Bellefonte, Pa., April 26, 1912.

The Awaking of

the Older Nations.

Palestine and High Politics-A Deep Discontent Pervades the People and Myriads of Them Have Emigrated to the United States.

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

Jerusalem .- Of all the old nations, Palestine is the one in which the world is most interested. Over these comparatively few square miles have swept most of the forces that have made history. Here were given to the race those influences which have done most to change the history of the past two thousand years. Ruins of half a dozen civilizations strike the eye of the traveler through the land. Yet, notwithstanding all, the life of the Syrian peasant is not greatly different from what it was in the time

Wonder of Wonders, this old order is now undoubtedly passing away. This is the most interesting of all the sights here for the discerning traveler. It is a revolution wrought by the return to this land of forces which had their inception here. After affecting most of the surface of the globe, they have come back to do their work in the place of their birth.

Palestine is more deeply traveled by the prevailing unrest of the times than any other nation I have yet visited. Pressed upon from many sides by the most modern influences, made sensitive to human rights by centuries of oppression, it is small wonder that the Syrians were most enthusiastic in hailing the new regime, with its promise of "Liberty, Justice, Fraternity, Equality." In those phrases is embodied all that the people have coveted in vain for generations. Now they want these boons, and they want them right away. Failing their immediate realization, they turn their faces toward America.

From One Land of Promise to Another. One morning I witnessed the weekly exodus of Bethlehemites at the Jerusalem station of the Jaffa railroad. It was a scene for a painter's brush. The young people who were leaving for America were dressed in foreign style; only the young men still wore the fez of Turkish subjects. This they would exchange for hats as soon as they got on board ship. The sternvisaged old men, clad as their fathers had been clad before them for generations, grimly tried to suppress all signs of grief; they must abide the old conditions to the end. The women did not wail aloud, as is the usual oriental way, over the departure of sons and daughters: for these finestrong-featured women are almost Anglo-Saxon in their appearance, thanks to the strong strain of Crusader blood in their veins. The flight from Bethlehem to America has been unusually large because of these traditional qualities of aggressiveness and independence. The loss to Syria is great, for the Bethlehemites are famous workmen, especially in the carving of mother of pearl.

The magnitude and importance of the migration to America from Syria can hardly be overestimated. More than a quarter of a million are now in the new Land of Promise, to which so many more have their faces turned. The government sent the conscription officers after 150 Christians in Jerusalem; it could find only 20, the others having fled, mostly to America.

The return of emigrants to America and their letters home have a powerful influence in increasing the unrest here. All over the Lebanon, which has an autonomous Christian government, and where property is therefore safe, the returned emigrants have built fine houses-and then, in a surprising number of cases, have left them and gone back to America, usually taking a number of their neighbors along. The town of Zahleh, in the Lebanon, has 30,000 of its people in the United States, where they have created a new village with the same name. More remarkable still in the case of Hammaca. which now has 800 of its native porn remaining here, while 1,200 are n America.

American Oil "the Light of Asia." In other ways America is contributng directly to the awakening of this old nation. Probably the most typical single accessory of the life of Palesine is the water jar, carried on the heads of women. As it was in the lays when Rebecca went to the well with a clay jar upon her head, so it continues until now. But a change s coming. The water jar, as an institution, is beginning to crack. Standard Oil tins are taking its place. I saw a woman at Jacob's well at Sychar carrying water on her head in one of these square tin cans. The water, by the way, was used in making mortar for the building of the new Greek church over the well. At the fountain of the Virgin, in Nazareth, I have watched the village women fill their jars and carry them off on their heads, just as Mary used to do at the same spring; but some, I noticed, carried the square cans of the Standard

Dil company. These same cans furnish most of the tin that is used in Asia. As I have watched long caravans of camels! pearing cases of Standard Oil into the mterior I have recalled the hundreds of little tin-smithing shops I have seen all over Asia, wherein the native workmen were beating out these tins and fashioning them into a score of articles for domestic use. In Egypt

problem. I put it up to the first tinoil can into a well-made coffin for an illuminant.

ship. There is no novelty in the stateery observer that has ever been in Turkey, that the greatest part Amerpire-and no other nation has had a These are breaking down, to some dethat of the Maronites, who were so bitter that they would not even let a foreign traveler pitch his tent in one of their villages. Now the people themselves are forcing their religious leaders to admit or provide schools.

It is in a stiff Maronite district, outside of Beirut, that the only woman physician in Turkey who possesses a license from the government to practice has her headquarters. Dr. Mary Eddy is a wonderful American woman, of tireless energy, masculine initiative and extraordinary skill, whose experiences in itinerating among the Arabs and throughout Syria read like a romance. Now she has opened the first tuberculosis sanitarium in the empire, and she plans a nation-wide anti-tuber-

to carry it without breaking was my ony here in Jerusalem. It has existed for more than a score of years, and smith I met, and in ten minutes he outwardly appears to be more proshad transformed part of an American perous than at any other time in its history. It numbers more than a hunpussy. "The Light of Asia," Standard dred persons, none of whom, strange oil is called out here, because it has to say, is a socialist. They claim to displaced olive oil and candle dips as be merely a big family, with no particular theories to work out. They have The School Teacher and Statesman- all things in common, and each does the work for which he or she seems best qualified. While a large percenment, which has been repeated by ev- tage of the American colony are Swedes, the majority of the group hold American citizenship. They do ica has in the awakening of this em- an extensive business in pressed flowers and clive wood articles, and greater-is through the American their store is admittedly the foremost schools, which have leavened the in the city, showing that even in the whole lump with American ideals. | Orient the one-price principle can be made to pay. An official at the Amergree, the religious sectarianism which | ican consulate said to me, when we is the curse of the country. They are | were discussing the colony, "I notice even making the new generation of that when anybody in the city wants Moslems tolerant. A case in point is anything done he usually goes to the American colony." Thus the American trait of efficiency has come to be the dominant characteristic of the community.

Like the ill-fated American colony at Jaffa, this one was started on a peculiarly religious basis. A Chicago lawyer and his wife came out here to wait for the return of the Messiah. They held extreme views on many subjects, including the making of money. Hard times eventually drove them to work, and now, while the religious aspect of the colony has fallen very much into the background, it is a notable commercial success. There was no marrying or giving in marriage in the earlier years of the community, and frequent and grave charges were culosis campaign. In this she is sup- made against it, especially in the matported by the American Red Cross ter of free love. The members themat Beirut, established by Consul-Gen- selves, and their friends, have always



Cameis Laden With American Oil.

be seen how the American influence in Turkey is working in humanitarian and inspirational ways.

Europe's Designs on Palestine.

In contrast with the altruistic lapecially for the Holy Land, is the conuct of the great European powers, who are playing a skillful game for the ultimate control of this land, and even making use of religious prejudices to that end. Russia fosters and supports pilgrimages. As one instance of her interest in this direction, it may be said that she maintains in Jerusalem a hospice where 10,000 pilgrims may be entertained at one time. She stands behind the Greek church, and, equally important, the Greek church stands behind her. A widespread ecclesiastical support is of more value out here than a warship. France is no longer allied to the church, but just the same she is the protectress of all Roman Catholic interests. Nobody is so blind as to suppose this interest represents religious

Both these nations, as well as Great Britain also, seem to be hopelessly outdistanced by Germany. The kaiser impartially supports Protestant and Catholic, anl also goes out of his way to throw elaborate, if artificial, buoquets to Islam, all in the interest of Germany's schemes here. The German name has been written large all over Syria. Up in the famous ruins of Baalbeck, which Emperor William visited in 1898, may be seen an incongruous marble and inlaid mother-ofpearl tablet, recording his sentiments of appreciation of the ruin and of Abdul Hamid-both ruins significantly coupled. On the tomb of Saladin the Great, who drove the Crusaders from . Palestine, is still preserved a faded wreath of flowers, laid there by the Christian emperor of whose eulogy of Islam the Mohammedans have made so much. A gold wreath, with a pendant which is apparently a posthumous decoration, was presented to the tomb by William. But as the decoration contains the figure of a cross, its presence is counted sacrilege by the more fanatical Moslems, and it is necessary to keep two guards always on duty in the tomb to prevent the forcible removal of the wreath.

The most conspicuous objects in the landscape of the Holy Land, except Mount Hermon, are the two towers, or steeples, erected on the Mount of Olives by the Germans and Russians. These are the first objects that meet the traveler's eye, from whatever direction he comes. They may be seen from far over the Jordan; by them the Holy City's site may be located from Mount Nebo. Local residents point to certain features about these towers which indicate that in time of war they could be readily used for other than religious purposes. Naturally, the object of the present activities of the powers which have ambitions of their own for Syria is to be ready for all eventualities.

An American Communistic Experi-

The only communistic experiment of which I have knowledge that has not come to an early and inglorious end once secured a mummified cat: how. is what is known as the American col-

eral G. Bie Ravendal. Thus it may hotly denied these, and called them slanders. At present the members marry, although all eat at the same table and share the same life. They seem uncommonly happy, and are in especially good repute with the nabors of America for Turkey and es- tives, to whom they show hospitality. Certainly their life is in lovely contrast to the bitter reli ism here.

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Lighthouse Without a Keeper. "What do you think of a perpetual lighthouse, needing no keeper and yet as regular in its flashes of light as one maintained by the government?" asked Albert D. Van Wyck.

"This natural light never fails, and that means much for navigation. It is a volcano on the island of San Salvador. This volcanic lighthouse is about eight miles inland from the port of Acajutla. It is a veritable pillar of cloud by day and the flash of its light by night has been valuable to mariners for years: It can be seen far out at sea and a burst of flame has gone upward every seven minutes without the variation of a second for many years.

"A lighthouse fee is collected of all vessels that put in at the harbor nearest the volcano and no skipper objects. He knows that the volcano is more reliable than the lighthouses kent by human beings on other coasts and the novelty of the light is worth the price charged by the government."

The Jews in Palestine. A wonderful result is following the opening of Palestine to the Jews, by proclamation of the Turkish constitution. The influx now in progress is enormous. Jews are reckoned by tens of thousands in Tiberias, Jaffa, Safed and Haifa, while the Hebrew population at Jerusalem now numbers at least 100,000, or four-fifths of the whole population. Thousands are flocking from Persia and Russia. The Jordan valley, which was the property of the ex-sultan, Abdul Hamid, is being bought up by Jewish syndicates. So is the large and beautiful and fertile plain of Esdraelon. The value of land is already quadrupled. One day the world will wake up and rub its eyes with wonder when it discovers what is going on.

To Honor Distinguished Woman. Mme. Curie, codiscoverer with her late husband of radium, has been invited to come from Paris to America next year for the purpose of taking part in the International Chemical congress, which is to be held in Washington. Last year the Chemical Society of America elected Mme. Curie an honorary member.

Maybe Not. "You ought to wear clothes, declared the missionary. "Clothes are as cheap as dirt." "But are they as healthful?" de-

manded the South Sea islander. Room in Front. Conductor-Move forward there.

Casey (who has moved along twice) -Divil a bit furder! Of paid me nicket ride not t' kape on walkin'

converted into heat only by conbustion. the organs of digestion and nutrition. Food is converted into strength only by digestion. When the digestive and nu tritive system is deranged the food crowded into the stomach is an injury to the body it should sustain. Many a severe illness would be saved if people would pay more attention to the warnings of the deranged stomach. Many a person pays a doctor's bill for treatment for "heart trouble," nervousness, sleep-lessness or other ailments caused by

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