

Near East Mission
 United Church Board for World Ministries
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Dear Friends:

KARAGÖZ: SHADOWS OF TURKEY'S PAST
 by Sara J. Rau

Karagöz, or the Turkish shadow theater, is dead. The walls of Istanbul's coffee houses no longer reverberate with the laughter which greeted the antics of Karagöz, Hacıvat, and their retinue of comic characters. Today, this once-popular art form survives only in the colorful leather puppets; in a few scholarly books and transcriptions of stock plays; and, poignantly, in the memory of Turks born at the turn of the century. Still, these meager sources reveal a fascinating story, for the life and times of Karagöz, like all popular theater, mirrors faithfully the religious, cultural and social development of a people.

The beginnings of shadow theater are murky. Only a few facts are sure. For one thing, shadow theater certainly existed many centuries before the stock characters we know today were created. It existed before history or books were written and was always dependent on a purely oral tradition. But in which place it was born no one knows. Similar shadow puppets exist in almost every eastern country from India all the way to China and Indonesia and because of similarity at least one Turkish scholar, Nurettin Sevin, assumes a common ancestor. He finds one in descriptions of ancient shamanistic religious practices which survived until fairly recently in Bali. Live ritual performances, revolving around animism, ancestor worship and witchcraft were later changed, for purposes of economy and ease, into plays with one-dimensional puppets behind a lighted screen. One or two puppeteers, manipulating the cut-out leather figures with chopstick-like rods stuck into reinforced holes, were able to create a whole cast of characters, including the wicked djinns, bizarre beasts and fearful witches around which the shaman's bag of tricks revolved. Interestingly enough, even in shadow theater productions given early in this century, these same genies and witches continued to play an integral role; mute, but dramatic evidence of the drama's dark beginnings.

From its shamanistic origins in the far East, the entertainment was carried along and adapted by nomadic tribes, including the Turkish ones, as they migrated westward. As these tribes converted from primitive animism to Islam after the seventh century, dervishes of the mystically-oriented Sufi sect used the already existing shadow theater as a sort of Middle-Eastern morality play. The gaily-painted figures dancing and darting behind the lightened screen were like Plato's metaphor of shadows on the cave, symbolizing the unreality of all material things. A master puppeteer could imbue them

momentarily with the illusion of life but when the play was over and the lights darkened, they appeared as they were: inanimate leather dolls. In just such fashion, said the Sufi dervishes, were our own lives unreal; the ultimate reality was God, the Master Puppeteer of all creation. Karagöz eventually descended from such airy didactic heights but, like the shaman's witches, certain aspects of this period remained. Up until the demise of shadow theater "gazels", or flowery lyrics recited by Hacivat in the first part of each play, continued to contain lengthy and rather puzzling references to God and to the muslin screen as God's stage. It seems obvious that these stanzas were leftover from the days when Sufi mysticism permeated the shadow theater.

Centuries later, under Selçuk and Ottoman rulers, the nature of shadow theater changed once again. Instead of religious edification, humor, poetry, and sheer spectacle became important. The stock characters, Hacivat and Karagöz, were created and defined during Selçuk times and heralded the later golden age of Turkish folk drama in the 16th Century. By the time Süleyman the Magnificent became Sultan, the palace of Topkapı contained a unique court school which trained specially selected students not only as civil servants and officers but also as architects, writers, poets, musicians, miniaturists and puppeteers. Whereas once the masters of shadow theater had been holy men, now they were poets. A particularly lyrical puppeteer might entertain the courtiers on the occasion of a royal circumcision with a performance lasting twelve hours or more. Grandiose spectacles were also staged to provide diversion for royal eyes. One story tells how Sultan İbrahim, the Mad, conferred the rank of Admiral on his royal puppeteer after a particularly realistic depiction of a sea battle. The terrified performer, fearing the ire of the Sultan's elite soldiery, the janissaries, graciously refused the honor of the military title.

Popular shadow theater developed simultaneously with court drama and it was in these productions that the real vitality of the art developed. During Ramazan, the Moslem holy month of daytime fast and nightly feast, Karagöz plays became a tradition. Puppeteers staged their shows in the back rooms of coffee houses and devised a different drama for each of the twenty-eight evenings of the month. In addition to employing poetic expression, visual spectacle and situation comedy, these craftsmen soon discovered the uses of satire. The Turkish language was a versatile tool with which to mine the satiric vein; puns, double entendre, and the juxtaposition of words of different meaning but similar sound were some of the devices used to ridicule and delight. The Sultanate occasionally banned or censored performances, but after a decent interval the laughter of young and old once more greeted the barbed innuendos of Karagöz and his cronies; thus, the strictures of an authoritarian government were defied in a reasonably acceptable fashion.

Significantly, however, the shadow theater's humor was never directed against religion as an institution nor against any innate injustices of the social order. Instead, the personal foibles of men, both of high and low estate, were exposed to ridicule. This was not revolutionary comedy but merely a way of releasing pressure from the pot. The status quo was a fact of life in Ottoman Turkey and was never seriously, nor even humorously, questioned until 1908. Shortly after that time, a magazine of political satire dubbed itself "Karagöz", but its originators must have ignored the essentially conservative nature of the Turkish folk drama when they picked the title.

More than an instrument of satire or poetic flights of fancy, 19th Century shadow theater was a dramatic microcosm of Istanbul life and social organization. The *mise en scène* of each play was a small mahalle (quarter) in old Istanbul, and old Istanbul was basically a collection of these mahalles. Before each performance a leather prop, known as göstermelik, was placed behind the screen to represent some inanimate feature of the quarter; a wooden konak (house), a coffee shop, a Turkish bath or a garden foretold a drama relevant to the location. After removing this simple bit of scenery, all the habitués of the mahalle were brought in one by one. First of all came Karagöz and Hacivat, the Laurel and Hardy of Turkish drama. Hacivat played straight man to Karagöz's innocent clown. He had education and manners and a rather tedious piety. He knew too much to be well-loved and was suspect for molding his morality to fit the opportunities of the moment. Karagöz always displayed a happy realism and a penchant for making the worst of any situation. He was, of course, the favorite of the people, being one of them himself. Neither character was averse to the broadest sort of slapstick; hard knocks and pratfalls abounded in every performance. Nor were they opposed to sexual misadventures. Since the 17th Century, toramanlı, a pornographic and degenerate version of the shadow play, had left its mark and most productions continued to contain aspects of the bedroom farce, albeit with a Turkish accent!

After the entrance of Hacivat and Karagöz, a parade of every sort of person seen on the streets of Istanbul up until 1908 caromed across the screen. Çelebi was the foppish young man, eternally in love, and defined by his clothes which were always the latest style (a collection of Çelebis is a visual history of upper-class male attire in Istanbul). Zenne was the name given to all female puppets, young or old, beautiful or ugly, respectable or of dubious morality. The mere fact that a heterogeneous group was designated by one all-inclusive name reveals the social position of women in Turkey under the old dispensation. Other major characters were Tiryaki, an opium addict; Beberuhi, a sort of village idiot resembling a jester; and Tuzsuz Deli Bekir, a

drunken watchman and bully whom some see as a caricature of the court janissaries. In addition, a whole kaleidoscope of ethnic and national types entered and exited, each with his own musical theme masterfully sung by the puppeteer and accompanied by musicians; each with his own funny speech pattern expertly imitated; and each with his own extremely stereotyped profession, foolishness and foible. The European or Levantine, for example, was always cast as a slightly suspect doctor, businessman, dressmaker or inn-keeper with a talent for mangling the Turkish language. Actually, a typical play was much like the parade of characters Americans enjoyed on "Allen's Alley" during the heyday of radio. Whether the character is a pettifogging southern senator or a crude woodcutter from Anatolia, the principal remains the same: around a loose and nebulous plot a whole portfolio of national types is exposed to friendly ridicule.

For over a thousand years, perhaps for two thousand years, shadow theater delighted the Turkish people, mirrored their society and satisfied their deepest needs for religious, then poetic, then satiric expression. Suddenly, in a generation, it was gone, probably forever. The first faint rumblings of the Young Turks in 1908 finally exploded in Atatürk's revolution which turned the political, religious and social fabric of society inside-out. Karagöz was no longer relevant to the New Turkey and an irrelevant folk drama has a signed, sealed and delivered death warrant as its final act.

Now, Karagöz, the charming irrelevancy, is only a treasured childhood memory to Turks born seventy years ago. To tourists, it is the presence of gaily-colored, filigreed puppets hanging forlornly in dusty corners of the Covered Bazaar. To a few scholars it is an interesting footnote to the history of the Turkish people. But to the people and the children, the coffee house has closed its doors and the magic screen is dark. Karagöz is dead.

Sara Rau is an English literature graduate of the University of Missouri. She and her husband, William E. Rau, have lived in the Near East for ten years, the last five of which they have spent in Izmir and Istanbul. Mr. Rau is a Turkish language and area specialist and the American Consul in Istanbul.

Anna G. Edmonds, editor

Dear Friends:

The Turkey Schools Board of Managers met in Üsküdar January 6th and 7th with Ahmet Koç as chairman. General policy and administration matters were discussed including entrance tests for underprivileged children, scholarship policies and faculty representation on the Board of Managers. Financial matters, particularly those of increased fees, the new property tax, economies in operations and fund raising schemes were considered. At the meeting the Izmir plan to reduce its lycée department from four to three years was approved. Tarsus reported that their evening Adult English classes have attracted ninety students. Five teachers and six students from Tarsus College are teaching these classes. Three teachers of Turkish subjects have retired at the end of last year from Üsküdar: Melâhat Güllüoğlu, Hikmet Omay and Feliha Oksal. Melâhat Hanım is continuing for this year in charge of civil defence for the school. Two other teachers who have taught for many years there have left because of the change in policy to employ more full-time staff: Sungur Arslanpay and Ayten Sevim.

Dr. and Mrs. Oliver K. Black arrived in Istanbul on January 16th. Dr. Black takes up the work of the minister of the Union Church (Dutch Chapel). They have been recognized as being in Associated Service with the UCBWM.

Leslie Buck also arrived on January 16th to help in teaching, in supervising study halls and in the library at Üsküdar for eight weeks. She is here as a Youth Volunteer during a work term in Miami University.

Anthony and Anne-Marie Burrows are the proud parents of a son, Benjamin, born at the American Hospital in Nişantaş on January 15th. Anthony teaches Chemistry at Üsküdar and Anne-Marie has taught English.

Two UCC sponsored tours are due to be arriving in the Near East this spring and early summer. Merrill Isely (Gaziantep 1920-62) will be helping guide the first of these. The itinerary includes Istanbul, Izmir, Ephesus, Pamukkale, Side, Tarsus, Gaziantep, Kayseri, Ankara and Madrid. They expect to be on tour from May 2nd to 23rd. The second tour, guided by Everett C. (Jack) Blake, (Merzifon 1931-39, Izmir 1939-71), will travel between Beirut, Gaziantep, Tarsus, Kayseri, Ankara, Izmir, Ephesus, Pamukkale, Troy

and Istanbul. The dates of the Blake tour are from June 13th to July 2nd.

Three people known to members of the Mission have died recently. Dr. Jan Bergholt Larsen, husband of Patricia Rosenkranz Larsen (Izmir 1959-62) died July 29 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Mrs. Larsen and their son, Peder, expect to continue living in Copenhagen. Mr. Friedrich Meyer, father of Johannes Meyer, died in Zelen, Germany on January 10th. He is survived by his widow and another son. Dr. Charles MacNeal, professor of English at Robert College from 1923 to 1962 died in Hightstown, New Jersey on February 1st. His wife, Sarah Riggs MacNeal, is the daughter of Charles T. Riggs. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved.

An ecumenical service celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held in Istanbul on January 20, 1973 at St. Gregory's Armenian Orthodox Church in Karaköy under the leadership of Père Pastille Caretonuto of the church of St. Esprit. Representatives from the Armenian Orthodox, Greek Orthodox, Syrian Orthodox, German Protestant, Anglican, American Protestant, Latin and Melchite rite Catholic Churches and several Roman Catholic orders participated. The languages used in the service included French, Armenian, Greek, German, English and Turkish. About two hundred people attended. Choirs from the Dutch Chapel and from St. Esprit Church and the Getronagan Choir from the Armenina Orthodox church in Galata sang.

The official opening of the renovated Gaziantep hospital took place on Sunday, February 4th under the auspices of the hospital association and staff. Full details on this are expected for a later issue.

From January 17th to 21st Johannes Meyer accompanied the Rev. Alfred Krass, consultant on Evangelism of the UCBWM, on a fact-finding tour in Germany. They were charged to look into the situation of the Turkish workers in Germany and the work carried on for and with them by different agencies inside and outside the church. This was to ascertain whether the Near East Mission from its knowledge of the culture and the language of the Turks can and should make a contribution to the ministry to the Turks in Germany. They talked with representatives of the German Evangelical Church in Frankfurt involved in social action approaches to the problems of the migrant workers and were given many relevant publications. In Wiesbaden they visited the

offices of the Orientdienst, the agency charged by the German Missionary Council with work among Muslims. Their last visit was with the Rev. Thomas Cosmades who carries on a one-man ministry to Turks out of Siegen near Köln. Whenever possible they talked to workers they met. Along the way they saw State agencies, the unions, and workers' welfare offices, all rendering various services to foreign workers. But with over two million such workers in Germany, among them over 600,000 Turks, the problems of housing, schooling for children, family separation, civil rights, political activities and just being accepted by the local people are overwhelming and show little sign of decreasing. This brief inquiry left little doubt that more needs to be done in the ministry to Turkish workers, especially with the people themselves.

Turkish Airlines reports that it expects to be using only jet planes by the end of February. The company hopes that the use of the jets will end the delays in scheduled flights.

The Council of Ministers have cancelled the permit of the Yugoslav Telecommunication Equipment Company of United Enterprise Iskra on the grounds that it has failed to fulfill its investment commitments in Turkey so far. This brings to four the number of foreign capital ventures which have lost their investment permits since the fall. The others are Singer, Lever Brothers and the U.S. Food Technology Corporation. The cancellation means that the company has been denied the right to transfer its profits abroad.

The highway between Gebze and Izmit is expected to be completed as an expressway in five years. This forty kilometers of the main road from Istanbul to Ankara carries some of the heaviest traffic in the country. There are hopes that toll roads to be built will ease the traffic problems and substantially improve the revenues to finance highways.

The Casino d'Istanbul has moved from the Bosphorus in Yeniköy to the Şadırvan Room of the Hilton Hotel.

On January 9th the Ministry of Tourism and Information announced that they had denied permission to Mr. Nerwood Warehim to establish a nudist camp in some tourist region of Turkey on the ground that it would be contrary to Turkey's long-established tradition.

Anna G. Edmonds, editor

Dear Friends:

Belkis and Salih Acar are the general editors of the Redhouse Press science series which so far includes books on the birds, mammals, forests and mountains of Turkey (Göçmen Kuşlar, Kuşlarımız, Memeli Hayvanlarımız, Ormanlarımız, Dağlarımız). The Acars have been known for some time for their interest in protecting the wild life of Turkey; Salih is one of the leading painters of birds in this country. With Udo Hirsch, a German photographer and ecologist, they have been instrumental in attracting the concern of the Turkish government and the World Wildlife Fund to the plight of the bald ibis. This spring Belkis Acar addressed a seminar on ecology at the British Council in Istanbul. The following paper is an excerpt of that talk.

The Bald Ibis
Belkis Acar

For hundreds of years Turks have thought of birds as symbols of abundance, strength and goodness. This we know from old manuscripts, miniatures, stone and wood carvings and particularly from old paintings on walls. Early records show that Turkey had a richness of flora and fauna once, partly because of its geographic position as a bridge between Africa, Asia and Europe. Unfortunately we cannot say it still has this richness: many hundreds of years of thoughtlessness have squandered this basic resource.

I believe deeply in the necessity of protecting Turkey's natural resources. My particular interest is her vanishing birds. This has been strengthened by the work I personally have seen Udo Hirsch doing, with the permission of the Turkish government and the help of the World Wildlife Fund, in protecting the last bald ibis colonies in Asia. My reason for addressing you on ecology is to tell you about the fight that is going on right now to save this bird from extinction.

The bald ibis, *Geronticus eremita*, is a large black bird measuring about 85 cm. (a bit less than three feet) from the tip of its bill to the tip of its tail. Its most distinctive features are a long, thin, downward curving beak and long narrow hair-like feathers that make a crest on the crown of its head and hang in a scraggly fashion down its neck. Otherwise it has no feathers on its head. The exposed skin in this area ranges in color from pink to black. The bill is pinkish red as are the feet. There is no color distinction between the male and female bald ibis -- an

unusual characteristic in birds -- but there is a difference in appearance between adult and immature birds. Until the birds are two years old they have feathers on their neck and head and the crest feathers are only about four centimeters long. The neck, front of the throat, and area around the beak are a lighter color in the young birds. In flight they can be distinguished by their outstretched necks rather than the S-curved necks of herons. They are slow moving and not easily excited -- a liability in today's world.

The bald ibis belongs to the Threskiornithidae family; other members of the family include the glossy ibis, the scarlet ibis, the white ibis, the sacred ibis (the oldest known of the family and the bird sacred to Osiris' secretary), and the spoonbill. Its food includes both small land and water animals, beetles, bugs, small fish, frogs, and particularly grasshoppers and locusts.

As late as the seventeenth century these birds were known to nest in various areas of Europe including the upper Rhone, the Swiss Jura, the Italian Alps and the shores of the Danube. Since that century they have never reappeared in Europe. In 1951 there were breeding colonies of bald ibis in Syria, Iraq, and Ethiopia, but these too have all disappeared. Thus the last Asian nesting is to be found in Birecik, a town in south-central Turkey on the Euphrates River. Only one other colony is known to exist in the world, one in Morocco. But because a dam is being planned for that particular area, it is expected that the bald ibis will disappear from there also.

The first reference to a colony in Birecik was made in 1879 by the ornithologist Danford, but no count of the number of birds was available until 1953. At that time Hans Kumerloewe counted about 1,300 individuals. Then followed a period of dramatic decline so that by 1967 there were only about 50 pairs; in 1970 there were 36 pairs; and in 1972 only 26 pairs.

Until recently there were two nesting areas in Birecik. One was on the cliffs to the north of the village where the birds used to nest below the old castle walls. But when a new highway went through nearby, the birds abandoned those nests. It would appear that they were disturbed by the traffic on the road. The remaining area is right in the center of town surrounded by houses. The birds are nesting on a ledge in the upper third of a low sandstone cliff no more than twenty meters high and not more than five meters away from the roofs of the nearest houses, an easy stone's throw from all but the smallest boys. Between three and four hundred meters to the west is the Euphrates River. The nests are unprotected from stones and rubbish thrown out of the houses nearby. The ledges on which they live until this spring were not even half a meter wide, a narrow birth for a bird whose wing spread can reach almost two meters.

Ornithologists and conservationists have become increasingly worried about the future of the bald ibis. In May 1972 Dr. Lucas Hoffman, vice president of the World Wildlife Fund, Christopher D.W. Savage, honorary consultant, and a party of Turkish conservationists including Tansu Gökpınar from the National Parks department, Salih Acar and Gül Evrin, visited Birecik with a view to assessing the situation and making recommendations for a conservation project. The real originators of the project were Udo Hirsch and Salih Acar.

After the May trip to Birecik a group of us again went there in November 1972 with Udo Hirsch and Gül Evrin. We found that there was even more threat to the nesting area than there had been in the spring: more houses had been built and there was some construction going on even up to the level of the nests. Having talked with the Mayor of the town we got a promise from him that this would be stopped. As far as we were able to see, the people of Birecik were not opposed to the idea of protecting the birds, they were merely ignorant of the situation. When they found out that these birds were so rare they were eager for more information.

Being a migratory bird, the bald ibis leaves Birecik in July to winter probably in North Africa. According to the people of Birecik, the first bald ibis always returns to the village around the 13th or 14th of February. This year, the first ones arrived on the 12th of February. They circled the city and its rocks and then flew off. After that on the 16th of February, 8 birds came; and after circling around several times they also flew back off towards the south. Now there are 25 couples nesting, with an average of 3 eggs to each nest.

According to what people in Birecik say, there are always fierce storms in the Birecik region at this time of the year. They call them the bald ibis storms because they say that when the first bald ibis are seen on the horizon the storms are coming to an end. Before the famous Birecik bridge was built, people had to use rafts and small boats to cross the river. In the heavy storms people and animals were often drowned as these craft capsized. The coming of the bald ibis was taken as a sign that the storms and days of tragedy were coming to an end. The local funeral dirge, "Thousands of boats on the banks of the Euphrates", was not heard as often after the birds arrived. That day each year a holiday was proclaimed in the town and people crossed the river on rafts to sacrifice an animal on the far side. Later, because there were many newcomers to Birecik and there was the new bridge, the belief and the custom were lost, and since 1950 the holiday has been forgotten.

This holiday undoubtedly helped the people love the bald ibis and protect them. There are old people in Birecik who say that at one time there were so many birds that the red rocks were black with perching animals. This year when the birds arrived, Udo Hirsch opened an exhibition on the Protection of Natural Resources and

and Wildlife. He had information panels describing how to save wildlife and photographs he had taken illustrating his thesis. He distributed a thousand bald ibis lapel buttons, and in the name of the Redhouse Press he gave the children books from the Life Around You Series that my husband and I have edited.

The project to save the bald ibis from extinction, as sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund, includes the following points: first, to stop the building of houses near the colony grounds; second, as far as possible to condemn the houses in the neighborhood of the colony; third, to make a park in that area which would also be useful to the people; fourth, to widen the nesting shelf so that the babies will not fall off so easily; fifth, to educate the people to love and protect these birds through books, brochures, exhibits and conferences; sixth, to find out more about the diet of the birds and how harmful insecticides affect them; seventh, to discover the areas where insecticides are being introduced into the birds' food and to awaken the farmers to the implications of this problem; eighth, if necessary to make available harmless agricultural insecticides; and ninth, to observe the behavior of the birds all the time from their arrival in Birecik to their departure.

Since January of this year Udo Hirsch has been working with the co-operation of the Mayor of Birecik. Zekai Bayer, director of the National Park Service also is supporting the project. The nesting shelves on the cliff have been widened; through an exhibit and book distribution the people are being educated. Progress however will be difficult until the people living near the nests accept their role in helping protect the bird. Udo will leave with the birds in July but hopes to come back again next year.

I want to end my discussion with some words from an article on vanishing birds from a book by Alexander Horace Gundry called A New Dictionary of Birds: "It is arguable, no doubt, that too much effort is sometimes expended on the attempt to preserve some species which, owing to their present manner of life, seem foredoomed to early extinction, and that it is futile to oppose human encroachment ... on traditional habitats of certain species...

"It may sometimes be possible, however, to modify human economies in a manner that will benefit birds, ... On the other hand, so long as man has an eye for natural beauty it is fair to presume that he would prefer... within reason to preserve the variety of wild bird life in the world,..."

I believe that as a people accept increasing technological development and urbanization they withdraw from nature temporarily. But in reality, civilization, having come from nature, advances by learning from it, not by escaping. In terms of sociology and economics, progress can be possible only in harmonious relation to nature. It is in this that the abundance, strength and goodness of our natural resources still lies.

Dear Friends:

Five new members of the Mission have arrived since the last issue of "Dear Friends": Anita Iceman came on February 23rd to be the librarian at Üsküdar. Her home in the States was in California. Dr. and Mrs. Howard Kaliher, from Tillamook, Oregon, arrived on April 2nd and went by train to Gaziantep where Dr. Kaliher is the medical director of the hospital. Two nurses also for Gaziantep arrived on April 26; they are Tilly Wolff and Paula Elfrich of Holland.

During the same period the Mission has lost two of its members. Mr. Harold Schoup was refused a renewal of his residence permit and left Istanbul on February 14. His family followed on March 3rd. They are temporarily living at 1120 West New Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17603.

There have been several visitors this spring including Mr. Neill Richards, director of Personnel and Program Development, in late March; Rev. James Smucker, Minister of the New York United Church conference on April 7-8. Mrs. Mildred Isely (Gaziantep 1920-1962) and the Paul Heides have been here this month following the tour planned originally by Merrill Isely (see the notice of death below). The Drs. Frank and Ruth (McClintock) Henderson (Izmir 1947-1950) are here now touring eastern Turkey.

Margaret Shepard is with her parents in Izmir having completed her 3-month course of study in Jerusalem.

Congratulations are in order to Rev. and Mrs. Raymond F. White who are being honored by their children on June 10th on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their marriage. The Whites were in Izmir 1928-1934 and in Mardin from 1948 to 1952. The celebration is to take place at the First United Methodist Church in Winfield, Kansas.

We feel a sense of personal loss in reporting the deaths of a number of friends and former members of the Mission. Mrs. Marion Henderson died in Auburndale, Mass. on Oct. 25, 1972. She had helped at the Üsküdar school 1951-1952. Prof. Muzaffer Yeşim, one-time vice-president of Robert College died at the age of 75 on February 20, 1973. Mr. A.V. Walker, former Managing Director of Mobil Oil in Istanbul, died here on March 3rd. Mr. Merrill Isely, business manager of the Gaziantep Hospital for over 40 years died in Claremont, California on February 24th. In addition to his unusual

service to the hospital Mr. Isely was well-known throughout Turkey for his interest in afforestation and also in helping the Blind. He had hoped to lead a tour group here this spring, but unfortunately died before he could realize that dream. Miss Bertha Belle Morley, emeritus missionary, died in Claremont on March 22. Miss Morley had served the Board in Bursa, Istanbul, Merzifon, Izmir and Thessaloniki from about 1911 to 1941. She had five foster children, one of whom published her biography, Not By Bread Alone in 1967. She was the sister of Mrs. Jessie K. Mardin (Near East 1910-1941) who died in 1949. Mr. Luther Richardson Fowle died on April 5 in Stamford, Connecticut, at the age of 86. Mr. Fowle was a third generation missionary of the American Board in the Near East; he joined the Mission in 1912 and went to Gaziantep. Shortly he (and his bride) came to Istanbul where following Dr. Peet's departure in 1925 he became treasurer of the Mission and held that position until his retirement in 1952. His connections with the Near East did not end at that time however; he continue to serve on the board of directors of the Admiral Bristol Hospital. Miss Luella Dunning died in Claremont on April 12 after a long fight against cancer. Miss Dunning had been in Izmir 1943-44; she was dean of the Girls' Division of Aleppo College from 1944-47; and from 1955-61. Mr. John C. Huebenthal, son of Mrs. Lois Huebenthal (Mission Office 1963-1968, Üsküdar, Director of Residence 1968-70) died on May 20 as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident in New York on February 10. Word has been received of the death on May 1 of Nattie Tubini Miner, wife of Robert G. Miner, former Robert College teacher, U.S. Consul General in Istanbul and Ambassador to Trinidad and Sierre Leone.

The new wing of the Admiral Bristol Hospital was officially opened on March 31st. This increases the bed capacity to 130, and adds new facilities for surgery, physiotherapy and other services.

A summer school is being sponsored by the Near East Council of Churches under the leadership of Dr. Kenneth Cragg. It will be held from July 16 to 27 in Dhour al Shwair.

As reported in "Dear Friends" on February 12, the Gaziantep Hospital opening took place on February 4. Bayan Ayfer Tuzcu has written her impression of that ceremony as published in, "Sabah".

"On Sunday afternoon, February 4, 1973, Gaziantep American Hospital Association had a ceremony for the new building to put the plaques in place.

The opening speech was made by the Association chairman Mr. Meset Ögüt. First of all, Mr. Ögüt talked about the foundation of the hospital by Dr. Fredrick Shepard in 1880 with the help of the citizens of Antep. Land for the building was given by one of the Antep citiziens.

After a time the hospital was not adequate for the needs and in 1964 an association was created to improve its condition. The aim of the Association was to help the hospital and to train well-educated nurses. The Association saved money to make the building modern and with it started construction two years ago. They spent two million liras on this project. A part of this money was from the helpful Gaziantep citizens and American citizens. Now the building construction has been completed and the Association has a 300,000 TL debt. But Mr. Ögüt said that they will pay this debt with gifts and from the earnings of the hospital.

The second speaker was Mr. Melvin A. Wittler, Near East Mission Secretary of the United Church Board for World Ministries. In his speech he mentioned the aims of the hospital and where help had come from. For example, in the First World War an American was killed on the Kilis road. This American's two brothers paid \$35-40,000. in memory of their brother.

Dr. Cavit Çakırgöz mentioned in his speech that the building was only a channel, the real aim was medical care and treatment. The Health School to be opened will educate good nurses for the hospital and the community.

The last speaker was the founder's, Dr. Shepard, granddaughter, Mrs. Constance Jolly. She thanked everybody in the hospital.

After this the speakers toured the building, and put the plaques in place; they gave each donor who was present red and white carnations and then carnations were given to the hospital patients from these donors.

Also invited to the ceremony were American Consul William Hallman and his wife from Adana, the Principal of the Tarsus American College, Mr. Robeson and Mrs. Robeson, Gaziantep citizens and Americans from different places in Turkey. Among the guests there was an old lady who caught my attention. Everybody kissed her hand and showed her their respect. I met her. Her name is Leylâ Sevinçli. She has worked in the Gaziantep American Hospital as a nurse for 40 years.

These people who have humane thoughts come to our country to help us. This touched me very deeply. Even when the conditions are not proper they stay a long time in our land. They never forget us and this country; they even return. They send tourists to our country and help their friends to know us and our country. Also they visit us the first chance they have.

But, we also do not forget you -- dear Shepard, Dewey, Brown, Isely and the rest: love and regards to all of you again. "

The Mission Library would greatly appreciate obtaining copies of Shepard of Aintab by Alice Riggs or similar books on early Mission history. Anyone wishing to sell or donate them should write the Mission Office.

A seminar on Pre-School Children's Literature sponsored by Redhouse Press was held in the Mission Library April 13. Twenty five people including librarians, educators, children's book publishers, and newspaper editors among other things agreed that there is no literature being published in Turkey for this age group. It is hoped that future seminars will investigate further means of meeting this need.

Anna G. Edmonds,
Editor

Dear Friends:

As part of the activities celebrating the first half century of the Turkish Republic there have been a number of events and articles about them. We will not pretend to list all of them; rather these are some that have come to our attention:

Istanbul Festival

An ambitious program of musical and dramatic events was carried through in Istanbul this summer with laudable success. Ballet, opera, plays, symphony concerts, chamber music, Turkish classical and janissary music, and soloists combined to make up the varied program.

Many places around the city were used to stage the productions. Adnan Saygun's Yunus Emre Oratorio at the concert hall of the Istanbul Technical University was the opening event of the Festival. Yehudi Menuhin, one of the organizers of the Festival, played three pieces by J.S. Bach at the church of St. Irene, and the Bucharest Madrigal Chorus sang there. Two plays with Turkish historical backgrounds, Fatih and Hisse-i Şayia, were given in the theater in Rumeli Hisar. The Janissary Band performed there also.

The London Festival Ballet performed Giselle and Night Shadow in the Open Air Theater in Harbiye. The Soviet Union was represented by the Bolshoi and the Leningrad Kirov Ballet Companies. From Yugoslavia came the Zagreb Soloists who played a concert of Handel, Tartini, Jarnovic, Stravinski, Britten and Schostakovich. Among those representing the United States were the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

Lucas Foss also came with U.S. government sponsorship to conduct the Turkish Presidential Symphony Orchestra in a program of Beethoven, Saint-Seans, Ulvi Cemal Erkin and the first performance of his own composition "Fanfare" written especially for the 50th anniversary celebrations. The music was so different that the audience thought the orchestra had only tuned up when the composer took his bow. According to Anne Turner

Bruno, writing in Variety on August 15, 1973, the "Fanfare" turned out to be "a gimmick that might amuse joshing musicians, but not a composition of taste or creativity." Part of the confusion in the performance was caused by misunderstandings on the part of the technical staff of the Darüşşafaka Concert Hall. Also, the piece had been scored for ancient Turkish instruments which Foss was unable to find and include in the performance here. So what might have been muted, Oriental sounds came out more avant-garde than were intended.

Aida was given at the Open Air Theater, and what may have been the winning touch, Mozart's Abduction from the Seraglio, at the Topkapı Palace. Antigone was performed on the steps in front of the Archeological Museum, and several programs of folklore dances were given in Gülhane Park.

This was the first year that such a program has been attempted in Turkey. To everyone's pleasure the box-office returns were about \$200,000 -- just under the budgeted expenses. With such a good beginning many people here and abroad are hoping that it will be an annual summer attraction.

A number of British newspapers' comments were reviewed in the Sanat Dergisi p. 5, of the August 31, 1973 edition of Milliyet: The Financial Times spoke highly of the Istanbul Symphony Orchestra while regretting the absence of an opera building. The Daily Telegraph commended the Festival and queried, "How about using St. Sophia as a concert hall?"

Cumhuriyet Bayramı

Official receptions and parties have been scheduled in Ankara and Istanbul during Cumhuriyet Bayramı. A number of dignitaries representing the various foreign embassies are expected to attend these functions, depending upon the current internal and external politics of their respective countries. Among those who may attend are a delegation of senators and representatives from the United States.

A single wreath will be placed on Atatürk's tomb on Monday morning, October 29, on the collective behalf of all the assembled representatives.

The formal ceremonies opening the new Bosphorus Bridge are scheduled to begin at 11 o'clock on Tuesday, October 30. Officials will walk across the bridge, followed by a UNICEF

demonstration of children in various national costumes led by Danny Kaye and Josephine Baker.

A number of competitions and exhibitions are being scheduled for the 50th Anniversary Week. Films and speeches have been prepared by the Turkish radio and television stations. A symphony, Ellinci Yıla Girerken, has been composed by Cemal Reşit Rey and will be performed in Istanbul on November 13. A new stamp series is to be issued. Military parades and sports events (soccer, wrestling, gymnastics) are scheduled. Many plays and speeches will be given in the schools.

Bosphorus Bridge

Several good articles have been written recently about the new bridge across the Bosphorus linking Europe with Asia. Among these are one entitled "Bridge Across the Bosphorus" by Robert Arndt in September-October 1973 issue of Aramco World Magazine and one called "Man of Steel" by Roy Hill in the October 1973 International Management.

Both articles point out that this is not the first bridge over this body of water. For centuries engineers have been challenged by the idea of a bridge between the continents, including Germans, Frenchmen, and the Italian, Leonardo da Vinci. King Darius of Persia made the first historical bridge; it was of boats for a one-time crossing of his army in 512 B.C. The new one will carry multiple crossings of the modern commerce of these continents.

This is the longest suspension bridge in the world outside of the United States. The Verrazano Narrows Bridge in New York, the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco and the Mackinac Bridge in Michigan are the only longer ones. The distance of unsupported span is 1074 meters; the height of the towers 165 meters. The width of the roadway is 33 meters, enough for six lanes of traffic, a center divider and pedestrian walkways on each side.

Many engineering techniques have been used to guarantee the strength and safety of the bridge. The basic design of the bridge is intended first to balance and counterbalance the usual weights and stresses put on it: the dead weight of the roadbed, its live load, and everyday wind and heat pressures. Besides these, the occasional extra demands of hurricane-velocity storms that rip across the strait, unusually heavy

loads, and not infrequent earthquakes had to be figured into the designs. Some of the whip-lash and buckling vibrations are reduced by the diagonally hung supporting cables, some by the bird-wing shape of the roadbed and its smooth upper surface.

The bridge was designed by Freeman Fox & Partners and built by a consortium of Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Company of England and Hochtief A.G. (German) engineers. Much of the work was done outside Turkey: sections of the steel towers were made and trial assembled in Italy. There was one serious set-back when a 20-meter long and 6-meter wide slab for the tower was irreparably damaged in unloading in Istanbul and had to be replaced without trial for size: fortunately it fit. The main cables of the bridge, 11,000 strands of pencil-thick wire, came from Germany; gravel for the roadbed was imported from Great Britain because of its durable roughness.

There was another difficult period when six of the box girders for the viaducts, the part overland between the towers and the 60,000 ton cement anchors, were caught in a Lodos and dumped into the Sea of Marmara. At first it appeared that they were lost. However, rescue workers lifted these 40-ton sections, and all were able to be repaired here.

The roadbed was made in 60 sections in a field in Göksu, about a mile upstream from the site of the bridge. Each piece was a hollow block, the width of the bed and 18 meters long. When they were ready to be put in place they were floated down the Bosphorus on a barge and slowly lifted by pulleys to be tied to the dangling cables.

Approaches to the bridge have been in progress since the very first work on it began, and some pieces of them are already in use. The entire system skirts the main part of Istanbul beginning at a point in Europe outside the city wall and connected to the Londra Asphalt (the main artery leading to Europe) and crosses the Golden Horn just east of Eyüp over a new bridge being built by a Japanese firm. From there the road goes through Okmeydanı and Mecidiyeköy and on elevations across the valley to Ortaköy where it arches across to Beylerbeyi. On the Asiatic side it swings through Bağlarbaşı and Ümraniye to join the Ankara Highway near the Traffic Examination Station. There are a number of cloverleaves along the road to handle entering and exiting traffic.

The Bosphorus Bridge is at last a reality. The simple elegance of its lines and its lofty stance make it the most esthetically satisfying structure to have been built in this city since the time of Mimar Sinan. It has demanded modern engineering expertise, hard labor, multi-national cooperation, and, above all, teamwork. It is a credit to the city and its people, and appropriate as a physical symbol of the progress Turkey has made since 1923.

Publications and Conferences

The İş Bankası has sponsored six books reviewing the developments in Turkish arts and literature. These may be bought on the local market:

50 Yılın Türk Tiyatrosu by Metin And, TL. 60

50 Yılın Kâğıt Paraları, TL. 30

50 Yılın Türk Mizah ve Karikatürü by Semih Balcıoğlu and Ferit Öngören, TL. 50

50 Yılın Türk Mimarisi by Metin Söze and Mete Tapan, TL. 80

50 Yılın Türk Resim ve Heykeli by Nurullah Berk and Hüseyin Gezer, TL. 100

50 Yılın Türk Edebiyatı by Rauf Mutluay, TL. 60

* * *

On November 5 to 7 this year the University of Chicago is hosting a conference entitled " The Republic of Turkey, 1923 - 1973; Studies in 20th Century Nation-Building ". The main subjects of the conference include Political, Social and Economic Development, Secularism, Education and the Law, and Literature and the Arts. Professor Fahir İz is the conference chairman. The tentative program announces the following list of distinguished professors and their subjects:

- Prof. Halil İnalcık, "Continuity and Change in Turkish History and Society"
- Prof. Roderic Davison, "Ottoman Institutions and 19th Century Reforms"
- Prof. Dankwart Rustow, "The Atatürk Revolution and the Formation of a Nation-State"
- Prof. Kemal Karpat, "The Multi-Party State, 1946-1973"
- Prof. Mehmet Gönlübol, "Foreign Policy of the Turkish Republic"
- Prof. Şerif Mardin, "Atatürk's Reforms and Social Transformation"
- Prof. Ruşen Keleş, "Urbanization and Demographic Change"
- Prof. İbrahim Yaşa, "Industrialization, the Working Class and Trade Unionism"
- Prof. Gündüz Ökçün, "The Ottoman Legacy and Economic Development to 1930"
- Prof. Osman Okyar, "Economic Development since 1930"
- Prof. Zwi Hershlag, "Etatism, Autarchy and the National Banking System"
- Prof. Oktay Yenal, "Economic Liberalism, Foreign Aid and Industrialization"
- Prof. Atilla Karaosmanoğlu, "The Rural Economy and Land Reform"
- Prof. Niyazi Berkes, "Establishment of a Secular State"
- Prof. Annemarie Schimmel, "Islam in a Secular State"
- Prof. Tarık Z. Tunaya, "Constitutional Developments"
- Prof. Frederick Frey, "Rural Education in Republican Turkey"
- Prof. Necat Erder, "Educational Policies of the Republic"

Mrs. Nermin Menemencioğlu Streater, "Pre-republican Literary Tradition, 1860-1930"

Prof. Talât Halman, "Literary Developments since 1930"

Prof. Fahir İz, "Language Reform"

Prof. Metin And, "The Arts in Republican Turkey"

The Financial Times of London expects to publish a survey on Turkey on October 29th which you may wish to get. The following quotes some of their proposed outline:

Foreign Policy: Relations with Europe and attitudes towards enlarged EEC. Participation in Nato and views on European security and force reductions. Balanced policy in Middle East with growing emphasis on strengthening Arab ties.

Economy: Evaluation of present trends and assessment of the past year's achievements. Currently going through boom period and dynamic growth rates. Need for improved economic management and better management of resources.

Finance and Aid: Ever growing importance of immigrant remittances, already \$350. m. in first six months dispels old fears of foreign exchange shortages foreign aid still an important element.

Banking: A survey of the past year's trends, extension of banking system to rural areas, ways to channel immigrant remittances under discussion.

Trade: 1971 a record year for exports - some 25 percent up on forecasts - and strong trend continues. Success in cotton sales, and sharp rises in sales of manufactured and processed goods. State of relations with the enlarged Community. Trade with Britain.

Industry: Industrial sector growth is around 12 percent with prospects for sustained increase due to heavy investment of public funds and new confidence in the private sector. Major new projects coming on stream like Keban Dam, Izmir oil refinery, third iron and steel mill at Iskenderun, aluminium plant at Seydişehir.

Textiles: Embarked upon programme to double capacity to some 2.6 m spindles by 1977, geared partly to meet rising home demand, but mainly for export. One of the key growth industries with planned export earnings of some \$99m by 1977 compared to \$29m in 1971.

State Companies: In the past financial structure has proved weak. State companies play preponderant part in economic activity. OECD reports have frequently urged better management and rationalisation.

Mining: New bill passed this year bars all foreigners from prospecting. But foreign companies allowed operating licences and concessions if partnered with Turkish companies. Mineral potential. Prospects for development of borax.

Oil and Chemicals: Limited oil resources, but still hopes for further small finds. Growing cost of oil imports. Refining activity and the growth of chemical industry.

Tourism: Regarded as one of the main growth industries and major future source of foreign exchange. Resources under-exploited. An examination of existing facilities and comments on plans for 126,000 tourist beds by 1977.

Anna G. Edmonds, Editor

Dear Friends:

As of today, two days are left until the general elections throughout Turkey. By the time you get this the country will be into its main celebrations of fifty years of republicanism, hopefully to continue for another productive span of time. The celebrations for these past fifty years really began in the summer with the Istanbul Festival during which a number of well-known artists appeared and performed in the city.

Although final plans have not been announced for Cumhuriyet Bayramı, one of the events is expected to be the opening of the graceful new Bosphorous Bridge. Among the first people across it will be a UNESCO demonstration of children. It is supposed to be open to foot traffic only the first day; regular service will begin October 31.

Isabel Hemingway, nurse in Talas and Gaziantep, left the Near East Mission this summer. She is now enjoying pre-retirement furlough in the United States. Daughter of American Board missionaries to China, Izzy herself served as a volunteer in China from 1933 to 1936. In 1936 she was appointed as a career missionary and stayed in China until 1951 when all Board work was withdrawn. In May 1952 she came to Turkey where she worked for 21 years. She was in Talas from 1952 to 1959 and from 1969 to 1973. In the interim she was at the American Hospital in Gaziantep. Various parties honored her years of service, among them a reception on May 26 with the Gaziantep Hospital community. On June 15 there was an informal family picnic for her at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Warren Winkler in Istanbul. Many of her Talas associates were present for it: the Wittler, Scott, Winkler, Avery, Meyer and James Johnson families, Louise McNair, Alan McCain, Susie Edmonds, Mary Alice Shepard, William Mathews, the Garabet Topakbaş family, Zaruhi Topakbaş, the Lütfi Ömer family, the Hagop Çatal family, the Mesrop Arslan family, Sahak Nergiz and Koç Maraş.

Nine people completed their terms of service in the Mission and left during the summer. Their present addresses are: M/M H. B. Ensrud, 1 Birnam Wood Road, Ashland, Oregon 97520; M/M Alan McCain, 512 East Road, Tiverton, Rhode Island 02878; Miss Isabel Hemingway, 1 Wyoming Court, Washington, D.C. 20016; Miss Virginia Hileman, 815 Carol Ave., Elgin, Illinois 60120; Mrs. Clara L. Klug, 312 Springhill Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware 19809;

Miss Ruth Mentley, 16 Prospect St., Canton, New York 13617; and Miss Virginia Rogner, 28 Denton Avenue, East Rockaway, New York 11518.

The permanent address of the Harold Schoups is 525 North 8th Street, Upper Sandusky 43351. Hal is now assistant director of five United Church Homes in Ohio and Indiana.

The William Amidons, Mrs. Lillian Berton and the William Edmonds were in the United States on three-month furloughs during the summer and have since returned to Turkey. Colin Edmonds returned with his parents to attend the University of the Bosphorus this year. Fernie Scovel left in August for a 9-month furlough in the States. Her address is 144 Hancock Street, Auburndale, Massachusetts 02166.

The following people have joined the various school staffs in Turkey this summer: Izmir: Don E. Ryoti (and son Eric) (math), Elaine Thorson (math), and Andrew Dean (physics); Mission office: M/M Richardson Fowle (and sons Thomas, Timothy) (half-time treasurer); Tarsus: M/M Donald Barry (math and English), and James Ogden (English); Üsküdar: Vicki Hill (art), Barbara J. Kacena (chemistry), and Mrs. Margarete Puce (and husband Leslie) (English). Mrs. Donald Barry is the former Roxie Scott.

Again a successful work camp was held in Tarsus in July. The advisors were Marion and Alan Johnson of Sharon, Connecticut and John Barrett of Seacliff, Long Island, New York. Fifteen Americans and eleven Turks participated in the program.

Two other volunteers have been working for longer periods of time here: Ruth Updegraff spent the summer weeks helping in Talas and Gaziantep. She is now working at Üsküdar. Ruth was in Gaziantep with her parents, the Drs. Richard and Virginia Updegraff from 1961 to 1970. Mr. Phons Fels, a senior medical student from Groningen University in the Netherlands has been helping the hospital in Gaziantep since July 15.

The yearly orientation and language course was conducted in Istanbul from August 6 to 31 with twenty-five people attending.

Word of the deaths of several people has come during the summer. Mrs. Kate Chambers Seelye, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. William N. Chambers, ABCFM missionaries in Turkey at the end of the 19th century, died in Syracuse, New York on May 31. She was 84 years old. Both she and her husband, Dr. Lawrence Seelye, had been teachers at the American College for Girls in Arnavutköy for 14 years. Bertha B. Morley, aged 94, died

in Claremont, California on March 22, 1973. From 1911 until the Second World War Miss Morley served in various areas in the Near East, as a teacher and principal at the Anatolia Girls School in Merzifon and then in Thessaloniki, at Gedikpaşa in Istanbul, and as director of an orphanage in Antoura, Syria. On leaving Antoura Miss Morley chose eleven of the orphans to become her foster children; of those she is survived by five sons, two daughters and fifteen grandchildren. Mrs. Mary Markham died on August 25 at the age of 87. She and her husband, Reuben Markham, served with the Board in Bulgaria from 1912 to 1925. After his death in 1949 she was active with Radio Free Europe and with the Cyrillic Division of the Library of Congress. Mrs. Carol Wright Goodrich, wife of Dr. Thomas Goodrich, died at New York City's Sloane Kettering Memorial Hospital on September 22 after a long and courageous fight against cancer. "Rusty" taught English at Üsküdar from 1957 to 1960. Besides her husband she is survived by two sons. The family address is R.D. #4, Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701.

News Flash: The new nursing school at Gaziantep will open its doors on October 30 as part of the province's observance of the 50th year anniversary celebrations.

Anna G. Edmonds
Editor

Additional Notes

15 October 1973

Cevat Şakir Kabaağaçlı, otherwise known as Halikarnas Balıkcısı, died Saturday afternoon in Izmir and was buried in Bodrum this afternoon. A graduate of Robert College and Oxford University, he was first a student of modern history and a newspaper reporter. Because of a politically critical article in the early days of the Republic he was exiled to Bodrum for a year and a half before the punishment was reversed. During that time he came to love Bodrum and spent most of the rest of his life there. Through his urbane efforts and writings the life and history of Bodrum became known world-wide.

* * *

A speech by Mr. Joseph S. Toner, director of the USAID Mission in Turkey reports on the successes and failures of the agricultural developments in the last 25 years:

Increase from
1948 to 1972

Population	35 %
Gross National Product	257 %
Per Capita Gain	100 %
Wheat Production	92 %
Life Expectancy	20 %
Literacy	50 %

The amount of exports of fruits and vegetables in the last 10 years has increased from 20,000 tons a year to almost 200,000 tons. Their cash values have gone from \$2.4 million to \$31.5 million in this time.

The most important crop in Turkey is wheat, being worth about \$1 billion. About 70 % of Turkey's cultivated land is used for growing it. Mexican seed was imported in 1968 which increased the yield from the fields using it four-fold. Additional advances in agricultural know-how (better seeds, better use of available water, weed control) are also expected to help production, along with a training program for the farmers. Mr. Toner points out that, "the problems of teaching the farmer, of getting fertilizer to places where it is needed at the time it is needed, the provision of an adequate credit program so the farmers can buy both fertilizer and new tillage equipment being manufactured in Turkey, are uniquely Turkish problems for which forward planning is required."

Rev. and Mrs. Walter B. Wiley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 20 this year in Claremont, California. Of these years they have spent twenty-nine with the Board in Turkey in Merzifon, Maraş, Mardin, Diyarbakır, and Istanbul.

* * *



No. 634

Near East Mission
United Church Board
for World Ministries
Posta Kutusu 142
Istanbul, Turkey
17 December 1973

Dear Friends:

A NEW HEALTH SCHOOL IN GAZIANTEP
by Richardson Fowle

(As business manager of the Gaziantep Hospital, 1964-65, 1967-72, Richardson Fowle was instrumental in securing much of the help for its remodeling. He is presently part-time Mission treasurer).

The opening this month of the Gaziantep Özel Sağlık Okulu (Gaziantep Private Health School) in close relation to the Gaziantep Hospital marks the successful conclusion of a long-sought objective of the hospital's program. It also represents a new breakthrough in that this is the first non-governmental school at this level to be opened in Turkey. Private nursing schools lycee level - notably the Sağlık Kolej (Health College) of the Admiral Bristol Hospital in Istanbul - have for many years made valuable contributions in the training of nurses. It is to be hoped that the opening of the school in Gaziantep will encourage other private authorities to similar efforts to help meet the drastic shortage of trained and qualified nursing personnel in Turkey.

As these lines are being written, fifteen girls (between the ages of 15 and 18) are starting their studies in Gaziantep. All are graduates of primary school and have been selected by testing from a large number of applicants for the available places (over 200 applied even before official permission to accept registrations was granted, thanks to word of mouth). These girls will be given three years of training, at the end of which they will have received the equivalent of a junior

high school education in Turkish and cultural subjects and also will have received concentrated professional training in nursing skills (both theoretical and practical). Those completing the course and successful in examinations will be awarded diplomas by the official authorities enabling them to work as nurses in Turkey.

The students will be following the same course plan as is applied in the governmental health schools. First year girls spend most of their time in the classroom, where their lesson schedules emphasize Turkish language skills, mathematics and an introduction to professional subjects. During the second year, the emphasis begins to shift more towards professional subjects, including a certain amount of practical training in the hospital's medical services. The final year is in large part devoted to supervised practical work in the hospital, supplemented by a few hours per week of Turkish language subjects in the classrooms. Since all of the students will be full-time boarders and will be the responsibility of the school except when on authorized vacations or leave, there will be ample opportunity to develop further programs to expand the officially-established minimum requirements. It is hoped that it may be possible to give the students some English-language instruction and that they will be able to participate in outreach programs such as baby clinics and village work.

Classrooms and administrative offices of the school are located on the groundfloor of the west wing of the recently-remodeled hospital building. The school has its own entrance and is in effect independent from the operation of the hospital, although it utilizes the hospital dining area and will be supported administratively by the hospital as may be required. The students will be housed in the Residence Building which also

houses Turkish and foreign personnel on the hospital staff. Allowing for some attrition along the way, it is expected that the student body will number between thirty and thirty-five when the school has all three classes in the fall of 1975. Many will rejoice that once again the Gaziantep buildings and generous garden area are being used for the education and training of young women, carrying on a tradition going back to the previous century





Achievement of this school represents a demonstration of the results obtainable through partnership with Turkish colleagues in a spirit of cooperation. The hospital, since the close of the previously-authorized nurse aide course in 1967-1968, has had the resumption of formal

nursing training as one of its main objectives and priorities. Little progress was possible on this pending the securing of permission to remodel the hospital building and then the actual construction during 1970-1972. A Health School by its nature requires the full authorization and consent of both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health. There were also legal and practical difficulties in finding an acceptable formula to open the school, in view of its close relationship to a foreign missionary hospital.

While it is not possible to cite all of those whose cooperation and constructive initiative have made the school a reality, mention should be made of the following: the authorities of the two Ministries concerned, both in Ankara and in Gaziantep; the Vali (Governor) of Gaziantep Province and his staff; Gaziantep Senators and Deputies who supported the application in Ankara; the members of the Sağlık ve Eğitim Vakfı (Health and Education Foundation) who made available the facilities where the school is located; and staff members of the Amerikan Bord Heyeti (the Near East Mission). Special recognition should be given to the unflagging efforts of three Turkish friends: Bayan Muzaffer Kürkçü (the legal founder of the School and now serving as Head Nurse at the Hospital), Dr. Cavit Çakırgöz (the Turkish Responsible Director of the Hospital) and Bay Neşet Ögüt (the legal advisor of the Hospital).

For readers unfamiliar with the background of the work of the present Gaziantep Hospital, it may be of interest that the work today continues a tradition of service by foreign medical missionaries in Gaziantep going back more than 125 years. These years have brought many changes including the decline of the once-great Ottoman Empire, the hopeful years of the early 1900's when the many-faceted activities of the Aintab (as Gaziantep was then called) community offered promise of a better future for so many, the debacle of World War I with its related upheavals of the ethnic and religious communities of the area, the tense years of Turkey's War for Independence, and then the steady growth of the modern Turkish Republic, celebrating its

50th Anniversary this year. Throughout these years the hospital has maintained its services to all those who seek them regardless of religion, race, or nationality. At present it has an official capacity of 49 beds for general surgery or internal medicine patients. The staff is largely Turkish with the "foreign" participation represented by Medical Director Dr. Howard Kaliher and his wife and four nurses (three from Holland). The hospital receives valuable support from the UCBWM but is increasingly dependent on earning its own way, in this era of changing priorities in America and reduced funds available for the few institutions still remaining from the once-extensive program of past years. It is a source of satisfaction that the local Gaziantep community has given generous encouragement and material support to the work of the hospital, in recognition of the felt need for the hospital's services and presence.

The opening of the School means that not only will a number of young women receive valuable training to help them in life and in their careers, but also the hospital will be in a strengthened position to provide and maintain the standards of professional care it represents. With remodeled facilities and now a training element secured, this should enable the hospital to start a new era of service to the community of Gaziantep and its hinterland. Efforts to develop local financial support, which played such an important part in the remodeling of the hospital, are being continued now with the new incentive of scholarship support for nursing students at the school. The hospital staff have been encouraged by the receipt of support for scholarships from persons outside of Turkey even before the final permissions were actually in hand! The program of the hospital in Gaziantep will continue to be dependent on this concern and support of friends of the work in Turkey and abroad for the visible future. Heartiest congratulations and best wishes for the future are in order to those working at the Hospital on the achievement of this new nursing school that can mean so much to so many in the years ahead.

Anna G. Edmonds
Editor