The Alumnae Magazine

Published by the
Alumnae Association of Constantinople Woman's College

◆ ◆ ◆

March 1931

THE

ALUMNAE MAGAZINE

Volume 1 March 1931 Number 1

Published by the
Alumnae Association of Constantinople Woman's College
Nermine Mouvafac 1927.....Editor-in-Chief
Despina Spanides 1929 .....News Editor
Maro Depanian 1921 .....Business Manager
Mannig Arakelian 1928.....Subscription Manager

50 Piastres a copy **Price** **20 Cents abroad**

All communications should be sent to the college
Galata P. O. Box 39

The Alumnae Magazine

Published by the

Alumnae Association of Constantinople Woman's College

✦ ✦ ✦

March 1931

Alumnae Homecoming — December 1930.

The Alumnae Magazine

Vol. 1 MARCH 1931 No. 1

A Letter to the Alumnae

My dear Alumnae:

It is with the greatest joy that I welcome the Alumnae Magazine under the auspices of the Constantinople Woman's College, for my hope in sending out the by-yearly "News Letter" from my office for these few years was that some time the Alumnae would take over this publication and have a regular Alumnae magazine, as so many other colleges have and which they have found most successful. That happy day has at last come, thanks to Mrs. Binns, the president of the Association when the idea was conceived and to the board of directors who are responsible for its publication. I hope every alumna, wherever she may be, no matter how long ago she may have graduated, will be a subscriber, for in this way she will keep in touch with her college and the alumnae scattered here and there. And I hope that each alumna will feel that this is her magazine and will send items of interest in regard to herself and her work for the others to read: in this way we shall all be knit together in common interests and purposes and knowledge.

If you were present when Yorghi brings our mail you would be surprised to see how many alumnae magazines from different colleges the members of our faculty subscribe to, for they realize that this is the only way for them to keep in touch with their colleges. Personally my alumnae magazine means much to me, and is one of the journals I look forward to eagerly from month to month, for it keeps me in touch with my college, and serves as a delightful and valuable connection between my own years there and the present time; for though I know none of the present student body and not many of the Faculty, I realize that it is the same college, only much better than when I was there as a student; and I can watch its development and progress intelligently through the pages of this magazine.

I want each of you to have that same feeling in regard to your Alma Mater. This is still your college, and more so every year, no matter though the years since your graduation are rapidly increasing; you have more to give us of encouragement, of suggestion and interest, of love and loyalty from year to year, all of which we at the college long for and wish that we could have in fuller measure.

What shall I tell you that you already do not know? Of the happy closing of our last college year when forty-two seniors received their A. B. degrees, a class that we are very proud of for their excellent record all through their college course, their interest and ability in so many outside activities connected with the college, their general eagerness, alertness and enthusiasm and their realization of their debt to the world as a result of their college experience. May each of them have found her place in her community as a bringer in of the high ideals she talked of while in college, a living exponent of the conviction that to

many opportunities to visit with them and learn more of their service for their country.

Early in January of this year Miss Morrow and I went to Athens to see our many alumnae there and again we had a most interesting and delightful time meeting many I had never seen, renewing acquaintanceship with those who were students in my day, going to their homes, meeting them at the Association Tea and telling them of the college, and having many good talks with them individually and in groups as far as our time alloved. I was so delighted to hear of their Social Service Work for the city, the playground activities which they have initiated and are supporting, of their interest in political and educational and all other fields making for a better city and country, and to hear from my various friends who are not alumnae of the college, of the splendid work they are doing in all respects. It is worth everything to me to visit our alumnae whenever I can, to see with my own eyes what they are doing, and to realize how loyal they are to the interests and high ideals of the college, and how eagerly they are carrying out these ideals in various types of service wherever they may be.

Our Charter Day exercises will be held on Friday March 20. A day of rejoicing for all of us, specially so this year as this Charter Day will be the fortieth birthday of the college as a college, and its sixtieth birthday as an educational institution. It would be most gratifying to our Association as they meet fer their annual business session on Charter Day to receive letters from as many Alumnae and Associations as possible in different parts of the world.

I do not yet know who our speaker on that occasion will be, but as always we will have a very good one.

We hear so much these days about continuing our education after graduation from college, making it our business to go on studying either in organized classes or at home, not letting our minds rust out with disuse, that I wish to recommend this idea to each of you, and am delighted to hear of the various classes being organized for continuation study among our alumnae, and also that so many are carrying on their work in colleges and universities. Let Dr. Patrick serve as an example in this respect, as in all others, for she is using her mind all the time, interested in knowing what is going on in the world, keeping herself well informed on all subjects, and because of that fact never getting old in spirit or enthusiasm.

I wish that every alumna could find time to write me, even a few words, to let me and, in that way, the others at the college know what she is doing; how her family is and what sort of help she is giving her country, in what she is specially interested, and any other items about herself, including present address, in which we are all interested. It would be the greatest possible joy to me to hear from you all as soon and as often as possible, and I only wish I could write personal letters to all of you in return.

I hope to see many of you, both those in the city and those who are living outside of Constantinople during the year. Let us remember that we all belong to one great family and it is good for us to get together as often as possible to compare notes and keep ourselves informed about each other.

With all good wishes to each and every one of you for your greatest success and happiness.

Sincerely yours,

KATHRYN NEWELL ADAMS
President.

January 28, 1931.

Scutari Days

Eveline Thomson Scott 1909

How can I write of days in Scutari without being sentimental? The years that I spent there were so full of ardor, of enthusiasm, of discovery and of inspiration that I find it difficult to convey my impressions to the present generation in anything but sentimental terms. So when I write about Scutari days, it must be understood from the start, that I am prejudiced—that I see things, in that fast receding past, through rosy spectacles, and that my memories are tinged with the colour of youth.

In the first place the town of Scutari has a charm all its own, and it was a remarkably picturesque setting for a girls' college. There were, to begin with, beautiful old mosques (four in particular. All of them, by the way, built by women), which we could visit constantly, and which added their beauty to the life of the town. Then there was the great cemetery of cypresses, stretching on the southern edge, reminding us of ancient traditions and of the brevity of human life. There were the views over hills and valleys, across land and water, which we saw at different angles in every walk we took, and last but not least, we had as our daily portion the sight of the sun sinking behind the domes and minarets of Stamboul and setting all the western sky aflame. Life, in those days, was more colourful in general than it is now, so that we did not easily forget we were on the fringe of Asia. Something of its ancient mode of living and its knowledge of eternal values seemed to enter into the fabric of our lives.

During the last fifteen or twenty years, the changes that have come about in Turkey have been so drastic that all the life of the country has been revolutionized. In the days when the college was still at Scutari, transportation was slower than it is now. There were no trams, not even on the European side of the Bosphorus, let alone the Asiatic side; there were no motorcars until 1912 or so; there were no telephones. We were dependent on ferry-boats and carriages for transportation; on messengers and telegrams for rapid communication. Turkish women were still veiled and chaperones were a flourishing class in society. Politically the country was often unsettled and there were constant wars and rumors of wars.

All this had its influence upon us at Scutari and made our life there what it was. We were secluded and isolated on our Asiatic hilltop, as students in Arnaoutkeuy have never been. No one, neither teachers nor students, ventured out of the college gates, after sunset. Our entertainments we had to make ourselves. Weekends away from Scutari were discouraged, so that we seldom left our college family except for monthly holidays. As may be imagined, we grew to know each other very well, and lasting friendships were the fruit of our intimacy. We felt much bound by our common purpose, by our interests, and our enthusiasms, and I cannot help thinking that all this was very good for us. I am sure that many of the teachers I had at Scutari were remarkable women. Certainly we felt constantly inspired. Dr. Patrick never lost an opportunity to plant a seed of ambition in our minds. "What was to be our contribution to our generation?" "Where were we

going for further study after graduation?" "What *pioneer* work did we expect to do for our sex?" These thoughts were constantly kept before us.

We had interesting visitors. Because the college was smaller and our members closer and more dependent upon each other, we saw a great deal of our visitors and the students were able to know some of them personally. Edward Clodd, the great anthropologist; Sir William Ramsay, the classical scholar and authority on Asia Minor; George Edward Woodberry, poet and professor, are a few of the names that come to my mind.

It was during the years that I was a student at Scutari, that a constitution was granted to Turkey. The changes in the whole temper of the people after July 1908 was like a kind of rebirth, so free did everything seem, after the oppression and fear of the years before. But the most exciting period of my college career was during the mutiny and reaction of the early days of April, 1909, when for a moment it seemed as though the old regime of Abdul Hamid were coming back again. Those were dark days and we lived under a cloud. Everyone was nervous and no one knew what would happen next. The wildest rumors were rife. Ferryboats were few and far between and scarcely anyone dared venture far from home. After ten days of increasing strain, we heard that Mahmoud Shevket's army was marching on the city. They came and delivered us from the siege of our fears and a new order in Turkey dated from that day.

The greatest excitement of all came on April 23, 1909. I can remember the day and the hour with perfect clearness. It was 2.35 on a perfect spring afternoon. I was in a French class, taking a "dictée" from our stoop-shouldered French teacher, Mlle. Roberjot. Suddenly we heard cannons beginning to boom. We counted up to seven (which was the number that announced a fire) but they kept on and on. In a flash we realized what they meant. Abdul Hamid had been deposed and a new sultan sat on the throne of Turkey. Discipline went to the four winds. The students rushed out of classroom and study hall and library, into the garden, clapping their hands, crying and laughing all in a breath and completely abandoning themselves to joy in the new order. It was a thrilling moment and one none of us can ever forget. Our class was the first to graduate under the new sultan, and with a constitution firmly established in the country. So that our year was the beginning of an emancipation we had all been longing for and one that has steadily advanced, until now our mode of life would be almost unrecognizable to an inhabitant of Scutari in the old days.

Compared to the new buildings at Arnaoutkeuy (I call them new, though I realize they are already nearly seventeen years old!) our equipment at Scutari was inadequate and cramped. We never had a proper auditorium after Barton Hall was burned in 1905; our Library and reading room consisted of one small and one long table down the middle; our dormitories brimmed over; our music house was a draughty and flimsy affair, sketchily heated. But with all this, we were extraordinarily happy and we worked hard. We were serious minded; we loved our work and we managed to get a great deal of inspiration out of our courses and out of our friendships with our teachers.

To-day changes follow upon each other's heals so fast that it is difficult even to recall the older order of things. What with trams, taxis, telephones, radios, electricity, central heating, accessibility to town, larger grounds, more numerous staff, and the new freedom for women, life at Constantinople College in Arnaoutkeuy, is utterly different, and must be built up upon other foundations. We do not regret the passing of the older order, for there were many disadvantages and inconveniences, which we are inclined to forget, in our enthusiasm for the spiritual values that have lasted. At the same time, those of us who passed our student days at Scutari want to put on record that they were *good* days, full of all that was needed to satisfy our youthful cravings and ambitions, and the memory of them will always be sweet.

Our Friends.

Many alumnae have expressed a desire to see in the pages of the Alumnae Magazine letters from friends whom they knew and loved and in whose present doings they are greatly interested. We take great pleasure in publishing in this first issue messages from two very dear friends of the college and of the alumnae and hope to be able to publish similar messages in every issue to come.

To the Alumnae of Constantinople Woman's College,

I am delighted to hear that you plan to publish an Alumnae Magazine. The very thought calls up to my mind a long succession of enthousiastic classes, receiving their diplomas, and going out from the college into the stress and toil of human life.

When you graduated, one after another, I was always proud of you, and I have become increasingly so as you have since made such fine records for your selves. I do not believe that a single one of you has failed to meet the opportunities and tests of the passing years with great courage and success.

Life is very interesting just now. The remarkable progress of your country inspires you with enthusiastic patriotism. Advance in education every where is very rapid. This is especially true in modern science, and the fact that the leading scientists of the world find a spiritual force in the universe is inspiring.

Possibly just at present is the time when we can all help the world the most. We must think so, in any case, and do our best. I wish that I could see you again, but if that is not possible, we must unite in ideals for all that is the highest attainable, in our own special surroundings.

With very much love and best wishes,

Mary Mills Patrick

Unwaining interest and friendship

It has gratified Mrs. Murray and myself to hear that our Constantinople Woman's College is to bring out soon an Alumnae Magazine. Since leaving there, and being so many hundreds of miles away, we have longed many times to hear about those in particular who have been our coworkers in that most kindly remembered institution. During our eighteen years of effort there, our relationships truly endeared to us all our associates in our college as a whole.

To many acquaintances in and about Istanbul as well, and especially to parents of our former students, we feel attached by the bond of friendship. Perhaps we may be permitted to paraphrase slightly, saying: 'How dear to our hearts are the scenes and the friendships there, when fond recollection recalls them to mind.' In fact our interest in High School and College, along with the friendships so constantly manifested there, are rather increasing with the passing of time.

Sometimes we hear it said that a college is made by its graduates. Perhaps it would be nearer the truth to say that a college, or a high school, for that matter, is made in the making of its graduates. Taking strict account of circumstances, one may truly claim, I believe, that our Woman's College and the Preparatory as well

have been fortunate in so preparing the hearts and minds of their graduates, and of many also who have not been so fortunate as to finish, that nearly all have been earnest helpers in the creatiôn of a worthy type of selfhood and have thus contributed much toward making our college as a whole worthy of our constant admiration and of our hearty support. To most of us who are closely concerned, if not to all, nothing is more pleasing than to hear of the good work and the constant progress going on there.

To maintain an excellent Alumnae Magazine is certainly, it seems to me, a highly laudable undertaking. Such an effort is likely to test the efficiency of a group of editors and managers, and to test as well the interest and loyalty of a necessarily much larger group of patrons. Mrs. Murray and I, together with a large group in America of friends of our college, will await with confident expectation the first number of the proposed magazine.

Miss Nermine Mouvafac who kindly asked of me some sort of a message at this time to our Alumnae, expressed the belief that many would wish to hear something of our present home and of what I am doing. I may say that we spend our winters in Lakeland, Florida—the land of sunshine and flowers. This city has a population of about nineteen thousand, a college with about four hundred and fifty men and women students, excellent schools and churches, amusement halls, a large auditorium, etc., etc. Everything is done here to indicate a welcome to tourists, and to make them comfortable and contented.

Our Lakeland Tourist Club already has for the current season eight hundred and fifty members. It costs but one dollar per year to be a member of this Tourist Club. Every week two entertainments with music, readings addresses, etc. are put on by our Tourist Club. There are naturally many other sorts of pleasing entertainments given by the fifteen or more churches, "Southern College", the High School, Cinemas, etc. With essential modesty I may say that I am frequently asked to contribute my full share in connection with these various groups.

Perhaps I ought to mention that for years I have had in my thought some material to which I am now adding by reading and observation, and which I may some time put together into book form.

I would wish to add that our Constantinople High School and College are almost daily in our thoughts and that these with their various groups of workers are of constant interest to us. Especially gratifying to us have been the efforts of President Adams and of my successor, Miss Clarahan, together with their helpers, to arrange for all High School students to be together with as much convenience and comfort as is possible in the limited quarters of their new home. To my mind, the most pressing need now is a new commodious High School building.

May our college and its High School continue along all lines in the way of progress. May staff and students earnestly seek to achieve through earnestness, industry, and hopefulness. and may one and all be blessed with ever increasing mental, moral and spiritual achievement.

William Smith Murray.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Fall Registration Statistics

College

The total enrollment for the College is 215. The Turkish students number 169. The 11 other countries represented are: Austria, Bulgaria, England, Germany, Greece, Iraq, Italy, Roumania, Russia, the United States and Yugo-Slavia. The Turkish citizens divided according to race and mother tongue stand as follows: Turkish, 104; Armenian 25; Greek 36; Hebrew, 3; Persian, 1. There are 35 Seniors, 45 Juniors, 36 Sophomores, 28 Freshmen, 69 unclassified (introductory) students and 2 specials (registered for only one or courses). The day-students number 130, and the boarders 85. There are 56 new students.

Preparatory

The preparatory enrollment is 211, making a total of 426 students at both institutions. There are 189 Turkish citizens. The remaining 22 students represent 12 different countries. Of the Turkish citizens 132 are Turkish by race, 30 are Armenian, 14 Greek and 13 Hebrew. The graduating class numbers 44. There are 56 boarders and 154 day students.

The Browsing Room

Do the students "browse"? Walk past the Browsing Room at any time of day, and you will always see a number of girls lounging in the confortable armchairs, magazine or book in hand. If you have time to linger you will see much that will make you glad you helped to create that room — the simple but attractive furniture, the books on the mantelpiece, the flowers on the table, the curtains at the windows. The girls like to step in here and forget assignments and quizes for a while. There is no other such refuge in the college — the Sage Hall sitting-room is a bare and desolate place, besides being forbidden to day-students. The small cosy Browsing Room where all girls may go at all times is certainly filling a well-felt need.

Alumnae of the Near Future

Helen Theodorides 1931

We, Seniors of 1931, like all other Seniors of the past and of the years to come, have our ambitions and ideals.

Like the inexperienced novice, we are a little too enthusiastic and too eage to enter the new life awaiting us. However, this is not the only instance on which we manifest our enthusiasm. Though eager to start our new life we see that we make the most of our weaning one. This is especially true along scholastic lines —often, unfortunately, making us lose track of our social life. The four years of our college life have merely kindled a desire which during this last year reached its climax, inducing many of us to pursue independent studie in many a field.

Diverse is the trend of our desires. Some of us wish to continue our studies either at home or abroad, while others are inclined towards the matrimonial career. Some intend to specialize in the applied sciences and become doctors and physicists, while the majority are attracted to the field of social sciences. We have also those talented along literary and artistic lines, our Poes and our Shelleys as well as our Rembrandts. In fine, within our microcosm one may find all prototypes.

Though divergent in our tendencies and in our ideas, we are all united when it comes to one thing—and that is that we all of us firmly hold in mind that we have been educated to fulfil some task. Whatever it may be, great or small, we are disposed to do our best by it. This is but one of the principles which we have acquired as we went along, preparing ourselves for the world that awaits as just outside the Senior world.

A list of the Seniors Follows :

Abadjian, Adrienne
Abdulrezak, Razieh
Adil, Nire
Affendouli, Hariclea
Akrabova, Zanka
Beha, Selma
Boneva, Nadejda
Develloglou, Zoe
Dlousky, Xenia
Fahry, Metine
Fehmi Adile
Franco, Yvette
Gulbali, Elizabeth
Hadjiyani, Ellie
Zingozian, Adrienne
Kalaydjoglou, Mary
Kamberlian, Mathilde
Messoud, Melek
Mintandjian, Arsine
Moubahadjian, Anais
Mouvafac, Suzan
Natcheva, Nevena
Noury, Nadir
Osman, Zekie
Rushdu, Lutfiye
Sadik, Behidje
Salim, Meliha
Sezai, Berjeste
Tchirakian, Nadia
Theodorides, Helen
Valeva, Slarka
Vexler, Yane
Zacou, Jary
Zarbanallian, Nevart
Ziaeddin, Belkis