

New Year's VOICE Number

The SYRIAN ARK For Lebanon and Arabian Unity

The National Organization News Monthly

3-B-3-a

A. F. ZAINY, Editor in Chief

M. V. THOMA, Editor Syrian Voice

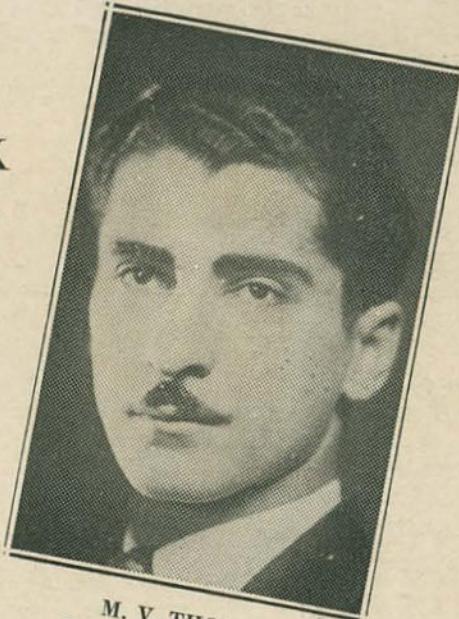
VOLUME IV.

NUMBER V

January, 1940.



THE ARK
Joins Hands
With The
VOICE



M. V. THOMA,
Editor Syrian VOICE

A. F. ZAINY
Editor Syrian ARK

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VOICE

The SYRIAN and LEBANONITE

(See Editorial Page)

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Weddings & Engagements

BOUTROSS-BOUTROSS

Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 10. Mr. and Mrs. George M. Boutross announce the wedding of their daughter, Marie, to Mr. Wade J. Boutross. Ceremony was held at the Church of St. Mary.

HADDAD-NOUH

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 23. Miss Theresa Nimer Haddad and William A. Nouh were married in St. Maroon's Church by Rev. Francis Chemaly. Sponsors were Miss Mamie M. Maroon and James Badway.

* * *

NA'AMAN-BITAR

Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 5. David and

Nadima Na'amani announce the marriage of their daughter, Mabel, to Albert Bitar, son of Annis Bitar. Sponsors were Selma Na'amani and Anton Bitar.

NAMI-MONSOUR

Canton, Ohio, Nov. 23. Mr. and Mrs. John Nami announce the marriage of their daughter, Josephine, to Emil Monsour. Sponsors were Soleiman Saba and Edna Anton.

* * *

MOKARZEL-ALEXANDER

New York. Nov. 22. Salloum Mokarzel, editor of "Al-Hoda" announces the engagement of his daughter, Leila, to Dr. Edward M. Alexander, of

Cambridge, Ohio, son of Michael and Farida Alexander, natives of Beit-Shebab, Lebanon.

SADA-GANEM

New York City, Nov. 23. John and Rose Sada announce the marriage of their daughter, Agnes, to John Ganem, son of Mr. and Mrs. Shaker Ganem.

Detroit, Mich.

The "Original Syriads, Inc." sponsored a pre-convention ball, held at the Book-Cadillac Crystal Room on January 14, 1940. The following were members of the committee in charge: Bryan Bryenm, Edward Gannon, Fred McKool, Edward David, and Frederick P. Alexander.

«الفلك السوري» منشئها إبراهيم فرج زيني (زحلة)

THE SYRIAN ARK, published monthly for the Syrian American Federations of the United States and their member clubs. Founded 1936 by A. F. ZAINEY, Editor. ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER JANUARY 31, 1938, AT THE POST OFFICE AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Editorial Offices, Peoples Bank Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In the United States of America \$2 per year; outside of the United States, \$3 per year. Advertising rates on application. To avoid mistakes in names and addresses, subscribers are requested to notify the ARK offices immediately upon discovery of any errors. The Post Office Department makes a charge to the subscriber to forward magazines to a changed address. Before you change your address, notify us, if possible. Contributors desiring the return of any manuscripts are requested to enclose return postage. The ARK will not be responsible for typographical errors and reserves the right to reject, revise and improve any manuscripts or advertisements.

المجلة الوحيدة في أميركا مطبوعة باللغة الانكليزية «للبانين والسورين وسائر الشعوب العربية»

تصدر مرة في الشهر

Syrian and Greek Orthodox Churches Celebrate Easter on April 28th

By SHOKRI K. SWYDAN

Owing to the difference between the Gregorian and the Julian calendars, the Christians of the Greek and Syrian Orthodox churches and those of the western churches do not celebrate Easter on the same day. Mr. Shokri Swydan, a noted Arabic scholar, of Worcester, Mass., describes the Easter ceremonies of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem, of which he has been an eye-witness.

"Christ is Risen—Verily He is Risen."

"Rise, O God, and judge the earth, for Thine is the inheritance in all nations."

"Christ is risen from the dead, overcoming death by death, and hath given life to them that lie in graves."

"Let us embrace one another, let us forgive all things for the sake of the Resurrection."

Jerusalem, the holiest city of Christianity, where the Son of God created a human body and sacrificed himself for our sins is the scene of the Holy Light Service. He said, "I will be with you all the time and whenever two or more persons gather in My name, I shall be amongst them." How truly this is verified by the multitudes of pilgrims who receive the Light that shines from His grave on Holy Saturday, the day before the Eastern Christian world celebrates the memory of His resurrection, this year on April 27, Easter Sunday, in the Greek and Syrian Orthodox Church will be celebrated April 28. This is a very important and historical ceremony conducted in Jerusalem since the second or third century. The writer has been present at many of these services and believes in the reality of this Light. The historian, Bernhard, wrote that he was present in the year 870 A. D. on Holy Saturday and saw the Light coming from the Sepulchre in Jerusalem.

On Holy Friday night the guards of the Church of Resurrection close all entrances to the church. About five hundred people remain in the church so that they may reserve for themselves an ideal seat for the Holy Saturday ceremony.

At sunrise on Holy Saturday, the guards extinguish all candles and lamps in the church. Before noon, the churchyard is crowded with people from all walks of life and from every country on earth. Saturday morning at 9:30, the guards will open the gates of the church in the presence of representatives from the Armenian church and the Military Commanders of Jerusalem. The soldiers will enter first and stand around the tomb. They make a passage way so that the clergy may pass freely among the multitudes.

After this is performed, the guards allow the waiting populace to enter the church. They rush in like the flooded waters of the Holy Jordan. The Arabic speaking Christian natives of Jerusalem, Syria, and Egypt fill the church at this historical hour with their common singing and with such faith and self confidence that is usually reserved for privacy in their own home. They believe that they have safeguarded this holy place for the past sixteen hundred years for the Christian world.

Later in the ceremony when the Light shines forth, they burst into another song, singing, "The Light has

come out—Verily it has come out. God give every Nazarene (Christian) the faith to see this Light."

Saturday at 11 o'clock the Dragomen of the Greek, Syrian and Armenian churches in the presence of the civil authorities of Jerusalem enter the Holy Sepulchre. They search the place thoroughly, and finding nothing amiss, close the door. The head guard of the Church applies a white silk ribbon to the four corners of the door. The civil authorities apply wax over the ribbon and seal the door. "So they went and made the Sepulchre secure, sealing the stone and setting a watch." Matthew 27:66.

Exactly at noon, his Eminence the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of the Holy City of Jerusalem and Palestine enters the church of "The Center of the Earth" with members of his court. He goes direct to the altar where the clergy of the various Christian sects have already gathered. Soon after this the clergy of the Armenians, Copts, Jacobites, and Abyssinians enter the church. These sects are very closely related to the Greek Orthodox Church.

The clergy, led by the Armenian Bishop, form double file and proceed to the throne of the Orthodox Patriarch to do homage to their superior. They respect him with honor in recognition of his supremacy from the rights and traditions given to Orthodox Patriarchs from the days of Caliph O'Mar Ebn Al Khattab, who captured Jerusalem.

They have retained this supremacy through the ages.

After the last clergyman has paid his respects, they adorn themselves with their vestments and proceed to the tower of the Sepulchre. The Patriarch brings up the rear, arrayed in his full regalia, carrying the crozier in his hand. He is surrounded by European diplomats with their armed bodyguards and the British governor of Jerusalem. While His Eminence is blessing the populace, the clergy chant, "Thy Resurrection, O Saviour, angels singing in the Heavens, vouchsafe that we also, on earth, may glorify Thee with pure hearts." Upon hearing this chant, the people let loose a great show of emotion for they do not try to hide their feelings if they are affected by the song.

The procession circles the tower of the Sepulchre three times and stops at the door of the tower. They sing in one voice, "O tranquil Light of the holy ghost of the Immortal Father, The Heavenly, The Holy, The Blessed, O Jesus Christ."

The clergy then return to the altar where they take off their vestments, the Patriarch remains at the door where he removes his vestments except the Epitachelion, the Maniples, and the Ropes. The guard offers him two silver candle holders so that he may give the lights from the northern windows of the tower to the populace outside. The guard breaks the seals of the door and opens it. The Patriarch enters followed by the Armenian Patriarch. The door is closed while the governor stands at the door. The Greek Orthodox Patriarch kneels before the Sepulchre and prays, "O Tranquil Light, etc."

This is the most cherished moments for which the throngs have been waiting, especially for the Russian pilgrims who traveled thousands of miles from the northern parts of Siberia and most of it on foot. There is a hushed silence . . . All eyes are on the Holy Sepulchre . . . The long anticipated moment has arrived . . . The Light Shines . . . All lights in the church are illuminated

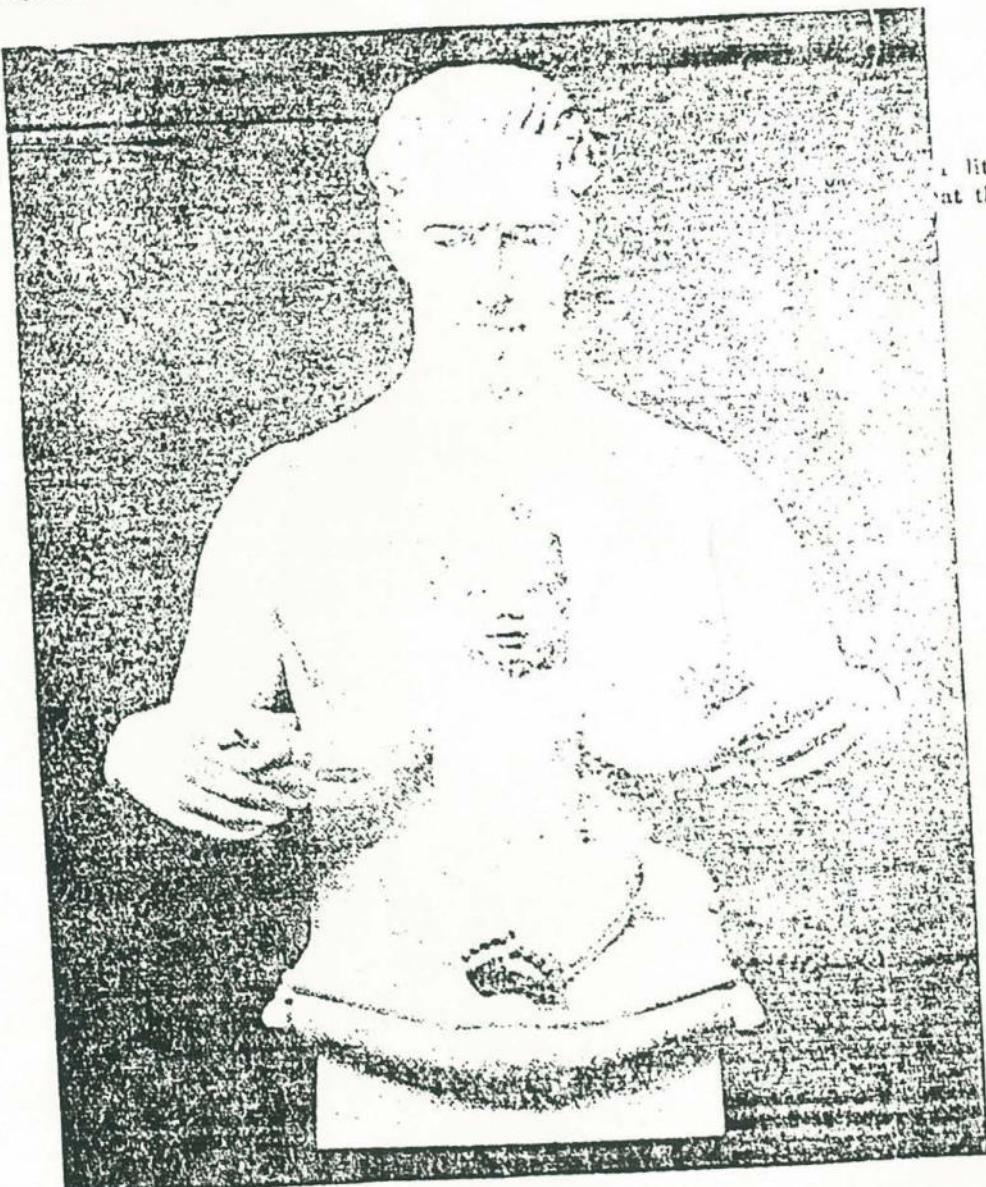
The SYRIAN ARK

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A. F. ZAINY, Editor in Chief
M. V. THOMA, Editor Syrian Voice

April, 1940

VOLUME IV.
NUMBER VIII.



Dr. C. W. Saleeby With the Sculptor's Daughter

By Alfred F. Hardiman, A.R.A.

Some years ago, the distinguished sculptor of England asked Dr. Saleeby to sit for him. The result was the magnificent bronze over life-size of which the model is here shown. The work has been greatly admired and was exhibited at the Royal Academy, England, in 1934, and the Royal Scottish Academy in 1935. The model has since continued to spread the light in the leading art galleries throughout England and Scotland. It has lately been exhibited in the courtyard of the Palace of Art in the British Empire Exhibition in Glasgow.

(See further Dr. Saleeby's article and Editor's Note on page 8)

by it. The Patriarch carries the candles in their silver holders to the northern windows of the tower where the multitudes see his two hands with the lighted candles. The Light is here. Songs, prayers, hymns, postling of the crowds takes place. They rush to reach the Light so that they may light their thirty-three candles which represent the number of years our Saviour lived upon this earth. The military men at this moment have difficulty in controlling the throngs.

When the multitude becomes quieted the Patriarch leaves the Sepulcher to make way for the Copts, Armenians, Abyssinians and Jacobites, to pray according to their manner. When the Patriarch appears in the doorway, the Arab natives of Jerusalem carry him upon their shoulders through the multitudes and he blesses them. Bells ring joyously from the hundreds of churches and monasteries in Jerusalem.

They carry the Patriarch to the main church where a bishop will serve the mass for Holy Saturday. One of the two holders with the Light will be carried by one of the priests to Bethlehem which is five miles south of Jerusalem to light the candles and lamps in the church of the Nativity.

All the people after the Mass carry their lighted candles and go directly home to light more candles which they have at home. These candles are generally kept throughout life and whenever there is death in the family they take these candles and place them lighted, next to the body to signify the blessing from the real Light of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Any person having a chance to go to Jerusalem at this historical moment is known thereafter as "Hajj," a title bestowed upon him by his fellowcountrymen, "Hajj" meaning "Pilgrim." You will return to find that mere words are insufficient to explain to your friends what you saw and felt. They will know only, after they too, have earned the title of "Hajj."

Sunlight and Little Girls

(Continued from page 4)

in the world, so far as the diseases of darkness are concerned.

It may be urged that, owing primarily to our propaganda, gross rickets, such as may entail Caesarean section, has disappeared. There has indeed been great amelioration. But very slight imperfection in the form of the pelvis may be enough to have very serious consequences for maternity. A corresponding degree of rickets in a boy matters nothing at all. One cannot do better than use, for those who are not expert obstetricians, the graphic illustration employed by Dr. Kathleen Vaughan at one of our Annual Meetings at Hampden House, so often and generously lent us by our President, many years ago. Dr. Vaughan used to see extreme rickets among high-caste women kept in PURDAH during her work as an obstetrician in India, and this it was that sent her to her recent researches. But it was her careful and meticulous measurements of pelvis in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, where Sir Arthur Keith helped her so freely, that led her to realize the importance of very slight flattening of the pelvic ring. To our large audience on the occasion which so many will remember, she showed an india-rubber ball about the size of an infant's head, which she had purchased on her way to the meeting at a famous toy shop, together with an india-rubber ring through which the ball would freely, but only just, pass. Then

she flattened the ring almost imperceptibly, and the ball would pass no longer. This is exactly what happens in what we believe to be a very large proportion of child-births in this country. There are delay, pressure, pain, exhaustion, deformation of the infant's head, injury to the maternal tissues, and probably instrumental interference, with increased risk of the dread infection which leads to puerperal fever. I suspect that no small measure of our maternal mortality and of the still-birth-rate are really attributable to rickets, die ANGLISCHE KRANKHEIT, which we can and forever from today, if we will.

To provide clean air and complete sunlight for girls up to fourteen, thus preventing rickets of the pelvis, would be worth more for safe motherhood, a live birth-rate and our national future than quadrillions of dumb-bells or any number of Olympic records. It is to the Girl Guides, under the incomparably wise and far-seeing eyes of Lord Baden-Powell and of Lady Baden-Powell, the Chief Guide, that I look for the ending of rickets among our little girls. The Girl Guide movement has more power to help out national survival thus than any other institution. It is concerned wholly and exactly with little girls up to fourteen.

Of course the government measure, which is now law, should be capable of great good. What it should and must give us no one can question who has any grasp of the laws of health and the relative values of bone, brain, muscle, and spirit in the constitution of the City of Mansoul. We must have beaches and meadows, camping grounds (on the coast for choice) open-air swimming baths inland, and sports grounds, notably including plenty of hard tennis courts. And children must be provided for in all these places, they being our future and having no votes for political influence nor strings of their own to pull. For our national survival, in these days when machinery has made nearly all muscles obsolete as mere mechanical instruments, what we want are the soundly muscular hearts and chests which all must have who would be healthy, even though they be purely brain-workers; and a proper development of the abdominal and other muscles required by young mothers for normal child-birth. The sacro-iliac joints and the muscles thereby are especially important in this connection, and "skipping in sunlight" was the answer given by my old friend, Sir Arthur Keith, a master anatomist, when I asked him for the best exercise for future motherhood.

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Music Talent Number

3-B-3-a

The SYRIAN MARK For Lebanon and Arabian Unity

The National Organization News Monthly

Combined with the **LEBANON VOICE**, Albany, N. Y. and the **SYRIAN HERALD**, Washington, D. C.

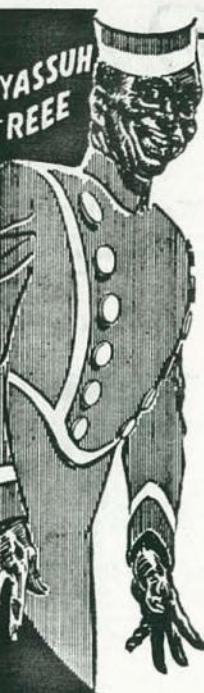
NOVEMBER
1940

A. Frederick Zainey, Editor
Indianapolis, Ind.

Volume V
Number III



THE CARLISLE TRIO
RUSS, LILLIAN and LOUISE
See Page Four



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The SYRIAN ARK

Nov., 1940 Vol. V, No. III A FREDERICK ZAINY, Editor, Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A. Subscription—\$2 per year (Entered as second class matter January 31, 1938, at the post office at Indianapolis, Ind., under the Act of March 3, 1879.)

TO YOU, MY FRIEND—AMEEN RIHANI

By Sumayah Attiyyeh

They told me you were dead, but I don't believe it. You only went away from our view—beyond the earthly horizon, where human eyes are powerless to penetrate, and our limited minds cannot visualize.

You were only called away to another land more advanced and to another world more beautiful—to continue life where you left off here on earth.

You left behind you a temple wherein you dwelt with us for 63 years. While on this earthly plane functioning through this outer temple which was your physical body, the tool of your spirit, you were sensitive to impressions and inspiration, and eager to create some thing worth while—to adjust some injustice, and to right the wrongs of others.

You did not see life in food, clothes and amusements only—that is because you were not a body with a soul, but a great soul clothed temporarily with a body for self-expression while here.

You possessed a challenging mind and an unreconciled heart, because you saw greed and injustice in the world.

A man's contribution to human welfare who can be called a humanitarian is he who brings his abilities to their highest point and whose personality and noble soul have penetrated most deeply into the lives of others.

You were, and your memory is still that, my dear friend, Ameen. We, the Syrian people, love you, and will always be proud of you.

You were our patriot, our champion, our friend, and the Arabic speaking world honors your name.

Do you remember our various discussions? You and I agreed that humanity will triumph yet to a glorious way of living, but during its journey upward and forward, the march has been halted by pits and falls—by blood and hate and ignorance, but in spite of the devil himself, it will keep marching on and on until it reaches its goal and achieves its purposes.

You were, in your earthly activities, a crusader and a social reformer. Through the pen and the spoken word, like an earnest soldier, you fought your battles bravely unto the end of the journey here.

Then Father Time appeared and on August 22 of 1940 he said, "Son, Time is Up." Then you left us through the way of all flesh, and went your way—the new way—to a higher achievement and a grand and glorious eternal life in the Spirit Land.

While you were with us here on earth, Ameen, you had bitter disappointments, physical pains and handicaps, also problems to solve—but you had courage, and I can truthfully say that you were bigger than anything that happened to you.

Difficulties are not additions to life, but vital portions of life. Obstacles are not thrown in our road by mere accident—they are part of the road. Courage is the weapon and the divine implement that we can use to overcome all difficulties. This is the heroic mastery over circumstances. Every obstacle conquered and every victory gained, makes us so much stronger.

Even death itself awaits with reverence on a courageous soul, and this without a doubt must have happened to you, Ameen.

Your business was not to remake yourself, but to make the best out of what God made.

You did not run away from trouble, but faced it calmly and fought it out. Many men owe the grandeur of their lives to their tremendous difficulties.

You did not shrink from duty or work. We must never pity a man because he has to work. If he is worth his salt, he WILL work. I can envy the man who has a work worth doing and does it well. And that is exactly what you did, my friend.

You stepped out from the large crowd and made yourself a leader among men. You retained your genuine kindness, graciousness and sense of humor. You magnified the other fellow's good deeds, spoke well of others, made new friends wherever you went, kept loyal to your old friends, and many people drank your toast and called you A Prince Among Men.

You had decision and discrimination and did not rob Pat to help Pete, because you followed the straight path, and the honest line of living.

You had the spirit of an adventurer, and certainly it is far better to undertake the chance of a shipwreck on a voyage of high purpose than to spend life paddling here and there on a shallow stream to no purpose at all.

Hard things are put in our way—not to stop us—but to call out our courage and strength.

It is better to say 'this one thing I am doing and trying to do it well,' than to say, 'here are twenty things I am dabbling with.'

(Continued on page 21)

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The Carlisle Trio: Russ, Louise and Lillian

SIANIANS MAKE NAME IN MUSICAL WORLD

This issue of the ARK is dedicated to Syrian Musical Talent and we are proud to present a few of those who have elevated the Syrian personalities in the field of music.

On the front cover of this ARK are the pictures of Russ Carlisle and his two charming sisters, Louise and Lillian, each a star in their special endeavors.

The Carlisle Trio, known to the Syrians of the country and others as Phil, Louise and Lillian Gantose, are the son and daughters of George and Rada Gantose, of Cleveland, Ohio, natives of Aramoon, Syria.

Phil is the star singer with the nationally known Blue Barron Orchestra which is now featuring in the leading theatres of the country.

In September Russ was booked at the Lyric Theatre in Indianapolis, where he was the guest of the ARK. In Chicago where he was booked at the Star-Lake Theatre, he was feted by the Syrian Progressive League and other leaders. Traveling farther out west and into the states of Iowa and Nebraska, Russ marveled at the hospitality showered upon him by the Syrians of Cedar Rapids, Sioux City and Omaha.

The Blue Barron Orchestra is now enroute eastward to be engaged for the winter at the Edison Hotel, New York City.

Russ' sister Louise, age 19, will be with her brother at the Edison, in preparation for a radio "build up" and then, says Russ, "Every Little Breeze Will Be Whispering Louise."

In spite of her adaptability as a piano player and harmonious renditions, Russ' other sister, Lillian, age 22, visualizes her future in a more serious aspect. Visions of some day being a "G-Woman," or whatever they call the feminine equivalent of a G-Man, are flitting through the head of Lillian, a graduate of Ohio State University, where she majored in criminology.

Lillian does all of those things which are usually associated with the minions of the law. She keeps a weather eye out for suspicious looking cars, and she imagines stories about men who look like desperadoes. She reads detective magazines besides her ARK and she studies "Line-Ups," just as real investigators are supposed to do.

This dark-eyed Miss hasn't the slightest doubt in the world that she will make good in the field of investigation. "I've already worked with

juvenile investigators and I'm sure I could work with older officials," she pointed out. "Some day, however, I want to work as referee in a juvenile Court. Not many women hold those positions, but I think there is a definite place for them in court work," she added.

Asked if she could shoot a gun, Lillian answered, "Yes, a rifle." She admitted that she never had fired such a business-like weapon as a pistol, but declared that she could learn.

Lillian hopes that with her knowledge of criminology she will be able to locate in New York where she will be closer to her brother Russ and sister Louise who need a G-Woman to keep up with them.

NICK FATOOL

World's Foremost Syrian Drummer In Movies With Fred Astaire And Paulette Goddard

Nick Fatool, ace drummer of the Benny Goodman band type, is a name scheduled to be bandied about with great affection by musical connoisseurs, regular night-club denizens and that outer fringe of the citizenry attracted only by rare talent to renditions frequented by the elite.

Nick was born in Danbury, Conn., where he received his early education, and where he resided until the time he was ten years old when the Fatool family moved to Providence, R. I. He started to take drum lessons when 14 and when he was 16 years old he played with a symphony orchestra, the youngest bandster the orchestra ever had.

Although Mr. Fatool has been one of the country's foremost drummers for the past two years, and more recently added to his laurels with his drumming in the Benny Goodman sextet, Nick's personality is unspoiled. A less genuine person might capitalize on his abilities and rank by becoming almost unapproachable, but not so with Nick. He's still "one of the boys" glad to be among his boyhood chums and Syrian friends.

In a recent return trip to his birthplace in Danbury, to be among his "chums" Nick was hailed a hero by his friends who celebrated for the "Hometown Boy Makes Good."

Nick was a member of the famous Benny Goodman Sextet which a leading magazine of the musical profession voted the nation's best musical com-

bination. With the Goodman orchestra he appeared in the Broadway hit "Swinging the Dream," the show that startled serious minded musicians into a realization of the possibilities of "swing" in the hands of real master musicians.

Previous to his engagements with Benny Goodman, Nick appeared with Don Bestor in movie shorts. He is now stationed in Hollywood appearing at the Victor Hugo studios. He has just completed a picture with Fred Astaire and Paulette Goddard in second chorus, which will soon be released.

Every Monday at 7:30 p. m. (EST) Nick's drums can be heard in the George Bernie and Gracey Allen programs over the National network.

Nick is only 25 years old, the baby in the Fatool family of four brothers and four sisters, all in Connecticut. A picture of Nick arrived in the ARK offices too late for reproduction in this issue.

New York Syrian-Lebanon Club Sponsors Drive For "Willkie for President"

President Eli N. Khouri Broadcasts Statement

In a recent letter made public by the "Willkie for President" Club of New York, president Eli N. Khouri sets out why the Syrian voters should lend their support to the Republican nominee for president in November 5th elections.

The letter in part reads: "It is our sincere belief that Mr. Willkie's election is of the utmost importance in guaranteeing the continuance of American democracy—bringing to us personal security and greater prosperity."

Membership in this political organization is entirely voluntary and open to all Syrian-Lebanon individuals regardless of party affiliations or beliefs. Its officers contribute their services without charge, and it is planned that the organization be national in scope and a permanent institution after the November elections.

George Dagher is national chairman and Dr. Basil D'Quakil is national secretary. The New York division is headed by Eli N. Khouri and Miss Selma Milkie is the recording secretary.

Michael A. Moore (Murr) a democrat heads the division of "Syrian Democrats for Willkie."

Headquarters for the Syrian "Willkie for President" Club are located in the Vanderbilt Hotel, New York City.

Josephine Wehby Sharbel Protege of Prominent Southern Matron



Josephine Wehby Sharbel, of Birmingham, Ala.; pictured above, is a well known songstress among the Syrians of the South and in particular to the members of the Southern Federation of Syrian Clubs, before whom she sang at all their conventions. She has a beautiful dramatic soprano voice.

The promising voice of Mrs. Sharbel was discovered when Josephine was in high school and singing in the operetta "The Fire Prince," then presented by the music teacher of the school.

At that time Josephine was a lass of 18, a beautiful Syrian girl, known to the elder Syrians of Birmingham as "Omra Harika." In the high school auditorium where Josephine was singing "My Golden Spain" and "Dancing

Dinah," songs selected by the high school music department director, a "Fairy God-Mother" appeared in the audience, in the person of Mrs. Horace Hammond, a prominent philanthropist, who heard Josephine sing. Mrs. Hammond was so impressed with the marvelous voice of the young Syrian that she inquired into the situation and offered Josephine lessons if she cared to pursue a course in musical culture. Delighted with the opportunity, Jose-

phine accepted and made splendid progress.

The "good fairy" provided lessons for Josephine with Mrs. Clara Harper Steele, one of the most popular teachers of singing in Birmingham.

Since her appearance in public, Mrs. Sharbel had the distinction of being the first opera voice winner in the State of Alabama, in a contest sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Mrs. Sharbel has appeared in concerts and symphonies throughout the South. She also sang in the Metropolitan Opera. In 1937 she gave a command audition for Lawrence Tibbett who was impressed with her sonorous quality and high range. Josephine has the rare combination of striking brunette beauty, charming personality and a voice of remarkable height.

Her opera repertoire includes "Il Pagliacci," "Faust," "La Boheme," "Carmen," and "Così Fan Tutti," while her light opera consists of "Sweethearts," and "The Gondoliers."

Fadwa Kurban Reveals Voice of Amazing Range and Splendor

Audiences Hearing Syrian Nightingale On Her Return From Lebanon And Europe Are Deeply Stirred

The first rendition by Fadwa Kurban, known as "Fedora the Oriental Nightingale" which she gave at the New York Academy of Music upon her return from Lebanon and Paris, before the present European War, revealed an artistry and a voice of a compass and splendor that simply amazed the unexpected audience who heard her.

The scope of Miss Kurban's repertoire may be gathered from the selections sung during her initial return appearance and which included: "Ah! Non Creda Mirarti," from "La Sonnambula;" "Corsa Nome," from "Rigoletto;" "When I Was Seventeen" by Kramer; "Manon au Cours la Reine;" "Blackbird What Are You Saying;" the "Indian Bell Song" from "Lakme;" "La Flute Enchantee" by Mozart; "Ah Torse Lui" from "La Traviata;" "Lo, Hear The Gentle Lark" by Bihsp; Dovel's "The Garden of Your Heart," and a collection of Arabic songs in costume.

Plenty Of Power

Miss Kurban is a tiny creature but her voice is not tiny. She sings without an apparent effort. Her coloratura passages being particularly marked for their clarity, sweetness and accuracy of phrasing and pitch.

In a recent engagement in Detroit, before a large group of Syrians from Michigan and Canada, Miss Kurban stirred her audience to enthusiasm when she sang in Arabic. With her native songs she revealed herself as possessed of a truly extraordinary power of stirring the emotions. Her singing of that simple and melodious song "In the Garden of Your Heart," "Ana fee Ganeinat Albak" was perhaps the finest ever heard.

During the ARK editor's recent visit to New York after the Bridgeport Convention, Miss Kurban was escorted to the offices of Corhan Bros., employers to a large group of workers, the diminutive nightingale sang choruses of Attaba revealing memories and sensitive emotions of the Boulevards of the Bardoni and Garat el-Wadi to Mr. Wadea Corhan. When her program was finished, the Corhan employees and officials refused to leave and Miss Kurban was obliged to continue with her Arabic songs—plaintive music of Syria and the Lebanon Mountains which proved charming and exotic.

Revealing a voice of dramatic intensity and of a delightful ethereal quality, Miss Kurban's efficacious presentations of intricate numbers, is ample reason why she is called the Syrian Nightingale, and her appearances and engagements before groups and special occasions are now available. The Arabic songs revealed by Miss Kurban are a source of extreme satisfaction to her Syrian audiences.

A recent offering which brought into play Miss Kurban's dramatic talents was the emotional version of the mad scene from "Lucia di Lamermoor" by Donizetti, the singer's favorite opera and the one in which she sang the title role with the Newark (N. J.) Civic Opera.

Miss Kurban sings in six languages: Arabic, French, German, English, Spanish and Italian.

The daughter of a professor at the University of Beirut, Miss Kurban was educated in the American schools of Syria and before her arrival in the United States, she had already adopted American principles and ideals, at the same time retaining the heritage of the land of her birth in both music and customs.

During her last visit to her native Lebanon, Miss Kurban was entertained at the home of the late Ameen Rihani. Other guests at this particular occasion were high Arabian officials and government dignitaries.

The following is an excerpt of Mr. Rihani's praise for Fadwa:

"But the rarest joy I have yet experienced was when Fadwa Kurban

first visited Freike and there, from the balcony of my home, strew over the Wadi below the golden beauty of her voice. It was one of those memorable moments that seldom recur. The singing of Miss Kurban first evoked a memory of the Metropolitan Opera in New York, when one afternoon I attended a recital by Galli Curci. But there, amidst the ruggedness of the ancient Lebanon, over its scented vales and pine-clad heights, was a presence that was neither Italian nor Syrian—a presence divine. At that moment I felt that I was receiving a message, through Fadwa Kurban, from the gods. After the Barcarole she sang Izkorini in Arabic, and the village women coming up from the spring below laid down their jars and the ploughmen stood transfixed at their ploughs in a transport of joy. Even the birds in the olive groves must have wondered

at the voice of the Syrian nightingale.

From Freike to the Metropolitan Opera House in New York is a far cry. But if the presiding deities of a great musical centre are always en rapport, as it were, with the Divine Giver, Fadwa Kurban will yet attain the mundane heights of recognition and fame. Some of the musical critics have already nodded, and a few of the managers have paused while surveying the firmament. Here is a voice that has the rarest qualities of what is called a soprano coloratura. To me it seems orchestral. In timbre and range, in volume and texture and versatility, it combines the lyric with the dramatic. It rises to the peaks of power and descends to the murmuring depths of poesy with the same facility and fascination. Fadwa Kurban, if the world of music is not out of joint, will yet 'arrive.'



MISS FADWA KURBAN

Syrian Coloratura and Oriental Nightingale

The Syrian Ark - November, 1940

ARK FORUM

(Editor's Note: The following item by Miss Sumayeh Attiyeh, eminent ARK writer, is a reply to the criticism heretofore published in the October ARK Forum. We cheerfully reproduce the same in the spirit of impartiality and as a source of inspiration).

TO THE ARK READERS:

Truth needs no defense and I say with humility of spirit and honest conviction, that I most assuredly do not need it because I speak and express in my lectures, radio talks and articles, only authentic truthful facts.

I must do that and can not do otherwise, as it would be foolish and disastrous on my part.

When I am assured, like I am assured, that two and two make four and not three, I go ahead when I am fully satisfied after thorough investigation and careful research.

To me my work is sacred and I love it. Therefore, I take it seriously and guard it well to the best of my ability.

My friends accuse me of being a crank on efficiency, but I would rather have this fault, if it could be called a fault, than to be inaccurate and sail along on guess-work and hearsay.

I read the average of thirty books a year—also the best weekly and monthly magazines and newspapers.

In my work I must be well informed and correctly posted. I must know my subject, otherwise I have no business being a lecturer and writer.

If I were not earnest and conscientious, I would have failed long ago, but I have been a long while a writer, a lecturer and world traveler—and do nicely—thank you.

I spend much time in the Chicago Library, Chicago University, and know personally outstanding writers, professors, artists, actors, astronomers, congressmen, senators and leaders in various fields of activity, to consult with on any topic when I am in doubt. I check up and must be sure of facts

before I would commit myself over the radio and before an intelligent audience or to the many good ARK readers.

My aim is to serve well and faithfully without being prejudiced or biased. I give credit where credit is due, regardless of color, creed or race.

When I see deceit, lies and meanness practiced I mention the deed but not the name. I want to be kind and considerate even to the guilty and to the offender.

But when some one does a worthy thing and achieves greatness in any form, I sing his praises whether he is white, black, yellow or red.

Take for instance my article in the September ARK, "THE MAN WHO TALKS WITH FLOWERS" about Dr. Carver, the famous scientist and noted chemist. I received more than twenty lovely letters of thanks and appreciation from considerate and thoughtful readers.

But there was one person who wrote to the ARK Forum who praised my writings and complimented me highly, which I appreciate, but the writer doubted certain facts mentioned about Dr. Carver.

To this person I say, and to any other Doubting Thomas, to write to the Ways and Means Committee in Washington, D. C., at once and there can be found, as I have found, that Dr. Carver appeared before that government body and went to Washington on official business more than once.

If that is not enough for conviction, write to the Reader's Digest magazine, one of the best in America, which had a long article about Dr. Carver. And if that is not enough, write directly to Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and the Chicago Defender newspaper, the largest and best colored paper in the world. All these and many more professors, chemists, and colleges will

reveal all the facts and much more that I have recorded briefly in my article about Dr. Carver.

Mahatma Ghandi is a very dark and ugly looking man, but he is one of the world's greatest personalities. His color, race and religion do not diminish the facts of his ability, achievement and his greatness.

Marian Anderson is a black woman, but she is one of the finest singers in the world. Proof? She sang for royalty. She sang in the White House and she sang to large audiences in leading cities the world over.

If Dr. Carver was not a great man with a wonderful record, and noted achievements he would not have won the admiration and confidence of Edison, Henry Ford, many religious and scientific leaders, and also received honorary degrees and medals for merit and distinction. But he a great scientist and an outstanding chemist, besides being a religious and very sincere good man, and Ford is building a fine school in his honor.

History is full of names in all countries and among different races that startled the world with their discoveries, accomplishments and noble deeds.

In conclusion of this explanation to clear up any misunderstanding, as I said before and repeat now, TRUTH needs no defense.

If I can serve in my own limited way to inspire, inform, entertain, lessen the burden a little, and do my small bit by trying to make the lives of others a little better and a little happier, I am more than repaid.

Light is good in whatsoever lamp it is burning, a rose is beautiful in whatsoever garden it may bloom, and a star is brilliant and radiant, whether it shines from the east or whether it shines from the west. Always yours for what is good and beautiful.

Sumayeh Attiyeh.

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IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS**
**Vote Straight For The
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Danbury Democratic Town Committee

(Paid Political Advertisement)

KEEP AMERICA SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY

By Eli Zrake, Secretary, Young Syrian American Republican Club, of Brooklyn, New York

In giving their fullest support to Wendell L. Willkie, republican nominee for the Presidency of the United States, the Young Syrian Republican Club of Brooklyn is fully aware of the dangers that will confront America by re-electing F. D. Roosevelt for a third term.

George Washington said in retiring after two terms as president: "I am influenced by no diminution of zeal for your future interest, no deficiency of grateful respect for your kindness, but am supported by a full conviction that the step is compatible with both."

To this Thomas Jefferson added: "Should a president consent for a third election, I trust he would be rejected on this demonstration of ambitious views."

The preachings of these men who founded this great democracy and those who followed are presently being discarded and thrown into the waste basket by the New Deal administration.

Democracy, the life-line of this vast and successful nation, is now being threatened by a force far greater than the dictatorial groups who have made European soil a living hell for soaring flames.

That force is the present administration which has, through the means of un-American purges, compelled the representatives of the people to vote as the few big-wigs in Washington dictate.

In order to avert that dictatorial era in America, although those in the Democratic organization would lead us to believe otherwise, the Young Syrian-American Republican Club of Brooklyn has dedicated its work toward the success of the Willkie-for-President movement.

The greater majority of us are presently engaged in keeping America safe from war.

Many of us have seen war. We've witnessed war on land and sea. We've seen blood running from the wounded and we've seen men cough out of gassed lungs. We've seen great metropolises destroyed from the never-ending rain of bombs, and we've seen the handful that returned exhausted from the lines, the limping survivors of the regiment of thousands that left a few hours before. We've seen children starving and have visualized the agony of bewildered mothers.

To prevent that era of living hell,

the maintenance of American neutrality depends upon the wisdom and determination of whoever occupies the offices of President and Secretary of State for the next four years. It is clear that our present administration is not capable of averting such a catastrophe. In the estimation of the Young Syrian-American Republican Club of Brooklyn, Willkie is.

Let us not blink to the fact that Roosevelt and his brass-hats would break down and evade our neutrality. They would lead us to believe that if they could produce this and that and the other and ship it to a belligerent, the unemployed of America would find work. They would lead us to believe that extending credit to a warring nation would mean the building of more factories, homes and help to pay our debts.

It may be hard to resist that clamor but it would be harder to look beyond and realize the inevitable penalties, the inevitable days of reckoning.

The Young Syrian-American Republican Club of Brooklyn feels that Willkie is the man with whose leadership we could have the greatest possible feeling of security. A leader who would do his utmost to keep us out of war.

Our domestic problems largely created by the New Deal causes another worry for the American people.

The men who planned our great American Republic assured to us individual rights which have made the people free and America a great nation. The American form of government which is being threatened has guaranteed freedom from any form of government interference except by due process of law, the right to own property, and the right to be free.

Are these rights safe in the hands of the New Deal?

The Roosevelt administration for eight years has deliberately controlled and regulated the production forces in America. The New Deal now owns and operates over two hundred different lines of business in competition with private enterprises. The dictator nations began by regulating and controlling all industry. They now control and regulate the earnings, the liberties and the lives of their people. The New Deal, similar to totalitarian government in ideals, continues despite the opposition of the American people to demand from Congress more

and more power over the people.

Now more than ever before America needs a president who will strengthen our spiritual, moral and economic welfare; who will strengthen our faith in each other, in God and in our own country. That man is Wendell L. Willkie.

The Young Syrian-American Republican Club of Brooklyn, from its chairman, James Nassef, to its newest member, will strive to keep America safe for Democracy.

The Voice of Three Presidents

"I cannot but believe that more is lost by long continuance of men in office than is gained by their experience."—President Andrew Jackson.

"When we consider the patronage of this great office, the allurements of power, the temptation to retain public office once gained, and, more than all, the availability a party finds in an incumbent whom a horde of officeholders, with a zeal born of benefits received and fostered by the hope of favors yet to come, stand ready to aid with money and trained political assistance, we recognize in the eligibility of the President for re-election the most serious danger to that calm, deliberate and intelligent action which must characterize a government by the people."—President Grover Cleveland.

"The example of Washington, which has been followed by Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, has forever determined that no President shall be more than once re-elected. This principle is now become as sacred as if it were written in the Constitution."—President James Buchanan.

SISTER ELOPES WHILE BROTHER RECEIVES SCHOLASTIC HONORS

Albert G. Gorra, son of Najeeb A. and Malikeh Gorra, New York City, natives of Zahleh, entered Fordham University last June with a scholarship received with honors in completing high school in 3½ years, and while on the verge of entering college, his sister, Mae, former president of the Washington Street Girls Trof Club, eloped with John Radov, her high school mate.

The young couple are now living in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

While in Fordham, Albert will have as one of his teachers, Prof. Basil D'Quakil, a member of the University faculty.

Syrian Interpreters Needed For Selective Service

Saleem Al Hatem, Chairman
Arabic Speaking Group

Shaikh Saleem Al Hatem, fashion designer and inventor, has been appointed to explain the provisions of the selective service law to Arabic-speaking peoples in the Greater New York area. The assignment was made by Maj. Benjamin T. Anuskewiz, of the foreign-language division of the draft board, headed here by Col. Arthur V. McDermott.

Needless to say, it is impossible for any man to do even a small task alone; and one of as great proportions as this really needs the help, not only of a few, but of everybody concerned. Therefore, we hasten to request each and every Arabic speaking individual, regardless of religion or section of origin, to place himself or herself on record as to their Americanism and love for their adopted country by immediately offering to assist in any way that may be necessary for the fulfillment of his duties in this position. This is a patriotic duty that everyone who has shared in the hospitality of this country owes, and a duty which should be performed without hesitation.

Our first task is to organize a large group of interpreters to serve on registration day and thereafter when necessary to assist registrants who may not be able to speak the American language fluently.

Our second task is to show by our active cooperation that we are wholehearted in our support of the American system.

Our third task is to teach those who may in any manner misunderstand the need for this service, the reasons why it is necessary and thereby gain their wholehearted support and make the tremendous job before us a simple one.

Therefore, we request that every Arabic speaking American Citizen send in his or her name, address, and telephone number to the Arabic-speaking group of American Citizens of the Selective Service Committee, Room 522A, Municipal Building, New York City, or to Saleem Al Hatem, 42 E. 12th St., New York City, so that they may be included amongst the interpreters to be listed by the government and to be called on when the need arises.

Any of those available for other services, organizational or administrative, please so specify. This will not

only aid us in readying ourselves for the registration, but will also make it possible for us to have representatives with the local boards and Appeal boards to protect the interests of our people and the government.

This call goes out to every Arabic speaking individual regardless of religion or country of origin, because we are one group and are considered as such.

Let us by our wholehearted cooperation show our worthiness.

Syrian Sport Teams of Massachusetts

By Ernest Deeb

The Syrian Child Welfare are in their second year with a membership of 34 bowlers. This league is sponsored by the Syrian Child Welfare, Inc., of Boston, to help create a good fellowship amongst its members and other organizations by bowling and other sports. The membership is now steadily increasing.

At the end of the bowling season a banquet was given the bowlers, and prizes such as trophies and pins were awarded.

The winning teams last year were the Jays, who just nosed out the Orioles by one point to win a beautiful trophy given by the New Boston Alleys, of Boston, Mass.

The winning team was composed of the following: For the men's division—George Selwyn, Capt., Tom Hajjar, Crandon Samya, Emilie Moses; For the women's division—Nazla Deraney, Vic. Deraney, Regina Ferris, and Joseph Haddad.

High average for the year was Ernest Deeb, 100, and Vic Deraney, 86; high 3-string total was Dr. Fred Ma-loof, 342, and Jeanette Deraney, 296; high single-string was Thomas Elias, 146, and Sally Coury, 109.

The Syrian Child Welfare Bowling Men's team would like to hear from local Clubs for matches, which can be arranged with our secretary, Ernest A. Deeb, 110 Rockland Street, East Dedham, Mass.

Let us pave the way in sports among our people and wake up to the fact that our people have the ability physically and mentally. We have in our organization players of Ping Pong, Tennis, Softball, Baseball, Bowling, Checkers, Badminton, Fencing, Golfing, etc.

Members of neighborhood clubs get together and let's have some fun, and for better sportsmanship write our director of sports, Ernest Deeb, now.

Reaction of Syrian Youth On Registration For Selective Service

By Eli Zrake

Amongst the sixteen million registrant for the Selective Service, there were approximately ten thousand young Syrians who stood ready to offer their services to America's preparedness cause.

Of the many who registered in Brooklyn, New York, I have found but a handful who spoke in disfavor of the proposed draft. The greater majority walked out of their registration locals proudly presenting their little white cards, elated at the opportunity of giving themselves to their country as part of our preparedness program.

It was interesting to note the spirit with which these men were imbued. Above all, it was fascinating to notice their sense of loyalty to their flag and their determination to preserve it.

All hands, Democrats and Republicans, joined forces in declaring this day their day of true "Americanism," forgetting the heated presidential campaigns being conducted by both parties, for just this one day.

Young Syrians left their homes, smilingly, to their assigned boards to register in preparation for the defense of a flag that has flown briskly and proudly for over one hundred and fifty years, symbolic of the true spirit of Democracy, a democracy that has weathered many a storm of all forms of "isms" and meddling of foreign powers since its birth on July 4, 1776.

Yes, these boys flashed their cards as proof of their registering for this unprecedented move and cried in but a single voice: "We will do all in our power to preserve our flag and retain the right to speak, write and worship as we please."

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FLASHES FROM THE HOMELAND

"TO INTERPRET THE NEAR EAST TO THE WEST"

From the Near East Service

Italian Demands on Syria

A United Press dispatch from Cairo, dated September 25, lists eleven demands made during the Italo-French armistice negotiations relative to Syria and Lebanon. The commission is said to be meeting in Beirut. The demands are:

1. Demobilization of the French Syrian and Lebanon armed forces, particularly those known for their opposition to the Petain regime at Vichy, including the famous Foreign Legion.

2. Maintenance of an adequate armed force to guard public security and the Syrian-Lebanon and Palestinian-Iraqi-Turkish frontiers to prevent French officers and soldiers from going over to the British or "Free French" forces.

3. Repatriation of the demoralized French forces, with a French guarantee that they shall not escape while enroute.

4. Delivery to Italy of all airdromes and military and naval bases.

5. Repatriation to France of officers known to be hostile to Italy and Germany.

6. Acceptance of an Italian commission to control administration and censorship.

7. Adoption of measures to prevent persons hostile to Italy and Germany from taking action.

8. Prohibition of travel between Syria and Lebanon, as well as other countries, without special permit from the armistice commission.

9. Prohibition of the sale of the Arabic press and a ban against listening to any radio stations except those of Germany and Italy, under heavy penalties.

10. Italian control of production and provisional commerce in the Near Eastern territories.

11. The handing over to the Italian armistice commission of all munitions, provisions and gasoline held by the French army.

With reference to the fourth demand it was reported from Cairo that airdromes, military and naval units have been sold by the French to the Republic of Lebanon and now fly the Lebanon flag. Whether this evasion will be successful is questionable, for

the Republic is not in a position to defend itself without French aid. However, British forces in Palestine might decide to defend the rights of Lebanon.

Demands No. 3 and No. 5 are not easy of accomplishment in view of British control in the Mediterranean. A French guarantee of non-escape would be of little value if the British forced a diversion of such troops to Palestine or Egypt. Return to France overland would be impracticable even if Turkey were agreeable.

Demand No. 9 is an indication of the tenor of Arab opinion. The Arab attitude toward Italian domination of Syria may prove a factor in subsequent events which suppression of the Arabic press would not be likely to eliminate.

Effect on Britain

Italian control of Syria could not easily be tolerated by Britain. Recent bombings in Palestine of Haifa, Jaffa, and Jewish Tel Aviv from bases in the Dodecanese Islands, approximately 500 miles from Palestine, have been severe. An Italian airdrome at Beirut 50 miles from Haifa would be a serious threat to Palestine.

Italian occupation of Syria would threaten the Suez Canal even more than the present Libyan force does, and would probably be more strongly resisted by the British than the conquest of British Somaliland.

Turkish Reactions

An Associated Press dispatch from Istanbul, September 23, quotes the Turkish newspaper TAN as follows: "We never will allow a change in the status quo of Syria until the end of the war." The United Press on the same day reports that though no official statement of Turkey's attitude toward Italian control of Syria has been made, "authoritative commentators were outspoken on the subject today. One highly placed Turk said that 'if the Italians attempt to take over Syria, the Turks will be there one hour before they arrive'."

A similar impression is given in a New York Times dispatch from Istanbul by G. E. R. Gedye, dated September 21. Mr. Gedye quotes the newspaper SON TELEGRAF to the effect that "the first condition of peace in the Middle East and the security of

Turkey's southern frontier is the maintenance of a French army in Syria capable of resisting effectively on its own initiative any attempt at invasion."

SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH ADOPTS GREGORIAN CALENDAR

Dispatches from Damascus, dated September 4 and 5, printed in the New York Greek language newspaper National Herald and Atlantis, report that the Eastern Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch, one of the oldest Christian churches in the world, has decided to abandon the Julian calendar and adopt the Gregorian, in use in the western world. Thus for the first time in history Christmas and Easter will be celebrated in Syria this year by Orthodox and Catholic alike at the same time.

The Patriarchate of Antioch is one of the four original patriarchates of the Church, the others being Jerusalem, Alexandria, and Constantinople. The Jerusalem patriarchate will still use the Julian calendar to avoid confusion with the Catholic celebrations of Christmas and Easter in the sacred places of the Holy Land.

Huge Crowd At Banquet In Honor of Mgr. Paul Malouf, of Akron

By Lorice Salem

Over 200 people attended the banquet on October 13, in honor of Rev. Mgr. Paul K. Malouf, new pastor of St. Joseph's church in Akron, Ohio.

The banquet was held in the church hall. After the dinner, many speeches were made by prominent Syrians who came for the occasion.

In the midst of all the gaiety Mgr. Malouf was presented with a wrist watch by Mr. Roger Hatoom, in behalf of the church parish. Mr. Hatoom was the toastmaster.

Among the many who attended and spoke were Rev. Mgr. Melatius Muleh and Michael Caraboolad of Cleveland, Toofik and Kareem Salem, Thos. Kaim, Habeeb Thomas, Nick Huber, George Kalil and Deab Haddad.

Rev. Malouf responded in emotional and appreciative terms.

The arrangements and cooking for the occasion were handled by the Immaculate Conception Sodality of St. Joseph's church. Mrs. Toofek Salem, president, supervised the cooking and serving.

Every solitude has charm but Hitler's has harm.

Time is money alright, but try and buy something with it!

AMERICANISM BANQUET THEME



(Photo courtesy Sioux City Journal)

Americanism was the theme at the banquet of the Mid West Mahrajan of Syrian-American Clubs, September, in the Martin Hotel, Sioux City, Iowa. The principal speaker at the banquet was Governor George A. Wilson. Standing at the head table are officers and guests at the banquet. They include, left to right: Maurice Rawlings, county attorney; Leo C. Dailey, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce; Harold N. Sturgeon, Commissioner of Public Safety; Nimer Haddad, Chicago; Sam Saad, president of the Mid West Federation of Syrian-American Clubs; Rev. M. M. Yanney, pastor of St. Thomas' Syrian Orthodox Church; Charles (Kelly) Abdo, chairman of the Mahrajan; Charles Risk, Sioux City, toastmaster; Governor Wilson; Rev. E. J. Smith, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church; Mayor David F. Loepf; Lester Eleas, president of the Sioux City host club; Eli Samore; Nicholas Habib, Cedar Rapids, treasurer of the Mid West Federation; and Ness Melham.

Sioux City, Iowa

Mahrajan Flashes

By Josephine Rehan

Sioux City!! The greatest little city in the Midwest, opened its doors and throttles wide open to hundreds of American-Syrians who attended the fourth annual Midwest Syrian-American Mahrajan, on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, August 31, and September 1 and 2, 1940.

Registrations took place all day Saturday and up to 4 p. m. Sunday.

Headquarters for the conclave were at the Martin Hotel. Saturday at 1:00 p. m. there was dancing at the Cavalier Room and at 8:00 p. m. hundreds attended the "Get Acquainted" dance. Visitors came from as far as Montreal, Canada, Colorado, California, Oklahoma and all Midwestern states.

Sunday at 1:00 p. m. to 4:00 p. m. there was a matinee dance and talent contest in the main ballroom on the mezzanine floor. Music was provided by Darrell Sheffield and his orchestra. There were many fine talented Syrians and in spite of the fact that prizes were to be awarded by popular acclaim, it was extremely difficult to

judge, because all the contestants were excellent. However, John Kacere, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, won first place with a saxophone solo. Two sisters, Lorraine and Dorothy Abodeely, also of Cedar Rapids, took second as a singing duet, and Bill and Martha Haddy, of Mason City, Iowa, won third with a brother and sister dance team act.

Meetings were held at 2:00 p. m. Sunday and Kelly Abdo, of Sioux City, was elected chairman of the 1941 Midwest Mahrajan board. Carl Zaker, of Fort Dodge, Iowa, was re-elected treasurer, and the secretary will be a Sioux Cityan yet to be named. At 5:00 p. m. there was Syrian music and dancing for everyone in the real Oriental style.

At 7:00 the banquet was held in the Grand Ballroom. Invocation was by Very Rev. M. M. Yanney. Introduction of the toastmaster, Charles Risk, was made by general chairman, Kelly Abdo.

Many prominent speakers were present, including Gov. Wilson, of Iowa, Mayor David Loepf, C. S. VanEaton, Chamber of Commerce president, Mon-

signor E. J. Smith, and Sam Saad, president of the Midwest Federation. Mr. Saad stated that "the Syrian-Americans are ready to defend the U. S. A. and American Democracy." That the Syrians had proof of their belief in the principles of this democracy by the number of graves in the Flanders Fields after the last war. He told the Syrian youth they had nothing to be ashamed of, as the Syrians had helped in the progress of civilization; that as "Americans by choice", they had contributed a share in the making of this country. He said the Syrian race is not a debtor race but a credit race, because of their rich spiritual treasures.

Many visitors were extremely happy over the privilege to meet and talk to Mr. Saad, and we Sioux Cityans feel that he has made such an impression on the people that they will never forget him. We are highly thankful for the fine cooperation Mr. Saad has given us and for honoring us with his presence. The grand ball began at 9:30 to the music of Darrell Sheffield and his 12 piece orchestra. The ballroom was gayly decorated with ba-

loons, flags, streamers, etc. The grand march was led by Alvina Abraham, of New Richland, Minnesota, a prominent high school drum majorette. Dancing continued until the wee hours of the morning.

Monday morning at 9:00 the gates were opened at the Eagles Summer Home in Riverside Park. At 10:00 registration of delegates took place. This was followed by a delegate meeting to elect the next Mahrajan city, which was Omaha for 1941.

At 7:00 p. m. the Syrian-American League clubhouse was opened for the approval and enjoyment of all the visitors. Everyone had a grand time, and this was all the Syrians of Sioux City wanted, because the presence and good time of the attendants made our happiness complete. It was a pleasure and honor to serve everyone!

Weddings and Engagements

September 29. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Abodeely announced the engagement of their daughter, Bertha, to Mr. John Moses, of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

July 1. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Risk announced the engagement of their daughter, Esther, to Mr. Francis Abdouch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Simeon Abdouch, of Omaha, Neb. The wedding date is set for November 17.

Sept. 15. Mr. Wolfe A. Risk announced the engagement of his daughter, Martha, to Mr. Thomas Jacobs, nephew of Harry Jacobs, of Ottawa, Illinois.

Sept. 29. Mrs. Zaheah Risk announces the engagement of her daughter, Helen, to Mr. William Moses, of LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Midwest Federation News

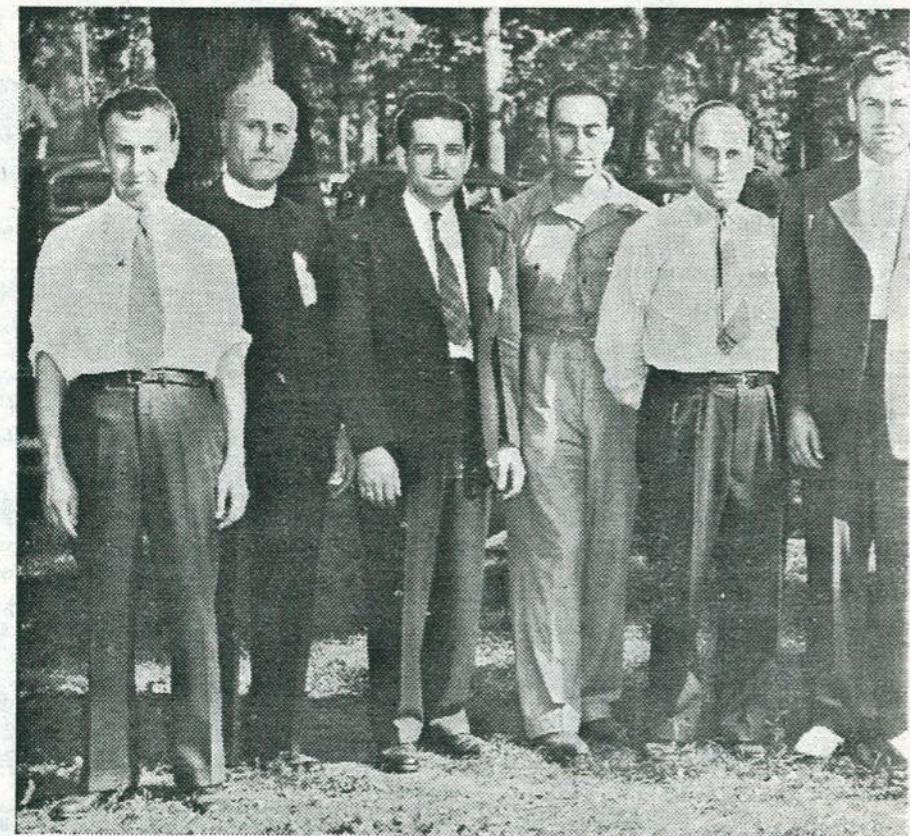
Syrian Leaders of Detroit Entertain President Saad

While the Eastern Federation of Syrian Clubs was in session at the Bridgeport, Conn., Convention on September 27 and 28, Midwest President, Sam Saad, was being lavishly entertained by the Syrian leaders of Detroit, Michigan.

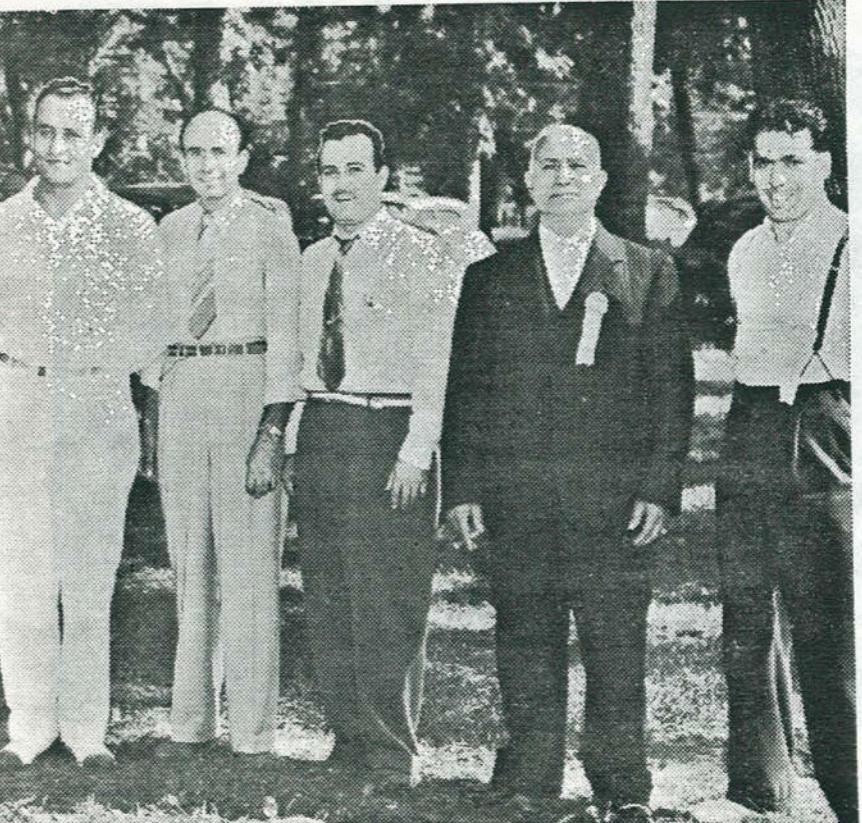
Previous to the meeting in the Auto City, Mr. Saad called upon the leaders who responded enthusiastically at the Detroit-Leland Hotel where Federation matters were discussed and pledges advanced by various groups of Detroit to affiliate with the Mid West organization.

The Original Syriads, Inc., the first in Detroit to align with the Federation, tendered a banquet and ball for President Saad and his group, which included George Coury, president of

Gaiety Prevailed at Sioux City's Mahrajan Festival League Was Host to Pre



ies Over Labor Day When Syrian-American President Sam Saad (center)



(Photo courtesy Sioux City Tribune)

the National Federation, Mr. and Mrs. George Barrock, Milwaukee, Michael Borane, former Vice-president for Illinois, Mike Stephan, ex-President, and Ike Bonahoom of Ft. Wayne, Ind., Abe Abdo, Toledo, Ohio, and Fred Bonahoom and James Mickwee, of Michigan City, Indiana.

Further details of this meeting will be published in the next ARK issue.

The Detroit affiliates are planning an extensive campaign to secure the 1942 convention.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

By Miss Madeline Risk

The St. John's Syrian Orthodox Church members held their annual Oriental Dinner September 26 at the C.S.B.S. Hall. Following the dinner was dancing to the music of a local band. This dinner proved to be the largest this organization has sponsored, with an attendance of 1200.

Russ Carlyle, vocalist in Blue Barron's dance band, never dreamed he'd meet so many of his own people when he came to Cedar Rapids for a four day engagement at the Paramount Theatre. Russ was tendered a grand reception from the Cedar Rapids Syrians, and they seemed to like him real well. He wasn't left alone a minute—But why shouldn't he get a grand reception? . . . with a personality like

A large delegation of Detroit leaders motored to Chicago on October 26 to attend the annual cabaret and dance

sponsored by the Syrian Progressive League at the Knickerbocker Hotel and attended the Federation Executive Board meeting the following day.

Among the leaders who met with Mr. Saad and his group at the Detroit-Leland were: Abe Andrews, Louis R. Shamie, Shikrie Saloum, George Lutty, James and Najeeb Housey, Atty. N. George Bashara, Najeeb Bonahoom, Ameen Maloley, Joe Blaty, John Hamad and Arthur Barbaum, all of whom pledged cooperation with Bryan C. Brian, first Vice President, and Linda H. Koory, the Federation's Michigan Governor, in encouraging other Michigan groups to affiliate.

The Detroit affiliates are planning an extensive campaign to secure the 1942 convention.

his, one could get almost anywhere. Mr. Carlyle was entertained by the families of Joseph Abodeely, N. T. Habib, Sabin G. Nassif, and the W. A. Risks'. Sadie Risk, daughter of W. A. Risk, one of Cedar Rapids' singing personalities, was given more courage for future experience by Mr. Carlyle when he discovered that she has a voice that will some day bring her name to the top.

Greenville, Miss.

By "Mozelle"

Hello everybody, here we are again from 'way down south, after an absence of three months, and glad to be back with more news.

Well, well, I wonder how Virginia Abide is getting along with her new boy friend from Texas, whom she met at the New Orleans convention.

I see Sadie Shapely is so anxious to make a trip to Jacksonville, Florida. Is it the weather she likes so well, or ? ? ?

As we move on we see Dorothy Shapely always so excited. Lily Abraham says she can't keep her mind on her work—Dor—I'd be ashamed.

What's happened to Elizabeth Mansour? Seems like she is more in-

terested in what's in Greenville now instead of Leland.

Now Charlie Sherman struts to Clarksdale every Sunday. He has never taken so many trips before. Keep it up Charlie.

Looks like Lily Abraham is settled down now. I guess its because she has opened up a new store.

Oh! Let's don't forget Nora Tanos who seems to be a killer-diller. Is it that she's getting cute? And there's nothing short about her sister Emily. She's stepping out lately. Watch your step Emily, you may be leaving us behind before long.

Chicago, Illinois

By George J. Nasser

Mr. Joseph Halawi and Miss Marie Ossy, of Chicago, expect to announce their engagement soon and this couple has our heartiest congratulations.

Fuad Saadeh, of Damascus, Syria, who came here ten months ago from the homeland and is here on a beautiful Christian Mission, visited the Syrian Progressive League clubrooms recently and made a fine impression on the members present. He is on a lecture tour from coast to coast, and he

speaks perfect English, having studied at the American University of Beirut.

Mrs. Dave Munyer arrived back in Chicago after vacationing in California with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Munyer, and so now Dave Munyer is going up through the north woods for a late vacation with County Assessor John S. Clark of Chicago.

Sam Saad, our genial President of the Midwest Federation . . . is an expectant "poppy."

The Syrian Progressive League's big dance at the Knickerbocker Hotel on October 26th was a huge success.

Mr. Haney Swyden, of K. C., is serious concerning Miss Sally Trad, of Chicago, and the inimitable 'Bill' Kouri is 'that way' over Miss Evelyn Boutross, of Kansas City. Wires, roads, and letters are 'red hot' between Chicago and Kansas City.

Elections in Syrian American Societies

AMITY POST NO. 791, AMERICAN LEGION
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Commander, Joseph W. Ferris; First Vice-Commander, Fred S. Sahadi; Second Vice-Commander, Salim J. Lutfy; Third Vice-Commander, Fozy Gaston; Adjutant, George Sifri; Finance Officer, Joseph Zaloom; Chaplain, Harold Kirk; Judge Advocate, George Shiya; Historian, Kamel Ayoub; Service Officer, Khatter Ead; Sergeant-At-Arms, Sam Mattar.

Post Executive Committee: Azeez Trabulsi, Saleem Hatem, Leo Suvane, Tom Ashrawy and Salim Karam.

Delegates to County Committee: Fred S. Sahadi and William Teen.

Division Chairmen: For Tupper Lake Mountain Camp, George Maloof; Hospital Visitation, Kamel Ayoub; Safety Campaign, Fozy Gaston; Children's Camp, Salim Lutfy; Membership, George Sifri; Mass Installation, Fred S. Sahadi.

This year of all years is one of service both to the American Legion and to our country. It is needless to state that times are precarious. The principal theme of the acceptance speeches made at the Post meeting, was the desire to serve not only the American Legion, but our People, to the further enhancement of their name.

YOUNG SYRIAN-AMERICAN REPUBLICAN CLUB Brooklyn, N. Y.

Chairman, James Naseef; Vice-Chairman, Edward Zrake; Treasurer, Charles Hamrah; Recording Secretary, Joseph Lian; Corresponding Secretary, Eli Zrake.

Charleston Phoenician Club Presents "Musical Revue For 1940"



(Photo courtesy Charleston Daily Mail)

In the above photograph are the members of the Phoenician Club's cast which appeared in the Club's "Musical Revue for 1940" which was presented in the Thomas Jefferson junior high school auditorium. George Chapman (standing at right, first row) former Hollywood performer, directed the production and was assisted by George Simon, general chairman in charge of arrangements. Scenes from "Flying High," "Rio Rita," "Strike Me Pink" and other Broadway hits were included in the performance. Vocalists in the show include Agnes Risk, Guinevere Elias, Floyd Ellis and Charles Zakaib. Kent Warner and his orchestra provided the musical backgrounds.

Charleston, West Virginia

By Leereese Ann Haddad

Mr. Labebe Corey has recently opened the Casa Loma Night Club, (and is it classy?). He has already brought such orchestras as Gene Krupa, Mitchell Ayers, Ina Ray Hutton, Glen Gray and many others notionally known. A picture of the Casa Loma will appear in the next issue of the Syrian ARK.

A reception was held by Mr. Edwin Haddad at the Phoenicians' Ballroom honoring his brother George and the latter's bride, the former Nellie Lutfy, of New York.

Among the Charlestonians attending college this fall are: Madelyn Skaff, Elliott Naym, Richard Lewis, Woodrow Risk, Leo Moses and John Lewis at West Virginia University, Morgantown. Attending New River State College in Montgomery are Charles Yarrid, Fred Haddad and Amiel Michael. Paul Richard Skaff is attending the Citadel at Charleston, South Carolina.

Charleston, W. Va. was well represented this summer at Virginia Beach. Among those who vacationed there were Leereese Haddad (ARK reporter)

Evelyn and Rachel Skaff, Mary Haddad, Marie and Mary Cassis, Mary and Nellie Mansour, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Skaff, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Merhie, Mrs. Lucille Risk Rhodes, Edna Salem, Olga and Ammaline Howard, Agnes Risk, and Sleyman Namay.

Miss Namay Weds Zack M. Howard

Nurse's Marriage to Charleston, W. Va., Teacher in December
In Announced

The marriage of Miss Rose Marie Namay of Lowell and Boston, Mass., to Mr. Zack M. Howard, Kanawha, W. Va., county school teacher, which took place recently at the bride's home in Lowell, has been announced.

The couple, who are residing temporarily with Mr. Howard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Howard in Charleston, was attended by Miss Helen Namay and Mr. Lionel Namay. The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Dr. N. Richard Namay.

Mrs. Howard was educated in the Lowell schools and received her nurse's training at the Massachusetts State infirmary at Tewksbury and at



Boston City Hospital.

Mr. Howard attended Charleston schools and received the degrees of bachelor of arts and master of arts from West Virginia University. He is general science instructor at the Woodrow Wilson junior high school in Charleston.



Miss Badran Married to Dr. Metry

One of the most prominent and outstanding events of the season was that of the wedding of Dr. John Michael Metry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Metry, of Charleston, W. Va., to Miss Margarete Mary Badran, daughter of Mr. Najeeb G. Badran, well known editor and publisher of the Syrian Daily Eagle, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The ceremony, a very colorful one, was performed in the presence of a large congregation, many of whom were out of town guests from Springfield and Lowell, Mass., Grand Rapids, Mich., Toledo, Ohio, Boston, Mass., Philadelphia, Pa., and Charleston, W. Va. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Aghabius Golam, well known in the church circles of New York and vicinity for many years. He was assisted by Rt. Rev. George Straunalus, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The altar was decorated with palms, ferns, oak leaves, and gladiolas. A program of nuptial music was played and the following songs were sung: "Oh Promise Me," "Because," "I Love You Truly," and "Ave Maria."

The bride wore a gown of white Chantilly lace, with a sweetheart-shaped neckline. Her long tulle veil was caught to a lace cap. Her flowers were lilies of the valley in a shower bouquet.

Miss Nellie Helen Metry, of Charleston, sister of the groom, was maid

of honor. She wore a lace gown of tea-rose, trimmed with aqua-blue, with a picture hat of the same trimmings. Her flowers were tea-roses.

Mr. Farris Michael Metry, of Charleston, brother of the groom, was best man. The ushers were: Alfred Matter of Hackensack, New Jersey, William Shaffie and Elias Zrake of New York City, and Mitchel Saba, of Brooklyn, New York.

Mrs. Michael Metry, mother of the groom, wore a gown of dusty pink lace with a large picture hat, and a shoulder bouquet of talisman roses.

Mr. and Mrs. John Metry left for an extended wedding trip to Niagara Falls and Canada. After their honeymoon they returned to the home of the groom's parents, where a big reception was held for them.

United at Charleston, West Virginia

St. John's Episcopal Church at Charleston, W. Va., was elaborately decorated with seven-branched candelabra, palms, ferns, and vases of gladioli when Rev. George Katouf, of Altoona, Pa., read the nuptial services at the wedding of Miss Helen Marie Coury and Mr. Farris Michael Metry.

Najeeb Saba, accompanied at the organ by Prof. J. Henry Francis, sang "I Love You Truly," "Because," "Gou-

nod's "Ave Maria" and "Oh Promise Me."

Miss Coury's bridal gown was of white satin trimmed at the sweetheart neckline with lace and seed pearls. The princess gown had long sleeves, a full skirt and a seven yard train. Her illusion veil was fastened to a crown of hand-clipped orange blossoms, and she carried a shower bouquet of white roses and lilies of the valley.

A sister of the groom, Miss Elizabeth Metry, was maid of honor. Her victorian gown was of green satin with tight-fitting bodice, long sleeves and full skirt. She wore a matching gold-trimmed turban and carried a bouquet of talisman roses.

Patricia Ann Howard, flower girl, wore a gold satin princess styled dress trimmed in green and carried a basket of rose petals. Michael Howard, Jr., was the ring bearer.

John Michael Metry, of Chicago, was best man. Others were Samuel Farha of Mammoth, W. Va., Edward Lewis and Peter Coury of Clarksburg, W. Va., the bride's brother.

The bride's mother wore a black gown, trimmed with gold and a hat to match. Mrs. Michael Metry, mother of the groom, wore a sky blue crepe dress. Their corsages were of talisman roses.

Friends and relatives from Grand Rapids and Detroit, Mich., Toledo, Athens and Chauny, Ohio, Clarksburg and Parkersburg, W. Va., and Altoona, Pa., attended the ceremony.

The bride wore a two-piece, fox-trimmed blue suit, black accessories, and a corsage of white orchids, when she and Mr. Metry left on a midwestern motor trip. The couple is now making their home at Kanawha City, West Virginia.

Miss Coury is a graduate of the Roosevelt - Wilson High School at Clarksburg, and formerly was connected with the office staff at St. Mary's Hospital there. Mr. Metry is a graduate of Charleston High School and the Charleston School of Commerce. He is associated in business with his father.

WELFARE SOCIETY OF ANTOURA Newark, N. J.

Honorary President, Saied Estephan; President, Jameal H. Romanus; Vice-President, Joseph Abraham; Treasurer, Doumit M. Abraham; Secretary, Abraham F. Tawee; Sergeant-At-Arms, Michael Rohanna; Advisor, John J. Nassif. Guard for ladies division, Mrs. M. Nami.

WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE — HERE AND THERE

In And About New York With Jeals

APOLOGIES . . . to the Woodrow Jabbour's for taking their swell son and depositing him in the home of the Wade Boutross—we've been dodging Woodrow ever since to save our neck—don't misunderstand us, we'd be just as sore about it . . .

SIR STORK . . . due at the home of Ed Khoury any moment now . . . and has a date at the Aleer J. Couri's some time in April . . . and he stopped in at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Magdalani and left a son . . . and in far-off China the Stork has a date with the Kather's.

SORRY . . . we cannot answer all the Puzzle Answers on the name Jeals—when anyone hits it right, we'll be glad to admit . . .

LOVE NOTES . . . Is that one-time engaged male carrying a torch for a promised-to-someone-else female . . . Katherine Mangone and George Lutfy finally reached the altar—they were married at the bride's home in full dress . . . Many of the draft-age men are seriously considering marriage—as a way out—as a way out of what, we ask?

HERE and THERE . . . Wined and dined were Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dahrouge at the home of Al Daas where a wedding present of combination radio and victrola was given them—they are now located in the village . . . by the way, Mr. and Mrs. George Lutfy will reside in the village also at 40 E. 10th . . . The Amersys held their straight dance at the Ambassador—it was largely attended and served as the introduction of the new president, Evelyn Shehad Rabay . . . the Awn shop on Greenwich Street has been enlarged and remodeled . . . we missed that Willkie dinner at the Mecca where some nifty gals wore Willkiette sashes and distributed Willkie buttons—we would . . . By the way, Sabre Khoury, owner of the Mecca is planning big things for his Haines Falls Hotel . . . the Syrian Junior League opened their season with a supper held at El Chico in the village—the president, Mrs. Faud Salamy, presented the past president, Elizabeth Trabolsi, with a "boudoir" set (we hope we're right) . . . and the bride of the year, Nell Lutfy Haddad, with

two beautiful pictures—in the absence of Mrs. Haddad, her sister Odell Lutfy received the gift for her . . .

CLUBS IN REVIEW . . . The Syrian Ladies Aid Society will hold their first affair of the season early in November . . . The Syrian Junior League and the Ridge Fraternity are busily at work on New Year's Eve plans—believe it or not, they're really hitting it off well—no hits, no runs and no—well, we'll see . . . on Sunday, October 27th, Memorium Services were held for Amin Reehani by the various Arabic groups . . .

HEALTH WISHES . . . go to Joseph W. Ferris, whom we hope will be much better ere this goes to print . . . also to Mrs. Victor Samra . . .

* * *

BATTLES . . . are still going on in that home, and if something doesn't happen quick, there'll be a split, and we don't mean—MAYBE!

NEW CLUB . . . Young Men's Republican Club has just been organized—of course they are for "Willkie For President," and have plans for social and civic affairs after election day—Congratulations! . . . the Syrian-Lebanon "Willkie for President" National Organization continues on at the Vanderbilt Hotel—they have been highly complimented by the State and National Republican organizations for the splendid work they are doing . . .

AND AS WE WIND UP THIS COLUMN, we offer heartfelt sympathy to the husband and parents of the lovely and talented Emily Rustam Mattar, at her untimely passing . . .

WE'LL be with you after election . . . and may the best man win . . .

—JEALS.

It Happened In Cleveland

By Moe Boukair

The approach of autumn brought forth with its coloring and splendor of falling leaves, two beautiful romances in the hearts of Syrian Clevelanders.

Who in the whole town wasn't thrilled at the unusual double wedding of a brother and sister of one family to a brother and



sister of another? The nuptials which took place September 28, 1940, at St. George's and St. Elias' churches respectively, united in holy matrimony Miss Nellie Kassouf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kassouf to Edward Hanna, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hanna, and Miss Edna Hanna, Edward's sister, to Mr. Frederick Kassouf, Nellie's brother.

The wedding ceremonies were beautiful sights to behold. As we witnessed the first wedding, a soft hush came over the crowd when the bride entered the church. Lighted candelabras on each side threw a soft azure light in the path of the diminutive, shy bride. Her head held high, clinging to the arm of her father, she marched slowly down the aisle to the beautiful, traditional "Oh Promise Me," sung by the haunting wonderful voice of James Meena, son of Rev. Meena, the officiating pastor, of St. George's church. As she reached the altar she was led to the arms of the anxious and nervous groom. After the ceremony the happy couple left the altar and ran up the aisle to escape the shower of rice and perfume. When they reached the doorway he held her in his arms and kissed her gently (and how sweetly).

The bride's gown was an egg-shell filet taffeta with a long train and large bell sleeves. The hat was an old-fashioned bonnet with an ostrich feather dropping over the brim. She had a long veil which also fell from the bonnet, and a bouquet of white roses and small baby chrysanthemums.

The maid of honor was the sweet little Miss Evelyn Kassouf, who wore a romance-blue taffeta gown with applique in gold waist and sleeves, matching turban for the head.

The matron of honor was Mrs. Louis Ganim who wore gold velveteen with a tailored waist and full skirt, with matching turban for the head.

The bridesmaids were the Misses LaVonne Kassouf and Ardelle Ganim, who wore ice-blue taffeta gowns, a repetition of the bride's outfit with matching bonnets.

The flower girls, two sweets of honey, Misses Barbara and Yvonne Kassouf, were dressed in long flowing gowns of white and blue with bonnets of the same color combinations.

The groom, Mr. Edward Hanna, wore tails with chrysanthemums in the lapel.

Mr. George Koury was best man; ushers were Messrs Victor Anter and Elmer Hanna, also in tails.

The same afternoon the crowds rushed to attend the second ceremony, when Miss Edna Hanna became the bride of Mr. Frederick Kassouf.

The bride entered the church with a capacity crowd jamming the doorway. The beauty of St. Elias' church was enhanced by many standards of seven-branched candleabra and cybotium ferns, with Madonna lilies decorating the altar. On the alternate pew ends were fastened holders bearing tall wax tapers, making an aisle of light for the bride. The soft notes of "Ave Maria" rang solemnly throughout the ceremony.

The bride was escorted by her father, Mr. Joseph Hanna, and was a beautiful bride, wearing pearl gray taffeta with a gathered bodice and Juliet neckline, and full flaring skirt with a long train and finger-tip veil. She carried a prayer book with an orchid, which had streamers falling from the prayer book.

The maid of honor was Miss Elizabeth Hanna who wore an equamarine velveteen gown with plain top and full skirt the same as the bride, with puffed sleeves. Ostrich feathers to match the gowns were worn in the hair.

The matron of honor was Mrs. George Khoury who wore rose velveteen, a duplicate of the maid's dress, also having matching feathers worn in the hair.

The bride's maids were Mrs. William Hanna, and Miss Alice Abood, who were dressed in tangerine velveteen gowns with full flaring skirts and ostrich feathers worn in the hair. The groom, Fred Kassouf, in box coat and small chrysanthemums worn in the lapel, and the best man was Mr. Louis Ganim. The ushers were Messrs. William and Edward Kassouf, and back again to St. George's church where the big reception was held for the nuptial participants. The happy couples left for sunny Florida to enjoy their two weeks honeymoon.

Other Cleveland News

Miss Nora Macron, the little sweetheart of Cleveland, who is loved by all for her charming personality and million-dollar smile, will play a big part in the forthcoming Hallowe'en party for the benefit of St. Elias' Church.

It's only a Rose—OH-Hum—Miss Nellie Sabath, the little see-zer in a big house, on the left side of a narrow street. She is the 'cute' with the beautiful black eyes, artificial eye-lashes and VERY pretty. She's got that



MOE BOUKAIR
ARK Representative, Cleveland, Ohio

which makes the "Bint Hel-wee"—not bad—huh. Her lute playing sounds like the chimes of grand-pop's clock.

TICK-TICK-TICK—here comes Eddie Abood riding his model T-Julabee—waking up the whole neighborhood—the cops had given him a ticket—for what? Too bad—all the boys feel sorry for you Ed.

Love is the only thing—YEP—Mose Anter had to live for two weeks on dill pickles—catch on? So finally he couldn't stand it and had to leave town—where his girl friends lives—Kansas City, Missouri—"heart of America"—WAW—here I come where I can eat and hold my girl friend's hands—Nee-ya-lek, Ya-shab.

As we meet and welcome the lovely Miss Alice George on Cleveland's West Side, we find her reading the Syrian ARK and speaking the nicest things about the little magazine. Alice is the latest member to join the ARK forces.

FLASH!—SOMETHING COMING. WATCH FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE ARK FOR THAT "SOMETHING" SENSATIONAL.

—MOE

When you see a person well-satisfied he is either a government official or living on welfare.

* * *

Is the Russian snow red already, I wonder?

Greenville, South Carolina "South's Textile Center"



By Miss Mary Koury

Jimmy Rizk, young business man of Greenville, spent several days in Stony Mountain, Georgia, visiting places of unusual interest. On returning Mr. Rizk accompanied a group of young men on a motor trip to Ashville, N. C. Incidentally, Jimmy is a recent ARK subscriber who seems to be more than pleased with this fine Syrian magazine.

A group of young Syrian ladies attended the Deanery Convention meeting at Walhalla, S. C., a few weeks ago. Miss Edna Seaman (Bahry) who is president of the Greenville Deanery presided over the meeting. Miss Louise Koury rendered a beautiful solo. The girls who motored to Walhalla were Misses Victoria and Louise Koury, Edna Seaman (Bahry), Rose Eassy and Louise Francis.

The second annual Cotton Festival took place October 3, 4, and 5 in Greenville, the Textile Center of the South. Two prominent personalities of fame were present for this gala festivity of "King Cotton." Ann Rutherford, Hollywood's Sweetheart and Greenville's favorite, who makes her second appearance here, and Ben Bernie with his band. The only Syrian girls selected as models and dancers in this Cotton Jubilee were Misses Louise and Sara Koury. Miss Bertha Koury was a model of the "Fashion Parade" at the Textile Hall.

Kansas City, Missouri

"Heart of America"

By Julia Helen Boutross

The marriage of Elizabeth Swyden and James Munyer, of Chicago, Ill., was solemnized at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward

Swyden, October 5. The bride was given in marriage by her father. Miss Bader Swyden, the bride's aunt, was matron of honor, Edward "Kiki" Kikanis of Chicago was best man. The fireplace, which was the scene of the ceremony, was banked with bridal wreaths, gladiolas, lilies of the valley, tall vases of calla lilies, and forming an arch in front of the fireplace were great palms.

The bride wore a coral velvet knee length dress, a crown hat to match, and a soldier blue veil, and soldier blue shoes.

Out of town visitors were: George J. Nasser, Mrs. Wadea Munyer and son Terry, Miss Isabelle Munyer, a sister of the groom, Joe Harris, Bill Kouri and Nimer Haddad, all of Chicago, and Mr. and Mrs. Tony Niefeh of Bristol, Oklahoma, and Miss Ruth Farha, cousin of the bride, of Charleston, West Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Munyer left for Chicago the next day following the wedding, and plan a honeymoon trip to Old Mexico in December.

The Al Fatat Sorority has made elaborate plans for a Halloween dance and card party to be given in the spacious Plaza Ball Room. This is the first of social events the Sorority is having, and a large attendance is expected.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Boutross announce the engagement of their daughter, Julia Helen to George J. Nasser November 2. The groom elect is from Chicago.

Bridgeport, Conn.

The Sons of Lebanon Society sponsored an elaborate social in honor of the committeemen in charge of the recent Bridgeport convention of the Eastern Federation. Jack Wakin, the general chairman and Ernest Kassab, his assistant, were especially feted for their great accomplishments. Each was presented with a beautiful electric mantel clock bearing the inscription, "In token of appreciation by the Sons of Lebanon." Seventy-five members in formal attire and their friends were present.

The daughters of Lebanon entertained at a successful dance given at the Bridgeport Ahepa Hall with music furnished by Fred Esposito and his orchestra. Guests came from Danbury and Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bonasser are the proud parents of a daughter, Kathryn Mary, born September 19.

James Leon, versatile "mayor of East Bridgeport" has been slated on the Republican ticket for State Sena-

tor to be voted for in the November elections.

Engagement of Bridgeport Couple Announced



(Photo courtesy Bridgeport Post)
Josephine Roomian

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Roomian announce the engagement of their daughter, Josephine, to Albert Wakin, son of Habeeb Wakin, all of Bridgeport, Conn.

The announcement was made on Sept. 27, the day preceding the Bridgeport Convention of the Eastern Federation.

Albert is a candy manufacturer, associated with his brother, Jack Wakin, owner of the Congress Candy Shoppe in Bridgeport.

Assisting Mrs. Roomian at the engagement reception were: Mesdames Paul Wakin, Samuel Hamway, and Thomas Hanna.

Weddings and Engagements

SAAD - ELIAS

New Salem, Pa., Oct. 10—Mr. and Mrs. Azeez Elias, natives of Schwei-fat, announce the marriage of their son, Farouz, to Miss Adeeba Saad.

GEORGE - SHAHEEN

Canton, Ohio, Oct. 20—Mrs. Elizabeth George, announces the marriage of her daughter, Audrey, to James Shaheen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Faris S. Shaheen.

MALOUF-RASHID

Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 18; Abraham and Wadea Maloof announce the engagement of their only daughter, La-Vonne, to Thomas N. Rashid, son of Mrs. Najeebi T. Rashid, of Kewanee, Ill. Marriage to take place November 4th at Indianapolis.

\$3000 For Scholarship Fund Outstanding Accomplishment At Bridgeport Convention

National Issue Adopted by Eastern Federation; Boston Attorney New President

In less than an hour's time during the business session of the Eastern Federation on September 28, delegates to the Bridgeport Convention contributed in excess of \$3000 toward the establishment of a \$25,000 scholarship fund at Princeton University, Trenton, New Jersey.

The scholarship which was established January 2, 1940, by the executive Board of the Eastern Federation, is to be known as the "Phillip K. Hitti Fellowship in Oriental Languages and Literature," and is to be awarded each year to a worthy student qualified to carry on studies in this field. The Fellowship is limited to those of Syrian-Lebanon-Palestinian origin or any branch of the Arabic-speaking stock.

George M. Barakat, Boston attorney and newly elected president of the Eastern Federation, is the secretary of the scholarship.

Another outstanding feature accomplished at the Bridgeport Convention was the ratification of the constitution of the National Federation, which now includes the four regional federations: Eastern, Midwestern, Southern, and far Western. Walter Moossa, Worces-

ter attorney, is secretary of the national organization.

Among the many speakers at the elaborate banquet which climaxed the two day Convention were high government officials and church dignitaries, including United States Senator Francis T. Maloney and Congressman Alfred E. Austin, both of Connecticut.

The Senator told the Convention delegates that "there is a great need for strong national unity and this Federation exemplifies the type of unity I mean better than anything I have seen for a long time."

Other speakers were Col. L. R. Breen, representing Connecticut's Governor, Raymond Baldwin, who was unable to attend because of illness; Bridgeport's Mayor, Jasper McLeavy; Rev. John F. Moore, representing the Most Rev. Maurice F. McAuliffe, Bishop of Hartford; Rev. Philip Salmone of Danbury; Salloum Mokarzel, editor of "Al-Hoda"; Hon. Jamil Baroody, deputy commissioner of the Lebanon Republic, and George A. Ferris, New York attorney and head of the "Willkie for President" speaker's bureau.

Short speeches were made by Faris

S. Malouf, Boston; Herman Nami, of San Antonio; Michael Koury, retiring president of the Eastern Federation; and George M. Barakat, the new president.

George Betros of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., was the toastmaster.

Five delegates from Danbury entertained the conventioneers with Arabian songs and music. They were: Yvonne Mamary, Lillian Lubus, Mabel Abraham, Agnes Taylor (Kiatta) and Edith Coury.

Among the ARK reporters present were Alice Hackett, Caribou, Maine; Florence Hattub, Newport, R. I.; Lorraine Deeb and Sally Mansour, Brooklyn; Nora Koury, Torrington; Gloria Samaha, Washington, D. C.; John Abood, Scranton, Pa.; Anna Abraham, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Olga Milkie, Buffalo, N. Y.; and Alex Kalaf, Danbury, Connecticut.

Scranton, Pa., was chosen for the 1941 Convention.

Those contributing to the Eastern Federation's Scholarship Fund, are: \$500 from Ayoub Rizk, Washington, D. C.

\$100 each from the following: Dr. Elihu Grant, Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Dreby, Scranton, Pa., Archbishop Samuel David, Toledo, Ohio, Ameen Daoud, Washington, D. C., Mr. and Mrs. Mansour Laham, Saleem Malouf and family, and Mrs. George M. Barakat, of Boston, Mass.

\$50 each from: Mr. and Mrs. Saad Faris, Joseph M. Hajj, Dr. Faud Shatara, New York City, George M. Barakat, Boston, and collection in memory of the late Ameen Rihani.

\$25 each from: Miss Rose N. Malouf, Michell Ansara and family, and Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Samia, of Boston, Massachusetts.

\$20 each from: Mr. and Mrs. Kalil Haddad, and Jack Kojok, of Washington, D. C.

\$15 each from: Mr. and Mrs. James Mokiber, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sado, Washington, D. C.

\$10 each from: Rev. Hananiah Kasab, Washington, D. C., George Nejame, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Mrs. Daniel Michael, Elias, Masary, Azar Korbaj, Lawrence, Mass., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Etoll, Albany, N. Y., Mrs. Michael Hashim, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Shaker Ferris and Alex Moutran, of New London, Conn.

\$5 each from: Shukry Khoury, Boston, Mass., Nassif Mackool, Chickri Bouzaid, Danbury, Conn., Phillip Melham, Albany, N. Y., Michael Maloley, George Milham, Miss Lulu Murr, Boston, Mass., John Abood, Scranton, Pa.,

(Continued on next page)



George M. Barakat (left) of Boston, newly elected president of the Syrian and Lebanon American Federation of the Eastern States, is shown being congratulated by the retiring president, Michael Koury, of Torrington.



Syrian Legionnaires Among Attendants At New York State Legion Convention

Help Elect Ed. Vosseler State Commander, and Fred Sahadi Sergeant-At-Arms

Edward A. Vosseler, a Brooklyn Law professor, was unanimously elected State Commander of the New York department of the American Legion in convention assembled at Schenectady on August 31, 1940.

Among the fifty thousand legionnaires at the convention were many Syrian veterans from all over the state.

Fred S. Sahadi, prominent in New York Legion affairs, was elected State Sergeant-at-arms. He is a member of Amity Post 791 of the American Legion, an All-Syrian branch in Brooklyn and which was well represented at Schenectady. Attorney Joseph E.

Ferris is commander of the Amity unit, having been re-elected for another term during the recent elections in the Post.

Shown in the picture above are, left to right: J. A. Persung, ranking officer in the New York department; Edward A. Vosseler, new State Commander; George A. Mead, retiring Commander; and Fred S. Sahadi, State Sergeant-at-arms.

Mr. Vosseler is a practicing attorney in Brooklyn and a professor in the Brooklyn Law School, where the *ARK* editor received his early legal training. As a member and past commander of Fraternity Post 612, Mr. Vosse-

ler has served in practically every field of activity in which the Legion has engaged.

He is a member of the Order of the Purple Heart and received the Distinguished Service Cross for valor in service.

Mr. Vosseler classes among his intimate friends many of his Syrian comrades of New York State. He is a frequent visitor at Amity Post, and with his Sergeant-at-arms, Fred Sahadi, makes the rounds of all Syrian activities in Brooklyn.

Elections SYRIAN-AMERICAN-LEBANON YOUTH

Atlanta, Georgia

President, Nick Azar; Vice-president, John Najjour; Treasurer, Abdo Malouf; Secretary, John Malouf; Sergeant-at-arms, Majeed Malouf.

Auxiliary: President, Rose Nadra; Vice-president, Gladys Najjar; Treasurer, Jeanette Azar; Secretary, Evelyn Dahir; Assistant Sec., Verna Saad.

Board of Directors: John Riashi, chairman; Richard Azar, Joseph Shikany, Eddy Malouf, and William Abraham.

Convention News

(Continued from preceding page)

Shaya Michael, Minnie Michael, Abdalla Swide, and Mrs. Nellie Haddad.

\$6 from Elias Safadi, Central Falls, Rhode Island.

\$1 from George Michell.

Contributions from affiliated societies in: Torrington, Conn., \$250; Boston, Mass. \$110; Washington, D. C., \$100; Springfield, Mass. \$45; Bridgeport, Conn. \$25; North Adams, Mass. \$25; Central Falls, R. I. \$17.50; Troy, N. Y. \$15; Waterbury, Conn. \$10; Pittsfield, Mass. \$20; New York City \$10; and Greensburg, Pa. \$10.

Annual pledges: Walter Moosa, of Worcester, Mass., \$25; Michael Abo-deely, Worcester, Mass., \$25; Michell S. Maloof, Boston, Mass., \$10; Milad Malouf, Waterbury, Conn., \$10; Geo. M. Barakat, Boston, Mass., \$25; Chic-kri Bouzaid, Danbury, Conn., \$10; Abdalla Swide \$5; Edward Karam \$5; Nasif Mackool \$5; Rev. Hananiah Kassab, Washington, D. C., \$5; and Fred Etoll, Albany, N. Y., \$2.

\$500 was contributed from various donations collected by courtesy of attorney George Ferris, of New York City.

Total amount collected at

Bridgeport Convention---\$3,017.50

Balance on hand in Scholar-

ship Fund Treasury----- 666.81

Total on hand Oct. 1, 1940---\$3,684.31

NOW SHOWING

New Fall Sample Dresses
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Price list mailed at your request.

**VORTEX
GAS**

15⁹/₁₀₀
TAX
PAID

**HOOSIER
PETE****To You, My Friend—Ameen Rihani**

(Continued from page 3)

I saw beauty in you, my friend, and always felt it in your presence as I see it now while reviewing your life.

Beauty, the way I understand it, is a dimension of Reality—yes a dimension of the SPIRIT.

It is the first of spirit's infinite dimensions that we learn to recognize. It is not with the eyes but with the spirit that we perceive beauty in all its myriad manifestations through feelings and emotions.

— The eyes see matter only, but the soul sees spirit. Trust

Edward J. Leon**HEADS SYRIAN DIVISION OF THE
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL
COMMITTEE**

Edward J. Leon, prominent Syrian lawyer of New York is chairman in charge of the Syrian Division of the Democratic National Campaign, with offices in the Hotel Biltmore, in New York City.

Mr. Leon is making an active campaign in the interest of the re-election of President Roosevelt and the entire national democratic ticket.

As National Chairman, Mr. Leon has appointed J. Ned Leon, Bridgeport, State Chairman for Connecticut; for Massachusetts, Michael Abodeely, Worcester; for Texas, Herman G. Nami, San Antonio; for Oklahoma, William Shipley, Bristow; and for Indiana, Fred Freije, Indianapolis. Other states in which Mr. Leon has appointed chairmen, are: Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Michigan and California.

WANTED

Syrian Lady, middle aged, to do general housework and take care of three children. Pleasant home and good wages. Write to Elias Gemal, 1515 Steele St., Indianapolis, Ind.

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Coal Range Oil Fuel Oil

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**Manufacturer of Syrian
Pastries Granted Divorce**

In New York State divorces are rare—total separations being granted only on one legal cause. But it didn't take long for Joseph G. Shalhoob to prove that his wife Hendoumi (nee Nebhan) was unfaithful to him.

In his bill of complaint Shalhoob charged that his wife deserted their two children and went to live with a Dr. Chafic Ashouh in San Diego, Cal.

Corroborating witnesses in the New York Supreme Court related acts of adultery on the part of Hendoumi, and the Court granted an absolute divorce to Mr. Shalhoob, together with the custody of two minor children, Betty age 13, and Louis, age 11.

**Flowers Will Not Wilt At
Tel-Chiha Hospital**

In Memory of George Abraham Bashara, late of Brooklyn, N. Y.; the Ladies Auxiliary of J'diatha Society, Lawrence, Mass.

In Memory of Mackool Kassouf, late of New York: Salim Azar Kassouf; Fahda N. Kassouf; Fahda N. Schweiry and Rajie Nimmer.

Annual Pledges: Kaiser Abdelnour and family; Louise Kafoury; Charles Kafoury; Joseph K. Kafoury, and Laurence Kafoury.

Abraham Corhan, Secretary

OBITUARIES

Rt. Rev. Bishop Safronius Bashara, died October 5 at Brooklyn, N. Y. Funeral from St. Nicholas' Cathedral. Interment at Mount Olive cemetery.

Assad Faris Lian, native of Zahleh, died October 4 at Brooklyn, N. Y. Survived by a daughter, Mrs. Joseph Lian, Brooklyn.

Zahra Fayad Jabara, mother of M. Jabara, Glynn, La., Wadih Jabara and Mrs. Salim Razook of Hanna, Okla., and Aniecea Jabara of the homeland, died September 15, at Jadeidat, Marjayoun.

Joseph Abraham, father of Joseph Abraham Jr., and James Abraham of Jeanette, Pa., and Mrs. Zaki Hallow, of Pittsburgh, and Miss Eva Abraham of Jeanette, died October 22.

your soul, which will perceive a dimension of the Life that knows no death.

Meditate on beauty, my friends. It is the key to mystical things and to all the limitless perfection.

The night was still and silent, and the lark was dense, but I was listening alone to a soft soul stirring sweet music that gradually faded away. It seemed to sail high in the sky and soared to the heavenly spheres—to the Land of the Spirits.

Good night, my friend, good night, and God be with you, Ameen, till we meet again.

Ark Reporter Falls In Love Death Claims Charles Skaff With Ark Reporter

Kansas City, Mo., Ark reporter, Miss Julia Boutross, falls in love with Chicago's Ark reporter, George Nasser, and vice-versa.

The engagement was announced during the height of festivities while both reporters were attending the marriage of Miss Elizabeth Swyden, former Kansas City reporter, to Jas. Munyer, Chicago, on October 5th.

The Boutross-Nasser wedding will take place on Thanksgiving Day, November 28. Then Kansas City will lose an able reporter and Chicago will gain a valuable assistant.



Pioneer Syrian Resident of Charleston, West Virginia, Dies

One of the Kanawha valley's early Syrian residents, Charles Skaff, age 65, died at his home following a brief illness. He was a member and trustee of St. George's Syrian Orthodox Church and of the Knights of Pythias. He had been interested in real estate for the past few years and had been a resident of Charleston for 38 years. Archbishop Samuel David, of Toledo, Ohio, assisted by Rev. Ralph Husson, conducted funeral services in Saint George's Church.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Carma Skaff; a daughter, Mrs. John Damous; a brother, Sam A., of Charleston; and five sisters, Mrs. Samuel Skaff of La Crosse, Wis., Mrs. Nick Skaff and Mrs. Ed Haddad of Charleston, and Mrs. Louis Koury and Mrs. Joseph Nejim, of Syria.

Howard H. Davis

Insurance

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The Arab people of Iraq have lived under five separate governments.

Complete Dress and Sport Shoes Properly Fitted

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"Don't Keep Two Feet Away From Comfort"

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Fine Silk Underwear • Silk Hosiery

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Mr. Willkie is an experienced man who believes that the sure way to keep America free is to . . .

1. Encourage the increase of business.
2. Provide more jobs and give higher wages.
3. Decrease taxation.
4. Decrease the national debt.
5. Provide a strong Army and Navy.
6. Afford equal opportunity to all men.

President Roosevelt and the New Deal have broken many promises made to you in the past. And this is what they have given to you . . .

1. Stagnation of business.
2. Little work and low wages.
3. Heavy and unbearable taxation.
4. A huge national debt.
5. A nation unprepared to defend itself.
6. Class Hatred.

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(Paid political advertisement)

Twenty-third
Annual Cabaret Party
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Given by

The
Chicago Syrian
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Saturday Evening,
October 26, 1940
at the
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Exquisite Floor Show

Tickets \$1.00

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The SYRIAN ARK Will Make A Good Present Any Time

For instance you can give a year's subscription to your son, daughter, nephew niece, sweetheart or best friend on his or her

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That's a kind of present that will last long, will give pleasure and benefit and will renew remembrance of the giver every month of the year. Notify us in time, and we will send a year's subscription of the SYRIAN ARK with a suitable gift card announcing the name of the donor.

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Governor of Illinois
is a friend of all the people*

In November

Vote for

DWIGHT H. GREEN

*and the entire
Republican Ticket*

(Paid Political Advertisement)

Los Angeles Honeymooners Back From Northern Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Joseph Lebbous are now settled in Los Angeles after a honeymoon trip to San Francisco, Yosemite National Park, San Cruz Island and other points of interest in the north.

The bride, the former Miss Hilda Jeanne La Asmer, of Erie, Pa., was united in marriage to Edward Joseph Lebbous on September 15th, in Los Angeles.

For the wedding outfit Miss L'Asmer chose a gown of eggshell slipper satin with her bridal outfit. Her fingertip veil was cap style, adorned with orange blossoms. She carried lilies of the valley and gardenias. Mr. George Haddad, a very close friend, gave her hand in marriage.

Mrs. Eva Ann Elias, sister of the groom, was matron of honor. She wore blue brocaded satin moire and carried a bouquet of roses. The bridesmaids, the Misses Betty and Mary Lebbous, and Mrs. Linda George, sisters of the groom, wore gowns of blue

moire taffeta fashioned of the same hue and carried bouquets of pink roses.

George N. George served as best man. Ushers were George Najar, Edward LaBrere and Leo Broarie.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abdo M. La Asmer of Erie, Pa., and is a graduate of the Academy High School at Erie. The groom, son of Joseph Lebbous, of Los Angeles, is an alumni of the Cathedral High School of Los Angeles.

A reception for 200 guests followed the ceremony at the home of the groom.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

Of the SYRIAN ARK, published monthly, at Indianapolis, Indiana, for October 1, 1940. State of Indiana, County of Marion, ss.

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared A. F. Zainey, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor and Owner of the SYRIAN ARK, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, Management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Name of Post office address
Publisher, A. F. Zainey, Indianapolis, Indiana.
Editor, A. F. Zainey, Indianapolis, Indiana.
Managing Editor, A. F. Zainey, Indianapolis, Indiana.
Business Manager, A. F. Zainey, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given).

A. F. Zainey, Indianapolis, Indiana.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state).

None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company, but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stocks and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is _____. (This information is required from daily publications only).

A. F. ZAINAY.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of October, 1940.

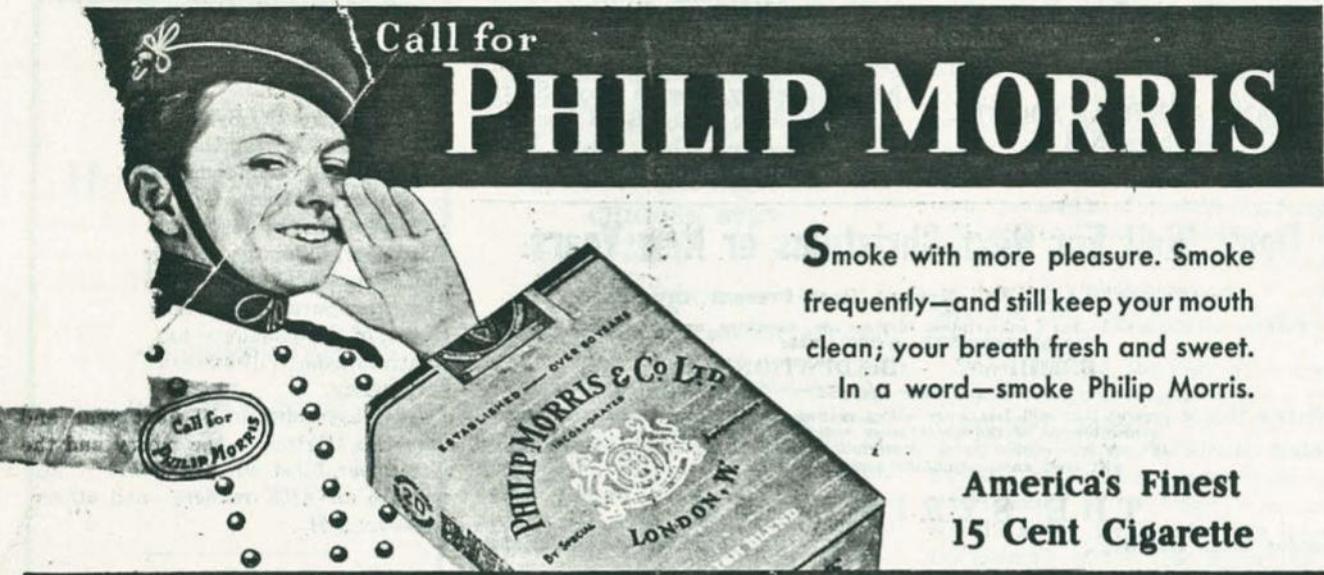
James E. McDonald
(My commission expires June 3, 1943)

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The SYRIAN ARK

For Lebanon and Arabian Unity

The National Organization News Monthly

Combined with the LEBANON VOICE, Albany, N. Y. and the SYRIAN HERALD, Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER
1940A. Frederick Zainey, Editor
Indianapolis, Ind.Volume V
Number IV

C. Davis Stevens

ARK Representative Selected To Draw Draftee Numbers



(Photo courtesy Arthur Ellis, Washington Post Staff Photographer)

George Kaley, Washington, D. C., ARK Reporter, drawing selective draft numbers from now historic "fish bowl." See page 16.

C. Davis Stevens

Syrian Attorney Elected To Massachusetts Legislature

Michael J. Batal, Formerly Bank Liquidating Commissioner For State

We are elated to learn of the successful election by popular vote of Attorney Michael J. Batal, of Lawrence, to the Massachusetts House of Assembly.

The son of Joseph Batal, native of Zahleh, and well known Syrian of New England, Attorney Batal is the first Syrian to practice law in Massachusetts and the first to be elected to the State Legislature.

The new law-maker is a product of the Lawrence Grade and High schools, and later graduated with honors from the Boston University Law School in 1921.

He was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar shortly afterward and became associated with the late Judge Michael A. Sullivan and has been engaged actively in the practice of his profession ever since.

Attorney Batal has been quite active in charitable and civic organizations and for the past twelve years he has been secretary of the Lawrence Kiwanis Club. He is a past president of the Lawrence Y Men's Club, a veteran of the World War and a member of Lawrence Post 15 of the American Legion.

In politics Attorney Batal is a staunch Democrat. He is a former Vice-President of the Democratic State Committee and has served as Ward Chairman in the district where he now lives. In 1936 he was elected one of the delegates to the Democratic Convention at which time he was accorded the largest vote given any of the delegates. At the convention he was chosen presidential elector from the seventh Congressional District and was honored by being one of those who cast the Massachusetts votes in the electoral college for President Roosevelt.

Attorney Batal was appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts as liquidating Commissioner of the closed Medford Trust Company and the Waltham Trust Company and while acting as such, he was commended publicly for his work and was retained after a change of state administration because of his excellent record.

Mr. Batal was a delegate at large to the National Democratic convention in Chicago when Roosevelt was nominated and received the largest vote of any of the delegates from the Lawrence district.

The Daily Lawrence Tribune, of



Atty. Michael J. Batal

November 6, 1940, commenting on Mr. Batal's election, wrote:

"The election of Attorney Michael J. Batal as State Representative from the seventh district wasn't any surprise to the political experts, because he showed his strength as a vote getter a few years ago when he lost the election to that office by the narrow margin of 60 votes to Representative Edw. D. Sirois, a particularly strong candidate, who is now chairman of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee. Attorney Batal won out on election day after polling nearly twice as many votes as his Republican opponent. His replacement of a Republican serves as an offset for the loss of a Democratic representative in the lower local district. Attorney Batal is one of Lawrence's well known and highly regarded citizens. He is a prominent lawyer and is the type of man who is needed badly in government affairs. As a result of his election Attorney Batal enjoys the distinction of being the first Lawrence citizen of Syrian nationality to be chosen for an elective office."

Syrian Rescued From Lake Michigan Gale

Al Jamra, (Toledo, O.) Suffers Severe Exposure When Boat Capsizes
by George Nassif, III
Northwestern University

Al Jamra, Syrian student from Toledo, Ohio, and a freshman at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., narrowly cheated death when he was fished from Lake Michigan by Coast Guards on November 11, after the row boat he was in capsized in the worst gale which has lashed the Northwest this century.

Half frozen and delirious from exposure, Al was rushed to a Chicago hospital where he is recovering well.

Jamra and a fellow student were watching the huge waves caused by the storm, and seeing a row boat washed up on the beach decided to paddle in the shallow water near shore. There were no oars in the boat, so the boys used driftwood as a substitute.

Before they realized what was happening the wind and waves washed the boys about half a mile from shore. All efforts to get back with the crude paddles failed, and the storm made swimming out of the question.

The boys began shouting for help. Although a fraternity brother on the shore heard them, he thought they were playing a practical joke and did not immediately summon help.

Suddenly, whipped over the crest of a huge breaker, the boat capsized.

Clinging desperately to their overturned craft, the boys redoubled their shouting as the lashing gale pushed them farther and farther from safety.

Finally the fraternity brother realized they actually were in danger and notified the coast guard. A cutter was quickly launched and after battling the storm for 25 minutes, the lake officers rescued the drowning boys.

Kearney, Nebraska

(From the Kearney Daily Hub)

Rev. Methodios Shalhoob, upon returning to Kearney from Ansley, Neb., said he had wired to President Roosevelt a telegram expressing "from the bottom of my heart, blessings, congratulations, happiness and success." Rev. Shalhoob knows the president personally and is sold on his personality. He also sent a wire to Chairman John Lewis of the C. I. O. advising that he pick up his belongings and quit the C. I. O., as the president was going to be re-elected. Lewis had promised to quit if the president were re-elected. Rev. Shalhoob had predicted Wendell Willkie would carry 12 states and no more.

Roanoke, Va., Ark Reporter Active Among Subscribers

Ernest Jabbour, native of Zahleh, who has been on the invalid's list for a long time, has fully recovered from a serious surgical operation and immediately upon his regaining full strength, launched an active campaign to revive interest in ARK subscriptions.

During a week's time Mr. Jabbour has secured subscriptions to the extent of 85% of Roanoke's Syrian community, which numbers about 200 families.

The SYRIAN ARK

Dec., 1940 Vol. V, No. IV. A FREDERICK ZAINY, Editor, Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A. Subscription—\$2 per year
(Entered as second class matter January 31, 1938, at the post office at Indianapolis, Ind., under the Act of March 3, 1879.)

Christmas In A Lebanon Village

by Salloum A. Mokarzel

(under the pen-name of "Ibn El-Khoury")

For the Christians of Lebanon, Christmas is not a day of exchange of gifts, because for some reason or other, presents to children are given on New Year's Day, but an occasion for real spiritual joy and elation to which the mountain folk deliver themselves with all the purity of their unsophisticated minds. The atmosphere along about this season seems to be impregnated with the fragrance of the lofty virtues symbolized by the birth of Christ, and the villagers in their transports of ecstasy seem all to be living in a charmed world of their own.

Preparations Elaborate

Preparations for Christmas festivities are conducted on an elaborate scale. Every household in the village from that of the Sheik or magistrate, down to that of the humblest farmer or goat-herder, as the day approaches, vibrates more and more with the spirit of activity. Baklawa, burma, mulabbas and other sweets are ordered from the city to be served to visitors; while the native products such as dried figs, raisins, etc., are always within easy reach. Most important of all is the testing and sampling of wine. Wine, the genuine fermented juice of the grape, the national drink of Lebanon, the fluid which inspires village bards and is from time immemorial the first and foremost token of preferred hospitality, must of necessity lead the list of festal preparations. The vintage of the preceding crop is therefore sampled as safely as possible before Christmas, and when anyone finds that his wine has not sufficiently aged to suit the fastidious taste of a connoisseur—and they are all connoisseurs of wine in Mt. Lebanon—he borrows a jar of older from his neighbor, for only the best wine must be served on Christmas.

Christmas Eve In Silent Meditation

Christmas Eve is spent either in silent meditation or in open prayer in almost every house, members of the family crowding around the open fire awaiting the coming of midnight to answer the call of the church bell beckoning the faithful to come to prayer. No food in any form is taken from the hour of sunset because almost everyone received holy communion. But all the good things to eat and drink are prepared and placed within convenient reach for the festivities that are to follow.

At the stroke of midnight the church bell begins to peal out its cheerful tidings of the day commemorating the birth

of the Lord. Long and methodical are these silvery sounds that fill the air with their message of joy and are echoed throughout the sleeping valleys of the mountain. At times a weird soul-stirring effect is produced by the conflict of sound coming from the varied rings of the different-sized bells of several churches in the same village, or of neighboring villages within hearing distance. This prelude to the Christmas festivities is one of their outstanding features, because it is for the young men of each village a test of strength and endurance, also calling for no little amount of skill in producing the different combinations of bell-play. In most churches the belfry is raised about midway in the length of the building over the side-wall close to one of the center doors. There the pretentious young men gather around the dangling rope, in full view of the worshippers, to take turns at performing the feat. We may be sure that while this is proceeding, many pairs of admiring eyes are peering through the latticed partition focused on the knot of competing young men gathered around the bell-rope. This is kept up until the whole congregation is in church and the services actually begin.

Darkness Dotted With Lantern Light

At the first call of the church bell, one standing on an eminence witnesses a sight whose impression resists any action of time and adheres tenaciously to the memory. In the heavy darkness of the night, accentuated in spots by thick clumps of woods or by the depression of the valleys, one sees moving hither and thither in every direction mysterious lights being raised or lowered or swayed to this side or the other, but all slowly, yet steadily, making their way to one focal point in the direction of the church. These are the lanterns carried by the villagers to guide their footsteps in the winding treacherous paths leading to the open square around the church.

Midnight Mass Sacred Institution

The midnight mass is a sacred institution in the Christian villages of Lebanon. Rain or snow or dry weather, attendance is compulsory. There seems to be associated with these midnight services in the minds of these sincere, devout Christians special graces hallowed by centuries of observance. To miss being in church with the birth of the new day heralding anew the birth of Christ is a calamity.

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« الفلك السوري » منشئها ابرهيم فرج زيني (زحلة)

THE SYRIAN ARK, published monthly for the Syrian American Federations of the United States and their member clubs. Founded 1936 by A. F. ZAINY, Editor. ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER JANUARY 31, 1938, AT THE POST OFFICE AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Editorial Offices, Peoples Bank Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In the United States of America \$2 per year; outside of the United States, \$3 per year. Advertising rates on application. To avoid mistakes in names and addresses, subscribers are requested to notify the ARK offices immediately upon discovery of any errors. The Post Office Department makes a charge to the subscriber to forward magazines to a changed address. Before you change your address, notify us, if possible. Contributors desiring the return of any manuscripts are requested to enclose return postage. The ARK will not be responsible for typographical errors and reserves the right to reject, revise and improve any manuscripts or advertisements.

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

CHRISTMAS EVE STORY—FRIENDSHIP



Stories will always be told of wise kings who ruled tiny kingdoms back in the mythical days before the pyramids of Egypt were plotted or the grandeur of Zenobia gave way to the glory of Rome. And one is told of a widowed king left with twin sons. To determine while he still lived which should succeed him on the throne, the king devised a "fitness" test. He explained to them that no man could hope to hold the kingdom who did not have a host of true friends.

"Go forth," he commanded them, "and during this year see how many friends each of you can gather around you."

Habeeb immediately pressed his father to grant him ample funds so that he need not be embarrassed in cultivating the people who counted. It was done. Ameen asked nothing, but walked away, his brows furrowed in thought.

During the months that followed the palace rang with revelry as Habeeb entertained. Young men laughed at his wit, older men professed to marvel that one so young could be so brainy. Arguments were brought to him to be settled by his superior judgment. At the games and races women admired his handsome face and athletic carriage. Many begged for his advice before placing their wagers. If one man sought to borrow money of him, two men promptly urged upon him generous loans, to be repaid when he became king.

Habeeb often bantered his brother for not making friends. "When I mention your name to my companions," he would say, "they laugh loudly and ask, 'Who is Ameen?'"

But none of that annoyed Ameen. He avoided the revelries of the palace, but, often while his brother slept late, he was consulting his father's ministers about adjusting unfair taxes. He often appeared in court to plead the cause of some poor wretch. He discussed military tactics with the soldiers in the barracks; he studied the work of laborers on public roads and buildings to see if he could not help them do more work with less effort; he talked with farmers in the vineyards and harvest fields, and with merchants in the bazaars, learning whatever he could from them; but always he seemed to have an hour to spare to visit someone who was sick.

When the year ended, the wise king ordered both sons seized and thrown into prison. He caused a story to be circulated that they had plotted to seize the throne, and were about to be exiled to a distant land. The princes were conveyed to a secret room from which they could hear all

that was said in the king's audience chamber. Within an hour merchants, judges, captains and officials clamored for audience with the king. "Ameen cannot be guilty," each declared. "He is our friend, and we know he is loyal to his king and father."

Some brave soldiers asked permission to join him in exile. One minister offered himself as hostage that Ameen might be freed to make his own defense. Farmers and laborers grumbled that the king was unfair to believe Ameen guilty.

But while hundreds came to avow their friendship for Ameen, not one came forward to speak for Habeeb. Spies listened to the gossip in the market places and baths. Those who had got money from him denounced him guilty. Others

who had loaned him money, denied the fact with mighty oaths, fearful of being identified with the plot. Those who were cornered and had to admit that they were seen in his company frequently, pleaded that they were members of a crowd. Positively, they could not be called friends of the traitor, Habeeb.

In bitter disappointment Habeeb saw that in his hour of need none of his boon companions would come near him or admit to call him friend. Turning to his brother, he asked woefully, "How in the world did you make so many friends?"

And Ameen replied, "I did not try to **MAKE** friends. I simply tried to **BE** a friend."

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Just about the time this December ARK issue reaches the readers, its annual Christmas shopping spree will start to get under way. Thousands of Syrians will spend millions of dollars in a show of Christmas giving and generosity which undoubtedly outstrips any other class-race in the world. All this is good—for people and business.

However, we are more than a bit concerned about our many readers as we would like to see them get the present most appropriate for the right occasion—and we have a fairly certain

feeling that the right present this Christmas, or any other Christmas, is a gift which has to do with every day reading about our people. Without any more beating around the bush, this column is being written with the sincere hope that copies of the ARK will be placed casually but positively (so it cannot be overlooked) before at least some one of the many holiday visitors as a sort of hint to get new subscribers.

For each person on the Christmas shopping list, you will want to get THE ideal gift. Something personal yet impersonal—something which will be long remembered and something that will surely be appreciated and yet inexpensive. For many on the Christmas list this season, what

ابراهيم فرج زيني

gift meets these requirements more perfectly than a subscription to the ARK.

This Christmas, a subscription to the ARK is more than ever the ideal gift, for the ARK, being the only Syrian-English magazine in the country, is more popular than ever before. Only the ARK gives the readers the news and progressive activities of our people all over the country.

And it is so easy to give ARK subscriptions for Christmas. No jostling crowds, no tired feet, no moments of indecision, no worry about delayed deliveries, no packages to wrap! All that is needed is to write the names and address of friends and relatives to whom the gift is to be sent and we will send beautiful cards with appropriate verses announcing that this magazine will be delivered twelve times in 1941 as your gift and with your compliments.

It's inexpensive, too! Instead of the regular price of \$2 for each one-year subscription, you can get three subscriptions for \$5—and your own subscription, whether new or renewal, may be included. If your present subscription still has several months to run and you wish to renew it, we will make the proper extension.

Give ARK subscriptions—it's so easy and convenient and your friends will appreciate them so much! But please send your order and remittance as soon as possible so as to give plenty of time to enter and send out the gift announcements BEFORE the holiday. Avoid the Christmas rush.

Pilgrimage To Washington

From George C. Kaley, the energetic ARK representative in Washington, D. C., comes the report that the Syrian community of the Capitol are planning a gigantic program to receive the large number of Syrian visitors who are planning to be in Washington to witness President Roosevelt take the oath of office for the third time next January.

January 20th is Inauguration Day in Washington. It comes but once in every four years and is a day when the eyes of the entire nation and world are focused on Washington.

It will be a big day for the Syrians and others in the capitol. The general program will start when the President is escorted to the stand where the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court will administer the traditional oath of office, after which the executive will lead the parade up historic Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House.

The parade will be the most picturesque event of the day, for in it will be Army, Navy, Marine Corps. Members of both houses of Congress, dignitaries from all walks of life, West Point, Annapolis, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the D. A. R., Grand Army of the Republic and all kinds of organizations, embassies and foreign diplomats, all will be represented with a conglomeration of all groups. Reporters and newsmen for the press services and large dailies will be there to cover the spectacular events and all the news-reel photographers will be on hand to record the parade. Radio net works will cover the parade all along the march. Washington's population will be tripled and thrilled as never before when some of the parades were short and others long, taking hours to pass a given point.

This year, the Washingtonians are looking forward to having the greatest inauguration in the history of the country, because SYRIANS will take active part in the inauguration. The only time in history, (so far as can be ascertained) the Syrians participated was in the second Woodrow Wilson inauguration in 1917 when the Syrian American Club of New York took part and left a very fine impression.

At this particular time, the Syrians and Lebanonians of the country have a grand opportunity to show their loyalty to the country by taking part in this year's inauguration. Regardless of political affiliations, the country's entire Syrian element will stand behind the president and pledge anew their support to the third term executive, be they democrats or republicans or those numbered among the 22 million "loyal oppositionists." It's to the United States and its chief executive to whom we owe allegiance.

If an effort is made, the Syrians can have the most impressive and most colorful unit in the inauguration parade. The Syrian community of Washington is not capable of doing everything alone. It must have the support of other Syrian communities and in order to carry out the well prepared plans successfully, the whole-hearted cooperation of every Syrian society in the country should help, and all Federations must give their moral support.

Let us join this "PILGRIMAGE TO WASHINGTON" and assist the Washington community in their gigantic program. Representatives from every State in the Union is urged and forty-eight State banners representing 48 Syrian communities is essential. There will be a branch of the American Legion of our own and every individual club or organization will carry its own banners. The Washingtonians are planning to have several floats depicting the cultures of our Syrian race so that the president of the United States and all others watching the parade will know that the Syrians and Lebanonians are really 100% Americans.

The ARK's Washington reporter has been promised twelve tickets to the Inaugural Ball, where the Syrian delegations will be received personally by the president. These twelve tickets will be given to Syrian leaders in the fields of Education, Industry, Medicine, Science, Religion, the Press and Politics.

There are no fees attached nor will there be any contributions asked in connection with the pilgrimage. All that is necessary for anyone desiring to witness the inauguration ceremonies and take part in the parade is to send in their names to the ARK offices or to Mr. George C. Kaley, 1324 Maryland Ave. N. E., Washington, D. C., who will be glad to make proper reservations at \$2.50 a person per day (including meals). More elaborate accommodations are available for those desiring them. It is suggested that all those desiring to be in Washington on Inauguration Day, travel by automobile, as many cars from as many different States as possible are desired for the parade.

Eighteenth Century Arab Room From Damascus Palace Now In Chicago

One of the greatest surprises witnessed, was had during the editor's visit to Chicago attending the Executive Board Meeting of the Mid West Federation of Syrian Clubs.

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"Rings Can Be Broken And Lost - But Love Is Undying"



The Maloof - Rashid Wedding Party

Thomas N. Rashid and his bride, the former Miss LaVonne Maloof, are shown with their attendants immediately after their wedding on Nov. 4, at Indianapolis, Ind., when they heard Msgr. Michael Abraham declare, "Rings can be broken and lost, but love is undying."

Miss LaVonne Maloof, prominent Syrian socialite of Indianapolis, daughter of Abraham F. and Wadea Maloof, natives of Zahleh, became the bride of Thomas N. Rashid of Kewanee, Ill., son of Mrs. Najeeb Rashid, on November 4, at the Indianapolis Church of St. Philip Neri.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael Abraham, of Michigan City, Ind., read the marriage service which united the well known Maloof-Rashid families and in his congratulatory remarks immediately preceding the tying of the knot, declared: "Rings may be broken and lost, but love of faith such as is manifested in holy matrimony, is undying."

The church, which was well filled with well-wishers and friends and relatives of the bridal couple from all over the country, was elaborately decorated with palms, ferns and standards of white chrysanthemums. The altar was gayly illuminated. The services were sung by a group of choir boys who also sang arias of wedding hymns while Miss Lucille Nahas of Joliet, Ill., aunt of the bride, sang the solo of Gounod's "Ave Maria."

Juniors William Freije, cousin of the bride and George Zainey assisted Rev. Abraham as acolytes.

In Tropic Peacock

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a frost white slipper satin made on Rembrandt lines with shirred yoke and flared peplum of Chantilly lace. The long sleeves were puffed at the shoulders and tightly fitted from elbow to wrist. Tiny satin covered buttons extended down the back of the basque to a low waistline. The gored skirt fell into a long, wide train.

The matron of honor, Mrs. Emil Tanbar, of South Bend, Ind., the bride's aunt, wore a gown of tropic peacock velveteen and fraile with a matching velveteen hat finished in the back with a bow and streamers. The bridesmaids, Miss Alma Nahas, Joliet, Ill., and the Misses Faye Ajamie, Sadie Kurker and Lillian Freije of Indianapolis, all carried bouquets of rhumba lillies in bird of paradise arrangement and gowned like the matron of honor.

Veil of Illusion

The bridal veil of white illusion was caught with a Rembrandt type off-the-face bonnet edged with seed pearls and had a shoulder-length face veil. The bride carried a white prayer book covered with white orchids and with a spray of smaller orchids cascading from it.

Mrs. Maloof, mother of the bride, chose a sapphire blue crepe with which she wore a matching blue feather hat and an orchid corsage. Mrs. Rashid, mother of the groom, was in mint green crepe trimmed with beaver. She wore matching accessories and orchids.

Groom's Attendants

The five attendants of the bridegroom were his cousins. Samuel Tuma, Detroit, Mich., was best man. Ushers were Alfred Rashid, Davenport, Iowa; Victor Rashid, Peoria, Ill.; William Rashid, Kewanee, Ill.; and Samuel J. Rashid of New Castle, Pa.

Celebration At Exclusive Club

Following the lengthy church ceremonies, a caravan of autos, preceded by two motor-cycle patrolmen, with the bridal party and friends of the couple, paraded through the



Mrs. Thomas N. Rashid

business district of Indianapolis and on to the exclusive Riviera Club, seven miles in the suburbs. There the large crowd was feted amidst musical orchestrations until a late hour, when the couple left for a honeymoon trip to New Orleans, La. Mr. Mabada Rashid, prominently-known New Yorker, was toastmaster at the Riviera.

The Syrian Ark - December, 1940

For her going-away costume, the bride wore a black velvet suit with silver fox pockets, a silver fox trimmed hat and orchids.

The bride is a graduate of St. Agnes Academy, Indianapolis, and attended Indiana and Butler Universities. She was the first assistant secretary of the Mid West Federation of Syrian Clubs when it was organized in Indianapolis six years ago. She was also president of Binat el-Yowm, a young girls' sorority of Indianapolis.

The couple first met at the Midwest Federation's Omaha convention in July, 1939.

After the two weeks honeymoon in New Orleans and other points in the south, the couple returned to Kewanee, Ill., where they will make their permanent home. A pre-arranged reception in honor of the returned couple was given by the groom's mother and aunts.

Pre-Wedding Reception

The evening before the wedding date, the Syrian-Lebanon Hall of Indianapolis was filled with merry-makers from all over the country. Of the large Rashid family throughout the mid west, groups came from Detroit, Kewanee, Peoria, Highland Park, Sreator, Ill., and Davenport and Fort Dodge, Iowa. The upper floor of the Hall was allotted to the young folks for modern dances and entertainment by a classy orchestra.

A prominent figure among the younger set was Miss Evelyn Nahas, daughter of Edward and Marian Nahas of Merced, Calif., and a cousin of the bride. Evelyn was in the reception committee who greeted all the young attendants to the activities of the younger set.

The lower floor of the hall was crowded with the elder folk and those who preferred oriental variety of dances and to listen to chanter George Barbari of Detroit, Mich., and other entertainers.



Miss Evelyn Nahas

Christmas In A Lebanon Village

(Continued from page 3)

Inside the church there glows the soft flickering light of a hundred candles. The big crystal cluster hanging in the center of the church, a gift of one of the prosperous emigrants of the village now in America, is all radiant with the light of its two-score candles such as it is on but a few occasions during the year. The priest dresses on the alter with all the ceremony of a bishop on a festive occasion. The acolytes are furiously adding incense on the burning charcoal and rapidly filling the place with a cloud of fragrant smoke. A half-score men priding themselves in their melodious voices are grouped in a farther corner of the altar taking turns at chanting the mystic services in the old Syrian tongue. One man stands at the immediate steps of the altar with cymbals in hand ready to pound at the first motion from the priest. Standing on either side of

(Continued on page 10)

Syrian Wholesale Grocer Enlarges Business By Purchase of Railroad Depot



Saleem Elias Saliba, Resident of Cairo, Illinois, For 42 Years

With business having tripled in the last few years, the Elias Fruit and Produce Company, of Cairo, Ill., has added an extra addition to the large warehouse attached to the former Missouri Pacific railroad passenger station in the heart of the city.

The new addition just completed is 88 feet long by 62 feet wide and that part of the main passenger station which is built of tile and marble and houses the offices of the company and extra storage space, makes the Elias concern one of the largest wholesale houses in southern Illinois.

The floors of the new structure, which is the second addition made by the company since the purchase of the passenger station, have been raised to the height of loading platforms from freight cars and railroad tracks running along the entire length of the warehouse, which is now 124 feet long, not counting the station floor space.

A feature of the warehouse is a modern refrigerating room for the storage of perishable produce, bananas and other fruit.

Since the purchase of the original Missouri Pacific passenger station by the company's founder, Mr. Saleem Elias Saliba, the business has shown remarkable increase of sales and rapid growth. The company had previously been located in smaller quarters and catered to local concerns only. Now the business has expanded to the extent of deliveries in a radius of three hundred miles in the states of Illinois,

Kentucky, Missouri, and Arkansas and parts of southern Indiana.

Last year the company handled more than 300 freight cars of produce and staple goods which was only a part of the total volume of business, for much of the fresh fruit delivered was brought to the warehouse by a fleet of private trucks and trailers owned and operated by the Elias Produce company.

The company gives employment the year around to many persons, and connected with the founder, who supervises the office details, are Mr. Saliba's three sons: George, who manages the warehouse proper and checks all truck deliveries; Henry, in charge of the sales force, and Fred, in charge of all purchases and coaches the company's basketball team.

The Elias Fruit and Produce company is located in what is perhaps the most beautiful plant of any such business in the United States, for the Missouri Pacific passenger station cost a large sum of money and is noted for its classical architectural lines. A picture of the beautiful building is reproduced at the bottom of this page and it appears on all the company's stationery.

Mr. Elias' faith in the growth and future greatness of his business surroundings is unbounded. The present warring crisis is nothing more than an incentive for him to immediately start expanding and to plan greater expansion and growth for the future.

BIOGRAPHY OF MR. SALIBA by Miss Esther Joe

Saleem Elias Saliba was born in Betagrine, Republic of Lebanon, where he attended the primary schools.

In 1898 he came to America to join his brother Heikal Elias in the dry



Fred Elias, Manager Elias' Produce Warehouse

goods and grocery business in Cairo, Ill.

In the first part of 1904, Nora Akle Saliba, Mr. Elias' childhood sweetheart, with whom he had been corresponding since he left Syria, came to Cairo, where she and Saleem were married. Five sons are the fruit of this marriage. The eldest, William, age 33, is managing the wholesale grocery company of his father-in-law, Mr. Moses Sliman in Osceola, Arkansas; Henry, 31, George, 28, and Fred, 25, are active managers and salesmen of the Elias Produce Company. Sam, Jr., age 16, is a Junior in high school.

In 1908 Heikal returned to his native Mount Lebanon and another brother, Mike, came from South America to





replace Heikal in the partnership. This partnership was dissolved in 1922, when Saleem engaged in the wholesale business independently. His business expanded, which was the result of his moving to the Missouri Pacific depot, the most modern and up-to-date building in Cairo.

Formerly the business consisted only of fresh produce, but a full line of groceries and staple goods have been added.

Besides the large number of employees in the offices and warehouse of the company, there are four salesmen on the road continuously, covering a wide area in southeast Missouri, western Kentucky, southern Illinois, and parts of Arkansas and Indiana.

The outstanding feature of the Elias Grocery and Produce Company is the "Elias Cagers," a basketball team which has gained renown since its organization eight years ago. The well-chosen team consists of Cairo boys and employees of the company who are really "tops" in basketball and who have thrilled many a crowd with their excellent playing. They won the the Tri-State pennant (Mo.-Ky.-Ill.) which is indeed an honor. The son, Fred Elias, is coach for this team.

The Elias Grocery and Produce company stands as one of the oldest and

most progressive in southern Illinois. The credit of the success of this company goes to Mr. Elias, Sr., a man with high ideals and a determination to go forward.

Cairo, Illinois

by Miss Sarah Johnson

Pictured above are members of the Amico Club, one of the three Syrian organizations of Cairo, and consisting of fifteen young Syrian maidens, was organized in 1939 with Miss Jamelia David as president. It is becoming one of the most outstanding sororities in southern Illinois. The word "Amico," which comes from the Latin and meaning "with friends," was appropriately chosen because of the chummy disposition of its members.

During the past year the girls have featured some very entertaining activities. On Mother's Day they gave a "Mother and Daughter" banquet in one of Cairo's leading meeting places. On Father's Day, they sponsored a barbecue and beer party at "Dam 58," and recently the club entertained at an informal dance at the popular suburban "Tri City Park." The chairman of the committee was Miss Julia Nasser, who was assisted by the Misses Sarah

Johnson and Lena David.

On October 24, the Amico Club held its first anniversary affair when the girls celebrated with a banquet at the home of the David girls.

The members as shown in the group picture are, left to right, seated: Mary Elias; Ruth Hanna, Treasurer; Esther Joe, President; Sarah Johnson, Vice-President and Reporter; Lena David, Secretary; and Adele Nasser. Standing: Pauline Khouri, Chaplain, Edna Boalby, Louise Joe, Julia Nasser, Sara Jane Joe; Lutefa Boalbey, and Jamelia David, the club's first president.

Other members not shown in the picture are the Misses Afdukia Noufal and Hanna Joe, a teacher in the East St. Louis, (Ill.), public schools.

One of the other two Syrian societies in Cairo is the auxiliary of the Syrian-American Club which was organized in 1935 with thirteen members whose purposes are to aid charity and feature a variety of entertainments for the younger set.

Members and officers of the auxiliary are: Mesdames Alex Johnson, President; Solomon David, Vice-President; Solomon Boalbey, Treasurer; Joseph Hanna, Secretary; E. Thomas, James Joe, Mike Koury, Sam Elias, Mary Lewis, George Moses, A. Feisal, L. Khouri and Albert Joseph.

Editor's Page

(Continued from page 5)

In company with Mr. Abraham Trad, prominent Chicago merchant, a special visit was made to the Studio of Arab Arts and Crafts in Evanston, Ill., where we met Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Morrison and their two Anglo-Saxon featured sons, born in the Near East and still maintaining their Syrian culture and Arabic language and customs. The Morrisons have lived in the Near East for over forty-five years and came to this country in the spring of 1937.

Their long residence in Palestine and travels in Syria and the surrounding Arab countries has given them an appreciation of what the Arab Arts and Culture have contributed to our modern civilization.

The Morrisons have succeeded in creating a genuine atmosphere of the Near East and when they entertained us to a real Arabic dish, called in Palestine "Ma'a loubbeh," made of cauliflower, lamb and rice and seasoned as only the Syrians know how to season food, with fried snowbar and served with a typical Arabian salad on a large copper try, etc., we could imagine ourselves back in the Lebanon. At the end of the meal after partaking of a national sweet dessert, our Near East hosts passed real Arabian coffee with "Hab el-han" reminding us of similar experiences in our native land.

We were amazed to see the Arab Room with all its splendors, mosaic walls and ceiling, the niches in the walls holding oriental treasures and obscured by mosaic doors in variegated colors, the latticed windows out of which the dark-eyed damsels could see and yet not be seen, the divans with their soft cushions all covered with tinsels and golden embroideries and the deep Lillihan covering the marbled floor and holding the brass urn with charcoal to heat the brass-kettle coffee pot, all these which the Morrisons brought over from Damascus in order to give the people in this country an opportunity to see what the true art and culture of the Near East is like. All who visit this Studio of Arab Arts and Crafts will feel as though they are in the Near East where there is charm and beauty.

Mr. Morrison cordially invites every Syrian passing through Chicago to visit his studio which is located at 515 Dempster Street, Evanston, Ill. He gives lectures with exhibits of Near Eastern handicrafts and in particular emphasizes the Arab Philosophy of Life. These lectures are giving people a better understanding of the Near East and its inhabitants.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrison entertain the hope that a permanent exhibit of Near Eastern Culture, Arts, and Crafts may be established in this country similar to the Syrian Room in the Cathedral of Learning at Pittsburgh, to enable students to obtain a clearer and better understanding of the Land which is the Cradle of Western Civilization and an appreciation of what the Arabs have contributed to our modern civilization.

This is an opportunity for all lovers of the Near East and any who are interested in the historical Biblical background to lend their support and cooperation to Mr. and Mrs. Morrison to make their dream a reality.

Now that the Syrians have a National Federation in this country, it is hoped that they will take the initiative and sponsor this idea. It might not be outside a feasible possibility for the National Federation to acquire this XVIII Century Room and set it up in their National Headquarters as a monument to all Syrians who have contributed to this country's development in particular and to that of the entire world.

Free Ark Subscriptions To Syrian Draftees

Commencing with the next ARK issue—New Year's Edition, the magazine will be sent FREE to every Syrian

selected to serve the Army or Navy corps of the United States during the period of enlistment.

Those already enlisted or drafted to camps should send in their names and address of encampments, together with full data of parentage, permanent residence and brief biography of self.



Toufic Nader

From time to time, the ARK will publish the names of all Syrians in the armed forces of the country together with their accomplishments and military or other outstanding achievements. Ark readers will please notify non-subscribers of this free offer.

Charles Toufic Nader, first Syrian boy from Washington to be called to the colors. He is a member of First District, First Battalion, United States Naval Reserves.

Christmas In A Lebanon Village

(Continued from page 7)

the altar are two brass discs hung with small, loose rattles mounted on a long pole ready for use in a quivering, oscillating movement around the host at the time of its elevation.

Infant Symbolizes Born Christ

The service progresses very slowly, and as the reading of the gospel approaches a man is seen to rise and walk to the rear of the church where, at the door of the latticed partition, he takes from the arms of a woman, an infant apparently a few months old. He carries it gently to the altar landing and as the priest faces the worshippers, he beckons the man to approach. The priest rests the holy book on the head of the child and reads the Gospel from that position. This reverential action is supposed to carry with it a special blessing.

Towards the end of the mass the men line along the altar railing to receive communion, but the women form in line within their partition and the priest descends the steps of the altar and walks slowly down the center aisle, preceded by acolytes bearing lighted candles and all the while burning incense, to meet them at the location.

Christmas A Feast Of Peace

Christmas is the feast of peace on earth and good will towards men, and in these primitive Christian churches in Lebanon villages a physical interpretation is given to these symbolic words. At the time the officiating priest pronounces the words of the angels, towards the conclusion of the mass, he touches the outstretched hand of the acolyte to his right, and the latter immediately rises and passes the "salaam" or peace token, by the touch of hand, to the first man next to the altar. The salaam is then passed in like manner from one to the other until it goes the full round of the church. By now the hour has well advanced towards dawn and the church begins to pour out its stream of humanity from the different exits only to eddy and form in little groups in the open court of the church to exchange greetings. Presently small bands of joyful men and women form and are seen traveling different directions. Neighbors and relatives congregate at the house of the leading man of the section or the clan and deliver themselves up to merry-making around a bounteous festive board. The fire in the open hearth now glows more brightly and the insidious Lebanon wine flows freely and reflects its warmth in the ruddy faces of the mountaineers. The infant Christ has come again to announce peace and good-will and now the happy, leisurely villagers invoke all means at their command to accentuate and radiate the good feeling.

Syrian Industrialist Makes Name For Himself As Outstanding Civic And Political Leader



Joseph Morin Heads Large Industry In Newark, N. J.

A tribute to be paid a Syrian might be unusual if it were anyone except Joseph A. Morin, for few Syrians have attained the standing and respect in their enterprises that Mr. Morin did in his.

Mr. Morin, the son of Abdulla and Mary Estephan, natives of Amsheet, Mt. Lebanon, came to the United States with his mother in 1890 when he was only 9 years old, landing in New York City.

Lower Washington Street in the big metropolis was at that time the mecca for all newcomers and it didn't take long for the boy to convince his mother that he could earn enough to support both of them if she would seek surroundings in a smaller town.

That same year, Joe and his mother went to Fall River, Mass., where the youngster went to work as a "spinner" in one of the cotton mills at \$3.50 a week, a salary, which in those days looked big in the eyes of Joe, but

which went a long way in balancing the budget. The boy worked as a "spinner" for three months, while his mother struggled to raise the child to manhood and taught him to read and write in his spare moments.

At the end of the three month period, Joe was placed as "foreman" over the child-labor department of the mill where he remained until he was twelve years old.

Realizing that advancement was slow in the mill, Joe sought work in another factory and although finding it difficult to align himself in work he knew very little about, he convinced his new "boss" that he was worth \$15 a week and he landed a job as "beer" boy, carrying pails of the pale beverage back and forth to employees in a fur factory.

Fifteen dollars a week made Joe happy and his mother marvelled at the boy's ingenuity and eagerness to learn both the Arabic and English languages.

During his spare time when he didn't have much beer to carry to the working men, he watched and "took" in all that was to be learned in the fur business which then took to his fancy.

At that time, all the work in the fur factory was done by hand labor. Soon an opening on the bench in the factory was available and Joe, after some persuasion and persistence, landed the job at \$35 a week, the same as the older boys on the benches were getting. He remained with this bench job two years and with his savings bought a set of books dealing with mechanical devices.

Just about that time, the fur company invented a machine to expedite the bench work and to do away with much of the hand labor. A special room was built to house the invention and Joe Morin was the one person singled out to study the technicalities of the machine and operate it. This was an honor to Joe as the invention was to be kept under lock and key until perfected and patents secured. He was simply locked up or "imprisoned" in the special room so that no one could infringe on the mechanical devices. The only entrance to the room was through the main office of the factory. Joe worked with the machine one year before it was thoroughly perfected and after the final patents were registered, the company ordered forty similar machines made and Joe was made foreman and superintendent over the entire outfit.

He held this executive position for two years at a high salary and when other fur firms solicited his mechanical knowledge, Joe conceived the idea of adopting the same business methods on his own accord and establish a fur company of his own.

Instead of going into business immediately, he decided to study another branch of the fur business with a concern operating several varieties of furs, and accordingly, signed with an establishment in Danbury, Conn., the city noted for its output of fur hats and felt products. When his two year contract as supervisor expired he joined another outfit as superintendent at Newark, N. J. where he and his family now reside.

After thirty years, from the time he earned \$3.50 a week until he received better than \$500 a month as head of one of the leading fur factories in the country, Mr. Morin branched out for himself and now heads one of the leading industries of Newark where he is one of the outstanding citizens of his city. His success was due largely to his persuasive personality, honesty,

and among his best friends are the leading political heads of Newark and statesmen of New Jersey.

At the age of 25, Mr. Morin was married to Miss Bertha Howis daughter of Emil and Mary Deeb Howis, natives of Butroon, Mt. Lebanon. The marriage took place at Danbury, Conn., and to this union, five sons were born: Emil, Phillip, George, Henry, and Joe, Jr. Emil and Phillip are married and each in business for himself.

George graduated from the Boston Medical School and is now interning at Boston Hospital, Boston, Mass. Henry has charge of the office in his dad's Newark fur factory and Joe, Jr., age 12, is in Junior High.

Mr. Morin, now 59, is a member of the Elks, the Eclipse Outing Club of Newark, President of the Almart League and Lebanon American Society of Newark.

He was instrumental in importing several saplings of Cedar trees from Lebanon and transplanting them in the City Park of Newark with elaborate ceremonies attended by government leaders and prominent Syrians of the country. Each year on Memorial Day, the All Syrian Branch of the American Legion of Brooklyn, N. Y. makes its annual pilgrimage to the site of these Cedar trees to commemorate the memory of the gallant Syrian soldiers who gave their lives for the United States during the first World War.

At a reception given in Mr. Morin's honor by Newark's mayor and other municipal leaders, Joe was presented with a life size oil painting of himself as a gift from the City of Newark, for his outstanding civic achievements.

During the ARK editor's recent summer visit to New York, Mr. and Mrs. Morin were hosts at an informal party in which Mr. Salloum A. Mokarzel, editor of the daily Al-Hoda, and other Syrian leaders participated.

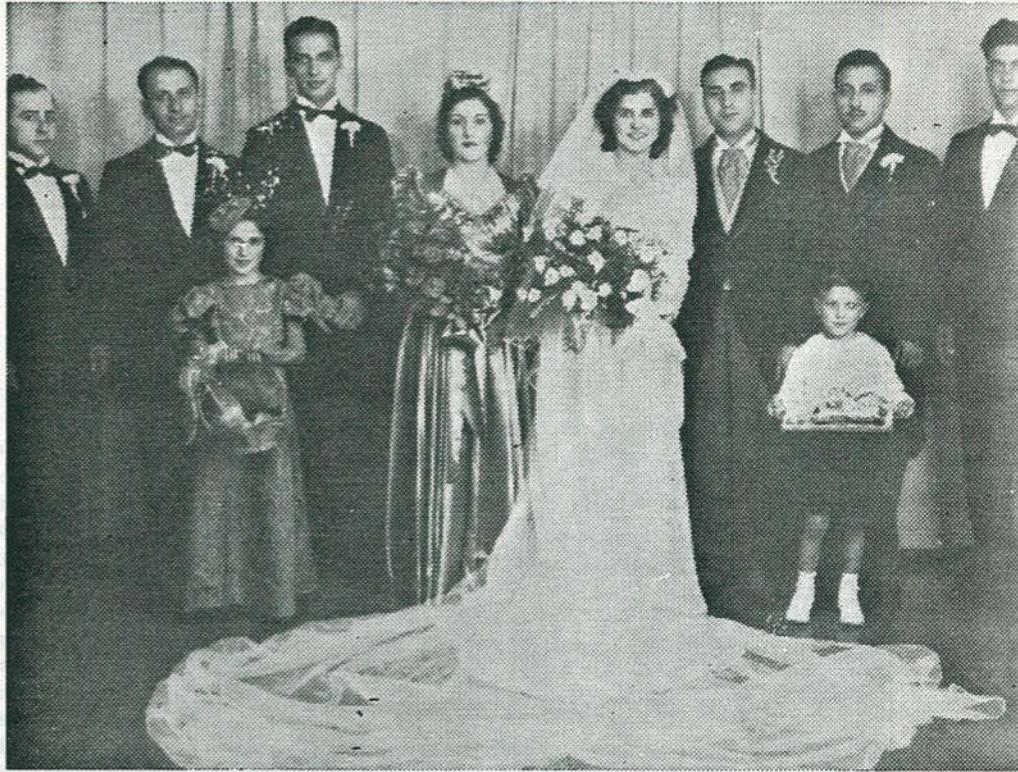
Coury - Metry Wedding

Charleston, W. Va. witnessed one of its outstanding weddings on September 22, when Rev. George Kattouf, of Altoona, Pa., read the ceremony which united in marriage Miss Helena Marie Coury of Clarksburg, W. Va., and Mr. Farris Michael Metry, of Kanawha City, W. Va.

St. John's Episcopal Church, where the ceremony was held was elaborately decorated with seven-branched candleabra, palms, ferns and vases of gladioli. Mr. Najeeb Saba, accompanied by Prof. J. Henry Francis, sang "I Love You Truly," "Because," Gounod's "Ave Maria" and "O Promise Me."

The bride's gown was of white satin

Miss Helena Marie Coury Becomes Bride Of Mr. Farris Michael Metry



Mr. and Mrs. Farris Metry are pictured above with attendants at their wedding, which took place at St. John's Episcopal Church, Charleston, W. Va. Left to right are: Mr. Tannale Lowen, Mr. Samuel Farha, of Montgomery, W. Va., Patricia Ann Howard (flower girl), Mr. Edward Lewis, Miss Elizabeth Metry (sister of the bride-groom), Mr. and Mrs. Metry, Dr. John Michael Metry of Chicago, and Mr. Peter Coury of Clarksburg, W. Va.

trimmed at the sweetheart neckline with lace and seed pearls. The princess gown had long sleeves, a full skirt and a seven-yard train. Her illusion veil was fastened to a crown of hand-dipped orange blossoms and she carried a shower bouquet of white roses and lillies of the valley.

Wedding Party Named

Miss Elizabeth Metry, a sister of the bride-groom, was maid of honor. Her victorian gown was of green satin, with tight-fitting bodice, long sleeves and full skirt. She wore a matching gold-trimmed turban and carried a bouquet of talisman roses.

Patricia Ann Howard, flower girl, wore a gold satin princess-style dress, trimmed in green and carried a basket of rose petals.

Michael Howard, Jr., was the ring-bearer.

Dr. John Michael Metry, of Chicago, Ill., brother of the groom, was best man. Ushers were Messrs Tannale Lowen, Samuel Farha, of Mammoth, W. Va., Edward Lewis of Charleston and Peter Coury of Clarksburg, W. Va.

The bride's mother wore a black gown, trimmed with gold, and a matching hat.

Mrs. Michael Metry, mother of the bridegroom, wore a sky blue crepe

dress, with a matching hat. Corsages were of talisman roses.

Dinner Served

Following the church services, dinner was served to four hundred guests at the home of the groom's parents. After dinner, the bride and groom cut the three-tiered wedding cake, which was very large and beautiful to look at.

Reception Held In Evening

A colorful reception was held in honor of the bridal couple at the Phoenician Ballroom where a crowd of over twelve hundred attended. Many friends and relatives come from Grand Rapids and Detroit, Mich.; Toledo, Athens, Chauncy, Columbus, and Canton, Ohio; Clarksburg and Parkersburg, W. Va.; Brooklyn, N. Y., and Altoona, Pa.

The reception was in typical Syrian fashion with Arabic music and dancing until the early hours of the morning. Chanter Habeeb Macksoud of Central Falls, R. I. who rendered vocal melodies with his "oud," was engaged purposely for the occasion. The famous "Debke" climaxed the evening with a variety of delicious Syrian refreshments.

This cold spell deserves two months in the heater.

David Buttross Elected President of Cedars of Lebanon Club

The Cedars of Lebanon Club of Jackson, Miss., held their annual meeting October 6 for the election of officers for the coming year. The meeting was fully attended by all members from Jackson and Canton. The following officers were elected:

David Buttross, President; A. B. Saway, Vice-President; Miss Mabel Bettros, Secretary; Mrs. Ellis Joseph, Treasurer; George Dandah, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Members elected to the board of directors were as follows:

J. M. Abraham, Ellis Joseph, Nick Thomas, Abraham Frangy, Nathan Simon, all of Jackson, and Joseph Buttross, Canton.

Mr. Buttross, who has just received the office of the presidency has been a very active member of this organization for several years. In the past, with other loyal members, he diligently supported and assisted in the erection of one of the finest club buildings in the South, which is located on the main highway between Jackson and Canton. He has just retired from the office of Chairman of the Board and also State Vice-President of the Southern Federation for the year of 1940.

The Cedars of Lebanon Club is an affiliated member of the Southern Federation of Syrian-Lebanon American Clubs which recently merged with the National Federation. The members of these organizations are predominantly young men and women born in the United States.

All are born and naturalized Ameri-

can citizens, and are united in this great federation of clubs, one of their primary purposes being the supporting of American ideals and institutions and fighting all elements subversive to our democratic form of government.

Following the election of officers the club held their regular meeting Nov. 3, during which the new officers were installed. The installation ceremonies were conducted by the past president, George Simon, of Jackson. The following address was delivered by the elected president, David Buttross, of Canton:

"I have the honor in standing here before you, presiding at the first meeting of our fiscal year. I wish to state and express my appreciation to each and every one of you, who, through your confidence, elected me to the highest office of this progressive organization. This, I feel, is a great honor, indeed.

"In response to your generous heart and good feelings, I wish to thank you for this opportunity which you made possible for me to serve.

"In holding the responsibility as executive of our beloved institution, I sincerely hope that I shall be worthy of your confidence. My friends, you know that offices and positions of different organizations, business, social and others, are sought and accepted because of different reasons. Some for selfish interests, honor, or otherwise, and some for the benefit of their group. But there are others with the best interest of their office at heart, willing to put their shoulders to the wheel, to work and push forward with everybody for everybody.

"I do not hesitate to say that I belong to the last mentioned co-operators. I shall always be ready and willing to co-operate with you to the utmost for the betterment of our club and its members. May we always set a good example for our young people and create a brotherly love among ourselves.

"On this occasion I do not want to overlook the splendid work, accomplishments, and co-operation that has been done by the past administrations. It should always be remembered and appreciated by all of us, for it is on the foundations that has been laid by those administrations, year after year, that I and my associate officers are going to continue the good work.

"For myself and on behalf of the rest of the officers, I promise that we shall always serve our club to the utmost of our ability and thereby hope to merit the confidence which you placed in us.

"I personally ask the help and co-operation of all of you so we can cross the channel to success and still better times, and now before closing my address, I want to ask you to bear in mind that the primary purpose of this club in our social and commercial life is to discuss among ourselves and our youth to be now and always, true and faithful American Citizens, ever-ready to oppose and fight all elements contrary to the Constitution and Democracy of Our Country. The great United States of America.

"With this in view, I wish to ask that all of our regular and special meetings be opened and closed with the two national American songs. That we open with 'The Star Spangled Banner' and close with 'God Bless America,' the land we love."

The suggestion of the president that the two national songs be sung at every meeting was unanimously carried and adopted.

Ernest Buttross Receives Honor

Ernest Buttross, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Buttross, of Canton, Miss., who recently enrolled at Mississippi State College, has just been qualified and selected as a member of the Mississippi State band.

Previous to his entrance at State College, young Buttross was a member of the Canton School band, also St. Stanislaus College band and took a very active part in band activities. He now holds several medals awarded him by the State Band Committee for exceptional ability with the bass clarinet.



David Buttross



Ernest Buttross

FLASHES FROM THE HOMELAND

"TO INTERPRET THE NEAR
EAST TO THE WEST"

Twenty-One Years of Peace

by Bayard Dodge
President, American University
of Beirut

(From Near East Service Quarterly)
PEACE. The academic year 1939-40 commenced at Beirut on September 1, when the School of Nursing admitted a new class of probationers. The day before the nurses began their work, progress and prosperity ruled throughout the Near East. It was impressive to realize what twenty-one years of peace had meant to backward and war-ridden countries.

BUILDINGS and TRANSPORTATION. The principal cities were entirely transformed, with blocks of modern houses and handsome public buildings. Large new harbors were bringing many ships to Haifa and Beirut.

The railroad from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf had been carrying passengers for several months, while the famous Baghdad Railroad was nearing completion. Sleeping cars were soon to go from the Bosphorus to the Persian Gulf—from Istanbul to Barsa.

A superb new aerodrome was attracting many commercial planes to Beirut and many other flying fields were constantly being used to other parts of the country. Large numbers of passengers were going to Egypt and France by air, and planes were carrying mail east to Saignon and west to New York.

An asphalt road was being completed between Cairo and Jerusalem, so that cars could make the journey in a day. A dirt road connected Egypt with Sinai, Aquaba, Petra and Trans-Jordan. Other asphalt highways were soon to connect Baghdad with both Haifa and Damascus. So many roads had been built in Palestine, Syria, and Lebanon that thousands of motor cars were bringing new life to towns and villages which used to be in isolation.

INDUSTRY, OIL, MINES. An American copper company had recently enlarged its smelter at Cyprus, where one of the oldest mines in the world was continuing to be profitable.

Big cement factories were pouring out their smoke at Haifa, Damascus and Shakkah, near Tripoli. Up-to-date power plants were supplying the cities and towns with electricity. Both in

Palestine and the French territory, new factories were starting to manufacture cloth, tiles, furniture, pipes, jams, beer, alcohol, cigarettes, and other things.

A subsidiary of the Standard Oil Company of California was producing petroleum on a large scale in the Bahrain Islands and on the Hasa Plain of Eastern Arabia. The Anglo-Iranian and Iraq Petroleum Companies had turned Southern Iran and Iraq into one of the most important petroleum centers of the world. A new concession for the Dayr al-Zor oil field was being signed and the pipe lines across the Palmyra desert to Haifa and Tripoli were being used to maximum capacity. Local needs for gasoline were soon to be met by a new refinery at the foot of Mt. Carmel.

An American company was exploiting gold deposits in Western Arabia, while a surprising number of mining and industrial projects were being undertaken in Turkey.

TOURISTS. At the end of August, 1939, the Lebanon Mountains were a scene of great gaiety. Eighteen thousand summer boarders had come from neighboring districts swarming the summer resorts and making constant visits to the cabarets and bathing beaches of Beirut.

In spite of the troubles in Palestine, many European and American tourists had found their way to the Near East, especially to Egypt during the winter time.

POLITICAL QUIET. Iraq and Egypt had recovered from the deaths of their kings and were settling down to a new period of national independence.

The rebellion in Palestine was coming to an end and the arrival of an especially upright High Commissioner had created a wholesome feeling to Syria and Lebanon. Although the transfer of the province of Alexandrette had come as a shock to many people, it had the advantage of assuring friendship between Turkey and her allies.

REFUGEE SETTLEMENT. Late in the summer of 1939, when the province of Alexandrette was transferred to Turkey, the government settled nearly 6,000 Armenian refugees from Musa Dagh at Anjar. This is a beautiful



Dr. Bayard Dodge

spot, where a great torrent of water flows out of the hillside to the plain. It is across the Damascus road from Marj. The government gave the people enough money to travel to their new home and to live in Arab villages during the winter.

At the same time the League of Nations was completing the settlement of 9,000 Assyrians on the Khabur River where centuries ago Ezekiel prophesied to the Israelites in their captivity.

ARCHAEOLOGY. Archaeology was thriving to an extent never before realized and new museums were assuming great importance at Jerusalem, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Aleppo, Antioch, Latakya and other places.

A great deal of new light was being thrown on the Bible and the ancient history of the Near East at the same time that beautiful collections of antiquities were being mounted in the museums.

AGRICULTURE. A huge new dam was making the Sudan rich, and important irrigation projects were being undertaken in Iraq and the Hums region of Syria.

New methods of agriculture were being introduced and many farmers' co-operatives were being started, especially in Egypt and Palestine. Great numbers of fruit trees were being planted in the Lebanon. Citrus fruits were becoming an important element in Egypt and Cyprus, as well as in Palestine, where the farmers were preparing to export over ten million boxes of oranges a year.

RADIO. New broadcasting stations had been installed at Ankara, Cairo, Jerusalem and Beirut, with programs in numerous languages. Illiterate peasants were able to hear special programs about agriculture. The uneducated man on the street knew more about world politics than the educated people did a few years ago.

SOCIAL PROGRESS. Even more important than this material progress was the social and spiritual evolution, which was overturning ancient traditions and creating a new atmosphere in the Near East. Turkey had taken the lead, ever since the founding of the Republic, but Iran was also undergoing tremendous changes and even the conservative Arab world was not far behind.

CHANGING BEDOUIN LIFE. The armored car and the aeroplane were putting an end to Bedouin raiding and changing the life of the nomads, just as the arrival of the white man in America changed the habits of the red Indians. The Peninsula of Arabia changed more in a few years than it had changed for thirteen centuries due to the extraordinary personality of "Abd al-Aziz Inb Sa'oud." Where before there had been constant violence and intellectual stagnation, in 1939 there was complete security and a new atmosphere of progress.

SCIENCE. European thought had begun to transform, not only the thought of the Oriental Churches, but also of Islam itself. As science produced unbelief in the old traditions, religious fanaticism became a matter of party politics, rather than of spiritual conviction. Young men and women, whose parents had zealously observed the rites and creeds of their forefathers, neglected their places of worship and paid little attention to the forms of their worship.

MUSLIM WOMEN. During the year 1939 the Muslim co-eds left off every trace of the veil as they went about the campus. Although their faces had been uncovered before that time, they had worn light veils over their heads.

In Turkey and Iran the veil and the harem were rapidly disappearing. In the more conservative Arab states, the emancipation of women was going on less rapidly, but just as surely.

Instead of marrying strangers at the age of sixteen, girls were enjoying education and seeing their fiancees, before becoming betrothed to them. Young married couples were giving up the ancient custom of living with their parents and were starting life in their own apartments. It makes a tremendous difference whether a young bride

is practically a servant in her mother-in-law's house, or the mistress of her own home.

It makes an even greater difference whether a young mother is an ignorant child, who knows nothing about the care of babies, or an intelligent girl of at least eighteen years of age, who has studied biology and hygiene at school.

Among the farmers and the poor people of the cities there were still many ignorant mothers. On the other hand, it was encouraging to see how many of the girls from the better families were capable and refined. Instead of bringing up their children in closed harems, where their young minds were warped by bigotry, gossip and an exaggerated emphasis on sex, they were giving their children the advantages of a broad, stimulating modern life.

EDUCATION. Rich and poor alike felt that education was the elixir of national rebirth. The governments of Iran and Egypt were developing huge state universities at Teheran and Cairo. Wealthy families from Mecca and Jiddah were beginning to send their sons to Beirut and the government of Cyprus was reorganizing its system of education along English lines. Many of the Near Eastern countries had sent hundreds of students to Europe and America, so as to train them to become experts.

Iraq, Palestine, Trans-Jordan, Syria, and Iran were opening elementary schools with surprising rapidity, so as to fit the children of poor families for a more intelligent citizenship. Iraq is a good example. During the World War it could boast of only a few schools, except for the little mosque classes. In 1939 there were 716 elementary schools with 98,653 pupils; 35 intermediary schools, with 15,049 pupils; 14 secondary schools with over 2,000 students, in addition to a number of schools for teachers' training and various technical subjects.

NATIONALISM. During the Ottoman regime people of all races expected to serve the Sultan. Geographical divisions were not important, as all of the different parts of the Empire were bound together under one rule. Nationalism was not well developed, but loyalty to a religious sect was very strong.

With the breakdown of the Ottoman Empire everything changed. The religious community was no longer as important as the race. Nations within geographical boundaries became units of new importance and efforts were made to federate together states, which shared in racial characteristics.

The ferment of Pan-Arab union came

to the front and was kindled into a zealot movement. The most striking social development of the period between 1918 and 1939 was this nationalism, which eclipsed every other influence in intensity.

AUGUST 31, 1939. At the end of 21 years of peace the Near East was in the midst of a sweeping renaissance movement, intoxicated by modern ideas, carried away by new political ambitions and developing too fast to face the truth or to appreciate the basic realities of life.

THE SWORD UNSHEATHED. On the first of September the President of the Republic of Lebanon was receiving guests in the Government House and the people were celebrating their national holiday. In the midst of this merrymaking the radio announced the outbreak of the present European war.

Thousands of summer visitors rushed back to their homes in Egypt, Iraq and Palestine. The many emergency measures, which accompany the outbreak of war, were immediately put into operation. Sixteen French teachers and one Englishman were called from the campus to war duties. People remembered the misery of 1914 and a heavy cloud of sorrow settled over the land.

The war has brought to a halt a period of history in the Near East similar to the intellectual awakening which took place at the time of Alexander the Great, or the golden age of progress when Harun al-Rashid was Caliph.

The School of Nursing began its new session the day that war was declared. The University examinations ended the day Paris fell. From start to finish the year 1939-1940 was a year of war.

REGISTRATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT. Professors were sent to Baghdad, Jerusalem, Damascus and Aleppo, in order to help the students with their travel. The Treasurer went to Palestine, so as to arrange for the people there to pay fees in their own currency.

The government authorities were so kind and took so much trouble to enable the students to overcome what seemed to be unsurmountable obstacles, that the members of the faculty were greatly touched.

As the result of this kindness the enrollment was an unexpectedly large one, although it was not as large as the record breaking enrollment of the previous year. (In the scholastic year 1938-1939 there were 1938 students at the University as compared with 1847 students during the war year of 1939-1940).

REGISTRATION FIGURES 1939-'40.	
School of Medicine	115
School of Dentistry	7
School of Pharmacy	49
School of Nursing	72
School of Arts & Sciences	280
Institute of Music	83
International College	1241
Total at University of Beirut	1847

STUDENTS FROM 35 COUNTRIES.

Albania, 3; Arabia, 13; Argentine, 2; Brazil, 4; Bulgaria, 3; Chile, 5; Cyprus, 14; Egypt, 50; Ecuador, 1; France, 33; Germany, 10; Great Britain, 34; Greece, 15; Honduras, 1; India, 2; Iran (Persia), 27; Iraq, 204; Italy, 5; Yugoslavia, 1; Latvia, 1; Lebanon and Syria, 866; Lithuania, 1; Malaya, 1; Mexico, 1; Palestine, 417; Panama, 1; Poland, 6; Russia, 1; Sudan, 3; Switzerland, 5; Trans-Jordan, 23; Tunisia, 1; Turkey, 19; United States, 71; Zanzibar, 1. Total registrations, 1847.

RELIGIOUS SECTS REPRESENTED. Armenian Catholic, 6; Bahai, 10; Chaldean Catholic, 2; Coptic Orthodox, 2; Druze, 55; Greek Catholic, 39; Greek Orthodox, 358; Gregorian, 57; Hindu, 2; Jew, 226; Latin, 84; Maronite, 53; Moslem, 642; Protestant, 297; Syrian Catholic, 4.

CONCLUSION. There has been an effort to help the students realize that there is no real contradiction between science and religion, but that they are different aspects of the same truth. At a time when the local religious chiefs have lost their leadership and agnosticism has been growing with an alarming rapidity the University has done what it could to keep faith alive.

The future is unknown. One of the Arab teachers recently wrote in a letter: "The forces of evil are at work in the world; but they are fighting for transient things. We are toiling to establish the eternal things, and we shall prevail. The University is not in its buildings and equipment. It is in the spirit that we carry within our own being. This no man can destroy. And if we are driven from here, it is only to carry that spirit to ever widening circles, to keep the flickering torch lighted in the midst of darkness, treachery and barbarism."

The constructive spirit of the institution was needed during the last half century of the Ottoman regime. It has been a strong force during the period of renaissance. It will be needed to an even greater extent during the period of world settlement, which is sure to come. Let us dare to hope that the University itself, and the spirit of good will for which it stands, will grow in strength, until unbelief and strife give way to faith and understanding.

Ark Representative Selected To Draw Draftee Numbers

George C. Kaley, ARK representative in the District of Columbia, was selected on October 29 to be one of the privileged to take part in the drawing of selective numbers for prospective draftees in the defense of the United States.

President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull, drew the first numbers, while drawing by Kaley started with draft number 400. He drew all told about 75 numbers.

Among the Syrian draftees whose number was one of those drawn by Mr. Kaley was that of John Yasbek, of Washington.

Mr. Kaley's picture is shown on the front cover of this ARK as he "pulls" out the first capsule in the presence of government officials and radio announcers. As each number was drawn and registered officially, the same was broadcast over the nation's radio network. The historic event was held in the Department Auditorium of the Department of Labor.

On recommendation of Bruce Barton, New York Republican Congressman, Mr. Kaley's appointment was made by Clarence A. Dykstra, director of the National Selective Service, who directed Kaley to serve under Brigadier General Albert L. Cox.

Mr. Kaley is a veteran of the World War and belongs to the Bunker Hill Post of the American Legion in the District of Columbia. He joined the United States army at the age of 16.



Charles Ryia, Peoria, Ill.

Mr. Ryia was the "jist of the party" at the elders' meeting in the Indianapolis Club house.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the American-Syrian Progressive Society of Peoria and was on the reception committee when the Mid West Federation assembled at the Peoria convention in 1940.

Other visitors to the ARK offices during November were: Attorney Abe Sherman, of Clarksdale, Miss., on his way to the Notre Dame football stadium, in South Bend, Ind.

Mrs. Edward Nahas and daughter Evelyn, of Merced, Calif., and sister Cecelia Nahas, of Joliet, Ill.

Charles George of New York City, Albert Litfiy of Fort Wayne, Ind., and Charles Saikley, of Danville, Ill.

Ark Visitors

Among the guests who came to Indianapolis to attend the Maloof-Rashid wedding (featured elsewhere in this ARK) many came to visit the ARK offices.

Mr. Charles Ryia, of Peoria, Ill., came with a delegation including his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Nimer Maloof, Sam Maloof, John Mallow and Messrs. John, Murched and Na'amani Rashid.

Mr. Ryia and his group rendered valuable assistance at the pre-marriage ceremonies of the Maloof-Rashid celebrations, with his eminent singing of Arabic songs and popular entertainment. He is a leader in the extra large Syrian community of Peoria, and his presence at all Syrian festivities is an added source of joy and incentive to the occasions. He is well known for his pleasant personality and possesses a host of friends in all parts of the country.

The Syrian Ark Ideal Christmas Gift

We acknowledge with sincere thanks, the instructions to send the ARK as Christmas gifts, as follows:

From Mrs. Gertrude Sydah, Akron, Ohio, to Mrs. Francis Owen, of the same city.

From Charles Ryia, Peoria, Ill., to Mrs. Sarina Abood, Chicago, Ill.

From Joseph M. Abraham, Jackson, Miss., to Rev. M. Baroody, Vicksburg, Miss.

From Charles George, Brooklyn, N. Y. to Miss Julia Malick, Lewiston, Maine, and to Mrs. Ed. Gillette of Los Angeles, Calif.

From Lian Brothers, New York City, to Musa Azar, Shanghai, China.

From Wadih Corhan, New York City, to Miss Nellie Assouf, Harrison, N. Y.

The gifts will be made known to the recipients in time for Christmas.

More announcements in next ARK.

WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE — HERE AND THERE

In And About New York With Jeals

Lest You Forgot . . . to be thankful—and we're hoping you had a lot of things to be thankful for—aside from the fact that you live in America . . . in other words, we hope you had a happy Thanksgiving. . . .

Sir Stork . . . on election day left a son at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Khoury . . . and on Thanksgiving eve a son at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hoenig (nee Nellie Milkie) . . . Sir Stork has his eye on a home in Prospect Park and one in Bay Ridge (you can check on us later) . . . Sorry about Mr. and Mrs. James Hawie's disappointment . . .

Syrian-Lebanon Unit American Red Cross . . . report the receipt of six more checks—one from the Kemcie Club of younger men for \$20—one from Lily Maloof for \$5—one from Ladies of St. Nicholas for \$25—one from St. Nicholas Young Men's Club for \$25—one from George Massabni for \$30 (we are not certain whether this is a personal or club contribution) and a check from the Homsian Society for \$25. (Mrs. J. N. Malouf, president of this worthy organization, promises a complete report of contributions after January 1st, which we shall be happy to print) . . . This column wishes to salute this organization, for to help the American Red Cross at this time brings Horace Mann's quotation to mind—"To pity distress is but human—to relieve it, is Godlike."

At the Academy of Music . . . on November 17th, could be found lovers of the Arts to see Litia Namora dance and to hear Wadeeha Atiyeh, Singer dramatist, and those who attended thoroughly enjoyed the evening, selecting the "bests" Wadeeha Atiyeh's "Scheherezade," which was built around the Arabian Nights Tale of "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" . . . and Litia Namora's "Chittaka," a north India Folk Festival dance with Mohammedan influence . . .

At the Towers Hotel . . . the Syrian Ladies Aid Society had a "full house" attendance, and the proceeds most satisfying . . . Alex Massabni auctioned off some selected bouquets—and proved when a bidder reneged that the auctioneer could himself "buy as well as sell," and this time it wasn't a blind sale—the auctioneer really paid . . .

Health Wishes . . . go to Mary Kaydouh, who must have a lucky star shining above her for, in an almost certain death accident, she came out with a scar above her eye that promises to heal completely . . . which reminds us that "that man who speeds so is going to speed right out of this life"—if he isn't careful . . .

Y.W.C.A. Drive . . . has reached its quota of \$800, under the leadership of Miss Evelyn Lian—among some of the members of her committee are . . . Mrs. M. Makla, Mrs. S. Y. Alkazin, Mrs. L. Uniss, Mrs. S. Zarou, Mrs. B. Katen, Mrs. Faud Salamy . . .

Here and There . . . Well, J. Z., is it serious? . . . Late fall or early spring weddings—Clair Lian and Emil Faris . . . Virginia Samen and Gabe Khoury . . . and a SURPRISE ONE, and you can check us on that, too . . . Is T. T. about to take the marital leap? . . . We'll have news from upper New York soon . . . Has the Young Men's Republican Club Pfffft! . . . What a quarrel that was in the Bermuda Room the other dawning . . . How about it J. J.—middle aisling it soon, as the rumor goes?

Syramar Dance takes place tomorrow evening—after our deadline for submitting this column, so will report on it in our next—in the meantime, may we remind you to . . . **Do Your Christmas Shopping Early!**

—JEALS.

It Happened In Cleveland

with Moe Boukair

The Cultural Gardens Club held its annual dance at the Hotel Cleveland ballroom. A capacity crowd attended. Everyone was gay. Our lovely ladies came forth with their new autumn formals. They danced to the music of "The Kidds Brothers" orchestra. Looking over the dance floor, we spot a few of the outstanding

Syrianettes—among them the charming Mrs. Harry Bassett, who was dancing with her handsome husband. They seem to enjoy dancing together very much. The most attractive with her new style of wear—Mrs. Macron, the loveliest lady at all times, gliding over the smooth dance floor.

"Stars In Heaven" and Rose Anter,



the most romantic girl in her light figure, dancing softly and sweetly. And by the way before we forget—the other day she was speeding along Cleveland's highways at 90 m.p.h. The cop stopped and gave her a ticket—she looked up and blinked her beautiful black eyes and smiled. The cop smiled back. He took the ticket and tore it up. And what happened then? Read it in the next episode.

No dance would be complete without the little smiling beauty, Marie Macron, lighting up the shadowy corners with her contagious smile and winning personality.

Two making love seemingly unnoticed while we eavesdropped. "The Personality Kid" George Rassi, saying to his sweetheart, "Ana Ahabik ya Azzeezti - kateer-kateer," and "Ana beddee marry you"—She said "No-nono, mon chere, I am not in ze mood now for love."

And as we continued dancing on the polished floor, we tangle up with those happy newly-weds—the Hannas and Kassoufs. Good luck to you babies, and happy tackling.

You're handsome it's true, but when I looked and found you kissing the girl's hand Signor Kay Sabath, I wanted to do the same, Ha-ha, He-he, Ho-ho, you make laff . . .

Wait, Mr., wait, till I put my goggles on. Oh!!! is that you Albert? . . . Why Mr. Albert Assed, raising a long mustachio and trimmed like a pencil line and imitating Dark Goobel!!! Ouch—a fly just hit me . . . but all the girls call him Peo-Toler—He's handsome and how.

The girl of my Dreams and I hope some day the dreams will come true. She hates me, but I love her—what can I do—take it easy—take it Bert Razek—my advice to you—she'll love you some of these days and melancholy she'll say—you ARE my Darling—shoo hada ya—See?

Shhh . . . Mystery . . . Ha! ha! ha! . . . the show knows . . . He! he! he . . . Ho! ho! ho! . . . the mystery, the little Miss Killjoy way down in Oklahoma City . . . Is she a killer? ? ? Ho! ho! Wahoo! . . . Whopeee, one hundred and one red pennies reward for the one who can find her—her description? Ou la-la . . . tall, veree tall, I tink she 'bout 7 feet, 11 inch . . . long croomy hair . . . dimple on right arm and burn on left cheek, two front teeth missing and she laf loud, she crackerjack . . . weighs about 250 pounds on one side and *\$!&*!!* . . . She smiles b-e-a-tiffly but she vely sweet gal. Look for her and when found report to Dept. M. B. 7224 Hough Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Vic Anter stood in front of a mirror a whole hour trying to recall when he had seen himself last.

As we drive along the Lexington Boulevard, in the dim corners of East 65th St., we find the smiling madonna of Angelina Razek with a powder puff in one hand and a mirror in the other. What was she going to do? . . . I wonder.

We would like to know what the gals have to say about the draft business and what they think of it. Of course we know some are worrying, because . . . Oh well . . . too bad.

If ever you are lonely and blue, and your heart feeling sad, and inclined to be a little desperate in your solitude—retire to your room and amid the soft, sweet strains of an organ melody read the following, this heart breaking—soul tearing—tangled medly of thoughts, poured forth from an aching heart of a desperate lover:

"A LOVER'S MEDITATION"

I have been walking early this morning as usual and I have been occupied with nothing but you. After the two delightful evenings spent together—yesterday and the evening before—I shall certainly NOT go out tonight, but will sit here at home and write to you, to my adorable one. Now what have I not to tell you? Oh, Lawdy! for two days I have been asking myself every moment if such happiness is not a dream. It seems to me that what I do feel is not earthly. I cannot yet understand this cloudless heaven, I wish I were in your arms, full of faith, or that a thunderbolt would strike me. I never knew before what such love as you have made me feel. I love you the more in that I believe you loved me for my own sake and for nothing else. I have been astonished that man could die a martyr for religion. I have shuddered at it. I shudder no more. I could be a martyr for my religion for my love for you is my religion—I could die for you. My creed is love and you are its only tenet. You have ravished me away by a power I cannot resist—My love is selfish. I cannot breathe without you—I cannot live without you and not only you, but chaste you, virtuous you. The sun rises and sets, the days pass and you follow the bent of your inclination to a certain extent—you have no conception of the quantity of miserable feelings that pass through me in the course of a day. Be serious. Love is not a plaything. Oh, darling, do not mistake these words, for blind is enthusiasm—enthusiasm for you has lasted all my life and increases day by day. My whole soul is yours. If my entire existence had not been yours, the harmony of my

being would have been lost, and I must have died—died inevitably.

These were my meditations dear. If you have me, you know what must have been my joy. What I know, you may have felt. My own, why are there no words for this but joy? Is it because there is no power in human speech to express such happiness? The sudden bound from mournful resignation for the infinite seemed to upset me. Even now I am still beside myself and sometimes I tremble lest I should suddenly awaken from this dream divine. My precious, no obstacle will now discourage me, either in my writing or in my attempt to gain a pension. For every step I take to attain success in both, will bring me nearer to you. How could anything seem painful to me? Do not think so ill of me as to believe that; I implore you. What is toil, is it to conquer so much happiness?

My angel—my beloved sweetheart,

I will kiss your hair and go to bed. Although I am far from you, I can still dream of you and dream of the rose you planted in my heart, dream of your "angel face," dream of your beautiful smile which made my poor heart suffer for your love, dream of my beloved one and will sacrifice my life for her. You alone in the whole wide world I love and adore and dream of that blue ribbon which you wore in your hair. You are my angel. I love and live for you. Good night my dearest, and pleasant dreams.

(Beware Florence and Mary and Mozelle and ? ? ?)

The Syrian Cultural Garden Club opened the Fall season with a dance at the Hollenden Hotel on October 26. Chairman of the committee in charge of the successful frolic was Mary Otto. The Club is looking forward to much activity during the fall and winter months.

CIRCLING THE GLOBE

"Along Gossip Lane" with George Nahas

SOCIAL MERRY-GO-ROUND . . .

The DANCE PARADE is in full swing now that winter is here. The most different AFFAIR we know of is the one given by TAU PHI FRATORITY on the third Saturday in January. The monicker attached to this affair is "THE CONSCRIPTION DANCE" and it's the truth so help me, that the members will be dressed in PATRIOTIC COLORS . . . the place is the St. Nicholais Hall, State and Bond Streets, Brooklyn. For the benefit of the out-of-towners, tickets can be had thru the "SYRIAN ARK" . . . That new AXIS, "SYRIAN JUNIOR LEAGUE and the "RIDGE FRATORITY" will join forces in a BLITZKREIG NEW YEAR DINNER-DANCE at the Towers at six MAZOOME'S per person . . . The recent affair given by your girl friends and mine "THE AMERSYERS" was quite swel'gent. No less than four hundred attended . . . The SYRIAN WELFARE LEAGUE, consisting of two members or more, from each Syrian club in Brooklyn is meeting each Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Adolph Bacash, Brooklyn. Their yearly drive—XMAS BASKETS for the POOR will again be their chief object . . . The LADIES AID SOCIETY had their Dance and Entertainment on Nov. 3 at the Towers. Although successful, it did not measure up to last year's affair . . . when they packed in over fifteen hundred people . . . But maybe this can be chalked up to this year's general

slump in attendance . . .

Questions and Answers

Q.—Is it true that the great Egyptian singer, MOHAMMED ABDUL WAHAB was shot by a British firing squad recently?

A.—Take it from that—this is the biggest publicity stunt ever pulled in the NEAR EAST. He was never shot by any firing squad, and he'll probably live to a ripe old age.

Q.—What couple stole all the lime-light at the BRIDGEPORT CONVENTION?

A.—John (Fritz) Burgoot of Brooklyn and the Pawtucket charmer, Lila Haddad . . . "Especially when they danced every number . . . 'CHEEK to CHEEK.'

Q.—Who is George Ferrayes' latest heart-throb?

A.—It's none other than that PARK-SIDE CUTIE, GEORGE (BALDY) ZALOOM.

Q.—Who is the handsomest, best dressed, and most likeable person in Brooklyn?

A.—DICK (No Pants) ZARICK . . . He was the only one to vouch and submit himself for that title, "SO HELP ME IT'S THE TRUTH."

Q.—Where does the three Rover Boys, GEORGE HANNA, ALEX MERICHE and EDDIE MACKOUL hand out these days?

A.—At the home of OLGA and HENRIETTA SHOWAH . . . (By the

'way I saw HENRIETTA the other day lugging a few quarts . . . "MAYBE IT WAS MILK."

IT'S THE TRUTH SO HELP ME . . . In the October issue of the SCRIBBLER a poem was used, titled . . . I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER. (Dedicated to those who have lived, loved and lost). I remember very clearly that the writer of this poem re-enacted the same some time back . . . Our friend DUKE AZAR is building a bomb proof shelter right in front of LEWNES . . . The FARAH'S! . . . Richard and Ann are expecting a SPRING BABY . . . ('Pardon me' I meant a baby in the Spring) . . . GEORGE HAKIM and his Parkslope De-Icer, LORRAINE BISKINTY are THAT-AWAY . . . GEORGE HALABI sends a post card while on his way to South America (he started on his journey a year ago) saying, "Having a swell time, at the present my boat is stationed at the BERGEN STREET DOCK . . . There is something in the making at the home of Olga and Leon Kaspar . . . ALICE SAMEN and the AWAD boy have called it quits . . . while on the other hand . . . JULIA SAMEN and AL MASSAD are getting ready to march up to the ALTAR.

. . . And QUOTE, from the BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE . . . as per the MARRIAGE LICENSE BUREAU COLUMN . . . "GEO. S. MACKOUL, and ALICE H. RABAT . . . (What a SCOOP) . . . Mary and Frank Ellis of Ottawa, Canada, are trying so hard to make the good 'ole U. S. A. their permanent home . . . JULIA MAS-SADI is all set for the Wedding bells, and that Handsome Englishman is certainly a lucky guy . . . And the big laugh of the month, concerned the "CLUB 31" in which a brand new NICK-name has been given them. The realistic monicker is "THE CAST-OFF CLUB" . . . Things happen here in Brooklyn so fast and furious that it leaves you in a daze . . . Take for instance the case of RAY ZAYAT, who is known from Bay Ridge to Prospect Park as the MAN ABOUT TOWN and GOOD TIME CHARLIE . . . BUT SO HELP ME . . . WE FIND HIM CHANGED OVER-NITE TO, OF ALL THINGS . . . "A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER AND CHOIR BOY" . . . VIRGINIA SAMEN and GABE KHOURY will pull a DUET very shortly . . . The M. B. MATTAS were blessed with a ROLY POLY BABY GIRL . . . LEE CHADWICK is certainly a heart breaker, at least two PARKSIDE DAMSELS are eager for just one little smile from LEE, and are twice as eager for just ONE LITTLE DATE . . . ("WHAT A MAN") . . .

DID YOU KNOW . . . That HITLER who pulled the Chestnut out of the fire for the "EL DUCE" in the NEAR EAST will do it again in GREECE . . . That the wise boys on BROADWAY are taking two to one on ENGLAND to win the WAR in TWO YEARS . . . That the "BREMEN" was purposely allowed to escape by the ENGLISH . . . This huge ship was heavily INSURED in LONDON . . . That the late RUSS COLOMBO was not hot accidentally . . . The real low-down on this hushed up case was that he was murdered in cold blood by the son of a very wealthy person . . . (It's not so funny what millions will buy or do) . . . Did you know that JOHNNY ALLEN, featured soloist with HAL KEMP for years is a SYRIAN . . . That the ABDUL WAHAB and UM KELTOOM recordings are marked up at app. three dollars per disc here in New York, are being sold in the NEAR EAST at fifty cents per . . . That you can be exempt from CONSCRIPTION by being a member of the "FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST," a religious Society . . . Have you noticed the let-down in WALTER WINCHELL'S column in the past two years . . . Gone are those once sensational scoops . . . (It's odd how a person can get lazy or DON'T CARE after he gets his first million) . . . WALT is a swell person and we like his column of old, and I sincerely hope he will dig up something with a punch . . .

Sioux City, Ia.

by Josephine Rehan

Why we should be thankful:

Away off at the end of December's calendar pad, ringed with holly, gold-starred with memories, is Christmas, most loved of all the days of our years.

Each year, as the first hint of winter brings the faint clear echo of Christmas bells, we know we'll have time to be merry . . . time to capture its magic in the wide eyes of the children in the blessed peace of our firelit homes . . . time for old carols and old friends and little kindnesses . . . time for the ancient miracle of the little Prince of Peace.

The Syrians of Sioux City wish to extend to all the Syrians throughout the nation a very merry merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Election of officers will be the main business topic at the next regular meeting of the Syrian American League. Next in order will be the selection of a new name for the club. Plans are also being made to combine the New Year's party with the installation of new officers with a dinner dance.

The Syrian-American League sponsored a Hallowe'en party, November 2, at the Marble Room of the West hotel. About 200 persons attended. The room was gayly decorated and favors were given to all. The music was furnished by an orchestra that played as smoothly as Guy Lombardo's. About midnight, Kelly Abdo was presented with a beautiful wrist watch in honor of his fine work as chairman of the Mahrajan and for the good deeds he has done for the benefit of the Syrian-American league.

After the presentation, a luncheon was served to all. Dancing continued to the wee hours of the morning.

Election of officers of the Golden Links club were held at the home of Robert Risk, on October 11. Newly elected officers were: Phillip Hanna, president; Joseph Skaff, vice-president; Victor Ferris, secretary; Cameal Hanna, treasurer; and Robert Risk, sergeant-at-arms.

Keyhole Peeping At Sioux City

Well, folks, it looks as though those old wedding bells are breaking up the old gang. The next person to forsake the ranks of the footloose and fancy free for the straight and narrow path is Rose Nasser. She is making plans to marry Boston Wakin of — — all places ! ! Middlesboro, Kentucky. We are quite confident this is in the U. S. In spite of the fact that they have not yet decided on a wedding date, we wish to remind all you readers that this is another knockout for the Peoria convention. Boston is a typical genial gentleman from the good old southland. Next time you see him ask him why he was trying to open a certain girl's purse at the Hallowe'en party. Lawdy, lawdy, Boston, you "all" should be ashamed. My, oh, my!

Frank Jacobs, of Middlesboro, Kentucky, sure did like Sioux City ? ? ? and what certain prominent Syrian man took a tumble at the Elks club one night? This is a great secret, but we nearly died laughing. Hear ye! Hear ye! To all those wishing to know the true facts of life consult Mother Rehal. (Mary Rehal) amen! Old man stork decided that his deliveries were slipping among the Syrians so he made up his mind to do something about it. His future deliveries are to Mrs. Dick Yanney, Mrs. Floyd David, and Mrs. George Stevens. That is working overtime, isn't it Mr. Stork? It seems as though Johnny Saymore is sure trying hard to win Matlie Hanna. Mat, what do you say. Well, that is all for this time folks, but next time we will have lots more.

And no doubt if Lafayette hears us from over there he will answer, "You're there, stay there."

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- () American Stamp Journal 1 year
- () Better Homes & Gardens 1 year
- () Opportunity (salespeople) 1 year
- () National Sportsman 1 year
- () Flower Grower 6 mo.
- () Picture Play Magazine 1 year
- () American Boy 6 mo.
- () Click (Picture magazine) 6 mo.
- () Poultry Tribune 2 years
- () Capper's Farmer 2 years
- () You Can't Eat That 1 year
- () Pathfinder (52 issues) 1 year
- () Screen Guide 6 mo.
- () True Health Stories 1 year
- () Science & Discovery 1 year

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Dr. Basile D'Ouakil, Appointed Chairman

Among the appointments of members of the New York City Draft Board made recently by President Roosevelt, through Col. Arthur V. McDermott, Director of the Selective Service for New York, the name of Dr. Basile G. D' Ouakil was noted as chairman of the Modern Foreign Language Department of Fordham University.



Dr. B. G. D'Ouakil

As every one is already acquainted, the local draft boards, only 280 in number for the entire city of New York, will administer the classification, selection and induction of all the men registered under the Selective Service Law. Three appointments were made for each board. Dr. D'Ouakil was appointed for Local Board No. 119, which includes Fordham University and Fordham Hospital and adjacent districts with approximately 3600 registrants. As a mark of confidence in his ability and character, the other members of the Board elected Dr. D'Ouakil their chairman.

As far as we have been able to ascertain, Dr. D'Ouakil is the only one of our people to receive this responsible honor of being a member of the Draft Board and most probably the only chairman of such a board.

Dr. D'Ouakil has been at Fordham University for more than seventeen years and has been honored at various times by foreign governments and learned societies in this country and abroad.

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INDIANA RAILROAD SYSTEM

Greenville, Miss.

by Mrs. Lilly Abraham

Well, what did we have in our last write-up which caused so much confusion 'round here. One young lady got angry for getting the credit for our article in last month's ARK. Two others really got "mad" for what we said, and others got "peev'd" because they were not mentioned. Say! What is this anyway. The ones that I think can take it, are just the ones that can't. And the ones who I surely thought couldn't take the jokes, actually did. Will some one get me straight? I'm all confused. If these young ladies got mad—I don't know about it—just rumors.

I think the boys are better sports than some of the girls. Take for instance Charlie Sherman—I wouldn't think of leaving him out. He is a good sport. Charlie, who is the girl you were strutting with during the parade?

On October 10, Mr. L. K. Shamoun announced the marriage of his attractive daughter, Dorothy, to Samuel McAfee. How's married life, Dot? So that's what you were so excited about, huh? "Nee-ya-lik ya bint" (apologies to Moe of Cleveland).

Nora Tanos, the happy-go-lucky with the million dollar walk—will some day be a model walker.

I wonder who Mitchell Abide is rushing these days since he and his girl friend in Columbus "split" up.

We hear Emily Tanos singing the "South American" blues and teaching the "Rhumba." She must have gotten it from the boy "Cuba." Not bad!

Wonder where Ed Mansour struts lately since the Casino has closed.

FLASH!! Elizabeth Mansour, the cutest girl in town always wants to go to Lake Village. Is it the town? or is it ???

Adele Shamoun has the sweetest disposition! It's because she works at the candy counter.

Wonder what's occupying Ford Tanos' time when he's not catching fish.

Who's that "195" lb. football player on the Hornets team? Wonder if it's Jimel Shamoon. Could be.

Newport, R. I.

by Florence Hattab

Mr. and Mrs. Abraham G. Garzo, who have spent the summer in Newport, have returned with their daughter, Georgiana, to Palm Beach, Florida, where they will spend the winter.

Mr. Maurice Hyder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hyder, has been called to active duty to the Boston Navy Yard, where he is in the naval reserves.

Los Angeles, Calif.

by Lorice Andrews

One of Los Angeles' most recent innovations in the theatrical world, was to import from Chicago Mr. Michel D. Kadri, of stage and radio fame, to their city to act in the role of director and supervisor of several Syrian plays, written by him to be staged early in December, and at later dates.

The two English plays which shall be staged in December are, "What Is Love?" and "The Bleeding Heart." An Arabian play comedy, (Banat-el-youn) shall be staged before each play.

The populace is extremely fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. Kadri, as his past successes in Syria, and in leading eastern cities, stamp him as being an outstanding author and director.

The Los Angeles Syrian-American Society is sponsoring his efforts, and if the cooperation extended him thus far is any criterion, then Mr. Kadri's continuance as a leader in this particular field will be assured. Already, Mr. Kadri has formed the Little Syrian Theatre Guild of Hollywood, with popular Johnny Baida as its inaugural president. The Guild's aims are to further the education, insofar as drama, singing, public speaking, writing and broadcasting, etc., are concerned; and to further broaden the modern generation's knowledge pertaining to Syria, its history, and its beauty.

And to arrange, at an early date, a weekly Syrian broadcast hour over the air, thereby affording every member an opportunity to bring forth to the public eye and ear, his or her possibilities of which no doubt, there will be many.

Naturally, first hand credit should be allotted to Mr. Kadri, and all forthcoming successes, shall be duly credited to each and every talented member.

The Syrian-American Society will hold a banquet the first of December, for all members of the cast and guild, at which time, the present presidents of the various clubs in this city, shall be invited to install the new officers of the guild. Following is a list of the officers: President, Johnny Baida; Vice-President, Emily Raya; Financial Secretary, Marie Maloof; Secretary, Lorice Andrews; Treasurer, Louis Edwards; Sergeant-at-Arms, Fred Raya. Board of Directors: Michel D. Kadri, chairman; Al Thomas, Joe Bardwil, Rosemary Diage, Margaret Ghiz, Marguerite Balesh.

by Emily Jabour

Outstanding among the many societies of Southern California is the Gam-

ma Tau Sorority of Los Angeles, which has among its members some of the leading Syrianettes of the social circles.

The Annual Tea of the sorority's fall season was given at the home of Emily Raya with the following guests present: Marie Malouf, Emily Ayoub, Emalene Reisha, Mary Nicola, Alma Badran, Florence Khoury, Elizabeth Shikany, Eva Khayat, and Margaret Ghiz.

Among the coming events planned, the first will be a three-act comedy to be presented by the members in the near future.

The officers of the sorority are: Mrs. Alexandria Mamey, President; Miss Sally Najar, Vice-President; Margaret Balesh, Secretary; Mary Malouf, Treasurer; Mary Lebbous, Sergeant-at-Arms; Emily Raya, Pledge Mistress, and Emily Jabour, Editor-in-Chief.

Midwest Federation News

The meeting of the Executive Board of the Mid West Federation of Syrian Clubs was held in the Knickerbocker Hotel, Chicago, on October 29.

Because of the illness of President Sam Saad, the meeting was ably presided over by Bryan C. Brian, Detroit, First Vice-President.

It is gratifying to learn at this writing from the report of Mrs. Saad, that Sam is now recovering rapidly and has been transferred from the hospital to his home in River Forest, Illinois.

Present at the Executive Meeting besides Mr. Brian, were: Treasurer, Nicholas Habib, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Second Vice-President Victor Swyden, Wichita, Kansas; Secretary Mrs. W. S. Zarick, Indianapolis; Michigan Governor, Miss Linda Koory, Detroit; Illinois Governor, Edward McMurray, Peoria; Indiana Governor, James Shikany, Michigan City; and ex-President, Michael K. Stephan, Fort Wayne, Ind., ex-officio member.

George Coury proxied for President Sam Saad.

Members of the Peoria Convention Committee were represented by Nicholas Maloof and Charles Rayia, who gave an account of the convention



proceeds and adjusted the amount accruing to the Federation's treasury.

Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were submitted for adoption and the manner for raising means for the Educational Fund were promulgated.

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Favorite Syrian Recipes

LOUBYA (String Beans)

3 lbs. String Beans
2 lbs. Lamb Meat (chopped).
3 Onions (sliced).
1 can Tomatoes (small).

Season meat and fry until half done. Add onions. Continue frying until they become brown. Break beans in half and remove strings. Wash, drain, and add to meat and onions. Steam on medium fire for about a half hour. Shake contents thoroughly at intervals of five minutes throughout the steaming period. Add tomatoe sauce and the same quantity of water. Season to taste and stir. Keep on fire until the beans become tender. Water may be added if necessary. This dish is usually served with rice.

CHICKEN STEW

4 lbs. Chicken.
1 1/2 lbs. Potatoes.
1 lb. Onions.
1 small can Tomatoes (strained).
Salt and Pepper.

Clean chicken well and cut into small pieces. Peel onions and potatoes and cut into halves. Fry the chicken, potatoes and onions separately in butter until half done. Boil chicken in one quart of water for one-half hour. Add onions, potatoes and tomatoe juice. Season well, stir and allow to stay on medium fire until cooked to satisfaction.

MASBAHAT-L-DARWEESH

(The Dervish's Rosary)

(So called because the beads in the Dervish's rosary are picked at random of various shapes and colors. Similarly, Masbahat-l-Darweesh is a thick stew or golash made up of odds and ends of vegetables and meat.)

2 lbs. Lamb Meat.
1 1/2 lbs. Potatoes (peeled).
1 lb. Onions.
1 small Eggplant.
2 Green Peppers.
2 bunches of Celery.
1 large can Tomatoes (strained).
Pepper and Salt.

Cut up lamb meat, potatoes, onions, green pepper, celery and eggplant to about 1 1/2 inch size. Season highly. Add tomato juice with about the same amount of water. Place in deep baking tray. Place in oven on medium fire until well cooked. Add water if necessary.

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"The Convention City"

by George J. Nesser

Sam Saad, our popular Midwest Federation president, was confined for several weeks in the hospital with a stomach ailment, and is now well on the road to recovery and is convalescing at home.

Rev. Serofim Roumie, beloved Syrian priest of Chicago, is gravely ill at St. Anthony de Padua hospital in Chicago. We fear this is the end. Father Roumie is well known through-out the midwest and especially Chicagoland, for his rugged individuality and sincere kind nature and for instilling the belief in Christ and Christianity to many thousands of unbelievers. People even spoke of leaving his church (St. John the Baptist) and leaving their canes and crutches behind. Let us all hope and pray earnestly for him now, for his recovery.

James Haddad, the fruit juice man, has just returned recently from a trip to the coast, bringing back with him the Misses Victoria Dahir and Helene Baccash, who were employed during the summer at the San Francisco World's Fair. Mr. Haddad is a splendid example of the true Syrian business man, combining taste and ingenuity with his compelling personality.

With the coming of cold weather, Dan Cupid has taken a chill, and therefore romances are on ice for a short while, we hope.

The newlyweds, Jimmy and Elizabeth Munyer, are settled in their new home, and will leave for that belated honeymoon trip to Mexico City on Dec. 1, the date originally scheduled for their wedding. In contrast, the Nasser-Boutross nuptials will be extended from Nov. 28, as originally announced to some time in January of next year. The DRAFT (apologies to Windy City) is responsible. Also too many holidays coming on during the wind-up of 1940.

Let the American treasury this time declare war only on international loans.

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"The Beer City"

by Miss Lucille Herro

Hello everybody! I'm back again after several months of absence with more news from Milwaukee.

With the social season in full swing many from Milwaukee and Oconomowoc attended the Cabaret Dance in Chicago, October 26. We did have a wonderful time. Three cheers to the Chicago boys for the tremendous fun! There is no doubt that the convention will be all that it is "up to be."

By the way, the Syrian League gave a Thanksgiving Dance or in the Eagles Red Room and it was well attended.

Miriam, infant daughter of Mrs. George Balady, of Midway, Ind., was christened on October 26. The grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Herro, of Oconomowoc and relatives from Milwaukee attended the christening.

Good-bye now until next year and may this Christmas be merry and the New Year filled with happiness is my wish to all ARK readers—and others too.—Lucy H.

Greenville, South Carolina

"South's Textile Center"

by Miss Mary Koury

George Saad, of Youngstown, Ohio, made his first trip down south to visit his cousin, Charles Saad, noted Greenville oriental rug dealer. George enjoyed his stay and the traditional southern hospitality of which he has heard so much.

The wedding of Miss Budea Ayoub, of Columbia, S. C., to John Cavalone, was an event of much interest to her many friends throughout the south. Miss Angeline Yarid, of Seneca, S. C., cousin of the bride was the maid of honor at the beautiful church wedding.

At the local county fair recently, where several beautiful oil paintings and fine cutwork embroidery were displayed, the lovely and talented artist, Miss Victoria Koury, was amazed to learn that four of her six entries won first, second, and third premium awards. Many fine entries were displayed so it was quite an honor winning four major prizes out of one collection. Miss Koury is an outstanding artist in needle work as well.

Jimmy J. Rizk's favorite hobby is showing candid camera movies of his pals. Recently he exhibited several feet of a football game in progress and two men about town, none other than John W. Rizk and George Koury, engaged in gesticulating conversation.

Sometimes women have to carry the banners

PERHAPS you'll see the story of Joan of Arc, as portrayed on the screen by Miss Ingrid Bergman.

It's a thrilling episode in the world's history, proving that sometimes a *woman* must take the lead in the fight she believes in.

Modern women, too, must often pick up the banners . . . in *their* struggle for the security and well-being of their family.

Though earning the necessities of life is primarily a man's job, sometimes it takes a *woman* to *insure* her family's future by setting them on the *only sure road* to security . . . through adequate, regular savings.

For the modern woman, there is one foolproof method of winning her fight for savings. It's United States Savings Bonds—an investment with the soundest backing in the world . . . an investment that pays back *four* dollars for every *three*.

And there are two foolproof savings plans, too. One is the Payroll Savings Plan, for those on a company payroll. The other is the Bond-A-Month Plan, for those not on a payroll, whereby bonds are purchased through the checking account.

If your home is your career, urge your husband, and all other working members of your family, to start now—today—on the bond-saving plan for which they are eligible.

If you are working, sign up yourself at your firm or bank, and influence the other working members of your family to do the same.

Soon the bonds will start piling up.

Soon you'll know that confidence in the future which only comes through saving.

It's a wonderful feeling for anyone. And for a woman—how doubly wonderful!

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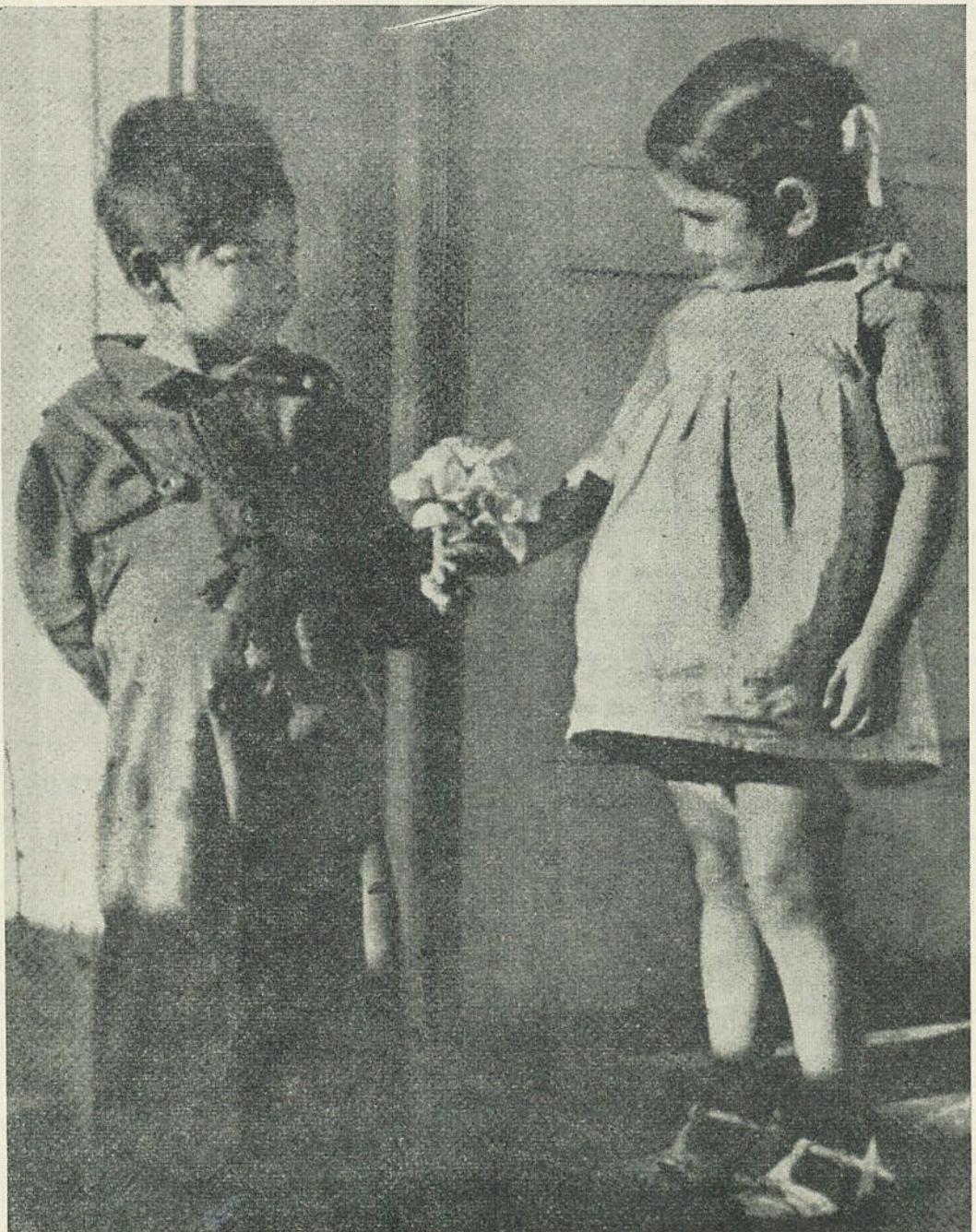
Combined with the LEBANON VOICE, Albany, N. Y., and the SYRIAN HERALD, Washington, D. C.

FEBRUARY, 1949

A. Frederick Zainey, Editor, Indianapolis, Indiana

3-B-3-1a

VOLUME XIII, No. 6



Won't You Be My Valentine?

In the Near East, as everywhere else they "say it with flowers."
Give to the Arab Refugee Fund

PEACE ON EARTH IS CASUALTY IN HOLY LAND WAR

The following article by the Palestine correspondent of News Service depicts the situation in and near Jerusalem as it was just prior to the day when the 25-year British Mandate over Palestine came formally to an end.

By REV. ANTHONY BRUYA

JERUSALEM—One night recently I was in Bethlehem. Down in the Grotto of Christ's Birth, a Moslem soldier had spread out a blanket for a prayer-rug and was making his devotional prostrations beside the Manger, quite unconcerned about the Franciscan kneeling there too.

Above, in the Basilica—which was already 1,000 years old when Columbus set sail for America—all was quiet, amidst the indistinct shadows cast by the forest of marble columns in the uncertain light of oil-lamps burning here and there. Surrounded by this holy peace, it was hard to realize that a battle was raging hardly a mile from this birth-place of the Prince of Peace as adjacent Jewish and Arab settlements rent the night air with the thud of mortar bombs, the tattoo of machine gun fire, and tracer-bullets cutting through the sky which had once been filled with angels singing the first "Gloria."

That morning, when I made the now-hazardous trip to Bethlehem, I had been reminded that that hymn of "Peace on Earth" was a casualty of the war in this Holy Land. Near the Tomb of Rachel, where the oriental landscape once echoed the anguished cries of the mothers of the Holy Innocents, now were roadblocks, hastily thrown up in defense of Bethlehem. Only a few feet from Pontius Pilate's stone pipe line, built to bring water from Solomon's pools to Jerusalem, there was a 20th-century military trench out across the ancient road to thwart any attempted invasion.

It was hard to realize that more than 10,000 casualties, including over 5,000 dead (double these figures is doubtless nearer the mark) had stained this Holy Land. It is hard to realize that a horribly large proportion of those represented by these cold statistics are little children, those in the flower of youth, and the helpless aged.

Not only is Jerusalem, the Holy City, the scene of a war which has made it a dead city of deserted streets,—a veritable no-man's land—with walled-up store windows and heavy concrete fortifications at every turn. The whole Holy Land has become the scene of a two-dimensional war, as combat planes have entered upon the scene, to be followed possibly by the third dimension as a naval phase perhaps develops to add to the horror of it all. All that hateful stock-in-trade vo-

cabulary of which the world grew so sickly weary during the too-recent war, has emerged anew here, as one reads and hears over the radio of "enemy positions," "enemy territory," "enemy property," "according to plan," "objective," "command," etc., etc.

The Holy Land is today a land of deadly contrasts. In the midst of the land where mankind once observed the precise laws of a theocratic state, handed down by a benign Law-giver, unbelievable chaos, bordering on anarchy, now prevails. As the combined voice of United Nations pleads for truce and peace, heavy gunfire greets the news. Cannon booms over the doomed and stepped city, and the bells of the Holy Sepulchre ring out for Vespers.

Not only is everyday business here at a standstill, but education has ceased, as one after another of the schools have been forced to close for the safety of children and teachers alike. Religious work of the various orders and diocesan clergy and the Sisterhoods is almost entirely paralyzed, and is carried on at all only through the sheer persistence of those whose religious zeal alone can make the burdens supportable. It is not uncommon to see Sisters carrying unwieldy bundles of food and heavy cans of milk through deserted streets for the charges in their respective convents.

Here in this "twilight of the Mandate" once-illegal broadcasts are publicized in the left-wing "Palestine Post." The "gangs" of yesteryear have now become the "groups" and "armies" of the new regime, the epithet "gangs" being reserved for the fighting men of the other side.

Here, for self-protection, laymen and women have taken to wearing prominently displayed crosses to identify the wearer as a Christian. Automobiles likewise display flags with the combined Cross and Crescent.

There are, however, somewhat less grim aspects of life here today, as the Mandatory regime "nears its last gasp," to quote the local Zionist daily. The popular native beverage arak has disappeared. Arak is a colorless distilled liquor of high voltage and it was removed from sale to enable the local fighters better to keep their minds on their work. Now and then one is "disturbed" by the unaccustomed quiet of a bombless night, in contrast to the usual clatter and explosions that mark the passage of time in desolate Jerusalem, a walk through whose

winding streets reminds this correspondent of the post-Turkish Jerusalem that he first knew in 1920—a Jerusalem unregimented, uninhibited and unswept.

What does it feel like to "sit out" a neighboring battle to which one is merely a witness? It is not easy to analyze and record one's thoughts under such circumstances. One becomes more or less habituated to the daily strife here—so much so, in fact, that its absence is sometimes more noticeable than its presence. With a rather ghastly sense of humor, a local paper lately published a cartoon whose caption aptly illustrates this mentality, when a man exclaims during the night, "Of course, I'm scared; there hasn't been an explosion for over an hour!"

While it may not be quite as bad as that, yet it is true that one gets into the habit of taking even heavy shooting rather casually—unless it gets too close. A frequent reaction to a heavy jarring explosion is to wonder what building it was that went up, or to speculate on which part of the city was involved.

A night battle, complete with varicolored flares and the dazzle of tracer bullets, is a spectacle not to be missed—until one suddenly brings himself to the realization that those bullets are endangering or maiming or killing human beings, and those shells are destroying somebody's homes. Like all war, it all seems so futile, largely because it leads even at its tremendous cost—to no lasting benefit.

60,000 Blankets Are On Way to Arab Refugees

GENEVA, Dec. 11—Sixty thousand wool blankets—in time for winter weather—left England bound for Arab refugees in the Middle East, the International Refugee Organization reports.

The blankets are a first shipment for the relief of Arabs who have been displaced in the fighting in the Holy Land. Another 40,000 will follow soon.

The blankets are a gift of the IRO, but they'll go along with seven tons of flour and wheat under the auspices of the new United Nations Disaster Relief Project. Money for \$840,000 worth of wheat and flour was lent the relief group by the IRO, to be repaid when the UN organization gets money of its own.

The SYRIAN ARK

Published monthly by A. F. Zainey, Editor, 605 North LaSalle Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, U. S. A. Subscription rates \$3.00 a year in United States and possessions. Two years for \$5. \$3 a year in Canada and elsewhere. (Entered as second-class matter January 31, 1938, at the post office at Indianapolis, Indiana, under the Act of March 3, 1879.)

THE CASE OF RITA AND ALY BRIDE-TO-BE TREADS PATH OF FATIMA

By ARTHUR VESEY
(Of the Chicago Tribune Press Service)

LONDON, Feb. 3—The tropical sun slides toward the dusty horizon and the first cool breezes of evening break up the heat waves rising from the baked earth.

The arena, big as Soldiers' field in Chicago, is a mass of men—thousands and thousands of Moslems, perspiration running from their brown bodies beneath the loose robes which hang like nightgowns. Their turbans of silver and gold reflect the last rays of the sun. The men are all talking, their voices rising higher and higher as each tries to make himself heard above the babel.

In the center of the arena is a dais swathed in brocades and carpets. Two thrones stand beneath its canopy. Around the dais Moslem musicians blow their mystic wail to the east.

Stand On Tiptoe

Suddenly the crowd is stilled. The men stand on tiptoe trying to see over the heads of the others.

Down a path of carpets come a man and a woman. They walk under an umbrella of green satin, and climb the steps to the thrones.

The man salaams thrice. His silver turban flutters as he bows deeply. He wears a knee length coat of silver brocade over his white breeches, skintight from knee to ankle.

In the eyes of the thousands standing in the dust, the man is not a man at all but something holy. For he is, in their minds, the descendant of Mohammed the prophet, the 49th in line thru the prophet's daughter, Fatima, whom the prophet himself gave to his cousin Ali.

A Strange Contraption

The holy man settles himself in one of the thrones. It is a strange contraption, suspended at one end of a golden beam. The beam is supported in the middle, and on the other end is hung a golden platform. Throne, beam, and platform together make a giant weighing scale.

The crowd begins to cheer as from somewhere come servants carrying little plastic boxes of diamonds.

One by one the boxes are piled on the golden platform. On go the diamonds by the thousands. At last the diamonds outweigh the man. The beam shifts. The throne rises from the floor. The cheers are tremendous.

Now all eyes can turn, at last, to the woman. She wears a white sari studded with hundreds of diamonds. Her auburn hair matches the diamonds for luster. Her face and figure

never have been matched in the harems of the holy family. Mohammed himself never saw her equal except in his visions.

Helping Her Husband

But to the lowest goatherd in the crowd, the face and figure are familiar, because the woman is—Rita Hayworth. She is helping her husband earn his living.

The scene is no idle fancy. It will become real with the marriage of Rita and Prince Aly Khan and the death of Aly's father, the Aga Khan.

Aly is no prince in the ordinary sense of the word. His father rules no country. He is something of a pope and yet, to his believers, more than a pope because, to them, he is the living flesh and blood of their most holy human, Mohammed. Aly will succeed to the same role. Rita thus will take her place with Mohammed's Fatima in perpetuating the family.

Aly's father is a fabulous character. He has ridden, at vast personal gain, a philosophical wave that made debauchery into a religion. His history is fantastic beyond the wildest imagination of Hollywood.

At the beginning of the last century, Aly's grandfather was a minor holyman of Persia (Iran). He said he was a descendant of Mohammed but nobody seemed to care. At the same time, in India, there lived a Moslem preacher named Ismail Hadji. He was a reformer and he preached many things. The Moslem priests tried to stop him and so did the British, who were having enough trouble in India.

Taken to Bombay

In 1845, the Aga's grandfather made the shah of Persia angry and the grandfather left the country. Whether he fled or was kicked out is uncertain. Anyway, the British took him to Bombay.

Here again history is not quite clear but it appears that the British were having much trouble with the followers of Ismail Hadji, who called themselves Ismailis, and the British made a deal with the Aga's grandfather. They supported his claim as descendant of Mohammed and he supported Victoria's claim as empress of India.

The grandfather, in the name of his ancestor, called on the Ismailis to co-operate with the British. He appears to have been successful, because the British gave him the title of The Aga Khan, which loosely translated means lord supreme ruler.

The grandfather died in 1881 and was succeeded by his son who ruled the Ismailis in Mohammed's name for just four

مجلة «الفلك السوري» لنشئا ابراهيم فرج زيني (زحله)

المجلة الوحيدة في أميركا مطبوعة في اللغة الانكليزية للبنانيين والسوريين وكل شعب العرب تصدر كل شهر مرت

years. The present Aga then took over as a boy of eight. His Persian mother sent him away to Europe to be educated.

Accumulated Followers

Among them, grandfather, father, and the Aga accumulated followers. Their one strong talking point was wild living. Debauchery, they said, led not to hell but to heaven!

Their reasoning was simple. It is this: A man can go to heaven only if he is pure. But man is born evil. The evil must be removed. Now, if you take some dirty gold and put it in a fire, the dross will be burned out, leaving the metal pure. Similarly a man can be rid of his evilness by exhausting it. If, for example, he has 10 sins in him, he sins 10 times and then is pure. Furthermore, the more he dips into wine, women, and song the greater is his final realization that the pleasures of the world are without value and, in the end, if he is still living, he is not only pure in body but in desires, too. Or, in other words, he's burned out and he knows it.

Fascinating Religion

It is a fascinating religion and it has caught on well, especially with the rich Moslems who don't like to go without the worldly joys as commanded by orthodox Mohammedanism and who, at the same time, want to get the pleasures of eternity, too.

The commandments-in-reverse freed the Aga from all the restrictions which usually surround a church leader. When taking four wives, three of them European, when spending most of his time at the racetrack, when throwing glorious parties he was just setting a good example. By running around Europe with Rita when he already has a wife, Prince Aly is merely carrying on his father's tradition of always doing his duty to his people.

Besides attracting followers in India, Afghanistan, Persia, and down thru Zanzibar into east Africa, the Aga, his father, and his grandfather have accumulated considerable worldly property. Good Ismaili farmers are expected to give 10 per cent of their crops if rain watered or 5 per cent if irrigated and good Ismaili merchants are expected to give 2½ per cent of their profits. The Aga, too, is believed to get a percentage of fees for marriages, burials, and other essential rites.

Aly Weighs 170

But the Aga's most spectacular fund raising method is his being weighed against gold, or, of late with inflation, against diamonds. Twice last year he was matched against diamonds. In Bombay last March 10 he weighed exactly \$2,560,000. In August in Dar-Es-Salaam, he weighed only \$1,400,000. His weight, in pounds, was 243½ in Bombay and only 8 ounces less in Dar-Es-Salaam, but in the east African town his followers are not so rich so the diamonds were not so bright. Aly weighs only about 170 pounds so he will have to be weighed much more often if he and Rita are to maintain Aga's income standard.

The "I'm-worth-my-weight-in-diamonds" stunt is mostly a show. The Aga's priests declare it is a tribute to the high regard that his people hold for him. The diamonds are borrowed from the British diamond syndicate in London, packed in leakproof plastic cases, and shipped to the ceremony. Then they are all shipped back again and the priests go to work collecting goats or whatever else the followers have to raise a fund equal to the diamonds.

The Aga says all the proceeds go to his "charities." Even so, there is a matter of gate receipts. Tickets in Bombay sold for 50 cents in the bleachers and \$4,000 in the ringside. Students of Ismaili believe all church holdings are registered not in the name of the church but of the Aga. They will all go to Aly.

Called on Hitler

The Aga, now 72, has spent most of his life in Europe. In the '30s he set himself up as a diplomat and was elected president of the League of Nations in 1937. In that position he went to call on Hitler. On leaving Germany he announced Germany was a strong stone in the foundation of peace. He went back to Switzerland and there sat out the war. The Nazis took over one of his houses in Paris for their wild parties and the Aga became irate once when it was rumored he himself threw some of the parties.

The Aga has had four wives, a Persian whom he married in his youth and soon divorced, an Italian art student, Therese Magliano, who died in 1926; a French barber's daughter, Mlle. Andrew Carron, who was divorced by mutual consent in 1943; and a French dressmaker, Mlle. Yvette Blanche La Brousse, who, as beauty queen of Lyons, said her ambition in life was "to find some nice young man who will love me." The Aga was 67 when she was married to him in 1944.

Son of Second Wife

Aly is the son of the second wife, the Italian art student. The major-domo of his Riviera villa where he and Rita have been staying has his mother's maiden name, Magliano.

The Aga's present wife has become a Moslem and changed her name to Om Habibeh. Rita would not be required to adopt Mohammedanism. The Ismaili Moslems just don't care about the religion of their women because women are believed to have no souls.

Aly's present wife is the daughter of a British baron, Lord Churston. Her mother was a dancing girl, Denise Orme. Divorce is an old story in the Churston barony.

The baron, owner of 11,000 English acres, was aid to the viceroy of India and as such was involved in a scandal that has gone down in history as "the affair of the beautiful Mrs. Atherton." Mrs. Atherton was the wife of the colonel of the 12th lancers.

The colonel sued his beautiful wife for divorce, naming the baron as co-respondent. He got it, but in the meantime the baron had met the dancing girl, Denise, and married her. When free, Mrs. Atherton sued the baron for breach of promise. The baron replied that if there had been a promise he had made it at a time that Mrs. Atherton was married and no court could accept a promise made under such illegal conditions.

Sues "Best Man"

The present baron, the brother of Aly's wife, has also been thru the divorce courts. He sued his English wife, accusing her of adultery with one Maj. Peter Laycock. Maj. Laycock was best man at the baron's wedding.

Aly's wife, the Hon. Joan Barbara Yarde-Buller, is herself a divorcee. She was married in 1927 to Loel Guinness, member of parliament for Bath. In 1935 the husband sued the Hon. Joan, saying that when he came back from a business trip to Australia he found that his wife, whom he had sent to Switzerland while he was away, had gone to South America. In particular, he said, she had spent April 17, 18, 19, and 20, 1935, in a Paris hotel suite with Aly.

Have Two Sons

The divorce was made final on May 11 1936, Aly having to pay costs, and one week later the Hon. Joan and Aly were married. They have two sons, Kareem, 11, and Ameen, 10.

The way things stand now the elder son, Kareem, has the best chance of becoming Aga Khan V., but the divorce settlement may eliminate him and then the holy line may be carried on thru the second marriage, which makes Rita the potential mother of the 50th descendant of Mohammed the prophet according to Ismaili rites.

Syrian Orthodox Youth Organization To Convene In Indianapolis, Indiana

By Wm. Kafoury

The Syrian Orthodox Youth Organization convention headquarters announces the dates of their forthcoming annual convention to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 17, 18 and 19. Headquarters will be at the Hotel Antlers.

This Organization is composed of Syrian Orthodox clubs of the mid-west—the members having united to promote the spiritual and social welfare of the youth in the Orthodox Church. In endeavoring to promote a progressive program of unity, devotion and co-operation in their parishes they are planning to co-ordinate the work of the Sunday Schools, the choirs and all affiliated organizations of the Church.

The association was started when Walter Shamie, of Michigan, called together a handful of delegates from several of the parishes in the mid-west to attend a conference in Detroit. From this meeting, in the spring of 1947, has developed a fast-growing movement among the Syrian Orthodox youth in the mid-west. At the Detroit meeting another conference was scheduled to meet in Toledo, Ohio, where additional groundwork was laid in formulating the organization. At another meeting in October, 1947, held in Indianapolis a constitution and by-laws were adopted. All of this groundwork led up to the first annual convention held in Grand Rapids in June, 1948. This convention was a tremendous success and attracted hundreds of Syrian Orthodox people throughout the mid-west who returned to their parishes filled with a spirit of confidence and reassurance for the future of their Orthodox Church.

At the Detroit meeting another conference was scheduled to meet in Toledo, Ohio, where additional groundwork was laid in formulating the organization. At another meeting in October, 1947, held in Indianapolis a constitution and by-laws were adopted. All of this groundwork led up to the first annual convention held in Grand Rapids in June, 1948. This convention was a tremendous success and attracted hundreds of Syrian Orthodox people throughout the mid-west who returned to their parishes filled with a spirit of confidence and reassurance for the future of their Orthodox Church.

Conclave headquarters announce Miss Alice Mesalam as General Chairman for the forthcoming Indianapolis convention.

She has set up committees to take care of every detail in order to make a successful affair. A well-rounded program of entertainment as well as educational meetings is being planned so that every delegate and guest is assured of having a most enjoyable week-end. Along with the business meetings which should interest everyone there will be many social activities including a grand ball and highlighted with an enticing banquet. Church services will be officiated by His Eminence Metropolitan Anthony Bashir and His Eminence Archbishop Samuel David and

American University Of Beirut Cares For Arab Refugees

By Joan Rowland

The American University of Beirut is providing one hot meal a day for 600 refugee children, pregnant women, nursing mothers and a few badly undernourished adults. If sufficient food can be obtained, daily meals will also be given to 545 adult refugees.

Professor Nabih Faris, chairman of the American University of Beirut Civic Welfare League, and Mrs. Stanley E. Kerr, Dean of Women, are directing the feeding project. Working with them are about 150 volunteers. For some months both teachers and students at the University felt that something should be done for the refugees during the period before United Nations Relief begins. So, starting in January they launched the feeding program.

Much preparatory work had to be done before the first meal was served. First came a search for food supplies in Beirut. The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund has furnished enough to provide 600 meals each day for the first month. Before the work began a census of the two refugee camps near the University was made by A.U.B. student volunteers. Each child was given a ration card. This was done to make sure that food was given to the proper people and to avoid having any individual get more than his share.

Here is how the daily feeding works. Every morning at 8 o'clock two volunteer women weigh out powdered milk, sugar, grain, fat, onions, tomato sauce, and two days a week, meat. Students carry the food to a truck which goes to the two refugee camps. Two volunteers, Lebanon and Palestinian women who are good cooks, go with the truck. At the camps, refugee women have fires going and water boiling.

At 9:30 a. m. four more women, Arab and American volunteers, go to the camps to mix powdered milk with warm water and a little sugar. This is a dif-

all visiting priests and dignitaries of the Church. Highlighting the services will be a mass choir of over one hundred voices composed of choir representatives from each parish in the mid-west. The services will be broadcast over a radio net work from Indianapolis.

Salem Bashara of Grand Rapids, Mich., President of the organization, joins with convention headquarters in Indianapolis in extending a personal invitation to each and everyone to come and join with the delegates in a week-end of fellowship and festivity.

ficult and tedious job for they must mix 40 gallons and all the beating is done by hand. But by 11:30 both food and milk are ready for serving. Every day at this time 18 volunteer students go to the camps and help with the distribution. Men students line up the children and check their ration cards. Women students do the serving. One hour later the huge kettles are empty and the students go back to their classes.

In January the UNICEF gave a ton of rice, sufficient milk and sugar to make 600 cups a day, and enough canned meat to provide a meat dish twice a week. The University faced the difficult problem of supplementing this basic ration without any money.

The first contributions came from some of the American delegates to UNESCO. Students in the Preparatory Section of International College put on a carnival to raise money. The University choir and orchestra gave a concert and took up a collection.

Two other schools in Beirut raised funds and a number of individuals both in the United States and in Beirut have contributed. A merchant in Beirut gave a ton of lentils and an automobile crate which was converted into a makeshift kitchen at one of the camps. American Middle East Relief gave 24 cases of canned meat.

Dried beans, whole wheat grain, dried peas, tomato paste and onions have been purchased with these contributions and combined with rice they make a hearty Arabic meal each day.

Much more is needed if the University feeding project is to continue through the cold weather period. It is vital that the work be carried on for the next few months until United Nations Relief gets underway. Whether the work continues depends on contributions from people in the United States who care whether the refugees live or die. Contributions may be sent to the American University of Beirut, 46 Cedar Street, New York 5, N. Y.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

By Miss Emily Bassett

The Syrian Women's Club, of Cleveland, Ohio, held its annual election of officers, as follows:

President, Mary Otto; Vice-Pres., Catherine Essi; Sec., Emily Bassett; Treas., Victoria Caraboolad; Sergeant-At-Arms, Abreeza Kerby.

The Installation of Officers' dinner will be held at the Cleveland Hotel on February 17, 1949.

Samuel Caraboolad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elias Caraboolad, is spending his mid-semester vacation at home in Cleveland with his parents.

CHRISTINE ARAMAN'S EXCLUSIVE SHOP IN CHICAGO



Here is shown one of the most exclusive shops in Chicago's famous North Michigan Avenue, in the midst of the windy city's elite.

—Photo courtesy James Haboush, president of the Chicago Syrian Progressive League
Miss Christine Araman, prominent Syrian socialite, shown in the foreground, is the proprietress. Her merchandise consists of ladies delicate dainties, lingeries, slips, gowns, girdles, brassieres, housecoats, negligees and sheer nylon hosiery.

Also exclusive children's wears from 6-months to 6-years, as well as Infants' dresses, rompers, sun suits and also Boys' wear, suits, T-shirts, sox and Girls' dresses, panties, sox and robes.

Sales of Native "Arac" Expanding

The El-Karak brand of native 'ARAC' distilled and bottled exclusively by the Associated Liquor Products Company of California, will soon make itself known in every state of the Union.

Latest report from Mr. Joseph Monsour Armelli, prominent distiller and rectifier of famous brandies and cocktails, and president of the Associated Products Corporation, announces the addition of sales representatives in the States of Kentucky and Illinois, and a prospective agent and distributor for the State of Indiana when the proposal is officially confirmed by the Indiana State Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

Agents for the State of Kentucky are the Falls City Wholesale Liquor Company in the City of Louisville, and the Illinois representative is the Mid-West Sales Company, 301 Alexander St., Peoria.

The Associated Liquor Products Company ad appears on page 10 of this ARK issue.

Benefit — Washington's Birthday Ball

By Mrs. Gloria Fadoul

The Syrian Washingtonian Club of Washington, D. C., will sponsor its Tenth Annual Washington's Birthday Ball on February 26, 1949, at the Continental Ballroom of the famous Wardman Park Hotel.

Mitchell R. Farrah, treasurer of the Washingtonians, is in charge of the tickets and entertainment, and Mrs. Dalal Samaha will assist in the program ad space.

Father Of State Solon Killed By Automobile

By Kamal Antone

Sam Horany, father of Texas state representative Jimmy P. Horany, was killed almost instantly on January 24 when struck by an automobile in Archer City, Texas.

Horany had left the courthouse and was walking across the street when

struck. Sheriff A. H. Gosler said there was a driving rain storm. The car was driven by an oil field worker.

The accident occurred in front of a dry goods store which Horany operated 21 years.

Other survivors include the wife; three other sons, Dr. Melvin Horany of Galveston, and Johnny and Freddy Horany, both of Olney, Texas; and three daughters.

Learn To Cook the Dishes Of Your Ancestors

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ALAMY'S FAMOUS BOOK OF NATIVE RECIPES

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No other book like it on the market. Contains recipes of leading Syrian, Greek, Italian, French and English dishes, together with recipes of modern American candies and pastries.

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BEHIND THE CABLES

FLASHES FROM THE HOMELAND

"To Interpret the Near East to the West"

WESTERN ATTITUDE TOWARD PALESTINE SCORED BY ARABS

CANADIAN FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE WARNS OF DANGER OF ALLIANCE WITH SOVIET RUSSIA

By M. S. Massoud

Britain, the United States and all Christian nations of the Western democracies were urged by the Canadian Arab Friendship League to reconsider their "at times hypocritical attitude towards the Arab peoples" or to "take the consequences of a possible closer alliance between the Middle East and Russia."

The League, in a statement signed by its president recalled the "confidence and hope" which the Arab nations had placed —until recently—in British promises and "the most natural desire" of Christians throughout the world to safeguard their shrines and holy places in Palestine. "Our brothers in Palestine believed in the White Paper of 1939 and the official assurances of leading British statesmen who said there shall never be a Jewish State in the Holy Land with the consent of Britain."

"Today, the veil of hypocrisy is being removed. The loyalty and help rendered by the Arabs not only during the Second but the First World Wars has been ignored. The Arabs, the guardians of the Christian shrines for the past 1,400 years, are being accused of blasphemy because they destroyed a Jewish synagogue which was used as a fortress by the Zionists in their shelling of Christian temples."

The sympathy of the Arabs remained in spite of all insults and intrigues with the Western Allies. "How long does any one expect confidence from nations who are indirectly boycotted by the same Western powers and who are suffering from an overflow of war refugees, apart from being betrayed by some of their selfish leaders? Russia has already made some questionable moves to woo the Arabs away from the Western powers. May quick and wise action on the part of the latter save the situation before it is too late."

In a direct reference to the official de facto recognition of Israel by the Canadian Government, the Arab League

stated "this act by our government will remain a black page in Canadian history. It will be regretted by future generations because Canada's role as a defender of freedom loving nations has been ignored by those who fell victim to Zionist propaganda and who favored a Jewish government supported by terror and subversive groups throughout the world."

From The Near East College Association

Students at the American University of Beirut are carrying on an extensive program of aid for needy students and Palestinian refugees through the campus Civic Welfare League.

Dr. Stephen B. L. Penrose, president of the University, commended the League's work in a recent message to the University students, saying, "True patriotism, devotion to one's country, is exhibited most surely in the efforts which one is willing to make on its behalf. The Civic Welfare League, through its varied activities, provides for the students of the A.U.B. a broad and deep channel through which these efforts may be directed to practical results."

Welfare work has always been an important activity on the campus at the University, but this year it is more vital than ever. Dr. Penrose stressed its new importance saying, "Now, if ever, we must put our whole energies into the improvement of a tragic situation. If we have any respect for the integrity of our own principles, we dare not fail to support the activities of the Civic Welfare League."

One of the Civic Welfare League's activities is teaching free night school classes for young people who cannot afford to go to day school. Older students are teaching 175 girls and 198 boys English, Arabic, arithmetic, geography and history in evening classes. Medical students are inoculating all night school students against typhoid fever and a series of lectures on health is being planned for them.

The League organized and carried out a campaign for relief of Palestinian refugees in the Beirut area. The campaign was successful and many refugees will benefit from the 2,500 pieces of clothing, 500 cakes of soap, and quantities of rice and wheat which were collected.

UNIFIED PALESTINE IS HELD POSSIBLE

Prof. A. R. Nykl Suggests Government Based on System Existing in Switzerland

(From the Montreal, Ontario, Gazette)

A. R. Nykl, well-known American professor of Oriental languages and authority on Arab history and medieval studies, in a speech at Montreal, Quebec, August 13, suggested "a unified Palestine with a government based on the cantonal practical solution to the present problem facing the United Nations."

He said "if peace in the Holy Land is the aim of the United Nations, then the will of the majority should be respected, and a democratic application of the principles embodied in the charter of the United Nations should bring the results awaited by Arabs and Jews alike."

Visiting Canadian universities in an effort to find certain literary works, required for his research in medieval studies, Prof. Nykl stated during an interview at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, that he had found here one of the best collections of Arabic books on this continent, especially on eye-diseases, at the medical library of McGill University.

He said the books, collected in Montreal, could be classified as among the finest data on early medical research. Some of the manuscripts date back to the 10th and 12th centuries, he stated. "They show the tremendous contribution made by the Arabs in the field of medicine and many other cultural endeavors of the 8th and 9th centuries when Arab kings employed Christian Syrians and Greeks in the translation of Plato, Aristotle and other important teachers of that time."

Later, the Arabs, according to Prof. Nykl, studied the techniques of the Greeks and developed many sciences which in turn were of assistance to all countries of the world. Arabic works were translated into Latin and became the standard textbooks in European universities.

Contributions to the A.U.B. Scholarship Fund will make it possible for students whose families have lost income and property in the war to continue their education. All gifts are deductible from federal income tax and should be mailed to the American University of Beirut, Room 1209, 46 Cedar Street, New York 5, N. Y.

Contributions to the Arab Refugee Fund

Mr. George Barakat executive secretary of the American Middle East Relief of New York, reports the shipment of \$40,000 worth of clothing and grain to the Near East refugees in the homeland. The shipments were made during the last week of December and dispatched on the Egyptian liner "Muhammed Ali the Great" and on the American Export Liner "Excalia". The commodities sent included 4½ tons of new clothing and accessories; 1½ tons of this clothing was contributed by students of biblical institutes; 17,609 pounds by the Christian Welfare Relief of the United States.

At the same time, Mr. Barakat reports monetary contributions as follows:

\$730 from Jameel Naifeh of San Francisco, Calif., in memory of his mother, demised in early December.

\$195 from the St. Nicholas Orthodox Church of Grand Rapids, Mich.—G. Ayoub, chairman.

\$68 from the Syrian Welfare Society of Hartford, Conn.—Najeeb Charles, chairman.

\$1,000 from the International Business Machine Company of New York—Thomas G. Watson, chairman.

\$125 from the Syrian American Brotherhood of McKeesport, Pa.—Joseph Atyeh, chairman.

\$249 from the Syrian American Welfare Society of Detroit, Mich.—Walter Shamie, chairman.

\$524 from benefactors in Boston, Mass.

\$103 from the Sunnyvale, Calif., community—Mrs. Kirkish, chairlady.

\$180 from the San Antonio, Texas, community—M. Mohamed, chairman.

\$300 from the Glens Falls, N. Y., community—Harry Bitar, chairman.

\$100 from the Damascene Brotherhood, Union City, N. J.—Salim Barsa, treasurer.

\$110 from the Ladies Welfare Society, Charleston, W. Va.—Mrs. Richard, secretary.

\$1,500 from the Boston, Mass., community.

\$200 from Mr. S. K. Reeves, Norfolk, Va.

\$500 from the Ladies of Douma Welfare Society, West Palm Beach, Fla.

\$600 from Mr. A. Deeb of Ceeba, Honduras, remitted through the Lebanon Consulate, New York.

\$142 from the community of Pittsfield, Mass.—Joseph Hajjar, chairman.

\$215 from Miss Claire Hamrah of Middletown, Conn., for the Syrian-Lebanon Club of Waterbury, Conn.

\$121 from Atty. Roger Bite (Abide) for the Lebanon Club of Birmingham, Ala.

\$25 from Mohamed Cassim Hamdan of Cheero, S. C.

\$20 from Marie Sawabini of Cambridge, Mass.

\$15 from Miss Renee Abdalla, New York City. (3rd pledge.)

\$80 from Miss Jeanette Alicia for her sorority pledge at Taylor University, Indiana.

\$50 from Mrs. Helen Barham, New Kensington, Pa.

\$150 from Mr. George Gibson, Montclair, N. J.

\$25 from Prof. George Hakim, Washington, D. C.

\$25 from Prof. Abdel Gani, Brawley, Calif.

\$51 from Rev. Hanania Kassab, in behalf of his Orthodox parish in Toledo, Ohio.

\$25 from Dr. Virginia Gildersleeve, New York.

\$25 from George MacKoul, in behalf of Rev. Constantine Abou-Adel of Worcester, Mass.

\$33 from Hamid Assam in behalf of the Syrian community of Sioux Falls, S. D.

\$150 from Mr. and Mrs. John Livingstone, Long Island, N. Y.

\$50 from Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Ayoub, San Francisco, Calif.

\$20 from Miss Rose Shalhoub, Venice, Calif.

\$50 from the Lebanon Society, Shreveport, La.

\$25 from William Jacobs in behalf of the Syrian American Youth of Clairton, Pa.

\$25 from Lynda Sawaya, Cambridge, Mass.

\$20 from George Jebway, Dublin, Ga.

\$25 from Ali Sallaly, Moreland, Calif.

\$100 from Mohamed Ghadoot, from Delhi, India.

\$25 from Rev. George Kattouf, Altoona, Pa., in behalf of Mrs. Catherine Baroody, in memory of her late husband, Michael Baroody.

\$35 from Mrs. Edward David, Sacramento, Calif., in memory of her late husband, Habeeb David.

Toronto Community Donates \$2,927

\$500 each from M. Assaf and the family of Mrs. Lea Chemandy.

\$300 from Khaleel Abraham and \$250 from Farris Abood.

\$200 each from George Aziz, John Abraham and Abdo Aziz.

\$100 each from Mrs. Farris Abood, George Diratany, Anton Cassab, Khaleel N. Saba, Joseph Bardwil, Assad Habeeb and Son, Eddy Assaf and Mrs. George Chemandy.

\$50 each from Assad and John Shibly, Ali Sayoor, Ferris Hakim, Hassan Butaria, Ameen Batria, Young Ladies Syrian Society, Mrs. Habeeb Chemandy, Adeeb Dahbous and Saleem Habeeb.

\$25 each from Lebanon Youth of Toronto and Azar Shalhany.

\$20 each from Ameen Abood, Saleem Chaker and Francis Francis.

Ferris Haddad contributes \$15.

\$10 each from Jameel Buttross, Ferris Barbara, Alia Kalam, John Doumit, Chafic Tonous and Peter Doumit.

\$5 each from Baceem Peters, Najeeb Michael, Michael Daher, Namatallah Doumit, Mrs. Fahima Abraham, Tony Bardwil, Sarkis Barakat, Saeid Abood and \$2 from Bedway Francis.

1,255 From Windsor, Ontario

\$200 each from George Zackour, Rasheed Zackour and Khaleel Bedway.

\$100 each from Abdo Deeb, Mohamed N. Fafaie and Elias P. Barakat.

\$50 each from: Ali Shaban, Rasheed Haddad, Tony Abrash, Tom Bouzaid and Elias Doumani.

\$25 each from Syrian-Lebanon Canadian Ladies Society, Syrian-Lebanon Canadian Men's Club and Najeeb Rafaie.

\$20 each from Ali Ashe, Othman Rahaim, Roukis Estephan, Elias Shamas and Abdel Kadri.

\$10 each from Najeeb Bouzaid, Elias Habeeb, Elias Haddad, Anthony Thomas, Mrs. Rose Abrash, Tom Barakat, Joseph Hillow, Peter Abs and Shaheen Brothers.

Other Contributions

\$2,500 from Francis Kattany, New York City.

\$925 from community of Huntington, W. Va.

\$668 from community of Pittsfield, Mass.

\$1,225 from Syrian American Society, Jacksonville, Fla.

\$1,000 from Syrian Welfare Society, Boston, Mass.

\$1,104 from community of Johnstown, Pa.

\$33 from St. Elias Syrian Orthodox Parish, Brownsville, Pa.

\$102 from communities of Connersville and Mount Pleasant, Pa.

Federation News

Over a thousand members of the Ohio Federation of American Syrian-Lebanon Clubs were guests at the Ohio State Convention at Columbus, over the week end of January 22, 1949. The winter convention was sponsored by Club el-Waten of Columbus, with headquarters at the Neil House, adjacent to the Ohio State Capitol.

While the fact has not been officially declared, it was apparent at the Columbus convention that the Ohio affiliates have banded together to meet in causetus at the Milwaukee National Convention next July and successfully bid for the 1950 conclave to be held in Cleveland. Twenty-eight clubs in Ohio are now members of the Ohio Federation, the largest number of clubs in any State within the American Federation.

Prominent from Cleveland at the Columbus gathering were: James Shalala, Minor George, Edward Shaheen, Ramona and Elaine George, Edward Anter, George Ameen and Becky Elias.

From Toledo there were: Mr. and Mrs. George Deeb and Michael Damas—the latter, a member of the Ohio State Legislature.

Also Kaiser Shaheen, Kelly Esber and Ruth Batrus from Canton, and Atty. and Mrs. Joseph Sheban from Youngstown.

Re-elected to the presidency of the Federated Syrian and Lebanon Clubs of Cleveland for the third consecutive year since its creation, James A. Shalala. Others elected are: Harry Hamra, 1st vice-president; Edward Shaheen, 2nd vice-president; Victoria Caraboolad, executive secretary; Harry Bassett, corresponding secretary; Linda Anter, recording secretary; James Koury, finance director and Alfred Anter, treasurer.

Parliamentarians are: Minor George and Richard Anter.

First Annual Report of the Syrian - Lebanon Progressive League Insurance Fund

By Caesar P. Tabet

A year ago last January 1, the members of the Syrian-Lebanon Progressive League in Chicago and its suburbs, had formed a life insurance company for the benefit of its members, who were motivated by the desire for financial security for themselves and their families. The members were in accord with Victor Hugo, the famous French essayist, that "Life Insurance is the most salutary thing devised by human brain to soften the blows of adversity and to keep the

family life from perishing."

The mechanics of putting into action this great enterprise of forming a life insurance company within the society were as follows:

In 1918 the people of Syrian-Lebanon ancestry of Chicago banded together to form what is now known as the Syrian-Lebanon Progressive League. Since the purpose of the League was to afford one another "mutual aid and comfort," some type of death benefit was provided for the family of a member who had passed away. The amount of death benefit was graded according to age and length of time in the League. The maximum amount was \$150 for which only a minority of the members were eligible. An assessment of \$1 was made against each member upon a death. During this time continuous study was given by the League with a view to placing the plan on a more scientific basis and increasing the benefit. Various established life insurance companies had offered plans, each of which had been rejected by the membership. The chief reasons for rejection were that the plans were inequitable and impractical.

In 1947, the president of the League, James S. Haboush, appointed a committee consisting of Caesar P. Tabet, chairman, with Emil J. Bouzide and James A. Haddad, to make a further study of the problem. This committee contacted several life insurance companies, an experienced actuary, and the Illinois State Department of Insurance. The committee's recommendation that the League organize their own life insurance company and back it financially is now a reality. The plan was approved in its entirety by the League's Board of Directors and by all the members. This plan was placed into effect on January 1, 1948. The League, with James A. Haboush, president, elected the following officers for the Insurance Fund; C. P. Tabet, chairman; E. J. Bouzide, treasurer, and J. A. Haddad, secretary.

As of December 31, 1948, the Insurance Fund has insurance in force of \$12,600.00. Number of members insured is 109 and the Fund's total assets equal \$668.61. There have been no benefit payments and no expenses so far.

The officers of the Fund have study projects under way whereby the plan may be enlarged to include members of the Syrian-Lebanon Ladies Aid Society and other organizations whose membership is on a rather permanent basis. Avenues of investment in accordance with the By-laws of the Fund are being studied. Plans to provide more equitable benefits to those members who become delinquent in the payment of their premiums are being considered.

WORCESTER, MASS.

My Miss Anne Swyden

Members of the Syrian-Lebanon-American Auxiliary were hostesses to the men's group at a recent meeting when Mr. George E. Najemy introduced two prominent speakers who spoke on the civic pride of the Worcester Syrians.

The Ladies Aid Society of St. George's Orthodox Church held their formal installation of officers on January 30, 1949, at the Church Hall. Officers installed were: Mrs. Rachel Samia, President; Mrs. Michael N. Abodeely, Vice-President; Mrs. Harold F. Boosahda, Arabic Secretary; Mrs. Mitchell M. Farrah, General Secretary; Mrs. Spero Hayeck, Financial Secretary, and Mrs. Towfee Abdow, Treasurer.

Serving on the various committees were: Miss Helen L. Saikley, Mrs. Nemo Haddad, Mrs. Rachel Samia, Mrs. Lames C. George, Miss Freda Boosahda, Miss Asaline Kalil, Mrs. Thomas F. George, Mrs. Beshara K. Forzley, Mrs. Nicholas Kalil, Mrs. Mitchell M. Farah, Mrs. Spero Hayeck, Mrs. George K. Rizkalla, Mrs. Stella Abdow and Mrs. Habeeba Abu-Faris.

Officers of the Knights of St. George, sponsoring the Pre-Lenten Dance on February 26, 1949, are: Eli Haddad, President; Raymond Abrasamia, Vice-President; Mary David, Secretary, and Rita Saloom, Treasurer.

Rubayat Of Abu-Tayeb al-Mutanabi

Translated Into English by

AMIN BEDER

Every Verse A Gem

These verses, written over a thousand years ago by the Arabic (prophet) poet, predecessor of Omar Khayyam, reveal a philosophy of living that is as wholesome and challenging today as they were to his followers.

After a hectic day in your office take a copy of this book and read it. You can lose yourself in the magic of the immortal lines. You will rise from your reading, refreshed and wiser in the ways of your life's tasks with renewed vigor and courage.

It is the best present you can give to your American, Syrian and Lebanon friends.

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THE SYRIAN ARK

c/o Book Department

Indianapolis 1, Indiana

Kansas City, Mo. And Mo. And Mo.

Have you been to Kansas City lately? If not, why not? You owe it to yourself. Why cheat yourself of the time of your life. Nowhere in this country can the hospitality and sincerity of its people be matched. Just ask someone who has visited here. One visit is all that is needed to manifest its Shangrila living. 10 p.m. means the beginning of another party, news travels fast, and before 10:30 the party is going full blast, and a farmers discussion of that stuff called GRAIN begins. Millions of dollars are transacted in words, the trend is decided, the strategy is planned, and all are ready for the kill. Results next day, complete bulsa. Problem, more margin.

The holiday season of '48, was the most brilliant of many years, and the out of town guests added gaiety to the festivities. It all began with a round of parties honoring the out of town visitors. At the elaborate mansion of Albert Harris, we were guests for a dinner of charcoal broiled steaks "a la California." Barbecue pit and oven shipped from the West Coast and installed in Albert's recreation room. The mountain came to Mohammet. Next on the rotunda, a buffet dinner for 50, at the lovely home of Mr. and Mrs. Camille Azar. With a party like this, just imagine what was in store for New Year's Eve. Next, to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fouad Harris and Mrs. E. M. Harris, for the entire syrian cook book of delicacies. Super duper, putting us in a terrific mood for the New Year.

The elaborate New Year's Eve party was planned and carried out by the DAC Club, a group of the young married couples, more exclusive than the Social Register. Anyone having the honor of attending these parties, find themselves having private mental conversations, and spasmodically shaking with the pausly. The party took place in the Pioneer Room at the Phillips Hotel. The room was decorated from hilt to stern with balloons, streamers, lanterns and all points west. Food, liquor and music were superbly managed by the master, Oscar George Boutross of the Waldorf "Bartooshie" Hotel. Bartenders of long standing (?) George Hager and Gustavus Fatal, were willing to sample their concoctions, to guarantee safe conduct for 5 minutes after the drink is consumed. Only drink not making a hit was "Bottled In Bond" Cola. Every dance from the Minuet to the Virginia Reel was reeled, every guest mealed, every wife stealed, every husband heeled, every bottle kelled, every carrot peeled, every suitor kneeled, ev-

ery Miss squealed, and at 5 a.m. out everyone wheeled. Whow, what a party . .

REPORT TO THE NATION: Only known increases this year, in population, so far as we are able to observe, will be the anxiously awaited baby of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Swyden. Ditto Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rishmany, and no not again, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchel Harris.

The Ladies Auxiliary held the first meeting of the year at the home of Mrs. Sam Eddy. Elections were held and the 30 members busied themselves for the Installation Dinner, which was held in the Trianon Room of the Hotel Muehlebach, on January 9th. The affair, with all its colorful appointments lent to make the banquet an elaborate one. Mrs. George Boutross, the jovial mistress of ceremony, introduced the new officers, and thanked the retiring officers for their splendid work. A gift of an amethyst and rhine stone necklace and ear rings, was presented to the retiring president, Mrs. Sam Farha, from the Club, for her untiring and unselfish efforts. A gift of a rhinestone pin and ear rings, were also presented to Mrs. John Campbell, retiring Secretary, for her exacting work. Retiring Vice President was Mrs. Nassoum

Dr. And Mrs. D'Quakil Entertain For Friends

Dr. and Mrs. Basile G. D'Quakil and daughter, Victoria, of Brooklyn, and Tannersville, N. Y., entertained on January 16 for a large group of friends, some of whom were leaving for the Southland.

Among the guests who came for cocktails and dinner were: Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Ayoub; Mr. and Mrs. George Catalano; Mr. and Mrs. Elias Germack; Mr. and Mrs. George Jebaily; Mr. and Mrs. James Jebaily; Mr. and Mrs. R. Keyloun; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lewnes; Mr. George Lewnes; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Morin of Union, N. J.; Miss Asma Sabbagh; Mr. and Mrs. A. Ziady.

Miss Asma Sabbagh delighted the group with her fine rendition of many Arabic, popular and classical songs and Mrs. George C. Dagher sang several Irish melodies and a number of "bon voyage" songs.

Boutross and the retiring Treasurer was Mrs. Mike George. The new officers for the next two years are: President, Mrs. Camille Azar; Vice President, Mrs. Assef George; Secretary, Mrs. Fouad Harris, and Treasurer, Mrs. George Hager.

EL KARAKI—ARAC

is now available for your pleasure and convenience and can be purchased from the following suppliers:

All the New England States Liquor Control Commissions.

ARIZONA—E. S. Nackard Distributing Co., 202 S. 3rd St., Phoenix.

FLORIDA—Clements, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida.

ILLINOIS—Mid-West Sales Co., 301 Alexander St., Peoria, Ill.

IOWA—Iowa Liquor Stores, in your district. Special order.

KENTUCKY—Fall City Wholesale Liquor Co., Louisville, Ky.

MICHIGAN—Liquor Control Commission.

NEW JERSEY—Capital Wine & Liquor Co., 64 Oakland St., Trenton, N. J.

NEW YORK—Syracuse Liquor Co., Inc., 109 Pearl St., Syracuse, N. Y.

OHIO—Ohio Liquor Stores in your district. Special Order.

OREGON—State Liquor Commission.

PENNSYLVANIA—Pennsylvania Liquor Stores in your district. Special order.

TEXAS—Block Distributing Co., 324 S. Comal, San Antonio, Texas.

Empire Products Corp., El Paso, Texas.

WASHINGTON—State Liquor Control Board.

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St. Paul Hockey Ace Laughs at Superstitions— There's Nothing Sad About Saad



By Miss Lucille Aban

If Laughing Louis Saad (who is anything but sad) was superstitious he'd set fire to his stick, give his skates to charity and take up chess.

And if any of St. Paul high school's hockey supporters are intimidated by black cats, broken glass and ladders, they may as well transfer to Johnson Hi!

For Laughing Louis, the Pepsodent kid in person, was born on Friday, the 13th in St. Paul, Minn. He wears No. 13 on his jersey and considers it his lucky number!

He plans on enlisting when he graduates.

Where did Lou learn to shoot like a rocket?

"Oh I picked up some of the pointers from Ken Staples and George Karn when they were playing with Humboldt. And John Neihart, who used to coach there,

showed me some inside stuff, too. And of course, Dick Krueger, our coach, has done a lot. I just did what comes naturally after they passed on the pointers."

There may not be truth to the rumor Humboldt fans circulate that Saad's cannonball shot can blast through brick. But in scoring seven goals in six games and getting an assist, Lou has laid claim to the most dangerous long shot in the prep loop.

His screaming rubbers from the blue line pose as much of a problem as the

ordinary player's attempts from point-blank range. The other night he slammed a 30 footer that traveled through three Central defenders plus the goalie before it came to rest in the twine.

A likeable, dark-complected youngster with flashing brown eyes and carefully combed, shiny hair, Lou probably has the best sense of humor in the loop. He has trouble repressing a smile even when he's putting the muscle on an opposing forward.

"The funniest thing that ever happened to me popped up in the Central game recently," Lou recalls.

"A couple of Central boys came down and skated right around me and I didn't make a move. I couldn't. My garter belt had slipped down and I couldn't move my legs. I thought it was funny but the Coach didn't."

As for Humboldt's title chances, Lou is optimistic. He doesn't think the Indians will get beat the rest of the way, although he respects them all.

"After all," Lou points out, "we've got Jim Yackel on our side. Who can match him?"

And opposing coaches might ask:
"Who can match Mr. Saad?"

Herbert Abrass And Bernice Ziton Engaged

By Miss Lucille Aban

On Sunday evening, December 26, 1948, the immediate relatives of both Herbert Abrass of LaCrosse, Wis., son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Elias Abrass (Zahle) and Bernice Ziton of St. Paul, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Ziton, gathered at the latter's home to witness a formal Arabic Orthodox engagement ceremony. The "Blessing of the Ring" was performed by Rev. Thomas Skaff after which there was much dancing and singing.

A buffet style luncheon was served the guests who numbered close to 85.

Mesdames Richard Markos and Salem Markos of LaCrosse, Wis., were present for the occasion as were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ziton of Duluth, Minn.

Mr. William Ziton, another brother of the bride-to-be, took recordings and colored pictures of the entire proceedings.

The date of the wedding is yet to be announced.

OBITUARIES

JOHN FEISTIKJI, age 83, native of Aleppo, Syria, father of Francis, Joseph, Alma, Emma and Katherine Feistikji, well known jewelers of Indianapolis, Ind., passed away January 15 at Indianapolis. Also survived by a brother, Jameel and a sister, Gurer Abdo, both of Syria.

SIOUX CITY, IOWA

"WHERE THE TALL CORN GROWS"

By Miss Marie Nasser

"Rings and things and buttons and bows." Ring out the old and bring in the new. 1949 made a grand start in January with a full social calendar and pleasant predictions despite the sub zero winter days.

At a solemn candle light ceremony January 9th in the St. Thomas Syrian Orthodox Church, Miss Evonne Hanna, daughter of Mrs. Ellis Hanna and Pfc. Kenneth Bastedo, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bastedo of this city, were united in Holy Matrimony. The Very Rev. M. M. Yanney officiated at the double ring ceremony. The bride was attended by her sister, Mae, and Miss Gladys David. Philip Hanna, brother of the bride and Lester Zimmerman were the groomsmen. Immediately following the wedding, a reception was held in the church hall for relatives and friends with members of the bride's family as hosts. After Feb. 1st, the couple will be at home in Santa Anna, Calif., where the groom is serving in the Marine corps.

Making January 9th a double header, the LeBan Club members were hosts to their parents at the first installation of officers banquet to be recorded in the young club's history. Retiring president Bob Salem was master of ceremonies and welcomed the guests and introduced the new and retiring officers. In a candle lighting service, Elias Salem was installed as the new president to captain the LeBan Ship of State this year. He will be assisted by Betty Solomon, vice president; Virginia Coury, re-elected treasurer; Marie Nasser, secretary; Rudy Salem, judge advocate; and Mike Courey, sargeant-at-arms. The arrangements for the banquet were under the direction of Miss Virginia Coury.

The Crusaders' were breathless in the tedious and elaborate preparations for the annual Sweetheart Ball which took place Feb. 5th of this year. Cam Hanna headed the dance committee made up of Joyce Ellis, Betty Skaff, Emil Samore, Mae Hanna and Louie Bitsos. Two hundred invitations had been issued to guests and a most record social success is the forecast for the formal affair to be held in the Crystal Ballroom of the Martin Hotel.

To inaugurate the 1949 officers in due celebration, the Crusader officers were installed January 12th at a banquet held at the Green Gables. Little Mary Hanna was most successful in her plans and preparations for this initial affair of the year. Philip Hanna acted as master of ceremonies and presented the retiring and new officers. President Mose Yanney

will be assisted through the Crusaders' thorns and roses by Cammie Hanna, vice-president; Betty Skaff, treasurer; and Mary Hanna, re-elected secretary.

Man of the Month. Any similarities to Ole Man Mose and Mose Yanney are positively and absolutely impossibly coincidental. In face of all the known facts, Mose is quite the nucleus of life. To start the New Year out with the best foot forward, Mose landed in the president's chair of the Crusader club this term.

Mose has always been outstanding in social circles, church and club activities. This year, he was awarded the title of most active member throughout 1948 by secret ballot of the Crusader club members. Sports play a big part in Mose's outside activity. He puts up fighting competition on the tennis court, boasts of a healthy and far from small appetite for good food and clean fun. Mose spends his day in the Recorder's office of the County Court House and his family life envelopes a most charming and gracious wife.

Off to college to seek more knowledge, Janet Rehan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shaffee Rehan, has enrolled at the Wayne State Teachers' College in Wayne, Nebr. Peek in through Toy David's window and you'll probably catch him in front of the mirror practicing up on Syrian dancing. They probably wrote "In the Middle of May" especially for Toy. How about the wedding date, Toy!

Learn how to cook from Lorraine Nasser in ten easy lessons. Lorraine says it's nothing but a "Cinch."

Closing problem — who is monopolizing all of Mae Hanna's after hours. Just curious but curiosity killed the cat and I'm just killing time, so see you later.

Miss Mary Stevens has that sparkle in her eye and a sparkler on her fourth finger, left hand. The picture is complete with Arney Holmvik. No wedding date has been set as yet.

Alfred Courey let us in on his secret of how to make "real easy dough," at one of the LeBan Club's parties. Simultaneously, Mike Courey gained new laurels in comedy when he staged Rog Solomon and Eli Coury as stars in his moving "pitchers."

Title of Sweetheart of the year will probably go to "Nome" Melham. Way to a man's heart is through his stomach, but that's not all, huh!

Tom Ellis shows a rather partial attitude toward T. S. Martin Co. Purely business or monkey business, Tom. With Virginia David in the picture, I'd say mighty nice business.

Freddie Coury is insistent that they revive the song, "Daddy I Want A Diamond Ring."

If you sneak into the Sioux Bowling alley some Sunday night, you will probably find Ferris and "Liz" Skaff giving their daughter and son-in-law some amateur competition and some memorable laughs. Their daughter, Mrs. Jim Yanney and her husband have moved to Sioux City to make their home.

Syracuse, New York

By Evelyn Corey

On Christmas Day the engagement of Miss Margaret Brox of Syracuse to Peter Hage of Fort Plain, N. Y., was announced by Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Brox. A spring wedding is being planned.

At the last meeting of the Syra-Meric Club, a farewell party was given to the president, Thomas Isaf, who has just completed his four years of college at Syracuse University. He will continue his law career in New York.

Headed toward Miami, Fla., are Mr. Joseph Corey with his two daughters, Evelyn and Helen, and his nephew, Fred Corey.

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IN MEMORIAM



The late Mrs. Helen Bolus Shehwen

A lifelong resident of Scranton, Pa., Mrs. Helen Bolus Shehwen, age 32, wife of Joseph Sherwen, died after childbirth at the Scranton Mercy Hospital on November 11, 1948.

The young mother was a member of St. Joseph's Maronite Church.

Beside her husband, she is survived by two sons, Anthony and Joseph Jr.; her parents and three brothers, Frank, Charles and George, and a sister, Mary.

Burial was in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Scranton.

The brothers, Frank, Charles and George, are operators of the Bolus Motor Lines, with interstate commerce freight routes between the larger cities of northern New York and eastern Pennsylvania.

Emil A. Herro Passes Away At Milwaukee

Funeral services for Emil A. Herro, widely known tavern operator of Milwaukee, Wis., were held on January 12th, at the Saint George's Syrian Catholic Church. Burial was at the Holy Cross cemetery in Milwaukee.

A veteran of World War I, Mr. Herro died at the Veteran's Hospital after a four month illness. He was born in Syria and he came to Milwaukee 42 years ago. For the last six years he had operated the Glendale Beer Depot and previously he operated the Embassy Bar. He was a former president of the Syria American Club.

Surviving are his wife, Sarah, a brother, Abraham, and a sister, Mrs. Mahoney Herro, all of Milwaukee.

OBITUARY



Joseph G. Hannie

Mr. Joseph George Hannie, 63-year-old Lafayette, Louisiana business man and prominent civic leader died at his home on January 11, 1949.

Mr. Hannie was a native of Beirut, Lebanon, and came to this country as a young boy. He served as a major in World War I and was recently commissioned as aide-de-camp on the staff of Governor Earl Long of Louisiana—one of the few Lafayette men so honored. He took an active part in the Southern Federation of Syrian-Lebanon-American clubs and past president of the Syrian-Lebanon Club of Lafayette. He was well-known throughout the Southwest.

Surviving are the wife, five daughters, Mrs. T. M. Haik of New Iberia; Mrs. J. Joseph of Decatur, Ala.; Mrs. F. Tanory and Misses Evelyn and Mary Helen Hannie of Lafayette; Two sons, George J., attending the University of Texas Dental College in Houston, and Dr. Edward J. Hannie of Lafayette. Also, two sisters: Mrs. George Hani of Port Arthur, Texas, and Mrs. Adele Bassoul of Beirut. Two brothers: Nicholas G. Hannie, in the homeland, and Bechara G. Hannie of Mobile, Ala. Eight grand children also survive.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

By Miss Beverly Bethia

On January 4, 1949 the Syrian Ameri-

can Clubs had their annual installation of new officers at the Club House. Officers for the ladies branch are: President, Mrs. Charles Herro; Vice President, Mrs. James Arrieh; Secretary, Miss Victoria Hamra; and Treasurer, Mrs. Joseph Nabkey. New officers for the men's club are: Charles Anthony, President; Barakat Herro, Vice President; Nick Massruha, Treasurer, and George Herro, Secretary.

Past President James Herro elaborated

on all the main events of the year. Mrs. Charles Herro gave a speech, thanking everyone for their great assistance in the past year and for re-electing her again to serve them for another year. Both presidents were presented with little remembrances from their respective clubs. Elections were also held in the other two clubs of Milwaukee. The St. George's Altar Society's new officers are: Mrs. James Arrieh, President; Mrs. George Metrey, Vice President; Mrs. William Nicholas, Secretary, and Mrs. Chas. Herro, Treasurer.

Mrs. Chas. Herro again takes the President's chair in the Mercy Club. Her associates are: Mrs. Chas. Betechia, Vice President; Mrs. Edw. Herro, Secretary, and Mrs. Joseph Nabkey, Trustee.

The Men's Syrian American Club had their annual Christmas party for all the Syrian children in Milwaukee at the club house on December 19th. Movies, games and gifts from Santa Claus were on the program for the afternoon.

Mrs. Joseph Nabkey, who was costumed as Mrs. Santa Claus, distributed the gaily decorated packages for the Ladies Club celebration.

December 29th was the date and Miss Victoria Hamra's house was the setting for the Christmas party the J.U.G.'s gave. Games, prizes, dancing, singing, and a beautiful lunch concluded their evening of entertainment.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Herro announced the engagement of their daughter, Lila Lee, to Michel M. Addis of LaCrosse, Wisconsin. The bride-elect attended the Layton School of Art and the Wisconsin Art Academy. Mr. Addis attended LaCrosse State Teachers College and the University of Wisconsin. He is now a student at Illinois College of Chiropody in Chicago.

On New Year's Day Mr. and Mrs. James Arrieh announced the engagement of their daughter, Yvonne, to Charles Anthony. Yvonne attended Milwaukee Dower College and is now teaching in the public schools at Kohler, Wisconsin. Her fiance is a graduate of Marquette's School of Engineering.

OBITUARIES

RASHEED BO-AKEL, age 83, native of Zahleh, passed away January 3 at Chicago, Ill. Survivors are: a son, Khalil, and a daughter, Mrs. Sarina Abood, both of California. Also two nephews, Charles Ryia of Peoria, Ill., and John Ryia of San Luis Obispo, Calif.

JUBRAN KAHALLY, native of Damascus, died December 24, at Boston, Mass. Survived by his wife, Rosie, and three children, Edward, George, and Gloria.

IN MEMORIUM

DR. H. S. ELKOURIE SUCCUMBS AT BIRMINGHAM

Telegram from
Birmingham, Ala.
Feb. 2, 1949

EDITOR SYRIAN ARK:
DOCTOR HAICKEL ELKOURIE DIED THIS AFTERNOON. FUNERAL FRI-
DAY 9 A. M. ADVISE FRIENDS.

GEORGE SHAYA



Dr. H. S. Elkourie

The death of Dr. Elkourie is a tragedy of the deepest kind, felt by all who knew him and his endeavors. Not only does the demise of the distinguished Lebanon provoke a profound sense of loss, the gap in Syrian-Lebanon leadership will be felt poignantly.

Symbolic of his leadership and persistent efforts and devotion to Syrian-Lebanon Federation affairs have made him one of our outstanding lights in modern time. He was elected three consecutive times to the presidency of the Southern Federation of Syrian and Lebanon Clubs and was president of that organization and assisted the ARK editor in the conception and forming of the Mid-West Federation of Syrian-Lebanon clubs at Indianapolis in 1936. His passing represents a severe loss to all Syrian-American-Lebanites in the United States.

A native of Wadie el-Araish, Lebanon, Dr. Elkourie was born March 6, 1878, the son of Skander Stephan Elkourie and Bedora (Sasen) Elkourie. He came to America in 1899 and settled at Atlanta, Ga., for one year before moving to Memphis, Tenn., where he lived six

months, then moving to Nashville, Tenn., where he graduated from the University of Nashville with the Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine degrees.

In 1901 he interned at the Nashville City Hospital and took post-graduate courses at Tulane University, New Orleans, and at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Elkourie began his medical practice in Clifty, Kentucky, remaining there three years and later became assistant lecturer on Physiology at the University of Nashville.

In 1905 he moved to Birmingham, Alabama, where he achieved distinction in the medical profession. He was a major in the Medical Corps of the United States Army and became a fellow-member in the American College of Physicians, American Medical Association, Southeastern College of Surgeons, and the Alabama State and Southern Medical Associations.

He was a director in the Moose Lodge and Past Exalted Ruler of the Elks Degree Team and Director of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce.



Dr. Elkourie in native garb

IN MEMORIUM



T-C CHARLES W. LETIFF

The body of hero Charles W. Letiff was brought from the battlefields of Germany to Indianapolis for final interment on January 20, 1949.

Charles was killed May 13, 1945, at Plattling, Germany, while in the service of the United States.

A native of Indianapolis, Charles was the son of Mrs. Jamelia Rababa Letiff and the late Milhem Letiff (natives of Maalakat-Zahleh, Lebanon). A graduate of the Indianapolis Arsenal Technical High School, he was attending Butler University from where he enlisted in the United States Air Corps. Before going to the fighting zones of Europe he underwent training at the Carnegie Technical Institute at Pittsburgh, Pa., and was serving as a member of Headquarters Company, 281st Engineers when he was killed in battle. He received the Certificate of Merit posthumously.

Survivors are the mother, Mrs. Jamelia Letiff; a sister, Rosemary Letiff, and two brothers, Abraham and Joseph, all of Indianapolis.

Obituaries

SAM KALUSH, native of Yaroun, Southern Lebanon, former resident of Michigan City, Ind., husband of Anne Kalush, passed away January 7 at Lansing, Mich. Besides the widow, deceased is survived by his five sons and two daughters.

BESHARA DAIEBIS GORRA, native of Zahleh, husband of Nazeha Gorra, passed away February 7, at Brooklyn, N. Y. Survivors besides the widow are: a son, Freddy, and seven daughters: Alice, Jeanette, Margaret, Evelyn, Lillian, Helen and Pauline, all of Brooklyn.

ELECTIONS

LEBANON-AMERICAN SOCIETY

Boston, Mass.

President, Sol Bethony; Vice-President, Joseph Abdo; Treasurer, Najeeb Moossa; Secretary, Charles Saliba; Recorder, Tofic Coury and Secretary, Philip Nofel.

ST. NICHOLAS WELFARE SOCIETY

Brooklyn, N. Y.

President, Edward Zraick; Vice-President, Attala Shaker; Treasurer, Alfred Mashnock; Secretary, Charles Barsa; Assistant Secretary, Victor Nader; and Guard, Alexander Katra.

HOMSIAN BROTHERHOOD

Brooklyn, N. Y.

President, Nazim Khoury; Vice-President, Bedry Saleeb; Treasurer, Nassif Arida; Secretary, Adeeb Katen; Ass't. Sec'y., Jowad Arida and Michael Takla.

TEL-SHIHA HOSPITAL ASS'N.

New York Branch

President and Treasurer, Abraham Lian; General Secretary, Abraham Corhan; 1st Vice-Pres., John Trabulsi; 2nd Vice-Pres., Fozy Brady; Ass't. Treas., Wadih Corhan.

KNIGHTS OF LEBANON

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

President, Fred Ferris; Vice-Pres., Roukis Roukis; Treas., Joseph Abood; Sec'y., Philip Andrews; Guard, Philip George.

DAUGSTERS OF LEBANON

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

President, Jeanette F. Ferris; Vice-Pres., Rose Sijhan; Treas., Mary Rookis; Sec'y., Elizabeth Bano; Guard, Ameena Mokarzel.

TRUSTEES ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Lawrence, Mass.

President, Aziz Kafoury; Vice-Pres., Peter Shaheen; Sec'y., George Hajjar; Ass't. Sec'y., Mrs. Agnes Shaieb; Treas., Rev. Peter Abouzaid; Ass't. Treas., Saleem Hajjar, Simon Ossy and Mrs. F. Nimel. DIRECTOR: Joseph Kafoury.

UNITED SYRIAN WELFARE SOCIETY

Lawrence, Mass.

President, Assaf Bassett; Vice-Pres., Saleem Hajjar; Sec'y., Daher Hajjar; Recorder, Tofic Habeeb; Treas., Joseph Aziz; DIRECTOR, Abraham Aziz. Director of Cemetery, Arthur Solomon.

Weddings and Engagements

ZAROUNI - HANNA

Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 14—Fouad and Sarah Zarouni, announce the engagement of their daughter, Selma, to George Hanna of Toledo, Ohio.

ASHA - NAIAM

Washington, D. C., Jan. 22—Mechell and Ruda Asha, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sofia, to N. Naiam, son of Najeeb and Melia Naim.

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MARCH, 1949

A. Frederick Zainey, Editor, Indianapolis, Indiana

VOLUME XIII, No. 7

CRUSADER SWEETHEART OF 1949



Miss Betty Skaff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ferris Skaff, was crowned 1949 Crusader Sweetheart at the third annual formal Sweetheart Ball held Feb. 5 in the Crystal Ball Room of the Martin Hotel, Sioux City, Iowa. Betty is a graduate of Central High School and is a freshman student of Morningside College, and plays a popular role in campus activity. The queen takes great interest in outdoor sports, is an accomplished pianist and an advanced student of voice.
(See page 13)



Kansas City, Mo.
And Mo. And Mo.

Flood lights, huge crowds, celebrities, soft music and the aroma of fine food in the making, all spell opening night at Eddy's. We squeezed past the huge floral pieces sent by friends, and past the lines waiting for seats in the huge dining room, into an atmosphere of sheer heaven. If you have ever wanted to feel like royalty, there was the opportunity. With waiters hovering at your elbow, champagne galore, soft music for dancing, food and drinks to make you feel "yummy," and good will ambassadors, George, Ned, and Sam Eddy seeing that every wish is realized. Combine the Monte Carlo in New York, with the Coconut Grove in California, and you have "Eddy's of Kansas City."

March, the month for putting snow boots and snow shovels away, time to shed overcoats and start shopping for a new straw bonnet. Glad we didn't go to Florida like the lucky Camille Azars and Mrs. Bahia Saidy. Now we can smile when we say that. Was glad to be in town to welcome the newcomers, baby Annette at the Mitchell Harris, and baby Marcel at the Artie Caren.

The new president of the Syrian Men's Club is George Boutross, who was voted to the post unanimously. There never was a man more fitted for the position. The club is both honored and lucky. Other officers are Vice President, Anthony Attchity; Secretary, Artie Caren; Treasurer, Mitchell Harris; Sargeant-at-Arms, Elias Barrack.

The final bloom to the romance of Frank Harris and Bea Diston was made in January with the echoes of "I Do." A reception in honor of the bride and groom, was given at the home of the groom's sister, Mrs. Fouad Harris. Between the Debkie and Cugat, we managed our quota of liquid very nicely, leaving not quite enough room for the traditionally sumptuous E. M. Harris buffet. We'll do it every time. Bob Hanna took the lovely Gloria Ann Hayes for his bride. It was a toss up between the bride and darling Carol Ann Harris, as to who held the crowd. A lovely reception followed the wedding. Those traveling salesmen stories that Joe Boutross tells, are actual, and as a salesman, he's 'tops.' Being unable to handle the daily overflow of customers, E. M. Harris of 205

Danny Thomas Outstanding Syrian Entertainer



DANNY THOMAS, widely known radio, stage, and movie star, who was featured at the famous Chez Paree in Chicago during the recent convention of the American Federation of Syrian and Lebanon Clubs, was the chief attraction at the elaborate banquet and testimonial dinner sponsored by the Chicago Syrian Progressive League during convention days.

—Photo courtesy James Haboush, Chicago

E. 11th Street, (twenty-five years at that location), moved a block east to number 311.

The very eligible Fred Mansour took for his bride, Nazira Dowaliby of St. Joseph, Mo. What fishes were hooked twice in one week. If the males would let the females bait the hook, a whale would be landed. If you see Mrs. F. A. Harris and daughter, Marsha, checking plane schedules, you'll know that New Orleans and Miami Beach are just two of their stops. Tune "Basin Street." 10th

street store, never a bore, repeats the action from the trading floor, phone Tony your bet, have George collect, you'll beg Albert for the telephone set, at the 10th street store, Lee keeps the score, read 'em and weep. What with Hanie's romance? Do we hear wedding bells? That must be Samie Farha moving his equipment to 1115 Wyandotte. Another case of overflowing business. How can you possibly fit 60 people comfortably in your home? Ask George Boutross and his wife, Najla, the perfect host and hostess.

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The SYRIAN ARK

Published monthly by A. F. Zainey, Editor, 605 North LaSalle Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, U. S. A. Subscription rates \$3.00 a year in United States and possessions. Two years for \$5. \$3 a year in Canada and elsewhere. (Entered as second-class matter January 31, 1938, at the post office at Indianapolis, Indiana, under the Act of March 3, 1879.)

CELEBRATING CARNIVAL IN LEBANON

By Ibn el-Khoury

The people of Lebanon are extremely frugal. They are mostly farmers and at best they can eke out of the soil a mere subsistence by the expenditure of the greatest efforts. Tillable land is very restricted so that, perhaps, nowhere else in the world do we find the inhabitants wrestling so hard with nature by resorting to the extreme means of terracing the slopes of the mountains as they do in Lebanon. Grazing grounds there are none, consequently, the only husbandry that is practicable is the raising of limited flocks of goats which subsist on the wild growth of shrubbery in the wooded sections of inaccessible localities. But the good Lebanon people are blessed with contentment. They have an adage to the effect that: "Happy is he who has a goat's resting-place in Lebanon," and they believe in it literally. They have the added satisfaction of owning each his own home, humble as it may be, and so long as they have a roof for shelter they lull themselves into the belief that they are immune against the fiercest tempests of adversity. There are families who have been in unbroken possession of the same homestead for centuries and where the family grows, the same land must be made to support the whole by means of more intensive cultivation. Lebanonites are truly a country-loving, home devoted people.

But there is one season in the year when the Lebanon villagers think of toil least and of joy most. It is the week preceding Lent—Carnival Week, the week when they revel in feasting on meat and drown their petty worries and cares in a deluge of wine. To them AL-MARFA' is the season of joy unbounded; of revelry supreme; of the enjoyment of the great bounties of nature as they understand them best. AL-MARFA', or Carnival, is their real Thanksgiving, only it is a week instead of a day, and they prepare for it months in advance.

To appreciate why meat is the principle ingredient in Carnival Week in Lebanon one must needs have an intimate sketch of the routine life of the Lebanon farmer. In spring he is occupied in plowing and sowing, and during a part of spring and summer he does the most intensive labor of the year. It is the time when, aside from his regular field work, he has to raise his cocoon crop, which is a task requiring, at a certain period in the life of the silk-worm, the concerted efforts of the whole family night and day. The worm grows more omnivorous as it advances in age, and the operation of gathering the mulberry leaves and chopping them fine when the worm is young, and later serving the leaves whole but in greater frequency and quantity as the worm grows, is a labor that taxes the time and strength of the farmer to capacity. Later comes the harvesting of the wheat and the gathering of the grape, fig, and olive crops which keep the farmer intensively occupied, until the advent of the rainy season and the long, bleak, wintry nights, when he rests from his labors and with his granaries full and his cellar overflowing with wine, settles down to the

enjoyment of the bounties of nature gathered through his tireless efforts. Throughout this all he and his family partake very little of meat. It is only in the larger villages that a sheep or a calf is killed once, or perhaps twice, each week. In this respect the Lebanonites are vegetarians by force, but they thrive well on their fare of whole-wheat bread and cereals.

But during all this period of intense labor there is one little detail in the life of the Lebanon farmer that is never lost sight of. It has both its sentimental and practical values. It is a custom that has been tenaciously adhered to for centuries and to miss practicing it during any year would be construed as a calamity. The children would consider themselves deprived of a privilege, the mother of a pleasant and useful past-time, and the father of the most personal and palpable regard for his yearly labors. It is the custom of raising the family lamb for Carnival Week.

So a lamb is bought in the spring and is allowed at first to gambol with the young children while the elders of the family are engaged at most serious tasks. But then a time comes in the autumn when the mulberry trees give their second crop of leaves which are at this late time in the season used for fodder. Now the lamb comes into his own as the real pet and center of attention. The elders vie with the children in feeding him. He is allowed at first to feed all he can and then fed some more. It is a process they call "forceful feeding." They resort to the expedient of opening the animal's mouth by force and stuffing the tenderest and choicest mulberry leaves and other appetizing vegetation into it. In doing so they would all be looking forward to the time when they would enjoy his tender, savory meat. They fancy him dressed up in the most appetizing form during their greatest period of festivity and thanksgiving and they do not want to reproach themselves for having been wanting in their care of him.

When preparations for Carnival week begin to take shape so long ahead, it may be readily appreciated in what great delight Carnival festivities are anticipated and in what high favor they are held. And when the week does come, all the relaxation expected after the hard work of the previous season, and all the ease and tranquillity anticipated during the months of the winter vacation, find expression in the boundless joy and hilarity which are indulged in during the grand celebration.

It is called Carnival Week and a whole week of festivities it is the fullest measure. Calls are made on neighbors and friends beginning with Sunday and the parties are held amid a great deal of merriment. But the day of all days is Thursday. It has been given the sobriquet of DRUNKARDS' THURSDAY although hardly anyone is drunk with the good, unadulterated, rejuvenating and revivifying Lebanon wine. Some men would feign being drunk to give a touch of reality to the day, but when the party breaks up in the early hours of the morning,

while not even a star casts a friendly ray to guide their steps in the treacherous mountain paths, these seeming drunkards on Drunkards' Thursday show scarcely a sign of being intoxicated and guide their women folks home without a stumble. And for a fitting climax, and a proper night-cap, most of them gulp down a glassful of their own wine at home before retiring.

Thursday of Carnival Week is ushered in auspiciously and with all due ceremony. The sheep is led out for slaughter and many a tear may be seen to trickle down the cheeks of the children at the hour of parting with the pet which they had come to love so dearly. In a short while he is brought back lifeless astride the shoulders of the sturdy father and the skinning operation begun in the welcome warmth of the house. The skin is salted and rolled up for future curing when it will serve as a useful addition to the furniture. Many of the silky skins of sheep that are spread around the open hearth of every Lebanon house whose soft and warm touch are most inviting in the cold, wintry nights of the mountain.

The initial operations over, the carcass is turned over to the women of the house who apply themselves with zest and pleasure to prepare it for the table. In the first place, some choice morsels of lean must be reserved for the hors-d'oeuvre, or MAZA, and for broiling on skewers. This latter operation the men attend to between their rounds of drink. The women would be the while engaged in pounding and mixing the KIBBEE. Strong arms and beautiful are those of the Lebanon women when they are seen circling the massive stone mortar taking turns at wielding the heavy wooden mallet. The meat must be pounded into the finest pulp before it is mixed with the BORGOL, or broken wheat, and their cheerfulness in the task they loudly proclaim by chanting sweet and joyous folk songs. Now they have reached the point where they are mixing the ingredients and the mother takes a handful of the pudding-like mixture to the father who is squatting by the fire for sampling as to spices.

"SALLAM ALLAH HAL-DAYAT" (May God save those hands) is his cheerful greeting to her, and he counters by forcing on her a goblet of wine. The brothers and sisters come in for a share of the wine, too, from the father, and the mother supplements that with a handful of kibbee to each. These exchanges of courtesies are kept up all the time the meal is under preparation. They are the necessary preliminaries to the grand feast.

Finally dinner is served. A boy is ordered to build a great fire that would last the whole evening without further attendance. Several logs of pine-wood are piled on the fire and presently they burst into flame with a crackling that sounds like music. Who cares about smoke? Pine-wood has the aroma of musk to him of the Lebanon. Tradition has it that its smoke is good for the eyes, and when your eyes water from smoke, that is equal to a collyrium or eyewash for your weak optics—providing the smoke be that of pine-wood.

The service must be ceremonious in order that it be befitting the occasion. The father seats himself in the center of the room and all others follow except those who are actually needed for service. The TABLIA, a large, round table rising about a foot from the ground, is placed before them. Two children bring a large brass tray heaped with steaming dishes and place it on the table. The wine-jar is by the side of the father, and the pile of MARQUOUQ, the thin, large bread of Syria and Lebanon, is by the side of the mother. No sooner does the father begin than everybody falls to. Spoons and forks may be considered superfluous on such an occasion, but every Lebanon, old or young, can shape his pliable, thin bread to serve the purpose of either without trespassing on the dictates of hygiene. Steaming rice with lamb stew is followed by kibbee both

raw and baked. Preserved squash and grape leaves stuffed with rice and lamb meat follow. Lamb meat raw, lamb meat broiled, lamb meat cooked, are to be seen in plenty and are heartily relished. And all the while each and all would be claiming the credit for having fed the lamb so that its meat became so delicious!

When the children begin to show signs of satiation the father reaches for the wine. And one needs have no doubt of the wonderful digestive properties of Lebanon wine. Furthermore, the people of Lebanon entertain no scruples about giving wine to children. To behold children of the tenderest age being given wine to drink one would be inclined to suspect that they were baptized with it.

Finally comes the dessert. This consists principally of native products such as figs stewed in molasses and pine seeds, dried figs and raisins. For a past-time during the evening, acorns would be baked in the hot ashes and although they are at first bitter, they give a most wholesome and sweet taste when followed by a draft of water.

Now the feast is over and a brass basin and ewer are brought by one of the children to the father for his ablutions. Everyone then scurries away with some thing or other but the jug of wine remains. For is this not Drunkards' Thursday?

This particular house happens to be that of the leading man of the section, and now that night has fallen, neighbors begin to flock to it for a social party. Each new-comer is hailed with a shout of joy, and after shedding their muddy boots and slippers by the door, they enter and squat on the sheepskins by the walls. The center of the room is kept clear for a good purpose. A few rounds of wine are passed and then someone suggests a dance. A tambourine is produced and a dapper young man begins to play on it with deft fingers—but no one warms up for a dance. Then someone discloses a reed pipe and soon the room is filled with the soft and touching melodies which are so often heard as magic notes echoing in the stillness of the night through the slumbering valleys of Lebanon. A young man jumps to his feet and, with a twisted handkerchief in hand which he waves in a circling motion above his head, he takes the floor and executes a graceful dance. He would be all the time circling and bowing in all directions, but at one end of the room he comes to a sudden stop, takes a pretty maiden by the hand and raised her to her feet. The blushes that cover her face only add to her radiant comeliness, but her modesty is overcome by the clapping and the encouraging shouts of the company.

Folk-dances in Lebanon are still the graceful, modest dances of old. The nearest the dancers come together is when they touch hands at the point of making a reel. Improper, suggestive contortions are not to be countenanced by reason of the fact that they are unknown. Love in Lebanon, like all life in Lebanon, is as pure and virile as Lebanon air.

The dancing couple are spurred to greater action by the growing intensity of the piper, to which is added the rhythmic hand-clapping of the whole company, but when they begin to show signs of exhaustion they would not desert and leave an empty floor; another couple is impressed into taking their place and consequently the performance is made continuous.

But between acts the parched throats of the strenuous dancers must be moistened with a draught of wine, and for their sake the throats of the whole company.

In this manner every day of Carnival Week is celebrated in Lebanon, more particularly Drunkards' Thursday. But at the stroke of mid-night on Sunday all mirth and hilarity suddenly stops; everyone retires with prayer on his lips and Monday finds every inhabitant of the village in church being branded with a large ashen cross on his forehead as a mark of penitence.

BEHIND THE CABLES

FLASHES FROM THE HOMELAND *"To Interpret the Near East to the West"*

Feb. 12, 1949

Editor Syrian ARK:

A few days ago, I read in one of our leading dailies, "el-Kabas," an article which el-Kabas had copied from an Egyptian publication, which in its turn, had translated from your ARK. From what I read, it seems that our brethren across the water, after many ups and downs, have succeeded in presenting the young Syrian-American Generation a publication of which they could feel proud. I am surprised—why don't you have your publications on sale at our news stands here in Syria and Lebanon? Our public is reading anything—from True Confessions to the Atlantic Monthly.

The English Language is being taught at all our private and public schools, and our society is English-minded now. The French Language which was second after Arabic, is now third in position.

Will you be kind enough to send me a copy of your publication, for which I would be greatly appreciative.

ARREPH el-KHOURY
Kassah Street
Damascus, Syria

Oil In Lebanon And Syria

Beirut reports that in the upper Bika'a valley between the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon mountains deposits of considerable richness have been found, according to analysis of first samples.

A French news agency reports from Damascus on February 2, that the Iraq Petroleum Co., has found important petroleum springs in upper Jezira in Syria. Preliminary investigations seem to indicate that the main accumulation of petroleum is not in Iraq, as has long been believed, but in the Syrian area that has just been tapped.

Announcement has also come from Egypt that oil deposits have been found on the Sinai peninsula. That tract is in the same geographical belt that stretches across the Negeb, the area which has been inhabited by Arabs but which the Jews now covet as part of their proposed state in Palestine. Oil in the Negeb and Sinai is one of moot points in the truce discussions between the Jews and the Egyptians for nearly two months.

While these new developments have taken place in oil prospecting, word comes that a near-agreement has been reached between the Syrian government and an

American company for the laying of an oil pipeline through the former's territory. Fundamental clauses are understood to have been accepted by the Damascus government. These are said to stipulate a large annual fee for the passage of the tapline, plus 200,000 tons of cheap petroleum for Syria, as well as the establishment of a large refinery on a Syrian coastal town. The pipeline, which starts from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, would travel 315 miles northeastward across Syria besides entering also Transjordan and Lebanon. The proposed agreement must be ratified by the Syrian Parliament where it will face a strong fire of nationalism, engendered largely because Washington applied terrific pressure on the United Nations for the partition of Palestine.

Bulous Travel Agency Featuring Exclusive Boat Trips To Beirut

Thousands of Lebanon-Syrians throughout the country will have an opportunity to visit and tour the homeland during the coming Spring and Summer through the medium of the Bulous Travel Agency.

Trips to Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Egypt are made possible by the services of this well known travel agency whose monthly advertisement appears in the Syrian ARK and all local Arabic newspapers.

According to Mr. Saied Bulous, manager of the well known Bulous Travel Agency, whose booking offices are at 92 Liberty Street, New York City, a special representative of the agency will accompany group passengers on all sailings direct to Beirut.

The agency now sponsors exclusive accommodations on the luxurious Egyptian and Khedive steamers. Special programs have been set up for the sole purpose of facilitating trips to the homeland in every possible way.

"Since peace now hovers over the Holy Land," Mr. Bulous says, "there appears to be happy adventures, sun-drenched days and star-studded romantic nights in the Lebanon mountains and the Baka'a region towards historic Damascus and hills of Palestine—Cavalcades of delight."

The Bulous Travel Agency advertisement appears on page 15 of this ARK

DR. DODGE URGES HELP TO NEAR EAST

The Middle East is entering upon the most critical period in its history. The stage is set for just the same sort of development we are witnessing in China. This matter must be viewed with concern, since these lands are a dike or break-water between the East and the west. They are the fulcrum upon which rest the destinies of Asia, North Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean."

Such was the analysis given on February 5, 1949, by Dr. Bayard Dodge upon his return to New York from Beirut where he had been serving as special advisor to American Ambassador Stanton Griffis, director of the United Nations relief program for the 750,000 Arab refugees. Dr. Dodge, who has devoted a lifetime of service in the Near East and who retired last June after a quarter of a century as president of the American University of Beirut, further warned that a serious social upheaval faces that area unless the West provides active assistance to the Near Eastern countries to help them emerge from medievalism.

Dr. Dodge was in effect giving endorsement to that part of Truman's inaugural address which proposed that this country undertake the development of neglected areas. Prior to the President's address frequent reports have emanated from Washington that the administration is seriously considering a "Marshall Plan" for the Arab World. With specific reference to the Truman proposal, Dr. Dodge said that nowhere could such a program be better applied than in the Middle East, where there are great rivers and a sparse population to help in its implementation.

Discovery of the huge oil resources during and after the war has emphasized the strategic importance that that area plays in American policy. Arab oil is one of the props buttressing the success of the Marshall Plan in Europe. In commenting upon the fact that at least one-half of the world's petroleum resources lay in that region, Dr. Dodge said that if such resources are properly used, they could prove a tremendous boon in raising the living standards of the Arabs. As a step in that direction, he pointed out that oil companies "would like to invest \$1,500,000,000 in the next five years if the political situation permits."

Dr. Dodge touched upon the great poverty of the masses in that area, citing that the recent war had created a new group of rich persons, thus widening the extremes between wealth and poverty. Soon after the war ended, unemployment increased with the withdrawal of American and British forces from that area,

Now, more employment and misery have fallen on the Arabs as a result of the war between the Jews and the Arabs. The thousands of Arab refugees that poured into Lebanon, Syria and Transjordan have taxed to the very limit the economies of those countries.

Besides the implementation of the Truman proposal, the Near Easterners need instruction on a wide-regional basis in agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation and hygiene. Such assistance would help to check the further spread of Communism which has already taken root in the Near East, especially among the students and the leaders of the depressed masses.

These are solemn warnings by a man who knows the Arab world thoroughly and they should be solemnly heeded if the Western countries hope for lasting peace in that area.

Long before Dr. Dodge returned to the States, Kamil Abdul Rahim Bey, the Egyptian Ambassador to the U. S., advocated the establishment of an American Institute in Egypt, to be manned by Americans. The Egyptian Ambassador was reported in the Cairo press as believing that such an American outpost of learning in Egypt, would help the entire Near East in many of its basic problems, especially those in health, agriculture and industry. Such a setup could provide a center for research by American learned institutions in the diseases of tropical areas.

Abdul Rahim Bey pointed out that more than 300 Egyptian students are registered in various colleges and universities. Egypt spends about \$2,500,000 a year on them.

Near East College Assn., Inc.

By Joan Rowland

Freshman students at the American University of Beirut recently were asked to write papers on the meeting of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization which had been holding its third annual conference in Beirut, Lebanon.

One of the students, Tamir Fakhry, had this to say:

"Just a few days ago UNESCO left Lebanon. This UNESCO is 3 years old and thinks it is something new. But here at this University (A. U. B.) we have students from many nations, cultures, and religions working together for international understanding. Such schools have been doing the work of UNESCO in a quiet and helpful way for a long time. To my mind, Lebanon and all countries which have different kinds of students of different races and religions are a UNESCO with gray hair."

Among the 2,559 students now studying at the American University of Beirut and International College are representatives of 40 nationalities and 18 religions.

The first exhibit on public health ever seen in Lebanon was arranged recently at the American University of Beirut as part of the observation of Health Week.

This exhibit, emphasizing the ways in which germs are transmitted, is the result of a survey made by Dr. Zeken Shakhashiri, a graduate of the University Medical School now studying at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. After a study of sanitary conditions in Lebanon, Dr. Shakhashiri reported a vital need for an enlarged program of public education about the ways through which a healthy body becomes diseased.

Already some progress has been made to answer this problem. Dr. J. Azar, a member of the A. U. B. medical staff who helped direct the exhibit, says that one of the most promising developments is the recent organization by a group of doctors of the Lebanon Public Health Association. To help fill the need for public health specialists, an increasing number of graduates of the University are studying public health and hygiene abroad chiefly in the United States.

The opening of the exhibit, held at the University in co-operation with the Lebanon Public Health Association, was attended by Dr. Elias El-Khoury, Lebanon Minister of Health, present as an official representative of the government.

Dr. El-Khoury made a talk in which he thanked the University and the campus Civic Welfare League which financed the exhibit. He said that the exhibit was of great help to the government and had saved his department much effort and expense. He expressed his willingness to distribute to government schools all literature on health which the University could furnish.

The exhibit consisted of 40 large panels designed by Raafat Buhairy, an artist who is an A. U. B. alumnus. His drawings showed simply and clearly the ways in which germs are transmitted. Twelve commandments of health written in large letters were displayed with the posters. Rules and suggestions for health by Dr. Shakhashiri were distributed to all who attended the exhibit. An exhibit of disease carrying insects attracted much attention.

Films on hygiene furnished by the American Information Office in Beirut were shown daily. During the week, articles on public health appeared in the Beirut newspapers, talks on health were given in the University chapel, announce-

ments were made at theaters and over the radio. Future plans call for distribution of 50,000 leaflets by plane. A consciousness of germs and an awareness of public health was created in Beirut and in all Lebanon which the University plans to foster by annual observation of Health Week.

Monthly Vocabulary

HOW MUCH ARABIC DO YOU KNOW

The average tourist in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and North Africa needs about two hundred Arabic words or phrases to get along easily. Below is a list of the most important of them with their equivalent in English.

In A Bar Or Restaurant

Awez akol	: I want to eat
Awez ashrab	: I want to drink
Teshrab eh?	: What will you drink?
Mayya	: Water
Beera	: Beer
Inbeed	: Wine
Kahwa	: Coffee
Haleeb	: Milk
Laban	: Fermented milk
Kubbaya	: A glass, a tumbler
Mutashakkar	: Thank you
Mamnoon	: Thank you
Halla	: Now
Sahn	: Plate
Ma'laka	: Spoon
Fenjan	: Cup
Shawka	: Fork
Zebda	: Butter
Merabba	: Jam
Beid	: Eggs

Rubayat Of Abu-Tayeb al-Mutanabi

Translated Into English by AMIN BEDER

"Every Verse A Gem"

These verses, written over a thousand years ago by the Arabic (prophet) poet, predecessor of Omar Khayyam, reveal a philosophy of living that is as wholesome and challenging today as they were to his followers.

After a hectic day in your office take a copy of this book and read it. You can lose yourself in the magic of the immortal lines. You will rise from your reading, refreshed and wiser in the ways of your life's tasks with renewed vigor and courage.

It is the best present you can give to your American, Syrian and Lebanon friends.

Price \$2.50 postpaid

THE SYRIAN ARK
c/o Book Department
Indianapolis 1, Indiana

MARONITES OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA HOLD GRAND 'GET TOGETHER'



THOMAS C. THOMAS OFFERS TIMELY PROPOSALS FOR HOME IN PENNA'S WYOMING VALLEY

By Miss Ann Abraham

Several hundred persons attended a "Get Together Party" of the Maronites of Wyoming Valley on January 31 at Catholic Youth Center in Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Rev. Donald Deuel, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church of the Immaculate Conception, spoke on "The Maronite Church Today" and Rev. Joseph Solomon, pastor of St. Ann's Maronite Church, Scranton, on "Who Are the Maronites."

Thomas C. Thomas was chairman of the affair and George Nackley toastmaster. Remarks were made by Rev. Joseph M. McGowan of St. Joseph's Melkite Church, Scranton, and Judge J. Harold Flannery. Invocation was given by Rev. Father McGowan. Soloists were Theresa Coury, Mary Peters, Marion Decker and Josephine Thomas. Ed "Butch" Curry was humorist.

Rev. Father Deuel touched briefly on the early history of the Maronites and stated that St. Maron indelibly imprinted on the Maronite soul a love, loyal and patient for Christ.

Rev. Father Solomon said that the

"America needs qualities of this kind in her citizenship," he said, "and the Church needs your exemplary Catholicism and every citizen of this community needs the warm clasp of your loyal friendship."

Rev. Father Deuel stated that today there are two Maronite congregations in Wilkes-Barre. Although not the largest congregations in the city, he said, nevertheless from them have come many of your sons and daughters who are now numbered among veterans of the last war.

"For a minority group," he said, "the contribution of these congregations was far beyond the demand of the valley's society."

From early spiritual heritage of the Maronites, he said, "has sprung distinguishing marks of patriotism for lawfully constituted reasonable civil authority, courage to fight in defense of inherent human rights, long suffering and a unique quality of helpfulness to all men."

early Maronite church was founded in the Fourth Century and has kept the faith ever since. The Maronite people, he said, were Christians before many of the people of European countries and before Christianity was established by St. Patrick in Ireland and by St. Boniface in Germany.

"Through centuries of persecution," he said, "the Maronites have kept the faith faithfully and heroically."

In welcoming those attending, Mr. Thomas suggested that a Maronite home be established in Pennsylvania's Wyoming Valley, that an annual dinner be held each year in March, and a Maronite Day be observed in July.

A play, "Scheharazad," followed the luncheon. Participating were Miriam P. Thomas, Anthony Shiner, Marion Decker, Doris Decker, Ann Joseph, Leona Shiner, Catherine Charles, Angeline Shiner, Marion George, Theresa Shiner, Ann Ellis, Pauline Charles, Miriam A. Thomas, Gene Decker, Vivian Husson, Charles Coury and Tony Peters.

Dancing followed the play.

Salaam From St. Paul, Minn.

By Miss Lucille Ablan

Activities of Organizations: In St. Paul and vicinity the evening of Feb. 6 was very cold and the wintry wind was blowing mercilessly. The mercury in the thermometers couldn't make its way over the 6 degrees above zero mark and most of St. Paul's vast outdoors was deserted. It was this night at the Town & Country Club Hills that the Orthodox Youth Club members braved the weather and had a perfect sledding party and then gathered at the home of member Lucille Ablan for the balance of an unusually grand evening. Yvonne Farho directed members in the game "Charades" and President Lorraine's car's flat tire uncovered the hidden gallantry of the O. Y. C.s wonderful men who would not leave the scene until the car was again in running order.

On Feb. 10, hundreds of our people poured into the Junior Pioneer Hall for the Syrian Dinner sponsored by both branches of the St. George's Syrian Orthodox Societies. This semi-annual event of the Orthodox Church are becoming tremendously popular. Credit for the growing success must be given to the harmonious co-operation of the church's three Organizations; the excellent planning of chairman, Mrs. Nick Antoniades, and to all the ladies who worked so hard and so long preparing the most delicious foods.

Feb. 12, was chosen by the Maronite Girl's Sodality for their Valentine Dance. The Maronite Hall was decorated with motifs appropriate to the theme of the dance—valentines, balloon cupids and hearts. But hovering in the air above and all about the decorations, was the appetizing Arabic aroma of baked kibbee, yabra, and freshly baked flat bread (Khubiz Markoouk) which were distributed with other refreshments. Proceeds of the event go entirely to the Holy Family Church building fund. President of the Sodality is Miss Mary Ann Moses. Mrs. Pearl Patrick is the secretary, and Mrs. Mary Solberg, Treasurer.

Arabic style at the Maronite Hall. Mr. Isaac is the son of Mrs. Tina Isaac and the late Mr. Monsour Isaac and Mary is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Joseph, formerly of Minneapolis and now of El-Jabra, Batroun, Lebanon.

Activities of Individuals: Mrs. Julia Fuad Herl has been and will be a very busy lady preparing local Syrian-Lebanon Americans for their part in the program of the Minnesota Centennial Festival of Nations which is being sponsored in May by the International Institute. Mrs. Herl is a member of the Institute's council, representing the Syrian-Lebanon groups.

Mr. Wm. Isaac and Miss Mary Joseph were united in marriage by Rev. Joseph Ziade in the Holy Family Maronite Church on Feb. 19. The ceremony was followed by a colorful reception in the

Our Most Prominent Band Leader



RUSS CARLYLE (nee Gantoos), nationally known songster and orchestra leader, with his fifteen piece band and Glee Club entertainers, provided the music and entertainment for the several dances and Grand Ball and Banquet at the recent Chicago convention of the Federation of Syrian and Lebanon Clubs.

This and the photo of DANNY THOMAS on page 00 are reproduced by courtesy of the Chicago Syrian Progressive League — James Haboush, president.

later, president for the winter quarter.

Learn To Cook the Dishes Of Your Ancestors

from
**ALAMY'S FAMOUS BOOK
OF NATIVE RECIPES**

(Printed in English)
No other book like it on the market.

Contains recipes of leading Syrian, Greek, Italian, French and English dishes, together with recipes of modern American candies and pastries.

IN ALL 130 RECIPES

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A. S. ALAMY

3511 Alexander St. Flint 5, Mich.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

By Velma Ruffin

Anyone want to come to a party? Well, drop around, who knows, we might be having one at the time you decide to come. For example, Georgiana and Helen Haddy had a house party. Naturally they used the statement, quote "Just a small party," but I'm beginning to wonder what is meant by a "small party." Don Shaheen had most everyone baffled with his mentaltelepathy act, especially Barbara Risk. Poor Barbara, what a time she had trying to figure it out. Would she give up, NO, try again she'd say, concentrate, Barbara, concentrate, I am, and so on, after many hours she finally figured it out. Within the same week Helen Marie Haddy had a party. The most enthusiastic at this party was Billy Jack David. Oh, how that boy got around. The "Blues Boys" of the evening were Ernie Hidder and Tommy Ruffin, they made up a song to fit the title of "Blues Boys." Guest for the evening were Joe Abraham, of South Dakota, and Louis Haddad of Worcester, Mass. Mr. Haddad plans to live in Cedar Rapids.

Now for something that was really different. A few of the girls got together one evening and decided on an affair such as we never had before. They called it a "Spinsters Spree." From the name you can gather what it was like so I'll tell you a little about it. The girls took the boys out, bought the corsages and took them to the dance and did all the usual formalities of a regular date to go dancing. Of course it was up to the girls to do the entertaining but somehow they just didn't have the right technique, so who should come to the rescue but Ray Rashad and Tommy Ruffin and top notch man Eugene Slamans who took the spotlight for entertainment. The manager of the hotel walked in and just didn't quite understand the higher type of gaiety.

Right Gene!!! Say, Nick Nassif, what happened. We missed you.

The AMA-SYRS basketball team failed us in the league. By the looks of the final game we landed at the bottom of the list of teams standings but as usual the AMA-SYRS managed to get on top of something, so Ernie Hidder made the name of AMA-SYRS rate in the league by being top-scorer. Thanks Ernie. Speaking of congratulations I think Joe Hidder deserves a pat on the back. He won the Ping Pong city title. Nice going Joe, do you think you can help the boys of the AMA-SYRS Ping Pong team win the league title.

It looks like that just about it for now so until next month—

Detroit Syrianette Receives Scholarship in Music



—Photo Courtesy Detroit News

Miss Virginia Housey

OPERA ROLE GOES WITH \$2,000 AWARD

ciation made the announcement of the award to Miss Housey at the end of the presentation of "La Gioconda" in the Masonic Temple Auditorium in Detroit. Virginia was presented to the audience by Edith R. Tilton, chairman of the scholarship committee.

Mgsr. Abraham Speaks To American Legion

An exceptional meeting was held on the night of January 20, 1949, when members of the Gary, Indiana, Memorial Post of the American Legion met in a social gathering when the post commander introduced Mgsr. Michael Abraham of Michigan City, Ind., as the main speaker.

Father Abraham had recently returned from a trip to Europe and the Far East and told the Legionnaires of his general experiences during his travels in the orient.

The distinguished Maronite priest dramatically related that "Europe was both tired and unhappy—that its dangers were not from without, but from within, by

reason of the lack of public spirit of the people. A few of the countries are coming out of it—Italy, Holland and Denmark. In France, the conditions are deplorable, with many political parties and no one seems to have any interest."

Mgsr. Abraham continued: "The only cure is Christianity. I am not speaking as a priest representing one church. What Europe needs is a belief in God and a hereafter. Christian people of all churches must get together and save mankind."

The Monsieur was introduced by Robert Moore, former Michigan City attorney who had been a personal friend of the Northern Indiana Syrian community for over thirty years.

Before the meeting a dinner was held in honor of Father Abraham.

KIBBEE KAPERS OF '49 CREATES SENSATION IN LOS ANGELES, CAL.

By Fred Andrews

On Saturday, January 22nd, the Young Men of Saint Nicholas Orthodox Society sponsored an original musical review entitled "KIBBEE KAPERS OF '49" at the fashionable Wilshire Ebell Theatre.

This novel and unusually funny production took the town by storm and was by far the most outstanding entertainment program ever witnessed by anyone here in the West. The show was written, directed, produced and enacted by a group of amateurs, which in itself is an amazing part because there was perfection in every respect. The writing, directing, producing and acting ability displayed by NICK NAFF and ROBERT HANNA received the utmost praise from all who were fortunate enough to see the show.

The show in itself was in reality a series of short skits on topical events, written with a Syrian's viewpoint with a heavy accent on comedy. These skits were interspersed with original songs and dances elaborately composed and executed. To single out any one person in the large cast of 53 very talented girls and boys would be a grave injustice to the other members, who were as grand and co-operative a group as will be found by anyone anywhere.

Such vocalizing by the very lovely and charming Miss GLORIA MALOUF of Los Angeles and Miss ELEANOR KOURI of Oklahoma City will long be remembered. In the male department MITCHELL SIEFE and JAKE THOMAS handled their vocal chores very capably. VICKI RICK, EDDIE DEEB, GEORGE HAMATI, WILLIAM EDWARDS and GEORGE MALOUK distinguished themselves in their comedy-acting roles. The three darling little HATTON GIRLS were outstanding in their specialty dance routines, along with BLANCHE BARTHUM and CHUCK NADER in their "Dubkee" number. Miss ELAINE MEENA and VICTOR HAMATI did a very clever take-off on Judy Garland and Fred Astaire. Then there were the three MESSERAH GIRLS distinguishing themselves with original songs. Little LINDA GAY NASSIF . . . 3 years old . . . and cute as a bug's ear, thrilling the crowd with her dance led by Miss Ann Beyroo-ty; Miss MARY SAMRAH . . . 15 years old . . . with her thrilling rendition of Arabic songs; BLANCHE DOWALIBY, FRED AYOUB, PHIL MANSOUR, ADELE SALEM, JOE ANDARY and ROSE SAMRAH all lending their tal-

ents to make a complete show.

The production closed with an uproariously funny Radio Sequence . . . with singing commercials and all . . . SAM MEENA and SAM SABA as "straight from the old country" and DR. ABDUN-NUR, LEON SALIBA, JOHN EDWARDS, GEORGE GANTUS, and GEO. MALOUK dressed as "Queens for a Day" competing for prizes. BOB HANNA handled the narration for the entire show and did a very expert job of it . . . His voice and delivery had a distinct professional flair . . . then we found out that Bob was formally with the American Broadcasting Company here in Hollywood as Announcer-MC. Make-up and costuming were expertly done by Miss GWEN KALLEL and Mr. TOOFIK SIMON.

Yes, indeed . . . "KIBBEE KAPERS" was a tremendous success from all points of view and everyone connected with it has left a memorable mark on this community. I can safely say that we will be hearing from these two very talented boys, NICK NAFF and ROBERT HANNA again. In answer to the clamor of the community for a repeat performance the show will be presented again on March 11th at the Wilshire Ebell. Bob and Nick

From A Recent Arrival

Dear Barroom:

Here we are after 6 mths of travel—wonderful Lebanon and hard-hot Saudi Arabia. Joy at seeing and experiencing the lovely Levant and grieving for its good people. The poor peasants of Palestine torn and dispersed—not by the Zionists, but by the mismanagement, treason and incompetence of their — S. O. B. Leaders.

All the efforts and grief we have gone thru in 25 years; the building in the hearts of our children and the pride we boasted—all shot-to-hell by the lousy, bribe-taking, incompetent politicians of the !!!!! Enough.

Glad to see you keeping your stride in the "ARK." It is really good.

"NAME WITHHELD"
Editor's Note: The term "S. O. B." mentioned in the above letter is the same term used by President Truman in his recent Jeffersonian Dinner. Drew Pearson, the well known radio commentator, says that the term "S. O. B." could mean "Society of Brotherhood," or "Sons of Britain." !!!!!

have started to work on an entirely new show for possible Fall production.

Syrian Orthodox Youth To Hold Executive Meet

By Wm. G. Kafoure

The Executive Board of the Syrian Orthodox Youth Organization will meet in Indianapolis on April 10 to complete plans for the coming annual convention and to execute all their current business. The president of the Organization, Salem Bashara of Grand Rapids, Mich., will preside over this meeting of officers, and state chairmen.

It is expected that many new clubs and interested groups will be represented for the purpose of joining the great movement of Orthodox Youth.

Archbishop Anthony Bashir of New York visited Convention Headquarters in Indianapolis recently to confer with members of the church youth club regarding the convention which will open on June 17 and continue thru the 19th. His Eminence was well pleased with the plans and work done thus far by the Convention committees. Choral selections by the St. George Choir of Indianapolis were presented in planning for the mass choir of over one hundred voices to be featured at the convention's Sunday service. This choir will be composed of representatives of all parishes affiliated with the organization. Plans were completed with the local radio network to broadcast a portion of the high mass.

His Eminence approved the arrangements and program for business meetings and entertainment which were presented by the convention committee and left the Indianapolis group greatly encouraged.

It is the hope of the Executive Board that many new interested groups in the Mid-West Sector will send some representation to the executive meeting to be enlightened on the purpose and accomplishments of the Organization and to consider membership in it. A great deal of enthusiasm has been growing steadily and will continue to grow until the convention on June 17, 18, and 19 when Indianapolis plays host to all parishes of the Mid-West Sector at the Antlers Hotel.

Hotel reservations should be made to Miss Alice Mesalem, 2335 Shelby St., Indianapolis.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin The Beer City

By Miss Beverly Bethia

The J. U. G. Club sponsored by the young Syrian girls of Milwaukee held a dinner party at the C. O. D. Club February 9th, for their members. After the dinner the girls went over to the home of

Southern Federation Officers To Meet In Jackson, Miss.

Jackson, Mississippi has been awarded the Officers' Meeting of the Southern Federation of Syrian Lebanon American Clubs to be held on March 26 and 27. The meetings which will be held in the Robert E. Lee Hotel will be open to all officers and committee members of the Federation and also all presidents of affiliated clubs, according to Kamal E. Antone, president of the Federation.

The agenda will include the final promulgation of the rules for the Kahlil Gibran Scholarship Award; the setting up of a permanent body for the maintenance of the Syria-Lebanon Room in the University of Pittsburgh, a project initiated by the Federation; the discussion of ways to correct text books and other literature concerning the countries of Lebanon and Syria; and recommendations for the re-vamping of the constitution. All action taken by this body will be purely in an advisory capacity to the actual convention which is to be held in New Orleans in August 13, 14, and 15, according to Mr. Antone.

The Cedars of Lebanon Club, the Lebanon Club, the Southern Federation's affiliate in Jackson, will sponsor a lavish program for the Officers, and will invite persons throughout the South for the social affairs which will include an Arabic movie, a Syrian dance and a conventional dance, according to Col. J. M. Abraham, a member of the Federation's Board and also an officer of the Jackson Club. The club was host to the third annual convention of the Federation in 1935; and in 1941 it staged a pre-convention meeting.

Col. Abraham, who is in charge of hotel reservations at the Robert E. Lee Hotel headquarters, reports that large gatherings from all over the South are expected.

one of the members for an evening of enjoyment.

Congratulations goes to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hydar of Oconomowoc, formerly of Milwaukee, who have adopted a thirteen month old Syrian girl. Mrs. Hydar, at a shower given by her sisters, Mesdames George and Alfred Herro, both of Oconomowoc, at the Syrian American Club House February 23rd, received many beautiful gifts.

On February 27th the Syrian American Ladies Club held their annual anniversary dinner at the Syrian club house. After the grand banquet some very interesting speeches about things that happened in the past and the things the club will strive for in the future were given.

The convention committee here in Milwaukee are hard at work and their only comment at the time is that a grand convention is being planned for the Syrian people this year in Milwaukee.

City Of Victoria Wins In Texas Tournaments

By Kamal Antone

Victoria's "Just Friends" basketball team won the 5th Annual Basketball Tournament held under the auspices of the L'Entasar Club in Houston on February 20. Victoria beat Houston in the championship game by a score of 36-21 to win the trophy which was awarded that evening during the dance held at the Rice Hotel. San Antonio's Amesyr Club had previously won the Pre-State Basketball Tournament in Port Arthur on January 30; the first turney was sponsored by the L'Monar Club of that city. At the Port Arthur affair Henry Anawaty, Jr., was awarded the cup for being the outstanding player of the series, while Ernest Dick of Victoria received the outstanding player's trophy in the Houston play-off.

Other teams represented at both tournaments were the L'Fanor Club of Beaumont; the American-Syrian Association of Austin; and the Lebasyr of Corpus Christi. The games are held each year under the direction and rules of the Texas State Syrian Lebanon Athletic Association of which Anees Semaan of San Antonio is chairman. All clubs are members of the Southern Federation.

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THE SYRIAN ARK

Danbury (Conn.) News

By Alfred J. Hajj

Here we are folks, reporting the second edition of Danbury News. Comment on our first column was favorable. That's fine, but I need more readers to cover my news space for you. How about it friends, this is a nice page for us and we want to keep it for our people.

In the world of activities, the Junior Maasir Society of Danbury and Bethel, as hosts, sponsored a bowling tournament for the various teams of Connecticut. The tournament was attended by more than 200 people, climaxing the afternoon with these following scores: Torrington Girls, 3 game high 1428 pts.; Danbury Shamrocks, (boys), 1626 pts.; On individual 3 game high, Angie Theebe, Torrington, 319 pts.; Tom Stevens, Jim Haddad, 352 pts. tied. Individual high for the afternoon was Raymond Asmar, 145 pts. After the tournament a delicious turkey dinner was served at the Blue Ribbon Manor with dancing, modern and Arabic being enjoyed. The affair was highly successful, and much credit is due to the Society.

The Y. W. S. S. sponsored their annual Valentine dance at the Blue Room of the Lebanon American Club recently. Ticket sales were very successful.

The St. George Youth Organization have donated four hundred dollars for the benefit of the priest's new home acquired recently by the parish. Other clubs, please take notice. There, the word UNITY means something.

We now have established a Bureau of Vital Statistics for keeping of the records in the Danbury area.

A boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. George Shadid of Germantown Dist. Also, in the line of births, are Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Jowdy, who were presented with a lovely baby girl.

We had a few marriages recently and it seems that the ball is rolling pretty steady. Here are the fortunate ones who were recently joined in the romantic holy matrimonial rites: George Samaha, one of our young popular men, was married in Plymouth, New Hampshire, to Miss Laura Samaha.

Miss Esther Abdo and Mr. John Define, Jr., were united last month.

On Lincoln's birthday Miss Adeline Ramey and Charles Carr joined hands, in St. Anthony's church.

We're back to Mr. Cupid only this step is preliminary. Engagements are only caution lights to warning. Miss Josephine Buzaid recently engaged to Mr. Joseph Weber, Jr. I hear he is the son of a welder. He'll have plenty of welding to

do in life, Josephine, so prepare for the final step.

Eddie Michaels jumped on the bandwagon with Miss Janis Lynch, I guess the music is appealing.

Last but not least, my very good friend, Louis A. Lubus, a future school-teacher, (intellectual, etc.). That was the last straw.

Hurry up girls, the boys are dwindling, and there isn't much time left, you see a girl gets older first, and if you keep hoping, you'll only end up mopeing. Be on the alert.

One of our local Syrian boys, who is in the fur business recently attracted nationwide attention. His idea of "Taffy Hats," called after his name, has brought much color to our city of Danbury. Reading an article in the Herald Tribune, he was inspired by the theme and decided to carry out his plan. This idea was sold to the Frank Lee Hat Co., which in turn agreed to give it a fair trial. Pastel colors were made, and the public reacted spontaneously. The Exchange Club, a nationwide organization pushed through with the plan with other affiliated clubs, and has brought such a resounding appeal.

Colleges, organizations, individuals, are mad over this sensation. Mr. Taffy Jowdy presented a "Taffy Hat" to Dick Contino, Horace Heidt's accordianist. This we are proud of because he is one of us and I sincerely hope and wish him all the luck in his venture. Business should be good by then Taffy—at least you put a color in the life of Danbury.

OMAHA (NEBR.) NEWS

By Vida Abdouch

Over a hundred Phoenician Club Members and their guests attended the 13th Annual Installation of Officers Banquet held at the Birchwood Club on February 6, 1949. The Banquet was scheduled for January 31st, but due to a severe snow storm, it was postponed to the following Sunday.

William G. Abboud, banquet chairman, welcomed the members and their guests and introduced his committee and toastmaster, Francis Abdouch, who was also co-chairman on the committee. The crowd was very much impressed by the colorful candlelight ceremony between the retiring officers: Bolus J. Bolus, President; Edith Solomon, Vice-President; Helen Abraham, Secretary; Curtis Abdouch, Treasurer; Sophie George, Financial Secretary; George Hathoot, Sgt. at Arms. Newly elected officers are: George Abraham, President; Thomas Abdouch, Vice-President; Frances Shaheen, Secretary; Eva Nasr, Treasurer; Vida Abdouch, Financial Secretary and Albert George, Sgt. at Arms. The oath of office was giv-

en by the toastmaster following the ceremony.

Young talented members of the club provided entertainment during the banquet. Classic vocal selections were sung by Jimmie Abdouch accompanied by Virginia Saner and classic piano selections were played by John Waken of Enid, Oklahoma, in Omaha attending Medical School.

Out of town guests from Plattsburgh, Fremont and Kearney, Nebraska, were introduced. Short after dinner speeches were made by Bolus J. Bolus, retiring president and the newly installed president George Abraham.

The banquet was followed with dancing and music.

On February 13, the Phoenician Club sponsored a Valentine's Day event, a box social. Beautifully decorated boxes of various shapes, sizes and color filled with delicious food was furnished by the women. Most important at this occasion were the men, who so generously purchased their hearts desired "candies." The auctioning off of these boxes by George Workman, auctioneer and assisted by Mike Gibreal was quite an entertainment. A prize was given for the most beautifully decorated box. The three judges appointed for this selection faced a hard task but came up with the winning box of Sadie George so artistically made. The winning box was purchased by George Hathoot.

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Betty Skaff Selected

"Sweetheart of '49"

(Picture on Front Cover)

By Miss Marie Nasser

'Midst shining red hearts, darting cupids, sparkling laughter and lavish array of gay formal, the Crusader Sweetheart of 1949 was royally crowned queen at the third annual Sweetheart Ball Feb. 5 in the Crystal Ball Room of the Martin Hotel, Sioux City, Iowa.

The identity of the queen remained secret until the fanfare of the two uniformed trumpeters, who are members of the Son's of the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps, announced her approach. The queen made her entrance through a doorway decked with rainbow colored plummage. She was attired in a gown of lavender satin brocade and marquisette and proceeded to the throne, to the musical strains of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," accompanied by her escort, LeRoy Yanney, of Lincoln, Nebr.

Little David Lee Yanney preceded the queen carrying the jeweled crown on a lace edged, heart shaped satin pillow.

The queen's attendants, Miss Mae Hanna, daughter of Mrs. Ellis Hanna, and her escort, Thomas E. Hisemann, and Miss Mary Hanna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hykel Hanna, and her escort, Paul Kierking, began the royal procession to the throne.

Mose Yanney, president of the Crusader Club, placed the crown on the queen's head and formally pronounced her "Sweetheart of 1949." The queen was presented a valentine bouquet made from a clever arrangement of roses, carnations and hyacinth by the 1948 queen, Miss Marie Yanney. After gifts and messages of congratulations from Mr. Ronald Reagan of Hollywood, California; Mayor Dan J. Connolly of Sioux City; and Fredrick P. Alexander of Detroit, Michigan, and various clubs of the city, the dance of the royal party formally inaugurated the ball.

Miss Skaff is treasurer of the Sioux City Crusader Club. Her attendants at the "Queen's Inauguration" were the Misses Mary and Mae Hanna.

Approximately 250 guests filled the ball room to enjoy the unlimited cordial hospitality of the Crusader Club. Cammie Hanna, master of ceremonies and general chairman for the dance, was assisted by committeemen Mae Hanna, Joyce Ellis, Betty Skaff, Louie Bitsos and Emil Samore. Honorary patrons for the event were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Ferris Skaff, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ferris, Mr. and Mrs. David Skaff, Mr. and Mrs. John David, Mr. and Mrs. George Skaff, E. T. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs.

Mike Skaff and Mr. and Mrs. Art Ellis. Music was furnished by Bob Link and his orchestra.

SIOUX CITY, IOWA

"Where The Tall Corn Grows"

By Miss Marie Nasser

There was activity unlimited here to the tune of the "Skater's Waltz" as another month of snow and ice rolled by. If you were a magician on ice, you were the lucky socialite who filled all the dates on the packed social calendar.

The LeBan Club monopolized one of the local bowling alleys to enjoy a club bowling party February 20th. Chairmen Mike Couray and Eli Couray made the arrangements in managing to get everyone behind that "eight ball." In spite of many near casualties, everyone managed a few scores and laughs down the alleys. Live and learn if you are able to survive the initial steps of learning.

The Syrian American League lost no time in directing the spotlight on activities for the month. Credit is due them for their splendid co-operation in the Polio Drive by holding a benefit card party February 20th at the club house. The entire proceeds of the event were turned over to the Polio Fund. Mrs. Besie Headid was in charge.

Come spring and comes the spade for breaking the ground for the new Syrian Church! This is the hopeful comment of the newly organized church building committee headed by Mr. Ferris Skaff. The committee is working earnestly to help the church members realize the hopes and dreams which they have long been cherishing for a new edifice which will conveniently accommodate their readily growing congregation and afford the much needed church recreational facilities.

The Mardi Gras annual pre-lenten social program attracted many the eve of March 1st to enjoy the celebration which highlights society's program for the year. Miss Theresa Nasser, daughter of Mrs. Albert Nasser, and senior student of Cathedral High School, was among the attendants to the queen and her royal party.

About to turn the page on a most successful year, the "Coury Bowling Team" stands third from the top in city league bowling teams. The team, bowling for a local business concern, gets its make up from six Coury boys. On the team are Eli, Ernie, Fred, Mike, Alfred and Nick, with Eli Coury holding the record average for the year.

Speaking of babies, M. J. Yanney sure looks a natural carrying a baby. Well . . . Johnny Abdouch didn't realize he had so many cousins until the night of the Sweetheart Ball. Nice to have a model along, eh, John!

About this time, I am ready to follow Phyllis Sabag and join her disappearing act. Miss Petite is now better known as the Shadow - - you can just see her when she is drinking coffee.

Without further adieu, I'll sign off till next time.

a needed helping hand. Bess is the president of the ladies society of the St. Thomas Syrian Church this year after playing an important role in the drive for the new church building fund and Syrian American League activities. A tower of undying initiative, Mrs. Headid is about to send the new Syrian Sioux City directory to press for publication. Besides keeping up her active role in all social activities, she is the proud mother of a Wentworth Military Academy student and a charming young teen-aged daughter.

Skippin' about town—Miss Freda Garreb really went the limit when she skippered off to New York City and St. Louis on a buying trip for Younker-Davidson Bros., where she is employed as department head.

Do or die was the edict for the "Club 14" male members when it was a question of growing a mustache by the next March club meeting. A little confusing for our college coeds with Sadie Hawkins day approaching!

Evidently Lorraine Nasser never heard of the big bad woff, or is it wooff, or could it really be wolf. Poor Lil Red Riding Hood slipped upon one of her faithful fans.

Alfred Couray now goes around singing "Jeanine with the light brown hair." What a lovely song and more lovely is Jeanine.

It didn't take long for Vic Ferris to establish a good foothold in civic affairs. He is partaking in the Little Theatre Guild's forthcoming presentation of "Kiss and Tell."

Mary Hanna never gives up—she's determined to knit. Pure optimism might bring on that sweater but did you ever hear of knit one, skip one?

Our population figures are about in balance with the help of our good friend the Stork. Mrs. Emil Samore and Mrs. Ferris Mushro are about to make up our recent decrease in population due to Mr. and Mrs. Cammie Hanna and son's leaving to establish a good foothold in civic affairs. He is partaking in the Little Theatre Guild's forthcoming presentation of "Kiss and Tell."

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Without further adieu, I'll sign off till next time.

MARCH RELEASES OF BANTAM BOOKS

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Bill Mauldin, Famous G.I. Cartoonist, Turns to Fiction



BANTAM BOOKS RELEASES BOOK OF FANTASY

Bill Mauldin is working 12 hours a day on a new book which he describes as "a kind of fantasy."

It's the first attempt at fiction writing by the wartime G. I. cartoonist whose previous books, "Up Front" and "Back Home," are cartoon collections with accompanying commentary.

Mauldin says his first fiction piece has him plotting and replotting, writing and rewriting, to such an extent that he isn't sure just what the finished product will be.

"If I told you now what the book is all about you might not recognize it when it appears," he says.

If nothing else results Mauldin is certain that he will come out of his latest endeavor with an abiding respect for those writers who turn out best-selling fiction year after year.

Until two months ago the young author-cartoonist had been doing most of his writing at home; then a persistent noise campaign forced him to seek the relative quiet of his office in The New York Star, the newspaper for which he does cartooning. Source of the noise: his newborn son, Andrew. Now, on the rare occasions when he writes at home he steals quietly into the living room and sits down with the typewriter balanced on his knees.

Mauldin revealed the plans for his coming book to the publishers of Bantam Books when they called to tell him that the edition of "Back Home" they brought out is one of the month's best-selling reprints.

The first Bantam titles to be announced are "Wild Animals I Have Known," by

La Crosse, Wisconsin

By Ginny Ferris

The Syrian American Ladies Aid Society Club, and the Mens Club, of La Crosse, Wis., held their first annual election of officers since their clubs were started.

They were as follows:

Ladies Club

President, Ida Ferris; Vice President, Mrs. Betty Asfoor; Sec., Sally Markos; Corresponding Sec., Ginny Ferris; Treas., Mrs. Rose Patros; Sergeant-at-Arms, Jeanette Serogy.

Mens Club

President, Russ Ferris; Vice President, Al Ferris; Treas., Joe Addis; Sec., Richard Markos; Sergeant-at-Arms, Louie Karribi.

Installation of officers was held in a pleasant setting. A banquet followed.

Grateful recognition was given Mr. and Mrs. Michael Asfoor for their part in the establishment of these clubs.

Activities are being planned now that will make the year 1949 a memorable one for these clubs.

Preparations are being made for the Wisconsin State Convention to be held May 28-29. It will precede the National Convention in Milwaukee, in July.

Don't forget it's La Crosse, Wis., in May!!!



Cerebral palsy makes little Linda's legs unsteady, but with the aid of a special walker, she's learning to take her first short steps. She's dependent on such special equipment as this. Your purchase of Easter Seals gives her special facilities and supports each new effort Linda makes toward a happy, useful future. National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, 11 South LaSalle Street, Chicago 3, Illinois.

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ELECTIONS

LEBANON AMERICAN CLUB Danbury, Conn.

President, Chicory Busaid; Vice-President, Monsour Michael; Secretary, Arthur Aberisk; Arabic Secretary, Louis K. Mitchell; Treasurer, Joseph Murad; Ass't. Treas., Michael Howard.

CLUB "25" Danbury, Conn.

President, Edward Hajj; Vice-President, Louis Kalif; Secretary, James Njam; Treasurer, Anton Chory.

YOUNG WOMEN'S SYRIAN SOCIETY

Danbury, Conn.

President, Alice Haddad; Vice-President, Mary Kalil; Secretary, Margaret Bouab; Recording Secretary, Isabel Kalil; Treasurer, Lorraine Aberisk; Ass't. Treas., Katherine Owen.

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OBITUARIES

JOSEPH AZIZ, husband of Agia Aziz, brother of Assaf, Abdo, Moses and Geo. Aziz, passed away March 2, at Toronto, Ontario.

BAHIA J. TABBAK, mother of Edward, Antoinette, Saleem and Leyla Tabbak, passed away March 2, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

CORRECTED NOTICE

YAZDA ASFOUR KOURBAGE, native of Damascus, Syria, whose deceased husband, Rasheed Kourbage, was a native of Zahleh, Lebanon, passed away at her home in Brooklyn, N. Y., on January 3, 1949. Survivors are three sons and a daughter: Joseph, Alice, John and Fred Kourbage and a sister, Mrs. Basil Shamiah, of 450 95th St., Brooklyn. Other immediate survivors are: Michael Nasser, Habeeb Kourbage, the Numairs and Kawajas of Brooklyn and the Caraboolads of Cleveland, Ohio.

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Third National Convention — Thirteenth Annual Meeting

of the

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SYRIAN AND LEBANON CLUBS

Headquarters

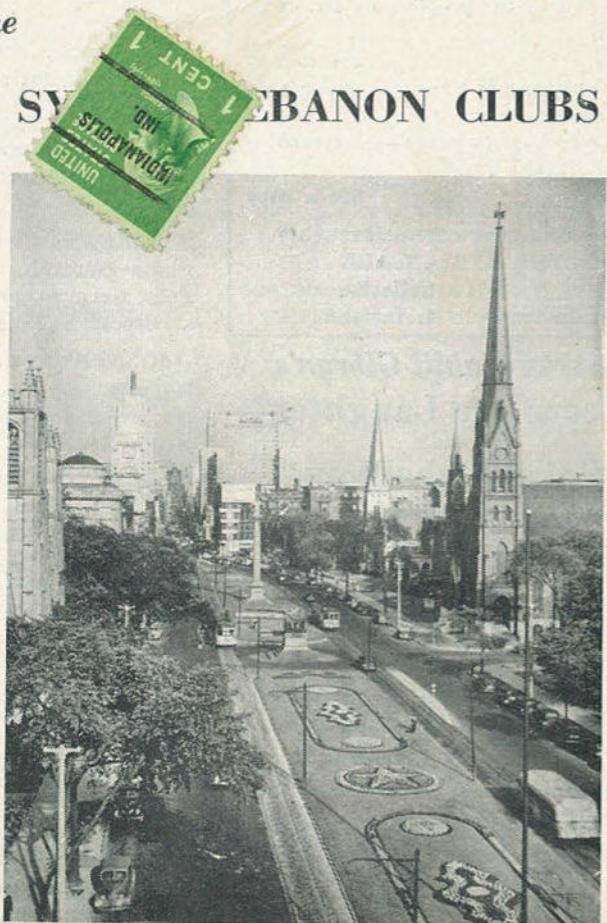
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JULY 28, 29, 30 and 31,
1949

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Combined with the LEBANON VOICE, Albany, N. Y., and the SYRIAN HERALD, Washington, D. C.

APRIL, 1949

A. Frederick Zainey, Editor, Indianapolis, Indiana

VOLUME XIII, No. 8

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SIOUX CITY, IOWA

"Where the Tall Corn Grows"

By MISS MARIE NASSER

Seeing is believing and spring is finally here—buds are lazily popping out on tree tops and a new spirit of life enhances us. The writers say that spring is the time when every man's fancy turns to love; others say it is the time when a woman's dream is her Easter bonnet, and so go the sayings and so goes life.

A great brotherly love was displayed by the Syrian American League March 30th when the club sponsored a benefit party in behalf of the American Cancer Society. Floyd David, a member of the board of directors for the Woodbury County Chapter of the society, was general chairman of the social event, the success of which has merited endless praise for the club's all-out aggressiveness in civic welfare undertakings.

The LeBan Club braved another bowling party March 20. No injuries and no casualties but a number of strikes and spares earmarked the party. Top woman bowler was Mrs. Clara Macy and Mike Courey piled up the most scores for the men. Mary Louise Coury and Mrs. Clara Macy took care of arrangements.

Beating the forecast of April showers, expectant mothers took the limelight in the course of social events during March. On March 10th, Mrs. S. G. Rehal was honored with a surprise dinner party by friends at the Charles Coury residence. The hostess, Mrs. Charles Coury, with the assistance of the co-hostesses, served dinner to the 30 guests present at dining room tables attractively appointed with favors in pink and blue color scheme and tiny flowers in miniature baby stroller vases forming the table centerpieces.

On March 17th, Mrs. Emil Samore was entertained with a shower by Rose Yanney, Mrs. Fred Alberts and Miss Tillie Samore. The Stork must have been eavesdropping for on March 25th, a tiny mite of a fellow tagged Lee Thomas was annexed to the Emil Samore family. Mrs. Samore is the former Josephine Yanney.

When Mrs. Joe Hanna returned from a recent trip, she brought her husband a real souvenir. Joe didn't mind receiving a doll souvenir since the little eleven day old doll had become his son with the name Craig Joseph. A surprise dinner party shower March 3rd and a shower on March 22nd extended a cor-

dial greeting to the little newcomer. Mrs. Hanna is the former Louise Joseph.

If you can't sell it, give it away. Some business attitude to take but it was all in a day's work at the LeBan's stupendous and fashionable rummage sale March 19th. The novel club venture in reality was a light comedy with real mementos for the books. Now the "Merchant of Venice" can be rewritten to fit modern trends with Alma Coury, Rog, Betty and Jeanine Solomon, Katie and Abe Ferris the co-authors.

Freda George can now sing about working on the railroad in all sincerity. Freda now holds an ace position in the Milwaukee R. R. office.

Hold on there, Abe Skaff—take your choice, Sigmund Romberg or Gladys David. (This guy has influence; he gets both.)

When Lent is over, the Lord is going to have to pass out some halos. Imagine Rog Solomon's not having sweat out a single poker hand for 40 days and Eli Coury on the wagon all during Lent.

Roy Headid can take the long way home now in his new Hudson and drop in on our Chicago neighbors in Illinois. What's a few miles!

Gene Headid also spent a few days at home. Gene is making a fine showing at Wentworth Military Academy and is scheduled for three academy band trips soon.

Mrs. D. Zakaib and son Mike of Montreal, Can., spent some time in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Floyd David this past month.

Woman of the Month: Rain or shine, it's a woman every time! We've all heard of "Life with Father," but you haven't heard anything until you have heard of "Life with Mary." If I could write a biography of Mary Hanna, Sr., you'd have a glimpse of life at its fullest. She'll take you swimming, horseback riding, bicycling or bowling, or she'll engage you in a good game of tennis, basketball or volleyball. An all around gal, she holds the office of secretary in the Crusader Club, is secretary-treasurer of the V-8 Club, masters a church Sunday school class and is an old faithful member of the girls church choir. You can't hold her down and you can't keep up with her fine leadership and initiative—so we are still behind you, Mary.

Time for digging . . . gardens and stuff like that there!

Katie and Abe Ferris have claimed a new little love nest on Glenn Avenue and the young couple is completely settled. Now, all Abe needs is a little helper to help plant the grass!

Everyone had better be ready to duck on baking day at the Skaff house. Mrs. Jim Yanney is learning the art of "slinging" Syrian bread.

The new Park-A-Baby, Inc., would be real enticing if Mike Courey could be the caretaker and they were all blondes.

Floral business is really blooming for the Ferris Florists. It's nice when the buds blossom out into a Cadillac and a new diamond ring!

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OBITUARY

ABRAHAM J. BASSETT, age 63, native of Kfeir, Lebanon, former resident of Williamson, W. Va., passed away March 28th at Columbus, Ohio, where he was the proprietor of the Towne Tavern in the Ohio capital.

Funeral services were held at the Trinity Episcopal Church in Columbus. He was a member of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Upper Arlington Civic Association and the Men's Club of the Trinity Episcopal Church. He also belonged to the Blue Lodge of Masons, Royal Arch of Williamson, and Beni-Kedem Shrine of Charleston, W. Va.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Rahija Bassett; a son, Abraham, Jr., a student at Bowling Green University; five daughters, the Misses Gladys, Selma and Wadad Bassett and Mrs. William Scott, all of Columbus, and Mrs. John Rutherford of San Carlos, Calif.; two brothers, Sam of Blissfield, Mich., and Frank of Detroit; a sister, Mrs. M. H. Bassett of Napoleon, Ohio; his mother, Mrs. Jacob Bassett of Blissfield, Mich., and two grandchildren.

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The SYRIAN ARK

Published monthly by A. F. Zainey, Editor, 605 North LaSalle Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, U. S. A. Subscription rates \$3.00 a year in United States and possessions. Two years for \$5. \$3 a year in Canada and elsewhere. (Entered as second-class matter January 31, 1938, at the post office at Indianapolis, Indiana, under the Act of March 3, 1879.)

VILLAIN OF BEIRUT HANGS FOR SIX MURDERS; 20,000 WITNESS HANGING OF CHURCH ROBBER; FELON TRIES TO THE LAST TO GIVE SPEECH

By BESHIR NOON

Beirut Correspondent for the Chicago Tribune

BEIRUT, Lebanon, March 26—Before a crowd of more than 20,000 persons assembled to watch the execution of his sentence, a confessed murderer of six persons—the most celebrated criminal produced by this nation in this post-war era—fought with his hangmen on the gallows.

Except as a contribution to the excitement of the throng his struggles were useless. He was overpowered and hanged. This correspondent was an eyewitness to the dramatic scene, which took place recently in the public square of this capital city of the Republic of Lebanon.

The doomed man was not trying to escape. He merely wished to gain some time so he could make a speech from the gallows. He believed—and there have been precedents in other executions which indicate he may have been partially right—that when a man about to be hanged wants to deliver a harangue his executioners ought to stand by patiently and let him talk himself out.

Unfortunately the executioners did not agree with him, nor did the attorney general, who stood near the gallows holding the death warrant. Clad in the white, shroudlike garment which condemned felons are required to wear, the prisoner fended off the hangman while he pleaded with the attorney general to intervene.

"You have no right to prevent me from speaking," he protested.

"It is too late," the official responded. "The time set for your execution has arrived." He waved to the hangman to proceed.

"It is your fault," the criminal screamed. "Why did you not wake me earlier?"

These were his last words. The trap was sprung, the body plunged downward, and the roar of the crowd, already so loud that few had heard him, became deafening.

In this manner, the career of Victor Hanna Awwad, 38, a humble charcoal dealer of Beirut, who embarked on a campaign of murder to get money for the support of his wife and daughter, came to its end.

A final dramatic incident was supplied by Awwad's aunt, whose son, Joseph—cousin of the condemned man—had been one of the murder victims. In sombre black as a mark of mourning for her son, the woman broke from the crowd, approached the swaying body, and shouted:

"God has revenged my son. God is just."

When physicians, listening with stethoscopes for Awwad's heartbeats found him dead, the woman broke into the traditional cheers given by Arabs at wedding parties.

Awwad had been anxious prior to his execution to impress officials with his bravery. When they came for him in his cell at dawn, he greeted them with dignity and composure. He was led to the office of the director of the prison where in a firm voice he dictated a will leaving his ring to his wife and his bed to fellow prisoners.

"This is all I own in this world," he said.

He was escorted to an automobile guarded by 20 gendarmes. He waved to them crying, "Halloo, brethren." He noticed when he took his seat in the car that he was trembling. He flushed with shame and pleaded with his guards not to conclude that the trembling was due to fear. "It is from cold," he said.

Appreciates a Good House

On arrival at the square, he took obvious pleasure at the size of the crowd. He was kept in the car for 15 minutes while police cleared a path to the gallows.

When he was conducted to the base of the gallows, he interrupted an effort by the attorney general to read the death warrant.

"Don't worry, Bey," he called out, "all you want to say is true. I am not denying my crimes."

He climbed nimbly up the steps of the gruesome structure, apparently intent only on gaining a rostrum from which he might make a speech.

"Give me your ears, brethren," he pleaded, but noise drowned out the words. He kept doggedly on, mouthing curses at the government of Lebanon for not having devised agencies to care for needy people and the unemployed. His crimes, he said, would never have taken place if the government had done its duty.

Hangman Watches Chance

While Awwad pranced and gesticulated, one of the hangmen danced and dodged behind him, watching for a chance to slip the noose over his head. This so annoyed Awwad that he squared off angrily and threatened to knock the man down unless allowed to continue his speech. It was at this point that others came to the aid of the hangman and the attorney general ordered the hangman to proceed.

Awwad left behind him a detailed and documented confession of six murders. The story of his crimes was not obtained all at once. Rather police dragged it from him piecemeal, obtaining his admission first of one slaying and then of another. In each instance he sought to justify himself by emphasizing his own need and seeking to convince officials that his right to live was greater than that of his victim.

Last Crime First Told

The first confession was the hardest for police. This was a statement on the slaying of his cousin. After he had unburdened himself of his crime, however, he found it easier to talk about earlier criminal forays. Police eventually were able to piece together a chronological story.

A prostitute was his first victim. His motive for the slaying was love. The love, however, was not for the prostitute, whom he had never seen before, but for a maiden of Beirut of his own station with whom he had become enamored and whom he hoped to make his wife.

"I had to find a way to make money in order to get married," he explained. "I was practically penniless. I decided that the best way would be to kill a prostitute and get her jewels. I also thought that this would not constitute a great sin. I would get what I needed and at the same time save the woman from the miserable life her misfortune had led her into."

Becomes Paying Guest

Awwad armed himself with a razor and went into the prostitutes' quarter of the city looking for a victim. He surveyed one who wore more bracelets and rings than the others. Her name was Antoinette Najarian. She agreed to his proposal that he be her guest for the night, naming 35 Lebanon pounds as her fee. A Lebanon pound is equivalent to about 25 cents in United States coin.

"We went into her apartment and locked the door," Awwad related. "I pretended I was tired and wanted to sleep. Antoinette also slept. Sometime later I opened my eyes. I took the razor from my pocket and without losing much time I cut her neck from one ear to the other and absolutely no noise was heard.

"I then washed my hands, dressed and waited," he said, "until 6 a. m., when I opened the door and went quietly, carrying with me all the jewels and money Antoinette happened to have."

Police Pay Little Heed

Awwad watched the newspapers but the slaying of Antoinette created little stir. Convinced that he had not been linked in any way with the crime by the police he discreetly disposed of his loot. With the proceeds he opened a charcoal shop and began work as an honest merchant. He married the girl of his dreams.

Awwad found that making a living as an honest man was a hard job. After a child was born to his marriage he found that "what I made from my work was not enough to cover the expenses of the most primitive life we were living."

He turned again to murder, this time selecting a woman of 70, Emelie Aintoury, formerly of the Lebanon town of Tripoli, who had quarreled with her daughter-in-law there and had come to live with an old friend, Mrs. Hanne Ghanem, 73, neighbor to the Awwad family.

He Rationalizes Sin

"I knew Emelie had some money," Awwad said. "I told myself that to kill such an old woman, approaching the end of her life, for the sake of my wife and little baby, cannot constitute a big sin."

Fortified by this reasoning, he made plans to slay Emelie. It occurred to him that the presence of Emelie's hostess, Mrs. Ghanem, would be an obstacle unless he could enlist her as an accomplice.

He went to Mrs. Ghanem and discussed his project with her frankly. If she would leave him alone in the house with Emelie for a short time, he proposed, he would kill Emelie, dispose of her body, and divide her fortune with Mrs. Ghanem.

This sounded attractive to Mrs. Ghanem but she expressed fear the crime might be traced to them.

Friend Deserts Victim

"I told her not to worry," Awwad said. He explained he would go to Tripoli after the slaying and send back a telegram in Emelie's name stating she had returned safely to her own home. This sounded like a good plan to Mrs. Ghanem. She agreed and gave Awwad his chance to be alone in her home with Emelie.

Awwad used his razor to slit Emelie's throat. He dismembered the body and stuffed the pieces into sacks of charcoal. As his business required him to wheel a barrow loaded with charcoal sacks through the streets he had no difficulty in getting rid of the corpse. He simply trundled his barrow to the seashore, waited for an outgoing tide, and threw the sacks into the sea.

Dead Tongues Silent

Mrs. Ghanem was next on his murder list. Awwad began to worry that she would not be able to keep their secret. He read in newspapers that portions of a woman's body had been washed ashore near Jounieh, a few miles north of Beirut. He grew apprehensive that police might connect this woman with the missing Emelie and might subject Mrs. Ghanem to questioning.

"I decided to kill Hanne Ghanem as well, so I could sleep quietly," he said. Never a man to ponder long over such matters, he took his razor and paid her a visit. She also ended up in bags of charcoal.

When Awwad had spent the proceeds of these crimes he looked around him for more victims. He thought of his cousin, Joseph Khalife Awwad, a hard working employee of a local goldsmith. He knew that Joseph had little or no money of his own, but was aware his cousin had access to valuable jewels.

Joseph disappeared last December 18. Two of the persons who missed him reported the disappearance to police. One was his wife, Loulou Awwad. The other was Elias Hakim, the goldsmith who employed him.

Mrs. Awwad said she was worried because her husband had not come home from work the night before. The goldsmith said Joseph had left the shop the previous day with jewels worth 200 gold pounds. He added he did not suspect Joseph, a trustworthy employee for 16 years, of theft but feared he might have become a victim of foul play.

The police investigation disclosed that Joseph had left jewels worth 50 gold pounds locked in his worktable at Hakim's shop. This strengthened the theory that Joseph was a victim of crime. The police reasoned that if he had been planning to rob his employer he would have taken all valuables he could lay his hands on.

Inquiry at the shop disclosed Joseph had told other workers he intended to show a quantity of jewels to four Moslem ladies from Egypt whom a cousin had told him about and offered to put him in touch with.

Talk Betrays Killer

Police learned that Joseph had four cousins. All were arrested and questioned. One of them, Victor Hanna Awwad, the charcoal dealer, behaved so oddly under questioning and told such a confused and conflicting story in trying to account for his movements at the time of Joseph's disappearance that police suspicion centered definitely upon him.

After 11 hours of continuous interrogation Awwad broke down and admitted he had killed Joseph.

He had gone to his cousin, he said, with the false story that four women who had arrived recently from Egypt had asked him where they could find some good jewels. He had arranged for Joseph to bring a large selection of jewels to the charcoal shop.

Intent on making a large sale for his employer, Joseph took a quantity of jewels to his cousin's place of business.

"MILWAUKEE" Your Convention City

All-out preparations are in full progress for the Third National Convention, (Thirteenth Annual Meeting) of the Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 28, 29, 30 and 31, 1949, with headquarters at the Hotel Schroeder.

About 10,000 delegates and guests, representing 76 organizations from 13 States and Canada will attend this grand Milwaukee Convention. Representatives of the Eastern, Southern and Western Federations of American Syrian-Lebanon Clubs will also be present.

The host clubs of Milwaukee are the Syrian American Club, the Syrian American Ladies Club, St. George's Altar Society and the young girls' club, the "JUGS."

The Convention Committee officers elected by the host clubs are Marshall Arrieh, General Chairman; Sam Audi, General Co-Chairman; James Arrieh, Executive Director; George Nemoir, Secretary, and James Herro, Treasurer.

The Convention Committee Chairmen of subcommittees are Nick Nemoir, Beauty Contest; Nicholas Massruha, Business and Professional Men's Luncheon; Mrs. Sophie Nicholas, Flowers; Mrs. Rose Herro, Food; Floyd Hydar, Club-

house Activities; Harry Herro, Friday Night Mixer; Charles Anthony, Grand Ball; Mrs. Selma Herro, Grand Banquet; Milton Frenn, Housing and Information; Abraham Zaitoon, Program Advertising; Mrs. Lucille Elias, Publicity; Baraket Herro, Purchasing; Miss Yvonne Arrieh, Reception; Dr. James Barrock, Refreshments; George Barrock, Registration; Edward Metrie, Sports Events; Mrs. Wedad Frenn, Syrian Entertainment, and Joseph H. Herro, Testimonial Dinner.

The officers of the Federation who will preside at the convention business sessions are Joseph G. Rashid, President, Detroit; Marshall Arrieh, First Vice-President, Milwaukee; Fred Salem, Second Vice-President, Huntington, W. Va.; Mrs. W. S. Zarick, Secretary, Indianapolis, Ind., and William Abboud, Treasurer, Omaha.

The Federation was organized in 1936 at its first convention in Indianapolis. It was then called the Mid-West Federation of Syrian American Clubs. Again in Indianapolis in 1946 it became the first nation-wide organization in the United States to represent peoples of Syrian, Lebanon and other Arab origins under its present title, the Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs. The purposes of the Federation are primarily social, educational and charitable.

The Syrian American Club of Milwaukee, a fraternal and charitable corporation, has been in existence for 34 years. Its present officers are Charles Anthony, President; Baraket Herro, Vice-President; Nicholas Massruha, Secretary; Anthony Elias, Correspondence Secretary; George H. Herro, Treasurer; Fred Trad, Guard, and the Trustees are Sam Audi, Chairman; George Nemoir and Joseph H. Herro. The organization owns its own club house at 4001 W. Highland Blvd., Milwaukee.

The Syrian American Ladies Club of Milwaukee, a social and charitable corporation, has been in existence for 32 years, and it shares with the Men's Club the use and enjoyment of their club house. Its present officers are Mrs. Selma Herro, President; Mrs. Helen Arrieh, Vice-President; Miss Victoria Hamra, Secretary, Mrs. Wadia Nabkey, Treasurer, and the Trustees are Mrs. Eva Nabkey, Chairman; and Mrs. Lulu Hydar and Mrs. Isabelle Hausmann.

SYRIAN SO-FRA CLUB Indianapolis, Ind.

President Mitchell, Freije; Vice-President, Thomas Watters; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Freije; Corresponding Secretary, Anne Ajamie; Treasurer, Mrs. James Leeds.

Tells of Church Slaying

On this occasion he was awakened at 4 a. m. by the attorney general who informed him the president of the republic had refused his appeal for commutation of the sentence. He was ordered to get dressed.

Awwad bathed, combed his hair, dressed and knelt before a Maronite priest to receive the sacrament of the dying. As he was about to be led away, he called the attorney general to him.

"Since every hope of saving my neck is gone," he said, "I must now tell you that I have also killed the servant and his wife of the St. Andreas Greek Orthodox Church in Homs, Syria."

The attorney general informed the minister of justice of this new confession. The execution was postponed and Awwad was taken the next day to Homs, where he convinced authorities he was telling the truth.

He had gone to Homs in the hope of finding work, he said, but when he failed to do so he decided he would not return to Beirut without something to show for the journey.

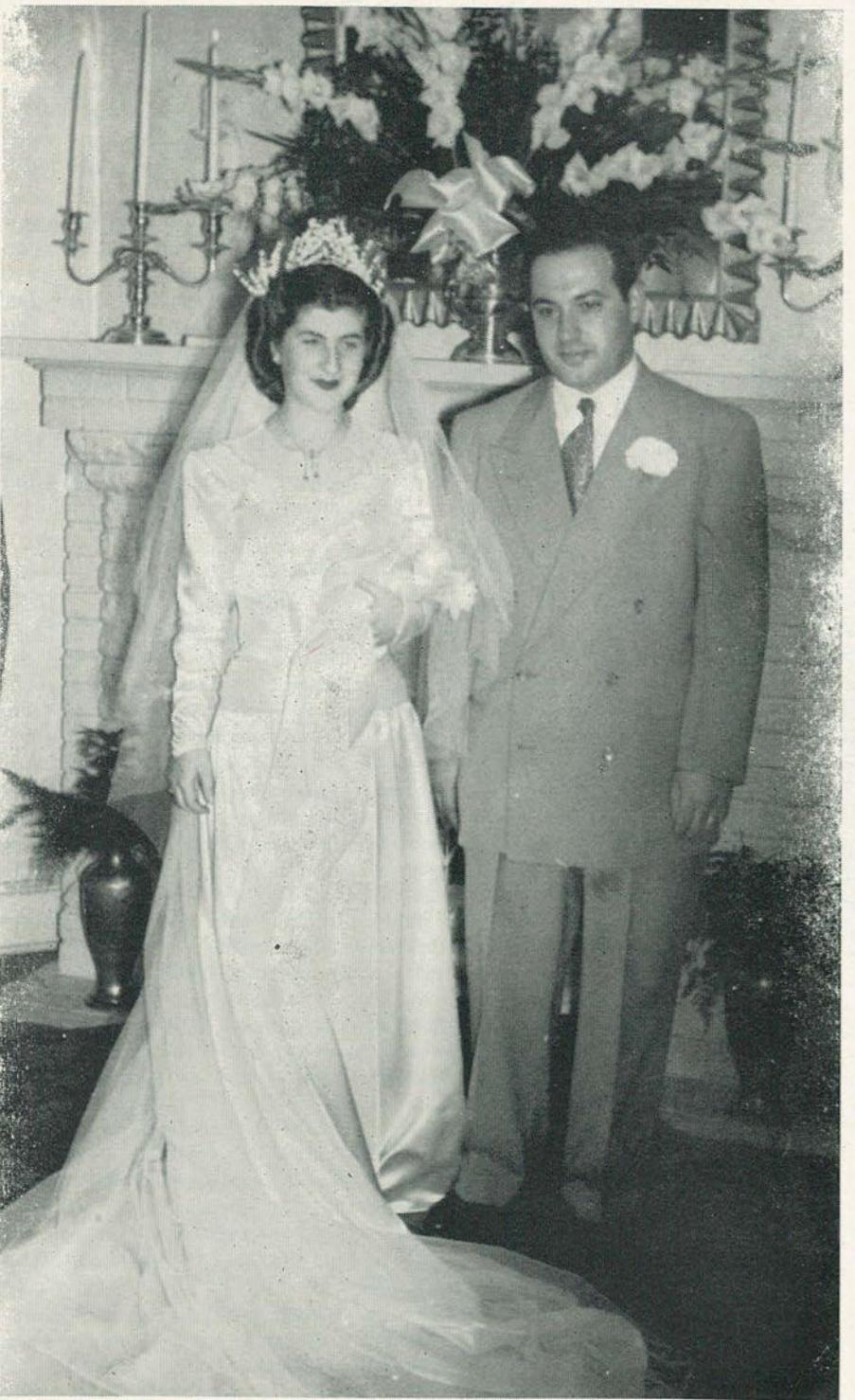
"I thought that the best thing would be to steal from a church," he said, "but not a Maronite one. I therefore went to the Orthodox church."

He showed investigators how he had entered the church yard, killed the servant, or janitor, and his wife, and helped himself to the golden presents hung on the images of the saints. He returned to Beirut by train the same night, he said, without ever being suspected of the crime.

Awwad was brought again before the tribunal that first had convicted him. Evidence of the new crimes was heard and the death sentence was reaffirmed. This time there was no delay.

SWEETHEART OF MARJ'AYOUN, LEBANON

Kouri-Abraham Marriage Rites Performed
At Wichita Falls



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL J. KOURI

Nuptial services of impressive dignity were performed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kouri at Wichita Falls, Texas, uniting their son, Samuel J. Kouri, and Miss Laurice Abraham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Abraham of Marj'ayoun,

Lebanon. The Kouris are also natives of Marj'ayoun. Dr. Robert L. Cowan, pastor of the First Southern Presbyterian Church, directed the couple in their exchange of vows.

Members of the bridal party stood be-

fore the fireplace in the living room which featured a mantel decoration of white gladiolus and fern in a silver urn. White tapers burned in silver candelabra placed in flanking positions. After the marriage lines were recited, the couple knelt on a white prayer bench flanked by spreading arrangements of fern fronds in tall brass urns.

Sam S. Kouri gave the bride in marriage. She wore a traditional dress of white satin featuring a full, flowing train. Of unusual design, the dress was fashioned with a marquisette yoke ending with a wide band of seed pearls and tiny bugle beads; long, fitted sleeves extending into points over the hands, and a closely fitted bodice featuring a high-fashioned pleated pannier effect where it joined the skirt. Her veil was a triple tier of French illusion extending from a halo of lilies-of-the-valley. For "something old," she wore a delicate old-fashioned lavalier made of gold and pearls, a gift of her mother. She completed her costume by carrying a bouquet of white rosebuds.

Matron of honor for the bride was Mrs. Jimmy Horany of Austin, Texas. She wore a gown of white crepe complemented by a hair ornament and bouquet of red rosebuds.

Best man for his brother was Sammie W. Kouri, of Wichita Falls.

Music for the ceremony included "Because," "I Love Thee" plus the traditional processional and recessional compositions of Wagner and Mendelssohn.

Immediately after the wedding, the bride's cake was cut and served from a table, covered with a handsome Madeira cloth, decorated with white snapdragons and flanked by white candles burning in branched holders. Fern fronds and snapdragon blossoms also were used to form a garland encircling the three-tiered cake.

Mrs. Jimmy Horany, sister of the groom, presided at the cake while the ice course was served by Mrs. Ed Kouri of Oklahoma City. They were assisted by Mrs. S. Kouri of Sweetwater, Texas.

The informal reception preceded the departure of the bride and groom for a honeymoon in South Texas, the former traveling in a gray gabardine suit with which she wore black and pink accessories and a corsage of pink rosebuds.

The couple are now at Wichita Falls for permanent residence.

KHALIFA - SICKERY

Grand Rapids, Mich., May 8—Mrs. Fadwa Khalifa announces the wedding of her daughter, Josephine, to Edward Sickery, son of Mr. and Mrs. Farris Sickery.

"DANCE AND GROW SLENDER" BY RADIO

Streamlining With Congo and Rhumba Introduced
by Paul Shahin

"MAY WE HAVE THIS DANCE?" might well phrase the gracious invitations to be sent out by our several Federations to the conventioners at the forthcoming conclaves during the coming summer months.

Paul Shahin, who ranks foremost as a dancing instructor, physical culture teacher, composer of music and radio commentator, will feature his famous program, "Dance and Grow Slender," by radio at the Milwaukee Convention next July.

Mr. Shahin has a wide diversity of talents. Long before he organized classes in Chicago where he now maintains pent-house studios, he had a studio at Palm Beach, Fla., and served as dancing master at two of that winter resort's most prominent hotels. In 1930, Mr. Shahin made the prediction that America's dancing public would turn to the slow dignified dance types, and that the Rhumba and Tango would come into their own. He introduced the idea of personal appearances to demonstrate these dances, wrote articles which were published in leading dance magazines, and so clarified the Rhumba and the Tango that they became simple to learn and easy to teach.

Mr. Shahin is a master of ballroom instruction and an expert in physical culture, and has combined the principle of the one field to secure results in the other art. In 1939 he originated and conducted the program, "Dance and Grow Slender," over radio Station WBBM (Chicago). This program combined dancing instructions and health exercises.

Conga and Rhumba found a new mark when the Latin-American styled entertainment was introduced by Paul Shahin, whose reputation as an exponent of the "South of the Border" dance art was already well established. His dance feature programs have taken an interest which included not only the personal step-and-bump instruction by Shahin but a genuine attention devoted to the sparkling, fun-giving specialties as well.

Mr. Shahin personally instructs the dancing "classes" . . . with comedy as well as gainful ideas in the Latin dance art. Another Shahin idea is the play-a-South American instrument novelty. He lines a dozen or more members from his classes around the bandstand—each having an authentic South American musical instrument. Mr. Shahin is now preparing a television show and movie



PAUL SHEAHIN

short using 24 beautiful girls on his DANCE AND GROW SLENDER idea. This feature is being sponsored on his own half-hour show over radio station WGN every Saturday.

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

"On the Banks of the Wabash"
By MISS HELEN COREY

Terre Haute Syrians are beaming with pride over the headway being made by our local talent. On top of the list is 11-year-old Tony Nasser who has already received praises from Talent Scout on Horace Heidt's show. Tony appeared on the Horace Heidt show on March 17 and rendered two piano selections. He was chosen with four others from a group of 300 contestants.

On the social side of the calendar, the St. George Church Choir sponsored a dance on March 6 at the newly decorated Hi-Hat Club. The place was lively with the rhythmic music of the Royal Syncopators and that jivin' man Dunbar who put on a spirited floor show. The jitterbug contest was tied, with winners being none other than "hep cats" George and Evonne Joseph of Indianapolis and Alex Corey, Jr. and Adele Joseph of Brazil, Ind. Walking away with the raffle prizes were Beverly "Shahadey" (for those that are still wondering the name is still Rassi) and Nickie Ferris of Indianapolis. Miss Sarah Corey also gave a fine vocal rendition of "Miserlou" in Arabic. We take our hats off to Indianapolis this time after winning the

afternoon basketball game. That was quite a cheering section we had with the leadership of Shorty Brown, who incidentally deserved the door prize she won. Following the game a buffet luncheon was served to the out-of-town guests in the Church Hall.

Also getting socially minded are the Sigma Lambda Zeta Sorority members who held their installation of officers banquet recently at the Golden Pheasant Club. New officers installed were Lillian George, President; Helen Corey, Secretary; Martha Maloof, Treasurer; Mrs. James Corey, Chaplain. Mrs. Jack Watson, past president, spoke to Sorority members on "Friendship."

Off the Record . . . correction!! The name that makes Monroe's face light up begins with E and not Y . . . someone sent in a tip about Joe M's frequent trips to 'Nap town and I quote "could be J."? . . . from what I hear Sergio is singing "3 loves have I" or "Can't Make Up My Mind" . . . the Greencastle isn't near, the spark is still here, says Bob. . . . Romance with S. C. has led Charles K. to a new store—everyone's asking when? . . . Joan M. was very alluring when last seen with 'Nap town's John K. . . . Charlie S. says he doesn't remember certain portions of the dance —did the booze have anything to do with it?? . . . Rachel and Mary didn't do so bad with the State Boys—cute two kids . . . we'll all want some chop suey some day after the raving from T. H.'s always 3-some couples who had a hand in it at home of Jim and Freda . . . the Stork stayed home and let Elaine help with the eats . . . a little late but Marion got what she wanted when she sang "All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth" . . . in bidding you adieu, don't forget that anyone is entitled to share their information, gossip and suggestions by dropping me a line at 1403 S. 13th Street, Terre Haute.

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CAPITOL HIGHLIGHTS

By GLORIA SAMAH FADOU

Arkansan Offers Simple Plan Designed to Save Home-Owner

A plan he claims would prevent the home owner from losing his home in the event of a depression and a drop in real estate prices was presented to interested government officials recently by Farris Simon Saliba of Blytheville, Ark. (native of B'Tigreen, Lebanon).

Mr. Simon, a Blytheville real estate man, builder and developer for 32 years, took time out from opening a new subdivision to come to Washington to sell his plan.

Accompanied by Representative Gathings (D., Ark.), Mr. Simon called on Burton C. Bovard, general counsel of the Federal Housing Administration, and B. T. Fitzpatrick, general counsel of the over-all government home financing agency, to explain his plan. Both officials showed great interest, as did Representative Spence (D., Ky.), chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee.

The plan, as explained by Mr. Simon, is a simple one, but he claims it would prevent the Government from having to foreclose on thousands of homes if real estate prices decline.

The idea is for the FHA to extend to the borrower the same insurance protection it now gives the banks who lends the money on a loan guaranteed by FHA.

"The home owner pays the charge for the banker's protection, so why shouldn't he be protected?" is Mr. Simon's clinching argument.

Under his plan the purchaser of an \$8,000 house pays \$1,000 down and borrows \$7,000 from the FHA. He pays about \$50 a month at an interest rate of 4 per cent, plus one-half of 1 per cent for insurance to protect the lending agent.

"Say times get hard and the home owner can't meet his \$50-a-month payments," Mr. Simon explains. "Instead of foreclosing, the FHA would decide how much he could pay, say \$40, and then pay the additional \$10 out of the fund built up by the insurance payments. This would please the lending agent also, for if the house was foreclosed the FHA would take over his mortgage and give him a bond bearing only 2 per cent interest for the amount."

Solution for Shortage

Mr. Simon says that at present builders are reluctant to go ahead with new construction, but that if given this little extra encouragement they would start a building program that soon would eliminate the troublesome housing shortage.



Farris Simon Saliba
B'Tigreen, Lebanon

It provided for cutting the value of gold in half, paying cotton farmers 15 cents a pound for what they had on hand, and paying wheat farmers \$1 a bushel, and other producers in proportion, putting the farmer under Government control with a strict limitation on what he could plant. The plan also called for the Government to sell half of the cotton it owned in this country at 20 cents a pound and the other half to Europe for 10 cents a pound. The final point was to cut all debts 50 per cent. Those holding mortgages would have held the same collateral, but at reduced prices.

President Hoover thanked Mr. Simon for his ideas and then, apparently, promptly pushed them aside. At least none of them were put into practice.

"The program put into effect by President Roosevelt when he took office in 1933 was practically the same as mine," Mr. Simon says, "but it was called the New Deal. That was alright with me, as I was not seeking a thing but benefit for my country."

Born in Lebanon, Mr. Simon came to this country as a youth of 18.

"I didn't come to make money," he says, "but was prompted by an inner spirit. That same spirit prompted me in 1914 and again in 1932. It is driving me now. I only hope that I have been chosen to present a plan that will benefit the home owners and would-be home owners of my country."

Rubayat Of Abu-Tayeb al-Mutanabi

Translated Into English by
AMIN BEDER
"Every Verse A Gem"

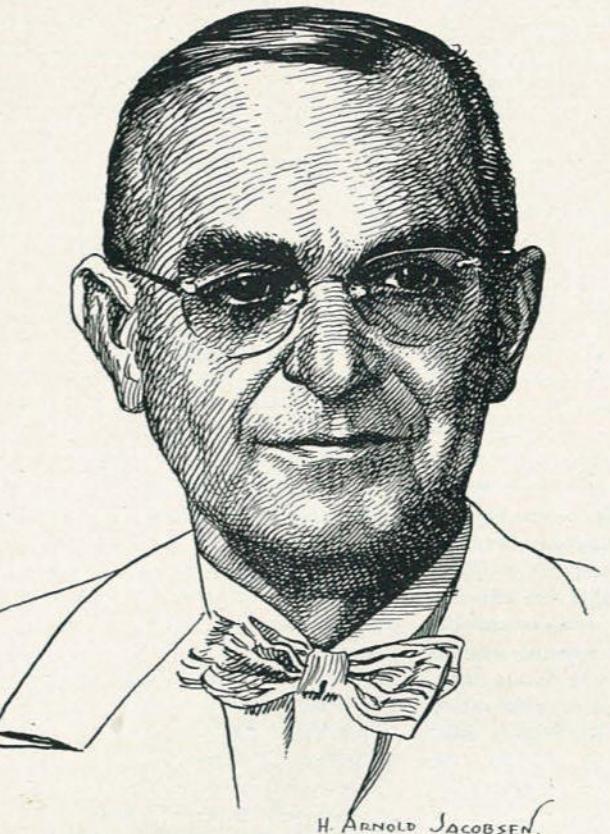
These verses, written over a thousand years ago by the Arabic (prophet) poet, predecessor of Omar Khayyam, reveal a philosophy of living that is as wholesome and challenging today as they were to his followers.

After a hectic day in your office take a copy of this book and read it. You can lose yourself in the magic of the immortal lines. You will rise from your reading, refreshed and wiser in the ways of your life's tasks with renewed vigor and courage.

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NATIVE OF LEBANON GRANTED DRILLING RIGHTS IN SYRIA



H. ARNOLD JACOBSEN

James W. Menhall of Illinois Plans \$100,000,000 Firm

A Syrian-born midwesterner who entered the oil industry only 13 years ago told of his plans to form a \$100,000,000 company to tap the oil reserves of his mother country.

Salaam from St. Paul, Minn.

By Miss Lucille Ablan

An Orthodox Youth Club sponsored bunco party was held in the St. George Hall on March 6. Refreshments were served to the guests. All seemed to be enjoying the evening. On March 9, the OYC business meeting resulted in the appointment of committees and committee chairmen who will cause plans to get underway for the third annual installation ball and banquet. The gala affair will be held in June. Further particulars will be reported as they develop.

Roger Ziton, pres.; Jimmy Awada, v.p.; Barbara Awada, sec'y.; and Dexter Ziton, treas.; are the first officers of the newly organized Junior Youth Club of the St. George Orthodox Church. The enthused youngsters, who are doing remarkably well, say their purpose is to learn leadership, brotherhood and cooperation. Meetings are held every Monday evening.

Steaming chicken-yakna will be the main dish served at the Junior Pioneer

James W. Menhall, 62 years old, native of Zahleh, Lebanon, and owner of the J. W. Menhall Drilling Company at Benton, Ill., and now an American citizen, has been granted a 70-year 22,100-square mile concession in the Middle East by the Syrian Government.

Mr. Menhall reports that there was no doubt that the company would strike oil.

"That country is all asphalt mountains that had to come from somewhere," he said. "We're going to strike oil there all right."

"They told me when I began these negotiations that Syria would never give the concession to a little guy from Benton, Ill. But they wanted to deal with someone from their own country."

Menhall said a group of "about 10 independent operators" would meet in New York City in April to complete the organization of the Syrian-American Oil & Gas Co.

He said half the stock would be controlled by this group of American investors and the other \$50,000,000 would be sold to Syrian investors.

The Syrian Government will get a one-eighth royalty under the terms agreed on.

Menhall said the Syrian Government had sent for him about a year ago to open negotiations. He has since made three trips to the Middle East country.

He returned to America last February after reaching the agreement in the president's palace there. He said that he spent 40 days in the five-year-old republic on his last trip, meeting at least every other day with the president or his ministers.

Menhall formerly operated the Highway Trailer Company at Edgerton, Wis., manufacturers of post-digging equipment, before entering the oil business at Centralia, Ill., in 1936.

About four years ago he came to Benton, Ill., a city of 8,000 located about 80 miles southeast of St. Louis. His company now has "around 75 or 80" oil wells in southern Illinois, he said.

Menhall's family came to this country from Syria when he was four years old. He became an American citizen while still a minor upon the granting of citizenship to his father.

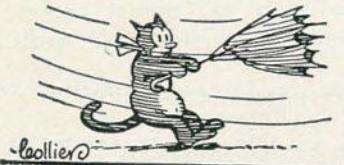
of Arabic descent in St. Paul and nearby towns is the revival of the United Syrian American Aid Society. A group of a few Syrian men decided the time had come for the revival of the dormant society whose aims and purposes are most noble.

The meeting of March 13 called by the first group brought a gratifying response of older and young men who were anxious to support such a non-sectarian club. Doctor Yahya Aramjani, Prof. of Middle East History at Macalester College helped to further the enthusiasm and feeling of duty already burning brightly. Another speaker was Judge Wm. Cody of Detroit, Michigan, whose presence in St. Paul coincided with the meeting time, spoke on the need for progress. New by-laws are being drafted by the committee appointed by the temporary chairman.

A. U. B. ALUMNI New York

President, Dr. William Shehadi; Vice-President, Nasri Khattar; Secretary, Edward Jurji; Treasurer, Dr. G. C. Shamie.

MANHATTAN MEOWS



with a baby brother. . . . Joe Zraick was at the Methodist Episcopal Hospital for observation on his back . . . he is home now and the doctor said it was a dislocated disc . . . good luck to you, Joe . . . Condolences to Adele and Nicholas Macsoud on the death of their brother Wadih in Southern France . . . Nick is en route to France to ascertain the cause of his brother's death. . . . The Question of the month is what happened on Saturday nite, January 29th at Clementine Zalooms? ? ? ? ? The Widows Club had a poker session. . . . The new Syrian Priest is increasing the congregation at St. Mary's . . . let us hope it continues. . . . Syrian Welfare Dance at the Essex House in May should be a sellout with a beauty contest for Syrian girls . . . why not one for the boys? ? ? ? . . . we have seen some cuties . . . girls desiring to enter the contest should contact Doc Baccash at 400 Madison Avenue, New York. . . . Talking about the Essex House, we will never forget the nite we were making down 8th Avenue and because of a defect in the lighting system the first two letters of the name were deleted. . . . Alfred Saddy's wife off to Florida. . . . Mrs. Leo Durocher's next picture, "Twilight," goes before the camera at Nassour Studios. The Hakim Brothers, Robert and Raymond, who have their cash in the story, are getting an excellent cast for Lorraine Day . . . with Franchot Tone and Dane Clark . . . John Macksoud did not send us this from L. A. . . . Frances Farah's honeymoon a one-day flop because of a flop on the ice in Canada . . . the poor kid was brought home from Canada on a stretcher. . . . Teddy Karam now interested in pictures . . . so much that he goes to school (may announce his engagement soon) . . . Wadih Macksoud's home in Southern France was adjacent to that of the Duke of Windsor . . . He dabbled considerably in real estate on the Riveria. . . . Joe Cather has a nice nestegg in Lebanon, worth about 15 G's . . . his cousin, the minister to Mexico, said it would be worth 25 grand if Joe could go there. . . . Angela Jabbour's friend is a fellow named Artie Khoury and a nice guy, too. . . . Vicki Jasmine married a Semite (when we spoke to him we got the impression that he was slightly tinged with Red . . . a la Uncle Joe Stalin). . . . Orchids to Al Sayegh, Edgar Debany, the Zalooms (George, Ernie and Louie) and George Shashaty . . . heard they did a fine job for a charitable organization. . . . Though the congregation has increased at St. Mary's we doubt if the contributions have . . . we saw plenty of nickels on the table. . . . George Boutross set a fine example with his \$20,000 grant with a time pro-

viso on it. . . . His dreams and the dreams of Father Aratingy will never be realized unless the Syrian ladies and men give some of their poker time to the church and help build the parish. . . . Our pal Danny Thomas will be at the Riviera soon—everyone is looking forward to his arrival . . . don't worry, we will be there purring . . . we will see Danny on the screen next in "Bandwagon" with William Powell. . . . George Hamid's story in the Feb. 19th issue of Colliers is good. . . . We all chipped in so one of us could go to the Classy (with a broad A please) dinner at the Waldorf for Dr. Bayard Dodge . . . all we did was donate 100 hard earned bucks (we could deduct it from Income Tax) . . . but it was worth it (we can't forget the 100 bucks). . . . It was a wonderful tribute to a wonderful man who has done so much for the advancement of our people. . . . Gossip was plentiful at this dinner . . . about why a certain consul and his wife (who are involved in a little scandal) did not sit at the head table as other consuls did . . . well here is the inside story . . . rather than overcrowd the main table it was decided at a meeting beforehand that all consuls would sit at a special table and that only the highest representative of each country would sit at the main table . . . well last minute a few of these people couldn't make it and sent substitutes who insisted on being seated at the main table especially the Egyptian gentleman who said that if he couldn't sit there he would leave . . . so you see it was not intentional. . . . Isn't that right, Mitch Haddad? ? ? ? Now aren't you sorry for what you thought? . . . The Junior League St. Patrick's dance was nice . . . for a change no blow-ups . . . only a few new romances which we will announce next month . . . until then we have been sworn to secrecy. . . . How about that relief meeting when the number one Communist of Syria and Lebanon blew his top . . . but then that isn't unusual—he can't get attention in a normal way so he gets it abnormally—after all, he is a big shot . . . or so he thinks . . . better stick to your surgery, big boy, misprint, we mean little boy. . . . The concert given by Mrs. Anis Fuleihan at Carnegie Hall was excellent . . . the surprising note of this event was that there were more foreigners (American People) in the audience than natives of our homeland . . . but for those who missed it, they missed something . . . it was a wonderful performance and Mr. Fuleihan is to be congratulated . . . did you know that pieces composed by Mr. Fuleihan are played by foremost conductors. . . . Our favorite commie attended the concert even after writing a very nasty letter

to Mr. F. . . . we think our "Little Joe" would make a good dishwasher . . . but then it might make his hands instead of his face red . . . how about that? . . . Sounds in the nite . . . at the Mecca—she is the happy go luxury type. . . . At the Damascus—she is so dumb she is the only gal who lost money on a quiz program. . . . And now Georgie Porgie we haven't forgotten you but we want to know who the blonde is who takes your time . . . is she from Sham? . . . if you don't tell us we have ways of finding out, so talk to George Makla or the kittens will purr and purr and you might be sorry if we purr too much . . . we are wonderful detectives, too. . . . Well folksies we will sign off 'til next month, so please misbehave so we can write about you. . . . Watch for the Manhattan Meows next month when we will really do some exposing—we are going to take some of your friends apart . . . it is not our fault because we warned them to BEWARE and we'll purr, purr, purr.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

Lots of laughs coupled with plenty of maza and old Mac Nish, made the George Fatalls party, the shin dig of the month. The party was given in honor of Miss Edna and Bernice Ziton, from St. Paul, Minn. Floor show was directed and staged by Scalper Harris. Door prizes of locks-a-la Skee, are now resting comfortably in the wallets of three young husbands. Camel riders Vic and Vivian Swyden, have traded their tent for a beautiful home in Santa Fe Hills. Congratulations to Joe Hager for the very important promotion as office manager of the Board of Trade. Joe is an eligible bachelor, and says that now, marriage is just a matter of course. Business is a fill-in between parties and trips in Kansas City. Its the wide open spaces of Colorado for Emmaline Harris. If you didn't receive a call from Fritzie Azar, consider your knowledge nil when it comes to cars. That great big smile on Helen Hager's face is from spreads, and we don't mean bedspreads. FAVORITE SAYINGS . . . Gustavus Fatal . . . "Chances are." Helen Hager . . . "See what I mean." Pete Boutross . . . "Everything bil-ulb." Zuzu Boutross . . . "Wanna bet?" Skee Boutross . . . "Pipping hot." Adele Harris . . . "Close the window." Mrs. E. M. Harris . . . "That D. A. C. is terrible." Mrs. Azar . . . "Hi you!" Mrs. Emily Boutross . . . "This world is funny." Albert Harris . . . "Just got a wire." Mrs. Saidy . . . "Laediees." Mitch Harris . . . "See how smart Paetaer is!" Mrs. Ganam . . . "Land sakes alive."

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

By MISS BEVERLY BETHIA

On March 31st at St. George's Syrian Catholic Church a group of Syrian women and young girls prepared and served Syrian dishes to a large group of people from the International Institute. The following names are the ones that were on the committee for preparing the Syrian food: Mrs. Charles Nabkey, Mrs. Joseph Nabkey, Mrs. Charles Herro, Mrs. Louis Herro, Mrs. William Nicholas, Mrs. Mary Nicholas, Mrs. Edward Housey, Mrs. George Nemoir, Mrs. Alex Hamra and Mrs. Milton Frenn. The young ladies who helped were Beverly Bethia, Victoria Hamra, June, Charlotte and Sue Herro.

Saturday night, April 30th, at the Syrian American Club House the Ladies Syrian American Club sponsored a Gay Ninety social event.

Mr. Joseph Nabkey was injured at work and is now home well on the road to recovery.

Mr. Wick Herro, son of Mrs. Charles Herro, passed away March 23rd at San Francisco where he operated a night club. His mother flew to his bedside during his illness and brought his body home to be buried at Holy Cross Cemetery March 28th. Milwaukee people extend their deepest sympathy to his wife, mother, and remaining members of the family.

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INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

"The Speedway City"

By MISS FAYE AJAMIE

The Syrian So-Fra Club recently elected the following officers: President, Mitchell J. Freije; Vice President, Thomas Waters; Recording Secretary,



MITCHELL J. FREIJE

Mrs. Elizabeth Freije; Corresponding Secretary, Anne Ajamie; Treasurer, Mrs. James Leeds; Sergeants-at-Arms, Virginia Todd, and Chaplain, Sam J. Ajamie. Ajamie.

The new officers were installed at the annual Installation Dinner held at the



THOMAS WATERS

beautiful Penthouse Room of LaRue's Club, Indianapolis. Mrs. LaVonne Rashid was Mistress of Ceremonies. The guest speaker was Indiana State Lieutenant Governor John B. Watkins.

The clubs, So-Fra and Binnett L'Yome, are planning an extensive and continuous round of events for the week-end of

Complete Plans for Syrian Orthodox Youth Convention

The St. George Progressives of Indianapolis were hosts to the officers, delegates and interested groups of the Syrian Orthodox Youth Organization at the recent executive board meeting on April 10. Salem Bashara, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, President of the Organization, presided over an all-afternoon session at which time final plans were made for the big convention to be held in Indianapolis June 17, 18 and 19 at the Hotel Antlers. Many newly interested groups were represented. It was quite encouraging to know that all Syrian Orthodox Youth groups in the mid-west are eager and anxious to participate in this youth movement.

During the executive meeting, other committees, including the Sunday School committee and the Choir Committee, were also formulating their schedule for the approaching convention. It was announced by the Choir Committee that the choirists of each member parish would participate in a concert contest, a prize being awarded to the choir selected by the three musical critics from the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music. The winning choir will also present selections at the Grand Banquet closing the convention. The committee also decided on numbers to be sung in the mass choir for the services on convention Sunday. Camal Meena of Cleveland, Ohio, chairman of the committee, will direct the mass choir.



JOE ZAINAY

The St. George Progressives are anticipating a huge crowd and have made plans to make available to each and every guest and friend in attendance a most thrilling and interesting three-day

May 30. Those planning to attend the 500-mile Speedway Race are urged to "count yourself in for the side-line attractions."

convention. The finest of music and entertainment both Arabic and American are being provided. Indianapolis' most popular orchestra, that of Joe Zainey, has been booked to play for the Grand Ball on Saturday nite.

Hotel reservations can be made to the Hotel Antlers, 730 North Meridian St., Indianapolis, Indiana. For any additional information regarding the convention write to William Kafoure, 2433 Brookside Pkwy., South Drive, Indianapolis.

JOHNSTOWN, PA.

By M. E. SOLOMON

Just at this time many of our residents are in Florida enjoying the weather while we up here are living through the last traces of winter. Mr. and Mrs. Charles George of Windber are in St. Petersburg; Mrs. E. Milhem and the John Zamers are in West Palm Beach; the George Solomons and Pete Yezbeks of Uniontown are in Miami, and Mr. and Mrs. George Shahade are also down there. Also traveling were Olive Katter, who was in Chicago, and Dr. George Katter, who went to Washington, D. C. Dr. and Mrs. Solomon took a trip to the mid-west.

Stork news: The Alex Attys are expecting the stork and so are the Keenans of Boston. Jim and Rose McLoota are the proud parents of a baby boy; Ester Makdad and her husband are also proud of their baby girl.

The Men's Club of St. Mary's Syrian Orthodox Church have elected new officers with Michell George of Windber as the new president. They have renovated the inside of the church and are now planning weekly socials to take place in the basement. The Choir has united with the Orthodox Choirs of the city and each Sunday during Lent they sang at a different church.

ELECTIONS

THE LEBANON CLUB

Shreveport, La.

President, Mitchell Freije; Vice-President, Mrs. Alfred Nasser; Secretary, Mrs. Simon Gesn; Treasurer, Mrs. Walter Monsour; Publicity Manager, Miss Matilda Abraham; Sergeant-at-Arms, Miss Nora Abood.

ZAHLITE FRATERNITY

Toledo, Ohio

President, Joseph Shimmaly; Vice-President, George Sawaya; Treasurer, T. J. Boutross; Secretary, Abe Fadel; Guard, Harry Abrass. DIRECTORS: George Abde, Deeb Scaff, Joseph Tanber, Sassin Boutross, Joseph Lewand, Shafeen Shimmaly, George Ghiz, Wadih Tanber, Nick Lewand and Edward Khalil.

Southern Federation Officers Meet in Mississippi

JACKSON, MISS.—The Annual Officers' Meeting of the Southern Federation of Syrian Lebanon American Clubs was held in the Robert E. Lee Hotel here on March 26-27 with 25 officers and committee members attending. Over 400 people enjoyed the dances, play and banquet given by the Federation's local affiliate, the Cedars of Lebanon Club.

The principal business of the sessions was the final formulation of the Kahlil Gibran Scholarship Rules. Although the Officers' Meeting has no binding effect on the next convention's action, it's recommendations, however, will weigh heavily in its decisions. Highlights of the Scholarship Rules are likely to include the provision that a contender for the annual honor must be a member of an affiliated club, or one who is an immediate relation to such a member; and that the award each year would be given to the high school graduate with the highest 4-year numerical average. It is believed that such an arrangement would eliminate any charges of favoritism on the part of the judges.

The revamping of the voting and delegate provisions to the constitution was submitted to a committee composed of Rogers H. Bile of Birmingham, Ala., and A. A. Semaan of San Antonio, Tex. This committee is expected to submit a constitutional proposal limiting the votes from any one club or one city regardless of membership and number. The Research Committee, headed by Mayor ELI MACK of Lexington, S. C., was instructed to get data from historical and research authorities to suggest corrections on texts in books concerning Syria and Lebanon; the Meeting felt that unjust representations are being made about these Republics. According to President K. E. Antone, all reports ordered by this session must be in writing by July 1, and submitted to the Home Office in New Orleans; he also announced that the first award will be announced and presented at the coming New Orleans convention on August 14.

Southern Convention Set for August 13, 14 and 15 in New Orleans

Convention visitors are urgently requested to make their reservations now for the 18th Annual Convention of the Southern Federation, according to T. J. Stoma, chairman of the New Orleans convention committee. Mr. Stoma announced at the recent Jackson, Miss., Officers' Meeting that either the Jung or Roosevelt Hotels would be convention

headquarters, and that reservations be made to either of these hotels at once. However, Mr. Stoma believed that the Jung would be the final choice as headquarters.

There will be many innovations at this convention due especially to the host city's unique position in the entertainment world. However, all these features will not cost the registrant more than \$10.00, plus a \$2.00 Federation fee. For that sum, and no additional "hidden charges," the visitor is assured a grand banquet and three dances, plus such additional entertainment which the hosts choose to give. The convention is under the auspices of the Syrian-American Club of which Dr. Edmond Mikal is President, and the Lebanon-American Club headed by Sam Newman. The enterprise is being conducted by a joint committee of the two clubs.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.

By MISS EVELYN COREY

HERE IT IS, EVERYONE! June 4th and 5th. Keep these dates in mind for these are the days of the 1949 mid-year conference of the Syrian-Lebanon American Federation of the Eastern States right here in our own city of Syracuse.

This affair, sponsored by the Syra-Meric Club, is to be held at the Hotel Onondaga, one of Syracuse's finest. Preparations are now being completed under the leadership of our President, George Mahshie and General Chairman, Miss Alyce Marie Corey. Arabic entertainment will be presented by Anton Abdalah, vocalist, and Joe Badaway on the "Oud". Don't forget June 4th and 5th.

On January 15th, the young people of the Orthodox faith assembled together with Rev. George Karim at the St. Elias Syrian Orthodox Church to organize a youth organization. The purpose of this organization is to promote the growth of the church and to encourage a greater interest in the Orthodox creed. Officers elected are Evelyn Abdo, President; Susane Eadi, Vice President; Alyce Marie Corey, Secretary-Treasurer.

At a recent dinner party, the engagement of Freda Saleeb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Saied Saleeb of Binghamton, New York, to Edward Eassa, son of Mrs. Victoria Eassa of Syracuse, was announced.

LEMIA N. MERHIGE, mother of Mershid, Haceeb and Naiem Merhige, passed away March 20, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

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DANBURY, CONN.

By Alfred Hajj

To the fair citizens of Danbury, I ask that you pardon me for the inadvertent omission of the March issue. I was negligent in sending the column before publication, but I promise you it shall not happen again.

As activities head the list again, the Lebanon League of Bridgeport's affair held February 27th at Fairfield Inn, Fairfield, was successful in its venture. The benefit was for the Near East refugee relief fund. Socially speaking, it was wonderful and inspirational. The committee worked hard and attempted its best. The affair netted one hundred and ten dollars. It was very good considering the heavy expense. We should take notice, how about some organization in Danbury doing the same thing. It's for a good cause. Show me a better one.

Also, which attracted attention was the concert given by Prof. George Farah, Oud and piano artist, and Wafaa Najib, opera singer, at the Elks' auditorium March 20th. The affair was sponsored by Charles Lubus for the benefit of St. Anthony's church. The affair was well attended and appreciated. Their appearance in Danbury was a rare treat. Morris Lubus accompanied Prof. Farah and Wafaa Najib on the violin. Well done, Morris. Over one hundred dollars was donated to the church. God bless you, Charlie.

The Bureau of Vital Statistics has been having it easy since the last issue. On marriages, there was only one. Mr. Edward Michaels and Miss Janis Lynch at St. Anthony's church. Mr. and Mrs. Michaels spent their honeymoon in Miami, Florida. Good luck to the both of you.

We have two more additions to the Arabic speaking population of the city. My sister-in-law, Mrs. Edward Hajj, was presented with a lovely baby girl. Her name, Suzanne! Good work, Eddie, the next time, I hope it's twins. Another friend of ours, Mrs. Philip Ramey, also gave birth to a girl. Her name is Patricia Ann, and boy is Philip proud. Wanted in Danbury—more stork visits!!!! Congratulations to Jennie and Janet.

A few of our friends are, and were in the hospital recently. Mrs. Louis Basher, Mr. Louis Attick and Mrs. George Shaker are still on the convalescent list. We all wish you a speedy recovery to health, and are back on the active list again.

I forgot to mention in my activities column that the Lebanon American Club is going to sponsor a grand opening

Cedars of Lebanon Club Members (Clarksdale, Miss.) Entertained with Pre-Lenten Party; 300 Guests Attend

By VICTORIA COURY

The American Legion Hut was the scene on February 28 of a delightful event when the Cedars of Lebanon Club entertained with its second annual pre-Lenten social function, which attracted many guests from a distance.

Mr. A. N. Rossie, president of the club, cordially welcomed the guests after which a delicious dinner was served.

To enjoy the tempting menu the guests were seated at daintily laid tables arranged about the spacious assembly room. The tables were overlaid with beautiful cloths of white satin damask and to carry out the chosen color note of pink and yellow, the centerpieces for each table featured a pink vase filled

of the hall which was occupied during the war by the State Employment Service. A gala affair is being planned and no doubt will be successful.

P. S. A complete report on St. George's affair held March 27th, will be in the next issue.

News about town—A lot of acquaintances were made at the St. George affair especially with the out-of-towners. The girls are wondering why our boys aren't giving them a break. I'll tell you why—stop acting PHONY—not all of them. We have (supposedly) two Casanovas, who play three or four girls at a time—they tell me that whoever wins these two boys will be lucky???. The Fairfield and Bridgeport crowd has created quite an impression with your correspondent, especially D. B. and M. T.—One guess. Rose McKaisal, Norwalk, hit Mexico last year, hit quite a few in town—incidentally, she's related to the Zainey's somehow. Two romances budding steadily—Joe and Roe, George and Nan, oh yes, my cousin Buddy—he and Jeanette. The Maasir Society is planning a gala affair—watch for it. Julia Caplan, why is your face red—ask me. Loretta has moved to new quarters, her office—so have all the boys. I hear someone is willing to teach Emil Kasses how to dance—better learn or else. Al Abraham is going to get engaged soon—you all know the party. Remember the New Haven affair May 22nd—annual play presentation, and a grand time is being prepared. Fred Kalaf, stop warning everybody about me being a correspondent—I got one on you. Nick L. and Jennie S. are still strong. How about some subs, friends, I mean the SYRIAN ARK. The more subs, the longer the column.

with specimen daffodils.

At these pretty tables covers were laid for 300 guests.

After having enjoyed the delicious repast a delightfully planned floor show was staged with Mr. Fab Farris serving as master of ceremonies.

Those participating entered the room representing a wandering troupe of Gipsy entertainers and the programs included many clever features, music, singing, dancing and monologues. Supplementing the floor show, music was furnished by Bert Bramley and his orchestra.

Those taking part in the floor show were: George Abraham, Mrs. Sadie Farris, Miss Marie Farris, Jimmy Johns, David Davis, Yvonne Rossie, Shirley Coury, Tommy Coury, Rosalie Samaha, Dorothy Samaha, Rosalie Davis and Carolyn Coury.

Besides the club members and guests from Clarksdale and vicinity, a large group of friends from Blytheville, Ark., Memphis, Tenn., Oxford, Batesville, Jackson, Greenville, Vicksburg, Leland and Natchez, Miss., enjoyed the cordial hospitality of the club for this delightful event.

Return From Tour of South and West

Gloria and John Assad, who recently returned from a tour of the southern and western states, were guests of honor at an open house party given by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Assad, Sr. at their home in Allentown, Pa.

They had traveled through Idaho, Nebraska, Utah, Colorado, Texas, California, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon and the Dakotas. During their stay in Oregon they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Naime; in Los Angeles, Calif., they were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Haddad; Mrs. Haddad is the former Olga Abraham of Allentown.

Out of town guests at the affair were Abe Gazey of Bisamara, Lebanon (a medical student in this country), Mrs. Frank Hanna, sister of Mr. Assad of Detroit, Mr. and Mrs. Maroud Aboud of New Kensington, Penna., who entertained the Assad's on their return trip from the Coast, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Crusade of Hazelton, Penna., Mrs. Louis Guynee, Rose and Dorothy Neri and Mrs. Daniel Douvanis, all of Trenton, N. J.

Another daughter of the Assad's, Marie, had just returned from a two week vacation in Florida. The trip going and coming was made by plane!

OBITUARIES

GAMILY JOSEPH GORRA, age 78, native of Zahleh, Lebanon, passed away at Chicago, Ill., March 19th. Beloved mother of Alexander, Harry and Joseph of Chicago, Louis of San Francisco, and Nellie and Mrs. Alice MacKeller of Erie, Pa.

TOFIC G. RABIL, age 40, native of Hammama, Lebanon, passed away April 17th at Rocky Mount, N. C.

R. THOMAS RAPHAEL, age 65, passed away April 1 at Butte, Mont. Survivors are his wife Lateefa and six children: George, Joseph, Louis, Shaya, Mrs. Mary D. Poulos and Sarah John.

NICHOLA S. KHEIR, age 50, native of Aitaneet, Lebanon, died April 1 at Brooklyn, N. Y. Survived by a son, Dr. Dahir Kheir.

BAHEGEA T. GOREYEB, husband of Philip Goreyeb, mother of Albert and Felix Goreyeb, passed away March 26th at Brooklyn, N. Y.

JOSEPH A. NAJME, native of Aleppo, passed away April 18th at Brooklyn, N. Y. Survived by his wife Najeeb and five children: Sister Mary, Sister Mary Joseph, Freda, William and Elizabeth.

MRS. SA'ADA DAVID, widow of the late Habeeb David (Rashaya), passed away March 26th at Indianapolis, Ind. Survived by two grandchildren.

GEORGE EASSA ISAAC, husband of Jamelia Isaac, father of Jameel Isaac and Loretta Mamary, brother of Richard Isaac and Anne Tanous, passed away April 11th at Paterson, N. J.

THOMAS MAROUN ABOOD, age 51, native of Aitaneet, passed away March 26th at Cleveland, Ohio. Survived by his wife, Hind Abood and four children: Gattas, Maroun, Dorothy and Sister Mary Roun.

ELIAS ETOLL, native of Zahleh, Lebanon, died March 9th at Troy, N. Y. Survived by his wife and seven children.

ANEESE S. AHWAJI, age 19, student at Kenyon College, recently destroyed by fire, died in the catastrophe on February 27, 1949. Aneese was the son of Saleem and Mae Ahwaji of Akron, Ohio, natives of Saghbine, Lebanon.

COSTA E. SAMEN, husband of Jamelia Samen, father of Mary, Edmund and George Samen, passed away March 8th at Brooklyn, N. Y.

ABDO KARAM, age 83, native of Zahleh, father of Saleem, Naceem, Hafiza and Zaina Karam, passed away March 9th at Brooklyn, N. Y.

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AUGUST, 1950

A. Frederick Zainey, Editor, Indianapolis, Indiana

VOLUME XIV, No. 12

1950 CONVENTION EDITION



Miss Marie Marg't LaHoud, as Miss Ohio
To Reign at Columbus Convention

See Page 8, Column 3

Latest From La Crosse (The Beautiful) Wis.

By Miss Sally Markos

At last! Summer has finally hit La Crosse, and we are all in good spirits. The Syrian Ladies Aid Society had a "Coffee Fest" April 34 at the St. Elias Church Parlors. What a turn-out; Everyone, young and old had quite a time. We had booths selling novelties, cake, candy, pop, coffee—(no lahem mishwee or kibbee, however) and everything was a complete sell-out, not that we're interested in the massaree, but every bit helps to build that club house we'd like to have in the near future.

Seems that Ginny Ferris has a new love. . . . (no! no!) . . . Anyway this may be the real thing! (it says here in small print). His name is Bobby Paul from Canton, Ohio. . . . "Iben Ahdahb, of course" She met him in Cambridge, Ohio, at the wedding reception for her sister, Ida and Issac Esber, who were married in La Crosse April 16. We also had a reception here before they left . . . Between flash bulbs, movie cameras, beverages! the dabke, drums, and a trio of instruments playing American music, everyone had a glowing time; The wedding was all white. Ida had Issac's sister, Carey, as maid of honor, with her sisters Mary Farroh, Nellie, Madeline Markos, and Ginny, as bridesmaids. Issac had his cousin Eddie Abraham as best man, with Shipley Farroh, Albert Ferris, Robert Zakem, and Georgie Markos as groomsmen. Sally Markos sang "Oh Perfect Love" and "Panis Angelicus." This all took place at the Christ Episcopal Church.

Another romance that has come to the turning point is between Margaret (Toots) Monsoor and Peter Berry, of Detroit, Mich. She got a real party engagement ring not so long ago. Wedding plans are indefinite, right now.

New Israel Settlement

Will Be Named Truman

A new immigrants' settlement in northern Israel is to be named in honor of President Truman.

The settlement may be established by the end of 1950. Zionist organization officials said it would be named for the American president in recognition of his friendship and work in behalf of the Jewish state.

لنشئها ابرهيم فرج زيني (زحله)
مجلة «الفلك السوري»

المجلة الوحيدة في اميركا مطبوعة في اللغة الانكليزية للبنان

لبنان والسوريين وكل شعب العرب تصدر كل شهر مرتين

The Syrian Ladies Club had a shower for Mary on May 3 . . . and between 40 women were present, we certainly outdid ourselves doing the dabke, square dancing, and to top it all, a mock wedding which practically tore the ceiling down! What a grand bunch we have here!

New additions to our community . . . Chuck and Joyee Ablan (formerly Joyce Coury, Sioux City) had another baby girl "Margaret Barbara." Also, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Markos, another baby girl. Our most hearty congrats to you! Men will be flocking to La Crosse in about 17 years to see all our pretty gals. . . .

The Syrian Ladies Aid Society and the Syrian American Mens' Clubs had a 2nd anniversary dinner at the "Fire-side" May 31. MMMMM . . . what food!! And to top it all, it was a treat for the women not to have to cook or do dishes; The dinner was followed by the usual rollicking Syrian dancing bringing out the talents of Phil, Alice, and Elaine Addis—also Edna and Margaret Shaheen.

Sam and Mary Markos had a church party at St. Elias parlors, June 5. The Greeks were also invited. We ended up doing their dabke, which was a stimulating change. . . . It seems that everytime we get together, the durbakee is also there, to give us the "pep" All of us who are going to the national convention, at Columbus will really be dolled up by August 10.

We had a picnic, June 11 at the Onalaska Park. . . . And the kids had a time playing ball playing ball eating playing ball and eating.

Visitors to our fair city; Welcome! to Mrs. George Ferris, of Detroit (formerly of La Crosse) who is visiting Mrs. Tom Ferris and family. Also, Mrs. Tom Coury of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, visiting Mr. and Mrs. George Zakem.



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A SAD STORY OF NEEDLESS SACRIFICE OF HUMAN LIFE INNOCENTS IN THE REFUGEE CAMP

From The Magazine "EL-MARJ" Marjayoun, Lebanon

By Alexander Rashid

"Miserable men, women and children—forgotten members of the human family—victims of oppression and the twin-monsters of indifference and ignorance running rampant in the heart of man."

This was the impression made upon me again and again, every time my eyes fell on grove after grove of ragged refugee tents; and again when, for the second time, I saw Sumaya carrying upon her head a large reddish-brown jar of earthen ware, common in these parts. Many times before and since have I beheld older women than Sumaya bearing a similar burden; and I knew as well as everyone else hereabouts what that kind of vessel is used for.

"Could it be," I said to myself, "that so small and delicate a girl is employed in fetching water in that barrel-size jar?"

Such was the contrast between the bulkiness of the jar and the lean, frail figure of the girl that I gave way to an impulse and asked:

"What are you carrying?"

"Water."

"Is the jar full?"

"Yes, full to the brim."

"Where did you get it from?"

"From that mountain spring—yonder."

Sumaya stood erect as she spoke, supporting the heavy jar with both hands. She appeared shy, almost afraid, but apparently too well bred not to speak to a stranger in a country famous for its neighborly and friendly ways.

Perhaps on account of the jangle sounds recently left behind in the city, Sumaya's tone of voice, low, soft, melodious, was all the more agreeable to the ear. It is one of those subtle feminine voices, with an indefinable ring to it, that lingers long in the memory, too, will be Sumaya's fair and oval face, with its deep black eyes (its most striking feature), the faint blush upon her cheeks and exquisite smile on her lips.

With her arms bare to the shoulders, her legs bare to the knees, the rest of her body covered with rags, she was standing barefoot upon stony ground.

"You are from Palestine?", I inquired, rather needlessly.

"Yes, from Nazareth." And she looked bright as if the mere mention of Nazareth held for her a special hope, a secret dream. "We're now living in that tent over there," pointing to a flimsy structure of dingy fabric among a lot of others like it.

Stretched between some of the tents there were clothes lines on which hung the remnants of what was once dresses, tattered trousers and rags, and more rags. There were a few children, too, among the rude dwellings, boys and girls, gadding about without a stitch of clothing upon their backs.

One of these skimpy tots, nude like the rest, with projecting ribs and sunken stomach, came to the edge of the road where Sumaya was standing and told her:

"Grandma's got the lentils picked and she's waiting for the water."

"Elsewhere", I thought, as Sumaya gracefully plied her way toward the cluster of tents, "elsewhere, perhaps in America, this little girl with the fine oval face and charming smile would be considered very pretty; she would be the darling of her household and a favorite among her neighbors." And I imagine her wearing an attractive frock, laughing and running to meet her schoolmates. "Here, well, let me see what there is for her—for them—by way of compensation;" and I followed into the encampment, wending my way among a forest of ill-assorted, drab-looking, tottering tents, chimneyless and doorless.

True enough, Sumaya's grandmother had on her lap a couple of handfuls of lentils ready for the water. A diminutive figure with disheveled white hair, the semblance of a dress, that once saw duty across the seas, on her spare body. Sumaya's grandmother answered the greeting, putting the lentils in an old pan, the only piece of culinary utensils she had (that and three stones arranged in the shape of a horseshoe, as a fireplace, constituted her kitchen), and in accordance with the traditional custom of her country, she stood up, after some effort, out of respect for the guest at her threshold.

"We have the honor of your presence at our home," she said "such as it is; would that your visit were made under different circumstances—at our home in Nazareth, but it is God's will, it is God's will; may He have mercy on us all."

Her sunken cheeks, haggard eyes; wrinkled, cadavarous face and hands; her emaciated arms and figure; her bare, calloused feet, the patched-up, discolored robe she had on—everything, yes, everything about her presented a woeful sample of a worn and wasted people that had undergone a terrible ordeal.

"How I wish I could offer you a cigarette or a cup of coffee," she went on, "but most regrettably we have none."

She sat down cross-legged on the floor of the tent, the bare ground itself, and resumed her preparation of the day's meal. She pointed to the recumbent figure of a person nearby, covered with the only blanket in the hut, saying that he was her only son, Sumaya's father unfortunate sufferer from rheumatism and asthma.

Hearing this, Sumaya's father raised himself to a sitting position and in as cheerful a tone of voice as he could muster he hastened to express his sentiment of welcome, as the custom of his country is, in a manner proverbial for its affability. Of course there was no chair or stool in the tent, so I availed myself on a stone near the entrance.

"We are honored by this visit," said Sumaya's father, using the customary conventional phrase of welcome, "Please accept our humble hospitality." "We are all guests in this world," I replied, "Allah, the Omnipotent, the Omnipotent, manages our lives as He wishes."

"Yes," he answered, "yes, indeed, it must be so, for not even in our most dreadful dreams could we have had an inkling of a nightmare like this. You know it was not our intention to abandon our country and our homes. We came away not because we had to leave, but because we were too credulous, too optimistic, too gullible. High authorities on our side gave us to understand that for the sake of our safety we should move out of Palestine, out of the line of fire of our own forces, for just two or three days, during which time the invincible might of the attacking armies would be brought to bear upon the presumptuous invader, scraping him out of the country and into the sea, from which they would infallibly return victorious."

"And now," he went on, "here we are seven hundred and fifty thousand exiles in a dire state of destitution and in rapid process of dying out. Our beloved country, our homes, the soil upon which we first saw daylight and under which our fathers and forefathers are buried, are alienated from us. If it were not for the Red Cross we would all now be dead. . . . Perhaps it would have been better. . . ."

He spoke as if he was thinking aloud, and punctuated his speech with wheezing coughs and painful contortions of the lips. . . . His hollow face, withered and worn, his sunken eyes that did not look at anything in particular, his faint voice made his condition all the more pitiable.

Was there anything one could say by way of consolation or cheer to this spectre of a man, visited by so overwhelming a measure of misfortune?

Sumaya, who in the meantime had been out gathering some dry weeds for her grandmother's fire, came back; I noticed a small key dangling on the end of a string around her neck. Carefully, almost caressingly, I thought, Sumaya took hold of it, hugging it in her hand and thrusting it back inside her clothes next to her bosom. Suspecting what I was thinking (that a key, of all things, was so completely out of place in such an environment, with nothing for it to lock), her father revealed the secret that this small key was Sumaya's most cherished possession. He disclosed that it was the key to the violin left Sumaya by her martyred mother, who was a good violinist, and from whom Sumaya must have inherited her great fondness for the violin and her musical talent. At the mention of this his mother mournfully shook her head, and what tears were in his eyes streamed down his cheeks.

"It didn't matter to Sumaya," her father explained, between suppressed sniffing and coughing, "whether her clothing was scanty or how many chores she had to do so long as she had the key to her violin; how she longs and lives for the day when she would take it out of its case and hold it again in her hands."

At these last words Sumaya's face was flooded with bright expectation and her long brilliant eyes look into space. I looked into the dark, narrow compass of this tottering tent, at the few lentils in the pan, and wondered if Sumaya will ever realize her ambition.

Wholesome aspiration, human longing for the beautiful, sublime and innocent in this grim, unhealthy atmosphere, in this precarious life—in this hovel of dirt, sickness and want—how tenacious and trusting is the heart of Sumaya in entertaining so much hope and so much love!

Sitting where I was, just outside the hole of the tent they call doorway, and observing the surrounding tents and the naked children and the ragged adults that were shambling about, I could not help being overcome by a gloomy state of

mind and sense of futility. It was in this dejected mood that I took leave of my wretched hosts, promising to repeat my visit. Sumaya's father and grandmother said:

"God bless you and keep you."

And on Sumaya's face I thought I saw the sweetest smile.

On the way out I could see how shockingly insecure and inadequate these dwelling places were, without benefit of light, heat, water and sewer system. The wretched and ghostly rags upon the clothes lines hung dreadfully still, as if the wind was too confused and bewildered to know which way to blow. Confusion, frustration, bewilderment pressed upon you from all sides, looked up at you from the eccentric footprints upon the wet clay earth, passed in and out of every tent hole and stared lifelessly at you. Leaving this scene steeped in a pall of gloom more natural to it than sunshine, I walked away with the firm intention of making a return visit, perhaps substantially, a more helpful one.

A few days later the last week in January, everybody was talking about the severe cold wave that gripped the Middle East, the strong wind and heavy snow storm. Snow fell to a great depth all along the Mediterranean Sea, all the way from Tripoli to Tyre; it fell in the desert, in the Jordan River Valley and on the Dead Sea, hundreds of feet below sea level. All fruit orchards were ruined; live stock and wild birds perished by the thousands. Many people who ventured out in the storm or who were caught in it lost their lives. Many persons of advanced age said they have never seen anything like it, and persons with four and five score year to their credit asserted that it was the worst snow storm and cold spell they have ever known.

When the storm abated and the snow was still on the ground I made a return trip to the refugee camp where Sumaya and her family lived, all the while wondering about them and how they fared during the frigid wave, wondering about all the other inhabitants of the camp and other camps scattered throughout the countries bordering on Palestine. It was a quiet day, the sun shining rather hazily. As I turned into the field, walking toward the cluster of tents, the dry, crisp snow crunching under my feet. It seemed to me the tents were fewer than they were on my last visit. Going in among them I noticed that each family was huddled inside its tent. Sumaya's tent was not there. I thought perhaps she and her family, as well as the other families who were not there, had moved to another camp. Why not ask at the nearest tent where they moved to?

I did; and was told that neither Sumaya and her family nor the other families had moved away. "Their tents were ripped away by the great storm."

"And the people, and the people," I cried, "the men, the women and the children, what happened to them—where are they?"

"A few survived," I was told, "just a few."

All the others were found cold and stiff, "with their eyes wide open, their faces contorted as if with shivers, and their teeth showing between their lips."

It must have been awful, heartrending sight, but to these life-starved folk, so completely resigned and exhausted, so wearied out by their continuous struggle with fate, it was not a thing to be deeply regretted.

"And Sumaya," I exclaimed, "and Sumaya and her father and her grandmother and her little brother—What happened to them?"

After a short, but seemingly interminable silence, the head of the family shook his head and said:

"They all died. We found them side by side, Sumaya's father on one end, her grandmother on the other and Sumaya in the middle holding her little brother close to her as if she was anxious to keep him warm, with her arm around him, and in her right hand clasping tight the key to her violin."

The Grand Convention To Lebanon And Syria

FIVE CHARTED PLANES TO CARRY 250 PILGRIMS

Programs To Be Sponsored By The Governments Of Lebanon And Syria

The first of the five chartered Pan American Transoceanic Planes left the Idlewood Air-Field in New York on route to Beirut with 46 passengers. The sailing was in the morning of July 13th under the auspices of the Eastern Federation of Syrian and Lebanon Clubs. The other four planes will depart on schedule each on July 20, July 23, July 27 and August 3rd, and each arriving at Beirut within thirty hours from time of departure.

Each plane will be officially met by the governments of Lebanon and Syria at both the Beirut and Damascus airfields.

Elaborate programs are provided by both the Republics of Lebanon and Syria starting on Monday August 7 at Beirut and on Monday August 21 at Damascus.

The Tentative Program at Beirut is as follows:

August 7—Inauguration at the UNESCO Building under the auspices of President Beshara El-Khoury, with reception by the Municipality of Beirut in the Municipal Gardens.

8th—Business meetings of delegates, with intimate receptions and gatherings thereafter with friends and relatives from villages and towns throughout Lebanon.

11—Visit to the University of Beirut and Campus.

12—Floral festival at Bickfaya with evening musical at hotel Ambassador (Bhamdoun) featuring "Mowali" Za'ani foremost Lebanon songster and original "attabi."

13—Grand Ball sponsored by the Lebanon Red Cross.

14—Grand Ball at Hotel Ambassador, Bhamdoun.

15—Reception in Summer Palace of President Beshara El-Khoury at Beit-ed-Dine.

16—Gibran Khalil Gibran Day at the Cedars in Becharre.

17—Dinner at the famous "Jarat el-Wadi" at Zahleh, to be given by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

18—Agricultural Fair at Chtaura and visit to the ruins of Ba'albeck.

19—Grand Ball to be sponsored by the Ladies League of Lebanon.

20—Horse Races and the Grand Prize to conventioneers.

21—Auto caravan to Damascus under Syrian Army escort.

August 22-29 Tentative Program by The Republic of Syria

1—Reception by Syria's President at Presidential Palace.

2—Banquet at Bludan Hotel to be tendered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, followed by an entertainment of Syrian songs and music.

3—Banquet by the Governor of Aleppo.

4—Display and exhibition of Arabian Horses with horsemanship by calvarymen of the Syrian Army at the Damascus Marj Plaza.

5—Organized tour from Damascus to Homs, Hamma, Aleppo, Latakia and visit to Queen's Zenobia's Court and "Harem" in Palmyra.

6—Exhibits of Handcrafts and trades under auspices of Chambers of Commerce of Damascus, Homs and Aleppo.

7—Formal issuance of postage stamps commemorating the convention pilgrimage.

Duties and Customs

Luggage Stickers all duly stamped and authenticated are furnished each conventioneer with the compliments of the Eastern Federation of Syrian and Lebanon Clubs. The stickers are to be attached to all bags, suit cases, trunks and other baggage of the pilgrim, thus identifying the conventioneer whose luggage is exempt from the duty and custom process.

The Pan American Airways will furnish each pilgrim with an overnight-bag to sustain personal needs of the passenger. This over-night bag will, likewise, be exempt from customs duty.

CURRENCY—It is suggested that the conventioneer carry either United States currency in ten and twenty denominations, or American Express Cheques. The convention headquarters at Beirut will maintain an exchange office for transferring the currency to Lebanon and Syrian pounds.

Today's market value of the Lebanon pound is three pounds and twenty piasters (3.20) for each one dollar U.S. currency. The Syrian pound is 3.10. However the rates fluctuate daily and from all probability there will be an increase before September when the conventioneer will receive as high as 3.50 pounds for each dollar.

INSURANCE—Insurance will be provided to each passenger for the trip from New York to Beirut or Damascus at \$1.00 per \$1000.

LIST OF PILGRIMS BY STATES AND CITIES AND DATES OF DEPARTURE

Alabama

July 13—Alex & Sarah Nassar, Birmingham; Edmund and Sarah Ganem, Winsted; Thomas Nimer, Winsted.

July 27—Roger Bite, Birmingham; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Nassar, Birmingham; Angel K. Nassar, Birmingham; Badie and Jos. Nellie and Adele Koury, Torrington; Rose Asard, West Haven.

August 3—Sophie Sevigny, Westchester.

D. C. USA

July 20—Eli and Norman Busada Ameen, Dalal, Anna and Delores David, J. B. Paul.

July 27—Jennie Zaher, Mahmoud Sadak.

Connecticut

July 13—Bahija C. Gabriel, New Haven; Sam'l and Munira Shia, New Haven.

July 20—Freda Abdella, Bethel; Nazha St. Jean, Bethel; Michael Koury, Tor-

rington; John M. Haddad, Waterbury; Edmund and Sarah Ganem, Winsted; Thomas Nimer, Winsted.

July 27—Mary C. Dowaliby, Hartford; Sarah and Julia Shaheen, Hartford; Jos. Nellie and Adele Koury, Torrington; Rose Asard, West Haven.

August 3—Sophie Sevigny, Westchester.

California

July 20—Habib Bagdasar, Beverly Hills.

July 27—George S. Soffa, Los Angeles; Ameen S. Gannam, Wilmington.

Florida

July 13—Jos. L. Bustani, Palm Beach; Louis and Ramza Eassa, West Palm Beach; Wm. J. Khoury, West Palm

Beach; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. K. Mattar West Palm Beach.

July 20—Kamel Zahra, Jacksonville; Mr. and Mrs. Elias Maloof, St. Petersburg.

Illinois

July 13—Mr. and Mrs. Sam Bitar, Kennewick.

July 27—Michael and George Ferris, Chicago; George J. Coury, Streator.

August 3—T. H. Chafic and James Balish, Oak Park.

Indiana

August 3—Kaleel and Louis Shaheen, Fort Wayne; A. F. Zainey, Indianapolis.

Iowa

July 27—Al F. Kouri, Perry.

August 3—Mr. and Mrs. Abdo Omar, Vinton.

Louisiana

July 13—T. S. and Selma Najem, Lake Charles; Tofic Nassar, Sulphur.

Maine
July 20—Marie A. Lewis, Eastport; Emma Hikel, Waterville.

Maryland

July 20—Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Saah, Silver Springs.

Massachusetts

July 13—Moses S. Hamati, Boston; Nabeeha K. Homsey, Boston; Wadia Mousally, Boston; Sadie Keamy, Lawrence, Alice Allie, Quincy.

July 20—Geo. M. and Katherine Barakat, Boston; Catherine R. Deeb, Boston; Fahima Gargar, Boston; Tawfic Manazir, Boston; Madeline Moses, Boston; Lilian S. George, Dorchester; Mr. and Mrs. Namy Samya, West Roxbury.

July 23 Mr. and Mrs. Salem George, Adams; Naim J. Karam, Pittsfield; Noel Haddad, Quincy; Anna Sharbel, West Roxbury.

July 27—Abraham Malouf, Boston; Mary Gallotta, Lowell; Mary Maroon, Lowell; Leon and Mary Shannon Worcester.

August 3—Mary and Rose Samya, Boston; Mr. and Mrs. James Batal, Fitchburg; Assad G. Abaid, Lawrence; Najeebie Arrajj, Lawrence; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Greiner, Leominster; Frank Maria; Lowell; Simon E. Rihbany, West Roxbury.

Michigan

July 23—Geraldine Bishara, Dearborn; Jacqueline Bishara, Detroit; James S. David, Detroit; Joseph Matta, Detroit.

July 27—Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Haddad, Grand Rapids; Clifford N. Ellis, Lansing; Mr. and Mrs. Naceeb Ellis, Lansing.

August 3—Joseph Cadri, Dearborn; Frank Fayz, Dearborn; Kamel Osman, Dearborn; Tom J. Murray, Detroit.

Missouri

July 20—Jos. S. and Mae Akoury, St. Louis; Mrs. Marg't Lytele, St. Louis; Nabiha Saliba, St. Louis; Rev. Joakin Stephan, St. Louis; Najib Koury, Steele.

New Jersey

July 20—Elik and Fatimah Mahadeen, Caldwell.

July 23—Tewfic Gorab, Paterson.

August 3—George Magella, Englewood.

Nebraska

July 27—Martha Essey, Alliance.

New York

July 13—Mary K. Betenjany, Brooklyn; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Creidy, Brooklyn; Samia Daher, Brooklyn; Wadie Saigh, Brooklyn; Mary Sednawy, Brooklyn; Evalynne Corey, New York City.

July 20—Emily Sarkis, Brooklyn; Jos. S. and Sandra Sado, New York City; Mr. and Mrs. Elias M. Karam, Rome; Rev. Paul Korkamez, Troy.

July 23—Najm Aswad, Binghamton; Mary Antaky, Brooklyn; Victoria Tackly, Malone.

July 27—Gabriel Samin, Brooklyn;

John Samaha, Tuckahoe.

August 3—Anthony Djamoos, Brooklyn; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Jacobs, Warrensburg.

North Carolina

July 27—Alex, Najeeb and Najeebie Arab, Fayetteville.

August 3—J. R., and Margt Abeyounis, Washington.

Ohio

July 13—George Assad, Cleveland; Ameen Aboud, Parma Heights.

July 20—Richard Abowd, Fostoria.

July 23—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shaker, Akron; Norma Zeen, Canton; Adele Ferris, Cleveland; Mr. and Mrs. Rasheed Kallil, Cleveland; Shahdan Abraham, Massillon; George Betras, Youngstown; Besie Elias, Youngstown; Mary George; Youngstown.

Oklahoma

July 13—Mary Haddad, Enid; Jim Barakat, Fairview; Nazira J. Koury, Skiatook; Helena Corey, Tulsa.

Pennsylvania

July 13—Elias E. Khoury, Altoona; Philip Hanna, Carnegie; Joseph Harmouch, Carnegie; Barbara M. Karam, Easton; Mike Peters, Kensington; Dr. Nicholas H. Bitar, Pittsburgh; Dr. and Mrs. Jos. K. Dreibe, Scranton; Frank Bolus, Scranton.

July 27—Saleem Abraham, Allentown; Mrs. John Daniels, Monessin.

Oregon

Mr. and Mrs. Ray J. Teeny, Portland; David and Marlene Teeny, Portland.

Rhode Island

August 3—Rose Aisis, Central Falls; Julia A. Nassaney, Central Falls; Ella Peters, Central Falls; Mr. and Mrs. S. David, Pawtucket.

South Carolina

July 23—Simone C. Basha, Charleston; Charles Haddad, Chester.

Texas

August 3—Olga Kelley, Dallas; Albert Skeff, Port Arthur; Dr. S. E. White, Port Arthur.

Virginia

July 13—Mary Coury, Arlington; Estelle and Loree Samaha, Arlington; Dalal and Virginia Samaha, Arlington; Monsour A. Showkeir, Arlington; Mrs. B. F. and Mary Wheby, Roanoke.

West Virginia

July 13—John C. Solomon, Morgantown.

Wisconsin

George Buck, Sturgeon Bay.

Foreign

July 13—Nellie Samarah, Windsor, Ont.

July 23—Chafic and Jamal Salman, Venezuela; Elias Doumani, Windsor, Ont.; Milton S. Paul, Windsor, Ont.;

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KING AND PATRIARCH



King Abdullah of Jordan will send a special emissary to Beirut in the person of the Most Rev. Alberto Gori (above, at the king's left), to invite the American pilgrims attending the 1950 Overseas Convention to Lebanon and Syria. Rev. Gori, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem was greeted by Abdullah at the Royal Palace in Amman. The Patriarch will meet the conventioners at the UNESCO Building in Beirut on August 10th.

NEW LONDON, CONN.

By Mrs. Ernest Fakoury

Forty-six members and their guests attended the fifth annual installation banquet of the Syrian-Lebanon Ladies Society of New London, Conn., at The Lighthouse Inn.

Mrs. Victoria Sitty, retiring president, gave a brief resume of the society's activities for the past five years. She thanked her committee chairmen, the retiring officers and all the members for their splendid cooperation.

Miss Jennie Kalil, new president, spoke and introduced the new slate of officers: Vic-President, Mrs. Nellie Gorra; Treasurer, Mrs. Lena Sanders; Secretary, Miss Georgette Hagar, and Mrs. Virginia Facas, Corresponding Sec'y.

Anthony Facas, president of the Men's Club, Dr. John Wakim and Philip Nahas, guests were called upon for remarks. Miss Victoria Sabagh gave a brief talk on her recent trip to Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Egypt.

Miss Gloria Telage, who was recently elected Campus Queen of the New London Junior College, sang several selections.

Miss Jennie Kalil and Mrs. Ernest Fakoury were in charge of arrangements for the dinner. Mrs. Fakoury presented gifts to the retiring officers in behalf of the society.

The final meeting of the society was

held on June 13 at the New London YWCA. The newly elected president appointed the following committee chairmen for the new year: Mrs. Delia Gorra, Unarity; Mrs. Georgette Telage and Mrs. Georgette Boord sen, Socials; Mrs. Elizabeth Brox, Sick Committee, and Mrs. Nellie Gorra, Membership.

RAHAL-SHAMOON

Beckley, W. Va., June 15.—Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Rahal announce the marriage of their daughter Julianne, to George Shamoon.

MALOUF-COURI

Peoria, Ill., June 28.—Mr. and Mrs. John Malouf (Zahleh), announce the engagement of their daughter, Isabelle, to Dr. Peter G. Couri (Ito) of East Peoria.

JACOBS-KHOURY

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., June 28.—Tom and Mary Jacobs announce the marriage of their daughter, Rose, to Joseph Khoury, of Minneapolis Minn.

LIAN-HELLOW

Brooklyn, N. Y., July 29.—Mr. and Mrs. Spiridon Lian (Zahleh) announce the marriage of their daughter, Gladys, to Victor Hellow, son of Mrs. Selwa Monsour Hellow.

HADDAD-DAHDOUN

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 24—Habib and Princess Hassiba Haddad, announce the marriage of their daughter Yvonne, to Edward Dahdouh of Danbury, Conn.

Teacher Receives Degree



Miss Hannah Joe, prominent teacher of piano at Cairo, Illinois, received her Bachelor of Science Decree in Education from the Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Ill., on June 11.

Her graduation class which was the largest in Southern's history was held at McAndrew Stadium.

Miss Joe is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Joe of Cairo, natives of Ain es-Sha'ara, Syria. She taught in the public schools of Nashville, Ill., and Wickcliffe, Kentucky.

Bolus J. Bolus Heads Two K. of C. Degrees

Bolus J. Bolus, attorney, of Omaha, Neb. was believed to be the first man to head both the Third and Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus, in Omaha.

Mr. Bolus, 41, was elected Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree, Father Michael P. Dowling General Assembly.

On June 6 Mr. Bolus was elected Grand Knight of the Third Degree, Father Flanagan of Boys Town Council No. 652.

Weddings and Engagements

AYOUB-KASSIS

Brooklyn, N. Y., April 17—George Kassis announces the engagement of his daughter Vivian to Raymond Ayoub, son of Salim Ayoub.

BEYROOTY-NICOLA

San Francisco, Calif., April 24—Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Beyrooty announce the marriage of their daughter, Anne, to Theodore Nicola, son of Mrs. Beheja Nicola, of Los Angeles.

HANNOUN-NASSER

Miami, Fla.—Announcement is made of the marriage of Labeeba Hanoun, of Miami, to Fred Nasser, son of Salim and Mary Nasser, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

"COME TO COLUMBUS AND DISCOVER AMERICA" CONVENTION CITY READY TO WELCOME CONVENTIONEERS

SEE YOU IN—
COLUMBUS ! ! !

By Ann M. Elias

Color and gaiety are to prevail in Ohio's capitol city, to welcome members of the Mid-west Federation of Syrian and Lebanon Clubs, August 10, 11, 12 and 13.

We know that Columbus will not fail to live up to its promises and that it will give to our federationists one of the finest programs and welcome that has ever been extended to the conventioneers.

Only three weeks away and the Columbus Committees are buzzing with the usual activity in planning the best of conventions. We are sure everyone will be pleased whole-heartedly. The hotel headquarters, the Neil House and Dasher-Wallick, are only one-half block apart, (to be exact—only eighty steps apart).

The Clubhouse where our Arabic foods and oriental entertainments will be provided is also within walking distance from the hotels. No more miles to drive as has been done in the past in going to and from convention clubhouses.

To the sports-minded our athletic committee is happy to announce that the ball-field where the softball tournaments will be held is only two blocks from the headquarter hotels.

Our various committees have made every effort to present all activities close to and convenient for all delegates and guests.

From beginning to end, each program has been planned to commemorate pleasant memories with our guests. In all sincerity we bid you a thousand welcomes.

With each committee meeting something new and different has been added to assure the conventioneers a wonderful time. From beginning to end our main thought has been to make each affair less expensive than has been in the past. We feel we have accomplished this aim.

COST for all activities, including registration and scholarship fund is \$11, and as special offer of \$10 if you will send in for your convention book of tickets at least two weeks before convention time. Write to the Registration Committee, P. O. Box 1575, Columbus 16, Ohio, for advance registrations.

ENTHUSIASM is running high and the Columbus committees are certain that memories of this convention will be recalled with a smile.

The central location of Columbus is such that three-fourths of the entire pop-

ulation of America is only 5½ hours driving distance away—an incredible but proven fact!

A million words could be written in regard to our forthcoming convention, the city of Columbus itself, and our desire to have you attend—these all could be condensed by saying from the bottom of our hearts — "AHLAN wa-SAHLAN FEEKUM."

Convention Chairman



Joseph Karam

Serving as General Chairman for the 1950 National Convention of the American Federation of Syrian-Lebanon Clubs, to be held in Columbus, Ohio, on August 10-13, will be Joseph Karam, president of El-Waten Club.

Mr. Karam is one of those "Behind the Scenes Workers" whose influence and ability was invaluable to El-Waten when Columbus sought the convention at the Milwaukee conclave in 1949.

A native of Pennsylvania, Joseph is known for his wit and humor and aggressiveness . . . and his ardor for the Federation and El-Waten in particular.

He can be directly traced for his love for fraternity work in the Ohio Federation of Clubs.

At present Mr. Karam is the Ohio Governor for the Federation.

KALIL-AKRA

Jacksonville, Fla. June 26—Mr. and Mrs. Ford A. Kalil announce the marriage of their daughter Martha-Rose, to Joseph P. Akra.

Ohio Convention News

By Ann M. Elias

The Ohio Federation of Syrian-Lebanon Clubs held their annual mid-year conference in Cleveland on May 27, 28 and 29. The three day conclave was a huge success as delegates from all Ohio met to decide matters of federation interest, elect officers and enjoy the well planned festivities of the Cleveland clubs. Those attending the gala banquet heard the inspiring words of Dr. Philip K. Hitti, professor of oriental languages at Princeton University.

The front cover picture chosen from a field of sixteen entries as Miss Ohio of 1950 was Miss Marie Margaret LaHoud of Columbus, 18 year old daughter of Nick and Edna LaHoud, natives of Aireen and Junieh, Lebanon, respectively. Miss LaHoud whose picture appears on the front cover of this ARK is a graduate of St. Joseph's Academy in Columbus and will represent the Mid-west Federation of Clubs at the Columbus convention on August 10 thru 13.

Newly elected officers of the Ohio Federation are Joseph D. Karam of Columbus as Governor; Edward Salim of Cleveland as Lt. Governor; Mike Shaheen of Canton, Treasurer; Ann M. Elias of Columbus, Secretary and Frank Shaia as Sgt-at-Arms.

Mr. Karam previously served as Lt. Governor under ex-governor Edward Shaheen and prior to that was State Sgt-at-Arms.

Born and raised in Washington, Pa., Mr. Karam has been a resident of Ohio for the past eight years. At present he is on leave from Ohio State University where he is a student in pre-med.

Weddings and Engagements

RAZOOK-GOREYEB

Grand Rapids, Mich., May 14—George and Edna Razook announce the marriage of their daughter Dolores to Adeeb Goreyeb, son of Assad and Mariana Goreyeb.

KHOURY-KOGOK

Washington, D. C. June 4—Announcement is made of the marriage of Josephine T. Khoury, native of El-Youn, Lebanon, to Philip A. Kogok, native of Tripoli.

CANAISA-FAOUR

Beaumont, Texas, May 17—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Canaisa announce the marriage of their daughter Mary-Ann to William Faour, son of Mrs. Anne Faour, of Houston, Texas.

Southern Federation Convention Fêtes Visitors

San Antonio, Texas—The 19th Annual convention of the Southern Federation of Syrian Lebanon American Clubs was marked with the greatest round of entertainment in its history during its 4-day meet here July 1-4. The festivities started off with an Officers' Breakfast in the ballroom of the Gunter Hotel and was followed with a round of open houses and dinners at private homes. A Mexican "Fiesta" was held at an outdoor night club. Syrian and Lebanon "Sahrias" took place continuously while dances attracted the attention and time of the younger set. The Grand Banquet and Ball was held at the open-air Club Seven Oaks where two orchestras played. John Ben Shepperd, Secretary of State of Texas, addressed the delegates on their ethnic responsibilities as Americans. He praised the Syrians and Lebanonites as home-loving and honorable. A softball tournament at which Corpus Christi, Texas won the trophy, another dance, a Syrian play and an amateur night, rounded out the festivities.

Rogers H. Bite, Atty., of Birmingham, Ala., prominent in Federation affairs for many years was elected president by acclamation, succeeding Atty. Kamal Antone of Houston.

Other officers elected included Mrs. Bill Anawaty, Houston, secretary-treasurer, and Ellis Abide, New Orleans, executive vice-president. State vice-presidents were elected as follows: Joe Rookes, Birmingham, Ala.; Louis George, Osceola, Ark.; Mrs. Mike Fattaleh, Phoenix, Ariz.; Alexander Jepeway, Miami, Fla.; Joe Campbell, Shreveport, La.; Col. J. M. Abraham, Jackson, Miss. Neil Joseph, Goldsboro, N. C.; Mitchell Tibshran, Columbia, S. C., and George Jamail, Houston, Texas.

Elected to the board of directors were Mrs. J. D. Farris, Vicksburg; Bill Anawaty, Houston; Arthur Sharbel Birmingham; Fred Saliba, Blytheville, Ark.; Jimmy Nami, San Antonio, and J. A. Kahalley, Mobile, Ala.

Resolutions condemning Communism and one commanding Congress and the President on the Korean stand they took were passed.

The Secretary-Treasurer's salary was increased to \$350.00 a year. The convention also recommended to the new Board that a system of voting be adopted whereby no club could cast more than six votes, and that one person could not represent more than one club as a delegate. It was also recommended that new clubs applying for membership should be scanned for duplicate members.

FEDERATION OFFICIALS AT SAN ANTONIO CONVENTION



Left to right: Joseph Sado, New York City, General Chairman Overseas Convention to Lebanon and Syria; Roger Bite, Birmingham, Ala., newly elected president of the Southern Federation; Monsour Zanaty, Birmingham, president-designate of Nation Federation; Frank Maria, Lowell, Mass., president of the Eastern Federation, and Kamal Antone, Houston, Texas, retiring president of Southern Federation.

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ANTHONY ABRAHAM DRAFTED TO BECOME CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF OUR FEDERATION

CHICAGO CLUBS TO PRESENT AGGRESSIVE LEADER TO THE COLUMBUS CONVENTION

Anthony R. Abraham was unanimously drafted by the Associated Syrian Lebanon Clubs of Chicago as a candidate to be the next President of the Federation of American Syrian Lebanon Clubs when the new President is elected at the National Convention in Columbus, Ohio to be held on August 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Whether as a member of any organization, or in the business world, Anthony familiarly known as (Tony) always plays an active and aggressive part. His great value to our Federation as its next President can easily be predicted from the fact that he was responsible for making our Federation's 1949 Chicago Convention one of the greatest in Federation history through his unlimited energy and experience in management and supervision.

Action, aggressiveness and accomplishment are emblemized in Tony's personality and driving ambition to serve well the objective he chooses. He is determined to become the most efficient President our Federation has ever had. To this high goal, Tony has already given promise of his great achievements to come for the good of the Federation. He has already formulated a platform which his supporters will present to all the member clubs and their delegates, even long before the Convention meets. This platform will weed out the weaknesses now apparent in the administration and purposes of our Federation and will strengthen and unify it with a vitality that will make the Federation a force to be reckoned with in the thinking of our nation.

BIOGRAPHY REVEALS ANTHONY ABRAHAM AS COURAGEOUS, AGGRESSIVE LEADER
Anthony R. Abraham was born in Youngstown, Ohio, on February 25, 1911, and attended grammar and high schools in Cleveland, Ohio. He took his college work at John Carroll University in Cleve-



ANTHONY R. ABRAHAM

A vigorous, dynamic Business Man with the ideals and ability to build morale. A man of practical experience with many national organizations. A Humanitarian who possesses the foresight necessary to conquer new fields of endeavor. A man who has repeatedly displayed the energy, capability and understanding of the needs of the times, who has proven his natural leadership in the business world.

land and at the University of Detroit, Michigan, and studied law at Loyola University in Chicago, where he has been a resident for the past 18 years.

After working his way through High School and College, he began his career in the newspaper field with the old Chicago Evening American while still attending Law School at Loyola.

Because of his rapid growth and success in the newspaper advertising field, he decided to make Advertising his life profession, discontinuing his Law course although he had but one year to go for its completion.

At the early age of twenty-two, he had the distinction of being the youngest Advertising Division Manager in the com-

plete Hearst Chain of Newspapers.

His record of success still stands as the most unique in Chicago Newspaper Advertising annals.

In 1943, conceiving the idea of an exclusive Classified Advertising Newspaper with FREE national distribution, he decided upon a career unheard of in newspaper history—the publishing of a Newspaper without a paid circulation. After many heart-rending disappointments involving the lack of proper financial assistance and inability to interest others in financial participation in his venture and having encountered untold Governmental "red tape" hardships in securing a Newsprint quota, at a time when newspapers all over the United States were being limited in the use of newsprint, he progressed rapidly in his new career, with the assistance of his charming wife, and with offices at 333 North Michigan Ave., Chicago.

Since that memorable beginning, Anthony R. Abraham and his associates have grown into a multi-million-dollar-a-year business with offices in principal cities from coast to coast.

His uncanny ability to train, organize and delegate authority, together with his fountain of promotional and constructive ideas, has made him the most talked about successful young man in Chicago.

His wife is the former Genevieve Harris of Oak Park, Illinois, whom he married in 1937, and they are the parents of two children, George, 5½ years old, and Marion, 3½ years.

HERE IS ANTHONY R. ABRAHAM'S PLATFORM

1. Approximately 24 member clubs have left the Mid West Federation within the past two years. Our union is dissolving as our member clubs are seceding. I propose personally to appeal to each one of these member clubs that have left

us, to study the reasons for their withdrawal, to correct the causes of dissension or dissatisfaction, and to bring them all back to our Federation. After this study, I will report to the member clubs individually the results and lessons learned, so that we may be better guided in the future.

2. Through closer cooperation with the Governors of each State, I shall not only restore old members who have withdrawn, but I shall also continually strive to encourage the formation of new member clubs and to add these new clubs to the membership of our Federation; thereby further strengthening it by the addition of numbers and of new life.

3. I will take advantage of every opportunity as President of our Federation to make the influence and importance of our People felt as a vital force in the thinking and action of our Nation.

4. Our Federation has many weaknesses in the way that it has been administered in the recent past; other weaknesses arise from the need of our becoming more familiar with the Constitution and By-laws of our Federation. As your next President I shall faithfully perform that high Office as it is intended by our Constitution and By-laws, which exist to promote the best interests and welfare of all the member clubs.

5. I shall cement closer bonds between the Federation and the member clubs by personally visiting each State represented in the Federation and conferring with the Governors thereof for the purpose of helping our member clubs with their individual or local problems as they affect our Federation, and also for the purpose of assisting the Governor in the accomplishments of his duties as set forth in Article V of our Constitution. We need a greater emphasis on the importance to the Federation of the role and duties of the Governors of the various States. On the other hand, the President and Officers of the Federation must recognize this importance and treat the Governors with due respect and consideration.

6. The member clubs of our Federation which are situated in the smaller or less populated communities need a greater helping hand from the Federation of which they are a part. As your next President I shall institute activities in these localities for the purpose of increasing their treasuries; I shall encourage these member clubs from the smaller communities to combine with each other to bid for the annual Federation Convention to be sponsored by them

in a larger city in the proximate area, thereby affording them the opportunity to participate fully in the affairs of our Federation and to increase their revenues.

7. I shall keep all member clubs fully informed on the business meetings of the Executive Board, and also on the finances of our Federation. The source of every item of income and the nature of every expenditure will be made fully known to the member clubs by means of a special report to them in writing devoted solely to this purpose.

8. I shall appoint a special committee to study the need for changes or amendments to our Constitution or By-Laws and shall bring the recommendations of this special committee before the entire membership during our annual Convention business meeting for action. I shall ask this committee to consider particularly, among others, such changes as making the office of Secretary elective rather than appointive, as it now is under Article IV of our Constitution; whether Section 2 of Article VIII of our By-Laws, which gives the Executive Board the power to amend our By-Laws, should be eliminated, so that the By-Laws could then be changed only by the delegates sitting during the annual Convention, and in no other way.

9. I shall handle the funds of the Federation as though I were conducting my own business. Operating costs and expenses will be kept at the lowest possible level consistent with sound business principles.

10. To keep the member clubs and our people and other people informed of our activities and accomplishments as a Federation, I shall establish or select an official publication to be distributed in the name of our Federation.

11. I shall appoint a Standing Committee to carry into action Section 6 of Article II of our Constitution which provides that our Federation shall devote its energy "to alleviate the wants of the poor and needy; to visit and attend the sick; to offer protection to victims of persecution; to provide assistance to widows, orphans, and the aged on the broadest principles of humanity." This Section has too long gathered dust in our Constitution.

12. I shall appoint a Standing Committee on Public Relations for the purpose of maintaining a publicity program of all Federation activities, and of establishing good relations between our Federation and governments, individuals, other organizations, and the general public, as provided by Section 3 (c) of Article IV of our Constitution.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The "Hollywood" Magazine
English-Arabic Publication

The "Hollywood" magazine, published and edited in English and Arabic by Nasih Massoud will publish a special edition in August featuring exclusive pictures of the Arab delegations to the United Nations since 1947, and a special feature with illustrations of the recent marriage of Princess Fathia, King Farouk's sister.

The pictures to be reproduced will be the first to be printed in the United States, and after the accomplishment of this special issue, the pictures will become public through the Egyptian magazine "Al-Ahram" in Cairo.

This exclusive edition of "Hollywood" will be sent to any one interested in Arab affairs upon receipt of one dollar addressed to:

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PEORIA COMMUNITY CELEBRATE GRAND MAHRAJAN AT "JARAT EL-WADI"



NEIGHBORS IN THE VALLEY (Jaret-el-Wadi) is the translation of the words set in stone above this crystal pool on the picnic grounds. Water from seven springs gather here to splash over the rocks. The springs provide a constant bubbling supply of drinking water, tested by the State of Illinois for purity. Fountains with pools of their own are on the grounds. This stone waterfall is set in the lower terraced portion of the picnic grounds shaded by towering elm and beech trees left standing when the swamp clearing was complete.

By LEO A. GRUBA

From swamp to playground. Engineer said it just couldn't be done. But it was done—and without the use of machines.

Love, sweat, hand tools and spare time by a handful of spirited Lebanites did the back-breaking job in two years of family-like cooperation.

Seven acres of tangled bottomland along the river near East Peoria were changed by hard work into trim picnic grounds and a nifty clubhouse.

The hard work is over. Quietly proud of their achievement, they have invited Syrian organizations the nation over to celebrate with them.

The celebration started July 1 and ended July 4th. In family-style tradition, entertainment is arranged among themselves. Dancing, singing and recitation of impromptu verse mark Lebanonite entertainment. One top Lebanonite entertainer, Elia-Baida, highly esteemed by his people, strummed his ood (a guitar-like instrument) and sang Syrian songs. Among guests will be other talented Syrian show people.

From The Clubhouse kitchen flowed food delicacies like kibbe, a dish to Lebanites, what spaghetti is to Italians. And koosa, laham, mishwee, together with other Syrian food prepared by the women's auxiliary to keep celebrants satisfied.

Grand opening festivities were explained by the society's young president, James A. Maloof.

"All this in two years by our own work," he said, indicating the clubhouse and grounds. The area is a trim, shady oasis walled in on two sides by the tangled, jungle-like bottomland it was wrested from. Only the view across the river is unlimited.

Located One Mile east of East Peoria city limits, a white crushed rock driveway leads to the clubhouse and parking area from Highway Route 87. Sixty popular trees line the entrance and front the property, screening it off from the highway. California fruit trees as well as beech and elm trees dot the site.

Its grounds are carpeted with grass where once vines and stumps and mud prevented passage. Fountains of natural springs splash cheerily in clear pools that drain through tables and fireplaces in heat open runways eventually to tumble over a terraced waterfall pool to one side of the picnic area.

A spacious cindered parking lot is part of the site. Nearby is a deep, wide pool where fish is stocked. The Peoria skyline across the river gives a long-distance backdrop for the rambling clubhouse.

The Clubhouse, a white frame building with 17 big windows, measures 30 by 70 feet, and has a kitchen addition of 16 x 24 feet. Inside are flowing drapes, walls blended with three shades of green with a low ceiling featuring a massive, many-pointed star done in orange. Tables and chairs front a low stage. There is a blue lavatory for men and one in pink for women. There is a PA system and concealed ventilation fans.

The kitchen, trimmed in yellow, has scalloped curtains and is strictly the auxilliary's domain. It has hand-made cabinets circling the walls and a huge gas range dominates one wall. All is modern.

The Syrian Name for the peaceful spot is "Jarat-el-Wadi," which when translated mean "neighbor-of-the-valley," and was taken from a similar beautiful spot

near the city of Zahleh in Lebanon.

"For us that spot means love, friendship, companionship and happy entertainment. Why shouldn't we name our place here after it?" asked President Maloof.

The Peoria Society was organized in the summer of 1915 with only 14 members, he explained. Gatherings were held in each other's homes. By 1930 the growing society had rented the present site near East Peoria, Ill. and intended to make use of it.

In 1946, Maloof continued, they sold the city clubhouse and with additional funds from the club's treasury, gleaned over the years from small activities, they purchased outright the river bottomland. Almost immediately work started on landscaping.

The society, including its auxillary, numbers 110 members.

First The Group consulted several engineers for opinions on cleaning the tangled, soggy land.

"The engineers told us the job would be impossible without spending a lot of money and using big machinery," said Maloof.

"We couldn't afford that so we determined to do the job ourselves. Well, it took us two years to drain the land, chop out the roots and stumps and fill-in part of the area but we did it. Did it with manpower and hand tools," he said simply.

Contracting Machinery was used on two occasions. The first, to truck in the land-fill and bulldoze it level. The second, to pour the concrete footing for the clubhouse.

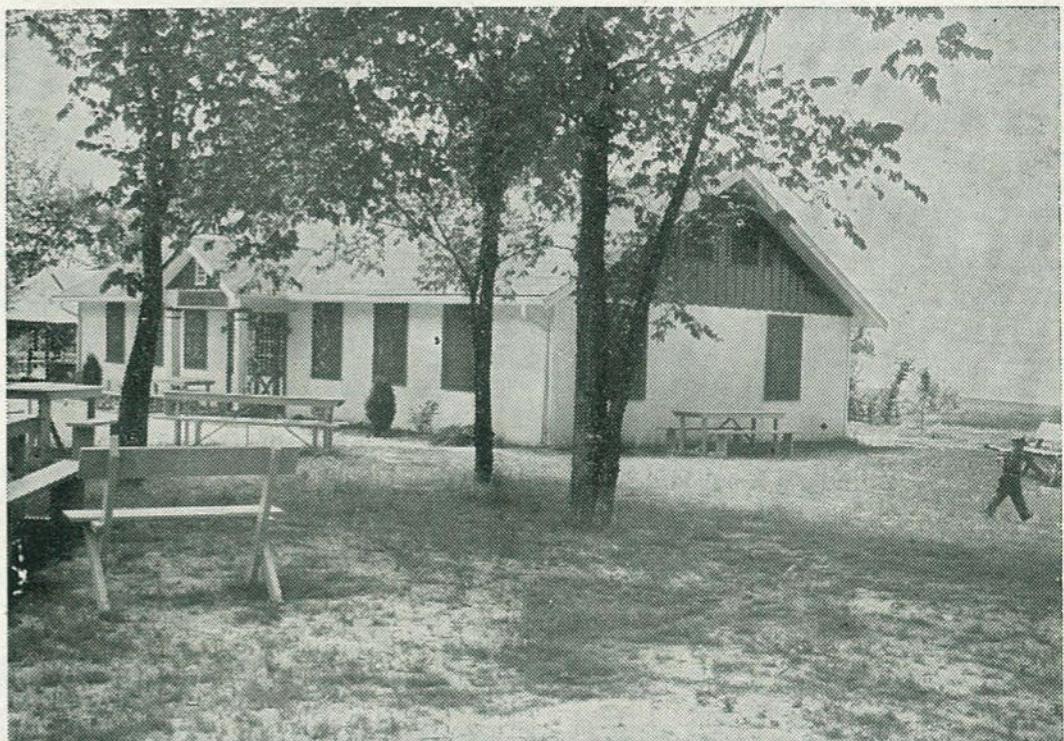
"We worked in our spare time: after our regular day's work, holidays, Saturdays and Sundays—any time we could get together to do the job. It took a lot of cooperation," he emphasized.

Younger Members started working with energy and blindly going at it, he said, but the "old-timers" with wisdom on manual labor from "the old country," where machines were few and work was done by hand, came up with labor-saving devices that startled the younger set.

"For example," he said, "we started to dig ditches to drain several springs into one channel. We just began shovelling and groaning, when someone suggested we tie two ropes on a single shovel for men to pull while a third man guided the shovel—much like a plow. Sure did the job much easier," Maloof smiled.

They Sloshed Around hip-deep in the swampland at first in cutting trees and removing stumps. The ground was so soggy that the bulldozers brought in to level the fill-in mired up to their engines. To keep the ground surface dry, drainage tile is embedded beneath the whole property.

(Continued on next page)



THE PEORIA SKYLINE ACROSS THE RIVER makes a long-distance backdrop to the newly-built clubhouse of the American Syrian-Lebanon Society and Auxillary. Once a swamp where bulldozers bogged down, members pitched in and did the clearing and building by using hand tools and spare time over a two-year period.

Once the bottomland was conquered, the construction and landscaping teams went to work. The same men in new jobs. The membership pitched in, he continued. Some were expert craftsmen in their regular work. Teams were formed around these experienced men. The group became carpenters, another electricians, another painters, another masons, until each job to be done had someone to do it properly.

"The Whole Job was done much like a big family would do it," Maloof said.

"As many times as we became discouraged and were ready to quit right now," he reflected, "along would come our auxiliary with cheerful smiles and encouraging words. And with them came plenty of food. They brought down big hampers of food. Well, we couldn't let them down, so we kept right at it," he said.

"It may have been masculine effort, but it was the women's spirit that built this lovely spot you see today, he added quietly.

Future Plans? Eventually they intend to run a channel to the river from their fish pond and keep it well-stocked for fun-fishing. Also contemplated is a playground and ball diamond on the land that dips from the clubhouse terrace to the river.

"Oh, we'll keep improving the place," promised Maloof. "How can we stop now? The worst is behind us."

Officers are elected for one-year terms. They include: James A. Maloof, president; Mitchell McMurry, vice-president; John Mallow, treasurer; John McMurry, secretary and Nick Bourazak councilor.

Building trustees are: Frank Zosky, Louis Ayoub, Charles Ryia, Alex Lakis, Harry LaHood, Nick Bourazak and John Mallow.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

By Mae Ryia

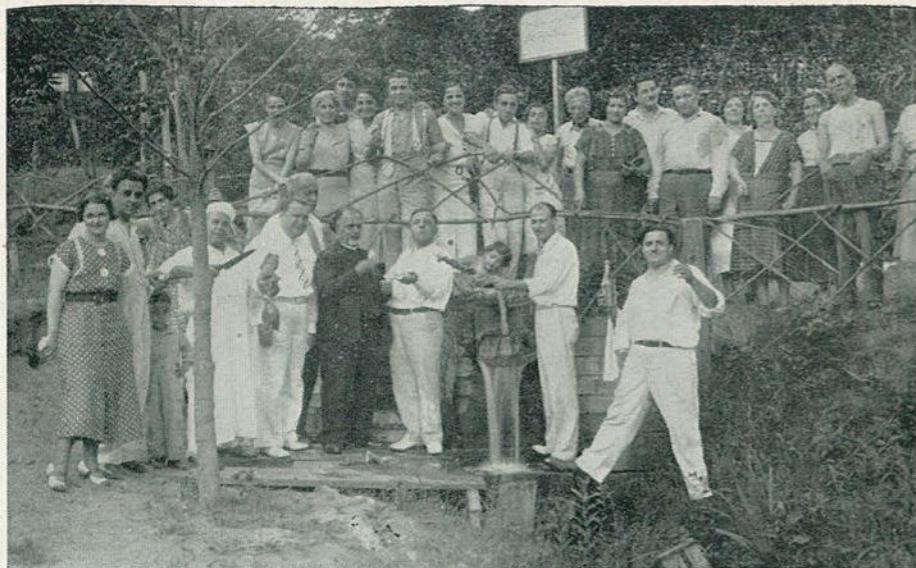
Recent graduates from our local high schools are Mitchell Bourazek, Jr., and Beverly Bourasek, whose parents entertained in their honor at the Peoria Syrian-Lebanon Club House at the "Jarat el-Wadi" grounds. A gathering of 400 attended the celebrations.

Louis Saad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Saad, graduated with high honors from Bradley University. A reception was given for the young college graduate.

Congratulations also go to Edward Maloof, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Maloof, a class-mate of Louis Saad, also graduated from the same college.

To share in the dual celebrations, guests came from Indianapolis and North-Central Illinois.

FOURTEEN



The "AIN" at "JARAT el WADI" in the swamps along the east bank of the Illinois River as it appeared when first discovered in 1935 by Charles Ryia, Fred Nimer, and John and Wadih Maloof.

The picture was taken when the "swamp land" was consecrated by the late Rev. Seraphim Nassar, then pastor of St. Michael's Orthodox Church, Spring Valley, Ill.

Others in the picture with Father Nassar are Charles Ryia, Wadih Maloof, Fred Nemer Maloof, the ARK Editor and a group of "berry-pickers" from Peoria and Spring Valley.

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THE SYRIAN ARK

RECEIVES MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE



Miss Louise Haddad

Miss Louise Haddad of Chester, S. C., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Haddad (Roum, Lebanon), received her Master of Arts Degree from Columbia University, New York, on June 8th.

She received her B. S. degree from Winthrop College Rock Hill, S. C. the South Carolina college for women, and also attended the Juilliard School of Music in New York City.

Miss Haddad is an accomplished musician.

There are three other talented girls and one boy in the Charles Haddad family: Elizabeth, who assists her dentist brother, Dr. George Haddad, at Rock Hill, S. C., as technician and dental hygienist; Margaret, at home, and Josephine, a rising sophomore at Winthrop College.

The father, Charles Haddad, will attend the Lebanon Convention at Beirut in August. He will travel via the Overseas-Pilgrims plane on July 27.

SHREVEPORT, LA.

By Nasib Nader

The Phoenician Club of Shreveport, is proud to announce that J. H. Campbell was elected State Vice-President of the Southern Federation of Syrian-Lebanon-Clubs. In addition to the honor, Mr. Campbell, is currently serving on research Committee for the Federation. This committee serves in such a capacity which entails reports to be submitted to Federation officers with respect to organizing clubs and to act in such advisory capacity

to any club now formed or to be formed in Louisiana. Mr. Campbell was instrumental in organizing the Phoenician Club here and has worked diligently for the welfare of our organization and its standing in our community.

Delegates to the San Antonio convention were Albert Barro, Arthur Nasser, J. H. Campbell and Nesib Nader. Every business session was attended and very interesting remarks were heard concerning the Overseas Convention. Frank Maria, President of the Eastern States Federation, very capably disseminated purposes and aims of the overseas affair. He referred to those interested in making the trip as part of a "Peacetime Expeditionary Force" insuring the people in Syria and Lebanon that we accept nothing short of the democratic way of life. Mr. Maria was very impressive and sincere in his analysis of the objectives of the Overseas Journey.

Also of interest was a very interesting address delivered by the Honorable John B. Shappard, Secretary of State for Texas.

I should like to add that Mrs. J. H. Campbell and Mrs. Arthur Nasser made Shreveporters very proud for their active participation during the business sessions. They were delegates representing the Lebanon Club of Shreveport.

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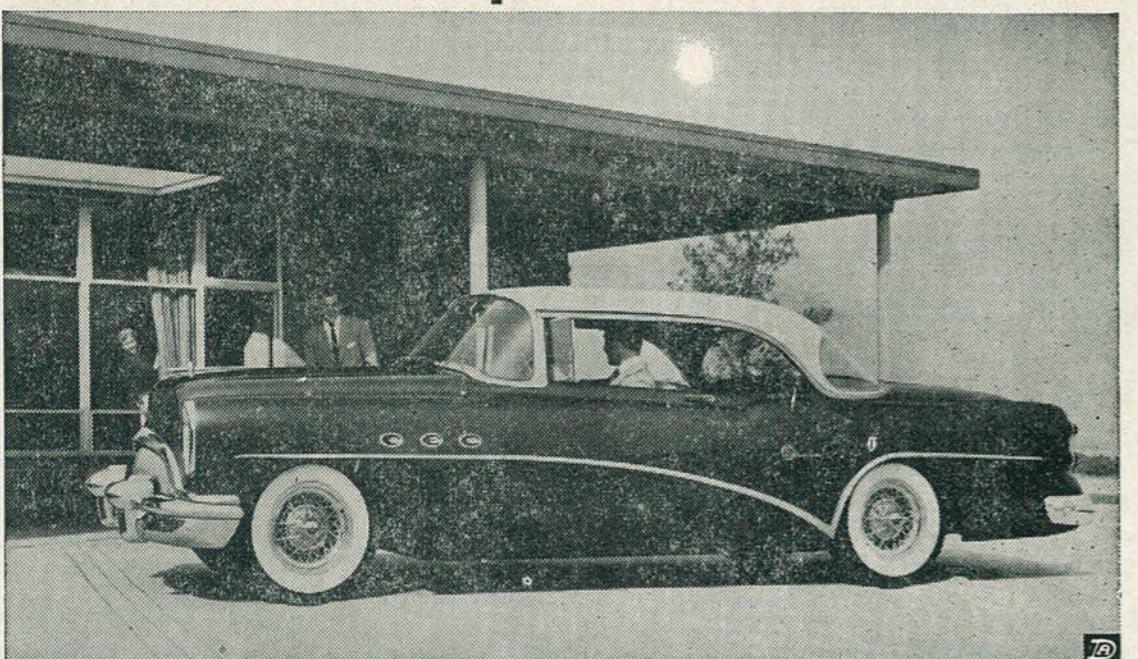
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Buick Offers Complete New Line for '54



An outstanding beauty among the completely new line of cars which Buick offers for 1954 is the two-door Super Riviera pictured above. With a rakish sports car styling modelled after Buick's famed Skylark, the Riviera features a new panoramic windshield, a cut-down door belt line, full rear-wheel cut-out and a refined sweepspear mold-

ing. It has a completely new front end, all new styling, new instrument panel, new rear fender and deck lid treatment, and new interiors. It is mounted on a 127-inch wheelbase and is powered by a 182-horsepower V-8 engine when equipped with Twin-Turbine Dynaflow. Wire wheels are offered as optional equipment.

FLINT, MICH. — Buick today announced a completely new line of automobiles for 1954, studded with the most revolutionary styling changes since the introduction of streamlining.

The new Buicks come in four series with all new, roomier bodies, beautiful new exterior and interior styling, longer wheelbases, panoramic windshields, and more powerful and efficient V-8 engines.

The Special Series makes its debut in the V-8 class in 1954 with a brand new 150 horsepower engine modelled after the valve in-head V-8 introduced in the Roadmaster and Super Series last year. Horsepower in the Roadmaster has been boosted from 188 to 200, and in the Super from 170 to 182.

New also to the Buick line for 1954 is the Century Series, designed to sell in the price range between the Special and Super. The Century, which features a 200 horsepower Roadmaster engine mounted on a 122-inch wheelbase, has a very high power-to-weight ratio and is the outstanding performer in the Buick line.

All-steel estate wagons are available for the first time this year in the Century and Special series.

Among outstanding styling features in addition to the new pan-

oramic windshield are full rear wheel fender openings and sloping door line on all two-door Rivieras and convertibles, built-in sun visor and rain cove on four-door sedans in the Roadmaster and Super Series, new high crown front fenders which permit the driver to see the right fender at all times, and new instrument panel.

The new V-8 engine in the Special Series, new combustion chamber design which increases power and economy, new power brakes, new front end suspension which improves steering and provides better cornering ability, and cowl ventilation are among the top engineering advancements. The sweepspear molding, so closely identified with Buick, has been restyled along the lines of last year's Skylark sports convertible. The grille styling also has been refined, with 49 thin bars of chrome enclosed in a chrome frame. The traditional Buick emblem on the front of the hood has been replaced with the word B-U-I-C-K in narrow, delicate letters.

Both Dynaflow and safety power steering continue as standard equipment on the Roadmaster Series and optional on all others. Swing-out door hinges provide up to one and one-half inches more entrance room to the front compartment of all 1954 Buicks.

The new line comes in 15 models with six horsepower ratings and two wheelbases. All Roadmaster and Super models are mounted on a 127-inch wheelbase. Special and Century models are mounted on a 122-inch wheelbase, an increase of one-half an inch.

The Skylark, which has been completely restyled for 1954, is powered by the 200 horsepower Roadmaster engine.

Frank Maria, Esq.
23 Adams Street
Lowell, Mass.

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DECEMBER, 1953

A. Frederick Zainey, Editor, Indianapolis, Indiana

VOLUME XVIII, No. 4

ROSES FROM MARJ-AYOUN



Miss Lila Rashid

Death of a Nation in Chains

ARABS OF ISRAEL

(The following editorial from Archbishop Hakim's Nazareth magazine "Ar-Rabitah," is one of the most outspoken and illuminating discussions on the Arabs in Israel to appear inside or outside of the Zionist state.)

Who are they? They are those who remained in their old towns and villages either for good or bad luck, and those who returned to their places of abode after a short absence. They number about 170,000. Among that number 45,000 are Christians and the remainder Moslems, thus distributed: two-thirds in western Galilee, about 30,000 in the Triangle and 15,000 in the Negev. Twenty thousand have subsequently been expelled from their lands and properties and we do not know what is to become of them.

A small percentage, not exceeding 10,000 are living in the big cities of Jerusalem, Jaffa and Haifa, but Nazareth, where live about 21,000 is the only town that keeps its Arab aspect.

Compared to the Jews, who number 1,500,000, the Arabs are a small minority (10 percent). Likewise, the Jews are the minority in the Arab countries as well as in the world as a whole. As we sincerely wish that the Jews acquire their full rights, so do we hope that the Arab minority in Israel be treated on equal footing with the remaining section of the population.

What is really behind this situation?

On the inception of Israel, Jewish leaders profusely declared ideal principles and made luring promises. They have proclaimed on different occasions, that the newly born state will be a Democratic State, within the full sense of the word, and that its inhabitants will enjoy justice and equity without regards race, religion and language.

On several occasions, the responsible leaders of the state of Israel have confirmed these ideal principles. Even the prime minister has declared in the parliament that he refutes any statement to the effect that there is discrimination in Israel and he has added that he is "proud to assert that the condition of the Arab laborer and peasant is far better than that of their brethren in the

effect that there is discrimination in Israel and he has added that he is "proud to assert that the condition of the Arab laborer and peasant is far better than that of their brethren in the

Arab states, and that this also applies to the condition of the Arab woman and the Arab child.

We previously stated that it appears that the prime minister is ignorant of the condition of the Arabs in Israel and in the Arab countries. Again we reiterate what we have previously said in spite of the fact that our hint has not pleased those who are close to the prime minister. We do not blame his ignorance, as long as he does not contact any Arab Member of Parliament, or even grant an interview to any Arab personality in the country whatsoever. We can infer that his declarations were merely based on reports which are submitted to him without depicting the true picture of the situation.

What adds to our consternation, however, is to hear the foreign minister declare that the Arabs of Israel enjoy an enviable condition, and this in spite of his different contacts with the Arabs during his inspection tour of the Arab zones.

On the other hand, and in spite of these official declarations, we hear the Arabs themselves declare on every occasion that they are the victims of oppression and discrimination. Here are the Arab members of Parliament, even those who have close and special connections with the government parties, who declare repeatedly that the condition of the Arabs is not satisfactory. This is in addition to the campaign launched by the opposition, Arabs and Jews who do not leave the least opportunity without openly criticizing the oppression the Arabs of Israel are meeting from government quarters.

Here is the High Court, the highest judicial authority, hearing the complaints of the Arabs, giving them full justice, preventing their expulsion and instructing those concerned to restitution to them their properties and drawing the attention of those concerned to their duty—ALL TO NO AVAIL.

As far as we are aware, from the inception of Israel up to date, the High Court in question has heard as many cases lodged by Arabs as the said Court heard during the British Mandate.

مجلة «الفلك السوري» لمنشأة ابراهيم فرج زيني (زحله) وهي
المجلة الوحيدة في اميركا التي تصدر باللغة الانكليزية للبنانيين
والسوريين وسائر ابناء العرب . تصدر مررة في الشهر



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Translated Into English by
AMIN BEDER

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Kfair-Zeit's Star Student First in Sidon; Won't Give Up ABDALLAH DOES IT AGAIN

By Bruce Conde

"Abdallah al-Tawil, first, with 241 points," announced the head of Sidon's Rashidiya prep school at the end of the 1952-53 school year last June.

Thus did the pint-sized fifteen-and-a-half-year-old student from Kfair-Zeit village on the slopes of Jebal Sheikh (Mt. Hermon) defeat for the second time gloomy prognostications of almost everyone except Abdallah himself that he wouldn't be able to wage the unequal struggle successfully for another year.

For the benefit of readers who did not see our earlier accounts of the epic of Abdallah, "The Mountain, the School and the Boy," and "Yemen Comes to the Mountain," of last October and November, a few background notes may be in order.

Abdallah, although belonging to a very poor family which could hardly keep him in school, proved to be the best student of his mountain village and was encouraged by the town's two overworked teachers, Ustaz Yusuf Kahil and Ustaz Emile Zankoul to seek higher education at all costs.

Abdallah, Kfair's Problem

After graduating first in his class from the village primary school the lad became a first-class problem to his family and the whole village.

According to age-old custom, his station in life indicated for him, as for his father, an unrewarding existence of back-breaking toil for two or three pounds a day, attempting to scratch a living from the rocky, almost waterless sides of the mountain.

But Abdallah rebelled. Like Ustaz Yusuf and Ustaz Emile he wanted to become a teacher and to open new horizons to the many promising young students of Kfair. Some of them, with relatives in America, would be able to break away, their rudiments of education, and start a new and better life along with the better than 50 percent of the Kfarrian villagers now living overseas. The others, with education, would rebel, too, and insist on better conditions for those who remained; use their knowledge to

restore and improve the town's dwindling means of survival.

A compromise was found in the offer of a relative in the army who promised to devote the surplus of his pay to Abdallah's tuition, books and part of his living expense for one year at the next higher school in Marjayoun—but after that, Abdallah would be "on his own."

First In Marjayoun

When the astonished village was advised at the end of the 1952 school year that Abdallah had come out first in Marjayoun, too, everyone knew that the real trouble was about to begin. The 1951 scene was repeated with greater intensity. Ustaz Yusuf in particular took up the cudgels in defense of his star pupil, but, with a growing schoolage family of his own and a bare 150-pound a month salary, he could not subsidize Abdallah's advance to the big South Lebanon prep school at Sidon, from whence, in a few years, graduates could go to the Beirut normal school, on teaching scholarships, their battle for subsistence finally won.

Just before the deadline for fall semester registration at the Rashidiya school of Sidon, Abdallah, without any guarantee of funds, without food, and without the knowledge of anyone in Kfair, slipped away one night on a mysterious five day trip.

160 Kilometers On Foot

On September 26th, too tired to speak, the dusty, barefooted student stumbled into the family home in Kfair and fell into a deep sleep.

The next day all Kfair knew that its young problem child had gone across country, on foot, with only two or three meals, the 160 kilometers to Sidon and back and had registered for the 1952-53 school year at the Rashidiya.

The audacity of it!

Another day and the news reached Beirut, where it was told and retold in Hanna Thabet's little New Windsor hotel on the Bourj, where Kfair folks gather when in the capital city. Through the Thabets and their friend, Antoine Muawad, the saga of Abdallah reached "The Star," where it was written up in the

hope that new friends would be found to add to the small amounts the Kfarians and friends on The Star had begun to scrape together to help the plucky student.

Yemen To The Rescue

Next month, as Abdallah, in his first month at Rashidiya, had reached the end of his slender resources, a Star reader in Washington, D. C., the Sayed Abdurrahman Abu Taleb, Permanent Yemen Delegate to the UN and Charge d'Affaires of the Royal Yemen Legation in Washington, sent twenty dollars "in memory of Lebanonite Amin Rihani's help to Yemenite education in the 1920's." This meant seventy pounds to hard-pressed Abdallah and virtually insured the completion of his critical first year in Sidon.

Living in a small cold, almost unfurnished room, with inadequate lighting, clothing and food, only sure of a weekly supply of mountain bread and olives from his mother in Kfair, Abdallah was in no condition to compete successfully with his more fortunate schoolmates. But compete he did. By studying nightly until twelve o'clock and by taking advantage of the extra tutoring above certificate requirements which Ustaz Yusuf and Ustaz Emile impart gratis to all their deserving bright students too poor to pay for "special lessons," the young man from Kfair again came out at the top of his class.

New Crisis

"If I work hard," said Abdallah, "I may be able to finish the Rashidiya course in one more year." He mentioned this goal wistfully, for the good Sayed Abdurrahman had been transferred back to the mountains of Yemen and Kfarians, their meagre sources of water now inadequate even for domestic uses, financially worse off than in 1952, Abdallah's father had gone to Beirut in work as a stonemason for LL. 3.50 per day. In addition to the unsolvable problem of Abdallah, Papa Selim was now faced with the fact that his 13-year-old second son, Elias, had just come out first in the

(Continued on page 4)

Abdallah Does It Again (Continued from page 3)

Kfair school, and was equally insistant on higher education. Elias had offered to quit school in 1952 and work as a houseboy in Beirut to contribute to Abdallah's chances of further schooling, but had been turned down because he was so tiny.

At this point a kindly AUB professor and his wife and children, a Beirut architect, and a few other friends began getting together some funds for Abdallah and clothing for both Abdallah and Elias—enough to start out with books and initial expenses for the 1953 school year. An appeal is being sent to the Kfarian Foundation, Inc., in the United States, where the village's more fortunate sons have banded together to share their good luck with the home town in Lebanon. What the results will be, it is too early to say, for a minimum of a hundred pounds can only just barely guarantee Abdallah a fighting chance to finish this decisive year at the Rashidya, while Elias' future hangs by an even more slender thread.

Reporter Goes To Kfair

A Star reporter went down to Kfair last week end to see what manner of village and people produce such students as Abdallah and such teachers as Ustez Yusuf.

It is a good two and a half to three hour drive, for a minimum "service" fare of not less than five pounds to Abdallah's town by Mt. Hermon.

From Chtaura, the Bekaa is crossed on the Damascus road to Medjel Anjar on the east side. There, instead of going left to Damascus, the right-hand road is followed south, past Rachaya and the Hasbani picnic grounds by the river. Turning left to Hasbaya, castle-town of Lebanon's last ruling princely family of Chehab, the road winds farther up the foothills of Jebal Sheikh to Kfair-Zeit, on the sunny southern slope of an east-west ridge running down from the mountain.

Below the road near the village entrance, Abdallah's school faces the ancient church of St. George. Above the road here is the Thabet's home. Abdallah lives with his mother and little brothers in Umm Mansur's house near the east end of town, where the one functioning spring and dwindling second one divide the Orthodox and Druze quarters.

Tomb of the First Druze

Kfair is two-thirds Christian, mostly Orthodox, and one-third Druze. Its near neighbor, Khalwa-Kfair, is all Druze, for on the latter's outskirts is Nebi Shet, reputed tomb of ed-Darazi, namesake of the sect and first Druze missionary to

come to Lebanon in the 11th Century. But the town's 800-odd inhabitants live in complete social integration, overflowing the old sectarian quarters and now virtually indistinguishable along traditional lines.

From their relatives in America they have received an electric power station so that Kfair, until midnight, now has adequate lighting including street lights.

Together they are struggling to develop a new life-giving water supply that alone can insure the village's survival. In the old days tobacco, mulberry and grape culture made Kfair prosperous and the two springs were adequate for the smaller population. Regie has ended the tobacco growing, the silk industry of Lebanon is no more and a vine disease has wiped out the grapes.

Kfair has a habit of producing progressive citizens, but most of these have to seek a living abroad.

Faris Bey El-Khoury

Syria's elder statesman, the distinguished Faris Bey el-Khoury is Kfair's most illustrious living son today. His brother, Ayoub el-Khoury, still maintains the family home in Kfair—which extended its hospitality to your reporter during the first night of his stay in Kfair. As-Sayed Ayoub's son Aref is the well-known Syrian short-story writer of today, who may follow in his uncle's footsteps in the long, hard fight for Arab unity and progress. Aref is the ARK's Syrian representative in Damascus.

Kfair's people are generous. Abdallah's family, who can ill-afford it, practically wrecked their precarious finances, in spite of all the ruses the reporter could employ, in extending a welcome dinner of Arab delicacies. Scarcely had the visitor set foot in the yard than Umm Abdallah cast a menacing glance at one of the family's chickens, doomed to become the piece de resistance of the evening's festivities.

Kfair: Hospitality Unlimited

The Thabets were equally insistant, as were the Khourys, the mukhtar, and a neighboring Druze family, while Ustez Yusuf's household surrounded the Beirut newspaperman in force.

All were proud of Abdallah, all were grateful for the outside help which had supplemented their slender means. The self-effacing Abdallah was prevailed upon to take his first picture with proud, beaming Ustez Yusuf and another at the school.

The Orthodox showed their spotless white church with its ancient carved portal stones, its crystal chandeliers of better days. The Druze disclosed the seldom-seen tomb of ed-Darazi, beneath Ustez Yusuf's footstep.

A Son Is Born To Ambassador Malik

A New Year's Day baby was born at Washington, D. C., to Dr. and Mrs. Charles H. Malik. The new-born babe came into the world at the Georgetown University Hospital in Washington after fifteen years of married bliss with Madame Eva Malik and is the first child of the distinguished and proud ambassador of Lebanon to the United States.

The infant was named Habeeb in honor of Dr. Malik's father in Lebanon.

LEBANON INVITED TO SOCIAL SECURITY CONFERENCE

An invitation to attend the eleventh conference of the International Union for Social Security was received by the Lebanon Government.

Twenty-nine governments were invited to attend the conference which will be held in Paris about the end of next month.

WILLYS SLATED FOR BOYCOTT

According to a cable from Baghdad, it has been established that the Willys Car factory has a branch in Israel for jeep cars.

The Arab governments are therefore expected to boycott the said company which has been bought by Kaiser-Fraser.

MUNICIPALITY VS. HYPODROME

The Ministry of Interior has approved the municipality budget which was returned to the Municipal Council. The Ministry recommended that the Council raise a case against the Beirut Hippodrome concessions.

ROAD TRAFFIC

A decree has been issued banning the running of trucks and carts on Beirut-Dahr el-Beidar road during the following hours:

Beirut-Dahr el-Beidar: between 1200 and 2200 hours.

Dahr el-Beidar-Beirut: between 0600 and 0900 hours, and between 1700 and 2200 hours.

This schedule remained in force up until October 15.

probably the oldest Druze Khalwa in Lebanon, while expeditions to virtually unknown historic sites of less country "off the map" were organized.

Figs and grapes were in season and it was impossible to pass farmers bringing home the produce of out-of-town terraces without being obliged to accept a handful of the choicest fruits.

This is Abdallah's Kfair today—the town and people to whom he wishes to devote his life by following in Ustez Yusuf's footsteps.

Will he succeed?

MALIK RAPS ISRAEL'S POLICY Calls On UN To Implement Its Palestine Decisions

United Nations—Dr. Charles Malik, Lebanon's Ambassador in Washington, took the rostrum at the UN headquarters and began with a tribute to Madame Vijaya Pandit, President of the General Assembly.

"The rise of Asia during the past eight years is best attested by the contrast between the state of affairs today and that prevailing at San Francisco in 1945, when the Charter for the United Nations was elaborated," he said.

"You were, Madam, at San Francisco, you tried to make your clear voice in the interest of freedom of your country heard by the diplomats and statesmen gathered there; but you were not permitted to enter the Conference, let alone to speak in it. And when you held your reception in the room of the Dons at the Mark Hopkins, some of those who attended that event literally boycotted you, acting under orders from their superiors, and, what was still more fearful, from the superiors of their superiors. You were at San Francisco, but you were outside; you were at the periphery of things. Today, you are at the center. This passage from the periphery to the center which you have in this span of eight years gone through in your remarkable career, only epitomizes for our epoch the phenomenal growth, in moral and political stature, of your great country and therewith of the whole continent of Asia."

Malik noted a "perceptible abatement in the international tension" and observed that "for the first time in the history of the U. N., the Soviet Union joined this year in pledging contributions toward more collaboration with the United Nations."

Of Egypt, Dr. Malik said:

"Thanks largely to the wisdom, firmness and high principles of the Egyptian Revolutionary Government under General Najib, Anglo-Egyptian problems appear to be on the way to a final settlement. Egypt has our complete support, as indeed that of every other Arab State, in her demands for the fulfillment of her national aspirations."

Malik had this to say on the Palestine problem: "The ever-present question of Palestine continues to be our persistent preoccupation. Seeing no attempt by the U. N., or, more precisely, by those members who are truly effective in the matter, at implementing this Organization's own solemn decisions, there is a hardening of feeling on both sides and a dangerous growth in the cynical belief that it is only force that seems to count."

He made the following observations on the failure to internationalize Jerusalem:

"There are attempts being made to persuade Jordan to establish its capital in the Old City of Jerusalem as a sort of compensation for accepting the Israeli Jerusalem. It is right to declare, again and again, that the Arabs will never accept the Capital of Israel to be in Jerusalem.

"Second, the Christian and Moslem religious forces also insist on the Internationalization of the Holy City. There is ample reason to believe that the Vatican entertains the same aims: this is made clear by the two encyclicals of the Pope of 1949 and some frequent declarations made by Catholic authorities. Only ten days ago a letter was sent to the Secretary-General of the U. N. by the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, whose President is none other than Francis Cardinal Spellman.

"Third, strategically and ideologically, Israel will never be satisfied with the New City as her capital. Nobody who has meditated profoundly upon the nature of Zionism and who has read with some care the pronouncements made by Zionist leaders, can have any doubt that the Real Jerusalem is the Old City, the site of the Temple.

"Therefore, dynamic Zionists will never rest until they secure for their State the Old City itself. It follows that whoever approves the transfer of the capital of Israel to the New City of Jerusalem, therewith and thereby willing—consciously or unconsciously—to see the Old City fall one day in the hands of Israel.

"The only way of averting this eventuality, which, I assure the Assembly, would have far reaching and real catastrophic consequences—and not solely for political reasons—is to implement the United Nations solemn resolution on the entire Holy City's internationalization.

"Even if we put aside for the moment the much too obvious strategic considerations involved, there remains the fact that Jerusalem is a Holy City to three World Religions. Nor must we also disregard the fact that the real impartiality and goodwill of the Great Powers, and especially of the United States of America, cannot be better proved than by their insistence on a strict and lawful execution and implementation of the decision on internationalization.

"It is not only a wall here, or a Garden there, or a Sacred Tomb yonder, that are 'HOLY' in Jerusalem; but the entire area, taken as a whole. So that the in-

escapable conclusion is, namely, that Jerusalem must be politically neutralized."

Dr. Malik continued: "It is fair to ask two questions:

"1. How is it that the Israeli Government, in connection with the tragic plight of the Palestinian Arab refugees, continues to pretend that there is no place for them in their own homeland, while at the same time, this same Israeli Government has admitted hundreds of thousands of Jews from all parts of the world and continues to invite Jews from everywhere to come and settle in Israel?

"2. If Arab and Israeli cannot live in peace and concord under the same political fold, if within the same national political system they cannot demonstrate that they need not subvert one another, how may we hope that the Israeli State and the Arab States will one day be able to entertain normal, mutual, pacific relations, whilst Israel has planted herself in the midst of the Arab world and lies now at the heart of it? If Arabs within Israel are suspect, wouldn't Arabs in this larger system be perfectly justified in suspecting Israel within them?

"The Arab Refugees are the key to practically every issue relating to Israel. The solemn resolution of the General Assembly with respect to them should be honored."

Malik remarked that the Arabs often are criticized for a "Negative" attitude, but he outlined the following to illustrate "Positive elements in the thinking of the Arabs": (A) If there is a serious determination by the U. N. to implement its decisions with respect to Palestine; (B) As a point of fact, they did agree in May, 1949, in Lausanne, to negotiate on the basis of these decisions; (C) If there is an absolute assurance by the Great Powers that territorial encroachment by Israel upon the Arabs will never be allowed; (D) If Israel, for the sake of peace, desists from aggravating the dangerous equilibrium between population and the absorptive capacity of the land, by putting an end to her present policy of immigration; (E) If the Arabs are actively helped to strengthen themselves through the medium of the Great Powers—so that they might feel secure against eventual aggression.

"If these conditions are fulfilled—and they are not only eminently positive, but they all fall within the bounds of reason, justice and possibility—then I believe things will begin to happen with respect to Palestine."

Those who love deeply never grow old; they may die of old age, but they die young.

POLITICS IN LEBANON

Recent bankruptcy cases were the subject of discussion at a two-hour meeting held by the Association of Beirut Merchants. Some of the speakers were reserved in their comments on the situation, and asked that the Government intervene directly to put an end to the crisis.

Recent contacts with Government for the reorganization of the administrative system that controls the implementation of the country's economic policy, it was revealed, have given no positive results. The government seems to insist upon banning any executive powers from the Economic Development Council. Still, a request for solution of the question was deferred for the time being.

The Association issued a communique which said that after consideration the general economic situation was found sound. The crisis is a universal one, the communique said, and recent bankruptcy and insolvency cases were caused by certain adventurers.

The communique concluded with a bitter denunciation of the moratorium question.

IN PARLIAMENT

The House met with 23 Deputies attending. Yusuf Az-Zein attacked the Regie Company and asked for a widening of the tobacco-cultivated areas.

Deputy Sami As-Solh asked for immediate presentation of the 1954 budget so that the House can begin considering the next one. The Deputy added that the present economic crisis has been caused by the delay in preparing the budgets.

Deputies George Akl and Kamal Jumblat dealt with the apple crisis and asked Government to find Arab and foreign markets for this product.

In reply Foreign Minister Alfred Nakash and Premier Abdullah Al-Yafi said

the Arab Economic Agreement has been ratified by Lebanon and Egypt, and will be ratified soon by Jordan and Iraq. The agreement will become operative one month after ratification by the latter governments.

Deputy Emile Lahoud then rose and launched a severe attack on the recent budget. He later asked for a progressive tax on built properties, increase of the benzine tax and the sale of state properties which are of no use to government.

LEBANON-SYRIAN ECONOMIC TALKS TO BE RESUMED

Following a telephone conversation between Economy Minister Rashid Karameh and his Syrian counterpart, Dr. Ownallah Al-Jabiri, the two Ministers will meet in a Lebanon mountain resort

to resume the discussion of the Syrian-Lebanon economic relations.

Minister Karameh who abstained from making any comments expressed his optimism and said he prefers to see these mixed meetings held without noise or official communiques.

Representatives of the Lebanon Industrial Association told Minister Karameh that they support any proposal that aims at the conclusion of an economic agreement with Syria on a comprehensive unity basis.

Commercial circles will convey their views to Minister Karameh before his meeting with the Syrian minister.

NEW ANTI-ISRAEL BOYCOTT MEASURES

The Eastern News Agency has reported the following among the most important decisions of the Arab Boycott office: (1) Banning of the importation of all products of foreign companies that grant Israeli companies the right to use their names; (2) Banning of all imports from all foreign companies and institutions that participate in Israeli companies and factories; (3) A recommendation to the Arab League Economic Committee prohibiting all Israel-bound planes from flying over Arab territory; (4) A recommendation to the Arab League Oil Committee to approve the banning of Arab oil from arriving in Haifa, and warning of the I.P.C. to liquidate all its relations with Israel within three months as from the beginning of October; (5) To ask Philco Company in Syria and Lebanon to prove that it has liquidated its branch in Israel; (6) Banning of all foreign ships that contact Arab ports from contacting any Israeli port, and (7) A recommendation to the Arab Governments to reconsider the facilities granted to Air France.

IPC, TAPLINE ASKED TO STEP UP PURCHASE OF LOCAL PRODUCTS

Economy Minister Rashid Karameh discussed with some high officials of the IPC the substitution by local products of certain commodities imported by the company.

The Minister said that the government is eager to encourage local production and wishes to see that foreign companies cooperate with it in the present crisis.

The IPC officials promised to consider the proposal.

GOVERNMENT VS. ELECTRICITY COMPANY

The Cabinet has decided to delegate

Jean Tayyan to defend the Lebanon Government before the International Court of Justice which will hear the case raised by France concerning the problem of the Beirut Electricity Company.

The French Government has asked the Court that the Lebanon Government agree to the principle of arbitration on the electricity dispute.

BUDGET DEADLINE

Premier Abdullah Al-Yafi issued a circular letter to all Ministries asking that the budgets for next year be sent to the Finance Ministry for reconsideration.

The Prime Minister explained the bad effects of the delay in presenting the budget, and said three weeks have already elapsed since he last asked the immediate presentation of the budget.

NEW F.A. PRESS HEAD TAKES OVER

Mohammed Malak, the new head of the press department in the Foreign Ministry, took over his duties. Malak replaces Khalil Itani, who was transferred to the Lebanon embassy in Washington.

The new chief represented the Foreign Minister in seeing off Saudi Finance Minister, Sheikh Abdallah Suleiman, who left for Europe.

TWO MORE BANKRUPTCIES

The Court of Appeal has announced the following bankruptcies: Tanios and Jean Gholam for LL. 1,200,000; and Gasparian Bros. for LL. 100,000. The four merchants concerned were detained.

Contacts are going on between the government and prominent businessmen to clarify the situation.

Abul-Huda Denies Collusion Charges

Jerusalem, Jordan—Tewfic Abulhuda, former Jordan prime minister, told the Star that he was ready to face any court and refute charges made against him to the effect that he was responsible for the conclusion of the Rhodes Agreement of the Golden Triangle.

Certain quarters in Jordan have been accusing Abulhuda of agreeing to the conclusion of the 1948 Rhodes armistice agreement with Israel and of ceding vast tracts of cultivatable land to Israel.

GERMAN PROSPECTORS AT WORK IN YEMEN

Sanaa—The West German mission to search for oil and metals in Yemen has started its work. The Yemen government had recently concluded with this mission an agreement for this purpose.

ELECTIONS

ST. ELI'S YOUTH

Syracuse, N. Y.

President, Fred Abdo; Vice-Pres., Alyce Marie Corey; Secretary, Frances Eassa; Treasurer, Edward Seikely.

EASTERN STATES SYO

President, Gabriel M. Andaleft, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Vice-Pres., Samuel Showah, Danbury, Conn.; Recording Secretary, Margaret Kattine, Paterson, N. J.; Cor-Secy., Edna Halal, Brooklyn; Treasurer, John Amory, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

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New Haven, Conn.

President, Yvonne Homsy; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Maharib Hassan; Secretary, Lila Hassan; Cor-Secy., Diane Sader; Treas., Cecilia Ramey; Sgt-at-Arms, George Sader.

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

BOSHKY - SAYKALI

Montreal, Can., Jan. 10—Shaheen and Zakia Boshky (Ain Hurshah) announce the marriage of their daughter Jacqueline to Elias Saykali, son of David Saykali (Kafr Mishki) of Ottawa, Canada.

AWAD - ZRAKE

Brooklyn, N. Y., Feb. 1—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Awad announce the marriage of their daughter, Alice-Marie, to Theodore Azrak.

MAMARY - NASSER

Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 8—Nicholas and Victoria Mamary announce the engagement of their daughter Jeanette to Richard Nasser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Salim Nasser, of Miami, Fla.

ABRAHAM - HIDER

Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 3—Tofic and Rose Abraham announce the marriage of their daughter Mae to William Hider, son of Selma and the late Monsour Hider, of Indianapolis, Ind.

KHOURY - BAROODY

Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 25—Basil J. Khoury announces the marriage of his sister Gene to Phillip Baroody, of New Brunswick, N. J.

NASSER - NASSER

Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 1, 1953—Nassar Moussa Nasser and wife, Wakfa, natives of Jordan, announce the engagement of their daughter, Farouka, to Mike Nasser, son of Ayoub Nasser, of Brooklyn.

FARAH - SHAHEEN

Canton, Ohio, Nov. 27—Miss Virginia Farah, daughter of the late Melham Farah (Anafar, Leb.) and Faris Shaheen Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Faris Shaheen, (Erneh, Leb.) were united in marriage by the Rev. Michael Shaheen, at St. George's Orthodox Church.

DAUGHTER OF KFEIR ENGAGED



Miss Wadad Bassett, Columbus, Ohio

Mrs. Abraham J. Bassett, native of Kfeir, Southern Lebanon, announces the engagement of her lovely daughter, Wadad to Najeeb Bofysil, of Lansing, Mich. The wedding to take place in June. The engagement was announced during an elaborate Christmas gathering at the home of the bride-to-be in Columbus, Ohio, where Wadad is a prominent member of the younger social set.

She is a graduate of the Williamson High School, Williamson, W. Va., where she was born twenty-five years ago. In the late 40s she moved with her parents and sisters to Columbus, Ohio, where her father operated an exclusive downtown grill-salon. The lounge is now being run by Wadad's two sisters, Gladys and Selma. The grill was the rendez-vous for the conventioners when the Mid-West Federation of Syr-Leb Clubs sponsored its conclave in 1950.

Wadad is the ARK's representative in Columbus and will resume her duties in Michigan when she takes up married life in Lansing. She is a member of the Order of The Eastern Star, the Syrian Orthodox Church and Club el-Watan in Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. Bofysil is a graduate of Lansing High School and attended Michigan State College. A veteran of World War II, and a member of the Men's Syr-Leb Club of Columbus.

BESHARA - DERANY

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 1, 1953—Victor Beshara announces the marriage of his daughter, Dorothy, to George Derany, son of Salim Derany.

WARDE - LUTFY

Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 9, 1954—Abdalla and Olga Warde announce the marriage of their daughter, Bernice, to Robert Habeeb Lutfy.

MY IMPRESSIONS OF THE NEAR EAST—SYRIA

By Prof. Basile D'Ouakil, Fordham University

In the previous article, mention was made of Lebanon's favorable conditions from many a point of view of comparison. Without embarrassing its larger and richer neighbors, one may add that the educational facilities afforded the Lebanites are unique and Beirut is the most favored of all cities of the Near and Middle East.

For a city if its size, the Lebanon capitol harbors two of the finest Universities to be found any where in the world, complete with Schools of Medicine, Law, Pharmacy, Engineering, and other departments. The older of the two is under the direction of the French Jesuit Fathers and is called Universite St. Joseph. The Jesuits are assisted in their work by a very competent teaching staff of both native and foreign professors and administrators. The other university American University of Beirut—is under the guidance and administration of American officials, functioning according to American standards and curricula. Its teaching staff includes American, foreign and native personnel. The university is sponsored by the American Board of Foreign Missions.

Colleges founded by native and foreign religious organizations have been flourishing in Lebanon for many generations. The famous College of Antoura, the efficient College de la Sagesse, the American International College, transferred from Smyrna, Turkey, are but a few of the great number of schools that provide the best instruction in any field—save perhaps for Koranic theology and law—throughout the entire Near East.

Syria is a much larger country than Lebanon, both in area and population. Let me interpolate here a thought which pertains to the United States. At the beginning of the century, when immigration to this continent was at its height, all immigrants from the Arabic-speaking Near East were dubbed "Syrians," and this because, under the Ottoman Empire, the entire territory that comprises today Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Israel, and Arabia was generally considered Syria in the United States immigration service. It is obvious, therefore, that present-day Syria is nowhere the size of its former self.

Syria is a proud country, its people are confident of its position and its future greatness. Syria has ambitions that perhaps go beyond its own frontiers. It is suspicious, and rightly so, of foreign organizations with political and economic axes to grind. Her dignity precludes accepting charity. Her independence,

city of the future as it was the city of the past, even in St. Paul's time. The new arteries, avenues and boulevards are built on a grand scale. I recall in my classes of history how Baron Hausmann developed Paris by cutting a swath across buildings and houses to create the Champs d'Elysees. Whoever is planning the new look in modern Damascus must have taken a page from Baron Hausmann's memoirs, because the broad avenues that start at the Railroad Station of the Hedjaz, in the heart of the city, continues to the desert of Syria.

There is no doubt the present leaders of Syria are following a policy that is both intelligent and constructive. Here again, I warn the reader not to be confused and make odious comparisons with what we call "American." Syria is not the United States; what is good for Syria might not be to our liking, by comparison, but if we are to be fair, our impressions and opinions must be entirely objective, because the problems facing Syria are solved or decided on different principles, conditions and traditions than we do in this country; it is no criticism that the solutions were bad or ineffective.

The prophets of doom better keep their opinions to themselves that Syria, because she acts differently than America, is surely on the road of oblivion and disaster.

Syria is planning to become self-sufficient within a reasonable period of time. Limitations of imports of luxury articles, establishment of industries that could be competitive because of cheap and plentiful labor, developments of ports and harbors, modernization of agricultural methods, road construction and canalization of rivers to distribute water to parched lands and water-thirsty towns are some of the projects on the Syrian agenda.

A proof of this objective of self-sufficiency is the development of the port of Lattaquie; the plans of which call for large and commodious docks and wharves to accommodate all ships that ply the Mediterranean, including the great liners that would call on annual cruises. The work is progressing well, and already the American Export liners call at Lattaquie for passengers and freight.

There are no railroads to speak of in Syria. Their destruction dates from the first World War. It is of necessity that people use taxies and motor-coaches for their travels. The services are fair, but the busses, as everywhere, are crowded and unsanitary.

Naturally, all these objectives can be reached only by a very slow process, due to the limited amounts the country has at its disposal because Syria's natural resources are meagre. An internal loan to provide funds for these works would have doubtful results regarding its success. Nevertheless, Syria's foreign trade, contrary to Lebanon's, registers a favorable balance every month, a healthy indication that the powers that be are on the right track and have the proper approach.

Building and repairs are visible everywhere. Damascus impressed me as the

its French Institute. They all are eminently qualified to occupy their important positions. I had the privilege of meeting with some of these men and discuss educational problems. I found them co-operative, and well-disposed to share their knowledge and information.

Internally the country is peaceful. Economically it is doing well. The standard of living, save in some districts of large cities, is very low; there is room for improvement in that direction.

Externally, modern Syria is a "closed" book. Not that the tourist is not welcome nor are there any impediments to travel anywhere or in obtaining visas, but the non-Arabic speaking and reading traveler has no means of knowing what is going on in the country, even though he may only be a few feet away from the center of government activities in its capitol, Damascus. There is no foreign-language press anywhere in Syria.

During my stay in Damascus, Aleppo, Tartous and elsewhere, I had no means of information (because I don't read Arabic). I had to be kept informed of the developments in Syria through the medium of Beirut's or Egypt's foreign language press. Were these papers that I read giving me true news or distorted views? Nationalism plays an important part in the making of a newspaper in the Near East. Was Syrian opinion, causes and effects propounded from the Syrian point of view? It was a helpless feeling that living in a country, you had to get your news second-hand, you might say, from papers published several hundred miles away, which more often than not disapproved of what was said or done in Syria.

I don't believe Syria nurtures xenophobia—evidence that it permits the sale of foreign magazines and papers in any language—but, it is my opinion, that the elimination or suppression of its foreign-language press does harm to the country. It deprives its friends of material and information to defend it, should the necessity arise, and here in America, the younger generation has no means of being directly informed of what is going on in their forefather's land of birth.

Contrary-wise, during my stay in Beirut, an English-language newspaper—the Star—began publication and an Armenian-language magazine was on its way to press. But in Syria, through the breadth and length of the country, I was not able to buy—because there are none published in the country.

General Chichakly's government in Syria is, I believe, the type that is needed in this period of transition, fol-

lowing upheaval, wars, revolution and riots.

A firm hand is needed and the General has it. It is my impression that General Chichakly has won the respect and confidence of the people, not only the Moslems, who form the very large majority of the population (85%), but also the rich and influential minority of Christians residing in the large cities.

A wise and timely gesture on the General's part was the accrediting, for the first time in its history, of a diplomatic mission to the Vatican. He appointed a brilliant scholar in the person of Dr. Anwar Hatem, a Melkite Catholic, as the first Minister of Syria to the Holy See.

The officials of the government. Such persons as Assad Mouhafel, chief of the Presidential Cabinet; Kadri Kal'adji, head of press relations of the President, whom I met and appreciated, are a credit to any country. Elsewhere in Syria, amongst the highest officials, there was courtesy and welcome for the visitor or traveler. But the same does not hold true with minor employees, especially the custom-house inspectors either at the Syro-Lebanon or Syro-Jordanian borders. They are officious, suspicious, proud, discourteous and even arrogant.

In either of these afore-mentioned places these men could learn a good lesson in manners and behaviour from their colleagues across the frontiers of Lebanon or the Kingdom of Jordan. But if one is irked at the conduct of these "small" people, one cannot forget the excellent and worthwhile Syrians whom I met and in whose homes I was received with the utmost cordiality and hospitality. I spoke before the Rotary Club and the Catholic Club in Aleppo and therein I met officials of the government, gentlemen all, they are the peers of the best in the world.

That there is great wealth amongst private citizens in Syria is evidenced by the magnificent homes that one cannot fail to see everywhere. The writer was privileged and happy too, to visit many of these luxurious homes and he could not help admiring the construction, the architecture, the furnishings and furniture. Even in America, one has to be amongst the very rich to see anything comparable.

If some of this wealth were invested in the future of the country, in developing industries, in creating a merchant marine, in building factories, Syria indeed, would be very prosperous in a relatively short space of time.

(In the next article, I shall dwell on Egypt.)

KAISSER WEHBY, native of Burmania, passed away Jan. 9, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

ROSES OF MARJ-AYOUN

(Picture on front page)

The ARK's front page cover for this month features the beautiful debutante Miss Lila Rashid of Peoria, Ill.

Lila is a prominent socialite and co-ed in Illinois' second city. Now 20 years young, Lila is the charming daughter of John and Rose Rashid, natives of Marj-Ayoun in Southern Lebanon where roses of Lebanon abound.

Miss Rashid was awarded honors in the beauty contest sponsored by the Midwest Federation of Syr-Leb Clubs during the Chicago convention held at the Sherman Hotel in 1951.

She is a sophomore at Bradley University in Peoria, where she is affiliated with the Chi Omega sorority. Her brother Floyd Rashid is a pre-med student at the same University.

Lila is majoring in Home Economics and is well versed as a songstress and pianist. Her other hobbies are swimming and tennis.

Chairman of Overseas Convention



Michael K. Stephan

Michael K. Stephan, former president of the Midwest Federation of Syr-Leb-Amer Clubs, was appointed by George Barakat, president of the National Association as chairman of the Overseas Convention to Lebanon and Syria in 1955.

Mr. Stephan has just recently returned from Beirut where he was awarded the Medal of Merit by the Republic of Lebanon for his extensive public relations work in America in behalf of Lebanon.

Emigration Exceeds Israel Immigration

Jaffa—Tel Aviv—Israel, previously threatened with a polyglot overflow of world Jewry, now faces the psychologically depressing picture of large-scale exodus.

In the first six months of 1953, more Jews left the young homeland than migrated to it. Immigrants who turned emigrants are leaving at an annual rate of 8½ percent. In 1952, 13,571 left and said they were not returning.

Under-population is definitely not one of the tiny Middle-Eastern state's problems, but nevertheless the Jews—from government officials to the man in the street—regard the tipping of the balance to the "go-downers" (emigrants) as an ominous sign.

Discontent Seen

Increasing emigration is regarded by all as a sign of increasing discontent and lack of faith in the government and the state.

The new trend becomes increasingly significant when it is considered that not all of the "rebels" against the Promised Land can afford to leave. Thousands from Central Europe have not the ability nor desire to return to lands where they knew only persecution and tragedy.

About half the "go-downers" left Israel for the United States and Canada. A group of 22 Hungarian Jews returned en masse to Hungary at the expense of the Communist government. The others scattered about the Middle East and Europe.

Significantly, many of the "go-downers" come from bourgeois backgrounds and the merchant classes of Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

The Israeli Government has started an investigation into emigration. Ironically, it was only a few years back that opposition leaders were charging in the Knesset (Parliament) that Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's policy of unrestricted immigration would spell the death of the new state.

Ramallah Meeting

JERUSALEM—After a conference in Ramalla to discuss the application forms distributed by Israel for the release of one million pounds of Arab frozen accounts in Israel, Palestinian lawyers issued a statement warning depositors against signing those forms and advising those who had already signed to withdraw them. The lawyers considered the forms detrimental to the interests of refugees.

In New York City, employees of the Arabian American Oil Company are preparing to collect clothing for the refugees during the current season. Their

Private Aid To Refugees Stepped Up By AMER

NEW YORK—Officials of American Middle East Relief, a private-citizen group, reported today that campaigns to collect clothing, medical and other supplies for the Palestine Arab refugees have hit a new high during the past few weeks.

Heightened activity is attributed to interest and concern during the current period for people of an area revered as the birthplace of the Christian faith.

Expressions of this interest have taken the practical form of programs inaugurated by private citizens in an effort to aid the refugees.

In Rochester, New York, members of the local Young Women's Christian Association's World Fellowship Committee recently completed a clothing drive on behalf of the refugees. The clothes were sent to AMER in New York with the note.

"If you have any current request for special articles needed, please let us know. Our committee is interested and will try to send additional packages from time to time."

In Kansas City, Missouri, the local Syrian-American Club collected some 24 crates of clothing. The Kansas City Star gave free publicity to the campaign. A local trucking company donated free truck transportation of the clothing to AMER headquarters in New York.

In Norfolk, Virginia, local churches are cooperating with the YWCA World Fellowship Committee in a clothing drive which ended last spring.

Leader of the drive is Rev. Eric B. De Pendleton, rector of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany. Local radio stations have provided free broadcasting time to publicize the drive. Local clergymen are also publicizing the needs of the refugees in special sermons.

In Brooklyn, New York, various church, civic and social organizations are setting aside periodical schedules for special clothing collection campaigns on behalf of the Arab refugees.

High ranking clergymen of the Protestant and Catholic faiths have endorsed the campaigns. Among them are Archbishop Anthony Bashir Syrian Orthodox Church Metropolitan of New York and of North America, and the Very Rev. Thomas J. McMahon, national secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association.

In New York City, employees of the Arabian American Oil Company are preparing to collect clothing for the refugees during the current season. Their

Annihilation of Arabs In Israel

Commenting on the treatment of the Arab minority in Israel, AD-DIFAA (Jerusalem) says a Catholic priest recently visited Israel and studied the problems of the Arab minority there and then went back to the U. S. where he submitted a report of what he saw to Cardinal Spellman.

"In his report, the Catholic priest affirmed to Cardinal Spellman that the Israelis treat the Arab minority residing there in a manner which will lead to the annihilation of the Arab race in Israel. The visit of the Catholic priest to Israel followed several notes which the Arabs residing in Israel sent to Cardinal Spellman asking his help. Press cables said the Catholic priest did not reveal his name to protect himself from Zionist reprisals.

Hitler was accused by the Anglo-American-Zionist trio of being the enemy of Christianity because he persecuted the Jews. But when the British and Americans support the Israeli gangs in the latter's annihilation of the Arab minority in the land of Christ, those states should, perhaps be termed the friends of Christianity and the defenders of human rights.

DIPLOMATIC CHANGES IN BAGHDAD

DAMASCUS.—The Syrian press reported that General Abdulmuttaleb Al Amin, commander of Iraqi forces for the Baghdad area, has been appointed by the Iraqi government as Iraqi ambassador in Damascus. He will replace Mussa Shahbandar who was appointed Iraqi ambassador in Washington.

Dr. Farid Zeinuddin, Syrian Ambassador in Washington, will present his credentials to the president of the Mexican Republic as Syrian minister to Mexico. Dr. Maamoun Hamawi will become Charge d'Affaires of the Syrian legation in West Germany in the place of Dr. Ibrahim Ustuwani who has been transferred to the foreign ministry in Damascus.

Contributions will be shipped by AMER which has U. S. State Department approval as a private agency working on behalf of the refugees.

AMER officials noted that intensification of American concern for the refugees may be best judged by the fact that new campaigns to aid them have commenced within the last five months in 149 communities.

This is in addition to campaigns which are held annually in such large cities as New York, Boston, Chicago and Cleveland.

Pocket Edition of Koran Now Available in English

KORAN REACHES U. S. PUBLIC

The growing interest of Americans in Islamic culture, a point stressed in the recently-concluded Princeton University colloquium on Islamic thought and culture, was further emphasized with the publication in English of "The Meaning of the Glorious Koran."

The late Mohammed Marmaduke Pickthall, English scholar and convert to Islam, is author of the book which is published by the New American Library of World Literature, Incorporated, of New York.

A first edition of 101,000 copies of the paper-bound work was distributed to thousands of bookdealers throughout the United States for the sale which officially began recently.

Asian and Near Eastern delegates to the colloquium received advance copies of the work when they attended a special colloquium session at the Mosque and Islamic Institute in Washington, D. C.

The work of a devout believer, "The Meaning of the Glorious Koran" is preceded by a 29-page introduction that outlines the life of Mohammed and treats of his arduous but successful efforts to establish faith in one God among the Arabs.

The book's front cover, depicting a Mosque framed with colored arabesque designs, is the work of Rashid ud-Din, Pakistani artist who is currently studying the bookprinting trade in New York.

The reverent tone of the edition is in keeping with the high educational standards set by the new American Library of World Literature for the series of books it has published for the last seven years under the trade mark of "Mentor" books.

This is pointed out by Theodore Waller an executive of the company, which ranks high among publishers of paper-bound books whose low price places them within the budget range of every American reader. Such books enjoy wide sale because they may be procured in drug and department stores, train and bus stations and airports, as well as in regular bookstores.

Speaking of the reasons for the publication of Pickthall's work at this time, Waller said:

"For some time our company has been interested in Asia and the Middle East and has been undertaking exploratory talks with editors of the region on the subject of which books from the area might be brought to the attention of readers in other parts of the world. Our publication of "The Meaning of the Glorious Koran" at this time indicates the

increasing interest we are focusing on the Middle East and on Asia."

Doctor Mahmoud Hoballah, director of the Islamic Institute in Washington, D. C., has been among those praising the publication in English of "The Meaning of the Glorious Koran."

In a letter to the publishers, Doctor Hoballah said in part:

"In publishing 'The Meaning of the Glorious Koran' the new American Library is contributing to better understanding between the citizens of the United States and the Moslem world. I am delighted that you chose to reprint this explanatory translation and I hope that this 'Mentor Book' will be read by everyone who is eager to appreciate the culture of Islam."

(Editor's note: For the benefit of readers unfamiliar with the difficulty of conveying the spirit and feeling of the Koran in any language other than Arabic it should be pointed out that there are NO authorized translations, even by Moslems. The explanatory text by Pickthall was checked word by word at al-Azhar University, Cairo, by leading Moslem authorities, however, and is said by them to be the truest approximation of the original yet published in a foreign tongue.)

Chamoun, Educators, Refugees See AFME Head

President Kameel Chamoun received Miss Dorothy Thompson, head of the American Friends of the Middle East and distinguished columnist, who had arrived from Cairo by air. She later called on Premier Salam in his office, and on Foreign Minister George Hakim at the Foreign Ministry.

In the afternoon she was the guest of honor at a tea party in the house of refugee leader Dr. Issat Tannous.

Among those present were Archie Crawford, Fuad and Mrs. Sarrouf, and Dr. Nicola Ziadeh of the AUB, Colonel William A. Eddy of Tapline, Amir Adel Arsalan and a number of Palestinian refugees.

Miss Thompson is continuing her contacts with leading Lebanon and Arab personalities during her stay in Beirut.

ANOTHER ROAD KILLING

Abboud Shahin, a laborer employed by the Middle East Airlines, was killed on the Sidon Beirut road by an unknown car which hit him while he was driving his motorcycle.

Abboud was married two months ago.

Abou Ben Adhem

By Leigh Hunt

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
And saw within the moonlight of his room,

Making it rich and like a lily in bloom,
An angel writing in a book of gold.
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold;

And to the presence in the room he said,
"What writest thou?" The vision raised its head,
And, with a look made of all sweet accord,

Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
"And is mine one?" said Abou.
"Nay, not so," replied the angel.

Abou spoke more low, but cheerily still,
And said "I pray thee then
Write me as one that loves his fellow-men."

The angel wrote and vanished.

The next night
It came again, with a great wakening light,
And showed the names whom love of God had blessed;
And, lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

EGYPT-UNRWA AGREEMENT

The Egyptian government has agreed with UNRWA that refugees may settle in northern Sinai if UNRWA can find sufficient water for them. The Egyptians want the southern half of the peninsula reserved for their own surplus population.

UNRWA's search for underground water has not been gratifying to date, but Fawzi Ghussein believes the Zubaida method provides a successful alternative. In a lengthy report to the Arab League and UNRWA, Mr. Ghussein recently drew up complete plans for constructing Zubaida canals at strategic spots in Sinai.

According to Mr. Ghussein's drawings, the underground canal walls will be made of stones fitted together loosely, so that water may seep in by osmosis. At intervals, wells will be sunk in the canal for drawing water to the land's surface for drinking or irrigation.

Mr. Ghussein points out that the Sinai peninsula is twice as big as all Palestine. If the Zubaida method works, Sinai may be the answer to the majority of homeless Arab refugees who have existed near Gaza since 1948.

POPE SENDS AID TO PALESTINE



Monsignor Thomas McMahon of New York, President of the Pontifical Mission for Palestine and National Secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association in the United States, gives a check in the name of Pope Pius XII to the stricken people of Qibya, Jordan, where 66 people were killed in an attack by armed Jewish forces on October 14, 1953. The Pontifical Mission also gave other aid to this stricken village of 1,600 persons. On October 1st Monsignor McMahon, with Syrian Ambassador Farid Zeineddine, were moderators at the Forum on the Palestine Refugees sponsored by the National Association of Syr-Leb Clubs during the Eastern States Convention in New York.

ELECTIONS

ST. MARY'S ORTHODOX SOCIETY Brooklyn, N. Y.

President, Elia Khouri; Vice-Pres., Dewey Awad; Secretary, Victor Samia; Ass't Secy., Alex Zagby; Treasurer, George Shamyer; Ass't Treas., George Lewis; Directors: Aleer Couri, Edward Zraick, Eli Zrake, Najeeb Sydnawy, and

Jos. Ashi.

SYRIAN SOCIAL CLUB Union City, N. J.

President, Hank Shabbab; Vice-Pres., Shukri Couri; Treasurer, Fouad Salamy; Secretary, Joseph Lian. Directors: Elias Sayour, William Karsa, Mitchell Hadad, Victor Awad, and William Teen.

SYR-LEB-AMER CLUB Orlando, Fla.

President, Joseph F. Hatem; Vice-Pres., Fred Tamney; Treasurer, George Milan; Secretary, Lydia Momary; Sgt.-at-Arms, Paul Deeb. Directors: Mrs. Rebecca Gazil, Mike Solomon, George Fekany, Fred Zaytoun and Naji Momary.

BETA LAMBDA CLUB OF ARKANSAS

President, Gladys Akle, Joiner; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Woodrow Fordeecy, Luxora; Treasurer, Mrs. Ralph Kouri, Blytheville; Secretary, Mrs. William George, Luxora; Reporter, Mrs. Mike Simon, Blytheville.

SYRIAN AMERICAN CLUB New Orleans, La.

President, T. J. Stoma; 1st Vice-Pres., Gladys Chehardy; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mike Kyamie; Rec.-Secy., Najeeb David; Cor-Secy., Mrs. Robert Manak; Treasurer, Emile Saba.

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ISRAEL REJECTS BENNIKE'S RIVER JORDAN RULING

Tension grew high on the Syrian-Israeli borders as Israel formally rejected General Vagn Bennicke's ruling that Israel must stop digging a canal in the Jordan river bed in the demilitarized zone separating the two countries.

General Bennicke, head of the International Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine, ruled that Israel should stop her attempt to divert the course of the Jordan river to Israel-held territory. Syria had protested that the canal would give Israel strategic advantages contrary to the armistice agreement.

In reply to Bennicke's decision, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett said there was no justification for Bennicke's ruling that Israel must stop work on the canal project. Sharett claimed Israel's action was peaceful and constructive.

Rejecting Bennicke's ruling that Israel should stop work on the canal and seek agreement with Syria on the issue, Sharett claimed that Syria was not a party in the conflict because the project, according to Sharett, was an internal one. If anybody must be agreed with, Sharett said, it would be the Arab inhabitants of the demilitarized zone. But, Sharett continued, since no one was harmed by the Israeli project then there was no need for agreement with anyone.

Distorting historical facts, Sharett said the Huleh reclamation project did not raise any complaint and the result of its discussion by the Security Council was to continue working on it on condition it did not prejudice the right to private property of the Arab inhabitants. Israel, he said, is working on the digging of a canal to divert the course of the Jordan river without violating Arab land nor depriving Arab territory of water.

Attacking General Bennicke and his Truce Organization, Sharett said he did not hear of any complaints from that Organization during the first three weeks of September when work on the canal was going on. He added that Bennicke took his decision under the pressure of Syrian threats and said Israel views such a situation seriously. Sharett said General Bennicke has no right to order nor to impose his will on any one of the two sides because he has no administrative authority on the no man's land.

The Israeli foreign minister then expressed Israel's preparedness to discuss the case at the Security Council. Official circles in Tel Aviv affirmed that work on diverting the course of the river Jordan was going on, especially the digging of a canal between Banat

Yacoub Bridge and Lake Tiberias. Those circles stressed that work will continue no matter what the result would be and that Israel would not be responsible for consequences.

General Bennicke, on the other hand, is studying Israel's reply and is expected to raise the question to the Security Council with Israel's refusal to abide by his decision.

The Syrian foreign ministry is studying Israel's reply to General Bennicke's ruling and is awaiting his next step, after Israel's refusal to abide by his decision. Upon such a step Syria will decide its attitude.

Lesson To Israel

BEIRUT advises the people of Syria to unite and stand behind the army in the latter's attitude towards Israel's move to divert the course of the Jordan River.

"It seems the situation has become so serious that Syria has had to warn Israel to stop all attempts to divert the course of the river or else Syria will take necessary measures to compel Israel to stop her illegal acts by force. Syria has stated in her ultimatum to Israel, delivered through the International Supervision organization that she is ready to take any necessary step which would put an end to Israel's aggression.

"This is an honorable attitude of which we are proud. It is high time that the gangs of Israel should be taught a lesson in respecting the treaties which they sign. Syria has only taken such an attitude after losing faith in the UN and its organizations.

"We are sure that the Syrian army, helped by other Arab armies will move to implement its ultimatum and carry out the plan which it laid down to protect its interests."

Ancient Human Skeleton Found

BAGHDAD—The remains of the Shanidar Child, which may be the earliest example of the direct ancestors of the human race yet discovered, have been unearthed in a cave 350 miles north of here by American anthropologist Ralph F. Solecki working with Iraq excavators.

The shattered skeleton of the child who was about 20 months old when death struck, had been buried in Shanidar cave for at least 75,000 years and perhaps 150,000 years, according to the discoverer.

No Meal in Lebanon Is Complete Without Tabbouleh

This is a typical Lebanese dish. Any dinner party is incomplete if Tabbouleh is not included among the hors d'oeuvres. Foreigners consider it a salad and eat it with their meat, but a Lebanese gives it an important role and offers it separately, eaten with grape leaves, lettuce or cabbage leaves. It is also a perfect "Maza" dish with Arak.

Tabbouleh is easy to make and inexpensive.

1 cup Burghul (fine crushed boiled wheat)

1 small onion, preferably green

1 tomato

1 bunch of green mint leaves

3 bunches of parsley

Half cup of olive oil

Half cup lemon juice

2 tablespoons salt

Half teaspoon pepper

Soak burghul until soft. In cold water it requires two hours, in warm water one hour.

Wash parsley and mint leaves then chop up fine.

Cut the onion into small pieces. Drain the burghul well.

Add parsley, mint leaves and onion to it and pour over the oil, salt, pepper, lemon juice and mix together. Cut the tomato into small square pieces, adding it to the salad mixture. Let it stand in the icebox for half an hour before serving.

"Kusa Mohshe" Popular Dish

Among the popular Lebanese dishes is "Kusa Mohshe" or stuffed marrow squash. It is a regular family dish, easy to make and rich in its food value.

Marrows should be small in size, and when you core them, they must be neatly hollowed out. The seeds should be removed.

10 marrows

1 large cup rice

1 cup chopped lamb meat

2 cups tomato juice

1 teaspoon mixed pepper and cinnamon

Half tablespoon salt.

Wash rice well and mix it with meat, salt, cinnamon and pepper.

Hollow out the marrows and stuff each three-quarters full of rice mixture. Arrange in a pan, adding tomato juice and a little salt. Cook on medium fire 30 minutes, then lower the heat and let them simmer for another half hour. Serve hot with its tomato sauce.

OBITUARIES

AFIF G. HADDAD, native of Annar el-Hosn, Lebanon, husband of Pauline Haddad, father of Fred and Joseph Haddad and Mrs. Affifa Cusma, passed away Dec. 7, at Brayton, Pa.

SALEEM JOS. FAYAD, native of Medghan el-Shouf, husband of Wadad Fayad, father of Mineh and Virginia Fayad, passed away Nov. 29, at Washington, D. C.

HINDE SABAT ABOOD, wife of Assad Abood, sister of Alia Habeeb, Takla, Haneina and Naief Sabat, passed away Dec. 2, at Rye, N. Y.

JAMES D. HAJJAR, husband of Josephine Hajjar, father of David, Albert and Victor Hajjar, passed away Nov. 29, at Harrisburg, Pa.

RAHIL HOLLOW SAMA'AN, wife of Naheim Sama-an, mother of Mrs. Evelyn J. S. Awn, Mrs. Violet and Joseph, Alfred, John and Caroline Sama'an, passed away Nov. 29, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

PHILIP ELIAS GOREYAB, age 65, father of Albert and Felix Goreyab, brother of Rev. N. and Jameel Goreyab and Mrs. Najla Nassir, passed away Dec. 7, at Syracuse, N. Y.

NAHMI MASSAD, native of Saghbine, brother of Sleyman Massad, husband of Theresa Massad, and father of Mike, Paul, Julia and Helen Massad, passed away Dec. 5, at Akron, Ohio.

JOHN G. YOUNES, age 58, native of

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Kafr Akka el-Koura, father of Elias, Tofic and Nicola Younes, passed away Dec. 6, at Elmira, N. Y.

ASSAD J. SAWAYA, father of Vivian, Viola and Edmond Sawaya, brother of Mrs. Sarah F. Zerouni and Mrs. Matilda Hakim, passed away Dec. 24, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

GEORGE ZAIN, husband of Isabelle Zain, father of Gloria Zain, passed away Dec. 23, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

JOHN M. KASSIS, age 57, native of Aitha el-Fakhar, husband of Mary Goreyab Kassis, father of Nicholas, George, Howla and Virginia Kassis, passed away Dec. 18, at Grand Rapids, Mich.

TOM RAHALL ASSALEY, husband of Julia Assaley, father of Fowzi, George, Raymond and Diana Assaley, passed away November 26, at Montreal, Canada.

LILLIE SAHLY, beloved wife of Faris Sahly, passed away November 7 at Cleveland, Ohio.

GEORGE MICHAEL HABEEB, husband of Elizabeth Habeeb, father of Milton Habeeb, passed away November 22, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

ASSAD KHALEEL SAAB, father of Mesdames Emilie Moawad, Eddie, George Najeeb, Fred and Habeeb Saab, passed away November 22, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

MAE GEORGE HAIK, mother of George, Fred Jameel and Leila Haik,

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OBITUARIES

GEORGE ANTER, native of Zahleh, brother of Mike and Joseph Anter and Mrs. Simon Maron, father of Moses, Richard, Rose and Genevieve Anter, passed away Dec. 20, at Cleveland, Ohio.

ANNA SIRGANY FEDERICO, native of Zahleh, wife of Lorenzo Federico, mother of Rose-Mary Federico, sister of Adele Habib Kourbage, Affifa and Lilian Sirgany, passed away Dec. 18, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

MARCELIA HOLLOW THOMAS, mother of Alex and Fouad Thomas, Mrs. Eva J. Boutross and Mrs. Abdle A. Anton, sister of Nahoum Hollow, of Miami, Fla., passed away Dec. 22, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

SELMA HERRO, wife of Khalil Abalan Herro, niece of Charles Bab, public relations director for the Mid-West Federation of Syr-Leb Clubs, passed away Dec. 15, at Milwaukee, Wis.

MARY SAAD ABRAHAM, mother of Fred and Labeeba Abraham passed away Dec. 18 at Brooklyn, N. Y.

EASSA SALEM, native of Howash el-Metn, husband of Nassoum Salem, father of Sam and Jennie Salem, passed away Dec. 21, at New Castle, Pa.

MRS. FOUMIA NAHAL, native of Zahleh, wife of Joseph Nahal, passed

away Dec. 20, at Lawrence, Mass.

DR. LEWIS G. AIDE, age 51, native of Ma'asir es-Shouf, son of Khalil George and Barbara NeJame Aide, former resident of Winsted and Waterbury, Conn., and practitioner of Brooklyn, N. Y., passed away at the home of his sister Matilda in Bellmead, Texas, Dec. 13. Body was transferred to Winsted, Conn., for burial. Besides his sister Matilda, Dr. Aide is also survived by a son, Lt. Fouad in the U. S. Army and two brothers, Nicholas of Brooklyn, N. Y., and George of Orlando, Fla.

DEATHS IN THE HOMELAND

JBEIL—Mrs. Sultana M. Quak.

BEIRUT—Tofic Natour.

KAFR-AMMI—Joseph Tamer Shaker.

ZAHLEH—Nackli Sa'adalla Najjar.

DJEZZINE—Mrs. Miriam Assad Karam Azar.

BEIRUT—Elias Malik Khouri.

WADI-SAHROUR—Nahoum Abu-Rashid.

TRIPOLI—Jaber Jowher, editor of el-Ra'ad.

BECHEREE—Assaf J. Rahmi.

BEIRUT—Atty. Roukis Nader and Emil G. Tweini.

ALEH—Dr. Salim G. Talhouk.

BEDADOUN—Regina Khouri.

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The Syrian Ark

A. F. ZAINY, EDITOR
 148 EAST MARKET STREET
 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

To Those Who Are Interested In Our National-Civic and Social Affairs.

The Syrian ARK is a Monthly Magazine devoted entirely to the general welfare of the Syrian and the Lebanonian People.

It specializes and carries in detail all the news of the National and International activities of our Federations of Syrian-Lebanon Societies of the United States, Eastern, Western, Mid-Western, Southern and Canadian Federations, and the news of all individual societies, as well as the social affairs of their members.

In its social department you will find the doings of your friends anywhere in the country and carries your own activities to your friends. Every club should have an ARK reporter for this particular purpose.

In the ARK'S editorials you will find the aspiration of higher sentiments of self-respect and good-will.

It deserves the immediate attention of every Syrian or Lebanonian, who is interested in the general welfare of our people, and the cost is only two dollars per year.

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Dr. W. S. Zarick Dies at Indianapolis



Dr. Waheeb Salim Zarick, Indianapolis physician, died suddenly of a heart attack on June 28.

The sudden death was a shock to the doctor's many friends as he was up to the last minute in the midst of propagating activities for the Mid West Federation of which he was past president.

He was born in Tripoli, Syria, and came to the United States with his parents when he was 7 years old. The Zaricks settled in Frankfort, Indiana, where Waheeb received his elementary schooling and lived until 1920.

He came to Indianapolis to attend the Indiana University Medical School from which he was graduated in 1927. He previously had attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Dr. Zarick was assistant professor of anatomy at Indiana University School of Dentistry and was a public school physician.

Besides his activities with the Mid West Federation of Syrian American Clubs, Dr. Zarick was former president of the Indiana Society of Magicians. He was also a member of the Syrian American Lebanon Brotherhood, Knights of St. George, and the city and state medical societies and belonged to the Phi Beta Pi fraternity.

In 1926, he was married to Ann Kurker, and she and their son, Joseph Waheeb Zarick, age 9, survive, together with two brothers, N. S. Zarick, of Indianapolis, Edward Zarick of New York, a sister, Mrs. James Alexander, and a niece, Mrs. Jos. Lataif, of Indianapolis.

Funeral services were held at the Indianapolis Syrian Orthodox Church of St. George with the Rev. Gabriel Salhany officiating.

SYR-AMER-G LEBANON SOCIETY Shreveport, La.

On March 20 the Syrian American Girls Society of this city presented a musical tea at the Womens' Department Club.

On May 29, at the same club hall, pupils of Miss Louise Yazbeck's School of Music presented an aria of selections to a large audience of music critics. Dickey Haddad played an accordion solo.

Miss Yazbeck is an accomplished pianist. Her pupils are taught the rudiments and theory of harmony, piano and accordion. Certificates awarded to graduates of Miss Yazbeck's school are accepted for entrance in institutions of dramatic arts.

NOTED WRITER QUOTES GIBRAN KHALIL GIBRAN

William T. Ellis, noted writer of religious subjects and world traveler, quoted the late Gibran Khalil Gibran, the famed Syrian author and philosopher, in his "Seven Sentence Sermons" on June 11—his weekly syndicated newspaper feature, which appears in the majority of newspapers from coast to coast on the Sunday church page.

Ellis used in his column, probably one of the best known axioms written by the Syrian:

"And let today embrace the past with remembrance and the future with longing."—Gibran Khalil Gibran.

SYRIAN PRIEST CELEBRATES FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION



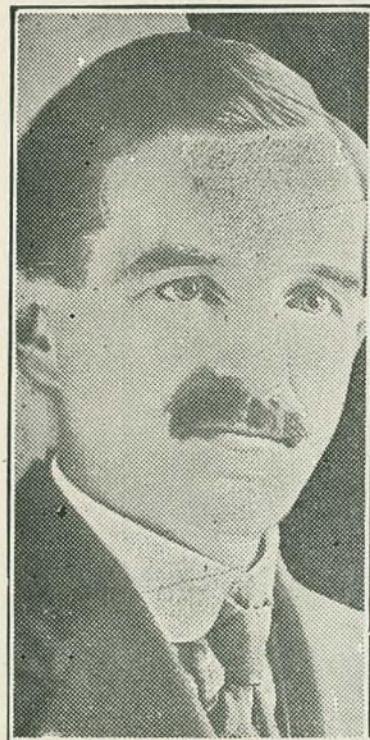
REV. MGR. SERAPHIM R. ROUMIE, CHICAGO, ILL.

On Sunday, July 10, the Rev. Roumie, who is widely known in the great metropolis as "The Healing Priest," will celebrate his forty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, at the Syrian Church of St. John the Baptist, Chicago.

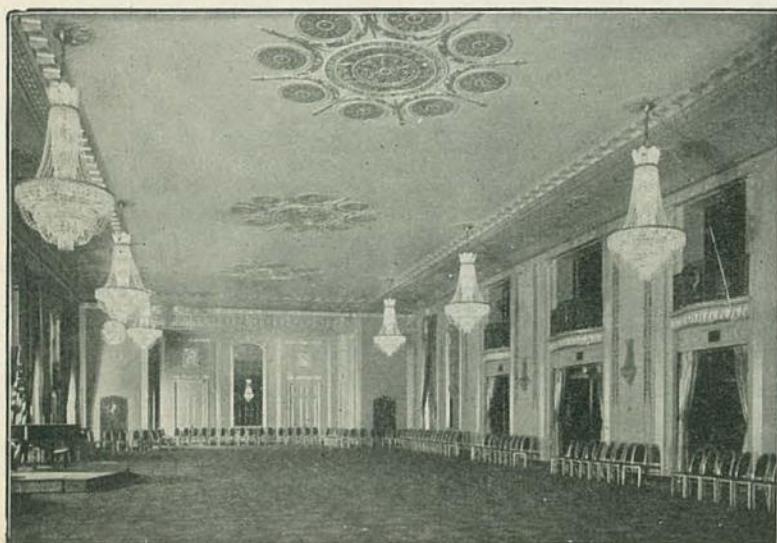
The festivals will be guided by Michel D. Kadri, Chicago ARK writer and author.

Besides the oriental buffets, customary on such occasions, there will be "A Night of Arabian Frolic" with an interpretation by the Little Syrian Theatre Guild of which Mr. Kadri is general director.

About four hundred persons are expected to join in the festivities.



HON. Daniel W. Hoan, Mayor of the City of Milwaukee, who will deliver the address of welcome to the Mid-West Federation of Syrian American Clubs. Mayor Hoan's proclamation designating August 5-6-7 as "Milwaukee's Syrian Days" will be published in the August ARK.



Mid West Federation 1938 Convention City

Scenes to be visited by the conventioners to the Third Annual conclave of Syrian American Clubs in the Mid West, August 5-6-7.

Above is the lake line of the big city with a bird's eye view of the Milwaukee City Hall in front.

Center: Aeroplane view of Milwaukee's Court House and State Board of Safety Building.

Left: The Crystal Ballroom of the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, where the official banquet of the Mid West Conventioners will take place.

It is in this elaborate ballroom with its multi-symphony coloring, where the selection of the country's six most beautiful Syrian girls will draw the attention of everyone.

There will be many prominent officials in attendance to witness this most unique activity, which is sponsored by the Milwaukee Syrians under the chairmanship of Nick Numair.

The selection of the "beauties" will be followed by the Grand March leading to the reserved banquet tables.