



The Sower

THE AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL

THESSALONIKI, GREECE Also called SALONICA

Winter
1962
Volume XII
Number 1

Charles L. House Bequest Memorial Fund Established

Faculty Training, Recruitment and Expansion
to Benefit from Income Yielded by the Fund.

Initial Goal of \$1,000,000 Established.

No man has given more to the American Farm School during forty-four years of service than the late Dr. Charles House. First, as his father's aide, he helped insure that the roots would survive. Then as Director he brought the School from a seedling to a full-flowering tree, and in the years after his retirement, he helped the Trustees and staff accomplish the always difficult grafting on of new leadership. Dr. House was interested in all aspects of the School's welfare. Though he may be best known for his construction programs and the many new buildings he added to the campus, his most permanent gift was probably his ability to recruit, train and instill with a sense of service a dedicated staff who could pass on his wisdom to future generations and perpetuate the ideals which he exemplified in his lifetime.

Recognizing Dr. House's interest in the Farm School family, the Trustees have voted unanimously to establish a Charles L. House Bequest Memorial Fund devoted, as was Dr. House, to the training and development of the future staff of the School.

The many needs of the School staff have recently been the subject of careful study and evaluation. Without doubt, the most urgent requirement today is an increase of \$12,000 (10%) in the current staff salaries to bring them to a level where the School can command the type of personnel who will contribute most significantly to the future of the School and of Greece. With such an increase, the School will be in a position to attract the best-qualified teachers and supervisors and continue its leadership function properly.

The greatest single contribution which the School has made over the years has been to introduce the concept of agricultural engineering to Greece. Plans call for the establishment of a Chair of Agricultural Engineering which, with housing and training costs plus salary, amounts to \$8,000 per year.

A Vocational Agriculture Specialist has long been needed on the staff and it is hoped that through the Memorial Fund the \$5,000 per year will become available to create this critical post.

A number of additional staff positions need to be filled on a full-time basis. Some of these are currently being handled on a part-time basis by members of the staff, though others are not presently occupied. These include a full-time teacher of agriculture, representing an invest-



The late Charles L. House with his wife, Ann, Greece, 1961.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS AND PROGRAMS DURING PAST YEAR AT SCHOOL

When Dr. John Henry House founded the American Farm School he stated that its purpose would be to provide agricultural and technical training for village youth under Christian supervision to prepare them for leadership in their communities. It is to this same purpose that those of us associated with the School are dedicated today.

But the School is not just a group of 50 buildings on 400 acres of land. Nor is it just the 200 boys in a 4-year course or the thousands of adults in short courses. The School is a practical expression of close cooperation between the staff, the Greek Ministry of Agriculture and the hundreds of generous friends all over the world who have made the growth of the School possible.

Every bit as important as the practical instruction is the classroom teaching which provides the theoretical background in all fields vital to the training of a well-rounded leader. In each of the twenty-six subjects taught, major emphasis has been placed on coordinating the practical and classroom instruction.

During the year past, 400 acres have been under cultivation growing most of the crops raised in Northern Greece. The produce of our fields has yielded an income of over \$34,000. The 75 head of fine cattle provide a training laboratory for the students, while the modern milk plant produces a wide variety of dairy products accounting for an additional income of \$19,000. More than 90,000 quarts of milk were sold, including 600 quarts a week to Americans stationed in Athens. One important first credited to

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TRUSTEES ELECT THREE ADDITIONAL MEMBERS AT WINTER MEETING OF THE BOARD

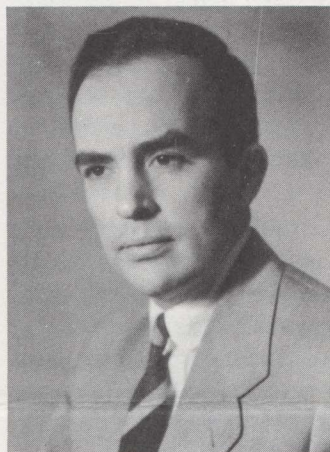
George Brown Post, a member of the class of 1945 at Harvard, classifies himself as a writer, though his many interests and civic activities leave less time for the pursuit of his vocation than he would like. After two years as an international affairs writer for *Time*, Mr. Post joined the staff of *The Reader's Digest* as assistant editor of international editions. In recent years he has been working on a free-lance basis, traveling and writing upon every occasion.



GEORGE B. POST

A resident of Darien, Connecticut, Mr. Post has been active in civic affairs. He serves on the Board of Trustees of the New Canaan Country School, and on the Advisory Council on Development of the Norwalk Hospital.

Last summer, Mr. Post, his wife, Linda, and his four children all visited the Farm School and, as so often happens, fell in love with Greece and developed a deep understanding of the role of the School.



E. KENNEDY LANGSTAFF

E. Kennedy Langstaff first met Greece and became interested in the School in 1949 when he served for three years as assistant and later deputy to the Executive Director of the Foreign Trade Administration of the Greek Government. Today he is Assistant Vice President of Transoceanic-AOFC, Ltd. From 1952 to 1955, before joining the predecessor company of his present firm, Mr. Langstaff was a member of the U.S. Delegation to the

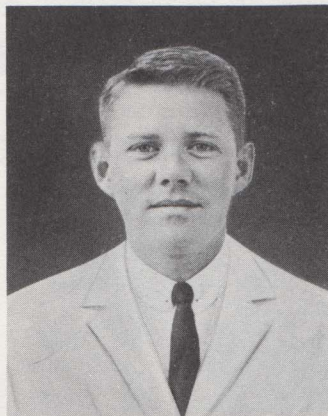
Organization for European Economic Cooperation in Paris and later a Desk Officer in Washington.

Mr. Langstaff is also a Harvard graduate, in the class of 1944, and of the Harvard Business School as well. A native of New York City, he now lives in Stamford, Connecticut, with his wife, Percy Lee, and three children.

In addition to the election of the above-mentioned two Trustees, the Board voted unanimously to elect to Honorary Membership Mrs. Ann K. House.

Friends of the School know how for thirty years Ann House worked beside her husband, often until the wee hours of the morning. They know how she shared his difficult years of internment during the war, and accompanied Dr. House to Greece for his last year there in 1961. Always beside him, her continuing interest in and efforts on behalf of the School are warmly welcome.

MEET PHILIP FOOTE, TEXAS TEACHER OF ENGLISH



PHILIP FOOTE

Philippas Podi, as he is often called in Greek, is really Philip Foote, talented Fulbright teacher of English, now in his second year at the American Farm School. During a tentatively scheduled trip to the United States this summer, we hope many of the School's friends will have an opportunity of meeting Phil and perhaps hearing a first-hand report on his work in Greece.

You could meet Phil in any one of a dozen capacities and begin to believe you knew him. You could, that is, if you didn't realize the many sides to his character.

Phil is a Texan, and he takes a great deal of ribbing from those who claim his students leave the School with a Southern-Texas accent. "Kahleemehrah, you-all" has not yet taken hold among the Farm School boys, though no one will guarantee what future innovations this 27-year-old native of Port Arthur will introduce. Phil received his B.S. in Education from the University of Texas and then went on to graduate studies at the University of Chicago.

With responsibility for giving 200 boys a working knowledge of English, Phil takes his job seriously. He solicits ideas and material everywhere, looks at everything from records to magazines in the light of their usefulness as teaching materials. His new approach to teaching English includes early morning "wake-up" broadcasts over the School's public address system and bringing many English-speaking friends into the classroom to help the boys become accustomed to different accents.

But Phil is also a musician, and the Chapel and recreational programs have taken full advantage of his strong tenor voice and lilting piano style. Having studied for ten years, his experience ranges from organ accompaniments in church and choir-directing to pianist in a dance combo.

And he is an artist, favoring the impressionists, though his apartment walls in the Cornell Building are covered with prints from the Byzantine period. Both a painter and teacher of art, he is called upon for every decorating need at the School. In addition, Phil has interested himself in drama, and written the Thanksgiving and Christmas plays for the School this year.

Originally suggested as a possible teacher by the Disciples of Christ (Christian Church), Phil has proven a wonderful member of the staff. Passable Greek, good Spanish and German qualify him as a linguist too. His interest in the boys does not stop with the School. Vacation time will find him roaming the countryside, visiting students and graduates in their homes.



SHORT COURSES HELP GREEK FARMERS ACHIEVE GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND BETTER LIVING

Sugar beets, cotton and tobacco will all play a larger role in the future of the Greek farmer. And as an increasing amount of health-giving protein is introduced into the rural diet, poultry and livestock production is expanding to meet the demand. These developments are the result of an extended period of peace, during which time Greece has had its first chance to plan for the future, and take advantage of the many opportunities offered the farmer by Greece's entry as an Associate Member of the Common Market.

Opportunities for the export of Greek cotton have led to the establishment at the School, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, of a special short course for agriculturalists in cotton cultivation. Through these rural agents, farmers throughout the land will learn how to apply new methods and increase their yields.

Sugar beet production in Greece is still relatively new and experimental. Refineries have been built, however, and soon the Government hopes to reduce the drain on its limited foreign exchange by achieving a greater degree of self-sufficiency in this basic commodity. Short courses at the School are helping farmers learn the best methods of growing sugar beets.

Other courses concentrate on village poultry and livestock production and, in cooperation with the U.S. Feed Grains Council, introduce the possibilities for using grain from America for feed. Land-short as Greece is, the farmer often finds it to his advantage to buy feed grains on the market and use his limited acres for higher-yield cash crops.

As Greece develops, the School tries always to stay abreast of these new needs and, through short courses particularly, pass along modern knowledge to farmers in the remotest parts of Greece.

FARM SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

Director Lansdale Schedules Fall Trip to U.S.A.

Bruce M. Lansdale, Director of the Farm School, has scheduled a five to seven weeks' trip to the United States beginning in October. Preliminary plans call for visits to each of the community committees in Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, Princeton, Providence, Rochester, Wilmington and Worcester as well as numerous other cities where friends of the School have joined together to help it grow and prosper.

Bee Keeping Course Aids Queen's Fund Technicians

The School recently played host to a group of agricultural technicians from the Queen's Fund. They came from many parts of Greece to learn improved methods of keeping bees and how to encourage these hard-working hymenopterous insects to produce more honey. Basket hives are still common in rural Greece, though they are rapidly being replaced by a more efficient box hive yielding almost five times as much honey.

Graduates Gather for Refresher Course

More than eighty graduates gathered at the School for a refresher course on cultivation, animal husbandry and new farm technology. Through the Graduate Follow-Up Program and periodic short courses of this sort, alumni can stay abreast of the latest developments and further help their nation's progress.

Class President Elected

George Tsamaslides, this year's House Scholarship Student, has been elected President of the Senior Class. In addition, he is serving as Vice President of the thirteenth Student Council. Elections are based on the boy's excellence in his school work and conduct and must also have the endorsement of the staff.

Tear off along dotted line and mail this panel to

American Farm School, Office of the Trustees
45 East 65th Street, New York 21, N. Y.

PLANNING A TRIP TO GREECE THIS YEAR?

Please check below

- ☐ Please send additional information about the School and Northern Greece.
☐ Please send a free booklet of useful Greek words and phrases.

If you wish, this form may also be used to make a contribution to the School. Simply complete the information spaces provided.

Enclosed please find \$_____ to help train a Greek boy.

☐ This is a new gift, or ☐ a renewal of my previous gift.

I (we) plan to be in Greece from _____ to _____

I (we) wish to visit the School about _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____

STATE _____

MEMORIAL FUND

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ment of \$5,000; a full-time teacher of horticulture, costing \$4,000, to enable Greece to take advantage of the increasing opportunities for export of fruits and vegetables. In addition, a full-time instructor of animal husbandry is essential if the School is to continue its important role of introducing new breeds of livestock to Greece.

Three new positions are also envisioned as part of the general operations of the School. These include a Chair of Extension Training, with responsibility for the growing amount of work done by the School in the villages themselves, a Chair of Community Development and Leadership Training, and a Coordinator of the Foreign Specialist Training Program. Through these programs the School is able to share its experience with others throughout Greece and with representatives from the developing nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America. These positions total \$15,000 annually.

A number of additional supervisory positions need to be filled on a permanent or full-time basis. These include supervisors in the field crops department, the dairy industries, poultry and swine husbandry, orchards, machinery repair, farm installations, and water and power supply, requiring \$16,800 annually.

Over the years many of the School's staff have had an opportunity to study for a year or more in the United States. This invaluable training not only equips the teachers to train the students in the most up-to-date methods available in their particular field, but, perhaps even more important, provides them with a first-hand insight into life in America. Upon their return, these staff members are best able to represent this country and this country's interest in the School to the students and their compatriots. Almost \$8,000 a year is required to continue this training.

While seen primarily as a capital bequest program, the income of which would be assigned to these various staff purposes, the Trustees of the School recognize that many friends of Dr. House may prefer to make current

DIRECTOR'S REPORT HIGHLIGHTS SCHOOL YEAR

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the School was the introduction of safe pasteurized milk to Greece.

Minor livestock — poultry, pigs, sheep — have become the School's most important activities, both for training and the income they produce. For many years the School has been famous for its sweet corn, over 30,000 ears of which were shipped to Athens alone. Hybrid tomatoes have been introduced for the first time in Greece.

Special programs designed to supplement the 4-year course now constitute an integral part of the School's activities. More than 1,000 trainees were scheduled in short-term courses lasting from one week to a month. Helping the seventy percent of the School's graduates still in agriculture is the Graduate Follow-Up Program, now in its sixth year. The Community Development Program has now sponsored conferences of 2,000 village leaders from 110 villages and communities. As a result, 2,020 projects have been begun in these villages and sixty percent of them are today complete.

During the past year the School has shipped out 75,000 baby chicks, 350 pigs, 30 lambs and 30 calves for breeding purposes as part of the Livestock Distribution Program. In addition, thirteen graduates have been provided with 48,000 broiler chicks to enable them to begin in the poultry business.

Visitors continue to arrive at the School from all parts of the world. It has been a busy and productive year. We have reason to be grateful to nature's bounty here and to the many friends throughout the world who have helped and continue to help us meet the developing needs of Greece.

Bruce M. Lansdale, *Director*

gifts to the Fund. Both such gifts and bequests are, of course, enormously welcome and will be used in the name of the donor for the development of the staff at the School. The Trustees are particularly anxious that any individual wishing to share in this important undertaking call on them for further information about the program in general or to discuss the best way of making a contribution to the program itself.

NEWSLETTER

FROM

The American Farm School

Thessaloniki, Greece

ΑΜΕΡΙΚΑΝΙΚΗ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΚΗ ΣΧΟΛΗ

45 East 65th Street • New York 21, New York

Dear Friends:

Traveling to Greece this year? Then you will certainly wish to consider including the American Farm School and some of the numerous exciting sights of Northern Greece in your plans. Thessaloniki, or Salonica as it is often still called, is but seventy minutes from Athens by air, or a scenic day's trip by car, bus or train.

The School would be more than pleased to receive you. For further information or help in planning your schedule, simply tear off this panel and complete the blanks provided on the reverse side. As they say in Greece,

ΚΑΛΟ ΤΑΞΙΔΙ
CRAIG R. SMITH
President

TO.