



There is probably no older road in the World than that which is still used by Caravans from the Euphrates to the Nile - thro Damascus, Galilee, Esdraelon, the Maritime plain, Gaza. Wars were waged for centuries between Egypt & Assyria across the whole extent of

²
Syria - then later, Babylon, Persian, Greek & Roman Wars were carried on over the same territory. The West under Alexander the Great invaded the East & Syria was his pathway to Egypt.

The Crusades kept the country in a terrible state of war for almost 2 centuries - where their battles were fought the country ran with blood. Ruins of old Crusader Castles are interesting to visit but the Crusaders have greatly hindered the spread of the Gospel.

When you go to Hama be sure to go to Hama River - I think I am right in calling it a suburb of Beirut. We had a picnic there and incidentally saw things that gave one an idea of real antiquity. One thing that greets the eye is quite a long stretch of the Roman aqueduct. There is a road running parallel to the one we drove over which is not used today. My son and I climbed up to it - the side of the Mt along which this old road runs is filled with stelae - upright ^①



tablets, giving the history of conquering armies
cut in the stone. Some were elaborately
carved with ~~perhaps~~ a life size
figure of the victorious king. These
monuments are marvelously interesting
even if one cannot decipher the inscriptions.
They cover the wars of the pharaohs of
Assyria & Babylonia. One was an
account of Gen ^{Victory} - another Alexander's victory
the last was 1918 that of Gen Allenby.
Conquest of Syria & Palestine ^{Syria now under a} French Mandate.
I forgot to say Hof Tuer's water supplies
Beirut with pure water - the ~~river~~
runs thro the mt. till it enters ~~Lebanon~~
into the Mediterranean - there is a filtering
plant at Hof Tuer. I was assured that the
water was pure and I need not be afraid
to drink it!



and Beacon lights² carried the News to Constantinople. They tell you today in Jerusalem that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is built on the site where the Cross was found.

Sunday in Schuerr brought² quite a gathering of the people for a Service held on a very large verandah of the Somerville house. I remember meeting Mr. Hawkes of Persia, Mrs. Hudson wife of our Missionary Mr. Hudson at Beirut, Miss Young also of Beirut, Mrs. Scherer & her Mother Mrs. McPay, a dear old Scotch-lady. Ralph Patch a Staffite at the A. U. B. - his father makes Patch's Cod Liver oil. Dr. W. W. Dodge, Mr. Henry Riggs of the American Bd. Cong. a Missionary in interior Turkey - opened the service and baptized a baby, whose father came from Baghdad for the service. He has an Educational position there. Hymns were sung ~~and the~~ and Mr. Snyder made the address. It was all most helpful.

We all went down to Beirut early in October just before the University opened. Activities start up as they do here, when schools & colleges open.

The American University of Beirut is situated on the Mediterranean & on the terraced slope up from the sea. It is a most beautiful sight. The Campus with its variety of (3)



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tree. It (the tree was ⁶lighted) looked very Xmasy
in the large Court, and a real Christmas Spirit
Certainly prevailed. Dr Henry Tiggs made
a short address. Nukked Sauf. gifts were
given. Dr Nicco took Elia & me thro the
Bldg. Mrs Thomas ^{acting} the Mabrou, showed us:
some of the private rooms where the patients
were, able to see anyone. One was a Turkish
Princess. If dry air is an essential they surely
have it at Shebarnia.

Christmas Eve - Silent Night, never so Sweet
Xmas day was delightful.

One of the unusual experiences I want to tell
you about. I was invited to attend a
reception to the delegates of the Quarantine
Conference for the Mecca Pilgrimage.

Officials, public health men from all over
the Near East - Egypt, Iraq, Palestine, etc
were there. The Mecca pilgrimages bring up
many international problems - to the various
Govts from which pilgrims come, & thro which
they go have to agree on health measures -
Vaccination etc also passports too. There were
Pashas, from Egypt, British Consuls, Colonels



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The weather was very hot - when I reached Syria, most of the American ^{families} people - the women and children at least - were still in the Mts. The men went up for the week ends. The stops made on the way over, especially at Alexandria, prepared me for the Oriental sights of Syria. Beirut especially. The trip or ride up in the Mts was most interesting if somewhat terrifying to one not used to mountain traveling. We reached Schweir about dusk. The air was so dry & bracing and the welcome I recd made it a real letter home for me. The house - a Syrian house was sublet to the two missionary families - We were very high up in the world. One thing that made the house interesting was a large covered ceiling balcony - One evening while out on this balcony I heard a report - like a gun. Then another - and a fire started up in a number of places. It was the celebration of the Feast of the Cross. The Legend is that Queen Helena Mother of Constantine went to Jerusalem to find the Cross with the understanding that if she found it a fire was to be lighted on a hill - This she did



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& Majors from Baghdad, French Army Officers
Jesuit priests etc etc. Tea was served and
all had an interesting time.
The Friends are doing a good work in Syria.
They have a Hospital for the ^{at Asfurieh} ~~muslim~~ - Dr & Mrs
Watson Smith (British) are head of this Hospital
at Asfurieh - a magnificent location on the
Wamascus Rd - high up and overlooking Beirut
& Jinnieh Bay - Hills all around and at
the time of the year when I was there flowers
abounded. Gorgeous pink, red blue Cyclamen.
Almond blossoms, Narcissus etc etc. (Hoyles)
But you will be weary if I keep on - but
you should visit Sidon & Damascus.
& Tripoli.

At Sidon we visited Dr & Mrs Stuart H. Jessup
Dr Jessup is the principal of Gerard Institute
for boys - it is on the top of a hill overlooking
Sidon & surrounding Country. Our Board
too has a school for girls of which Mrs
Lois C Wilson is principal. It is a Home
economics school - the 1st of its kind in the
Near East. Several cottages were already
in use - each cottage has a student (H)



head with other students managing the house -
We were taken all thro - had a large amount
of Craus Marmalade - making stuffed dolls in
the sewing room. Cooking arrangements etc.
all to conform to their surroundings & needs.
There was a party from India. going thro at the
same. This school has a fine gymnasium.
I thought this school was filling a great need.
Mr & Mrs Ford - both dead now had a house
in India - Mrs Ford & Mrs Hoskins were in this
Country when I was over there otherwise I
would have visited the Ford House had the
privilege of visiting their house & seeing
the marvelous things that had been
excavated on their grounds - Alexander the
Great's sarcophagus for one thing.

Visit Tripoli
Naveas ced.



of good that school ⁴ is expecting. As you enter
Messup Hall your eye catches sight of a
framed statement of an important event.
Copied it. "In this room the translation
of the Bible into Arabic was begun in
1848 by Rev. Eli Smith D.D. It was prosecuted
by him until his death in 1857. It was
then taken up by Rev. C. V. A. Van Dyck M.D. D.D.
& completed by him Aug 23 1864" (71 years old)
We were guests for dinner in this school
dining room. Our Foreign Bd provides
Mess. Housed Salary & the upkeep of the
Bldgs - the salaries of the other teachers
come from tuition.

On Sunday we attended religious services
either at the University Chapel or the
Christ American Ch. It was ^{an} interesting
thing to look around on the students in
the Chapel - some wearing the fez - some
black students from different parts of
Africa. I noticed one with bebad marks
on his cheek. But they all sang the
Hymns & seemed to enjoy singing. The
usually one of the profs preached. The opponent is



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6 - See folder.

A Russian A Mr Roupelt? It was much farther to go to the Anglo American Ch of Community Ch as it was generally called. but I preferred that place of worship.

Close to this Church is a monument surrounded by an iron fence - I copied the inscription on the ^{monument}.
 "Site of the first edifice built in the Turkish Empire for a girls school - erected here in 1836 by Miss Todd an English lady of Alexandria for Mrs Smith its first teacher. Here also was begun the first Sunday School."

Tell about the Bldg. itself & who preached etc.

The Hamilton Memorial Sanatorium has a very interesting history. I heard ^{that} Dr Mary Eddy ^{of} ^{Syracuse} years ago in Phila told of the great need for a hospital to care for P.B. Cases. To day a fine institution, at Sheboygan, ^{in the mts} is carrying on a fine piece of work. Dr Nucco is the ^{present} ^{man} ^{of} ^{the} ^{place} ^{now} ^{Dr} ^{Eddy} ^{was} ^{the} ^{1st} ^{woman} ^{Dr} ^{granted} ^{the} ^{privilege} ^{of} ^{practising} ^{medicine} ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{great} ^{risk} ^{Empire}.

Dr Hoskins was really the head of it - Dr Mary Eddy's sister. We had a Xmas party there for the patients. Quite a large number of persons from Beirut went up to conduct the party & 2 patients were on couches by the all were served ^{then} we went into the large court where a Xmas tree etc. PKBS for each.



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unusual trees is most attractive. The Bldgs are all of Stone and substantial as they have to be. Students come from many different countries - see folder. - including America. But we want to visit our Mission Schools & Hospitals. There is the American Junior College for Women which I visited - see folder. The principal Miss Frances Krum was in America when I was in Syria - see folder.

We had a delightful visit at the American School for Syrian girls - whose Principal is Miss Ottora Horne. That very morning a test in Bible had been held with one of the advanced classes all ^{classes} have Bible Study. ~~However~~ The school is well housed.

Jedrej Hall is the main Bldg. Mrs Kennedy of New York ~~thru~~ her gift made possible the building of the large Assembly Hall with 8 adjoining Class rooms. The large Lavatory & Bath rooms were the gift of Mrs Colton of Phila. The school has Elementary Middle and High School Departments. (10)

There were 245 pupils & 19 teachers in 1928 so you can realize what a vast amount