life at the Fowle house in Hissar, together with their little daughter Carol, - a most happy family.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, March 23, 1945.

Dear Friends:

Miss Edith Parsons arrived in Stamboul from Smyrna on Monday last, and on Wednesday a tea was held at the Bible House Apartment for the purpose of giving her many friends an opportunity of bidding her farewell, as she leaves for America. Yesterday morning she took the train for Angora and Aleppo, going on via Beirut and Egypt. The latest word from Mr. Fowle regarding accommodations from there on indicates that there are not as frequent steamers as there were a while ago.

The new Secretary of the Bible Lands Missions Aid Society in London, succeeding the late Mr. Gentle-Cackett, is Rev. Harold R. Gardiner and the new headquarters of the Society is at 250/1 Coastal Chambers, 172 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

A late letter from America reports Miss Elizabeth Trowbridge as in the White Plains, N.Y., Hospital, and gradually failing. Mrs. Louise Clark Bingham, formerly of Aintab, is nursing her. Mrs. (Isabel Trowbridge) Merrill was reported (Jan., 18th) as just beginning to get around again, in her Brooklyn home, after a long siege with heart trouble and influenza.

Rev. Ernest Riggs was last heard from as still in Egypt, five weeks ago, waiting for his boxes from Lisbon, but hoping to get on to Greece after another week or two. During his stay in Cairo, he had given addresses at the Girls' College and elsewhere, and had been giving English lessons to a Greek doctor, to keep his hand in.

The last news from Messrs. Fowle and Estes in Egypt was that they were about to fly from there to Italy, in the hope of finding a steamer from there to the United States.

A Christmas letter from Dr. C.A. Feed, from the UNRRA Training centre in Maryland, gives some facts about his children. After serving a period as staff officer to an Admiral, off the French coast, Lachlan had a brief leave of absence with his wife and relatives, and was then ordered to Martinique as United States Navy liaison officer. Howard has been based on Alexandria, and made visits to Turkey, Beirut, Palestine, Italy, and was Gen. Patch's staff with the 7th Army in France; and on October 15th was the sole American officer accompanying the British fleet that liberated Athens, where he was last reported. He has been awarded the British Distinguished Service Cross, "for outstanding courage and resource shown in making three landings on Leros to bring off British officers and men after the island's occupation by the enemy."

Miss Hazel Goff, formerly of the Red Crescent School of Nursing in Stamboul, is now in Lisbon, Portugal, heading a Red Cross Nurses' School.

Mr. Lewis Heck, whom many of us knew in the U.S. Consular service and later in business here, has been with the United States Coast Survey since 1938, his special work being in connection with geographical names. A recent letter from him tells of his son Douglas as in the State Department, and very happily married, and planning to take the Foreign Service examinations early this year. Dorothy was completing her course at Wisconsin in January.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, April 6, 1945.

Dear Friends:

The latest word from Mr. Lyman MacCallum was in a letter written from Mahableshwar, India, March 13th, in which he stated that he found his father quite feeble, but able to be around a part of each day and that his mother was much stronger. He was then hoping to get started with them for Syria by the end of March: the plan was, to go from Bombay to Karachi by rail (air-conditioned cars), and thence via Basra to Damascus by airplane, and on to Beirut by automobile. Even early in March the weather in that mountain resort was hot; and he felt it would be unwise to have his parents try to spend another summer there.

According to the latest letter from Mr. L. R. Fowle, of March 10th, he and Prof. Estes were still in Egypt, but planning to fly in a day or two to Italy, to try to get steamer at Naples for America.

Letters from Mr. Ernest Riggs of about the same date from Cairo show that he was also still detained in getting over to Thessaloniki, but expecting to go soon.

The Beirut News Letter tells us that the College and Girls' High School choirs from Aleppo were expecting to come to Tripoli to present the operetta "Pirates of Penzance" on Saturday, March 24th, and then go on to Beirut where they were to give performances on the Monday and Tuesday following.

Miss Gladys Lucas plans to leave Scutari on Monday next on her way to Aleppo for a brief stay before going on to England for her furlough, Miss Evelyn Woodward is expecting to come from Smyrna to Stamboul next week, spending a few days here and then joining up with Miss Lucas in Aleppo and going on to England.

Mr. Kyril Black, son of President and Mr. Black, is making a short visit to his parents at Robert College, and will be returning to Sofia next week.

The Stamboul Municipality has recently put up in placards on the Karakeuy Bridge, on the trolley-poles, a series of admonitions to the populace as to civic welfare measures, which ought to do a lot of good. The following translations may be of interest to all:-

It is necessary to form into lines in front of ticket offices.

Spitting is prohibited.

Do not get off from steamers before the gangplank is put across.

Walking on the sidewalk with loads on the back is prohibited.

Health is conditioned on cleanliness.

Let us always walk on the right side.

Let us keep our beautiful city clean.

He who stands on the road conversing is a hindrance to traffic.

Let us throw useless things into the waste-paper baskets.

The Turkish delegation to the San Francisco Conference, headed by Foreign Minister Hasan Saka, left Angora by train yesterday for Cairo, from whence they are to proceed to America by airplane.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, April 20, 1945.

Dear Friends:

The sudden passing of President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave a severe shock to the entire American and British community, and indeed to the entire population of the city. The deep and cordial expression of sympathy and admiration on the part of all newspapers and public officials was spontaneous and genuine, and greatly appreciated. Flags were half-masted on all government buildings, schools, police stations, etc.

A memorial service was held in the American Embassy in Angora on Saturday last, attended by two hundred or more persons, including the Prime Minister and practically all the members of his cabinet, as well as by the staffs of all foreign diplomatic and consular establishments, and the whole American and British colony.

On Monday at eleven, a memorial service was held in this city, at the Crimean Memorial Church, which was crowded to the doors with five or six hundred people, with a large number standing in the courtyard outside, where a loud-speaker enabled them to listen to the service. The general invitation was limited to the Anglo-American community, for lack of space; and the Governor of the city and the high officials, as well as the members of the foreign diplomatic and consular staffs were also present. Canon Hutchinson had charge, assisted by Messrs. Young and Riggs; and a chorus from Bebek, with Prof. MacNeal at the organ, rendered appropriate music. The decorations of American flags and flowers were very effective. After a rainy Sunday, the weather had cleared nicely, and nature was at her best. Our prayers go out for the stricken family, as well as for the new President so suddenly thrust into office.

Mrs. Leslie left on Tuesday last for Smyrna, for the bedside of her daughter Mrs. John Seager, who is seriously ill.

President Ernest Riggs writes March 19th, still from Cairo, where he was awaiting his Greek visa. He reports the arrival of Mrs. Emily Block, who was waiting for a chance to go on to America. Mrs. Cass Reed, who had been there quite a while, had just gone on to Greece with UNRRA, still ignorant as to whether Dr. Reed was following her or not.

Miss Gladys Lucas went on as expected, last week to Aleppo; but Miss Woodward, who had planned to come through Stamboul this week to join her, has received word of delay in her plans for sailing from Egypt, and is still at the Smyrna School.

A cable from America announced the arrival of Messrs. Estes and Fowle, coming from Italy. The cable was dated April 4.

A recent British and Foreign Bible Society circular speaks of an American Bible Society scheme carried into effect last December, to encourage the reading of the Scriptures. They wrote to a good many leaders in national life, and particularly to the leaders of the forces, asking them to say what their favorite Scripture passages were. As a result of this, 33 passages, one for each day, were arranged to cover the period between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. This caught on; and while they had expected a demand for about 3,000,000 sets of readings, actually some 13,000,000 were called for. The American Bible Society plans to repeat the scheme for next year, and has asked the British and Foreign Society to cooperate.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, April 27, 1946.

Dear Friends:

Dr. and Mrs. F. W. MacCallum and Miss Emily MacCallum arrived with Mr. Lyman MacCallum in Beirut comfortably on April 7th. Since the airplanes from Bombay for Karachi were small, the four of them could not get seats in one; so Dr. and Mrs. MacCallum went on March 28th, and Lyman and his aunt followed five days later. From there on they were all together; they flew via Basra to Baghdad, and after resting two days, went by plane to Damascus, and thence by car to Beirut. The actual flying time from Bombay to Damascus was 18½ hours. According to a letter from Mrs. MacCallum, on April 12th, they were staying for the present with Miss Webb, till they could find a suitable house.

Miss Glennie, who has been with the MacCallums ever since they left Greece, was left in India, awaiting a ship which would carry her to Great Britain.

Mrs. Emily Block, who left Talas for America some weeks ago, was reported on March 29th as still in Cairo waiting for an opportunity to sail to the United States. She and Mr. Ernest Riggs had the good fortune to see the Tutankhamen discoveries at the Cairo Museum.

Mr. Riggs wrote from Alexandria, March 29th, as he was about to take steamer for Greece. He expects to be in Thessaloniki until about May 10th, when he starts back, if prospered, for America to make preparations for returning to reopen Anatolia College.

Mrs. Elizabeth Seager, who was reported in our last issue as seriously ill in Smyrna, was brought up to Stamboul by her husband and Miss Phebe Clary on Monday last, and is at the American Hospital recovering from broncho-pneumonia. Mrs. Leslie remained behind in Smyrna to care for the children, and reached the Treasury office this morning, coming via Bandurma.

Miss Evelyn Woodward reached Stamboul yesterday noon from Smyrna, on her way to England via Egypt, with a view to retirement at the end of her year of furlough. She is planning to take the express train on Monday next, and go right on through to Cairo.

Miss Gladys Lucas, who has been visiting the Girls' School in Aleppo, has gone on for Egypt; and both she and Miss Woodward now have the hope of sailing early in May for England.

The date of arrival of Messrs. Luther Fowle and C. E. Estes in the United States was Easter Day, April 1st.

Such unusually large catches of torik, or bonito fish, have been made recently in the Bosphorus that many thousands had to be thrown back into the sea. Arrangements have been made since then to export this sort of fish to Greece, whence many sailing craft have come here to get it.

Rev. M. N. Isely of Gaziantep is expecting to come up to Stamboul on business, reaching here on Tuesday next, May 1st.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, May 4, 1945.

Dear Friends:

Miss Ruth E. Shinn, daughter of a pastor in Toledo, Ohio, has been secured by the American Board as a teacher in the Scutari Academy, and is expected to be here for the opening of the next year of work. Miss Shinn is a graduate of Heidelberg College, 1944, and for the past year has been working at the Y.W.C.A. in Utica, N.Y.

The last letter from the Board Rooms reports the death, on Feb. 20th, at Lapeer, Michigan, of Rev. Robert S. Stapleton, from 1897 till 1923 a missionary at Erzroum and Trebizond. Mr. Stapleton was born in Belfast, Ireland, Dec. 1. 1866, and was thus in his seventy-ninth year. After graduating at Olivet College, Mich., in 1894, and Chicago Seminary in 1897, he was married to Miss (Dr.) Ida Salmond, and they came out to Erzroum reaching there the last day of 1897. After the first World War, Mr. and Mrs. Stapleton returned to Turkey in March, 1919, and he was for four years located at Trebizond, finally retiring in the summer of 1923. He had not been in vigorous health for some time; and shortly before he passed away, they received word of the death of their daughter Natalie in Germany after the birth of her fifth child.

Mr. Merrill Isely arrived from Gaziantep as expected, on Tuesday of this week: on business for the Hospital and station there. He reports all well in Aintab.

Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield, one of the Board Secretaries, has resigned that office to take up a secretaryship under the Foreign Missions Council of North America, and becomes the Chairman of their Secretarial Council, beginning his new duties on April 1st. This will compel the election of a new secretary by the Board.

Treasurer H. B. Belcher reports an increase in the Board's receipts for the first six months of the current fiscal year of \$119,622.00, as compared with the figures for the last year, of which \$48,000 is in receipts from churches.

Miss S. Evelyn Woodward started on from here by train on Monday morning last, for Aleppo, Beirut, and Cairo, expecting to take passage on a steamer for England early in May.

Mrs. William Sage Woolworth of Tarsus is settled in the Walker Home at Auburndale, Mass.; she took a six months' course and became a Red Cross Nurses' Aide, and as such is working more or less continuously in the Newton Hospital. This summer she plans to go to Minnesota to visit her relatives there.

Of the two children, Dorothy is in the Freshman class at Russell Sage College, Troy, N.Y., working for her degree in science and to qualify as a nurse. She has won a place on the honor roll of her class, and has become a Kellas Scholar, "which means that she is one of the highest in her class." Robert is attending Class Two at Newton High School, and is living with his mother at Auburndale; he also has placed on the honor roll for the second and third terms in the year.

The Armenian Missionary Association of America has begun the publication of an attractive monthly magazine called "Avedakir," partly in Armenian and partly in English, under the editorial care of Pastor A.A. Bedikian with the assistance of ten or more associate editors.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Higgs

Dear Friends:

At its meeting yesterday, the Committee ad Interim of the Near East Mission decided on an enlarged Committee ad Interim meeting for this year to take the place of the usual Annual Meeting, and to be held in Stamboul beginning with Wednesday, June 27th. It is expected that the session will last perhaps three days, and there is a likelihood of their being held at the Scutari School. One delegate each is the quota set for the various Stations.

Miss Harriet Varrow, who came out here in 1927 and after a year at the Language School taught for five years at Gedik Pasha, and from 1934 till 1939 at Smyrna, has been reappointed for teaching at Tarsus College, and is expected out in time for the opening of the fall term.

News has come through a letter from Mrs. Arthur C. Ryan to Miss McGwigan of Claremont, Calif., of the recent death of her daughter, Mrs. Blanche Ryan Elder, leaving her husband and two children, Sally, 12, and Arthur, 10.

A cable from Boston announces the arrival of Mrs. Block in America on Saturday last, May 5th.

Miss Angie Crew, of West Milton, Ohio, who has been a missionary of the Christian Church in Japan from 1923 till 1930, and under our own American Board from 1931 till recently at Kobe College, and is now in the United States, has been appointed to our Mission, to teach at the Talas School.

The news of cessation of hostilities on the European fronts has been received with hearty rejoicings in this city and no doubt all over the country. A very impressive special assembly was held at Robert College on this occasion last Tuesday. On the invitation of Canon Hutchinson, a union service has been arranged for the Crimean Memorial Church and the Union Church of Pera, at the former church on Sunday next at eleven o'clock. The city was gaily decorated Tuesday and Wednesday with flags, and great crowds paraded the streets. Many buildings were illuminated at night.

Mrs. Lorrin Shepard and Mrs. Potts, of the American Hospital of Istanbul, started out on Wednesday evening by way of Bandirma for Smyrna, expecting to take an American steamer there for the United States today. Mrs. Shepard hopes to bring her daughter Constance back with her when she returns, probably after the New Year. She is planning to be present at the graduation of her eldest daughter Alice from the medical course at Yale next month.

The engagement is announced of Miss Margaret Thomson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Thomson of the Socony-Vacuum Company, and granddaughter of Rev. and Mrs. Robert Thomson, formerly of the Bulgaria Mission, and Mr. John Melvin Biggs, of Robert College. It is expected that they will be married next month.

Rev. Merrill Isely is hoping to get off for Gaziantep on his return, tomorrow afternoon, stopping off at Ankara on the way.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, May 18, 1945.

Dear Friends:

A letter of April 2nd from Mrs. Henry Riggs at Auburndale, Mass., tells of the death, a week before, of Mrs. Theresa Huntington Ziegler who from 1898 till 1905 was a teacher in Euphrates College, Harpout, and then returned to America to marry Rev. Charles L. Ziegler, and has lived for many years at Waban, Mass. She has been ill for a long time with an incurable disease, so that her release was a mercy. The funeral was on Easter Sunday. Mrs. Ziegler was a sister of Prof. George H. Huntington and of Mrs. Damon.

President Ernest Riggs writes from Thessaloniki April 16th that while much damage had been done to the campus of Anatolia College during the German occupation, the buildings were not fundamentally injured; and that of the equipment, many things have been saved, largely by the courage and indefatigable energy of members of the College staff; this includes microscopes, about half the library books, most of the classroom seats, etc. and quite a large proportion of personal property. Several of the staff have been running a school, which is now being conducted in the former Italian school building, and has over 400 students, and is coeducational in the upper classes.

Mr. Riggs also speaks of the deep sorrow of the Greek people over the death of President Roosevelt, and of the two impressive memorial services held in the city, one in English at the St. Sophia Church, the other in Greek at the University. He speaks of the building of the Girls' Department on Rue Allatini as in unusable shape; and he also says that the problem of Miss McElroy as to the rehabilitation of Pierce College, Athens, is vastly greater than that at Anatolia; for the damage to buildings is far more serious.

When Mr. Riggs saw Miss McElroy in Athens, she was about to formally sever her connection with UNRRA (as Pres. & Mrs. Davis of Athens College have already done) and give full time to the continuation school of Pierce College, which occupies a large building near the University.

Miss Woodward in a letter from Aleppo of May 2nd tells of her successful trip so far, and that she planned to go on via Beirut and Jerusalem to Cairo, expecting to go with Miss Lucas by steamer from Alexandria to England.

A wire from Mr. Lyman MacCallum states that his visit to Stamboul is delayed by his waiting for his wife and daughter from Canada, whom he expects in Beirut in June.

Mr. Ezra Young reports that there are now 400 students registered in the physical, educational and social departments of the Stamboul Dershane; and that during the year ending May 1, 1945, there has been a total attendance of 13600 in English, French and Bookkeeping classes and the social department; an attendance of 8,400 in the physical department and of 5,600 in the summer school of languages and sports; also that 8 outside clubs and groups have used the physical facilities. This has been the best year in the history of the enterprise.

Mrs. Lorrin Shepard and Mrs. Potts left Smyrna by steamer for America on Friday last.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, May 25, 1945.

Dear Friends:

The annual Memorial Day exercises of the Stamboul American community will be held on Wednesday next at the Ferikuey Cemetery at five in the afternoon. The speaker will be Miss Eleanor I. Burns, Dean of the American College for Girls. The graves will be decorated as usual; but the assembly will again miss the singing of the Community School children, since the school is non-existent.

Mr. Paul Nilson writes of his giving a movie show two weeks ago in Kayseri in four matinees to about 2700 children, and the day before to about 2500 other children, at the Halk Evi, showing Toscanini and his orchestra, also films showing the malaria mosquito and its work; farm life, Boulder Dam; the Jeep, etc. Other shows were put on during the week for special groups, such as 150 army officers, 400 parents and children at the Railroad Halk Evi, 100 Lise boys, 400 San'at boys, etc.

We learn that Mr. Nilson has secured from the O.W.I. the use of a movie-talkie machine and some very fine films representing a high grade of American movies; and that he plans to branch out to other near-by places besides Ankara.

From April 15th to May 1st, Mrs. Ernest Riggs of Thessaloniki had a full schedule of speaking appointments in the State of Ohio. She tells in a recent letter about the celebration of Greek Independence Day, a week before Easter, in Boston, when the Coast-Guard Band furnished music, also the choir of the Greek Theological School at Pomfret, Conn., with special tenor and soprano soloists. Mr. Cedric Foster of the New York Times gave an address, as did the Greek Consul, and the Governor of Massachusetts.

In passing through Ankara on his way home to Gaziantep, Mr. Isely had interviews with medical men which encouraged him to hope that there might be some arrangement made whereby American doctors may be allowed to come out to practice in this country, as specialists. We trust that whatever steps are possible may soon be taken to secure this.

M. Maurice Beguin, who for the past five years has made an enviable record as teacher in our schools in Smyrna and Talas, is making arrangements to take two or three years of study in Hartford, Conn., and has already secured him permission to go to America. He expects to be in Smyrna by about June 7th, and take ship from there.

Cards are out for the wedding of Miss Margaret Thomson and Mr. J. Melvin Biggs, at Rumeli Hissar on Saturday, June 16th.

Long and exciting discussions are going on these days in the Grand National Assembly in Ankara on the budget for the coming year. This budget seems likely to be larger than any previous one.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Stamboul, June 1, 1945.

DEAR FRIENDS:

Dr. Lorrin Shepard got off this morning by plane from Yeşil-köy for Ankara, expecting to go on thence right away for Cairo and thence on to America, all the way by air. He may reach the States about as soon as Mrs. Shepard does.

A cable from England announces the safe arrival there of Miss Lucas and Miss Woodward, on their furloughs.

Rev. Ernest W. Riggs writes that he has decided that conditions at Thessaloniki warrant the opening of Anatolia College in September; and he has therefore telegraphed his wife to come on as soon as possible and join him there. In addition to the buildings previously occupied by the College, the Germans during their stay there erected another stone building on the campus, well located, in which President Riggs expects to have five or six classrooms. It is the present plan to move up the Girls' Department on to the campus, as well. Problems of transportation still remain to be solved.

The Trustees of the American Hospital of Istanbul have voted to change the name of the institution to "The Admiral Bristol Hospital," in grateful acknowledgment of the important services of the late American High Commissioner in the early stages of the Hospital.

We are also permitted to make public the new arrangement with the Turkish Government by which another American surgeon, a specialist in surgery of the chest, will be connected with our Hospital; he is also to give part time to consultative work in the Haydar Pasha Military Hospital. Dr. Shepard hopes to pick out just the right man for this position, during this trip of his to America, and also to bring out an additional nurse or two for the Hospital.

The usual exercises of the American Community on Memorial Day took place at the Ferikeuy Cemetery on Wednesday last, at five in the afternoon. Consul-General Troutman acted as chairman: the address was given by Dean Eleanor I. Burns of the American College for Girls; Rev. Ezra Young offered prayer, and taps were sounded by Titus Triplett. Two hymns were sung and the graves were all decorated with an abundance of flowers. Some sixty or more persons were present.

Miss Edith Douglass of Sofia, now in Smyrna, expects to start soon on furlough for the United States, to be ready to return after that to her work in the Community House at Sofia.

Mrs. Cyril Haas of Adana and Miss Grace Towner of Tarsus are planning to leave in about two weeks for Smyrna on their way to America on furlough.

We learn that definite plans are being made by the Red Crescent Society for opening a new Nursing School, to cost three million liras, and that they have arranged for two American nurses from New York to arrive here in June or July, for this work.

Among those attending the United Missionary Council Biennial Meeting at Jerusalem two weeks ago were Mr. Lyman MacCallum and Rev. Philip Ward, from Beirut.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:

The engagement is announced of Miss Carol Tuttle, who joined the staff of the Smyrna Girls' School last fall, to Major John Christian, of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, the senior British officer at Smyrna. The wedding is to take place on June 23rd; and the couple expect to return shortly to England. This naturally closes the work of Miss Tuttle at Smyrna. While we felicitate her on this new step, we regret the loss to the School.

A letter from Mrs. D. K. Getchell at Claremont, Calif., dated April 3rd reports a visit from Mrs. C. E. Clark, formerly of Sivas, Merzifon, Talas and Aintab, to Mrs. Sawny and Miss Nina Rice in Claremont, and that they had dinner with the Getchells during her visit.

Mrs. C. H. Haas, Miss Towner and Miss Douglass are expecting to take a steamer for America from Smyrna about June 20th, going through without change.

The enlarged Committee ad Interim meeting which was mentioned in our issue of four weeks ago, is being arranged, to begin as announced on June 27th, the sessions to be held in the Scutari School. As far as heard from, the delegates, one from each Station, are as follows:- From Beirut: Mr. Philip Ward; from Aleppo: Miss Silliman; from Gaziantep: Miss Hibbard; from Adana-Tarsus: Mr. Maynard; from Talas: Mr. Nilson; from Smyrna: Miss Greene. A few others will probably be present from some Stations, aside from delegates.

A cable from New York announces the arrival of Dr. Lorrin Shepard on Tuesday last, - four days after leaving Stamboul. Still better than this is the word that Mrs. Shepard arrived that same day, the two landing within a few hours of each other. This is probably a record instance of family unanimity and successful planning! They will be making their headquarters at Southport, Maine.

Mr. Luther Fowle writes on April 12th from Boston, where he had been attending meetings of the Prudential Committee and various other committees. He tells us that during his stay of five days in Italy on the way, he saw his son Farnsworth in Rome and the latter came to Naples to see him off on St. Patrick's Day. He met Mrs. Fowle and Joy at Larchmont; and during the few days he had in New York, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Fowle, as a sort of celebration of Grandpa's arrival.

The three American scholastic commencement exercises come next week, in the usual order:- Thursday, June 14, American College for Girls; Friday, June 15, Robert College; Saturday, June 16, American Academy, Scutari.

The new American Ambassador, Hon. Edwin Carleton Wilson, arrived in Angora this week from America. He was met at the frontier by members of the Embassy Staff.

The Grand National Assembly at Angora has been much occupied the past two weeks with the new Land Law, permitting the purchase of land in small lots by villagers under the oversight of the Government. It is expected that this and other necessary legislation can be completed so as to allow of the summer adjournment by June 18th.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs

Dear Friends:

With this One Thousandth number, the present series of News Sheets closes down. It is with profound gratitude to God that we record that for more than twenty years, -with a few minor exceptions, - we have been able to keep up this labor of love. As far as we know, it is the longest period of such effort in the long history of our Mission. Acknowledgement is due to many co-workers for their valuable contributions of news items and of encouraging words. It is the present plan of the undersigned and his wife to start for the Homeland in a short time, depending largely on how steamers run. With characteristic generosity, the Treasury Department has agreed to carry on the work, so our friends will continue to get copies as long as this plan works. Please be very generous to them with bulletins of news or other items that might be worth circulating.

Rev. W. Clark Kerr is reported as having left Egypt on his way to Scotland for his well-earned period of rest and recuperation. It is not yet settled whether he may return to Stamboul after that.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ely Maynard, who for the past six years have been serving at Tarsus College on a term appointment, have now been appointed as regular missionaries of the Board, a well merited step. Mr. Maynard came out first as tutor in Tarsus from 1934 to 1937.

A cable from Boston informs us that Mr. Yoshio Fukuyama, an American of Japanese origin, born in California, and a graduate of Doane College, Nebraska, who has this year been studying at Chicago Seminary, has been secured as a tutor for Talas. He is qualified in English, business courses, athletics, and music. Those who know him speak very highly of his character and abilities. He will come out this summer.

Another new appointment is that of Miss Eleanor Gants as teacher of English for Smyrna School. Particulars regarding her have not yet arrived.

This is Commencement Week; the exercises at the American College for Girls took place yesterday; today is the turn for Robert College, and tomorrow for the Scutari Academy; but further word regarding these ceremonies must wait till next week.

It was fortunate that our ladies going to England got off when they did, for we are now informed that for probably two months to come there will be no sailings from Egypt or here for the British Isles; and the only way to go is by airplane.

Miss Charlotte Reid and Mrs. Gladys Perry Campbell are planning to sail on Sunday for Smyrna, so as to be present at the wedding of Miss Carol Tuttle and Major Christian, on June 23rd.

The People's Party, the only one recognized or permitted until now in this country, has announced that it will not name any candidates for six vacancies in the Chamber of Deputies at the coming elections. This leaves the field free for independent candidates; and already there are many in various cities. In Stamboul, for the one vacancy there are seventy-seven who have announced their candidacy, including some women. The expectation is that eventually this may lead to the organization of a second political party.

Yours in enduring bonds of friendship and cooperation,
Charles Trowbridge Riggs.