

The Orient.

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EARTHQUAKES BRING DISASTER.

Last Friday, at 3:25 a.m., there occurred an earthquake shock that for severity and destructive results as well as for its wide extent has seldom if ever been paralleled in the region devastated. The centre of the disturbance appears to have been around Sharkey and Myriophyton, between Rodosto and the Dardanelles; but the shock was so distinct as to cause uneasiness at Sofia, Bulgaria, and Aidin, near Smyrna, — nearly five hundred miles apart. In many places fire added to the horror and completed the destruction. The towns of Sharkey (Peristasis), Myriophyton, Ganos, Hora and Melio suffered perhaps the most severely, and in these five, over a thousand persons perished, and only a handful of houses in each remain habitable, at least nine-tenths having been destroyed. In many places springs of hot water appeared where the ground cracked open. The town of Dardanelles, or Kalé-i-Sultanié, was severely shaken, and most of the foreign consulates injured, and Miss Calvert's home wrecked, but only five are reported killed. Gallipoli was far more stricken, some 300 houses being shattered. The number of dead and injured has not yet been ascertained. Rodosto suffered much less, and there was there no loss of life, only two persons being injured. Mt. Athos was badly shaken, but reports thence are meagre still. Practically all the towns between Adrianople and the Sea of Marmora were badly shaken. In Adrianople itself, many minarets were thrown down, and walls cracked. Malgara was practically destroyed, by earthquake and fire. Madytos, Scholarion, Kastambolou, Loupida, Kerasia, Heraklitsa, Platanos, Avdimion, and other villages were nearly wiped out. In Chorlou, some 167 houses were burned. On the south side of the Marmora, Artaki (Erdék) suffered severely, and the island of Marmora was badly shaken. Brousa, Moudania, Gemleik, Karasi, Kirmasti and other towns were shaken, but the injury was confined to cracked walls and falling chimneys. The shock in Smyrna was the most violent felt in a long time, but no damage is recorded. Philippopolis and Sophia also felt the tremor, and Mitylene and Lemnos suffered minor injuries.

In Constantinople itself, little serious damage was done, save that one or two persons were killed by falling walls. The mosque on the Bosphorus at Ortakeuy had its front wall badly cracked; and the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Public Instruction, the Seraskerat Tower and other buildings suffered likewise. A piece of the old land walls by the Adrianople Gate fell. Most of this damage was done by the shock on Friday morning, and many families took to the

open air. Still more followed them on Saturday, when there were four more shocks, at 11:20 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., but all much weaker.

Steps were immediately taken to send aid of all sorts to the stricken region from the capital. The admiralty sent the torpedo-boat *Basra* with tents and provisions to Sharkey and Myriophyton, and it brought back some 30 injured for hospital treatment. The Greek residents from these towns who are in business in Constantinople fitted out two steamers with provisions, medicines, etc., and these likewise brought back many sufferers. The Greek philanthropic institutions, the Patriarchate, the British hospital, and other bodies also sent aid in specially chartered steamers, and the Greek hospital at Yedi-Koulé opened its doors free to all the victims. The Mixed Council of the Greek Patriarchate has appropriated Lt. 300 and the Ottoman Government Lt. 3,000 for relief. Doctors, nurses and medicines have been sent to several of the devastated towns, but much more remains to be done. By far the largest part of the stricken communities was Greek, though not a few Turks, Jews and others are among the dead or the destitute. It is a time when racial and religious lines will be obliterated and all join in relieving the appalling suffering. The Constantinople Chapter of the American Red Cross has offered and sent the U. S. S. *Scorpion* to the points of greatest need, with Dr. W. M. Post of Konia on board, and medical and surgical supplies for first aid.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Rumors of peace negotiations being carried on by the shores of Lake Geneva are denied in official quarters, and, though persistent, show no practical result. But the Italians have been very quiet, ever since the last bombardment of Hodeida, on the Red Sea. A spirited attack by Arabs on the fortifications at Zuara was repulsed by the Italians, who, however, have been unable to advance. In the Aegean, the only event of interest has been the secession of Nikaria, an island not occupied by the Italians, where the inhabitants have deposed the Ottoman authorities and declared themselves independent, evidently with the hope of sharing the lot of the occupied islands at the close of the war.

In the north, the Albanian crisis is very much ameliorated, but three other disturbing factors have appeared. The bloody affray on the Montenegrin border, reported in our last issue, was on territory acknowledged by the last international agreement as belonging to Montenegro, but from which the Ottoman troops had never been withdrawn. For a time

things looked very serious there, but there is now good hope of a peaceful solution of the difficulty.

A most regrettable incident at Kotchana east of Üsküb, has resulted in straining Turco-Bulgarian relations almost to the breaking point. A dastardly bomb-outrage there by a Bulgarian band resulted in the death of eleven persons. The Turks, incensed at this, burst all bonds and, unrestrained by the civil authorities, gave themselves to the ruthless massacre of innocent Bulgarians in and around the town, till the total of victims reached 188. They were finally stopped by the military. Popular feeling in Bulgaria is roused to a high pitch, and war with Turkey is demanded. The Imperial government has sent a commission of inquiry to the spot, and it is hoped the guilty may be exemplarily punished.

The third element is the flight of Niazi Bey, the hero of Resne, to the mountains with a handful of followers. He appeals to the soldiers to rally once more about him and march again on Constantinople to rescue the country and the Constitution from the present Cabinet. But the power of the Committee of Union and Progress is not what it was, and thus far this bold step has met with very little response. Evidently the large part of the army in Macedonia is loyal to the Government, and Niazi Bey's endeavor is likely to prove abortive.

AINTAB HOSPITAL REPORT.

The Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital, which is connected with Central Turkey College, has just issued its report for the college year, Sept. 10, 1911, to June 10, 1912. The staff consists of Drs. Shepard, Hamilton, Bezjian, Chamichjian and Kavafian, and Miss Bewer as head nurse and Superintendent. The generous assistance of Miss Ida Verrill and Miss Ashe is acknowledged. There have also been six native women nurses, a dispenser and assistant, a chaplain, and other workers. The atmosphere of the Hospital, thanks to the devoted, joyful and enthusiastic cooperation of all, has been one of Christian love, hope and good cheer. The report notes with gratitude the appointment of Dr. Knight as a missionary of the American Board, to be an associate in this work. It is hoped to open a Nurses' Training School in the Autumn. Some of the needs of the hospital are: Three additional wards of fifteen beds each for medical cases, tuberculosis cases, and women; an isolation ward; a modern operating room; a heating plant; electrical and X-ray apparatus; a bacteriological laboratory. In spite of these lacks, the amount of work and the degree of success attained are surprising. In 1911-1912, 5492 out-patients received 54,298 treatments, and more than 20,000 prescriptions were filled at the pharmacy; 394 in-patients were received, from 300 different places, of whom 195 were Armenians, 133 Turks, 25 Kourds, 14 Greeks and 12 Jews; 656 important surgical operations were performed, and there were only fifteen deaths.

An earnest effort is made to reach with spiritual truth as many as possible of the multitude coming to the hospital. Services are held for the waiting patients before each clinic; and daily, morning and evening, in the wards. On Sundays

there is a preaching service in the men's ward. The chaplain, Ghevont Eff. Der Yeghisheyan, has been tireless in his efforts to help patients individually, and many of the Moslem patients have testified to their appreciation. He is enthusiastic over the work, and reports that the opportunities are boundless for reaching men of all classes and creeds. Such seed-sowing is certain to bring its fruitage in due season.

WHEN IS THE DEAD-LINE REACHED?

Rev. J. K. Greene, D.D., spoke on June 9th at Denver, Colo., in Dr. F. T. Bayley's church, on Turkey; and an auditor writes thus of him in *The Pacific*: "His hair is 'white as the driven snow,' and his form is slightly bent with the weight of years, but his voice is strong and his mind is clear, and he seems good for some years of service yet. He is one of the men who evidently cannot be stopped by any 'dead line in the ministry,'— he just steps over it and forges ahead."

Dr. Greene was on his way westward; and his itinerary in California included six addresses in Los Angeles, two in Pasadena, two in Fresno, one of these in Armenian and the other to more than 4,000 Christian Endeavorers in State convention; and also in Pomona city, Pomona College, Riverside, Saratoga, San José, Los Gatos, Berkeley, Alameda and Oakland. In August Dr. Greene goes to Portland, Tacoma, Seattle and Spokane; and thence to Helena, Billings, Red Lodge, Fargo, St. Paul, Chicago and Oberlin. He writes of his joy in meeting members of the Parry and Seager families of Bebek, also Rev. Lyman Bartlett and Miss Nellie Bartlett, and other missionary friends; and of the good times he had among the 6,000 Armenians of Fresno.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN THE CAUCASUS.

The numerous friends, who have been saddened by the closing and sealing of the church and school doors of the Greek Protestant Community of Azanta, Russia, will be glad to learn that their prayers and efforts have been rewarded.

For three months, under the orders of officials in Sochoum, Mr. Anastas Lazarides and his little flock have been prevented from holding services. But when the recent order, secured through the Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance in St. Petersburg, came to Sochoum, — instructing the officials that such congregations should be permitted to enjoy religious liberty, — a Russian Baptist Pastor, Rev. Cyril Botius, at the time visiting in Sochoum, started at night with the glad tidings. After a carriage ride of three hours and a walk through the dark woods of another three hours he aroused the preacher, and with him rang out, in the night, the glad notes of the bell.

The villagers, fearing fire, sprang from their beds and rushed to the scene in their night clothes, to be greeted with, and to join in, Luther's grand old hymn, "A mighty fortress is our God," and to hear the proclamation and to join in a service of prayer and thanksgiving.

Trebizond, July 29, 1912. L. S. C.

ANNUAL MEETING, CENTRAL TURKEY MISSION

ABSTRACT OF MINUTES.

(Concluded.)

The advisability of developing the Ourfa Industries by establishing there an Industrial High School was referred to Aintab Station for careful consideration. It was clearly the opinion of the Mission that the extensive Women's Industries so carefully and skilfully developed by Miss Shattuck ought not to pass out of the hands of the Mission. On the contrary steps ought to be taken to strengthen the enterprise, maintaining the high ideals of efficiency and character marking its founder. Much might be said of the reports and discussions concerning the wider field of the Mission and the necessity of a determined forward movement and of bringing every present enterprise into complete harmony with our dominant desire and purpose. The preliminary step of more thorough investigation of our field from strategic points of view is imperative, and the hope is that there may be some progress in that respect during the coming year.

There is great need in the Mission for additional buildings. Aintab needs another missionary residence, likewise Ourfa. Marash Central Turkey Girls' College needs a Preparatory Department building and a Music Hall. Adana Seminary is in need of purchasing a new site outside the city and must have the funds for a new building. Aintab Seminary has more pupils than it can accommodate and is in dire need of another recitation hall. The Ourfa Girls' High School has long been asking for a suitable building. These needs in themselves are staggering, the estimates totaling about \$26,000, but the needs of the churches are proportionally greater. The revised list of places in need of church buildings throughout the Mission totals \$31,196. It is difficult for any church to make progress unless it possesses a suitable church building. Some of the churches call for funds to erect buildings destroyed in 1909, others have outgrown meager quarters, others can no longer worship in buildings falling to pieces. The Mission calls very urgently for the funds to meet these needs.

Many points with reference to the Supply of the Field were encouraging. Rev. and Mrs. Woodley, who will arrive in October, D. V., were designated to Marash for work in connection with the Theological Seminary. Miss Towner was designated to Adana in connection with the Girls' Seminary. Miss Powers was invited to come to reside in Adana. The salary for two nurses needed, the one at Aintab, the other at Hadjin, has been secured but the candidates are wanting. Mrs. Rogers was asked to assist in the work of St. Paul's Institute as she may be able, and an urgent call was made to secure a tutor in the place of Mr. Candy who was compelled to withdraw on account of health reasons. Mr. Lyman will spend the year at Marash in the study of Turkish. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner will spend the winter at Adana. The Board was asked to make it possible for the Misses Verrill to undertake work at Ourfa. Three kindergartners were asked for, also a superintendent for the proposed Women's Bible Train-

ing School, and five ladies for work in connection with various educational institutions. The Mission greeted joyfully the news of the appointment of Dr. Knight as an assistant to Dr. Shepard, even though his coming is to be delayed a year. Kessab is still unprovided for, the Mission having voted to place there a missionary family, and other needs press themselves urgently in view of the wider field. The Board was requested to authorize the return of Dr. and Mrs. W.N. Chambers and of Miss I. M. Blake. Miss H. C. Norton expects to return to Aintab in September.

Letters written on behalf of the mission to the following societies and individuals were accepted: The Bible Lands Missions Aid Society, the American Tract Society, the American Bible Society, the Religious Tract Society, the Rooms, Orphanage patrons, a letter of sympathy to Mrs. Bülbülian, letters to the missionaries recently appointed who have not yet reached the field, the W. B. M. I., and Cesarea Station.

The secretary was instructed to write a letter expressing to Mr. E. O. Jacob our appreciation of his work for young men.

The plans of Central Turkey College with reference to the development of secondary schools throughout the Mission were endorsed and called to the attention of the Prudential Committee with the request that they help to extend them.

Mr. Woodley was elected preacher for 1913, with Mr. Martin as alternate.

The meeting went on record as earnestly desiring the carrying out of the plans for the All-Turkey Conference even though it be of necessity somewhat delayed.

Aintab and Marash stations were authorized to employ native evangelists during the coming year. The great service of Mr. Bülbülian was very vividly in mind as this vote was taken, his work having been the equivalent of that of a touring missionary in Aintab station. His death seems a great loss. A cloud hung over the early meetings of the Conference because of the severe illness with cholera of Mr. Topalian, the touring evangelist of Adana and Hadjin stations. His condition improved but grave doubts as to his final recovery threaten his friends. The removal of these most useful men just at this time will only be understood at a distant day.

The estimates for 1913, as prepared by the Finance Committee, were approved.

One of the greatest inspirations of our annual gathering is the earnestness and common sense and evangelical fervor displayed by our native brethren in the meetings of the Conference. This year the discussions of the Conference, a purely advisory body, centered around four great topics, the spiritual condition of the churches and how to promote growth, the problem of securing additions to the church from among young men especially, the promotion of the home missionary spirit and program, and the future of Protestantism in Turkey. On the latter point there was unanimity as to the special service to which God has called the Protestant Churches of Turkey and the necessity for abiding faithful.

As the friends scattered in four directions on July 4th it was with happy hearts and renewed spirits and thankfulness to God for the inspiration and vision of the fortnight of strenuous meetings.

FRED FIELD GOODSSELL
Secretary, C. T. M.

REV. SAMUEL JESSUP, D.D.

The Syria Mission are united in loving memory of their revered veteran, Dr. Samuel Jessup, who was "Uncle Sam" to a much larger circle than his own group of nephews and nieces.

He was born Dec. 21, 1833, at Montrose, Pa., son of William and Amanda Jessup, and grew up in a large family among whom was his brother Henry Harris, later his distinguished fellow-missionary in Syria. Samuel studied at Yale, 1856-8, and took his M. A. in 1863. He prepared for the Ministry in Union Theological Seminary, New York, graduating in 1861.

In Seminary, a close friendship was formed with George E. Post, who later joined him on the Syrian Mission field, and for forty-six years they were in closest sympathy, in kindred work in that land.

After their ordination to the Presbyterian Ministry in 1861, both friends became chaplains in the U. S. Army. Mr. Samuel Jessup's service was in the 6th Pa. Reserve Corps. In 1862, he left the army, married Miss Annie E. Jay of Belvidere, N. J., and together they sailed for the Mission service in Syria, where his brother Henry was already settled. Mr. and Mrs. Jessup were the first missionaries to go to Syria by steam-ship.

Mr. Jessup was early appointed to Tripoli and he and his wife settled in a Syrian house and applied themselves to the study of Arabic. A year later, they hospitably received into their home Mr. Jessup's old friend George Post, M.D., and his bride and gave them their first winter of initiation into the Arabic life and language. The teacher of all four young missionaries was Elias Saâdeh, for many years a devoted preacher in Syria and afterwards to the Syrians in New York.

Mr. Jessup's principal work for years was itinerating among the widely scattered stations of the Tripoli field, preaching in the various churches and superintending the schools, whose scholars were objects of personal concern to his fatherly heart.

One time he was waylaid by a party of Moslems. Their leader, an elderly man, seized the rein of Mr. Jessup's horse and said he would not allow the rider to proceed till he had granted his demands. "What do you wish?" asked Mr. Jessup. "Some years ago," said the Moslem, "you opened a school in my village. My son was taught there, his heart was filled with Christian teaching and he became a new man. Now your school has been closed. I will not let you pass till you promise to send us another teacher so that my youngest son may likewise be taught the ways of righteous living."

By 1882, Mr. Jessup's health was so far undermined by the fatigues of constant horse-back travel and unsuitable food picked up in distant villages, that he was assigned to the more sedentary work of Mission treasurer in Beirut. A delegation of leading Moslems, Greeks and Maronites of Tripoli arose in protest. "If Mr. Jessup's health will not allow him to travel," they said, "let him simply live here among us that we may come and look at him. The goodness of his face refreshes our souls and brings us near to God."

Nevertheless Mr. Jessup was moved to Beirut. In addition to the treasurership, he edited the Arabic religious weekly.

In 1890 he received the degree of D. D. from Princeton.

In 1895 he met his great bereavement in the sudden death by apoplexy of his wife. Dear "Aunt Annie," as she was known to all, was rarely beloved and is cherished still in the hearts of all who knew her. She left two children, Stuart, who became later principal of Gerard Institute, Sidon, and Fannie, now Mrs. James R. Swain of America.

Soon after Mrs. Jessup's death, Dr. Jessup moved to Sidon, taking up the principalship of Gerard Institute, and under the urgency of Dr. Brown of the Board, throwing himself once more into the evangelistic service among the villages, reckless of effects upon his own health. Till the end of his life, he continued this Ministry, though the inevitable price of his journeys was racking headaches, fever, prostration, or spasms of agonizing pain. As time went on, he became more filled with fervor to carry the good news of Christ's salvation to the Moslems. In all his journeys he would fill his saddle-bags with Testaments and distribute them in the way-side khans to the Moslem wayfarers, conversing with eager interested groups.

The last years of Dr. Jessup's life were spent in the home of his son Stuart in Sidon and he was brightened by the grand-children about him. All young children appealed to him and would run to him when he appeared. After his death, his pocket was found full of candies, which he always carried for the little ones.

His last illness was pneumonia, which he bore with characteristic brightness and cheerfulness.

He passed peacefully away July 15th, 1912, and his body was brought to Beirut at night and laid near that of his brother in the historic Mission cemetery. He will be remembered not only by the Mission circle, but by Syrians, travelers, and members of the diplomatic service, as the ideal missionary, self-effacing, full of zeal, in season and out of season, carrying a benediction in his face.

In his calm assurance of the divine presence, he seemed among us like the aged apostle John, imparting to those of younger experience, memories of the Christ whom he served, and pointing forward with bright certainty to the Lamb of the Apocalypse, whom he would shortly see face to face.

A. P. C.

Rev. Paul Erdman of Zahleh, in a note from his bedside, says:— His mind was evidently quite clear and his faith calm and strong as always. He said— "My best Friend, who has always been so good to me, knows what is best for me now, and I leave it to Him."

Rev. F. E. Hoskins D. D., of Beirut, says "It is certainly a very sad thing to have to lose this splendid character, and most lovable personage. Our ranks are thinned and we are all poorer by this great loss."

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BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE.

AUGUST 14, 1912.

EDITORIAL.

Two more veterans crowned, — Dr. Jessup and Dr. John. Two more vacancies to be filled on the field. Two more heroic lives to inspire the rest of us through the years. Two more living stones placed in the ramparts of the City of God. "And their works do follow them."

In the presence of a disaster so widespread in its appalling effects as the earthquake of last Friday, all considerations but those of common humanity are naturally forgotten. The energy of the Government, in sending to the scene of worst disaster a torpedo-boat with bread and tents and a steamer with 1,000 sacks of flour, is gratefully noted. The Greek Benevolent Establishments also sent prompt aid by special steamer, with doctors and surgeons and tents, medicines and food. The Greek hospital at the Seven Towers is receiving *gratis* all wounded from the ruined towns; and the Ecumenical Patriarch has taken steps to secure further help. Natives of Myriophyton and other stricken places have sent off two steamerloads of help. For all this we are grateful. There are probably at least ten thousand persons left homeless and dependent on charity; and these will require more aid than all these agencies can command. Such a catastrophe impresses all with the utter dependence of man on a power stronger than his might. Would that the hearts of the survivors and all their friends might be turned to the deeper and more lasting spiritual things of life.

Why is it that the city approves of the decision of the Government to continue the operation of martial law till Ramazan and Bairam shall have passed? The experience of many years seems to prove that men's passions are put to a severe test by a month of fasting, and that something more than mere individual self-control is needed to guard against excesses. Shall we say that this is the fault of the religion of Islam? Should we take this ground, our Moslem friends could retaliate with telling force by calling attention to the sad fact that a Moslem government has to keep Moslem soldiers in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem at

Easter-time, to prevent the various sects of Christians from killing one another. Evidently a fast of even forty days does not tend to sanctify the fasters. No, to our shame be it said that among the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus are found those who do not show His spirit. Our house is so largely made of glass that we may not throw stones. The fasts of Ramazan and Lent, and the feasts of Bairam and Easter, have many things in common; and the saddest is, that they have too generally been degraded into mere form, utterly devoid of the true significance of religious functions. The only cure for the malady is the love of God, as taught in the example and words of Christ. Where love is lacking, — a love that takes in all races, — God is lacking, for God is love. And whether it be the fanatical zeal for the reputed miraculous fire from the Holy Sepulchre, or the like fanatical zeal for the forms of the Moslem faith, whatever makes it necessary to have recourse to military force to prevent disorders and bloodshed, is a disgrace, unworthy of any believer in the God of peace and concord. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace."

One of the great lessons of recent events in this land is the absolute need, wherever constitutional government is anything more than a name, of two strong parties. Some countries may be able to stand more than two. But where a powerful Opposition is lacking, there is great danger that the party in undisputed power may abuse its privileges, and compass its own destruction. The Unionists were blind to their own interests when, alarmed by the growing power of the Ententists, they wrung from them in the spring what looked like an overwhelming victory. It was the victors who were overwhelmed. In order to secure a working majority in the Chamber, the Unionists conducted the elections with such egregious frauds as to alienate the masses. Many specific instances have come to our ears where persons entitled to the franchise were prevented from voting because they refused to promise in advance to vote the Unionist ticket. Others were imprisoned on one pretext or another, while in other cases there are grave suspicions that the announced results bore no relation whatever to the number of the ballots. Before the closing of the Chamber, Unionist deputies acknowledged that there had been irregularities in perhaps one-fifth of the districts. It might have been more accurate had they stated that there had been *no* irregularities in that one-fifth. The haughty spirit has gone before the fall. A Chamber elected thus irregularly might have been expected to have acted irregularly. This they did. They denied the right of the Senate to interpret the Constitution, — a right given the Senate by the Constitution. They appointed the session of Monday for 1 p. m., but met instead at 10 a. m. and scuttled to cover by 11:30 a. m. Their President refused to transmit to them the message of His Majesty, sent through the Grand Vizier. They met and transacted business after they knew that the Imperial decree closing the Chamber had been signed. They passed a vote of censure on the Cabinet without allowing the Cabinet or any member thereof a chance to be present or say a word, —

and this but six days after they had given the same Cabinet a vote of confidence. This Chamber has now legally and constitutionally passed out of existence. There has been no *coup d'état*. True, order is being maintained with the aid of martial law, but this is a temporary necessity. New elections have been decreed, and the Government is putting forth every energy to have these carried on with the utmost fairness. We sincerely trust that to the next Chamber there may be elected the very ablest possible Deputies, and that both Unionists and Ententists may be well represented. The balancing of parties is a healthy check on unwise legislation, and an incentive to really constructive effort.

A CHINESE CHRISTIAN PATRIOT.

Those who had the pleasure of forming the acquaintance, at the World's Student Christian Federation Conference in Constantinople last year, of Mr. Chengting Wang, will be specially interested in the following testimony of him by an American in Shanghai:—

"He had only been out here a few months, after having graduated from Yale with honors and acting as Y. M. C. A. Secretary for Chinese students in America, when the revolution broke out. Able men were needed to head the Red Cross movement, so he went to Hankow and was very helpful in getting the work properly organized. A little later he joined the staff of Gen. Li Yuan-hung, and soon became his most trusted advisor. There he received a salary of only \$20 (Mex.) per month,— the salary paid to all officials under Gen. Li. With the establishment of the capital at Nanking under Dr. Sun Yat-sen, he was appointed senator from Chekiang, and later was secretary of the Commission which was sent north to inaugurate Yuan Shih-kai. While on this mission the Peking troops mutinied and these commissioners escaped with no more than their lives and the native clothes which they had donned in order to disguise themselves. In the Senate he was a great peacemaker, and had it not been for him, many of the differences and difficulties which arose would probably have resulted disastrously for the whole republican movement. At the same time he was working strenuously for the cause of the Y. M. C. A., writing articles, speaking, and securing a national grant of 3½ acres of land in the heart of Nanking for a new association building and 20 acres, within the city walls, for a Y. M. C. A. athletic field, besides large subscriptions from the President and Premier and other prominent men. Just now he is a member of Yuan Shih-kai's cabinet, as acting Minister of Commerce and Industry, but he desires all to understand that he is also secretary of the General Committee of the Y. M. C. A. When asked if that would not endanger his position with the Government, he at once said he would sooner resign than give up his connection with the Y. M. C. A. He hopes, moreover, that it will not be long before he can resign and give his entire time to the General Committee."

THE AMERICA-LEVANT LINE.

The much needed direct steamship line between the Levant and the United States has at last been definitely established. The MacAndrews & Forbes Co., 111 Fifth Ave., New York, has decided to undertake this service and the first two steamers, *River Meander* and *River Hermes*, of 7,500 and 6,500 tons respectively, will be delivered in about two weeks' time. These two steamers, illustrations of which will appear in the September issue of *Levant Trade Review*, are fitted with electric lighting and other modern equipments and have accommodation for about a dozen first class passengers on each vessel. The line has been called the *America-Levant Line* and will be operated for the time being under the British flag. The Eastern headquarters are at Smyrna. (T. Bowen Rees & Co.) As the trade increases additional steamers will be bought and it is proposed to have an additional service of feeders, i. e., smaller vessels covering the smaller ports and serving the transatlantic boats. It is to be hoped that the service may be extended at a very early date so as to include Odessa, Batoum, Bourgas, Salonica, Beirut and others centers of trade as well as Alexandria, should the latter port not be included at the start as was originally intended.

The MacAndrews and Forbes Company are large importers of Turkish and Caucasian licorice root and maintain offices, depots, hydraulic presses, etc., at Baghdad, Alexandretta, Smyrna and Batoum. Being the oldest American concern operating in the Near East, they know well the markets at home and in the Levant, and they have ample means to carry their present enterprise through successfully.

The first steamers of the line will load at Smyrna for the United States and sail Sept. 30th for New York.

It would not be proper to conclude this article without recording the Chamber's appreciation of the efforts made in this connection by the American Consul General in Constantinople, Hon G. Bie Ravndal, to whose initiative and perseverance the success of the movement is largely due.

— *Levant Trade Review.*

AS TO THE CLOSING OF THE CHAMBER.

The Turkish daily *Iktiham* says:—

The Cabinet has had the Chamber closed, and will now again call on the nation to proceed to new elections.

The decision of the Senate having received the Imperial sanction, has assumed the form of a law. This interpretation by the Senate may not suit the ideas of some. Such persons may discuss and criticise in a scientific way this interpretation. It is a point that may be discussed in accord with the personal views and opinions of the individual. But such varying opinions cannot affect the law. Everyone knows that interpretation by the Senate is a right accorded that body by the Constitution. The Senate is therefore acting on rights accorded to it by the Constitution; and if it interprets a chap-

ter or an article of that document according to its best judgment, this interpretation has to be accepted as legal. The Cabinet took this course of action so as to dissolve the Chamber. Consequently no one can accuse the government of having committed a *coup d'état* or of having acted unconstitutionally.

The conduct of the Chamber that has been dissolved, in not recognizing the right of the Senate to interpret the Constitution, and the vote of lack of confidence that it passed in the absence of the Cabinet, are not in conformity with either the provisions or the spirit of the Constitution. This attitude of the Chamber has greatly troubled the Sovereign, as he states in his *Hatti Humayoun*. The action of the Chamber yesterday cannot by any logic be considered legal. Even if the Chamber had been within its rights in not regarding itself as already dissolved, it had no right to pass a vote of lack of confidence in a government that was not present. With all the greater reason, having been dissolved it could not act in this fashion, according to the Constitution and the established customs.

The Sovereign, considering this utterly illegal attitude of the Chamber, says in his *Hatti Humayoun* :—

"Our Government enjoys Our absolute confidence, as well as the confidence and sympathy of Our whole nation ; and We expect Our Government, constituted in conformity to the statute law of the land, to continue its efforts for the maintenance of public safety and order."

Let us now express our own opinion of the speeches that were made in the Hall of Parliament. The state of feelings predominating in the hall was most whimsical. It was asserted that reaction had shown itself in this country, that the Constitution had been trampled under foot, that the sovereign rights of the nation had been suppressed. But we see naught of this in the actions of the government ; and we appreciate its efforts to maintain the observance of the law, and regard the criticisms that were made as very harmful to our present condition.

LEVANT TRADE REVIEW.

The first number of Volume 2 of this journal of the American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant has just appeared. The *Review* is now under the editorial care of Dr. Hubert Banning, and is fully up to the standard already set, and with a larger number of illustrations. These include four from Egypt, two each from Athens and Palestine, three from Asia Minor and one each from Crete and New York. Among the longer articles, that by Dr. George E. White of Marsovan on "Agriculture in the Region of Merzifoun" is of special interest to our readers. Mr. Frederick Wirth, Jr., contributes a lucid article on "International Law in its Relation to Interstate Commerce." There are descriptive trade articles from Servia, Bulgaria, Crete, Greece, Egypt, Albania, Aleppo, Konia, Salonica and the Dardanelles ; and reports from the branches of the Chamber at Cairo, Smyrna, Beirût and Salonica. The interesting state-

ment regarding direct steamship communication with America is given elsewhere in our columns. Membership in the American Chamber of Commerce has increased 25 % since the last number of the *Trade Review* was issued, and now totals 556, — a flattering number for an organization only seventeen months old.

EMPIRE NEWS.

THE CAPITAL.

The lawn tennis championship of the Ottoman Empire in singles was retained on Aug. 7th at Therapia by Mr. Comber, of Moda, who defeated Mr. E. Seager 3-6, 3-6, 12-10, 7-5, 6-2.

Last Sunday, 445 young men were graduated from the military academy at Pancaldi, of whom five were Armenians and one a Bulgarian. Of these 375 take posts as officers in the infantry, 30 in the cavalry and 40 in the light artillery. His Majesty the Sultan and the Heir-apparent were present, and seventeen of the young officers received each a gold watch and chair from the Sovereign as prizes.

The *Tanin*, organ of the Committee of Union and Progress, has voluntarily suspended publication.

The fast of Ramazan begins today.

THE PROVINCES.

The Red Cross mission sent by the Constantinople Chapter of the American Red Cross, for the relief of the earthquake sufferers, leaves to day for the region of Sharkeuy, Hora and Myriophyton. We expect to give our readers next week an account of their activities and the exigencies of the case.

The receipts of the Ottoman railway lines for the first six months of 1912 show an increase over those of the first half of 1911 of more than 6,000,000 francs. The lines reported represent 4,735 kilometres of road, and the total of receipts from Jan. 1st to June 30th 1912 was 30,773,647 francs.

The encounters on the Montenegrin frontier have led to the resignation of Alfred Rustem Bey, Turkish Minister at Cettigné. A commission appointed by the two governments is making investigations at the scene of conflict.

Djavid Bey, Talaat Bey, Eyoub Sabri Bey, Rahmi Bey, Neshat Bey, and other influential members of the Committee of Union and Progress have gone to Salonica to deliberate on the situation.

A bomb exploded last Sunday in the Austrian Post Office at Salonica, slightly wounding two clerks and breaking a lot of glass. The perpetrators of this outrage are unknown.

NOTES.

Williams College has honored herself by granting the honorary degree of D.D. to Rev. Henry T. Perry of Sivas, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his graduation; and to Rev. William H. Sanders, one of the pioneers of the West Central African Mission and a brother of the late Rev. C. S. Sanders of Aintab and of Dr. J. E. Sanders of Clifton Springs, on the 35th anniversary of his graduation.

Willfred M. Post, M.D., and family reached Constantinople Aug. 7th on their return from America and Scotland to Konia.

Rev. and Mrs. S. Ralph Harlow were booked to sail yesterday from New York for Plymouth in the S.S. "Rotterdam," on their way to Smyrna, their station.

Edward P. Case, M.D., under appointment to the Eastern Turkey Mission, having earned his Turkish medical diploma with honor, left last Saturday to join Mrs. Case at Marsovan, where they will spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Dana K. Getchell and Miss Margaret White of Marsovan, and Miss Vina M. Sherman, on her way to Erzurum, arrived in Constantinople Aug. 12th. Dr. White of Marsovan met them here, having come two days earlier via Yozgat, Kur Shehir and Angora; and tomorrow they start back for Marsovan via Samsoun.

Dr. Bertram V. D. Post and family left on Monday evening for Samokov, Bulgaria, where they are to spend about a month.

OTHER LANDS.

The visit of M. Poincaré, the French Prime Minister, to St. Petersburg has been the occasion of much Russian enthusiasm and much speculation all over Europe.

The volcano of Stromboli is unusually active.

It is asserted that Servia and Bulgaria have entered on a treaty for mutual defense.

The Progressive party convention at Chicago has nominated Col. Roosevelt for President and Gov. Johnson of California for Vice-President.

A telegram from Hayti reports an explosion and consequent fire at the national palace at Port au Prince, with 400 victims, among the dead being Gen. Leconte, the President of the Haytian Republic.



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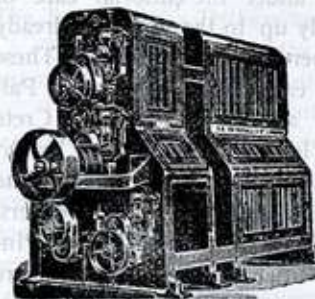


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