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1948

## A TRIP TO AFGHANISTAN

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Afghanistan is a country that is still closed to missionary endeavour. It is not a part of the Middle East Union Mission territory, but we feel sure that everyone will be interested in this account of a trip taken by two of our missionaries, brethren K. Oster and G. C. Winslow. The following is taken from a letter addressed to Elder E. E. Roenfelt of the General Conference and was sent to us by Brother K. Oster for inclusion in the *Middle East Messenger*.

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You of course know that Brother Grover Winslow and I were together on this memorable trip and he promised to send you a write up on our adventures, but no doubt the pressure of school activities at Beirut have kept him busy in other lines. I shall be happy, however, to give you a brief report of what has been the realization of my fondest hopes, and what I still hope will materialize into an active ministry in that land where only gun-powder and force have been the

ruling law. They are certainly susceptible to the Gospel of Love as much as men and woman anywhere else!

The formalities of passports and visas completed (an old story to you), we finally set out from Meshed in a greatly over-crowded bus for the small border town of Yusufabad. The day time heat forbids of any travel so we had to wait until evening to start out across the trackless desert in the Afghan Mail truck with not much more than the endless row of crooked telephone poles as a guide. At about eight p.m. on Wednesday, May 19 we reached a cement block in the desert which, we were told, was the boundary marker. As we crossed the border into that forbidden land where none of our missionaries—or any missionary from any other denomination has ever had the privilege of living, we keenly felt our unworthiness and our need of Divine guidance. There in the stillness of the desert, interrupted only by the intrusion of the Afghan Mail truck, two silent prayers ascended to our heavenly Father. And that was by no means the only prayer season we

had in the Land of the Afghans, for, as we observed, the people of Afghanistan are much more serious in religious matters than their neighbors on this side of the frontier, stopping the bus or truck punctually for the passengers to say their daily prayers. At these convenient periods, Brother Winslow and I would also find a quiet place to approach the Throne of Grace.

Travelling, as such, was little different from travel in Iran, with fully as many waits, bumps, and layers of dust to wash off at the end! It was with mixed feelings of thankfulness — thankful for being there; bewilderment — wondering what we could do in order to establish and spread the Message of the Cross in that land; and interest — interest in the historical sights of centuries-old stories of courage and intrigue that we entered the capital city of Kabul just one week after leaving Meshed.

We were very pleased with the kindness that was shown us in Kabul. Especially do we appreciate the kind gesture of Mr. Abdul-Aziz Khan in turning over to us an apartment for our use during our stay in the city. Upon leaving, instead of presenting us with a bill, a most cordial note with his card and a photograph of himself included was handed to us, expressing his desire to continue the friendship with "my dear brothers" as he called us! God forbid that I should mention this in a boastful way, but honestly, it cheered us greatly to think that we were looked upon as brothers and not as one could very well be expected to be considered. We are led to see the significance of the statement our Lord made in John 10:16, "Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold" and truly, "Them also I (we) *must* bring"!

The approach to our "brothers" in that country will be difficult to start with, but we

can at least start. I promised to send this man the *Signs of the Times*. He doesn't speak English very well yet, but is studying and I am sure he will have the paper in his office where many friends and customers will profit therefrom.

Continuing our eastward trek, we skirted the southern slopes of the high Pamirs along the Kabul River until reaching Jalalabad, where we surprised the Webers as their Sabbath day guests. Dr. Harry Weber and his wife (also a graduate of C.M.E.) are connected with the Morrison Knudsen Company, a road construction outfit making strong headway in that particular field. This we believe, will result in a natural opening up of the closed doors.

Farther east, we passed through the famed Khyber Pass entering renowned Peshawar. We reached Rawalpindi in time for the Tuesday evening prayer meeting with our north-westernmost church group in the Southern Asia Division, thus having made connections across that land of challenge. Brother Hamel is vigorously pushing the banners of the Cross forward. They have recently purchased a fine piece of property in Pethawar where thousands of Afghans can be contacted as they migrate annually across the North-west Frontier.

Returning to Jalalabad, we spent another delightful Sabbath with the Webers. This day we walked over to the Kabul River, climbed on to a bullock-skin raft and hung on the best we could as two boys paddled us across the rapids to the other side. Thence we struck out across the rice fields till we came to a mill fed by a small stream. It was not difficult to strike up a conversation with the millman, who, gun by his side, sat smoking his pipe as he fed the mill gradually. The

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## EDITORIAL



We have had in the Middle East recently signal instances of God's care and protection. One occasion concerns Dr. Arzoo who had planned to leave Tehran for the United States in a certain plane. He was urged by the brethren to postpone his flight in order to accomplish certain duties. This he agreed to do. A few days later we were led to see God's hand in the delay when we learned that the plane he had been scheduled to go by met with a fatal accident and never reached its destination.

Elder F. E. Harder, President of Middle East College, had a similar experience. The day before he was booked to leave by plane to Amman in order to interview students he was approached by Elder E. L. Branson, Union Superintendent, and asked to postpone his flight; his counsel was needed at some emergency meeting. Elder Harder cancelled his booking and attended committee meetings instead of travelling. The broadcast news later in the day announced that the plane he had been scheduled to take had been shot down by enemy action, three passengers having been killed and the others seriously injured.

While Palestine has been a scene of military turmoil and strife we have naturally been concerned for our faithful members. We have not been able yet to make contact with all of them, but we are happy to report that the majority of them are safe and we have reason to believe that the others are safe too. This does not mean that they have not suffered loss; their plight, as is the plight of all Palestinian refugees, is pitiful. But they testify to God's protection and are thankful to have escaped alive.

One family managed to get out of Haifa

while there was opportunity to do so. They are staying in a village in the Lebanon. One son is still looking for work with Sabbath privileges, but the father has been given work as watchman for our Mousseitbah church and school property and so the family is meeting its daily needs.

A faithful sister living in Lydda had to evacuate her home with only the barest necessities. She has had to write off her furniture and house as a complete loss because it has fallen into the hands of strangers. Her daughter joined her after evacuating from Jaffa and leaving everything behind except one extra dress. Six members of the family are living in one small room in Trans-Jordan. The situation is far from comfortable because our sister suffers badly from asthma, but there is no word of complaint.

Another member was an employee of the Palestine Railways. He has lost his position as a result of the changes that have taken place and now must look for other work. He has received some compensation from the railway company and he hopes to be able to set himself up in a small business in Beirut.

Displacements and change of occupation are hard to bear, especially when they are accompanied by loss of property and loss of a sense of security. But when those who are called upon to go through these hard experiences nevertheless recognise God's overruling providence it gives courage and confidence to us all.

We have all read God's promises of protection to His people. Who has not read Psalm 91 and Psalm 121 and received reassurance in times of stress? To those of us who have to meet the challenge of the Middle East and persevere in the work in spite of difficulties and obstacles and the dangers that lie around us it is a source of encouragement to have these and other evidences of God's protecting hand and keeping power today.

## “WE SET NEW HIGH RECORDS ...”

By S. W. Johnson,

*M. V. Sponsor, Middle East College*

The climax of the Missionary Volunteer activities for the school year of 1947-1948 of Middle East College took place at the closing investiture service on the evening of June 5, 1948, by the light of four glowing bonfires — one for each class invested.

The M. V. activities for this school year have been unusual and most satisfying. As the students came in at the opening of school from all points of the Middle East, one after the other came to me inquiring if it were possible that they be invested at the beginning of the school year since all the requirements had been completed during the summer. So an investiture service was conducted shortly after school began for these from all four classes. About the same time a campaign was launched one day in a faculty meeting to stimulate the faculty members to join hands with the students in their enthusiasm to complete the requirements of the Master Comrade Class. As a result, three months later, a special investiture was held for seven of our foreign faculty members. With the rise of the summer heat also rose the eagerness of the students to have completed the requirements of the various classes, especially the Master Comrade Class. Our examining committee did a noble job in accommodating all those who presented themselves in the weeks just before investiture.

For the “big event” we chose to hold the service at night out-of-doors on a level hillside spot overlooking the campus and the lights of Beirut between us and the Mediter-

anean Sea. The chairs were arranged in sections of a half-circle—each section marked by a large insignia of one of the four classes and illumined by an individual bonfire. A fifth section was also placed for the guests, that is, those who did not belong to one of the Friend, Companion, Comrade, or Master Comrade classes. Then, as the people arrived, they were ushered by Master Comrades in uniform to their respective sections. When all was in readiness, the officiating officers marched to the front to the stirring beat of our society theme song, “Youth marches on”, and while all stood, its inspiring challenge was sung by all. After a short programme by several of the Master Comrade candidates came the presentation of the insignia to 14 Friends, 10 Companions, 1 Comrade, and 17 Master Comrades (of whom three were members of the College faculty). As each name was called the candidate came forward to receive his insignia, then proceeded to his new section into which he had just been invested. Truly it was most inspiring to see the Master Comrade section fill up to “standing room only” as fifty stood in this group by the time that the charge was given.

Included now in the Master Comrade section stood every member of the faculty. Yes, Middle East College now boasts of a 100% Master Comrade faculty! It seems that, to our knowledge, no other senior college in our denomination can claim such a distinction. As if that were not enough, we now have reached the place where 40% of our enrollment are Master Comrades! These two percentages

seem to be some kind of a world record. But what these figures reveal is only a part of what is being accomplished in the lives of these fine young people as they receive this

“higher preparation” before they go out to take their places in the thin line of worker forces in this Middle East Union. May God bless them all!



## AHLAN WA SAHLAN TO THE CUBLEYS

August 26th will long remain a red-letter day in the history of the Middle East, because it was then that Elder and Mrs. Cubley reached Beirut. Brother Cubley is our new Middle East Union Secretary-treasurer. We hereby extend our warmest greetings to both Brother and Sister Cubley, and wish them a happy sojourn in the Middle East.

These newcomers are not strangers to many of the workers, for they were on the faculty of Walla Walla College for several years where Elder Cubley was head of the department of business administration, and Mrs. Cubley was a music instructor. During the past three years they have been connected with La Sierra College.

It was not easy for them to make the change, for the administration of the college, and conference officials did their utmost to keep them in their former post. But we are thankful that they have turned their backs on the homeland and have cast their lot with us in the Middle East.

The believers in Egypt have already had the opportunity of meeting Brother and Sister Cubley at the recent camp meeting, and it will not be long before others in the rest of the Union will enjoy the same privilege. In the meantime, Brother Cubley is getting into the treasurer's work here at the Union office, and all will appreciate the lift that he will bring to our staff.

It is extremely fortunate that the Cubleys were able to bring their household furniture and equipment along the ship with them, but so far they have not had time to open their things and get settled. Committee meetings and problems take up most of the day and too much of the night. But in a few weeks they will be settled, and will begin to feel like real Lebanese.

So we say ahlan wa sahlán, and may you have many happy years in the Middle East, Elder and Mrs. Cubley.

### **GOD-SPEED TO THE NORRIS FAMILY**

It is with deepest regret that we bid goodbye to the Norris family, as they start on their way to their new field of labor in the Far Eastern Division. Brother Norris has been called to act as superintendent of the North Celebes Mission, where he will have ample use for his knowledge of the Malay language. Brother and sister Norris both studied this language during their years at Walla Walla College, and have looked forward to working in that area.

However, we were privileged to have them with us during about three years, when Brother Norris was actively occupied in construction work on the college plant, at the same time acting as business manager for Middle East College. The evidences of his labor will endure as long as time shall last. Of even more benefit was his influence among the students. Many will ever remember the lessons learned in his baptismal classes.

Sister Norris supervised the cafeteria and the laundry, during two of the years that were so difficult in Beit Mery. Food and clean clothing were among the hardest things

to provide, and we appreciate the effort that Sister Norris put forth in accomplishing this difficult task.

Nearly a year ago Brother and Sister Norris moved to Jerusalem, where Brother Norris served as superintendent of the Palestine-Trans-Jordan Mission. They were holding cottage meetings in several nearby town, as well as in Jerusalem, when war conditions made it impossible to continue. For weeks at a time they were obliged to stay inside the mission house, virtual prisoners in the restricted area. When it became apparent that these conditions would exist for some time to come, the family evacuated Palestine, being subjected to machine gun fire on the way out.

The past few months have been spent in Nicosia, Cyprus, with the believers there. Brother Norris has been active in holding cottage meetings and distributing literature in preparation for a public effort. The believers and friends in Cyprus will miss the Norris family, and are greatly disappointed to see them leave.

Brother Norris was ordained to the gospel ministry early in the year, and his interests are all in evangelistic lines. We wish the family all of God's richest blessings as they go to the Far East, praying that they may be used there to His glory even as they have been used in the lands of the Middle East. Should they ever pass this way again, they may be assured of a warm welcome from all their friends in the Bible lands.

E. I. Branson

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*Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off the goal.*

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## CAMP MEETINGS IN EGYPT

September 10-18

The first camp-meeting in Egypt was held September 10-18 at the Fayoum Training School. Regional meetings held in other years had brought together representatives from a portion of Egypt, but never before had delegates been called from all of Egypt nor had food been prepared and served for the group at large.

The services were held in a tabernacle of canvas stretched over a wooden framework. This canopy was decorated on the inside with bright colored designs stitched to the canvas in intricate Egyptian patterns.

The buildings of the Fayoum Training School provided sleeping quarters for those in attendance. Food was prepared in the School kitchen under the direction of Mrs. R. L. Rowe, and served on tables set in the courtyard of the administration building. Clean new mats spread on a framework overhead provided shade at mealtime.

The total attendance of 150 taxed the facilities of the school, but little or no sickness was reported and the Christian fellowship more than made up for minor inconveniences.

The daily program began with the morning devotional at seven o'clock and ended seven meetings later with the silent signal at nine-thirty at night.

Elder Neal C. Wilson was in charge of the overall planning for the meetings, and in the first sermon on Friday night he presented the motto "Greater and more effectual evangelism", as a theme for the entire camp-meeting. Elders E. L. Branson and George

D. Keough, and Elder and Mrs. E. S. Cubley came from Beirut to assist in the services. Elder Branson spoke at the eleven o'clock service on the first Sabbath, Elder Cubley spoke at the same hour on the last Sabbath, and Elder Keough presented fundamental doctrines in Arabic one hour each day during the week.

Professor E. C. Wines, principal of the Training School led out during several periods of instruction and discussion, stressing the standardization of the primary school program in Egypt and its correlation with the academy curriculum.

Elder A. G. Zytkoskee led out in the study of proper Sabbath observance, and the Union Mission brethren discussed denominational and church organization, the proposed calendar reform, and the financial phases of the work.

Elder M. C. Grin from Alexandria, and Pastor Basta from Maghagha assisted in the early morning devotionals and Professor R. L. Rowe from the Training School discussed Christian standards, while Pastors Nashid and Hilal each spoke at an evening service.

Miss Euphemia Bryne, the principal of the Heliopolis school, Mrs. Neal C. Wilson, and Mrs. E. S. Cubley assisted in the music. Miss Emily Levy, our Bible worker in Heliopolis contributed toward the comfort of many of the visitors through the preparation of food for those not yet fully acclimated to the foods of Egypt.

Brethren Wilson Basta and William Gayed

each led the Sabbath School for one Sabbath and interpreted during a number of services. Brethren Farag, Samuel, Basta, and Antar also assisted in the interpreting.

The reports presented from the churches and institutions in Egypt proved most interesting, as church pastors or delegates brought word from Abada, Alexandria, Assiut, Beni-Adiat, Fayoum, Heliopolis, Maghagha, Masra, Minia, Shubra, Tatalia, Zuwak. Fayoum Training School, and Mataria Mercy Home. These delegates reported many baptisms during the past year, new schools opened, and more teachers added to existing schools.

At the Fayoum Training School 15 acres of land are now under irrigation with a promising young orchard of citrus fruit, pomegranates, dates, and mangoes. Plans were laid for irrigating more than twice this area, for the purchase of cows to supply milk for the school, and for the installation of a flour mill as an industrial project.

Mrs. Erna Kreuger gave a heartwarming report on the changes wrought in the bodies and hearts of the children at the Mercy Home in Cairo. Many of the youngsters sent their little testimonials along with Mrs. Kreuger, who presented them in her report.

Nearly every child had suffered from trachoma, a dread eye infection, and some had contracted several diseases. Some told of stealing and lying, others were begging, some were smoking cigarette butts picked from the gutters, their clothing had been in rags and tatters, and all had been perpetually hungry. Now they were healthy in body and happy at heart with their medical care, good beds, nourishing food, clean clothing, new Bibles, schooling, and their knowledge of Jesus the children's Friend.

Dr. Shafeek Assad from Fayoum delivered a lecture to the group on the principles of health and sanitation.

Several of the local and provincial police officials visited the camp-grounds and proved their helpful interest by furnishing three policemen to guard the camp at night.

Plans were laid for a greater program of personal evangelism throughout Egypt. Each church group pledged themselves to enlist new students for the Voice of Prophecy correspondence school, and to do more personal work among their neighbors. In Heliopolis, Elder Zytkoskee will hold a series of evangelistic meetings during this autumn, to follow up the interest created through a two-year program of Bible readings and cottage meetings.

The work in Egypt is going forward with rich blessings from the hand of the Lord.

E. S. Cubley.



Lebanon Syria Mission welcomes Mr. Adeeb Fargo, B.A., to its corps of teachers. He has been asked to be principal of the Beirut Arabic school. He takes the place of Miss Hana who had been in charge of the school ever since it started in 1929 and who has accepted an urgent call for someone to lead out in the school in Amman, Trans-Jordan.

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Miss Naima Guirguis, who has been doing very satisfactory work as a nurse in the Hospital, has been granted leave of absence to study in the States. She will be taking work at the White Memorial Hospital and we hope that at the end of the year she will be returning to resume her former duties.





## “PROTECT THE LORD’S LAND”

By Elder Neal C. Wilson

*Superintendent, Egypt Mission*

It was a delightful Sabbath morning at our Training School in Fayoum (fayum). The young men were quietly engaged in getting ready for breakfast, when one of them happened to look across the fields in the direction of the nearest village and soon every boy in the school was on the alert. “Here come the villagers; stop those men; protect the Lord’s land,” was what the students were saying, as they armed themselves with sticks, knives, hoes, stones and anything they could get their hands on. These boys meant every word they said, and fully intended to defend the school property against the angry villagers. Had it not been that the officer and several of his men, from the district police outpost, came galloping up on their horses in response to our appeal for aid, the story might have had quite a different ending. These nearly one hundred armed villagers had been provoked by several unfortunate incidents, and now having been incited and urged on by their fanatical religious leaders they had decided to drive us from the place and destroy the school. This happened nearly two years ago when our Training School was just being established. In fact the students were all living in tents because the buildings had not yet been put up. But let me tell you a little more about the thrilling story of this school, and how these same people are now our friends and supporters instead of our enemies.

Early in 1945 we had an overwhelming conviction that we must start a school where our young people could be trained in the ways of God and could receive an education that would prepare them for the heralding of the

three angel’s messages in this ancient “land of Bondage”. But how could such an institution be started? It would require much money to buy land on which to establish a farm; and besides this, equipment and money for the erection of suitable buildings would be needed. In this situation as in all others, God was not unmindful of our extremity and He impressed the heart of an old man, thus opening up a way for this plan to materialize. One of our faithful Armenian brethren in Cairo, anxious to see the work go forward, decided to dedicate his savings for the purpose of building up the Advent Message in Egypt. Not long after this decision, our loyal brother passed to his rest; but verily his works do live after him. With this start, followed by the help of the General Conference and a gift from abroad, we were able to proceed in finding a suitable place to locate our new school.

After having investigated many pieces of property we realized that we did not have sufficient money to buy improved land, as well as erect buildings. You see the price of land in the Nile Valley or Delta ranges from two hundred to six hundred Egyptian Pounds (24 to 88 dollars) for an acre. With the money on hand we could have secured about 30 acres of the cheaper type of land—but if we did this, we would have nothing left for buildings! There was only one thing to do; look for some unimproved land; erect our buildings; start our school; and then improve the land as rapidly as means would permit. Most of the unimproved land in Egypt is along the edge of the desert and you can

understand that such a location is not exactly desirable, from many points of view. What then would we do to solve this situation? Space does not permit the recounting of the way the Lord led us from one place to another until finally we agreed upon the land at Seila (Say-la) in the province of Fayoum.

Fayoum, in reality, is an oasis situated about 75 miles south-west of Cairo. This oasis is about 35 miles in diameter and is separated from the main valley of the Nile by about 25 miles of desert. It is considered a very fertile section of Egypt and is noted for its lovely fruits and vegetables. The 70 acres which we picked out was surrounded by beautiful green fields and palm trees; but because this land was from 4 to 15 feet higher than the other land around, it had never been improved owing to the fact that there was no way to lift the water from the canal onto the land. Seldom does it rain in Upper Egypt, sometimes once or twice a year and sometimes not at all for a year or two; consequently life and cultivation in all Egypt are entirely dependent on water from the Mighty Nile. The whole province of Fayoum is watered by a huge canal which has its source in the Nile. This canal is called the "Joseph River" and is believed to have been built by Joseph in order to irrigate more land, thus being able to store up food for the seven years of famine. One of the many branches of this Canal forms the eastern boundary of our property. On the west we have a rather deep "Wadi" (Wadee) or valley; on the south the main railway line joining the provincial capital-city of Fayoum with Cairo; and on the North there is another small canal. Besides these natural boundaries there are several other big advantages. Located on one corner of our property is the district police station and the district post office; and just off our land is the railway station and

telegraph office. The land being a bit higher than surrounding properties is more healthy, and constantly enjoys a cooling breeze coming off the green, water-soaked grain fields.

In November 1946 we laid the foundations of the Administration building and at the same time started school for 25 young men who lived in tents for well-nigh six months. At present we have 30 young men living in the Administration building and some of the teachers living in the one-third-completed dormitory. The rest of the teachers live in the city and must travel 25 miles each day in going to and from the school. This situation is a difficult one. We need to complete the dormitory, we need a cottage for the principal, we need a separate dining room-kitchen unit, and we desperately need a small efficient industrial shop as well as a farm building. We are looking to you, dear Sabbath School members, to help us in our plight. What better investment could you make than putting some capital in this soul-saving institution? It will pay eternal dividends. If you could visit this school today you would understand what it is for "the desert to blossom as a rose". Our land, which at the beginning of 1947, appeared nothing but desert, is rapidly changing. Beauty is being brought forth from the sand, thanks to a 10" pomp which lifts gallons of water from the canal and pours it on the thirsty land. Already we have fragrant blossoms on the nearly 2000 orange and lemon trees that are planted; and besides these we have hundreds of Mango, Guava, Apricot, Olive, Pomegranate, and Palm trees that will be providing delicious fruits in about two more years. The school is now being supplied with many varieties of vegetables and ere long we hope to produce most of our needs, besides having much produce for local markets. But, understand friends, we are raising more than

trees and vegetables; we are trying to develop these young men into "trees of righteousness" as the Psalmist declares.

But I hear you asking, "How did those angry villagers become friendly and appreciative?" Well, one dark night a few weeks ago a raging fire broke out in their village about a mile north of our school. The villagers tried their best to put it out; but, the fire fanned on by a strong wind and the people overcome with fear and panic, it seemed that nothing could be done to stop the hungry flames from devouring the whole village. People were beginning to flee and in their fright they were fighting with one another—a scene of despair and confusion! To this inferno came Principal Robert Rowe, some of the teachers, and our boys. After a desperate hour of methodical and brave battling, the blaze was well under control and was finally put out, with the loss of only six huts. Since this experience the villagers cannot praise our boys enough, and their praise has been heard all over the province and has even reached the ears of the Governor.

These students saved the villagers from flames of veritable destruction, but soon they will be out rescuing perishing souls from the fire of sin. They will go forth to battle the fear and panic and confusion that Satan is bringing into the hearts of men. Armed with the word of God, strengthened in prayer and led by the Sweet Spirit of Heaven, they will advance throughout this land of Egypt bringing hope and courage and causing men and women everything to be in readiness for the soon-coming of our Lord and Saviour. What an opportunity is yours, dear members, to share in this glorious work by your earnest prayers and liberal giving!

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## AWAKE, YE SONS OF LIGHT!

Awake! ye sons of light,  
 Quit you like men, be strong;  
 Our God goes forth to war  
 Against the hosts of wrong.  
 Lands which have long oppos'd His reign  
 Now open to their King again.

By China's ancient wall  
 They soon shall sing His fame,  
 In India and Japan  
 Shall bless His holy name.  
 Freedom shall come to serfs of Rome  
 And joy to many a Moslem home.

Soon God will open doors  
 In wild Afghanistan  
 And through the Khyber pass  
 Send in His chosen man.  
 Tibet—long slumbering in the night—  
 Thy peaks shall glow with morning light.

The tribes of Amazon  
 Shall gladly hear His voice.  
 Broad Argentina's plains  
 Shall at His Word rejoice.  
 And Indians where the Andes tower  
 Shall heed His Word and feel His power.

*A. Warren*

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Word has just reached us that six boys who completed their elementary school work at the Fayoum Training school were entered for the government examination and passed. This is welcome news and we congratulate both the teachers and the students. It indicates that the standard of work done in our schools is not a whit behind the standards set by the best government schools.

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## MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE

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Middle East College was privileged in having Doctor A. W. Johnson, president of Emmanuel Missionary College, as commencement speaker. Doctor Johnson spent several days at the college and visited some of the nearby places of historical interest.

At the beginning of his address he presented to the college the gift of the Senior Class of Emmanuel Missionary College. This gift is a very substantial addition to the college library.

Following the address President F. E. J. Harder presented diplomas to the graduates of the Preparatory School and Junior College and conferred degrees upon the senior college graduates. This service marked a climax toward which the college has been growing for nine years. To those who have had interest in the development of the school and who have known some of the difficulties which attend its growth, this was truly an occasion of profound joy.

As the graduates of the class of 1948 go on to service in the Lord's work or to further education we wish them the success which attends labors blessed by God. We are confident that the Lord will continue to lead and prosper the work of Middle East College as it grows and broadens its services.

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Middle East College is happy to welcome two new families to its community this year. Mr. G. C. Winslow will be teaching in the fields of science and English and Mr. Camille Nowfel will strengthen the departments of history and English. The Winslows were for-

merly located in Meshed, Iran. Mr. Nowfel recently returned from two years of study in the United States.

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Mrs. Krick reports that the College kitchen is improving beyond all recognition. New paint, new tiles, new sinks, and new lights certainly make a wonderful difference to the place. When the new stove arrives (shortly we believe) and those who serve in the kitchen wear their new aprons and new caps the department will be able to fulfil its duties with new pride and efficiency.

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Science equipment for the College that has been on order for some time has just recently arrived.

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The Vocational Education Department has been kept busy this summer supplying doors and windows for the cottages, built-in cupboards for the kitchen and the deans' apartments, a laboratory table for the physics room, and many other projects.

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The College looks forward to a number of new offerings this year: Hebrew and second year Greek are being offered for the first time in the history of the college. There will also be a new class in Nutrition and one in Field Seminar.

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While releasing Mrs. Branson for work in the Union office the College Board has expressed appreciation of her services on the faculty this past year. Mrs. Branson's work will be divided between Mrs. Russell, B.A., and Mrs. Winslow, B.A., to whom a cordial welcome is extended.

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Registration for the Autumn quarter at the College begins October 7. The opening reception will be held on Saturday evening



October 10. Classes will begin on Monday October 11 and opening convocation will be at 7:30 a.m. on that day.

The children's Sabbath School at the College has had a record attendance this summer. Plus ultra !

Elder G. M. Krick reports that the summer school came to a successful close on September 13. There had been fifty eight students enrolled, eleven from Egypt, twenty one from Iraq, eight from Palestine and Trans-Jordan, sixteen from Lebanon and Syria, and two from the United States.

On Thursday July 29 the College proudly dedicated its new Vocational Education building. A service inside was followed by an unveiling of the name outside in which Elder S. W. Johnson, Head of the Vocational Education Department, took a leading part.

For the Egyptian students the summer school afforded the opportunity to finish the first quarter's work which had been missed of the cholera epidemic in Egypt.

Dr. C. Schilt's teaching in the summer school was greatly appreciated. He taught Biology, Health Principles, and Introductory Science. In between lecturing on home rela-

tions, giving medical advice, and attending Union Committee meetings he managed to visit a number of places of historical interest in Lebanon and Syria.

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### PALESTINE-TRANS-JORDAN MISSION

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As a result of the great need in Amman for a teacher for our Adventist boys and for some to take care of the interests of the church it was decided to transfer Mr. Musa Azer from El Husn to Amman. Mr. Musa and his wife have already settled in their new location.

The transfer of Mr. Musa to Amman has created a vacancy in El Husn. It means that our elementary school has unfortunately to be closed. At this time when we should be advancing instead of going back it is regretted that we find ourselves without a trained worker to fill the post and without the funds necessary for his support. The parents are pleading that we do not forget their need and we hope and pray it will not be long before we can come to their aid.

Miss Hana Jubran who has served for so many years in our school in Beirut has accepted a call to be head mistress of our school in Amman. We feel sure that she will build soundly in Amman as she did in Beirut. She has four teachers associated with her.

The company in Cyprus is putting in a strong plea for a missionary to be sent to them. They miss Elder Norris very much now that he has accepted the call to the Far East. Elder Norris left Beirut with his family on Sunday September 19.

Miss Ruby Williams expects to take her

furlough shortly. She has worked faithfully in Amman for four years and deserves a change. We wish her every blessing as she leaves for the homeland and shall look forward to her return in due course.

There was great excitement when the College cook, Mr. Hanna Maatouk, went to Amman, got married, and came back with his bride. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Maatouk every blessing in the coming years.

### A TRIP TO AFGHANISTAN

(continued from page 66)

pipe presented a ready starting point which led step by step from the harmfulness of smoking, sinfulness of killing and eventually to the terrible condition the entire world is in and the Second Coming of Christ which would be the only and sure means of salvation.

We wended our way to this village and that, chatting with this blacksmith and that shepherd, returning to the banks of the river to find the boys exercising their lungs to full capacity in preparation for the return paddle across the rapids on the blown up skins. We returned home, happy for the Sabbath well spent with fellow believers in Afghanistan.

We returned the same route, spending our last Sabbath where we had spent the first one, in Herat. As we crossed the border, I did *not* take a last glance at the marker, because in my heart I have a determination of not merely getting another look at the country, but if need be, and the Lord so ordains, have my last look *in* the country. What a glorious privilege it would be to preach the Everlasting Gospel to our "brothers" over there when the Lord Himself shall come — it cannot be very far off.

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## IRAQ MISSION

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A new elementary school will start this year in Basra. Miss Rose Haddad has been called to be head mistress of this school and she will have two or three teachers to help her.

Once again the school in Baghdad opens its doors to students. This year Miss Fowzia Khalil is in charge and Miss Selma Souleiman and Miss Leila Ayoub will give her full time help. There will be other teachers in the school giving part time help in specialist studies.

Mr. Robert Hasso has reported a very successful conclusion to the school year in Mosul. One hundred percent of those who sat for the elementary examination and a high percentage of those who sat for the intermediate examination were successful in their government examinations.

There are plans for the opening of a boarding school for young men from the villages around Mosul. It is hoped that this project will come to fruition since it will mean a definite forward step in our educational work in Iraq. It is being made possible thanks to the generosity of some of our members in Mosul and Baghdad.

Mr. Nassif Butros, of Egypt, has been called to teach in the school in Basra.

Plans are definitely under way for opening the School of Nursing in Baghdad in the first week of October. A number of trainees are expected from Turkey, the Lebanon, Egypt and other places.

## FROM HERE AND THERE

From the *Pacific Union Recorder* of July 12, 1948, we cull the following paragraph :

"Prof. E. Strauss Cubley, newly appointed secretary-treasurer of the Middle East Union Mission, was ordained to the gospel ministry on the last Sabbath of the Camp meeting of the Southeastern California Conference. The following day he and Mrs. Cubley set out for their new field of service, pausing briefly on the way to visit friends and relatives."

Elsewhere in the same issue of the *Recorder* we read that at Prof. Cubley's ordination service Elder McElhaney gave the charge, Elder Fredrick Griggs offered the ordination prayer, and Elder C. L. Bauer welcomed him into ministerial fellowship.

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You may be interested to know that our new secretary-treasurer in the Middle East has an article in the *Signs of the Times* of July 13, 1948, entitled : "World Inflation : will it strike America".

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If you want a good story with an important truth emphasised read "Of Men and Miracles" by Mary Jo Hasso in the *Youth's Instructor* of July 27, 1948.

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MIDDLE EAST MESSENGER  
*Organ of the Middle East Union  
 Mission of Seventh-day Adventists*  
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EDITOR : G. ARTHUR KEOUGH

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"Miss Dixie Joan and Mr. Camille Nowfel were united in marriage, June 13, in the Takoma Park, Maryland, church. The ceremony was solemnized by Elder Francis D. Nichol.

Miss Webb was given in marriage by her father, Mr. O. M. Webb, of Atlanta. Mrs. Frank Newgard of Collegedale, Tennessee, and sister of the bride, was matron of honor. Mr. Constantine Christofides was the best man. Miss Dorothy Cornwell and Miss Jean Newgard served as attendants to the bride, and Mr. Don Roth and Mr. Walter Herrell were ushers.

The reception for the friends and relatives was held immediately after the service at the Review and Herald assembly hall.

Mr. Nowfel graduated with a bachelor of arts degree from Washington Missionary College the night before in the college's graduation services. Miss Webb graduated with the class of '47 from Atlanta Union Academy. She attended Washington Missionary College one year."

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On July 28 Mrs. Ruth Seitz with Gail and "Buddy" left Beirut for the United States by plane. We are sorry to lose Mrs. Seitz in the Union office where she filled an urgent need for stenographic help but our best wishes go with her wherever she serves in the Cause that she and her husband loved so well.

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### LEBANON-SYRIA MISSION

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Thanks to the energies and zeal of Brother Olsen a new elementary school is starting this year in Chekka. Mr. Musa Gazal and Miss Sarah Gazal are the teachers and the enrol-

ment is expected to be around sixty.

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The School in Beit Mery enters upon its second year of existence. Last year the school was very much appreciated by a large number of the parents and it is expected that the enrolment will be quite high this year. In fact we are not in a position to meet all the demands made upon us.

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The school in Aramoun will continue this year in new quarters. There were a number of baptisms in Aramoun last year and we look forward to equal if not greater success in the year to come.



Hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Hanna Watson who were married in the Adventist Auditorium on August 5 at 6:30 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Watson will join the faculty of the Fayoum Training School for the school year 1948-1949.

We are delighted to hear that the Jacobson family have had a daughter born to them on August 24 at 5 p.m.

Hilmy Barbawy and wife are also to be congratulated on the arrival of a son, Fowzi, on Sabbath morning July 24. He is described as "tall, sweet, strong, white and healthy".

Ayoub Azer and family have decided to call their new daughter Alice. You are very welcome, Alice.

