



In looking back over a trip there are certain things ① that stand out clearly in one's mind because of interest aroused I suppose. I will try & tell you of some of these. I sailed from N. Y. Aug 29 1928, on the Steamship Canada of the Fabre Line. To my delight I found there were a number on board going to Beirut - two profs & their wives and seven fine young college men going over to the Junior College for a three year term.

The two profs & their wives, Miss Hoxie and I were given a table together in the dining room & the Staffites had another right near, so we were like a family group, and the life on board ship was most agreeable, so time passed quickly.

In about 7 days a faint outline of land was seen and we soon learned it was Flores one of the Azores. Our boat stopped at two of the islands - 1st at Horta the Capital of Fayal - it was about dusk so I did not ~~come~~^{go} ashore, but enjoyed the sights from the deck. There was no wharf or quay so the ship anchored inside the Breakwater, & one goes ashore in a small boat. Many came on board - some on business but most to go to the Bar. All the Atlantic Cables are here - the operators are from Canada & the U.S. A large fort was pointed out to us also an old church dating back to the 1600; there was a fine looking City Hall & an electric power house. The whole island looked to be well cultivated. As a bright moon shone on the smooth sea & dark islands with lights showing from windows, with motor boats passing & repassing our boat the sight was one never to be forgotten.

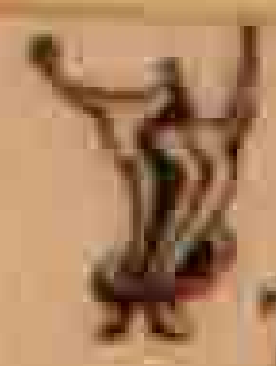
Next morning we were anchored close by the island of Perteira - the Capital Angra is too the Capital of the whole Archipelago. Quite a party went ashore - distance surely lends enchantment - these hot islands look so wonderfully lovely from a distance but on walking their cobbled streets



one sees poverty on every hand. Conditions are really primitive. Oxen with old fashioned solid two wheeled vehicles, goats harnessed to carts & backed up to a sort of curb and barge dogs harnessed and carrying market baskets were amusing sights. It was the first time in my life I had seen poor old women carrying large flat baskets of fish on their heads - their clothes told of their need and to me the cause of all the poverty is just liquor & an unsympathetic priesthood.

Algar had a large public garden which was well worth visiting. A Bull fight was to take place next day.

We docked at Lisbon Sept 9th and a party of us went ashore got an Auto and went sight seeing. One wonders why more is not written about this new Republic - people go to Paris Florence, Rome but few talk of the wonderful things to be seen in this ancient Centre of an old civilization. There are marvelous cathedrals one we visited was built in 1370 as the date on the outside showed. Its ceiling were the highest imaginable, its enormous columns its carvings I cannot describe. Our Guide gave a loud call & it resounded for some time. Lisbon boasts of an unusually fine public garden with seats by lakes where black swans & white swans enjoyed life. Another Cathedral visited many white marble Sarcophagi of great people among whom were King Ferdinand & Queen Catherine also Vasco De Gama and others. There was a sort of Museum in connection with this Cathedral where great wealth is shown in Altars of gold & silver, rich ornate vestments of



Cardinals & priests, ³royal treasures of gifts from Popes & Kings, marvelous mosaics and a thousand other valuables. When we sat down to dinner in the hotel Metropole that day, the first thing placed before us was the wine & liquor list. In the afternoon we spent some time in a great art gallery where very ~~old~~ wonderful paintings by the old masters fairly held one spell bound. Biblical scenes predominated. After climbing a high tower where a view of Lisbon, the Tagus & the Sea were enjoyed we returned to our boat. Next day we docked at Tangier. A tour had been planned by the boat for all those who cared to go ashore and most everybody did. It took us to the Kasbah (Military headquarters and prison, we saw the palace of the Sultan, the Muslim section of the City was visited and the Jewish quarters also. All met at a given hour at a native Cafe where musicians squatted on the floor played & sang the weirdest music - oriental music. Here we were served tea & pastry in real Arabic style after which we were all ushered into a shop where we were expected to buy. I was glad to return to our boat, for Tangier is not the cleanest place in the world and the sun was hard to bear. That evening, knowing we would pass Gibraltar about the dinner hour a petition asking the Captain to delay dinner an hour was granted and we had a great view



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of that wonderful fortress. There is a garrison of (4)
6000 men many of whom are quartered in the town
but many in the fortress.
We were passing the rocky coast of Spain for
at least two days perhaps ~~3~~ ^{now} for I forget before
we reached Marseilles where we remained for two days
the ship had a large cargo to unload at this
French Port and she had to coal. Marseilles is
a large Cosmopolitan City where one meets
people from all parts of the world. There were many
oriental soldiers to be seen and Corks office was
filled with travelers. Of the newer buildings in
or near the City is the Church of Notre Dame de la
Garde. Situated on a high hill to reach the church
one goes up in a Funicular. The church is
surmounted by a 30 ft. gilt figure of the Virgin Mary.
From this hill there is a great view of the whole
surrounding country. The Frioul island including
Chateau d'If, that rocky island with its
strong fortress made famous by Dumas in
his book "The Count of Monte Cristo" is a
sight worth seeing. Mirabeau was a prisoner
in this fortress.

Alexandria our next stop had a great fascination for
me. Egypt, the land of the Pharaohs - one that ~~the~~ of
the character studied about in school
books. In driving along the Nile, a brick
yard made us think of the Israelites whom the
Egyptians made "to serve with rigour".
The harbour is very fine indeed - Great Britain's
influence for decency & order was very evident.
Large British ships passed slowly out of



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the harbour - they looked so majestic. King Tuck's yacht was near by also. Bessels from many nations and lovely little sail boats. Some with red sails made a delightful picture. We visited a museum where one would like to spend a long time studying the exhibits. The mummies - many of which were 2000 yrs old - were not an attractive sight. There were ~~Thaps~~ Egyptian, Grecian & Roman, Sacred Bulls and reliefs ~~so~~ ^{of the} long ago. I cannot take time to mention. We left Alexandria with regret but looking forward to our destination Beirut.

When Beirut was first outlined in the distance I for one felt a thrill of joy. It was not long before the dim coast line became clear. Soon a flash of light came from somewhere then others from many numbers of different places and Miss Stauchiffe a British woman who lives in Beirut told me that this flashing signal was the way friends in the University welcomed their returning friends & any new comers. It took only a short time before the Canada anchored & soon motor boats came out to the ship carrying friends of those who were going ashore. One Lord & his wife came for me - it was bit of hot in the City and we were soon on our way by auto. up to Schweir in the Lebanon Mts where some of the Americans were spending the summer & avoiding the great heat.



So now we are in Syria. Schweir where I spent ⁽⁶⁾ two weeks is situated 4500 ft above the Mediterranean. The ride up is considered very beautiful by those who are used to it, the road is on the side of the mt with many hair pin curves. I was not used to it and had a real fear complex. The air in the Mts was dry & cool & bracing. The house in the Mts was typically Syrian - of stone, floor of large tiles, large high windows opening down the 'canyon' and well farked. An American who rented it and sublet it to Stanley & the Rigg family had made a roof for the large porch so we could sit out of doors most of the time and enjoy the scenery - Mts all around. ^{Small capped.} ~~Seemingly~~ - 9000 ft high seemed quite near - Mt Hermon also 9000 ft was only 60 miles away. Syrian Skies are the bluest skies and the stars are so large & clear.

Everything was new to me - Customs that had become commonplace to those who had lived there for some years were surprises to me. One night as I stood out on that high porch under a magnificent starry sky I saw fires - not large - also rockets. I learned the Feast of the Cross was being celebrated and the custom of lighting fires on hill tops dates back to the time of King Constantine the 1st. His Emperor of Constantinople. His Queen Helena went to Jerusalem to find the Cross on which our Saviour died leaving the command that if she found it fires were to be lighted on the hills carrying back the good news. The Church



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of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem is said to be
built on the spot where the cross was found. (7)
There are so many interesting things to tell but I
must take you down to the City of Beirut where
we will spend some time. We all went
down Oct 5th as the University was to open in
a few days. It was still very hot in the City, out
of doors but indoors was cool owing to the stone houses
with very high ceilings, tile floors etc. One is
always walking on stone over there.

If you look on the map you will see the
location of Beirut - it is a wonderful
setting - the ^{Blue} Mediterranean on one side and
the Lebanon Mts for a back ground. The
sunsets over there are marvelous - as the
sun sinks the Mts take on pastel shades
of pink, lavender, blues etc. I can't
describe Syria - not even Beirut for
so many things enter into the picture.
Life there is most interesting with its
many strange peoples, as strangely
dressed. The City is large and
spread out over a large area - much
of it is modern - the old old parts are
fast being done away with - tho they are
most interesting as I will try to tell you.
There are tram lines and one can go
quite a distance for a few paces.
The City streets are rough and dusty
except in the more modern section ^{no trees} High
walls surround most of the dwellings



Arabic & French are the common languages. The Turkish and Armenian are used by many. The French have a Mandate over Syria and many soldiers are quartered in & around the City - French soldiers, men of the Foreign Legion, Senegalese, Indo Chinese with their Cholera belts, Spades etc. I shall never forget Armistice Day 1928.

There are many religions in Syria. Islam is strong - there are several Mosques with their minarets - and one sees the Mullahs frequently - if his head gear has green on it he is a direct descendant of Mohammed - he has many. The Muezzin is heard several times a day.

~~Beirut~~ Syria has but two seasons - Summer & the rainy season which was short the winter I was there - but cold. I learned to travel some alone for instance if I wanted to do a little shopping, I took the train to Bab ^{paying 8 paras} - and from there walked to certain stores where English could be understood. There was a Singer Sewing Machine shop on the corner where I usually got off the car.

But I must not stop to tell details or I will weary you. The chief attraction in the City of Beirut is the American University. Dr. Bayard Dodge is President - there are now 53 Bldgs - which include ^{some} profs houses. 3 new Medical Bldgs were being started when we left - they are now completed.



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The University has a wonderful Campus as any one will tell you - with rare trees & flowers - the tall Cypress trees add dignity to an already dignified group of Bldgs. I want to avoid statistics but will say there are about 800 students attending the A.U.B. It was a very interesting sight to attend Chapel Sunday morning & look over the student body. Some wore their fez - some dark skinned students had tribal cuts on their faces. but all together they were a fine group. Graduates in Arts, medicine and other departments of learning are spread out all over the Near East and Africa the countries of Africa, Mesopotamia etc etc. I found on looking up there are 20 nationalities attending the A.U.B. Everything is done to keep a high standard in all the Depots of the University. While much can be written about the University, I want to ~~write~~^{tell} about schools - Mission Schools I visited. The first was that the American School for Girls. whose principal is Miss Horne. This School is the outgrowth of the first girls school in Syria. Near the Community Church in Beirut stands a monument enclosed by an iron fence, on the monument is this inscription - "Site of the first edifice built in the Turkish Empire for a girls school, erected here in 1835 - by Miss Todd, an English lady of Alexandria for Mrs



Smith its first teacher. Here also was begun the first Sunday School. Miss Hornes School is well housed - the original Bldg was enlarged & re-modelled thro the efforts of Dr H H Jessup - this is Jessup Hall. In 1910 thro the gift of Mrs Kennedy of N.Y. a large Assembly Hall with eight adjoining classrooms ^{was erected} ~~were the gift of~~ The large Laboratory & bath rooms were the gift of Mrs Collin of Phila^a 800. We were shown all thro the Bldgs & up on the roof where students often study & Miss Horn very often sleeps. This School has 3 depts - Elementary Middle School and High School which prepares for the Junior College. There are 19 teachers & 245 pupils, all splendid. Worth while girls of the better Class Syrian Bible instruction is given in all the grades. All Exam in Bible was on in one classroom while we were there. This School produces its own teachers as far as possible. Across the yard? Is Jessup Hall - a tablet on the wall as we enter attracted my attention. it has this inscription. "In This room the translation of the Bible into the Arabic language was begun in 1848 by the Rev Eli Smith D.D. It was prosecuted by him until his death in 1857. It was then taken up by Rev C.V. Van Dyck M.D. D.D. and completed by him until his death in