

CHARLIE BROWN is a real-life person to the students at the American Farm School. He's a native of Sparta who now lives in Toronto, where he's known as the "mushroom king of Canada." Each time Charlie and Mrs. Brown visit the school, there's an outbreak of dancing and good cheer. During their most recent visit, the Browns added to previous gifts of scholarships by giving \$1200 for volleyball courts, soccer equipment and other sports paraphernalia.



# THE AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL

# Sower



NO. 73

THESSALONIKI, GREECE

SPRING 1971

## Money Matters

### Sale of Farm School Products Expected to Earn Over \$220,000

People make the American Farm School — but money matters, too. Total operating expenses this year are expected to be \$655,000. In addition, \$71,000 is needed for capital improvements — such as a new poultry laying house and equipment, greenhouses and milk bottling equipment. Thus our total budget this year is \$726,000.

Given favorable weather and good crops, just over a third of the operating costs will be earned by the students and staff. The sale of farm products and services should bring in more than \$220,000 — and that doesn't take into account the many essential services performed by both boys and girls that help keep costs under control.

A new organization, the Friends of the American Farm School, has been established in Thessaloniki, and another group is being formed in Athens. These groups

will help the School reach its goal of \$23,000 in unrestricted private contributions in Greece — nearly double last year's amount.

Total income expected in Greece this year from all sources is \$284,000, or 43% of our operating expenses. We are aiming to build this up to 50% within five years, through increased farm productivity and expanding the fund-raising activities of our new committees of friends in Greece.

This leaves \$371,000 to be raised outside of Greece for operating purposes. U. S. Government support amounts to \$100,000. Income from the School's relatively small endowment funds should be about \$23,000. Thus, we must look to friends of the School for contributions of \$248,000 for current operating expenses.

To make ends meet, we need added support from existing sources and we need to interest more new people in helping. With the continuing interest of the many friends of the School, we can do both.

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**ENVIRONMENT DAY** — With rakes and brooms instead of placards and slogans, students at the American Farm School celebrate their own Environment Day. On October 21 classes were suspended and 201 blue-overalled boys (and their teachers) cleared away trash, weeded gardens, and raked and shoveled all over the farm.







150 NEIGHBORS CAME BY for Open House on a recent Saturday afternoon at the Farm School. Small visitors rode around in donkey carts while older visitors played volleyball with the Farm School boys and girls. Then came walking tours of the farm (left) with time out for tea and cookies at the Girls School. Many students kept busy with their regular learning activities — from plumbing to rug-making — so the guests could get a better idea of everyday life at the school.

OPEN HOUSE CLIMAX was a typical Farm School program of games, songs and exuberant Greek dancing. Recreational Director Dimitri Pantazis (dark sweater) shows a visitor how it's done.

## Farm School Mourns Tassos Pappas, Who Loved Music



Since 1955 he had been a familiar figure at the Farm School, arms raised, leading the boys in song. For generations of students, he was the man who loved music — and the man who taught the boys to love music, too.

His name was Tassos Pappas, and the entire Farm School community mourns his unexpected death at age 43.

Through the years countless visitors have been charmed by the singing of the boys, and at least one distinguished visitor — Mrs. Lyndon Johnson — did not forget.

In her recent book, *White House Diary*, Mrs. Johnson relates that when she was called upon to open a Congressional wives' prayer breakfast in Washington, she quoted from "a lovely song, sung by the Greek farm boys" at the American Farm School. The verse she quoted was also a favorite of Tassos Pappas. Here it is:

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar, and mine;  
This is my home, the country where my heart is,  
This is my hope, my dream, my shrine;  
But other hearts in other lands are beating  
With hopes and dreams the same as mine.*





## Friends of School Help Lansdale Widen The Circle

When President Bruce Lansdale visited the United States in November, friends of the school organized dozens of events to help make his mission a success. Through their efforts Bruce was able to widen the circle of friends by telling hundreds of new people about the school.

Among many highlights were trips to Rochester and Cincinnati for meetings with the two largest committees of friends of the school. In Rochester, Bruce's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert P. Lansdale, Jr., arranged a warm and spirited reception by the Committee.

Dr. N. J. Giannestras was host at an inspiring luncheon of the Cincinnati Committee, and Mrs. Giannestras opened her home for a reunion of the enthusiastic young work-camp veterans of GREEK SUMMER 1970.

In Chicago, a gift of nearly \$90,000 from the Hellenic-American Federations of the United States and Canada was announced. Andrew Fasseas, director of the Road Building Machinery for Greece program of the Federations, held a press conference with Bruce to announce the gift. This money is to be put into the Farm School endowment fund, and the income used for scholarships for boys from all parts of Greece. It is the largest single gift ever made to the school.

In Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Westebbe hosted a well-attended affair. Mr. Westebbe also arranged a day-long meeting for Bruce with World Bank officials, who were keenly interested in the Farm School's success in motivating its graduates to return to their villages to help improve rural living conditions.

In New York City, Mrs. Clarence W. Bartow held a morning meeting at the Cosmopolitan Club for Bruce to meet a growing number of women in the New York area who are helping raise money for the Girls School under a \$60,000 three-year matching fund program. Mrs. Bartow is a trustee and chairman of the Girls School Committee.

Friends of the Farm School organized and hosted many other luncheons, dinners and receptions for Mr. Lansdale during his visit. To name just a few hard-working friends:

- Mr. and Mrs. E. Frantz Hershey and Mr. and Mrs. Murrill Howe of Richmond, Va.;
- Mrs. Thomas Dunlap of Richmond and Cincinnati;
- Ambassador and Mrs. Walter Dowling of Savannah, Ga.;
- The Wade Hamptons of Greenwich, Conn.;
- George and Linda Post of Darien, Conn.;
- Arthur and Catherine Lanckton of Rowayton, Conn.

Not everything went off like clockwork, of course. In Burlington, Vermont, the well-prepared plans of the John Dinses and the James Wolcotts were frustrated at the last minute by an airline strike that stranded Bruce in New York.

All told, however, it was a great month. The Farm School's circle of friends was expanded — and that was the primary goal.

*Is This Your Year to See Greece?*

## GREECE: OLD AND NEW

For several years now, the Farm School has sponsored tours of Greece — because we believe that to see Greece is to love it. Each tour includes a day at the School — because we know that to visit the school is to become a friend. It's simply not possible to spend a day with the boys and girls of the school without feeling, as Socrates said, that "goodness has a most real and actual existence."

We work with a travel agency in planning these tours, so we can offer the best scheduling and accommodations at the most reasonable cost. Our professional tour manager is Mrs. Sheila McKechnie. She's with Clara Laughlin Travel Services, Inc., 655 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10021, phone (212) 838-8770.

Sheila has worked out a wide selection of tours for 1971. All are for small groups; all include a week in Northern Greece with a day at the Farm School. The GREECE: OLD AND NEW tours include luxury cruises of the Aegean Islands, visits to classical sites, and enough time in Athens to savor the flavor of this wonderful Old and New city.

Full details, with brochures and all that, were mailed to friends of the School on December 14. If you missed or misplaced the letter, give Sheila a call.

## GREECE A LA CARTE

Sheila also can offer do-it-yourself tours. They start with the week in Northern Greece including, of course, the day at the Farm School. But from then on, the group sees GREECE A LA CARTE. These tours are for 10 to 15 people who like to be together, and who trust one person enough to plan and run the tour. That person should know Greece to begin with. And for organizing the tour he (or she) gets a free jet ticket from New York to Athens and back. So if you know Greece and want to boss your own tour, get your group organized and call Sheila.

Any or all of these tours can be combined with visits to other countries — and people who like to travel alone, or with one or two companions, also will find that Sheila will be pleased to help make any and all arrangements.

So whatever your pleasure, give Sheila a ring. But hurry. As Milton said, "The wheels of time roll round."





WHEN ALICE WICK AND PEG TAGGART visited the Farm School recently, they didn't just stop in for a chat. These two national officers of Sigma Kappa sorority got acquainted with the faculty, made friends among the Girls School students, and visited nearby villages to meet alumnae. In photo above, Mrs. Taggart, Mrs. Wick and Girls School teacher, Phani Mattheopoulou (left to right) admire chicks raised by Parthena Siarlythou (background), a 1969 graduate. Sigma Kappa members have long been friends of the Farm School.

## Joe Reed Buried at the Farm School

Joseph Reed, a trustee of the school since 1957, died of cancer in New York on Dec. 17, 1970. His ashes were flown to the school for burial in the memorial cemetery on the campus.

Joe Reed was a loyal, dedicated friend of the school for many years. He took his trusteeship literally — as a trust. He attended nearly every meeting of the Board of Trustees, and served willingly on many working committees.

As President Bruce Lansdale observed, it is most fitting that Joe Reed's final resting place be beside his father, Henry Hope

Reed. The memorial cemetery is near the home of Joe's step-mother, Eleanor Beers Reed, who continues to share with all who visit the campus the love for the school that the family has displayed for so many years.

Henry Hope Reed, a long-time trustee, lived at the school as trustee in residence for several years before his death in 1963. Eleanor Reed is the daughter of Lucius H. Beers, who was the first president of the Farm School's Board of Trustees. Mr. Beers' sister was the wife of John Henry House, the founder of the School.

### Elsa Hill Donates New Septic System

Mrs. Elsa Hill, a retired American school teacher, has donated the funds to build a badly needed septic system at the Farm School.

In a letter to President Bruce Lansdale enclosing her check for \$2,500, Mrs. Hill said she felt the Farm School was "a wise place to tuck away my 'thank you' to Greece for many things."

Mrs. Hill moved to Greece several years ago and became interested in the possibility of growing avocados in the warmer areas of the country. The Farm School helped with her project — and she in turn resolved to help the school.

ΑΜΕΡΙΚΑΝΙΚΗ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΚΗ ΣΧΟΛΗ  
**Sower**  
THESSALONIKI, GREECE

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#### GREEK SUMMER 1971

A unique summer program for young people offers 4 weeks' "peace corps" type work in a Greek village while living at the Farm School, plus a private 2-week tour of Greece. Co-ed, ages 14-18. Late June to early August. Total cost including jet fare from N. Y. is \$1500, of which \$500 is tax deductible. Deadline to apply is April 15. Write GREEK SUMMER at N. Y. address above or phone (212) 889-8285.

St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church  
760 S. Michigan Street  
South Bend, Ind. 46618