

# The Orient.

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## THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The critical situation in the Balkans still causes much uneasiness, not only in Turkey but all over Europe. The suggestion of Count Berchtold of Austria, regarding an exchange of views as to "progressive decentralization" in the Ottoman Empire, is received very coldly by the Ottoman Government, which regards it as an infringement of the rights of this country to deal with its own internal problems. Count Berchtold's suggestion is viewed with equal dislike by the smaller Balkan states, but for a different reason. Bulgaria, Servia, Greece and Montenegro have for decades at least lived on the belief that some day a break-up of Turkey's European possessions would give each of them the largest slice of territory. This proposal of the Austrian statesman seems to them to tend toward bolstering up Ottoman power with the backing of the great European powers; and they therefore regard it as inimical to their interests. Thus the Berchtold proposition comes at a most inopportune moment so far as the states most concerned regard it. Simultaneously the relations of these states are severely strained by frontier incidents. Greece is incensed by the appointment of an Albanian as Vali of Yanina, as being contrary to Greek interests in Epirus. Montenegro is much agitated by the Berana fights and similar conflicts due to lack of clear delimitation of the frontier. Servians are stirred up by the reported massacre of Ottoman Serbs by the regular troops at Bielopolje and Sienitza, and seem to be forgetting internal quarrels and uniting to demand satisfaction of Turkey. And the mass-meetings in Bulgaria continue to demand war with Turkey over the Kotchana outrages, though thus far the King and the Gueshoff Cabinet have been able to maintain friendly relations with the Ottoman Government in spite of this tremendous pressure. With the exception of the government organ, *Mir*, the Bulgarian papers all clamor for war. One would be rash indeed to prophecy under such circumstances what may be the outcome of a single week.

In the region of Lake Van, the situation is about as bad as it could be. Advices from Bitlis speak of outrages on Kourds as well as Armenians, the Government officials exhibiting an apathy and inertia most discouraging. The Armenian church authorities send in a stream of pitiful telegrams to the Patriarchate telling of murders, robberies and the carrying off of women, and nothing seems to be done about it other than the sending of urgent telegrams by the Minister of the Interior to the Governors of the provinces urging them to preserve order. Danish Bey also promises to send a commis-

sion of reforms to the vilayets of Van and Bitlis, with full powers to settle the land disputes. If only this commission could break the power of a few Kourdish *derebeys* or chieftains, and mete out exemplary punishment to Mousa Bey, the most infamous of them, it would not be difficult to restore peace and tranquillity. In the midst of this turmoil it is a great relief to have testimony to the quiet and order prevailing in the region of Chemishgezok, north of Harpout, and between there and Erzroum, among the Dersim Kourds.

Yesterday a *takrir* or official communication was sent by the Armenian Patriarch to the Minister of the Interior, enumerating the assassinations lately committed in the provinces of Van and Bitlis, and also calling attention to the still unsettled question of indemnity at Adana, the agrarian problems and the sequestration of church property.

As for the Italian war, the enemy's fleet cruises around the Asia Minor coasts, and has recently stopped and searched two Roumania steamers, to the great annoyance of Roumania. Skirmishes have taken place near Zuara and Regdalin, in Tripoli. The negotiations regarding peace are reported to be continuing a normal course, with some hope of a favorable issue.

The internal situation in the Cabinet is the subject of many rumors, the most persistent of which is that Gen. Mahmoud Moukhtar Pasha, Minister of Marine, will resign after Bairam, owing to dislike of him in both navy and army because he was a member of the Hakki Pasha Cabinet. His father, the Grand Vizier, has been ill for some days and unable to attend meetings of the Council of Ministers.

## FOWLE-CURTIS WEDDING.

A very pretty wedding took place yesterday in Roumeli Hissar, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Theron J. Damon.

The bride was Miss Helen Curtis, of North Adams, Mass., who has been teaching this past year in Anatolia Girls' School, Marsovan. The groom was Mr. Luther R. Fowle, of Aintab, son of Rev James L. Fowle, formerly of Talas. Both are missionaries of the American Board. The ceremony was performed by Rev. George H. Huntington, of Robert College, and Miss Morley of Gedik Pasha officiated at the piano. Some forty or fifty friends were present, and after the simple but beautiful service, partook of bountiful refreshments. It is understood that the bridal couple have gone to the Princes' Islands for their wedding trip, and will shortly proceed to their home in Aintab.

### THE TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE OF 1837.

Seventy-five years ago an earthquake visited Syria and Palestine, which, from all accounts, was far worse in its consequences than the earthquake of last month, or the Messina earthquake either. From the detailed description by Rev. William M. Thomson, author of "The Land and The Book", published in the *Missionary Herald* for November, 1837, we cull the following paragraphs:—

"In Beyroot itself but little injury was sustained, although very many of the houses were badly cracked, but on the river flat, east of the town, the houses were greatly injured, some thrown down, and a few persons wounded. For several days succeeding the shock flying reports from various quarters gave frightful accounts of towns and villages overthrown and lives lost; but so slow does authentic information travel in this country, that it was not until eight days had elapsed, that any reports which could be relied on were received. Letters arrived on that day from Safet, stating that the place was utterly destroyed, not a house remaining of any description; and that Tiberias and many other places had shared the same deplorable fate. Some of the letters stated that not more than one out of a hundred of the inhabitants had escaped, while others more correctly declared that out of a population of 10,000 at least 6,000 had perished.

"Mr. Calman and myself left our homes this morning for Safet. Seven hours hard riding brought us to this noted locality (Neby Yoonas), where the great whale cast forth the rebellious prophet. So tradition declares; and as no one can prove the contrary, the people rest quite assured of the fact...

"At Sidon from 70 to 100 houses had been altogether, or in part, thrown down, and nearly all were badly cracked, while seven persons were reported to have been killed. In Tyre the destruction is far greater. Not even the best houses will be habitable without tearing down and rebuilding a large part of what remains. Twelve persons were killed and thirty wounded.

"We came to Ramash; here we had a melancholy confirmation of those letters which came from Safet. The place is utterly ruined, and the people are living in tents made of broken boards, old mats, brush, grass, mud, in short everything that could be put up to shelter them from the cold and rain. Thirty people in this small village were killed. . . . At Jish, not a house of any kind remained standing. Amongst the survivors is the sheikh of the village, who spent the evening in my tent. He had returned to the pasha the names of 235 who perished. The remainder, amounting to nearly sixty in all, had gone to other places, so that he and five others remained to have the property dug out from under the ruins, to bury the dead, and prepare to desert the place. The people were at prayers in church, when the whole church fell at once, and all, except the priest, who was in the recess of the altar, perished. Thus more than 130 died at their very altars. The sheikh sent a man to show us a large rent in the mountain, east of the village. It may now be about a foot wide and fifty feet long; probably it has gradually closed up, as

from their accounts it was wider when first discovered after the shock. . . . We passed a village called Cudditha, nearly destroyed; and in the valley immediately under Safet, Aynezatoun in utter ruin. We met many Jews going out to Motenna, a village two hours from Safet, to pray to a celebrated saint of theirs. Poor refuge in times of such distress! Just before we began to ascend the mountain of Safet, we met our consular agent of Sidon, returning home with his widowed sister. His brother-in-law, a rich merchant of Safet, had been buried up to his neck by the ruins of his fallen house, and in that awful condition remained several days, begging and calling for help, and at last died before any one was found to assist him. As we ascended the steep mountain we saw several dreadful rents and cracks in the earth and rocks, giving painful indications of what might be expected above. But all anticipations were utterly confounded, when the reality burst upon our sight.

"Up to this moment I had refused to credit the account, but one frightful glance convinced me that it was not in the power of language to overstate such a ruin. Suffice it to say that this great town, which seemed to me like a beehive four years ago, is now no more. Safet was, but is not. The Jewish portion, containing a population of five or six thousand, was built around and upon a very steep mountain, so that the roof of the lower house formed the street of the one above, thus rising like a stairway one over another. And thus, when the tremendous shock dashed every house to the ground in a moment, the first fell upon the second, the second upon the third that on the next, and so on the end. And this is the true cause of the almost unprecedented destruction of life. . . .

"The destruction at Tiberias has not been so great, in proportion to the population, as at Safet, owing mainly to the fact that Tiberias is built on a level plain. About 700 perished here, out of a population of 2,500; while at Safet 4,000 out of 5,000 Christians and Jews were killed, and not far from 1,000 Mussulmans.

"The village of Luby is one ghastly heap of ruins. 143 of the poor people were killed. After visiting the wounded and distributing some clothing and money to the poor, we hurried on to Segara, close to the northern base of Mount Tabor. Segara lost fifty of its two hundred inhabitants by the earthquake; and, like Luby, the houses were all destroyed. At Arana, about 190 persons perished under the ruins. . . . Nazareth has sustained but little injury. Only five persons were killed, four of them at the great Latin convent.

"One of the most remarkable circumstances in relation to the earthquake is, that some villages entirely escaped, although directly between two places which were utterly overthrown. For example, Segara is overthrown, Kefr Kenna (Cana of Galilee), a little to the west, has not a house cracked, while Arana, just beyond it, is a vast pile of ruins, but the next village, Saphoory, escaped entirely. These villages are situated on the same hills, with no visible impediment between them; and upon what principle these astonishing exceptions can be accounted for I know not."

## ANNUAL MEETING AT ERZROUM.

*Van, Turkey in Asia, Aug. 9th 1912.*

Dear Friends,

I am in debt, in the correspondence line, to a very large number of dear friends, and I want to tell them and some others about my recent trip to Erzroum, to attend the annual meeting of our Eastern Turkey Mission and at the same time give you some idea of my personal condition and of that of the work in which I am engaged, and in which you manifest your interest in so many ways. Our school year closed at the end of June, and as it happened that there was no graduating class this year, and our associate, Mr. Yarrow, who is in special charge of the Boys' School, had already left for his furlough, it was decided not to attempt any public exercises for that institution, though the Girls' School did have a public gathering. The year thus closed has been the most prosperous in the history of these institutions, first in the point of numbers, the attendance at the Boys' School having reached 446, and the Girls' School 450; second in the harmony and efficiency of its teaching force; third in its equipment, the boys having been able to use their new building almost from the beginning of the year, while the girls have the satisfaction of seeing their new home well started.

On July 5th, with Miss Silliman of the Girls' School and Miss Bond, the superintendent of the hospital, I started to attend the Erzroum meeting. Erzroum is considerably more than 200 miles distant, and the long journey must be made on horseback. I am fortunate in having an ideal horse and the ladies were also well provided, while we possessed one good baggage animal, but two loads were needed to carry our travelling beds and bedsteads, food box, tent and personal baggage and another horse was purchased, which it was hoped would carry the second load, and we started out with two men to care for us and our animals. Our first two days were over a road which I enjoy, two hours shorter than the post road, but crossing several high mountains, from whose summits, in fine weather, we get a fine view of Mt. Ararat.

I shall never forget the scene I once enjoyed when reaching one of the summits just before sunrise of a clear summer morning. Turning to the north, the snow-clad cone of Ararat rose on the horizon, 120 miles away, in bridal purity, but in a few moments the first rays of the rising sun kissed its top, and the rosy hues crept down its sides, as if the bride were blushing at her own loveliness. Soon Mt. Sipan, the great volcanic peak which stands sentinel on the north shore of our own lake, its head also crowned with eternal snow, was tinged with the same glow, as were patches of snow on the lofty ranges bordering the south shore of the deep blue lake, which slept at my feet. Another smaller lake, said much to resemble the Sea of Galilee nestled still closer to the foot of the mountain where I stood. The whole ensemble was one never to be forgotten. This time however a summer haze obscured the horizon so that only the faintest glimpse of Ararat could be secured. In July we seldom have rain or much cloudy weather, but this year, on the sec-

ond day of our journey, we began to feel a most unusual cold wave, coming on from the N. W. giving us showers and hail before reaching our night's resting place, and we were thankful that the next day was Sunday, so that we could rest with friends, instead of travelling in the cold and storm. Monday morning showed even the lower mountains whitened with snow, and during the whole of Monday, thick winter overcoats hardly sufficed to keep us comfortable. It proved that this cold wave was of very wide extent, bringing cold, rain or snow to a region many hundreds of miles wide, and covering plains which we passed over later with snow, killing many sheep and even some of the shepherds. The cold, or something else, also affected our second baggage horse so that he barely took his load to our Monday night's resting place, and we were compelled to hire another horse from the village, hoping that a day of travel without a load would so restore our weary animal, that he could resume his work, but alas! ere many miles were passed, he lay down by the road side and died. We were able to persuade the man we had hired for a day to go on with us to Erzroum, though at a very high price, and we continued our journey the whole week, over lofty mountains, across intervening valleys, and through the rivers, knowing that each day brought us nearer our journey's end. Friday night was spent with one of "My Boys," a graduate from our school and orphanage, now the efficient and beloved preacher in this village outstation of the Erzroum field, and it was delightful to meet him again after so long an interval. But the following day required twelve weary hours in the saddle to accomplish the forty miles which brought us, at sundown, to the city we sought. We found ourselves the last arrivals, associates from Harpout, Mardin and Bitlis having got in before us, and ready to give us a warm welcome as we alighted at Mr. Stapleton's door. And oh! how good it seemed to sit down to a daintily spread board, with such a band of dear friends about it, in place of the village accommodations of the road. But most of us were tired and felt that we must be excused from getting up to attend a six o'clock meeting the following, Sunday, morning. At the noon service however it was my privilege to administer the rite of baptism to some of our own people now residing there. The wife of one of our church members, and from our girls' school, had not been baptized in infancy, because her father was not then a church member, and so she now presented herself, with her two little ones to receive the rite at my hands, and later I saw her admitted to the church and administered to her her first communion.

Of the ten delegates present at the meeting, three of us were veterans, Mr. Andrus of Mardin and Miss C. Ely of Bitlis having reached the field in 1868, one year before me, and the rest were of younger generations, two of the ladies having joined the mission within the year. The ten days of the gathering passed delightfully and all too quickly. Each session was opened and closed with united supplication for the wisdom and guidance from above of which we so keenly felt the need, that we might decide aright the many weighty and perplexing questions which daily came before us. As

usual in such gatherings, the most difficult questions were how properly to care for the Lord's work committed to us, with the very inadequate number of missionary workers, and the yet more insufficient finances at our disposal. It was evident that no less than seven married men and four single ladies were imperatively and immediately needed to attend properly to existing work, to say nothing of extension, and most of these have been asked for again and again in previous meetings. But the financial problems are even more pressing, and in these Van was especially interested. For many years it has been the custom of the Board to notify the missions in advance, what sum each might hope to receive for its "General Work," i. e. its evangelistic, educational and medical departments, and leave to the mission the apportionment of the same to the several stations. Seven years ago the mission held its meeting in Van and it became evident that the 11% of the appropriations, which had been assigned to Van, several years before, when it was comparatively in its infancy as a station, should be substantially increased, in view of the growth already attained, as well as to enable it to continue its advance toward the adult condition of its sister stations, and it was voted to increase its proportion from 11% to 21%, but as it would be a great hardship for any station to cut down its existing work, the Board was earnestly urged to add some \$2,000, to the paltry \$6,000, which was all it was then giving for carrying on this general work in five large stations, embracing a territory as large as the whole of New England and containing a nominal Christian population of some 600,000, for which it is especially laboring besides a Moslem population much larger for which they wish to work as soon as the way may open. So it was voted to delay the change of per cent till such time as an increase of appropriations should insure that the change should give no station a smaller amount than it was already getting. Friends mostly in England and Ireland, who had become interested in the Van orphanage work, generously sent us funds which enabled us to carry on some village work outside the city, and in various ways, our central work has managed to secure some expansion, but the continuance of this outside help is uncertain, and when after all these years of fruitless waiting, the announcement was at last made that the Board had been able to grant \$1,300 additional for the mission, we hoped that the long promised readjustment of percentages would be realized. But as we came together in the meeting, each of the other stations also told of its pressing need for increased appropriations, even for keeping their existing work going, and we each warmly sympathized with our neighbors' claims, while feeling as if we could not possibly abate our own. Finally after long discussion and prayerful consideration, it was asked if Van would not be content to accept 18% instead of the 21% expected, allowing each of the sacrificing stations to retain 1% of what they would have given to Van, and we had not the heart to refuse this proposition. By this arrangement, Van's appropriation has been a little more than doubled, but even so it does not suffice to do anything toward caring for the outside village work, which is being carried on by the

extra contributions of friends, so that we still have pressing need for all that our kind friends can do for us. Our recent journey took us through our out-station of Agants, which is perhaps the most important town outside the city. It is being built up more than any other town, a desirable class of population from Van and Bitlis coming in, so that it presents an unusually promising field for Gospel and educational work. The brethren are planning for a new building for chapel and school purposes, and if we can keep the right kind of workers there we may hope for satisfactory results. The next most important and promising centre is Shadakh, on the southern border of the field, where B. Mardiros Der Sahagian has consented to hold on another year although he is desirous of going away to complete his theological course. We hope to send a young man named Mihran, a recent graduate of our school, and an earnest Christian worker, to be associated with him this year, and expect that he may be able to take the general charge of the work there by another year, if B. Mardiros can not continue. Our budget has compelled us to drop a few of the less able of our village workers, but we are very anxious to keep up these strategic points, together with three or four of the most important villages between these extreme points, and it is our prayer that the Master will incline some of His stewards to continue us the means we need for this purpose.

Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow have left us for their first furlough, and their absence throws a heavy additional burden on my shoulders, while with all I can do, the work must suffer greatly from their absence. We earnestly hope and pray that their visit in America may hasten the arrangements for the founding of the college, for which we have been so long hoping, and for which some preparation has been made here . . . If that institution can be established, with the high school as one of its departments, it will leave us somewhat more adequate means for pushing other departments.

I am glad to find that our building operations are going on pretty satisfactorily, though not quite as fast as I could wish. The boys' building is now ready for placing the roof, but the new rooms will not be ready for occupancy quite at the beginning of the term, and we shall be obliged to temporarily house some of the classes in the dormitories of the boys' boarding department. The walls of the girls' school are half way up the second story, and we expect to get it covered before the autumn rains begin. With the completion of these structures, our present institutions will be well housed for many years.

During our absence only Dr. Ussher and Mrs. Raynolds remained to hold the fort. Next week we expect the return of Mrs. Ussher from her visit to Urumia, and we suppose that Miss Rogers sailed yesterday from America and that she and Miss McLaren will reach us before the end of this month and how glad we shall be to be so many again, but the Yarrow's absence will still be severely felt.

With very hearty greetings from Mrs. Raynolds and myself for you all, I remain

Yours most sincerely G. C. RAYNOLDS.

### THE ORIENT

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Charles T. Riggs, Editor.

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### EDITORIAL.

Dr. Raynold's racy record of some of the doings of the Annual Meeting at Erzroum will give our many readers in America an inside view of the financial stress and care devolving on their representatives on the field. When the American churches are able to give but \$7,300 to carry on the general work in a whole mission, with 46 organized churches, only 11 of which are entirely self-supporting, 83 Sunday schools, over 110 native pastors, preachers and Bible women besides 240 teachers, while the people contribute for Christian work \$16,468.41, the missionaries have to spend much valuable time in so arranging things as to spare a fraction of the proportion allotted to each station in order to raise the percentage for Van station from 11% to 18%, and prevent financial disaster. And even so, an advance is not made possible, in spite of unusually attractive openings. Would that more of the Lord's stewards realized these chances out in Turkey for making their one pound gain ten pounds!

Is the calling of the Christian worker limited to the influence he or she exercises on the individual, or is there a very direct relation between the missionary and society as a whole? The messenger of Christ comes to a community of individuals who need spiritual regeneration. He refuses to accept their personal status or condition as inevitable, and seeks to lead each one of them personally to a higher and a better life. Never content with character as he finds it, he is ever seeking to inculcate aspirations after truer and nobler standards. Does this hold merely of the individual, or is it possible to have a like aim with reference to social and community life? We are confronted in this land with a body of customs, ways of living, habits of business, methods of dress, very different from those to be found in western lands, and also much older and more stubbornly rooted. Are we to accept all these as inevitable, or even as best under the circumstances? Or should we leave to others whose mission is not distinctively spiritual, the working out of these social problems? In other words, are we to strive with all our might for the attainment of eternal life by each individual,

and leave to others or to a later time the establishment of the kingdom of God on earth?

Professor Rauschenbusch, in his most suggestive book on "Christianity and the Social Crisis," says: "Human nature is the raw material for the Christian character. The spirit of Christ working in the human spirit is to elevate the aims, ennoble the motives, and intensify the affections. The process is never complete. The Christian is always but in the making. In the same way human society is the raw material for Christian society. The spirit of Christ is to hallow all the natural relations of men and give them a divine significance and value. This process, too, is never complete. The kingdom of God is always but coming."

Is it to be religious individualism, or religious collectivism, or both? One who reads the early history of missionary effort in this land cannot but be impressed by the fact that, from the very start, almost exclusive attention has been paid to the personal character and the transformation of individuals, and that there have been very few attempts at anything approaching an adequate realization of the obligation of the Church to society as a whole. There is no discounting the fact that personal regeneration has of itself wrought miracles in community life. A new standard of individual righteousness has often transformed the principles of business life in a community, and by its own purifying and elevating influence has brought in new standards of family life. The question here raised is, whether this is the only method we can be expected to follow, or whether, in addition to our very obvious obligation to exercise a personal influence, we may be called upon to employ other methods as well. Does it lie within the province of missionary effort to look into the sanitary conditions of homes, to examine the problem of child labor in factories, to raise the question of one legal rest-day in seven, to throw the weight of its influence on the side of one-price stores in place of the bargaining system, as a step in the direction of commercial honesty, to attempt to improve the social status of woman, to secure some legal restrictions to the hours of labor for clerks and other working-people, to labor for stricter sanitary supervision of food-supplies and for sensible quarantine regulations for such contagious diseases as small-pox, scarlet fever, measles and whooping-cough, against which hardly any measures at all are now taken?

Public sentiment is being roused in some quarters on these social problems, and will doubtless soon be roused in others. Shall the Church lead in such reform movements, or sit complacently by and let others do the work? Can we afford to allow such a tremendous opportunity to escape? In America and in England, the Church is alive to its responsibility along social and communal lines. Problems of poverty, and of capital and labor are being studied; the Church is active in municipal reform and sanitary regulation; recreation-parks for children and legal protection for women have church backing; and the Church is most active in the campaign against the white slave traffic. In the Ottoman Empire the social problems are different, but they are none the less

pressing; and the opportunity of the Church for leadership along these lines is fully as fascinating.

THE ORIENT will be very glad to act as a medium for the interchange of ideas and experiences along these lines. If some of our readers have had practical experience in any branch of social service, it would be a kindness to the rest for them to give us the benefit of their testimony. And we should be glad if further comment or suggestions along these lines were sent us for insertion.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ITEMS.

### South America

Just a year ago this month, the World's Sunday School Association's representative, Rev. Herbert S. Harris, was on his way to the great continent of South America to investigate the conditions under which Sunday School work was being carried on; to administer all possible help in Conventions, Institutes and Conferences, and later to report to the World's Executive Committee as to the opportunities presented for an advance along Sunday School lines. Since his return last November, a number of District and National Conventions have been held for the first time, Sunday School literature meeting the common needs of all Sunday School workers has been prepared, and letters have been coming in from different parts of this vast territory, telling of the joy with which Christian workers of the various countries hail the entrance of the World's Sunday School Association into their respective fields of labor.

From Rio de Janeiro, Rev. H. C. Tucker, President of the Brazilian Sunday School work in Brazil, writes: "The outlook is most encouraging for a forward movement in Sunday School work in Brazil. We shall hope to see within a year the entire Republic divided into state organizations." Later he writes as follows: "In five of these, Sunday School Associations are already organized." A Sunday School Exhibit has been established in Mr. Tucker's office which will be of immeasurable value to the Missionaries and Sunday School workers of all Brazil.

Nearly half the 35,000 Sunday School scholars in Latin South America are in Brazil. Consequently these plans of the active Brazilian Association (organized last September) point toward great Sunday School progress for the whole continent. Teacher Training courses are now being prepared in both Portuguese and Spanish and a series of Graded Lessons are being selected to meet the actual needs of the workers. South America is one of the most promising fields of the great World's Association today.

### A Growing Department

There is a certain branch of the World's Work which looms up larger and larger as the months pass by. It has worked quietly, but steadily and persistently, until it is now known and appreciated by thousands upon thousands in almost every corner of the earth. It is the *Department for Utilizing Waste Material*.

Under the efficient management of Superintendent Rev. S. D. Price, this Department has been able to put more than 4,000 Sunday Schools and individuals in North America into direct touch with the Foreign Missionaries of their own Denominations. This means that the used and left-over picture rolls, colored cards, lesson helps, papers and other useful articles are being sent from these Schools in the Home-land, almost without cost, to the needy Mission Fields across the Seas. It is conducted with the strictest economy, but is worth thousands of dollars to the missionaries every year.

Not the least important phase of this Department is that it furnishes a channel for *Service* to active classes in the Sunday Schools; and accompanying this, is the additional blessing of help that is rendered to others. Without doubt, the Department for Utilizing Waste Material has done more to popularize the World's Work among the missionaries, as well as the Sunday Schools of the Home-land, than any other part of its great activities.

### The World's Convention.

While there are untold numbers of intensely interesting Sunday School items yet to report, owing to the great and increasing demand for information concerning the World's Seventh Sunday School Convention, it has been thought best to devote the remaining space to the subject of the Zurich Convention. It is, of course, impossible to set forth in any adequate way what this Convention will mean to the world. The Program Committee is planning to make the Zurich program one of exceptional practicability in every branch of Sunday School work. With such leaders as Gypsy Smith, Rev. Samuel M. Zwemer, D. D., Pastor Charles Bieler, Rev. F. B. Meyer, B. A., Rev. James I. Good, D. D., together with the hundreds of prominent Sunday School Superintendents, missionaries, and other Sunday School workers throughout the world, there is every assurance that the aim of the Program Committee will be fully realized, to the joy and benefit of the Sunday School World.

## HIGHWAY ROBBERY IN THE TAURUS

Telegrams from Rev. T. F. Barker, of the United Orphanage and Mission, in Everek, report that as Miss Mathiesen was on her way thither from Hadjin with four girls, they were robbed at or near the town of Kazilar, ten miles north of Hadjin. Their horses and all their effects were taken off, and they remained bound for eight hours before help came. The financial loss was some Lt. 35. The robbers were ten Kourds, who had not yet been arrested up to Sunday last. As Miss Mathiesen is a Norwegian, the case has been put in the hands of the Norwegian Consul in Constantinople. Miss Mathiesen is a nurse connected with the medical work at Konia. The region through which she was passing contains several Kourdish villages, whose inhabitants are not above such methods of gaining a livelihood.

## EMPIRE NEWS.

## THE CAPITAL.

His Majesty the Sultan performed his devotions on the Night of Power, last Sunday night, at the Nüsretié mosque at Tophané. Rainy weather seriously interfered with the fireworks that had been planned for the evening.

The Congress of the Committee of Union and Progress continues its sessions, the main topic of discussion being the organizing of the Committee as a political party on a European model.

The prefecture of the city has decided to establish an aquarium at Seraglio Point, and contemplates a zoological garden on the Ok Meidan, above Haskeyu.

In case the moon is seen this evening, Bairam will begin tomorrow, announces the *kadi* of Stamboul. Otherwise, the Moslems must fast till Friday.

An Egyptian Nationalist, Sheikh Shawish, was arrested by the police last week Tuesday and delivered over to the Egyptian authorities by whom he was transported, together with the documents discovered at his printing office, to Egypt, where he will be tried for complicity in the recent plot against the Khedive and others.

The old Lemme house in Bebek and three other houses, one of them occupied by the photographer Tchobanian, were destroyed by fire on the night of Aug. 31st. Heroic efforts on the part of residents of the village, and the providential absence of wind, prevented further loss. Miss Kirova, of the American College for Girls, who was spending the summer in one of the burned houses, saved practically nothing.

As the police of the city are not sufficiently familiar with the city streets and alleys, the chief of the police bureau has decided to furnish them with maps of the city; but on application to the prefecture of the city for such a plan, the latter office was compelled to admit that they had none.

The court-martial has suppressed the Turkish daily *Serbesti*; also the *Tanin* and its successor the *Djenin*, the latter now reappearing as *Senin*.

A new political party, the National Constitutional Party, has been organized, on the basis of complete political centralization and administrative decentralization.

## THE PROVINCES.

Brigands have carried off three monks from Mount Athos, and demand Lt.1,500 ransom for them. The same band recently captured the superior of the Vatopedion monastery there and secured Lt. 300 ransom for him. Prices are going up.

Two squadrons of the Ottoman fleet from the Dardanelles are reported to have ventured out into the Aegean for target-practice between Tenedos and Imbros islands, and to have successfully returned.

The Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs has issued a new regulation in accordance with which every telegram must have an address consisting of not less than three words, else it will not be delivered. The only exception is in the case of parties who have registered a code address of one word in addition to the name of the town. Such addresses already registered include "Peet, Stamboul," "Americans, Merzifoun," etc. The tax for this registration is two liras a year. We would respectfully call the attention of all our readers to this rule, and suggest that mission stations, institutions or other parties that have registered addresses inform us of the fact, that we may make it known to our constituency.

Miss Kinney reports that the Girls' High School at Adabazar is already full to overflowing.

The island of Rhodes is being used by the Italians as a sanitarium for disabled soldiers from their army in Tripoli.

The Government has decided to appropriate Lt. 30,000 for the purpose of fighting the cholera, which is still spreading in Cilicia and northern Syria.

Another bomb explosion took place yesterday at Salonica, 45 persons are reported killed and wounded.

## NOTES.

President Tracy of Anatolia College arrived from England last Saturday and left the same day for Marsóvan.

President Gates of Robert College returned from America last week. Mrs. Gates will arrive about a month later.

President Patrick of the American College for Girls arrived on Saturday from America.

Rev. Henry T. Perry, D.D., and Mrs. Perry reached this city on Saturday last on their return to their post in Sivas after a year's furlough.

Miss Edith Davies of Koum Kapou is slowly gaining in strength, but will not be able to return for some time to her work here. After another month in the British Isles she sails for Australia for the winter.

Rev. A. C. Ryan and family were detained in quarantine at Karaman on their way from Talas to Constantinople, and are expected here this evening.

Miss Louise B. Wallace, Ph. D., has arrived from America as Professor of Biology in the American College for Girls.

Miss McCallum left Constantinople yesterday, and Miss Pohl today, returning to the Collegiate Institute at Smyrna.

Mrs. E. D. Marden, Miss Barker, Miss Morley, Miss Curtis and Miss Fowle arrived from Marsovan Sept. 2nd.

Recent letters from Rev. Marcellus Bowen, D.D., report his decision to make a visit to America, with Mrs. Bowen, before returning to this city.

Miss Ida W. Prime has returned to Scutari after a year's vacation in America. Miss Nora Lambert, of Hadjin, has arrived here on her return from a similar vacation.

Among those returning within the past few days from summer trips abroad are: Miss Dodd, Miss Hathaway, Miss Miller, Miss Burns, Miss Sutton, Dr. and Mrs. Murray, Mrs. C. T. Riggs, Dr. and Mrs. Manning, Dr. and Mrs. Dewing, Prof. Huntington, Prof. Gibbons. Miss Caldwell and Miss Noyes have also passed through, returning to Marsovan.

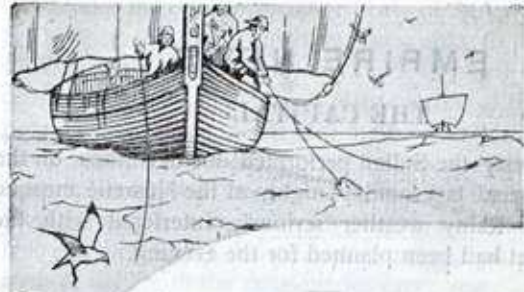
### OTHER LANDS.

Vermont failed to elect a governor last week, no candidate receiving a majority. The latest estimate of the votes is: Republican, 26,100; Democratic, 20,100; Progressive, 15,550. This result is regarded as forecasting a Democratic victory over the whole country in November.

The funeral of the late Japanese Emperor takes place tomorrow. Secretary of State P. C. Knox is the special representative sent by President Taft.

The 40,000th issue of the London *Times* was that of yesterday, Sept. 10th.

The French troops sent against the Moroccan pretender, El Hiba, entered Marrakesh Sept. 7th and rescued the French imprisoned there. El Hiba fled.



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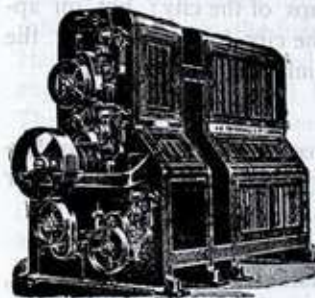


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