



THE ZORYAN INSTITUTE

SYRIAN ORPHANAGE

NEAR EAST RELIEF

JERUSALEM

CABLE ADDRESS
"ACORNE"

July 25 19 20

Dear Marion

Here we are in old Jerusalem, on the way to the U.S. Perhaps I'll get home before this letter does. I wrote a letter from Jaffa saying I had arrived there by U.S. Destroyer. From there I came here by rail and am now the guest of Mrs. Mansfield, the widow of the great actor. Everybody here has treated me royally. This afternoon they took me in a Ford over to Bethlehem, & yesterday I saw all the places ever mentioned in the Bible of their life. This city is so full of fakes I'm disgusted. They have transplanted everything that Christ ever did into one church. In the Church of the Holy Sepulchre for example they have Calvary, the tomb, & literally dozens of spots all surrounded with silver plates & candles. A silver plated hole marks the spot where the cross stood, & a brass lined slit in the floor shows the cleft in the rock. And the whole temple is filled with Greek, Latin & Armenian priests who walk around muttering prayers and bowing before each sacred place - the whole thing nothing but a formal idolatrous worship of a sanctified museum. It is



really disgusting. ^{and} the priests of the Greek & Latin churches are so jealous of each other that the ^{government} has to have Moslem guards on hand on holy days to prevent riots between the two factions. In the tomb of Christ the marble slab is in two pieces, one for the Greeks & one for the Latins!

In one day I was shown all Jerusalem, many places really authentic - the old temple area where Solomon's temple was built, the house of Pilate, pool of Bethesda, Christ's prison, the Jews waiting place, the city walls & gates, St. Stephen's gate where Stephen was stoned, the tomb of David, & many others. In the afternoon a Ford took me to Bethany, the tomb of Lazarus, Gethsemane, Mount of Olives, & the mount of Ascension, & Gordon's Calvary & the tomb, & half a dozen other places the guides are all lies. One showed me a place where he said the Sermon on the Mount was preached, & in the same place had the foot print of Christ when he ascended, also a hole in the rock where Moses rested his staff while he talked with God, & the spot where Moses struck the rock & water came forth. I told him he lied & he got mad!



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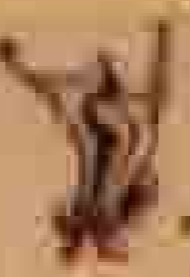
JERUSALEM

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After this big day I sightseeing & beat Mr. Lee
the director of the orphanage, at 2 sets of tennis
& two games of chess & lost two games. Today I
went to Bethlehem, so call Jerusalem finished.
I could go down to the Dead Sea & Jordan, but
have seen both of them from here quite plainly
so don't care to go farther. Jerusalem is quite
cool, & I actually need blankets at night.
No trains to Cairo till Tuesday, ~~so~~ On Tues.
morning the auto is going to Jaffa, so will
ride out as far as the railway junction to Cairo,
& will be in Cairo at midnight on the 27th.
Will try to see Cairo quickly & go ~~down~~^{up} the
Nile (south) to the Temple of Karnak at
Thebes, & Luxor, & Thebes. I have telegraphed for passage
to Trieste on Aug. 5th but don't know yet
whether I can get it or not.

I am homesick for Marast already
& am convinced that if America is still
full of strikes & H.C.L. who of return, I



shall go back to Marackh & take you with
me to see an ophthalmologist. If you can't go
I'll have to get married & do it. How
does that strike you?

See if you can find a book called
"The Eye of Zeitoun" by Talbot Mundy
(Bobs-Merrill Co., publishers) It is a wonderfully
exciting story of just the country I've been
living in, & you will read it in one day
it is so exciting. Be sure & get it.

I hope you have been able to read
my scribble. If not, wait till
I get home to translate. I don't
expect to get any more news from
you till I get home, so you
needn't answer this. Just give my
love to all the family. Am feeling
fine since I got rid of Marackh's troubles.

Love to all from

Stanley