



The Sower

THE AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL

THESSALONIKI, GREECE . . . Also called SALONICA

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Director Lansdale extends cordial welcome to U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren, center, and aides upon their arrival for visit to Farm School.

NEW COLOR-SOUND FILM DEPICTS PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL

The Trustees and staff of the School are pleased to announce the approaching completion of a new 16mm. film describing the work of the American Farm School and its role in the life of agricultural Greece today. Produced and photographed in Greece this spring under the direction of James L. Trainor, the movie is planned to run approximately 30 minutes and is scheduled to be available for public showing after January 1, 1964.

With the exception of a personal visit, nothing can depict the varied program, extensive plant and warm spirit of the School so well as a motion picture. It was for this reason that the Trustees authorized a new School film — the first in a decade — and sought the money to finance its production through special contributions. A Trustee committee was formed to give general supervision the production and Mr. Trainor, an independent producer, was employed to carry out this challenging assignment. While most of the funds needed for the production were secured in advance of production, additional gifts would be most welcome to cover final processing, scoring and printing costs.

The forthcoming film, as yet unnamed, emphasizes the four-year course for village boys, but in addition includes coverage of such other important programs as the short courses for adults, the graduate follow-up program, the community development activities, and the role the School plays in briefing visitors from abroad. The featured student is Eleftherios "Terry" Tziagadouras, a member of the graduating class, whose village is Zervi, near Edessa, in northern Greece.

Church, civic, student and social groups wishing to plan programs around the use of this film are requested to get in touch with the Office of the Trustees, 36 East 61st Street, New York, N. Y. 10021. There will be no rental charge, though one-way postage will be borne by groups using the film.

DIRECTOR REPORTS OF VARIED ACTIVITIES AS NEW AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL YEAR OPENS

ED. NOTE: Just as school opened, a comprehensive report of the current events at the School was received from Director Bruce M. Lansdale. We believe you will enjoy reading his report and gain an even deeper insight into the meaning of the institution.

Visitors from Abroad

The month began with a farewell to the last of 25 agriculturists from twelve Mediterranean countries, who had spent four weeks at the American Farm School studying the methods by which the current agricultural development of Greece has been achieved. Following a reception for officials from the Ministry of Agriculture on the last night, we staged a recreation program, which included the representatives from a dozen lands, as well as 50 girls from Hollins College, here for their annual "Hollins Abroad" visit, and 20 village girls studying poultry development at the neighboring Quaker School. It was a great experience in international friendship, conducted in three languages. The next day, we welcomed the representatives of fifteen African nations, here to study agricultural education and extension.

The ever-increasing number of visitors from developing nations is a great source of satisfaction to all of us who have participated in Greece's recent agricultural development. Certainly, we have a responsibility to share our experience with others.

Visitors from the United States also continue to arrive. Former Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder is due by on his way to Salonica for the opening of the American Pavilion at the Thessaloniki Trade Fair. During the summer, we had a brief visit from U. S. Chief Justice Earl Warren, Orthodox Church Patriarch Athenagoras from Istanbul, and a host of other friends coming to see the School. These visits are extremely important, as our best missionaries back home are friends who have actually seen the School in operation.

For three days, the School will play host to the National 4-H Club Congress. More than 180 boys and girls representing the 50 prefectures of Greece will participate in special training sessions, elect national officers for the coming year, and receive awards as the outstanding members of the Rural Youth Movement in Greece. Two representatives of the American 4-H Club program who have spent the past six months in Greece will also participate.

Short Courses

Short courses provide an ideal opportunity for concen-

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT, CONTINUED

trated education in special fields such as farm machinery, livestock, poultry, rural sanitation and the like.

Shortly we expect 500 farmers, primarily from Thrace, an area which is still agriculturally so far behind most of the country. These villagers are enrolled in livestock and poultry courses, sponsored by us in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and the U. S. Feed Grains Council. Recently, we also played host to 120 Greek agriculturists, veterinarians, livestock and poultry men participating in a seminary on poultry under the leadership of Professor F. W. Hill, a poultry nutrition expert from the United States.



Farmers from the villages of Northern Greece gather frequently for special short course instruction, here taught by Alexander Andreou.

Graduate Follow-Up

Mr. Nicos Micos, the staff director of the Graduate Follow-up Program, has been out in the villages almost every day this month, visiting graduates and interviewing prospective students. It is a great satisfaction to all of us to know that our best source of new students is the graduate in the village, whose example and success is our best advertisement. How often we hear the comment, "We want our boy to be like *him!*" International Fair time in Thessaloniki is also a time when many graduates come back to town, and it is always a pleasure to have them visit us and tell of their problems and accomplishments.

Community Development

We have begun organizing the Community Development Program for the coming year. During the summer, farmers are too busy in the fields to have time for community betterment. However, here we use these months to plan conferences, seminars and local programs which will assist the development of the villages. Mr. Tony Trimis, coordinator of this activity, is working on a program covering 150 villages, 1,000 village leaders and a total population of 160,000 people. The central theme of the Community Development Program is to encourage people themselves to find new ways of solving problems instead of waiting for outsiders to solve them for them. The interest and participation of local government officials in assuring the success of the program has been extremely gratifying.

Livestock Distribution

Every evening for the last two weeks, the School truck (which was too busy to go out during the day) has been heading for the villages loaded with Rhode Island Red hens and roosters for distribution locally, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture. Each year, the demand for baby chicks, pigs, calves and lambs for breed improvement seems to increase. To continue testing new varieties, we have just received two hundred Arbor Acre chicks from Italy.

Construction Work in Progress

Bulldozers have been working full time for a month now, completing a new earthen reservoir to hold the 5,000,000 gallons of water collected during the winter until they are needed for summer irrigation of cotton, corn and alfalfa. The tank will be lined and covered by "Vis Queen" Polyethylene Film, a gift of the Union Carbide Company, to retard evaporation.

We have also been putting the finishing touches on the new extension of Princeton Hall, the boys' dormitory, completing the much-needed drinking-water reservoir, and breaking ground for the extension of our classroom facilities. These capital projects have long been needed to keep pace with the growth of the School and the expansion of our program.

Farm School Staff

Mr. Prodromos Okkalides, our business manager, is now in the United States on a six-month training program sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education. He joins two other staff members already studying there, and will soon be followed by Mr. Panayiotis Rotsios, who will undertake graduate study in livestock and poultry. Two other members of the staff recently spent ten weeks in Israel taking special courses, and a third traveled through Yugoslavia and Bulgaria making a study of onions and garlic in that area.



Personal attention given to each boy helps develop tomorrow's village leaders.

The School is particularly grateful to the Fulbright Program for its assistance in providing travel and training opportunities for members of the staff. As a token of appreciation, we are playing host to all the new Fulbright teachers as they arrive in northern Greece until such time as they can find permanent housing.



FORMER AMBASSADOR AND RURAL SOCIOLOGIST ELECTED TO A.F.S. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As Ambassador to Greece, Ellis O. Briggs had many opportunities to observe the Farm School at first hand. It is with pleasure that we welcome him now to the Board of Trustees.



Retired Ambassador
Ellis O. Briggs



Rural Sociologist
Irwin T. Sanders

A New Englander, Mr. Briggs attended Dartmouth and Bowdoin Colleges before becoming an instructor at Robert College in Istanbul, then Constantinople. Always interested in writing, he contributed to magazines for two years, and then joined the Foreign Service. After serving in Peru, Liberia, Cuba and Chile, Mr. Briggs was appointed Ambassador to the Dominican Republic in 1944. Since that time, he has held Ambassadorial posts in Uruguay, Czechoslovakia, Korea and Brazil, as well as in Greece. In 1955 he received the Medal of Freedom for meritorious service as Ambassador to Korea, and in 1960 he was appointed career ambassador in the Foreign Service. Mr. Briggs, now retired, resides with his wife, Lucy, in Hanover, N. H.

In 1955, the eminent sociologist, Dr. Irwin T. Sanders, undertook a survey at the Farm School, laying the ground for the future program of the School and evaluating its past performance. Today we are delighted that he has joined the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Sanders is a graduate of Washington and Lee University, and took his Ph.D. at Cornell University.

From 1934 until 1937, he was dean of the American College in Sofia, Bulgaria. For eighteen years, Dr. Sanders headed the Department of Sociology at the University of Kentucky in his native state. He has also served as senior social scientist for the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, and agricultural attache at the American Embassy in Belgrade.

Dr. Sanders has written several books, among them *Balkan Village* and *Farmers of the World*, and has edited two volumes, *Societies Around the World* and *Collectivization of Agriculture in Eastern Europe*. His most recent major publication is *Rainbow in the Rock*, a study of the people of rural Greece.

He is currently associate director of the International Training and Research Program of the Ford Foundation. Dr. Sanders is married to the former Margaret Rydberg.

FARM SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

New Staff Members Welcomed at Beginning of School Year

Several new faces were present when school opened. Mr. Tony Zacharias, teacher of mathematics, was a Farm School graduate in 1952. Later he received his BA from the University of California. He has now returned with his wife, Bonnie, and a son, Stephen — in Greece called Christiki.

Stavros Androurlidakes, a native of Crete, received his BS in Agriculture from the University of Salonica and has just returned from seven months in the United States under the Farm Youth Exchange Program. Unmarried as yet, he awaits his fiancée, currently working for the Department of Agriculture.

Napoleon Demos, for the past three years the part-time director of Athletics, has joined the staff on a full-time basis. His training of the boys in all sports and gymnastics and his supervision of many of their extra-curricular activities constitutes an important part of leadership development. Mr. Demos returns with a bride of this summer, Phroso.

From Princeton this year, the School is happy to welcome Barry Schuman as a member of the English teaching staff. A native of Binghamton, N. Y., he graduated this spring from the Woodrow Wilson School of International Affairs. With his help, Mr. Foote, director of the English Department, hopes to develop a four-year English program which will satisfy the special needs of Farm School students.

TRUSTEE HENRY HOPE REED DIES AT SCHOOL

To his many friends and the hundreds of visitors to the School who remember his warm hospitality, the death on August 5th of Trustee Henry Hope Reed is a sad loss. Mr. Reed and his wife, the former Eleanor Beers, came to live at the Farm School following Mr. Reed's retirement in 1953, after a distinguished career as an insurance executive. Both Mr. and Mrs. Reed had long been friends of the American Farm School and, with their love of Greece, it seemed natural and right for them to be there. But retirement for Henry Reed didn't mean idleness. His interest in the School and awareness of its problems made him an invaluable consultant in a thousand matters. And always he was ready to open his charming house with its interesting library to the many visitors who came from all over the world, to extend that extra gesture of friendship that means so much to the stranger visiting the Farm School for the first time. It is impossible to say how many new friends he won for the School over the years. To Henry Hope Reed, the American Farm School was home, and he shared with the visitor the great love he held for his home.

Besides his wife, he leaves three sons, Walter, Joseph (also a Trustee of the School), and Henry, Jr.

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH VISITS AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL

"The Message of America is the Christmas Message, a message of 'Peace on Earth' and the sharing of God's blessing."

It was with these words that His All Holiness, Patriarch Athenagoras, expressed his gratitude and admiration to the people of the United States during his recent visit to the American Farm School in Thessaloniki. "I know no finer example of this spirit than the American Farm School, which has been operating for over sixty years training village boys to bring a new life to their country," the Patriarch went on.



Director Lansdale, his wife, Tad, and their four children join others welcoming His All Holiness, Patriarch Athenagoras, to the School.

The Patriarch was welcomed at the School by the Director and his family, the staff, and a group of short course trainees from Cyprus. After being presented with a bouquet of flowers, His Holiness entered the School church and prayed briefly.

The Ecumenical Patriarch later told how much his 18 years in the United States as Archbishop had meant to him and how proud he was of his association with this country, which has shared so generously of its well-being with other parts of the world. Before departing, the Patriarch expressed his joy and happiness at being able to visit the School, "this stepping-stone of American solidarity and good will."

DIRECTOR'S REPORT, CONCLUDED

Two weeks before school opened, the thirty-five members of the staff responsible for the instruction and supervision of the boys gathered for a three-day conference to review last year's program and discuss ways in which we can make the coming year even more successful. These are the men who have made it possible for the School to sponsor a wide variety of activities twelve months of the year. They are grateful for the support which has been received and for the interest shown in the activities over here.

The Four-Year Course

Of course, the most exciting period will be during the last week of the month, when our new boys arrive and our old students return. Soon a group of almost 75 shy, wondering village boys, accompanied by parents, will gather from all parts of Greece. For three days, they will take part in a freshman training camp. Then finally, the rest of our 200 boys will arrive and school will open once again. The older boys will be bursting with stories of what they have been doing to help their homes during the summer. The younger ones will be a bit homesick in the beginning, but they, too, will develop the affection which so many before them have had for the School and, we hope, be inspired to helping their families and their communities in the years to come.

School Finances

The budget for the coming year is somewhat higher than originally anticipated, and we will have to raise the largest amount in the School's history to meet it. We do believe that where the work needs to be done, money will be found with which to do it. This has so often been demonstrated in the past, and it is the faith of the House family which gives us courage in looking to the future. For the generous support of Americans everywhere, the students, the staff, the trainees and hundreds of others whose lives are a bit richer for having contact with the School join me in sending our heartfelt thanks.

NEWSLETTER

FROM

The American Farm School

Thessaloniki, Greece

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36 East 61st Street • New York, N. Y. 10021

NEW ADDRESS

for the

Office of the Trustees

The building previously occupied by the Trustees' office on 65th Street has been sold, and the office has now moved. Please note the new address and the changed telephone number.

AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL

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TO.