

Bible House, Stamboul, January 14, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Mr. Deane Woodruff, son of our colleague Mrs. L. C. Woodruff, is here on a visit to his mother at Scutari, coming from Cairo where he is now stationed.

Mr. Robert Moore of Angora has been likewise in this city for a brief visit with his uncle, Prof. L. S. Moore of Sofia College.

A letter from Syria tells us that Dr. Ruth Parmelee and Miss Willms of Athens are now working among the Greek refugees in Palestine; and that other members of her party are waiting in the Lebanon for the way to open that they may all go back to Greece.

Hints in various recent letters from Durban, Natal, make us feel hopeful that Miss Jessie Martin and Miss Alice Lindsley, so long expected at the Scutari School, may be on their way by steamer to Egypt. In the meantime telegrams have come telling of the arrival in Durban of Mrs. Ezra Young, on her way to Stamboul, and Mrs. Erma Carl Brown, on her way to Smyrna.

News has been received by the Girls' College here of the appointment to the English Faculty of Leslie Conner Williams, who taught English and Art from 1912 to 1916, and who until 1920 was called on from time to time to help out during that difficult war period. She has already sailed from America.

The figures for attendance at the two local Colleges is as follows:-

American College for Girls	total enrollment	525
	College	194
	Preparatory	331
Boarders, 264; day students, 219; half-boarders, 42.		
Robert College:	total enrollment	885
	College	217
	Engineering	285
	Academy	383
Boarders, 303; day students, 582		

Mrs. Emily Block of Talas is going to Tarsus now for a bit of a vacation, so as to be back at the Talas school and let Mr. Nilson go away during the school vacation which begins at the end of this month.

The September number of "Advance" gave us our first news of the death, on June 17 last, of our former colleague Samuel Lee Caldwell, who from 1898 till 1932 was connected with International College, Smyrna, and for much of that time served as treasurer also of Smyrna Station. Mr. Caldwell was born in Charlotte, N.C., March 2, 1867, and took his diploma at Carleton College in 1897. The next year he was married to Miss Carrie Bruggeneate; and they came out to teach in what was then the Collegiate Institute for Boys and the Collegiate Institute for Girls. In 1903 they were commissioned as regular missionaries of the Board. Mr. Caldwell became Professor of Mathematics in International College, and had charge of the electric lighting and heating of the new plant to which they moved in 1913. During World War I, he did valiant work in relief, having about 1,200 persons on the regular list of those dependent on the College for food, besides hundreds of other applicants. He died at Laguna Beach, California, his home since retirement in 1932.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Higgs



Bible House, Stamboul, January 21, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Mr. Lyman MacCallum writes from Beirut of having a brief visit just before Christmas with Rev. W. Clark Kerr who was on his way to Tiberias, to take charge of a Christmas Eve service there, and was to be back in Haifa for an early morning Christmas service there. He reports that Mr. Kerr said his health was much improved, and adds: "He was looking surprisingly well, and quite plump."

Mr. MacCallum also tells us that his daughter Elizabeth has been giving herself quite a course of reading, having devoured eighty-five books in nine months, including such tomes as Van Loon's History of Mankind, and Fox's Book of Martyrs.

The latest word from Miss Jessie Martin and Miss Alice Lindsley quite gives the lie to the rumor given in our last issue; for they are still at Durban, with no prospect of getting away from there before January 28th at least.

Miss Elizabeth S. Webb; in a letter dated December 29th from Beirut, says the Armenian Evangelical Churches in Lebanon and Syria are in general prospering, and are trying to duplicate this year their splendid record of last year, when they raised in a special campaign more than \$3,000 to meet the emergency needs of preachers and teachers. Three of the larger churches have now become fully self-supporting, - the Bethel church of Aleppo, the Eshrefiye church of Beirut, and the Damascus church; also the small one in Tripoli. There are in all nineteen church schools, with 3,071 pupils.

The Christian Endeavor Societies in the Lebanon and Syria are an especially active organization. They have their own traveling secretary, who divides his time between the two sections; they publish a yearly devotional booklet, also a monthly religious magazine, and some sermons, and they conduct a number of Bible study groups.

Mr. Luther Fowle plans to start on Monday next for Gaziantep for a brief visit; he is to be joined at Kayseri by Dr. and Mrs. Nute, and there seems to be a possibility that Dr. Haas may also go to Aintab. If so, it will be the nearest our Mission has come to a Midwinter Conference in many years.

Mr. Donald Webster, formerly on the faculty of the International College of Smyrna, is now in Angora on Government business, and is planning to come up to Stamboul for a visit next week.

The Beirut News Letter tells us that Dr. Daniel Dorman and his wife, Dorothy Merrill Dorman, with their child are now located at Cambridge, Mass., and are living with Dan's mother, Mrs. Dorman.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

The Bible House had a narrow escape from a conflagration last night when the three-story building right east of it and separated only by a narrow alley-way was completely gutted by a fire starting shortly after nine o'clock in the evening and lasting till morning. The building was occupied by several business firms, and a few people were sleeping in it; but there was no loss of life. Aside from some burned blinds and some water damage, the chapel and apartment house stood up nobly to the severe test.

Mr. Luther Fowle wires that he was leaving Gaziantep Monday last; he is due here about Monday, stopping in Adana and Tarsus on the way.

Mr. Ezra Young of the ex-Y.M.C.A. has a cable from his wife from Cairo to say that she expected to reach Aleppo via Jerusalem the day after tomorrow; this should bring her here some day next week. Mrs. Erma Carl Brown is with her, going to Smyrna.

At the ski tournament of Kayseri Vilayet, held January 22nd, three boys from our Talas School came out first, second, and third. This was held at Zincidere.

The Talas School boys have been much interested of late with making model airplanes. An aviation instructor from the Türk Hava Kurumu at Angora came out to give them some lessons; and the boys made fifty of one model and thirty of another, with great enthusiasm. The football team of the school recently defeated the Kayseri team, 3-2.

A letter from Rev. J. K. Birge at Princeton, N.J., dated Nov. 26, says he can definitely say he is getting stronger, and hopes to be able to come back here with his wife and Dorothy "next spring or early summer."

The Beirut News Letter reports extensive exploits of burglars, who broke into Mr. Nicol's garage and stole the tow rear wheels and tires of his Chevrolet. Four other like happenings were reported the same night. Thieves also stole from the church vestibule on Sunday evening three top coats belonging to men attending the service of the Anglo-American church.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Bell left Beirut on Monday, January 17th, for Egypt, where they hope to get passage for America. Mr. Bell was Mr. MacCallum's predecessor in the Bible Societies' Agency in Beirut.

The same News Letter tells us that on January 20th Mr. Lyman MacCallum spoke at the Near East School of Theology Assembly, on "Recent Developments in Turkey."

The earthquakes of these past few days have done terrible havoc in the regions of Adabazar and Bolu and Gerede, with some damage as far away as Angora. Several of the shocks were distinctly ominous in this city as well. The mounting death roll shows at least twelve hundred victims, with many more injured, and thousands of houses ruined.

A telegram received from Cairo from Jessie Martin, states that she hopes to arrive here on the eleventh.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, February 11, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Tuesday last was a red-letter day for three parties in this city; for it brought three new workers from America, two of them long-expected wives. Mrs. Ezra Young and Mrs. Laurence Brown arrived after a trip of more than three months, via Buenos Ayres, Cape Town, Durban and Cairo; the former is to serve as secretary to the Acting President of Robert College, and the latter, who was met here by her husband, goes with him to Smyrna where she will teach in our Girls' School. With them from Beirut came Mrs. Leslie Conner Williams, to teach once more in the Girls' College; she made the trip by steamer to Lisbon and by another steamer to Haifa, getting through in less than six weeks. Mrs. Williams taught here from 1912 till 1920; and Mrs. Brown as Erma Carl taught in Smyrna from 1939 till 1942.

Mr. Luther Fowle returned from his trip to Gaziantep, Adana and Tarsus also the same day and from Ankara on the same train.

A wire has come from Miss Jessie Martin, as stated in our last, indicating that we may expect her today; but we learn that this really means that Miss Lindsley is also to be here with her.

After a period of rest and change, Miss Caroline Silliman is back again at the Girls' School in Aleppo, at work.

Dr. and Mrs. Laurens Seelye have word of the arrival of their daughter Dorothea in Cairo, where she has a position under the U.S. Government.

Dr. and Mrs. Shepard have had word that their son Fred has arrived in England with the American forces.

Mr. Donald Webster, formerly of the International College staff in Smyrna, and now located in Angora, was here this past week for a short visit. His family are now staying with Dr. and Mrs. Cass Reed in California.

Word has come through from Bulgaria that Miss Mary M. Haskell of Sofia is now a refugee at the town of Pordim, where she used to be in connection with the social settlement work started by her brother Edward. We learn from other sources that in the recent bombardment of Sofia the Evangelical Church building was reduced to ruins. Miss Haskell lived right opposite the church. The failure of the water supply made staying in the city very difficult. The Board's property at 8 Buxton Street has apparently not been injured.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Keene (Elsa Feichtinger) formerly of Smyrna, are now in Washington, D.C., where Mr. Keene is teaching in Howard University.

Mrs. Ernest Pye writes from Winter Park, Florida, that Dr. Pye's work on the life-thought of the late Dr. Bosworth, which has taken an immense amount of research, is nearing completion. Dr. Pye is under physical handicap, and most of this work has been done from his couch. The letter sends affectionate greetings to all friends.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, February 18, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Miss Jessie Martin and Miss Alice Lindsley reached Scutari last Friday, as expected, coming from Cairo by train after flying from Durban to Cairo. The school has welcomed both most eagerly. Miss Lindsley left for America in June, 1940, and Miss Martin a year later. Miss Martin has resumed her place as Principal of the School.

A letter from Mrs. H. H. Riggs tells of the passing on, on December 3rd, of Miss Ellen Weston Catlin, from 1908 till 1932 a missionary of our Board in Turkey. Miss Catlin was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, June 1, 1883, and went in 1908 to Harpout, where she taught in the girls' department of Euphrates College till 1913. After the first world war she returned from America to Gedik Pasha School, Stamboul, where she taught until her retirement in 1932 to care for her aged mother. Since then she has lived with her mother in Burlington, Vt., which was her home also until her graduation from the University of Vermont. Miss Catlin has suffered much of recent years with arthritis, but the cause of her death is given as cerebral hemorrhage. This is the third break in the Harpout circle within six months, -with the going of Mr. Henry Riggs and Miss Mary Riggs.

Mrs. Carl Compton of Anatolia College, Thessaloniki, has accepted the position of assistant to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson in the superintendence of the Auburndale Missionary Home, a post from which Mrs. Wilson has just retired. As already announced in our columns, Mr. Compton was hoping soon to get into the Middle East in connection with the UNRA for relief work among Greeks.

A cable from Mrs. Luther Fowle was received this week from Haverford, Penn., stating that she expected to spend the months of February and March with Dr. and Mrs. Huntington at Warm Springs, Georgia, and with Mrs. Wilson Fowle at Charlottesville, Va.

Rev. Ernest W. Riggs is spending the period from January 26th. till March 6th. taking part in the "Florida Chain of Missionary Assemblies," including nearly all the important centers of winter colonists in that State. He will be speaking on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Lyle S. Shelmidine, who from 1930 till 1934 was teaching at Tarsus College, and who is now in the U.S. Navy, spent a day in Tarsus and Adana last week on his way to his new post in Ankara.

Announcement has been published of the sailing of the first of a new line of Portuguese steamers from Port Said to Lisbon, connecting there with steamers to New York, to start from Port Said in April. The prices are well over a thousand dollars per ticket.

The Egyptian Bazaar, between the Bible House and the Bridge, which used to be called the Spice Bazaar, and which in its renovated condition was supposably intended for a fruit market, is finding it difficult to rent its shops, owing to high rents. Of the seventy or more booths inside, only seven are yet in operation, and these are all groceries.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

Lack of material for an issue explains the omission of last week's News Notes.

Word has been received by letter from India of the passing to her reward of Miss Ann Burgess, long known to many of our readers as the principal of the Friends' Mission at Koum Kapou, Stamboul, and for many years after that as working among Armenian refugees in Greece. Some three years ago she became herself a refugee and escaped from Greece to India. For quite a long time she has been ill and dependent on the care of friends; and she was finally released on the last night of the old year. She was considerably over eighty years of age.

Dr. J. K. Birge writes from Princeton, N.J., that he and his family are now staying at the home of Professor Conklin, retired Biology Professor, whose daughter many of us remember when she taught at the Girls College at Arnaoutkeuy. A third group of students have entered on the study of Turkish under Dr. Birge, -35 in number, - beginning in January. Dr. Birge was soon to see his physician and hoped to secure his consent to their coming back here this summer. He reports Bob as a buck private in the army, and acting as assistant chaplain and playing the organ at the soldiers' services. Bill is still in the navy, most of the time on the water but getting ashore every month or six weeks for a visit. Kingsley has been turned down by the Draft Board for health reasons, and is working on his thesis. Ann, now called Kathy, was just home from her first term at Antioch College; while Dorothy was at home and attending fourth grade.

The American Hospital in this city broke another record during February, when fifty-five major operations were performed, -more than in any one month of its previous history. Usually all beds are full.

Dean Harry G. Lorman of Aleppo College had a severe attack of appendicitis the first week in February, and on Sunday the 6th an emergency operation was performed, from which he has made a good recovery.

President Alford Carleton of Aleppo College spent the last two weeks of January in making a trip through Damascus, Palestine, and Transjordan, giving a series of five lectures, and consulting with various high officials in various towns. He also attended the two-days' session at Haifa (where he was the guest of Rev. W.C. Kerr) of the Joint Executive Committee of the United Missionary Council.

Dr. Carleton has been elected President of the Bible Lands Union for Christian Education, in succession to the late Bishop Graham-Brown.

Beginning with March 1st, telegraph and telephone rates in this city as well as postal rates have been increased. The postage on city and interior letters is raised to 11 piastres; telegrams are 5 piastres per word, or for urgent despatches, 10 piastres; while the annual minimum subscription for telephone is put up to 50 liras. The price for a single telephone conversation remains at 12 piastres. Beginning with this same date, tickets on the Golden Horn steamers have been increased, but not on those of the Bosphorus or Island lines.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends

In many respects the most important item of the week is the announcement made in yesterday's papers of the action on Wednesday by the Grand National Assembly, annulling the "varlik vergisi" or so-called wealth tax, which has been causing so much misery among the minorities. Not that any so far paid in will be refunded but the sums thus far unpaid will now not be demanded. In asking for the adoption of this annulment, the Minister of Finance stated that he thanked those who had consented to such sacrifices and paid in what they had.

Mr. MacCallum has sent us from Beirut a more accurate account of the attack on Rev. W. Clark Kerr, at Haifa. It would seem that on the night of February 16th, as he was going along the street, Mr. Kerr saw some soldiers beating up a boy. He went to the boy's help; and received a knife-thrust in the back. One story is that he was stabbed twice. He managed to crawl home alone but by that time he had lost a lot of blood. He was taken at once to the Government Hospital and given a blood transfusion, which immediately put him out of danger; and he made a complete recovery, and was allowed to leave the Hospital on February 28th. The soldiers who attacked him were not recognized and have thus far not been caught.

Figures given out by the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital at Gaziantep show that during the year 1943 there were 1165 in-patients, as compared with 1105 for 1942 and 952 for 1940. Of these, 548 were men, 466 women, and 151 children. Of the total, 336 were surgical cases, - by far the largest number in any one year. The number of full-pay patients was also the largest yet. All but 33 were Turks, with 9 Armenians, 2 Jews, 5 Kurds, 8 Syrian. There were also 3662 out-patients, with 2830 revisits, or a total of 6492. The number of days of occupancy for beds was 15,656, or an average of 42.89 per day, - pretty good for a 40-bed hospital! The total income was more than that for 1942 and 1941 put together.

Mr. Harry Dorman of Aleppo College has returned from the Altounian Hospital to his home, and resumed his college work the last of February.

The Beirut News Letter informs us that Mrs. J. E. Nicol left America by air on her return to Beirut, on or before February 25th.

A choir of thirty students each from the Aleppo Girls' High School and Aleppo College, under the direction of Mr. Rolla Foley, and with Mrs. H. G. Dorman as soloist, is scheduled to make a trip to Beirut during the Spring vacation, leaving April 14th and returning April 19th. It includes probably four concerts besides singing at the Sunday evening church service.

Mr. Lyman MacCallum has accepted the invitation of the Committee ad Interim to be the representative of the Near East Mission at the Executive Committee meeting of the Near East Christian Council, provided local conditions allow of his doing so.

On Monday last an unusually violent hailstorm broke over Tarsus, when according to reports, hailstones weighing as much as 400 grams fell in considerable quantity. About a hundred persons are stated to have been badly injured by these stones, some of them being hospitalized.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, March 31, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Recent letters have told of the happy reunion of the Fowle family at Christmas time; Mrs. Fowle secured the use of an apartment at 99 Claremont Street, New York City; and Jim and Joy and Richardson were there, besides Curtis and his wife who live near by; and while they were celebrating in proper style, they turned on the radio, and there was the voice of Farnsworth, speaking from Naples, Italy, thus making the family complete with the important exception of Father, over at the Bible House.

News received still more recently seems to indicate that Jim, now in the Navy, is perhaps even now on the high seas, pointed eastward.

Mr. Woolworth sends us this tale of the big hailstorm at Tarsus on the 13th inst.:-

"At first there was a heavy black cloud over the mountains, which finally began to move out over the plain. I was out on the campus, checking on preparations for a heavy rain, when I heard the heavy pounding of the hail on the city roofs. I got just nicely under cover by the time the storm got to us. We had not only what I would call good-sized basic hailstones, but also conglomerate masses of many hailstones frozen together as they came down, I measured one 7 cm. long and 4 thick. One of our neighbors reported that he weighed one of 700 grams. Our secretary was at the railway station and reported stones as large as oranges. In the college we had a number of broken windows, 900 broken roof tiles; and on one metal roof we have three holes through the zinc, one of them so large that I can put my fist through. Some 85 people are reported taken to the hospital for treatment, including a goodly number of primary school children who were out on a trip. We have heard that one youngster has later died. Of course much damage was done to crops and fruit trees."

Mr. and Mrs. George L. White, long in social service work in Cyprus, are now doing occupational and recreational work in the Greek Refugee Camps in Egypt, under the American Greek War Relief Association.

Mrs. Sarah Stone Foote, from 1929 to 1931 a nurse in the Adana Hospital, and her husband and children are now at R.F.D.1. Middlebury, Conn. The three children are Wayne, age 9; Carolyn, age 5, and Judy, age 2. They send greetings to their friends in Turkey.

Dr. and Mrs. George E. White, of Anatolia College, have left Omaha, Nebr., and are now at 928 High Street, Grinnell, Iowa.

A message from Mrs. Josephine Balch, formerly of Robert College, now in an internment camp in France, states that Mr. and Mrs. Charles House, of Thessaloniki, have left for the United States.

Holy Week services will be held in the Union Evangelical Church, at the Dutch Chapel, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons at five o'clock, leading up to the Easter morning service.

Mrs. Pauline Heizer Troedsson, daughter of our old colleague Mr. Oscar Heizer, has earned her Ph.D. in Zoology at Columbia University, while teaching zoology in Brooklyn College. She has a daughter, Carol, aged eight.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, April 7, 1944.

Dear Friends:

We are privileged to share a letter from Mrs. Charles E. Clark, from 2221 Clawson Ave., Royal Oak, Mich., where she is happily situated with her school-teacher sisters, within easy reach of several of her children. Her daughter Ruth and husband and four children live on a farm near Adrian, Mich.; Constance and her veterinarian husband and baby Marilyn are also near by. James, with his wife and fifteen-months-old Douglas live in East Lansing, Mich.; but just now David and his wife are farther away, for he is in war work at Seattle, Washington.

Another letter has come from Miss Jeannette Odell, now in Greencastle, Indiana; she speaks of Miss Harriet Yarrow and her mother as being in Chicago, where they are helping in the job of getting evacuees from relocation camps back into normal life once more.

Our friends in Izmir Girls' School are having their troubles. The French teacher came to Stamboul for her spring vacation, and shortly after arriving, had to go to hospital together with her little daughter with cases of scarlatina. Then, too, John Blake, who arrived at his home a week ago for his vacation, came down two days later with an attack of measles, having had time to thoroughly expose his sister Jacklyn. So Mrs. Blake is now in quarantine with the two of them, while Mr. Blake has to sleep elsewhere, to go on with his work.

The two new recruits now lined up for Izmir School are:- Miss Naomi Foster, of Manchester, Connecticut, a graduate of Mt. Holyoke College 1932, with an M.A. from Hartford School of Religious Education and a B.D. from Hartford Seminary; she has had teaching experience in Manchester and also in the Crossmore School, North Carolina, and was assistant for one year in the department of Biblical History at Wellesley College, and is this year the holder of the Jacobus Fellowship at Hartford. The other is Miss Carol C. Tuttle, of Brooklyn, N.Y., born of missionary parents in China, a graduate of Smith College 1943, who is this year teaching in the Hartridge School, Plainfield, N.J.

The latest letter from the Board Secretaries gives us word of the death, on September 5, 1943, at Fresno, California, of Miss Sarah Louise Peck, who from 1908 till 1913 was teaching in the Girls' School at Adana. She was a graduate of the University of California.

Miss Ruth Skentlebury, who taught in Merzifon School during the year 1937-38, is now happily engaged in secretarial work at Detroit, Mich.

Miss Bertha Colmyer, who also taught in Merzifon School, from 1920 to 1934, after a year at the Language School, is teaching Home Economics in a city near Jackson, Mich.

Ambassador and Mrs. Steinhardt are spending their spring holidays at the Embassy building in Stamboul. A tea in their honor is being given on Monday next by the two Colleges at the American College for Girls at Arnacoutkeuy.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Figgs



Bible House, Stamboul, April 21, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Miss Saisie Hibbard, who is now completing her nurses' training at New Haven, Connecticut, has been appointed by the American Board for service at the Azariah Smith Hospital, Gaziantep, in succession to Miss Jean Honiss, who died at Gaziantep January 8, 1939. It is expected that she will be able to secure a permit to travel out here this summer.

In the meanwhile four young candidates for local nurses have been found in Stamboul, and sent on to Gaziantep; a telegram of April 19 reports the arrival of the third and fourth. This considerably relieves the strain on the weakened staff of the Hospital.

Mr. Lyman MacCallum has sent word by a traveler that he is expecting to arrive in Stamboul May 5th, just two weeks from today. It is hoped he may stay here at least for some months.

The latest letters from America report that in all probability Dr. and Mrs. J. K. Birge and Dorothy will be ready to start back to this city in September.

President Alford Carleton of Aleppo has been in Beirut during the past week in connection with the meetings of the Evangelical Union, and to be present at the series of concerts given, as already forecast in a previous issue, by the Aleppo Student Choir. After the meeting of the Managers of Aleppo College on April 26th, he will also attend the meetings of the Southern Section of the United Missionary Council, at Jerusalem, and of the Northern Section at Beirut, and of the Near East School of Theology, getting back home by May 12th.

There are eighteen persons associated with our Mission who are expecting to go to America this summer, - a pretty large proportion of the present membership of the Mission! Of these, seven are planning to go on regular (?) furloughs, most of these delayed ones; six others are retiring from active work and not expecting to return; the remaining five are children, including two Woolworths and three Blakes.

In the hope of finding a supplementary water supply, the American Hospital at Nishantash has dug a well on its premises; and at nineteen metres a good source of water has been tapped, much to the joy of the management.

The dailies this morning announce that Turkey has agreed to the request of the Allies, and will send no more chrome to Germany as from today. This has improved the relationships between Turkey and the Allies to a good extent.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the dedication of the church building on the American Mission grounds at Beirut was celebrated with appropriate services on Sunday, March 26th.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, April 28, 1944.

Dear Friends:

A letter from Boston dated March 16th tells us of the death of our old colleague Rev. Henry K. Wingate, of Talas. Mr. Wingate was born at Janesville, Wisconsin, May 23rd, 1865, and was thus in his seventy-ninth year. Graduating from Carleton College, Minnesota, and studying Theology at Chicago, Yale and Hartford, in 1890 he went as a tutor to Anatolia College, Marsovan, for three years. In 1893 he married Jane C. Smith, of Marsovan, and went with her to take up his work as a regularly appointed missionary, at Talas, where he became the head of the Boys' High School. He returned to America in 1920, and has since been living in Minnesota. During the latter years he served as financial agent for Carleton College.

Mrs. Haas has been officially notified of the approbation by the Ministry of Education of her teaching in the Adana Girls' Lyceum during the school year 1942-43.

Permission for Dorothy and Robert Woolworth to return to Turkey from Beirut for their spring vacation was somewhat delayed, and so they spent the first week of their vacation in Aleppo, but were home for the second week. On Saturday, April 22nd, they returned to Beirut by American plane. Mr. Woolworth went along at the same time to attend the meetings of the Boards of Managers of the N.E.S.T. and of Aleppo College.

Miss Harriet C. Norton of Aleppo spent the Easter vacation from April 4th on, in Beirut and Palestine.

Miss Margaret Riggs, daughter of President and Mrs. Riggs of Anatolia College, has been elected to Phi Beta Kappa at Smith College.

Mr. Ernest Riggs tells of his six weeks in Florida as a very busy time. In the Chain of Missionary Assemblies, he visited 21 places, besides going to the famous Greek center of Tarpon Springs: he spoke fifty-nine times, besides taking part in forums, to an aggregate audience of over eighteen thousand. There were nine in the "team" but not always the same nine. In Tallahassee they dined with the Governor of Florida and his wife. In Winter Park, Mr. Riggs had dinner with Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Pye. The general theme of all the gatherings was "One World in Christ;" and the emphasis was on the very real responsibility of the Church in making the new world of peace. The interdenominational local committee had done a very thorough preparatory job, and the entire scheme worked well.

The local dailies tell us that a new sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis of the bones and joints will be opened by about the fifteenth of next month, at Balta Liman, in the former residence of Lamad Ferit Pasha. There are to be a hundred beds; and the most modern methods of treatment are to be employed.

Mr. Lyman MacCallum is presumably now at Baghdad, overseeing the affairs of the Bible Societies there, following which visit he is expecting to come to Stamboul, arriving here a week from today.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, May 12, 1944.

Dear Friends:

On Saturday evening an emergency operation for appendicitis was performed by Dr. Shepard on Pres. Floyd Black of Sofia, which was eminently successful, and Dr. Black is making a good recovery.

Mr. Lyman MacCallum, who had been expected here a week ago, from Beirut, arrived this morning, in fine shape, having been delayed by not receiving his passport visa earlier. He plans to stay here for several weeks.

The May-day holiday was a time of much festivity and joy at Talas School. A group of fifteen students, under the leadership of M. Maurice Beguin took a 66-kilometre hike to the region of Bünyan, spending two nights out and having a glorious time. Another picnic hike to the mountains gave happiness to fifty other boys. Some eighteen boys from the Kayseri Vocational High School came over with two teachers to Talas, and were shown movies, given a taste of baseball and a game of volley-ball; while another group came up from the Kayseri Lycee.

Previous to the holiday, during the Children's Week, the Talas boys put on a program consisting of two brief plays, some songs, and folk-dancing; this was repeated three times for varying audiences, including Turkish army officers and their wives, coming over in a military truck from Kayseri.

Our Talas associates have been enjoying a week's visit from Professor Aapeli Saaristo, Ph.D., of the University of Helsinki, who had already been visiting Stamboul and Ankara. Dr. Saaristo is a specialist in Oriental Literature and Philology, with much experience also in archaeology, and has written a book in Finnish on Biblical Archaeology. During this sabbatical year he hopes to go to Palestine also.

The Mission Committee ad Interim has suggested to the Stations the date of June 19 for the opening of the Annual Meeting, which is scheduled to be held at the Scutari Academy. The date proposed may possibly prove too early for some, but it is hoped it may not be.

Dr. and Mrs. Frederick W. MacCallum have gone up from Wai to Mahableshwar, India, for the heat of summer, and are comfortably established there, along with Miss Emily MacCallum, and Miss Glennie.

Word has come of the safe arrival at last in Beirut of Mrs. James H. Nicol, on April 30th, after a slow journey from America.

Two experimental black-outs have been staged in Stamboul within the past ten days, by the local government, each one of which has been pronounced eminently successful, though a few persons suffered fines each time for failure to follow regulations.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Higgs



Bible House, Stamboul, May 26, 1944.

Dear Friends:

The news of the week is the announcement made at the Faculty meeting at Robert College on Tuesday last of the election of Dr. Floyd H. Black as President of the two American Colleges of this city. Dr. Walter Livingston Wright Jr. resigned this office some months ago, but with the understanding that he would retain the title until a successor had been secured. Both Colleges are now rejoicing that so happy and fitting a choice has been made, and that the new President is one already so well acquainted with the situation and with a rich experience.

Dr. Black came out to Robert College as a tutor in 1911, together with Professor Estes. At the close of his three years, he married Miss Zarafinka Kirova, a teacher in Constantinople College, and they went to America just before the outbreak of World War I. After studying theology at Harvard Divinity School, Dr. Black returned to serve a seven-year term as professor in Robert College, till in 1926 he was elected President of the Sofia American Schools, then still functioning at Samakov. These schools were subsequently united in the Sofia American College; and Dr. Black has been till now President of that institution, although since October, 1942, he and his wife have been in this city owing to the enforced closing of Sofia College; and he has been assisting in the American Consulate-General here. Our heartiest good wishes go with President Black as he shortly begins his new duties.

Dr. and Mrs. William L. Nute of Talas have been in this city for the past ten days or so, having a rest and change between duties. The clinic at Talas is closed and most of the goods they will be taking with them to Gaziantep have been packed and on Sunday night they plan to start back on their way to their new post where Dr. Nute takes over the supervision of the Azariah Smith Hospital during the furlough year of Dr. and Mrs. Albert Lewey. Dr. Nute had a rather unpleasant experience the other day while out on a walk in plain sight of Robert College, when he was set upon by three villains who relieved him of his camera and watch and fountain pen. However, the local police showed great energy when the case was made known to them, and arrested all three men, and the Doctor has his property back. Mr. Duncan Thomson, son of our late colleague Rev. Robert Thomson, who was accompanying him, being a Scotchman, held on to all his belongings and did not suffer.

Mr. Lyle S. Shelmidine, who from 1930 till 1934 was teaching in Tarsus College, and who is now in U.S. Government work at Angora, is up here at Stambul for a brief visit.

Memorial Day will be observed as usual by the American Community at Ferikeuy Cemetery on Tuesday next at 5 p.m. Address by President F.H. Black.

As a result of the recent Day of Prayer for Women, observed in Aleppo, the women of the Evangelical churches of that city have contributed a sum equivalent to \$139.60 for relief work.

It is examination season in the various schools and colleges of this city; and the Commencements of the American institutions occur week after next. The suggestion has been sent out that the Annual Meeting of the Mission begin on June 10th; but apparently this is not feasible and the date may have to be postponed a week or so.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, June 2, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Dr. and Mrs. Nute left Stamboul Sunday evening as planned, on their way to Talas and Gaziantep. The plans of Dr. and Mrs. Dewey are to get away from their work at Gaziantep next week on their way to America; but further plans are still rather indefinite.

Mr. John Orr, formerly teacher at Aleppo College, and till now on the Robert College staff, left with his wife and baby yesterday on their way to Palestine and the United States. Others of the staff will be leaving soon; but Mr. and Mrs. Fay Pearson are held up owing to his attack of pleurisy.

His Holiness the Armenian Patriarch, Abp. Mesrop Naroyan, died suddenly on Wednesday last, at Shishli; the funeral takes place at the Patriarchal Church in Kum Kapu tomorrow morning.

Another death the same day affects the Bible House more personally, - that of Mr. Sahag Der Sahagian, who for twenty years past has been our faithful mailing clerk and general utility man, and has served with humble steadfastness and untiring effort. For some months now he has been laid aside with heart disease.

The exercises of Memorial Day took place according to custom on May 30th, at the Ferikeuy Cemetery, with some forty or fifty Americans and a few other friends present. Vice-Consul Squires presided; and the speaker of the occasion was Professor Laurens Seelye. Prayer was offered by Mr. Riggs; and "taps" were sounded by Mr. Triplett. The skies were bright and nature was at her best.

President-elect Floyd Black and Mrs. Black are spending a few days at the American College for Girls; and Dr. Black made the address at the closing exercises of the Preparatory Department yesterday. He has quite recovered from his late operation.

The graduation exercises of the American College for Girls, Robert College, and Scutari Academy will be held on successive days next week, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 8 - 10.

On April 16th there was held at the Eshrefiyeh Armenian Evangelical Church in Beirut a memorial service in honor of Professor Hovhannes Krikorian, Rev. Manasseh Papazian, and Rev. Henry H. Riggs; it was very largely attended. There were five addresses, among the speakers were Professor Levonian and Rev. James H. Nicol.

Mr. L. R. Fowle has received from the Board in Boston a copy of a book, "To Stem This Tide," a survey of racial tension areas in the United States, by Charles S. Johnson. He would be glad to find out whether copies were sent to other Stations, or whether this copy is intended for circulation throughout the Mission.

The annual campaign of the Stamboul Dershane, under the direction of our friend Mr. Ezra Young, came to a successful conclusion this Monday; it was managed by Mr. Cuthbert Binns, and resulted in a total subscription nearly thirty percent above expectations.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

Bright sunshine and the most perfect of June weather favored all three Commencement days last week, and made up in part for the sadness of the graduating classes over the unusual mortality among them due to inability to pass the examinations. First came the exercises of the American College for Girls, on Thursday, June 8th, when thirty-one young ladies received their diplomas at the hands of President Black, four of them being honor students. The chief address of the day was by Bay Nurullah Sumer, Deputy for Antalya, and father of one of the graduating class. The next day Robert College had its closing exercises, and nineteen in the College Department and twenty-six in the Engineering School received their diplomas, again with a parting address from President Black. Bay Ahmet Emin Yalman, editor of the daily Vatan, and father of one of the graduating class gave an excellent address; and appreciative minutes adopted by the Faculty were read, regarding the resignation of President Wright and the succession of President Black. On Saturday, June 10th, came the graduating exercises at the American Academy of Scutari; and Miss Martin handed the diplomas to fourteen girls, three of whom gave brief essays. The Turkish speaker was Bay Selim Sirri Tarcan, Deputy for Ordu.

Mr. John Stene, of Robert College, formerly teacher at Tarsus, and Mrs. (Flora Maxwell) Stene, for the past four years a nurse at the American Hospital, left last week on their return to America, going by way of Jerusalem.

Mrs. E. C. Blake and three children left Smyrna last week on their way to America on furlough, leaving Mr. Blake for the present to help in the school work at Smyrna.

Mr. George D. White, who has been helping out with the Greek refugees in Egypt, has returned to his post in Cyprus. Mrs. White had gone back there some time previously.

Last week M. Maurice Beguin and eight of the students from the Talas School had a three-day trip up to the top of Mt. Argaeus and back, making the entire outing without "a single scratch or accident" even in the unusual month of June.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfian Helmi, who have been teaching at Talas School the past year, have returned to Stamboul, where he expects to study in the University for his doctor's degree this coming year.

Mr. Lyman MacCallum and Mr. Luther Fowle returned yesterday from an absence of six days in Brousa and going up Ulu Dag (Mt. Olympus).

Miss Charlotte B. Reid, a graduate of Oberlin College, 1943, who has been teaching for a year in Atlantic Beach, Florida, has been engaged for a three-year term as teacher at Scutari Academy.

Miss Joan Reed, of California, daughter of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Cass Arthur Reed, formerly of International College, Smyrna, has been similarly engaged for a three-year term of teaching in the Smyrna Girls' School.

Dr. Fred Field Goodsell left Boston April 10th on a trip to Mexico, Argentina and Brazil, expecting to be gone until late in July. He has gone especially to look into the situation among the Congregational Churches in Brazil; and he was accompanied by Dr. Theodore Greene, of New Britain, Conn., a member of the Prudential Committee, as representative of the General Council.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

The Annual Meeting of the Near East Mission convened at the American Academy, Scutari, on Tuesday afternoon last. The opening had been postponed twenty-four hours, to allow the delegates from Aleppo and Beirut to arrive; but the Tuesday Taurus Express pulled in without any sign of our Syria delegates; and no word of them or of when to expect them has yet come. The next Taurus Express is due this afternoon; we trust it may bring them.

Owing to this delay, the Educational Council, under the chairmanship of Miss Martin, held its sessions Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning; and the discussions on school subjects proved profitable.

The delegates to this Annual Meeting include Rev. and Mrs. M. N. Isely from Gaziantep, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Maynard and Miss Towner from Tarsus, Mr. Blake, Miss Ward, Miss Parsons and Miss Woodward from Smyrna, Miss Dwight and Mr. Nilson from Talas, and Miss Lucas, Miss Fletcher, Miss Martin and Mr. Riggs from Stamboul. Miss Long of Smyrna is also here. Mr. Maynard is Chairman, and Mr. Fowle was reelected Secretary of the Mission.

A larger number than usual of friends of the Mission were present to listen to the reports of the Stations, which as usual gave interesting glimpses of the activities at the various points. The Annual Sermon and Communion Service are appointed for 4:30 Sunday afternoon; the sermon will be by Miss Edith Parsons, and the Lord's Supper will be administered by Messrs. Riggs and Blake.

Miss Hinman and Mrs. E. C. Blake with her three children left Smyrna June 7th on their way toward America; a wire has announced their arrival in Jerusalem, where they expect to spend a month at least, waiting for the first available steamer from Egypt.

On June 12, Dr. and Mrs. Albert Lewey of Aintab left for their furlough in America, going via Adana and thence by plane to Cairo. Mr. and Mrs. Isely were with them as far as Adana, on their way to Stamboul. Dr. and Mrs. William L. Nute have begun their work in Aintab Hospital as substitutes for the Deweys.

A telegram from Boston tells us that Mrs. Nilson and Miss Greene may be expected to arrive by September on their return from furloughs, and with them Miss Tuttle, Miss Joan Reed, Miss Foster and Miss Charlotte Reid, new teachers for Smyrna and Scutari; also that Miss Saisie Hibbard, the nurse for Aintab, may be expected earlier; and that Mrs. L. R. Fowle will probably be coming back in the fall. There is general rejoicing over this good news.

Ex-President W. L. Wright, Jr., has been appointed by the U. S. Government to write the official history of the present war, a job that will keep him in Washington for an indefinite period.

Miss Dorothy Blatter of Stamboul and Miss Mary Ingle of Thessaloniki who has been also teaching at the Scutari Academy, left yesterday on their way to the United States on furlough.

Today quite a party is starting on a camping expedition to Ulu Dagh (Mt. Olympus), the first of several such camping parties this summer.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

The Near East Mission Annual Meeting closed on Saturday afternoon, July 1st, with the exception of the Sermon and Communion service on Sunday afternoon in the Scutari Chapel. As far as memory goes, this was the shortest Annual Meeting on record. We had to get along without our delegates from Beirut and Aleppo, as the Syrian border was closed to northward traffic. This prevented the deciding of certain questions; these will have to be taken up later. On the whole, the meeting was a good one, of good fellowship and encouragement.

Mr. and Mrs. Isely have been taking a short mountain holiday on Ulu Dagh Camp, where they had some rain but also a good time. They left Stamboul ~~to-day~~ on their return trip to Gaziantep.

Miss Dwight left this city July 8th by airplane to Angora, to go on thence by train to Kayseri and so back to Talas. Most of the other delegates will have left in a day or two. Miss Lucas and Miss Putney are expected back from the Ulu Dagh Camp today; and today Dr. and Mrs. Shepard and Mr. Fowle started off for the Camp, where several others still remain.

A recent cable from America announces the birth of Cornelia Christie Nute, to Bill Nute and Mary Nute (Junior), thus increasing the dignity of Dr. and Mrs. Nute as grandparents. The young lady arrived June 15th.

We failed to record the return of Mr. F. Lyman MacCallum to his post in Beirut; he left here June 26th.

Letters have been received from Mr. and Mrs. Charles House, of the Thessaloniki Farm School, dated New York April 14th, and giving interesting details of their exchange and arrival in America March 15th. Mrs. House's mother, who is 89, was very ill at the time, but is reported as gaining; and Mrs. J. Henry House, Mr. House's mother, who is past 93, he says does not seem to have aged at all since he saw her before!

Col. William A. Eddy, of the U.S. Marine Corps, has been nominated by President Roosevelt as the first United States Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Saudi Arabia. Colonel Eddy was born in 1896 at Beirut, the son of Presbyterian missionaries; and part of his qualification for the post consists in his having taught for five years, 1923 to 1928, at the American University of Cairo; he also served five months as Naval Attache in Cairo during the latter half of 1941.

The Red Crescent School of Nursing in Stamboul on June 27th graduated a class of 18 nurses. The Directress and Assistant Directress of the School are both graduates of the American Hospital School of Nursing; and at the graduation exercises there were several expressions of warm acknowledgement of the aid and inspiration of our School. Dr. and Mrs. Shepard and Mr. and Mrs. Isely were present.

President and Mrs. Black have moved into the Huntington House, which will be the President's House, at least for the present. Dr. Black is busily studying the Turkish language.

Letters from Dr. Birge dated at Princeton, N.J., April 21st, indicate his hope that he and Mrs. Birge and Dorothy will be allowed to leave for Stamboul during the course of this summer. His health seems to be definitely improved.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

A cable from Boston announces the appointment of Miss Helton as a permanent teacher for Scutari Academy, to teach English; also the securing of Miss Edwards for a three-year term of teaching at Aleppo Girls' School; and thirdly it indicates that progress has been made in securing permission for Miss Joan Reed, Miss Foster and Miss Tuttle to come with Miss Greene to Smyrna School, and for Miss Charlotte Reid for Scutari, and Miss Hibbard for Aintab Hospital.

Related word from Aleppo states that six young men graduated from the Junior College course at Aleppo College, and twenty-four from the High School Department, this June.

From the Near East School of Theology at Beirut, six students completed their work this spring, four in the required course in theology, while two young women completed their Short Course. Dr. Greenslade, President of the School, has gone on furlough for the coming year to America.

Letters from Mrs. E. C. Blake and Miss Hinman in Jerusalem tell of their happy location at the American Colony in that city, and of their going out to the Mt. Zion Cemetery to lay on the grave of Mr. Henry H. Riggs some dahlias and gladiolas in the name of the Mission. Mrs. Blake is taking Arabic lessons while she waits for permission to proceed to America, and is helping at the Baby Clinic; and she has put her two boys at work in the British Y.W.C.A. At the time of these letters, Rev. and Mrs. Philip Ward were expected in Jerusalem shortly.

While in Beirut on her way to Palestine, Miss Hinman speaks of being pleasantly located in the Maynard home, where she met the Fowlers, Professor Seylaz, and Howard Reed, all formerly of Smyrna.

A letter has been received from Mrs. Helen Scott, formerly connected with our schools in Gedik Pasha, Athens, and Scutari, who is now located at the Baptist Missionary Home in Newton Center, Mass.

Rev. W. S. Woolworth is spending a vacation at Geuzne, and Mrs. Haas also; and they are expecting Miss Theda Phelps from Gaziantep for part of her vacation. Mrs. Woolworth has joined her children in Beirut and is waiting for the way to open for going on with them to America.

Miss Silliman of Aleppo is spending the month of July at Brumana, Lebanon, and expects to be with the Carleton family in Aleppo for August.

According to a late letter from Dr. Alford Carleton, he was expecting to go to Damascus on a visit this past Monday, and from there on to Jerusalem to attend a meeting of the Bible Lands Union for Christian Education.

Professor and Mrs. C. S. MacNeal of Robert College are starting today for a visit to Gaziantep, where they will be the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Nute.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, August 11, 1944.

Dear Friends:

A letter from Cairo gives us the joyful information that our friends who have been waiting there so long for accommodations across the ocean, were expecting to start on a British steamer on August 1st. We trust they did get off as expected. These include Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Dewey, Miss Dorothy Blatter, Miss Mary Ingle, Mr. and Mrs. John Orr and child, Mr. and Mrs. John Stene, Dr. and Mrs. W. G. Greenslade of Beirut, and presumably Mrs. E. C. Blake and three children, Miss Harriet Norton and Miss Agnes Fenenga. Mr. John Burns, formerly of Tarsus and Robert College, had got off earlier, also Rev. B. Frank Stoltzfus and his son Ben; and it is supposed that Mrs. Stoltzfus joined this party to follow them. And the Beirut News Letter of July 26th informs us that Mrs. W. S. Woolworth and Bobby were leaving Beirut the following day to go to Egypt; so we suppose they were also in time for this steamer.

While in Cairo, Dr. and Mrs. Dewey were working in one of the refugee camps near that city, which is under the direction of Dr. Wilson F. Dodd, formerly of Talas and Aintab.

Miss Katherine McElroy, President of Pierce College, Athens, is at present working in a Greek refugee camp at Gaza, Palestine, with some other workers under the Greek Relief Committee.

Rev. and Mrs. Philip Ward of Beirut have gone to Jerusalem, for the summer, and Mr. Ward is studying in the Newman School of Missions.

Mr. Frank Curtis, of the American Greek Relief Committee, which is working in connection with the UNRRA, has just been making a brief visit to Angora, Smyrna, and Stamboul, to look into the situation at those centers, and has started on his return to his center at Cairo.

The remaining campers on Ulu Dag (Mt. Olympus), including Dr. and Mrs. Shepard, Mr. Luther Fowle, Miss Katherine Wright and Miss Caroline Gurney, are expected back in this city on Monday, after a most successful summer outing.

The following day, Tuesday, Prof. and Mrs. C. S. MacNeal of Robert College are due to return from their visit to Gaziantep, where they have been having a glorious time.

Mrs. Steinhardt, wife of the Ambassador, has come from Angora to Stamboul for a change of air.

A cable from Boston announces that the necessary visas for all members of our expected party of recruits have been secured; but we have as yet no news of the sailing dates.

Some time ago we announced that the Egyptian Bazaar, between the Bible House and the Karakeuy Bridge, had been entirely renovated, but that the stalls were not being rapidly taken because of high rents. Since then, quite a number of firms have installed themselves, taking up more than half of the stalls on the north-south street of the Bazaar, all groceries; while in the east-west street several dairy-products stores have been opened.

Another big change near by is the opening of the Yerli Mal Pazari, or Native Industries Corporation, in the former Orozdi-Back building, whose interior has been entirely remodeled.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, August 18, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Dr. and Mrs. Shepard and party reached Stamboul on their return from camping on Ulu Dag, last Sunday afternoon instead of Monday, having made a record trip from camp to home. The list of the party in our last issue should have contained also the name of Prof. C. E. Estes of Robert College.

On Tuesday Prof. and Mrs. MacNeal returned from their trip to Gaziantep, most enthusiastic over their fortnight there with Dr. and Mrs. Nute and their work in the Hospital, where all beds are always full.

Mr. Lincoln Kelsey, who in 1919 and 1920 was connected with A.C.R.N.E. work in Merzifon, with Dr. White and Dr. Pye, is in town for a few days. He is connected with UNRRA and is at present located in Cairo. Mrs. Kelsey hopes to come out soon to be connected with Pierce College, Ellenico, Greece.

Miss Marion Sheldon, making light of her eighty-odd years, went out from Auburndale the 18th of May last, to Northport, Michigan, to have a visit with Mrs. Thomas, mother of Mrs. E. T. Leslie of Stamboul.

The three daughters of Mrs. Harry H. Barnum, formerly of Robert College, are now all living in Mahwah, N.J., the home of Mrs. Eleanor Barnum Gardner; since in the absence of their husbands on war duties Mrs. Helen Barnum Ramsaur and Mrs. Ruth Barnum Coburn have taken flats right near their sister. At last accounts their mother, who has been with a Home near Hartford, Conn., was considering joining them there.

Recent letters tell of the death of Mrs. Douglas Horton, June 5th; and also of the sister of Mrs. Luther Fowle, Mrs. Leah T. Baker on June 2nd. Many will sympathize with the bereaved.

Dr. and Mrs. Shepard have at last heard details regarding the graduation of their son Bob (Robert Andrews) from Yale Sheff., with honors, in June last, and as a Marshal of his class. Bob had already been elected to the scientific honor society, Sigma Xi. He is not yet twenty-one years old.

Farnsworth Fowle was last reported in America on a brief leave of absence, and having visits with his mother and others of the family before returning to his newspaper work in the Mediterranean area.

Recent letters from Dr. J. K. Birge tell of the fine time he had at the National Council meeting at Grand Rapids, Mich. where he gave the Welcome to the Field at the commissioning service for Miss Saisie Hibbard, the new nurse for Gaziantep. At that same time Mrs. Birge was attending a Young People's Conference at Wells College, Aurora, N.Y. They and the two girls were summering in Mountain Rest, Mass. Bill is a 1st Lieutenant in the Navy, while Bob is at an Officers' Training School in Virginia.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, September 1, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Miss Edith Douglass, who came up to Stamboul for the summer from Smyrna, returned to that city last Monday, going by airplane.

Mrs. John (Elizabeth Leslie) Seager is returning today to Smyrna via Bandirma, after spending several weeks at Therapia with her three daughters. Mrs. Leslie stayed with her during this time.

The furlough of Dr. Greenslade and family from Beirut has made necessary a rearrangement of the teaching force at the Near East School of Theology for the coming year. Professor Levonian will be the acting principal; and Rev. Philip Ward will give full time there. Other regular part-time teachers will include Rev. J. H. Nicol, Mr. H. Aharonian, and Dr. G. H. Scherer, while Rev. R. C. Byerly will supervise the field work of the Arabic speaking students. Dr. Alfred Guillaume, of Culham College, England, will give courses in Old Testament and Islamics; while it is hoped that Rev. A. K. Cragg will give a course in Church History, and that Dr. Louise P. Smith, of Wellesley College, may be in Beirut for at least one semester, and give a course. This sounds like a good strong faculty.

Former residents in Stamboul would be interested to see the renovated Leander's Tower, or "Maiden's Tower" of today. The foundations of the old lighthouse were apparently giving way; so it was completely taken down, to the very foundations, and has been rebuilt, practically on the old lines. The blackout now in force interferes with its full functioning.

A telegram from America dated August 30th was received today stating that Miss Blatter and Miss Ingle arrived there safe and well. This good news undoubtedly means also that Dr. and Mrs. Dewey and Mrs. Woolworth and the children are there, also the Orrs and Stenes.

Robert College and the Girls' College have news by wire from their New York headquarters that the new personnel for the two colleges may be expected here in time for the opening of the new college term, on September 28th. The Near East Mission longs for similar assurance regarding its expected reinforcements.

Word has come from Mr. Nilson in Talas that Mrs. Block is not expecting to start for her furlough until Mrs. Nilson arrives from America.

The probable line-up for teaching force at Talas School for this coming year includes Mr. and Mrs. Nilson, Miss Dwight, M. Maurice Beguin, Miss Sylvia Eddy, and Madame Bonnal; also three Turkish teachers.

Mr. F. Lyman MacCallum of the Bible Society has gone from Beirut to Egypt for a brief stay. We have some hope of seeing him in Stamboul before this month is out, but no recent word.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

Mr. Woolworth reports a telegram from his wife dated in Philadelphia August 29th, which modifies to a certain extent our news of last week regarding the arrival of that party in America. Apparently they landed in that city.

Another cable has been received this past week, this one from the Board Rooms, announcing the starting out of Misses Joan Reed, Charlotte Reid, Tuttle, Hibbard and Foster. Miss Hibbard is the nurse for Gaziantep; Miss Charlotte Reid is a teacher for Scutari, and the other three for Smyrna.

In Mr. Woolworth's letter above quoted, he states that he and Mrs. Haas have just returned to their posts from Gözne where they went in July. While there they had as visitors Mr. Shelmidine, who was formerly a teacher in Tarsus College, and has been most of the past winter serving in Angora; also Mr. Peck, British Consul in Adana, and Dr. Haas, who for the first time since early in World War I, was able to break away from his work in Adana and make a visit to Gözne!

While Dr. Maynard Owen Williams, of the National Geographic Magazine, after a visit with his son at Robert College, was making a visit in Talas, Mr. Nilson secured an extra allowance of gasoline, and took Dr. Williams, together with Mr. and Mrs. Mulhausen of Robert College over to Urgup to see the famous troglodyte caves at Göreme.

Under the impetus of the new interest in mountaineering cultivated by the Ministry of Public Instruction, work has begun on a mountain hotel, with room for forty persons, at a height of about 2500 metres, on the slopes of Mt. Argaeus, near Kayseri. Mr. Nilson reports seeing the beginning of the foundations.

Miss Mabel E. Long, who with Miss Woodward has been spending a delightful summer at Brummana, in the Lebanon above Beirut, has accepted a position in the Girls' School at Aleppo until she can return to Greece; and she expected to go to Aleppo during this past week to get settled in. She states that Miss Katherine McElroy, President of Pierce College, recently made a visit to Aleppo on an inspection tour from Gaza where she has been working in a refugee camp.

Sir Hugh Knatchbull Hugessen, till now British Ambassador at Angora, has been transferred to Brussels, as the first British Ambassador to liberated Belgium, and is expected to leave soon for his new post.

We were not aware till after the issue of our last number that Miss Douglass was unable to carry out her plan to fly to Smyrna; the plane was taken off the line temporarily, and she had to go by the more prosaic steamer to Bandirma and thence by train.

Prof. and Mrs. Gardner Bennett (Edith Carter) formerly of Robert College, have completed their term at Laramie, Wyo., and have gone to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he has received an appointment in the Engineering Department of the University.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

A telegram was received last week in Smyrna from Port Said indicating that Mrs. E. C. Blake and her three children and Miss Margaret Hinman sailed from there the previous day, for the United States.

Miss Mary I. Ward has gone from Smyrna to spend a few weeks with her nephew, Rev. Philip Ward, and his wife in Beirut on her way to America.

On August 17th, Miss M. W. Frearson, formerly of Marash and Aintab, was greeted by many friends on the 46th anniversary of the beginning of her work in the Near East. Since closing up the orphanage in Shimlan, Syria, in 1940, she has been mother to a large number of troops in canteens in Rayak, Brummana, and Aleih, in the Lebanon. (Beirut News Letter).

Mr. Lyman MacCallum returned to Beirut on August 18th after three weeks' visit in Cairo, where he was able to assist Mrs. Blake and party in making arrangements for their voyage to America.

Word has come of the arrival in Cairo of Mrs. Harold Scott of Robert College, on her way from America to rejoin her husband here. She has been absent since May, 1940.

A party of some 342 Allied airmen, mostly Americans, with quite a group of British and others, arrived in our city last Tuesday, coming by special train from Bulgaria, where they had been detained in an internment camp, some of them for more than a year, having made forced landings there. With the exception of about a score of hospital cases, these men have been forwarded by special train on their way to rejoin their units elsewhere. They were given cordial treatment by the local Americans during their stay here.

A cable from Boston dated September 13th was received this morning stating that the Lisbon party was "proceeding soon." This no doubt refers to the young ladies whose starting we perhaps too confidently announced last week, and who had apparently been delayed.

In Mr. MacCallum's last letter, dated late in August, he says he hopes to be in Stamboul "in about a month or six weeks." It is hoped his visit may be a longer one than the last.

A bad fire occurred in the upper part of Scutari two days ago, which for a time gave uneasiness to the American community, but providentially the wind was not in the direction of the school property. Some twenty-three houses were destroyed.

Last Saturday the graduation exercises took place of a group of five nurses at the American Hospital Training School. Dr. Shepard made an address in Turkish, and Bay Mustafa Hamit Karaorman also gave an address. The class rendered very acceptably some vocal music, also a piano solo.

The Hospital has been very full right along, and Dr. and Mrs. Shepard have been working overtime ever since their return from camp.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

On the very day that we announced her arrival in Cairo, the announcement proved out of date by the arrival of Mrs. Harold Scott of Robert College at her home on the Bosphorus. With her came Miss Mary Hosford, the fiancée of Mr. George Williams of Robert College, and wedding bells may soon ring. Mrs. Scott has received a very hearty welcome from her many friends. When the two Colleges reopened on Thursday last she began her new work teaching English literature in the higher classes at the Girls' College.

Miss Katherine Fletcher, retiring after twenty years of service with the Mission, preceded by four years with the Near East Relief, left for America on the Taurus Express on September 21st. A large group of teachers, staff, students, and other friends were at the Haydar Pasha station to see her off. The gifts of candy piled in her compartment suffice to sweeten her path all the way to America: while a boghcha, or wrapper, made of little squares of dress pieces of the Scutari School family, complete with blue bead, contained the many notes and letters of good wishes sent in by her friends. Miss Fletcher plans to spend a week in Adana with friends there, including Miss Theda Phelps of Gaziantep, and then to continue her trip to join Miss Mary Ward in Beirut and together seek passage from Egypt to the United States.

Miss Harriet Norton and Miss Agnes Fenenga of Aleppo reached Beirut Monday, September 4th., en route to Egypt and America. Both of them are retiring from active service in the Near East Mission of the American Board in connection with the Aleppo High School for Girls. Before their departure from Aleppo both the Armenian and Syrian churches gave testimonials of the esteem in which their services were held, and of regret that the time had come for retirement.-Beirut News Letter.

Rev. Philip Ward has returned from Jerusalem to Beirut after attending the summer term at the Newman School of Missions. The Beirut News Letter tells us that he and Mrs. Ward are occupying the Greenslade residence during the absence of Dr. and Mrs. Greenslade on furlough.

Most of the American airmen whose arrival in Stamboul we mentioned in our last issue, arrived in America in just a week from the time they left here going southward. About twenty more who had been detained here by their state of health, left by special planes on Wednesday last for Cairo, accompanied by Dr. Lorrin Shepard, to be sent on from there to America. Dr. Shepard is expected back any time now.

A cable from Northampton, Mass., dated Sept. 25, reports the birth of Ingrid Edith Stene, to Mr. and Mrs. John Stene (Flora Maxwell) of Stamboul.

Miss Ethel Nichols, who returned to America this summer after service at the American College for Girls, Stamboul, has been appointed as Dean of Freshman women at the Women's College of Middlebury, Vermont.

Miss Lelah Sitterley has been secured as nurse for the American Hospital in Stamboul, and is expected to come out by the first opportunity.

The Talas School had enrolled by September 17th. 83 students in place of the 75 hoped for. Seems to be easier to get students than teachers.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

The arrival of Miss Joan Reed, presumably with Miss Charlotte Reid, Miss Hibbard, Miss Foster and Miss Tuttle, at Lisbon on or before September 12th is reported through a cable received from there by Dr. and Mrs. Cass Reed at Pomona, Calif.

A letter received by Mr. Donald Webster from his wife in Pomona, dated September 13th, states that Dr. and Mrs. Cass Reed have finally been accepted by UNRRA for overseas service. Dr. Reed tendered his resignation as pastor to the Pomona Church a few days earlier.

Mr. Daniel Brewster, of the American Embassy staff, has been granted a leave of absence, and expects to be starting soon for America. He tells us that his father, Rev. J. Riggs Brewster of Athens, is at present helping out in the Treasurer's office of the American Board; and that he and Mrs. Brewster are living in Auburndale, Mass. Mrs. Brewster was till recently with her ninety-four-year-old father in Minnesota.

Dr. Wilson Dodd, formerly of Talas and Gaziantep, has been in Egypt since the first of the year, and very busy with five UNRRA camps in the Cairo area, looking after the health problem. He is looking forward to going into the Balkans in the near future. He has seen nearly all of the Turkey friends passing through Cairo; and he sends his best wishes to all friends in Stamboul or other places in Turkey.

During the past summer, Aleppo College Elementary School sent eighteen pupils from the 6th grade into the Certificate examinations; and all the eighteen passed. This was the best record of any school.

Aleppo College has been loaned a 16 mm. sound-on-film projector for the coming year, and a rotating supply of educational and cultural films.

The renting of an additional house near the Aleppo College campus has made possible the accepting of additional boarders; so that at last accounts there were expected twenty-six boarders of College grade, and at least forty in all in the Freshman and Sophomore classes, which is double the numbers of last year.

Mr. Donald Webster started for Angora on Monday evening last, after visiting the penal colony on the island of Imrali for a couple of days.

Miss Parsons writes from Smyrna that the Girls' School already has 262 students, and the problem of seating them in available rooms is a difficult one. They eagerly await the arrival of their new teachers.

A cable from Boston states that it is expected that Mrs. Nilson, Miss Olive Greene, Miss Helton and Miss Edwards will be sailing this month on their way to our Mission.

The American Academy at Scutari has at present 366 girls in attendance, of whom 128 are boarders. All teachers have full schedules. The English High School for Boys in Pers is overcrowded, with 275 students now.

Word comes from Miss Dwight that of the 85 boys registered for the Talas School, 72 were present at the opening.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

A cable from Mrs. Lynda Blake dated September 29 gives the news that she and her three children with Miss Hinman arrived in Baltimore that day. A later cable seems to indicate that the Blakes have settled in Auburndale or Newton, for it says the three children are happily arranged for at the Newton High School.

Dr. Lorrin Shepard, who went to Cairo by air with the air-men who were recently here for treatment, and took six and a-half hours for the trip, arrived home on Saturday last, the 7th, coming by plane to Ankara and from there to Stamboul by another plane, and making the entire distance in less than twelve hours. Despite his very strenuous time in Cairo, his trip was very refreshing to him.

Word has come from Miss Melene Turner and Miss Esther Carhart of the Methodist Mission in Bulgaria, that they are reopening their Girls' School at Lovetch this fall. Apparently the Bulgarians are welcoming back American educators very cordially all around.

Mr. Dean Woodruff, son of Mrs. Woodruff of Sofia but now of Scutari, has recently returned from a trip to Sofia, where he examined the condition of the Mission Community House at 8 Buxton Street. In spite of the fact that three bombs fell, one on each of three sides of it, smashing most of the windows, and damaging the roof and landing some portions of the surrounding masonry on the porches, the walls seem intact, and the contents, except for weather damage, seem to be in good condition. Repairs are now being made to roof and windows, to preserve the building from damage by the winter storms.

After a happy visit at Adana with Dr. and Mrs. Haas, and Miss Theda Phelps of Gaziantep, Miss Fletcher left there on September 29th for Aleppo, Beirut, and Cairo on her way home to America. Miss Phelps plans to stay in Adana and Tarsus until October 19th, before returning to Aintab, hoping that Miss Hibbard may arrive there by that time.

We learn by cable from Boston that the Lisbon party, consisting of Misses Hibbard, Foster, Tuttle, Joan Reed and Charlotte Reid, will probably be flying soon to Cairo on their way to our Mission; also that Miss Luella Dunning has been secured as teacher for Smyrna in addition to those already on the way; and that she will probably join Mrs. Nilson, Miss Olive Greene, Miss Helton and Miss Edwards on the way out.

On September 1st, Mrs. J. K. Marden and Mrs. D. K. Getchell gave a picnic supper in honor of Mrs. Lillian C. Sewny, at Claremont, California, in celebration of her seventy-fourth birthday. Among those present were several Near East friends including Miss Bertha Morley, who just arrived from Cleveland, Ohio, to visit her sister, Mrs. Marden.

According to the statement of the Vilayet authorities, there have been found to be 28,649 children in the Stamboul vilayet of primary school age who because of lack of parental care or through poverty or because they have been sent to work, are not in school. Measures are being taken to secure their attendance, in so far as there may be room for them in schools.

Work was begun on Monday last at Ankara on the national mausoleum to be erected in memory of Kemal Atatürk. The design of this monument was chosen out of 462 submitted in trial.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, October 27, 1944.

Dear Friends:

Further word has come from our group of five ladies, or at least from two of them; Miss Hibbard and Miss Foster arrived in Cairo a week or more ago, having secured passage on a plane earlier than the other three. This word was brought by two new teachers who have arrived in this city for the Girls' College.- Miss Roberts and Miss Keene.

At last accounts, Robert College had enrolled more than 950 students, and the College for Girls, a little over five hundred. Both seating capacity and teaching force are strained to their utmost to take care of such numbers.

Tarsus College has now ninety boarders and a hundred and one day scholars. So the staff there also is kept very busy.

The Near East School of Theology at Beirut has this year eighteen students enrolled; of these three are Palestinian, four Syrian, and eleven Armenian. Eight are men, three women.

Of the 58 Armenian graduates from the Near East School of Theology or its predecessors in Athens and Beirut, 13 are ordained pastors of Evangelical churches; one is an ordained priest in the Gregorian Church; 24 are preachers and teachers; 4 are in business or clerical work, one is deceased; and included in the above total are 15 women, 5 of whom are married to teachers or preachers, 8 are teaching, and 2 in clerical work. Of the total number, 40 are in Syria and the Lebanon, 7 in Greece and Bulgaria.

Mrs. Charles E. Clark, formerly of Gaziantep, writes of visiting with her children, welcoming each new grandchild. She now has seven grandchildren. She is eager for news from her friends in Turkey.

Latest news from Miss Fletcher and Miss Mary Ward in Beirut was that they expected to start from there for Cairo on October 10th.

Mr. Burton Berry, who has been at the head of the Consulate-General in Stamboul for a long time, has been transferred to Bucharest and is on his way to his new post. His place here will be filled for the time being by Mr. Troutman of Angora.

Quite a large number of friends gathered at tea at the Bible House apartment yesterday to present their best wishes to Miss Annie M. Barker on the occasion of her eightieth birthday. Miss Barker was in fine fettle, and seemed as young as always. Two birthday cakes appeared, to help celebrate the day.

Plans for the celebration of the national holiday, Sunday, the 29th, have been considerably curtailed, and apparently the day will pass with comparatively little of pomp and ceremony, and no illuminations.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Bible House, Stamboul, November 3, 1944.

Dear Friends:

The long-awaited party of five new recruits has arrived from Lisbon via Cairo. Miss Hibbard went on to Gaziantep from Beirut arriving there last Sunday, the other four came to Angora, and thence here, Miss Reid for the Scutari School reaching Scutari on Tuesday, and Misses Reed, Foster and Tuttle coming on to Stamboul since they could not find a shorter direct connection for Smyrna; they reached this city yesterday morning, and took the Bandurma steamer this morning, whence by train they are due in Smyrna this evening. All seem in excellent health and spirits, eager to begin their new work. Their coming is a great relief to overburdened associates. With them came Miss Smith, a new teacher for the American College for Girls.

We are pained to learn that Mrs. Charles L. Ziegler, sister of Dr. George Huntington, is in the Newton (Mass.) Hospital, with no hope of recovery. As Miss Theresa Huntington, she was in Harpout from 1898 till 1905, as teacher in the Girls' Department of Euphrates College, after which she returned to America and was married the next year.

A letter from Mr. Woolworth gives further news of his family's trip to America. Mrs. Woolworth and the two children sailed from Alexandria August 5th or 6th, and landed in Philadelphia after a very comfortable voyage and two days of sitting in the harbor for formalities. The party included Mrs. B. F. Stoltzfus, formerly of Sofia, and the Greenslade family of Beirut, and missionaries from Iran and Egypt. Mrs. Woolworth and Robert are settled at 144 Hancock St., Auburndale, Mass., and Robert is in the second class of Newton High School. Dorothy has entered the freshman class at Russell Sage College, Troy, N.Y., where she plans to combine nurses' training and college work for a B.S. The Reverend William Sage claims relationship to this college in some way or other.

On September 12th Mrs. Woolworth attended a meeting of the Prudential Committee in Boston, at which Miss Mary Ingle spoke on behalf of the Near East Mission. The "Missionary Conference" at Auburndale was to be held the following weekend; Mrs. Nilson and Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Dewey were expected to be present among others.

According to this letter from Mrs. Woolworth, dated September 13th, Mrs. Nilson, Miss Olive Greene, Miss Helton and Miss Edwards were planning to start for our Mission early in October; but word of their actual leaving has not yet been received here. The Birge family expected to come as soon as they could get a permit for Dorothy.

Official figures for the attendance at Tarsus College as of October 25 show a total of 188, of which 90 are boarders and 98 day pupils.

The latest statements from Aleppo give 200 in the Girls' High School with 190 in the Primary school; and a total of around 560 students in the College.

Mr. Isely reports an earthquake in Gaziantep on the evening of October 26th, but apparently not a heavy one.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

As we approach the thousandth number of this series, it may be of interest to many to see how the News Notes idea was born. We herewith give our readers a verbatim copy of the very first number known to have existed. This was soon followed by similar letters from other stations.

Vol. 1.

Circular - Beybek Department.  
June 27, 1845.

No. 1.

For broosa, Trebizond and Erzeroom.

#### Family Register.

The part of Constantinople Station residing at Beybek in connection with the Seminary of the Mission consists of Rev. Cyrus Hamlin and Geo. W. Wood.

Cyrus Hamlin of Waterford, Maine

Henrietta Ann Loraine Jackson, of Dorset, Vt. / married Sept. 3, 1838.

Arrived at Constat/ple Feb. 1839. Have two children:-Henrietta Loraine, born at Pera Dec. 5, 1839; Susan Elizabeth, born Beybek, May 6, 1842.

Geo.W.Wood of Haverhill, Mass.

Martha Briggs, of Boston, Mass. / married Dec. 28, 1841.

Arrived at Const/ple May 14, 1842. Have two children:- Sarah Johnson, born at Pera Nov. 1, 1842; George Warren, born at Beybek, Jan. 1, 1844.

#### Incidents.

Nothing of general interest has occurred in our department since we have written to most of the Stations to which this circular will go; except it be that the patriarch has made a renewed attempt to get away the scholar who is brother to Bedros Vartabed, now in Syria. He sent another brother to one of the attaches of the English Embassy to secure his interposition; but it coming out in the conversation that the brother acted under restraint, and did not himself wish to take the boy away to grow up "an ass" like himself, it ended only in making strikingly manifest to the English legation the consummate duplicity of the patriarch. His holiness finds himself defeated at every move he makes; and his complaints are loud and bitter against us - the more so for being the only mode in which his hostility can be acted out. Our Arm. Teacher has of late been loudly warned to leave us, to escape being involved in that destruction wh. he is assured is soon to overtake us. What the dread blow is that is to be struck against us, we do not know. The silly story is told the Teacher by some of the ishkhans that the French, Austrian & Russian Ambassadors have been gained to cooperate in giving success to the meditated attack. The excitement of the public mind is very considerable in consequence of the late persecution and the discussions wh. have taken place between some of the evangelical brethren & Hohannes Broosatsi & his party. Notwithstanding the utter refusal of the latter to meet Mr. Hamlin when he went recently to Hasskeuy expressly to meet him, the friends of H.B., or rather some of them, keep up their boast of our being afraid to encounter him in controversy; but his evident backing out on that occasion has done much to open the eyes of the community to the true state of the case.

Mr. Schaufler has taken a house for the summer near us. Mrs. S. is improving in health. The rest of the family are well. Mrs. W. is better than she was. Mrs. H. has had no recurrence of raising blood, & is quite well. Our children are in usual health.

G. W. Wood.



Dear Friends:

A letter from Gaziantep dated November 8, tells us of the death of Dr. Caroline Hamilton, who in 1932 retired from the Mission and has since been residing in New England at various towns, with Miss Elizabeth Trowbridge who retired at the same time. Dr. Hamilton was born in West Hartford, Conn., September 18, 1861, and was thus in her eighty-fourth year. She was graduated from Smith College in 1885, and from the Woman's Medical College of New York in 1888. After practicing some time in America, she was secured in 1892 for the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital at Aintab, and came out to take charge of the women's department. While she could not secure a diploma from the Ottoman Government on account of her sex, she nevertheless practiced a great deal under the superintendence of Dr. Shepard; and she was tireless in visiting among the women, where her spiritual influence was very strong. She took an important part in the medical work of Aintab Hospital for forty years. In 1910 she finally secured appointment by the American Board as a full missionary. On June 27, 1932, she left Turkey and retired to her home country.

Another death of which we have but recently heard is that of Rev. Thomas Ford Barker, on May 22nd last, presumably in Florida where he was residing at last accounts. Mr. and Mrs. Barker were missionaries of the Mennonite Church, residing at Hadjin and later at Marash, and they retired to the United States some years ago.

Dr. Ruth A. Parmelee of our Mission and her associate nurse Miss Emilie Willms were living on October 20th in the Near East Foundation apartment in Cairo, and were making preparations to leave soon for some of the Greek Islands, over which Dr. Parmelee is to be Chief District Officer for the UNRRA, with Miss Willms as nursing consultant. Dr. Parmelee reports a recent interesting visit over a week-end to Jerusalem.

A cable of November 4th reports the arrival in America of Miss Harriet Norton and Miss Agnes Fenenga of Aleppo, on October 29th. The cable adds:- "Hopeful early transportation Nilson party."

Mr. Isely writes of the arrival in Gaziantep of Miss Saisie Hibbard, the new nurse for the Hospital, on October 29th, coming by Egyptian plane from Cairo to Beirut and by Taurus Express to Fevzi Pasha. There was a big dinner in honor of her arrival, on November 3rd, when the whole staff of the Hospital with their connections, - sixty-seven in all, - sat down to two big long tables to a lamb-and-pilav-and-paklava dinner, followed by village dances and a general good time. Miss Hibbard won the hearts of all by responding to the welcome extended her with three sentences in Turkish.

President Katharine McElroy of Pierce College, Athens, who has for several weeks given all her time to working in the Greek refugee camps in Egypt was at last accounts in Cairo again, trying to make arrangements for getting herself and her teachers back to Greece as soon as possible. She feels that her work with the refugees has much improved her knowledge and use of the Greek language.

A late letter from Miss Carhart and Miss Turner of the Methodist Mission in Bulgaria tells of their making arrangements for the opening of the Girls' School at Lovetch in the near future, with a large attendance and with every facility granted by the Bulgarian authorities.

Yours very cordially,

Charles I. Riggs



Dear Friends:

Miss Grace L. Edwards, whose appointment for a three year term to Aleppo Girls' School has already been announced, is a graduate of the University of California in 1937, and received her Master's degree from the Pacific School of Religion in 1941. Since then she has been studying at the University of Chicago, and has completed a theological course, with the degree of B.D. It is expected that she will be coming out with Mrs. Nilson and party.

Letters have come since last week, giving details of the death of Dr. Caroline Hamilton of Aintab. She passed away at White Plains, N.Y. September 11th. Mrs. Louise Clark Bingham, who was in Aintab from 1921 to 1929, is now night supervisor at the White Plains Hospital, and was of great service to Dr. Hamilton in her last days. A beautiful service was conducted at White Plains by Dr. John E. Merrill, and he accompanied the body to its final resting-place in West Hartford, Conn., her old home, where the interment took place on September 15th, -only a few hours before the great hurricane broke over that part of the State. Dr. Rockwell H. Potter and the pastor of the West Hartford church conducted the service; and Mrs. Henry Riggs and Mrs. W. S. Woolworth were present. Miss Elizabeth Trowbridge, who was living with Dr. Hamilton, continues to live on at the same house, -25 Tibbits Avenue, White Plains. On November 12th, the Station circle at Gaziantep held a special service in memory of Dr. Hamilton, in the room which used to be the Doctor's sitting room.

The Annual Conference of the Board officials with missionaries on furlough was held at Auburndale Home September 15 - 17, and was attended by twenty-six active missionaries and a goodly number of retired colleagues, some 90 in all during the three days. Dr. and Mrs. Dewey, Miss Blatter, Miss Ingle, Mrs. Woolworth and several others represented Turkey and the Near East Mission.

Miss Lelah Sitterly, the new trained nurse for the American Hospital of Stamboul arrived last Saturday and has begun work, to the great joy and relief of the staff.

The work carried on by Miss Elizabeth Webb for so long at the Trad Center in Beirut, has been put on a new and more permanent basis, and is now under a Board of Managers, with Dr. Alford Carleton as its chairman and Rev. Philip Ward as Treasurer. Mr. Puzant Rubian, a graduate of Beirut University and the N.E.S.T., is the director. We regret to add that Miss Webb has been suffering for the past two months from another fall, which injured a rib and one wrist; but at last accounts she was improving and able to use the typewriter.

The date for Thanksgiving Day seems to have been misinterpreted in American circles in Stamboul; for the two Colleges and most of the private families were not informed of the decision to have the feast yesterday till it was too late, and are looking forward to a celebration next Wednesday, the last Thursday of November. The Colleges have their Bayram holidays extending from Monday morning to Thursday evening, since Kurban Bayram begins Sunday.

Miss Fletcher and Miss Ward, who reached Cairo on October 12th, were still patiently waiting there October 28th. for transportation from there on to America.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

A cable dated November 27th. from Boston gives us the good word that five ladies and Ernest Riggs were starting via Lisbon for our Mission. Presumably Mrs. Ernest Riggs is waiting for an easier time for mere wives to get permissions to leave the country. It is surmised that the five ladies mentioned must be Mrs. Nilson, to teach in Talas, Miss Olive Greene and Miss Dunning for the Izmir Girls' School, Miss Edwards for Aleppo Girls' School, and Miss Helton for Scutari.

Mr. Lyman MacCallum arrived in Stamboul two days ago, his train being only about twenty-seven hours late. Before leaving Beirut he had applied for a visa to go to India, since the news of his father's failing health was so urgent; but there seemed no prospect of an early granting of permission, so he is here for some weeks on Bible Society business. He is being given a cordial welcome and plenty to keep him occupied.

Mrs. Lyman MacCallum and Elizabeth have returned for this winter to "The Houses of Fellowship, 5 South Portland Avenue, Ventnor, N.J.

The belated celebration of Thanksgiving in many circles of our city was not quite so ill-timed as the notice in our last issue would perhaps indicate. By some trick of the "printer's devil" it was there stated that "Wednesday" was the last Thursday in November. As a matter of fact, the festivities were apparently just as happy and appropriate as if they had been held at the Official time. Among the guests at one table was Mrs. Mary Whittle Monejicoff, of Sofia, who has secured all necessary papers and expects to start off on Monday next to join her husband at the Bulgarian frontier and drive by car with him to Sofia, where they go back into their own house in comfort and security, even though it may be some time before the American College can reopen.

The enrollment in the six elementary-high schools operated under the Educational Committee of the Syria Presbyterian Mission totals 396 boarders and fifteen hundred ninety-seven day scholars, making 1993 in all. (Beirut News Letter) The total operating budgets of these six schools is L.Syr. 462896, and they are self-supporting with the exception of two part-time and two full-time missionaries and a very small subsidy to one of the schools.

After five years and eight months of labor, the main portion of the work of preparing the new revised edition of Redhouse's English-Turkish Dictionary, - that is, the selection and arrangement of the Turkish definitions of the English words, - was successfully completed on Tuesday last, November 28th. The printing cannot begin until it proves possible to import from America the requisite paper, etc.; but before that, much remains to be done in reviewing and touching up the work. This edition includes nearly twice the number of words and phrases in the last edition.

Rev. Everett C. Blake left Smyrna on November 24th, on his way to join his family in America for furlough. He was to make a brief stop in Ankara on his way.

BORN:- on November 10th. at Smyrna, to Mr. and Mrs. (Erma Carl) Brown, a daughter, Mary Emma.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

A cable from Boston brings us word of the passing on, suddenly, of Mrs. John C. Martin, mother of our Miss Jessie Martin, on December 1st. Had she lived four days longer, she would have rounded out her seventy-sixth year. As Mary Cameron, she was born December 5, 1868, at Westville, N.Y., and was married in 1889 to Rev. John C. Martin, with whom she came out in 1891 to teach in St. Paul's Institute, Tarsus. In 1893 they went to Hadjin, and the following year were duly appointed as regular missionaries of the American Board. They remained in America from 1906 till 1911, and from 1913 till 1921 and from then until 1926 they served in Beirut and Aleppo. In 1926 they returned to America to stay, finally going to California to live. Dr. Martin died in October, 1939.

We have also learned this week of the death of Mrs. Yarrow, mother of Miss Harriet Yarrow of Gedik Pasha and Smyrna, who lived out here with her daughter a large part of the time the latter was here. Particulars are still lacking.

A letter from Miss Mary Ingle gives us the good word that her brother Wilfred, who was so long in a concentration camp at St. Denis, France has been freed and is with his family in London, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Isely report that their daughter Mary Frances has entered the School of Nursing of Minnesota University this fall, together with her Beirut roommate, Dorothy Cochran; also that their son Bill, or William Henry, has begun a course in Physical Engineering at Northwestern University.

Our friend Mr. George Catt, of Rumeli Hissar, has received a cable dated December 1st, showing that his wife has reached America safely.

Some new books have recently been received for the Mission Library from America. These can now be drawn upon application to Miss Ethel Putney, Librarian:-

History of the Expansion of Christianity, Vol. V. (Vol. VI already received); by Kenneth Latourette.

My Native Land (Jugoslavia); by Louis Adamic.

The Secrets of Soviet Strength; by Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury.

Preview of History; by Raymond Gram Swing.

The Arabs: A Short History for Americans; by Prof. Philip Hitti.

Adventures with God; by Jenny E. deMayer.

A joint Christmas service, with special music, for the congregations of the Crimean Memorial Church and the Union Church of Pera is being arranged for Friday afternoon, December 22nd, at four o'clock, in the Crimean Memorial Church. A general invitation is extended to all who can arrange to be present.

The steamer "Konya" with the Turkish Ambassador to Greece and his retinue on board, is scheduled to leave this harbor tomorrow on its voyage to Piraeus; it is also carrying the relief supplies being sent by Turkey to the suffering population in Greece.

Rev. Raymond F. White, who from 1928 to 1934 was in this country, connected with International College, Smyrna, is now pastor of the St. Francis, Kansas, Methodist Church, and is serving a circuit of four churches, "and having a good time at it." During the past summer he and his wife conducted a Vacation Bible School in each of the four. His duties require his driving his car about 20,000 miles each year.

Yours very cordially,  
es T. Riggs



We must apologize for a blunder in dates in our last issue. The united Christmas service of the Crimean Memorial and Union Churches is to be on Sunday afternoon, December 24th, and not on the previous Friday. The hour is four in the afternoon, and the service is at the Crimean Memorial Church. There will be the usual Sunday morning service at the Dutch Chapel for the Union Church on December 24th, and also a special Christmas service at half-past ten o'clock on Monday morning, Christmas Day.

We are permitted to quote from a letter just received by Prof. and Mrs. Scott of Robert College from their son David, written somewhere in France, November 7th:- "I have been rather busy up at the front. I didn't see much action until yesterday when we really hit it hot, and I got a bit of German lead in my leg. It is not at all serious, just hitting the flesh. I was very lucky. Right now I am back in the field hospital and am feeling swell. I can't tell you how really good these boys are to you when you get hit. We've got the Germans on the run now. Believe it or not, we captured a thirteen-year-old kid yesterday. They must be awfully hard up."

Dr. and Mrs. Lorrin Shepard have received cable word of the marriage of their daughter Alice, on December 9th, to Mr. Otis Cary, son of Rev. and Mrs. Frank Cary, who, as well as his grandparents, were missionaries of the American Board in Japan. The wedding took place presumably in Bradford, Massachusetts, where the bridegroom's uncle, Rev. George Cary, is pastor. Mr. Cary's father is at present interned in the Philippine Islands. After the wedding Mr. Cary was to go right back to his service in the U.S. Navy, where he has been using his knowledge of the Japanese language in interpreting; and his bride goes back to her medical studies. He is a graduate of Deerfield Academy and Amherst College.

Miss Margaret B. White, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. George E. White of Anatolia College, has left Omaha, Nebraska, and moved to Denver, Colorado, where she is connected with the local Y.W.C.A. for the present.

The radio has informed us that Ambassador Steinhardt has been appointed as Ambassador to the Czechoslovak Government now in London. No word has yet come as to his probable successor at Ankara.

We have also learned that Ambassador Joseph C. Grew, formerly our representative to the Turkish Government, has been appointed Assistant Secretary of State at Washington, -certainly a well deserved promotion.

Speaking of changes in personnel, we would mention also the retirement from the presidency of the American University of Cairo of Rev. Charles R. Watson, D.D., at the age of 71. He has been its President ever since the foundation of the University in 1914. Dr. Watson was born of missionary parents in Cairo, and is a graduate of Princeton University in 1894. He plans to devote the next few years to securing funds for the development of Cairo University. Dr. John S. Badeau, who has been connected with the University for some years, succeeds to the presidency.

Mrs. E. T. Leslie left this morning for Smyrna, to spend the Christmas season with her daughter and family. With her went Miss Phoebe Clary, of the Service Center, but she expects to return early next week.

During the past month the Talas School has had the advantage of a thorough dental check-up; a Turkish dentist lady, Bayan Necla put in a lot of fillings, for she found only four of the 85 boys who needed no dental care. Incidentally there are no toothbrushes to be found in Talas or Kayseri, all stocks being sold out.

Yours very cordially,  
T. Riggs



Dear Friends:

The war has been tragically brought very near to many of us this week, as we have learned through cables of the sons of two of our Near East American families being killed in battle on the Western front. The second son of President and Mrs. Bayard Dodge of Beirut University met his death about the first of November; and two days ago came word of the death also of David Scott, only child of Dean and Mrs. Scott of Robert College. Our deepest sympathy is extended to all the stricken parents.

By error, it was stated in our last issue that Ambassador Grew had been appointed Assistant Secretary of State. It should have read Under Secretary of State; which is a much higher honor.

Mrs. E. T. Leslie has returned from Smyrna after a fortnight's absence on a visit to her daughter and family.

The local papers tell of a decision taken at the general meeting of the People's Party at Angora, by which it was voted to secure the changing of the awkward names of the last three months of the year and the first month, which have thus far been known as Birinji Teshrin, Ikinji Teshrin, Birinji Kanun, and Ikinji Kanun; the new names suggested being respectively Ekim, Kasim, Aralik, and Ojak. This does not become law until approved by action of the Grand National Assembly.

A cable from Treasurer Belcher dated December 27th reports the safe arrival of Miss Katherine Fletcher in America.

The last word that has come from Mr. E. C. Blake was from Angora dated December 14th, indicating that he probably took train from there for the south on December 18th. During his stay in the Capital he saw many former pupils of the Smyrna School.

The Talas, Smyrna and Scutari schools had their winter vacations coinciding with the Turkish arrangement and including both Christmas and New Year's days. Not so the American colleges, which had but the three days, Saturday to Monday, and will have the rest of their holidays after the midyear examinations.

Miss Grace Towner went last week from Tarsus up to Talas to spend the Christmas days with the friends at the school there. They had a white, snowy Christmas.

Messrs. Vinton Tompkins and Arthur Lanckton, both of the Socony-Vacuum Co., and both former Robert College men, have just returned from America to Stamboul, but Mr. Lanckton expects to go on soon to Bulgaria. They came via Alexandria and Alexandretta.

The joint Christmas Eve carol singing service of the Crimean Memorial Church and the Union Church was most successful, the Crimean Church being full despite the very rainy day, and the singing inspiring.

The Bishop of Gibraltar has arrived in Stamboul for a brief visit, and is the guest of Canon Hutchinson.

Yours very cordially,

Charles T. Riggs