# Mlive Trees

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VOL. XXXV

FEBRUARY, 1921

No. 2

#### A MONTHLY MISSIONARY JOURNAL

Published by The Board of Foreign Missions of the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America in the interest of Mission Work

The present is the season of the year when the largest contribution for Foreign Missions are usually received. This year we will need all that friends of the work can possibly supply. No "drive" can be made, and we must take and use only what is sent, but we want all to know that funds are low and opportunities great, and we welcome your gifts this year as always.

#### Subscription Price = One Dollar a Pear

POSTAGE FREE TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

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#### OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Missionary Journal.

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE SYNOD OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA IN THE INTEREST OF ALL MISSION WORK, AT 215 BUCKINGHAM PLACE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNA. EDITOR.

McLEOD MILLIGAN PEARCE, D.D.

Address All Editorial Communications to

#### McLEOD M. PEARCE

215 Buckingham Place, Philadelphia, Pa.

Send All Subscriptions to

#### MRS. T. H. W. GILL 3400 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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## OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Journal devoted to Missionary Work in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

VOL. XXXV

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No. 2

#### A CALL FOR MISSIONARIES.

The Board of Foreign Missions renews its call for two young men, college graduates, to go to Cyprus next summer. They are needed to teach in the Academy. For more than a year we have been appealing for these workers. Mr. Ernest V. Tweed will soon finish the second year of his three-year term, and it was agreed with the Rev. Alvin W. Smith, when he went to Cyprus, that he would have the privilege of returning for more schooling at the close of his third year. Thus the only men we have in Cyprus are about to finish their second year, and after another year we shall be without successors to them unless we can get the two young men we are now asking for. By all means the new workers should be there one year before these men leave for America. Young men, seeing in this situation the call of Christ, should begin correspondence with Board at once.

Similarly the need for two nurses, one for Latakia immediately, and one for Mersina to go out when Dr. John Peoples shall return, is imperative. This call was authorized by Synod several years ago, and, except for the War, these nurses would have been sent long ere this. May we hear from consecrated young women, qualified for this work and desirous of entering this department of Christ's service.

FINDLEY M. WILSON,

Secretary. 2410 North Marshall street, Philadelphia, Penna.

#### A COLD DOUCHE FOR SPIRITISTS.

Hackney College—which, by the way, is deploring the continued absence of its Principal, Dr. Forsyth, through illness—opened its winter ses-

sion, as usual, with the Drew Lecture on Immortality. The lecturer was that remarkable young psycho-therapist, Dr. J. A. Hadfield, of Oxford. Dr. Hadfield, in the course of a telling argument, flatly denied that the spiritualistic hypothesis rested on any solid foundation whatsoever. By the law of parsimony in science we were bound to accept the simplest rather than the most elaborate explanation that fits a given fact, and the simplest hypothesis that fits the fact of spiritualistic communications is not the presence of the departed, but suggestion pure and simple. He himself had induced three of his patients to believe under suggestion (not hypnotism) that they had experienced levitations even more remarkable than those of the famous medium D. D. Home, and that they had seen a certain chaplain who was present at the time raised from the earth in a similar way. He claimed, in fact, to have produced by means of suggestion all the most striking phenomena of spiritualism; patients of his had believed themselves to be communicating with the spirits of the dead in precisely the same way as they would in a spiritualistic seance. Either suggestion or telepathy were sufficient to explain any of these phenomena. He warned his. hearers, however, that much that passes under the name of telepathy is simply hyper-sensitiveness of hearing. Dr. Hadfield is a firm believer in immortality and arrives at his conviction largely by way of psychology. "We are rising," he avers, "out of the obsessions of science, and realizing that there are impulses in the soul under its present conditions that nothing but

"To hereafter can satisfy." There is little doubt that the Christian neurologist is the most formidable oppo-

nent spiritualism has so far had to contend with—far more formidable than the meterialistic scientist.—*The Homilectic Review*.

#### A LARGE FACTOR IN SUCCESS.

We, as missionaries, need to have behind us a constituency who will support us abroad. I do not mean friends who will support us financially, though that is useful enough, no doubt. But there is something much more important. I thank God that without realizing the full importance of it. I was led to do something in this way before I went out to Arabia. We are prone to look on ourselves as doing the work of the Church in the foreign field but that is not the way that God looks at it. If we stand alone out there, we will accomplish little, but if we are one of twenty, one out there, and the other nineteen working with us, at home, God will accomplish a great deal through us.

In Arabia, after a long effort, we succeeded in getting permission to begin work in Kateef, a town on the mainland. This was an advance step of great importance. I took my instruments and medicines and assistants, expecting to be able to do anything I could do anywhere. We were received enthusiastically and the first day we had over two hundred pa-We tended all of them we tients. could, and the others came back the next day, with two hundred new ones. Things went on in this way for four or five days. We were so popular that it was uncomfortable. We had visions of a permanent establishment in Kateef, and in two of the neighboring towns as well, thus making a circuit covering the whole district.

Then a change came. I was invited to come and interview the chief.

"What is this that I understand you do in the mornings before you treat the sick people?"

"Before we treat the sick people," I replied, "why, before we treat the sick people, we have prayers."

"Do you have them in Arabic?"

'Yes.'

"You can't do that in this town,"

replied the chief.

"Well," I said, "we always have prayers before we begin work. We consider that we heal no one. It is God who heals, and we always have prayer before the work begins. No one is compelled to come. The doctor does not know or want to know who comes. Those that come and those that stay away are treated alike. But we could not begin the work without prayer."

"No," said the chief, with a snap in his voice, "You can't have them in this

town."

"In that case," I said, "we will have to give the work up, for we do not desire to carry it on without prayer."

"Very well," was the reply, "give it up then. You can leave here to-

morrow."

situation looked hopeless. Kateef was apparently slipping out of our hands, and there was not a thing we could do to hold it. I thought of Luther's prayer. "Lord, Thou art imperiled with us." That afternoon, a little after I returned from the reception room of the chief, a man came for treatment. I told him that I was unable to do anything for him because the work had been officially closed down, but if he would get the chief's permission, I would be glad to do what was necessary for him. He left to seek the chief and was followed by another, and he by twenty or more who went off for special permission that afternoon. The boat was to leave the next day, and we packed up to go in it. But in the morning, Mahmoud, the Grand Vizier of the chief, came to see me.

"You did not understand," he began, "The chief wants you to remain, but

to work without the prayers."
"Yes." I said, "we understood well

enough, but we do not feel that we can do that."

"Well," said Mahmoud, "don't you

think you could pray in your upstairs room and not come down till you were done? Would not that do as well?"

"No," I said, "I do not think it

would be the same."

"Well, anyhow," said he, "surely God knows you want to pray, and He will take into account the fact that the chief has forbidden it, so it will be all right."

"No," I said, "we do not feel that

it would be the same."

"Oh, well," said Mahmoud, "don't you understand, go ahead and have your prayers, and say nothing more about it."

So we stayed in Kateef, and had prayer before the clinics, and a day or two later, when I visited the chief, he gave me five cups of coffee in succession, to show the great esteem in which he held me, and everything went beautifully from that time on. If we had been driven out of that town, I suppose it would have been years before we could have returned. That battle was not won by the missionary in Kateef. It was the nineteen working at home that helped to change defeat into victory. missionaries have experiences like that, and often much more critical.-Paul Harrison, M. D., in The Missionary Review of the World.

#### AN INSPIRED MEMORY.

The facts of this story came to the writer from an Australian minister.

Some years ago there rode into a wild little township of Western Australia-in the region known as the "out-back"—a young minister. It was his first pastorate and the first attempt to represent the Christian Church in that neglected and sparsely populated district. The drinking saloon and gambling hall had been in long possession—the Church had arrived all too late upon the scene. By his plucky attacks however upon the population of the settlement the young sky pilot soon gathered together a band of the better sort of men. They

began to build a wooden church. Materials were not plentiful and a lot of the interior was composed of packing-case wood. When finished it was decidedly interesting to notice here and there upon the flooring such legends as "Hudson's soap," "Sunlight," etc. By accident or design the floor of the pulpit bore the words "Beware! Dynamite!"

Thus a healthy Christian work was begun. The cause, however, had one especial foe. He was a man of notorious reputation, a hard drinker, an inveterate gambler, and, unhappily, a man whose delight it was to lead the inexperienced and innocent into evil. This man declared publicly his opposition to the "preaching shop," and his contempt for all sacred things. "If the sky pilot comes to my shanty," he said, "I'll kick him out."

One memorable day this man discovered a spot upon his face that disquieted him. He turned into the one surgery that the little town held, to consult the doctor. Later on he came running out of it mad with rage and fear. Hurrying to the saloon he began to drink furiously. Presently he was telling everyone with oaths and curses that he'd got cancer of the face and had been given only a few weeks to live. Armed with whisky bottles and raving drunk he reeled home to his shanty to "drink himself"—so he proclaimed—"to death."

That day the sky pilot had taken a wide circuit of the district on horseback, preaching at various outlying homesteads. In the deepening dusk of evening he was riding slowly home, and his course led him past the little shack where the drunken atheist lived. He could not help but think of the man, though as yet he knew nothing of his plight. Suddenly, like a flash of lightning, memory lit up his mind with a scene from the past. He was seated in a large church in Melbourne. The huge congregation filled the building to overflowing. There was a movement in the choir and a man stood up to sing. In a magnificent baritone voice he sang that greatest of songs, Gounod's "There is a green hill far away." As with his mind's eve the minister looked upon the singer's face, he was startled to find himself looking at the very man who there that town was his implacable The singer and the atheist enemy. were the same man. The shock of the discovery caused him to jerk his horse's head violently round. He rode straight up to the shanty door and rapped sharply upon it with his riding crop. It was the face of a madman that looked out from the partly opened door. The eves of the drunkard fairly blazed with anger as they took in the fact that his visitor was the sky pilot. But before the oath was uttered, or any attempt at violence made, the young minister said quickly, "I don't want to upset you, mate, but I wanted to tell you that I once heard a man sing, in a church in Melbourne: 'There is a green hill far away,

Without a city wall, Where the dear Lord was crucified,

Who died to save us all.'

"You were that man, mate!" he continued.

The drunken fury died out of the man's face. "Come in," he said hoarsely; then later, "Yes! I was the man -God help me—I can't sing it now."

And there in that rough little shack the sky pilot had the supreme joy of leading that wretched soul, who had fallen so far from virtue and decency, back to him who is at last the only

refuge of the sinful soul.

Some weeks later the poor fellow died. But those weeks were far happier for him than many of the preceding years. When his body was laid to rest in the little God's Acre outside the town, nearly everybody was present, and after the minister had told the story of how God had inspired his memory they all joined in singing:

There is a green hill far away, Without a city wall, Where the dear Lord was crucified, Who died to save us all.

There was no other good enough To pay the price of sin; He only could unlock the gate Of heaven, and let us in.

O. dearly, dearly has he loved, And we must love him, too, And trust in his redeeming blood, And try his works to do. -By Rev. A. D. Belden, in Sunday School World.

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL WORK.

One of God's noblest ministers in a large city called his officials together in his study and there revealed the burden of his heart concerning the great lack of personal effort to save the lost, and how few were coming There were fifteen into the church. men present—bankers and business men and professional men of high standing. He told them of his conviction that the secret of the failure was in their not doing their duty and in giving bright examples for all the church membership in going personally to the unsaved and talking to them about their peril.

He asked them how many of those present were conscious of ever having led a soul to Christ. Only two out of the fifteen even thought they had. Conscience was aroused and tears emphasized the deep conviction. One of them, a banker, had four sons at home grown up to young manhood; not once had he spoken to them personally about their salvation. In silence he left the room; he hastened home, and before morning dawned he had taken each of them alone and told them of his deep interest in their souls. The next communion Sabbath all four of those sons stood up in their father's church and made confession of Christ, and were received into the church.

The morning after that eventful night in his life that man went to his office in the bank of which he was president. The first man who came to see him was not a Christian. He closed the door, and said, "I have something to

talk to you about. I am glad we are here alone. Do you know that I have been a Christian ever since we have known each other?" The man stood dazed before him, but replied, "Yes." "Do you know that I am now an elder in the Presbyterian Church?" Still more surprised, he replied again, "Yes."

"Have you not thought it strange that I never spoke to you about your relation to Christ?" "Yes, sir," said the man, "and I have been in your bank a hundred times and not only wondered why you did not say it, but waited for you to do so." So in that banker's room that morning another soul was given to Christ and became one of the brighest of his jewels.—
Incident told by Dr. Cortland Myers.

#### A TOOTHSOME ESKIMO BANQUET.

The feast had already begun when I arrived at Napsangoak's tent. The men were sitting in the open, behind some seal skins which were hung in front of the opening of the tent in order to keep the cold wind out. They were all dressed alike in blue fox and Polar bear furs, and each had a "pillaut," or butcher knife, in his hand. They cut into the carcass with these knives dripping with blood, and tore the raw meat with their strong, beautiful teeth. In the midst of this savage-looking entertainment, however, there was apparent the most genuine courtesy. The men often helped each other to what they considered the best part of the seal, and the host, selecting a huge piece of meat, handed it to me with the smile of a gourmand, saying: "I hope you will find it to your taste."

I took the meat and thanked him, but sat down at a little distance from the others, for I hoped in an unobserved moment to give the nauseous mess to the dogs. As usual, on such occasions they were standing around as closely as they dared come, greed-

ily watching their opportunity to snatch or catch a bit of the meat. Alas, my host anxious, I suppose, to see that I was happy and satisfied, kept his eyes on me! And when he saw that I was in no hurry to eat the meat, remarked kindly: "Yes, it smells so good it is truly a sin to eat it, but let it sink down into your stomach, anyhow—I will afterwards give you another piece to smell on!"—Christian Leden in World Outlook.

Our prayer should not be for a different kind of work, but for strength to do well that which is confided to us.

Darkness in the pathway of man's life is the shadow of God's Providence.—J. G. Whittier.

#### THE WISE SPENDTHRIFT

There is a spendthrift, who, though prodigal,

Is wise. Not he who goes from home astray

And wanders in far land in sinful way:

But he, who prodigal of self, like Paul Gives labor, wisdom, love, devotion, all

To bring mankind unto the better

He gives, though men love less, and even say

The unkind word. He gives, though others fall.

He gives and does not hold regretful hand

Upon his gift. He gives, he loves, he lifts.

He gives himself for souls, not land and gold.

He gives to God as sowers to the land

Give seed; and as wise men of old bought gifts,

Invests in that which fails not nor grows old.

-Schuyler E. Sears.

#### NEWS FROM THE FIELD

#### AND NOTES OF THE WORKERS

Edited by Mrs. Findley M. Wilson, 2410 N. Marshall Street Philadelphia, Penna.



ORPHANS WHO NEED OUR HELP.

## ORPHANS CARED FOR IN LATAKIA BY THE NEAR EAST RELIEF.

These little children were with our missionaries in Latakia last winter. In the early summer the little ones were sent to the Orphanage in Tripoli and the older girls sent out to work. The young woman at the extreme right. Miriam Heshoo, is the teacher who had them in charge. She is still in Latakia in charge of the boarding girls this year and is quite a mother to them. The girl holding the dog is Miss Edgar's maid at present. The picture of these little waifs makes its strong appeal to us. They are like thousands of others in this coutnry who must go hungry if we fail to pity and help.

#### SOME GUNAIMIA REFUGEES.

All of the people of Gunaimia, who had returned from the deportations and settled in their villages, were driven out in March last by Moslem bandits and have since been refugees in Latakia. For some time after their arrival they were given 4 piasters a day per person, and one day in the week a good meal was cooked for them. The picture shows some of them enjoying this food. Later many of them got work and their allowance was cut off excepting for children, the sick and women with infants. When they came every two persons was allowed a blanket and mat for sleeping on. Since winter came on some beds have been provided and more covering. They are all very anxious to get back to the village, so that they may plant their land, but the Government cannot assure them of safety yet. We must remember that the most of these people are the members of our Gunaimia congregation. A number of little children and two or three of the older persons have been taken home to God since they went to Latakia. They were no longer able to bear the trials and privations they have been suffer-

ing so long. These poor patient ones are our brethren and need our earnest prayers as well as our material aid. OLIVE TREES publishes these two pictures in the hope that they may visualize a part of the great need of those in the Near East and that hearts and hands may be opened in their behalf.



THEY GET ONE GOOD MEAL EACH DAY.

#### SYRIA.

Latakia, Syria. Extracts from letters of Miss Maggie B. Edgar. The first under date of October 27:

"Mr. Edgar and Cusees Awad are going out to Bhamra today to hold communion. It is the first trip for him to make since last winter. Affairs all through the country have been in such a condition that nobody dared to travel on any of the roads. There are some indications now that the Government is going to take things seriously and do something. I think they have not felt sure of their position heretofore."

On November 19 she writes: "Affairs are quieter here than they have been at any time since Spring, and Mr. Willson writes that it is so in their region also. We have the tele-

graph open now between here and Beirut—it has been cut off all spring and summer—every time the Government repaired it only a few days would pass until it would be cut again, so they stopped trying until about two weeks ago. A trade caravan has gone to Jiser and returned safely, also, for the first time since early summer, so you see how things have been tied up. The Gunamia people are hoping now to get back to their villages soon the men are very anxious to go and get their ground plowed for grain. The Government has brought a lot of wheat flour and rice to help these refugees."

#### A Wedding in Latakia.

"This morning, November 30, we were present at wedding of Miss Marie Fattal and Mr. Anise Faris, of Tripoli.

The bride is one of our own dear girls, and very sweet she looked in her white silk bridal dress. The marriage took place in the home of her brother, Mr. Sadick Fattal, with only a very few near friends present, since the family are still in mourning for the death of Mrs. Fattal (May Elsey). The ceremony was performed by Rev. Samuel Edgar and Rev. Khalil Awad, and the bridal pair sail today for Tripoli, where they are to make their home.

"Marie Fattal is a child of the church and was educated first in our school here and then in the girls' school of the Presbyterian Mission in Beirout. In 1912 she accepted the position of teacher in our girls' school here, which she filled most acceptably until the end of the last school year. Always willing and ready to help in every way, steady and faithful in all her duties, and thorough in her teaching, of a sweet and gentle disposition, she endeared herself to her pupils and her friends. It is with great regret we part with her as a teacher and helper, but we rejoice with her in her happines as she leaves us for her new home. Mr. Faris is the son of Mr. Yusef Faris, an elder in the Tripoli Presbyterian Church. He first saw his bride as she was returning from school one vacation time, was attracted, and soon after wrote to her brother intimating that he would like a further acquaintance. As both were quite young he was advised to wait for a time. Later he renewed his request, which was granted, and now both have received the desire of their hearts. Our best wishes go with these young friends and we trust that this new Christian home may be the center of a sweet and gracious influence upon all who enter it and that the homemakers may have a long and happy life bound together in the bonds of love and service for Christ their Lord."

#### ASIA MINOR.

Mersine, Asia Minor, Rev. R. E. Willson, writing on November 15th, says: "Local conditions seem to be more quiet for the past week or two. Trains are now running regularly between Mersine and Adana, once each day; this now for about a week. For some days before the railroad was repaired the country was clear enough so that the autos could go and come between here and Adana. The brigands seem to be driven far enough back for the time being to make it comparatively safe in the neighborhood, and the people are going out now to pick some of the cotton. To the west of us, however, operations seem still to be going on. Night before last there was much cannon and rifle fire in that direction, and yesterday morning quite a brisk bombardment from the French warship. However, on the whole, we feel that we can say that things seem to be considerably improved over a month ago, and we only hope that they will continue to improve.

"In spite of the present improvement, the prospect for the winter is a very gloomy one for the poor people. If the country should become entirely quiet at once, which is hardly to be expected, the change has come too late to benefit the poor people much for this winter. All summer most of the population has been without employment. Prices of necessities were such that even those that had some work were able to live simply from hand to mouth. We hear almost every day from all classes of people: 'We saw no such hard times here even in the worst days of the war.' Scarcely any one of the poorer people have been able to make provision for the winter, as is their custom. We shrink from the winter for so far as we can see there is certain to be much suffering

if not actual starvation.

"We have not attempted anything in Tarsus so far this fall except to keep the Sabbath services going. The evangelist is still here with us in Mersine, and has been doing the preaching for all summer. The services in Tarsus have been, and are, in charge of one Manook, whom Kasees Mikhail regards as a very faithful man. have been making an effort in Mersine to work up the Sabbath School. The result has been rather encouraging so far. We have had an attendance of 70 to 75, and most of these remain for the preaching service which follows immediately. Further developments in the general situation must determine what we will be able to attempt in Tarsus.

"The word from Adana is also encouraging, and now that the train is running I hope to go there soon to see the brethren. The two daughters of Kasees Hanna Besna came down from Adana last week to enter school here again. They were six weeks late but this could not be helped owing to circumstances. We were not able, of course, to move to any other house in Adana or even to look for any other house. The house we are using is too small and not in any way suitable, but we will have to make it do for another year. The girls say that the attendance has been increasing and that the room where they meet is too small to accommodate the people that come.

"Schools are doing well, but I will let Miss French report on that. She is more than busy, and some of the rest of us think sometimes we are the same. However, we are all feeling more fit since the weather has become cooler and we praise the Lord for good

health and something to do."

#### CHINA.

Do Sing, China. On December 1. Rev. R. C. Adams wrote from Do Sing. His letter contains the glad news that the war is over.

"Although conditions have been very much unsettled and there has been war, the Lord has taken care of all of us and now the war is over, the Kwongtung soldiers having been defeated and having retreated to their own province. Tak Hing and Do Sing were in the line of their retreat and the populace was very fearful lest they should do much damage but no damage of any consequence was done. We feel that it was not human power which restrained the hands of a defeated army passing through the enemy's country, and caused them to refrain from molesting the country. Some damage was done at other places but none in our territory. We met quite a number of the soldiers and they were fine men, several Christians among them. Now we have the Kwongtung army with us and among the soldiers we have found several Christians and among all the soldiers there seems to be a willingness to hear the Gospel Message.

"All in the Mission are well and seem to be busy. We are beginning to make preparations for our Mission meeting, which will, perhaps, be held beginning January 21, the first two days being for Bible Study and Prayer. We desire to begin our meeting at the place we left off last year when the Holy Spirit was working

mightily."

Writing at an earlier date, Novem-

ber 12. Mr. Adams tells:

"We have just closed a series of meetings for women here at Do Sing. Miss Huston and Miss Stewart were the speakers and did fine work. The meetings lasted six days and every day the house was filled. Yesterday, the day after the meetings closed, many women came to the chapel, hoping there would be another meeting, as there was no boat on which Miss Huston and Miss Stewart could go back to Tak Hing, but Miss Huston and Miss Stewart and Mrs. Adams had gone out calling on the women who had been much interested in the doctrine. There is large opportunity here. We had planned for a series of general evangelistic meetings at the same time, having the women's meetings in the day time and general meetings at night, but owing to the unsettled conditions the evangelists could not get here from Lo Ting. We may have the meetings later if conditions permit. Peace has not yet come and we may not have quietness for some time. Things are quiet at all of our stations, I think, though rumors flourish."

Canton, China.—A member of the Board of Foreign Missions received a letter from Dr. J. M. Wright, of the Canton Hospital, which he generously passes on for OLIVE TREES. Dr. Wright dates his letter from Canton, December 10th, 1920.

"We arrived here in the midst of a revolution and witnessed considerable military activity. I have seen fighting here several times before, and the only added novelty was the airplanes, which dropped bombs that I have helped to hasten matters. since talked with some of the flyers, and they say that they had instructions to drop powder bombs only and with the purpose of frightening the enemy. As far as I know this plan succeeded admirably. I saw no one injured by the bombs, but many who were greatly frightened. We received many wounded soldiers in the hospital for treatment. Our sympathy has always been with the San Yet Sen party, which has now come into power again in Canton. One of our fellow-passengers from Shanghai to Hong Kong was Mr. Frank Lee, who is now Secretary of Foreign Affairs here. I had known him before and had many talks with him on the way down. The plans for the new regime as explained by him are splendid. He gave me a rough outline of them to read over and promised to send me a bound book of them when completed. Mr. Woo Ting Fong was here today for treatment. He is a fine old man to meet and a strong advocate of just government. You will remember that he was at one time Minister to America. Dr. San Yet Sen is also in the city now and sent a let-

ter of greeting to Dr. Thompson, Sr., who is at present in Canton Hospital. Dr. Thompson came here about forty years ago, and was for a long time connected with the work and received Dr. San Yet Sen with others as medical students into this institution. The new Police Commissioner headed the list in securing new names for membership in the Y. M. C. A. this last month. While speaking of Mr. Frank Lee I should have said that he is a Christian man, and nearly every Sabbath preaches to the members of a Baptist church in the city. I asked him if all the new officials are professing Christians, and he answered that not all were, but that all were in sympathy with Christianity and that he expected that many, if not all, would become professors.

"There is to be an effort to have a great evangelistic campaign in a few weeks. All departments of evangelistic activity, that is, ministerial, educational and medical, are to take active part. A large building is being erected, and a room in it is being given over to the exhibition of medical effort, such as hygiene, sanitation, preventative measures, nursing, care of children, etc.

"We have weekly prayer meetings held in our house every Thursday night by people in our vicinity. Last night Rev. Johnston, of the American Bible Society, was the leader. He was in the Levant for a number of years and is acquainted with all our older missionaries there. His wife was formerly a nurse in a hospital in Smyrna under, I think, the Scottish Mission.

"Our work begins in the hospital here at 7.20 A. M. by all the doctors and nurses having a ten-minute prayer; 9 A. M., chapel for a half-hour for all the hospital, and 7 P. M. is a meeting for Bible study for all the hospital employees. During the last three months the average professed conversion in the hospital is one person a day. Just this morning I heard of the conversion of a man

in one of my wards who had been bitterly opposed to Christianity. He was a soldier (an officer), and in the revolution he took part in destroying a chapel. Later he was wounded and sent here, and now he has been converted. The people here are showing quite a liking for Psalm singing, and by request a lot of Psalm books are placed in the Chapel here for use in the services.

"My own personal work is chief surgeon, pathologist and chairman of the staff. The work is heavy at present, but pleasant and enjoyable. The staff chairman is the go-between in all hospital questions, in the different departments, and is supposed to act for the staff and the Board of Directors between meetings where all his actions are reviewed. The spirit of harmony is such that the office is not a burden. Besides, we have the students from two medical colleges attending our clinics. All our work, whether in the operating room or in the out-patient clinics, is preceded by a service. Also I am chairman of the Canton chapter of the American Red Cross, which has jurisdiction over the Canton consular district, Tung, Kwong Sai, Kweichow and Yunan Provinces. This at times entails considerable time.

"Paul is in school at the Canton Christian College here. This school was opened this year, and we hope they will continue and take up high school work next year. Paul finishes the grades this year and will be ready for high school next autumn. We hear frequently from all our mission members, and Miss Huston and Rev. and Mrs. Mitchell have made us a visit. We expect others soon. All are well and busy as usual."

## REPORT OF WINCHESTER L. M. S. FOR 1920.

As a society we have great reason to record God's goodness to us.

We have held twelve regular monthly meetings, five work meetings and two other special meetings.

One of our aged and highly esteemed members, Mrs. E. J. Milligan, has

passed on to the Heavenly Home. Rarely was she absent from our meetings until she became an invalid.

We quilted three quilts, one of which was given to Miss Elma French. Two quilts and four mattress covers were sent to Mersina Boarding School.

Six quilts were contributed by different ladies for Cyprus Mission. A box containing 292 garments was sent for Syrian Relief.

Two delegates were sent to our Presbyterial Convention at Eskridge.

The society takes *The Missionary Review of the World*. We have taken the Mission study which is outlined for us and have corresponded monthly with our two foreign lady missionaries—Miss E. French and Mrs. J. C. Mitchel.

Through our efforts a rug was purchased for the Mothers' Room of the church.

January 11, balance	\$25.60
Monthly dues	55.70
Free-will and donations	281.48
Miss Houston's salary	75.87
Mission Study Books	12.60
Flower Fund	9.10

	\$460.35
Disbursed.	
Benevolent	\$30.00
Miss Houston's Salary	75.87
Girl's Tuition, Mersine	120.00
Mersine Supplies	22.35
Mersine School Fund	7.65
Synodical Fund	13.00
Support of Girl in China	25.00
To Needy Babe	20.40
Syrian Relief	21.15
Flowers	7.26
Per Capita Fund	5.10
Magazine, Folders and Cards.	7.50
Expenses (postage, express,	
etc.)	12.79
Library Fund	4.86
Rug and Freight	45.52
Mission Study Books	12.10

Balance ...... \$2 VINNIE STEUART,

Treasurer.

\$430.55

\$29.80

## OBITUARY. Mrs. M. J. McFarland.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Belle Centre Congregation desires to place on record a tribute to the memory of Mrs. M. I. McFarland, who passed from death to life December 12, 1919. She loved the House of God and was a faithful follower of her Master. She died in faith, trusting in her Saviour. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

MRS. ROBERT RAMBO, MRS. I. A. TEMPLETON, Committee.

Mrs. Kate Henry Neill.

The Women's Missionary Society of the Second Church of Philadelphia wishes to bear testimony to the loss it has sustained in the death of Mrs. Kate Henry Neill. We miss her presence in our society and in the church services. Not only was she regular in attendance but willing to do her part in any work undertaken.

Her last illness was brief and should be a warning to the rest of us to be also ready for we know not the day nor the hour when the Son of Man cometh.

MARIAN H. CRAWFORD, JENNIE R. FINLEY.

On the morning of November 26. Mrs. Mary A. Peoples, a beloved member of the Second Church, Philadelphia, and mother of Dr. John Peoples, medical missionary to Mersine, entered into rest. Her life was one of consecration to her Lord and Master. Her genial presence and wise counsel will be missed in the Women's Missionary and Aid Societies.

Though feeble in health for a number of years she did not consider her own strength but was ever ready to lend her assistance and sympathy to

those in sickness or distress.

She had the true missionary spirit, grasping every opportunity to press the claims of the Saviour upon all with whom she came in contact, and praying for the soul's salvation of

those with whom she had only a casual acquaintance.

Besides Dr. John Peoples, two daughters, both active workers in the church, and a sister, Miss Sallie Morrison, of the First Church, mourn her loss.

May the memory of her sanctified life be an inspiration to each of us for more devoted service to the Saviour she loved and served.

MRS. J. C. MCFEETERS, MRS. R. M. FINLAY, MRS. R. J. CRAWFORD, Committee.

#### A GREETING FROM LATAKIA TO THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Even the Board of Foreign Missions is yet so human as to be able to appreciate kind expressions which come from the consecrated servants of the Lord Jesus on the field. Among the many such received from time to time here is one which is official, and so we feel warranted in publishing it.

Latakia, November 26.

To the Foreign Board of the R. P. Church.

Dear Fathers and Brethren:

On behalf of the members of the Latakia Station I wish to extend our thanks towards the close of the year for all the aid that you have so thoughtfully and carefully given us, your servants in the Mission Field. Your prayers and your constant interest have ever made the work a joy even when burdens were heavy.

Believe us when we say it is a high privilege to serve under your direction and counsel. And we ask for the new workers you sent us that same loving and faithful interest that has ever been your wont to give to the

workers abroad.

We join together in warmest wishes to you all and to your families for the New Year, praying that His rich blessings may fill your lives and homes.

For the MISSION CIRCLE, S. Edgar, Chairman.

#### WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

Edited by Mrs. J. S. Martin and Mrs. M. E. Metheny, College Hill, Beaver Falls, Pa.

#### THE BIBLE AND MISSIONS.

#### CHAPTER IV.

#### The Travels of the Book.

- 1. What other agency contemporary with translators and Bible Societies?
- 2. What of the supply of Bibles in 1800, and prices?
- 3. When and where was the British and Foreign Bible Society founded, and under what circumstances?
- 4. Of the times and politics and sectarian controversies then?
- 5. How far did the Society extend in twelve years?
- 6. How did it come to Wales?
- 7. What translation was made for Scotland?
- 8. How many tongues in Britain?
- 9. What economic conditions prevented the sale of books?
- 10. In what places on the Continent were Societies formed?
- 11. What of its introduction into Russia, and suppression?
- 12. The attitude of the Pope?
- 13. How many were listed in 1910, and how were most of them limited?
- 14. What famous men have been connected with the Society?
- 15. What effect had the American Revolution on the supply of Bibles?
- 16. What action did Congress take in 1777?
- 17. When and where was the first Bible in the U.S. printed?
- 18. What five policies are followed by the Societies?
- 19. Why is the Bible used in examining immigrants?
- 20. What agency have the Bible Societies in mission work?

- 21. What is the estimate of the books bought in 1919, and where were they bought?
- 22. What book is the best seller in the world?
- 23. What do these Societies do besides finance translation, and print?
- 24. Where may we find colporteurs?
- 25. Of what race are they?
- 26. Who began work among prisoners in Japan?
- 27. What difference has this made in prisons?
- 28. Give the story of the Korean revolution.
- 29. Give an account of the Chinese philanthropist, Yung Tao.
- 30. Of the Hindoo who found a torn leaf of John's Gospel?
- 31. In what wars have soldiers been supplied with Scriptures?
- 32. How many volumes has the American Bible Society supplied for soldiers and sailors and fighting forces in Europe in the World War?
- 33. The British, and Foreign, and the Scotch in the same time?
- 34. In all, and to how many peoples and languages?
- 35. Who were contributors to the funds?
- 36. What great soldiers recommend it?
- 37. What statesmen?
- 38. What is the work of the Pocket Testament League?
- 39. How did the men receive the books?
- 40. What of some seed sown by the wayside?
- 41. What bearing have these facts on life?
- 42. What of the observance of Rible Day?
- 43. Five cents from each S. S. scholar each Bible Day would be how much?

MARY E. METHENY.

#### JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

Lamplighters Across the Sea.

CHAPTER V.

"Answering the Giant Question Mark."

Dear Boys and Girls.

When mother tucks you in bed at night and turns the light out, she says, "Now, do not be afraid. God loves and watches over His little ones and keeps them safely all through the night." Then you look out through the open window and see the moon and stars shining and they tell you that the God, who counts the stars and marks the sparrow's fall, can keep you safely through the night, and you shut your eyes and are off to the "Sandman's Land" until morning sunlight wakens you to another day of happy work and play.

But a long time ago, the poor little black boys and girls were afraid even in the *daytime*, and not one of them would stir out of the house at night. The dear little birds that sing to us, frightened them, and the wonderful stars that reveal God to us, seemed to them very cold and far away. Evil Spirits, they thought, were always seeking to injure them. Were dear little twin babies born, they were thrown out to die in the bushes, for the Evil Spirits were in them. Such fear in every black boy's heart, and

Oh! the poor little girls!

Not only were their skins black, but every heart was shrouded in clouds of deepest darkness, sin, ignorance and superstition. Until, one day, Robert Moffatt, took a "Lamp" to them. And then! Oh! the wonderful difference! Their skins may still he black, but now their hearts are becoming just as white, cleansed by the blood of Christ. And Moffat and Livingstone, and Mackay, and Mary Slessor, and many, many other lamplighters went everywhere establishing "Light Houses" and working miracles under God. For

while the "leopard cannot change his spots, nor the Ethiopian his skin," God can make black hearts white as snow and take away hard and stony hearts and give people new hearts.

The Bible answers all the questions and stills the fears of every little African boy and girl. It goes to the women shut up in the Moorish houses for fear a man other than their husband might see them, and carries comfort and inspiration. It crosses the desert and goes to Arab, Hindu, Persian and many others whose skins are of many shades. But everywhere the light shines, the black hearts become white, whatever the color of the skin.

And now we need to give the Bible not only to Turkey and the Armenians, to oppressor and oppressed, but to the descendants of Moses, Isaiah and the prophets. The Jews are returning to Palestine in large numbers. The Zionists plan to colonize 50,000 in the land which will ever be "Home" to Jewish hearts. Let us see that there, too, the Lamp, which once burned so brightly, and is now so dim, is rekindled through the grace of Jesus Christ, who can make even these hard and stony hearts which have shut Him out of their lives, to become white and new. Every Jewish man and woman should have the "Lamp" of God's Word to guide their feet and "light their path" in the return to Jerusalem.

MARY A. MCWILLIAMS.

One who frankly confesses himself to be in the wrong when he is, will be found mostly in the right.

He who has conferred a kindness should be silent; he who has received one should speak of it.—Seneca.

It isn't a good plan to allow your regrets for yesterday to overshadow your hopes for tomorrow.

Experience teaches us what fools we have been, but it doesn't always prevent us from repeating.

#### SCRAPS FROM THE NEAR EAST TABLE.

Alexandretta, Nov. 26, 1920.

How many children have I? In High School, freshmen, 8 boys and 3 girls; sophomore, 5 boys and 4 girls; in primary, 11 boys and 8 girls. In the

grades 48 boys and 26 girls.

My school-day schedule? Breakfast, Family prayers and muddling 6.30.about till I go over to school at 7.30. Odds and ends until 7.55. children assemble in the big hall. where we sing a psalm, and say a few verses in concert. That takes some ten minutes, then I give the High School classes a Bible lesosn until 8.30; sixth and fifth grades English 9. Freshman conversation until French until 9.30: music lesson or odd bits until 10. Geography or Soph. Hygiene until 10.30; Soph. Scale Drawing until 11. Soph. French till 11.30. Then I am off to the house for lunch and siesta till 12.30, when I go back to school and see to odds and ends till 1. That is Soph. Math. time; 1.30, fift's grade, French; 2.00, sixth grade, French; 2.30, piano lesson; 3, Freshman English; 3.30, Soph. English. Ever since I took my piano over I play for the children to march out. o'clock I go home to tea, and directly it is over we three go for our walk of an hour or more.

#### December 11.

Golden and incomparable news! Sha!! I go off with it to a corner, like little Jack Horner? Nay, let me share it with you. The December copy of the Ladies' Home Journal has just come into my hands, and there on the 68th page I read these words, fit to be engraved on tablets of brass, "The day of the flapper is over. The silhouette both for afternoon and evening wear is decidedly longer than it has been. Not the wriggling thinness of the vampire, but the elegant long slinkiness of the lady." Oh! if any of you are privileged to behold the lovely vision of a slinky lady, in pity

describe the gracious sight to me, living in these barbarous wilds, far from the refining influences of civilization.

\* \* There are pictures, two of which struck me especially. One is of a lady in a silk evening coat, the whole thing, lady and all, looking extraordinarly like a ventral view of a beetle feigning death. The other shows a lady in a fur coat, and it is like a dorsal view of a reconstructed iguanodon—one of the beasts in my Prehistoric Animal Book.

I wish you could see how fast the houses are being put up for the refugees who are to live here. They are being made of unsmoothed young trees for a frame, and the sides of wicker and mud, and the roofs of thatch. Each has five rooms of, say 17 by 15, and a family will occupy each room. The place is on the east side of the town; the site is being all drained off. It does make me so glad to see it.

It looks as if the coast was going to be built around for miles by the authorities. The water frontage will compare very well with that of Alexandria. I am very much interested in it all.

The matter of voting will try out women now. Women have been pretty self-righteous. It may do them good to find out that given the same temptations and immunities as men they are likely to behave pretty much as men do.

I have gone over the top with a little over £100 for last April, May and summer, and this October, November and December. Not bad is it? I have sold above £40 worth of books over and above that. It proves that the people value education for their children. May God's blessing go with the education so it may bring a blessing and not a curse. \* \* There is a great sight from my west window. A smallish steamer loaded with gasoline got afire about five this evening. Now she is standing out to sea, still

burning, the plates on the sides redhot. It is a sad sight.

One of my teachers is ill with paratyphoid, poor girl; so for more than a week, and I do not know how much longer yet; one girl, one man and I have to do the work with the help of one or two of the Sophomore girls. The girls do very well at teaching.

Evangeline Metheny.

Latakia, December 9, 1920.

These items are from Mrs. Balph. The reference in the first sentence is to the daughter of Rosa Dimian, long ago a pupil in the Latakia school, and later a teacher in the Tarsus Field. This girl is a graduate of the Mersine schol and went to Egypt to her brother's wedding and has stayed there to teach.

"It is such a pity that Rosa's Lateefy stayed in Egypt. We have now given to Egypt two of the best teachers we ever had among our own girls. These are two of the only three that ever finished the course, and then kept on studying and improving. The other one went to visit a brother in Alexandria in the summer of '14, when the war was on, and I asked her to stay then as I knew not what would She has been teaching for the U. P.'s ever since. Mrs. Kennedy told me that they thought a lot of her, and that she was doing good work. Lateefy is a better mathematician, and a wider reader, and I am sure will do good work. December 14th, Dr. Balph had a letter from Mr. Willson written on the 8th. He told of a great conflagration they had a few days before. The burning of 11,000 boxes of petroleum. What a pity when fuel is so People were so dependent scarce. upon these little stoves for generating gas upon which they cook. The heating problem is a serious one everywhere. He said no wood could be had from the mountains, and the charcoal, too, comes from the same place, and they hardly ever see any. They had not yet put up their heating stove, and they have been having ice for a week. I suppose they are not able to get coal, either; it is so dear that steamers in these waters just creep along to save coal.

"A lot of wounded French soldiers— 18—were brought into the Government Hospital last week, where Sadik works part of the time, and all of them were wounded in the legs or feet. Their regiment went out to gather arms from the rebel Fellaheen, and were fired upon from all directions, when they were down in a narrow ravine. They simply had to retreat, for the encmy were hidden behind rocks and trees. It was evident that the Fellaheen aimed low.

"I forgot to tell you that Nishan, Old Gurgis' son, who had been in Texas for some years with his family, came back last summer with one of his sons, and after procuring brides for two of the sons, this one and an older one, who is taking care of the business in the U.S. during their absence, has started back with the rest of the familv, all except one girl whom they married and left in the house they have here. The boy who came with him married a Shamy girl; I think a cousin of the girl, Olga, Shamy, of whom you inquire. Olga has gone with them."

#### Alexandretta, Dec. 15, 1920.

This is a lovely bright day and quite warm. It does not seem possible that Christmas is so near. It is more like spring.

It is such a joy to me to see Evangeline so much better in health. I wish you would come and see her in her school, and with her Bible Class of young men.

The situation on the whole is much better than it was, but, like measles, you never know just when things will break out. Teacher Antanious, his wife and three youngest children are here on their way to Haifa. His older children, the most of them, have good berths with the British in Palestine.

JENNIE B. KENNEDY.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONARIES OF THE SYNOD OF THE REFORMED PRES. CHURCH

	I OHEIGH INIOOIONAMIEG OF THE OTHER	, of the heronimes theor official				
	Latakia, Syria.  REV. JAMES S. STEWART, D. D. furlough MRS. JAMES S. STEWART REV. SAMUEL EDGAR MRS. SAMUEL EDGAR J. M. BALPH, M. D. MRS. J. M. BALPH MISS MAGGIE B. EDGAR MISS ANNIE L. KENNEDY  Mersine, Asia Minor. REV. ROBERT E. WILLSON MRS. ROBERT E. WILLSON	REV. J. K. ROBB				
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