



THE AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL
Sower



NO. 74

THESSALONIKI, GREECE

SUMMER 1971

Money Matters

Move to Boost Flow of Contributions in U.S.



Like most institutions that look to voluntary contributions for support, the American Farm School has found that 1971 is not a very good year. So far, no programs have had to be curtailed — and no boys or girls have had to be turned away. Although contributions are lagging behind expectations, the school's unique approach to financing — whereby more than a third of each year's operating costs are earned by the students and staff — provides a stable base under the ebb and flow of voluntary contributions.

A prolonged slowdown in contributions could, however, force the postponement of badly needed capital projects. When Farm School President Bruce Lansdale arrived in New York from Greece on May 22, he pointed out that voluntary gifts are the main source of funds for building new facilities and improving the school's educational programs.

"Like other developing countries," Mr. Lansdale said, "Greece is changing, and the educational needs of its young people are changing, too. The Farm School has helped bring about many of these changes — like the use of more complex farm equipment, better seeds and fertilizers,

and even new farm industries such as large-scale poultry raising.

"But as the school succeeds in creating change, it, too, must adapt. The school needs to stay one step ahead of the times — or it cannot prepare its students to continue to take full advantage of new farming methods and equipment as they become available in Greece."

"Contributions by friends in Greece have been growing year by year," Mr. Lansdale added. "But historically, the school — as an American institution — has always looked to its friends in the United States for its primary support. During the rest of this year we will need the help of all our friends, in order to make up for the ground already lost."

This year's total operating budget is \$722,000. The sale of Farm School products and services is expected to earn more than \$265,000. Endowment income and grants from the Greek and American governments will provide another \$192,000. This leaves about \$265,000 to be provided by the friends of the school. Note that each dollar contributed is matched by a dollar earned by the students and staff.

WHEN SPRING COMES to the Farm School, it brings special kinds of chores — pruning fruit trees (left), mending fences, sowing grain. But when the day's work is done (below), that old malady of the season strikes again: Spring Fever sets in.

Mr. Lansdale was in the U. S. this spring for three weeks. He conferred with trustees, committee members and other friends of the school, and consulted with government officials in Washington.



Paul Condellis, Athens Businessman, Elected a Trustee of the Farm School

"He's one of the finest tractor agents in our worldwide organization." That's the way Bob Hampson, executive vice president of the Ford Motor Company and friend of the American Farm School, described Paul Condellis — the school's newest trustee.

HOW LOW-COST CAN A CHARTER FLIGHT BE?

The special insert in this issue of THE SOWER tells all about a charter flight to Greece that may be the world's all-time travel bargain. The round-trip jet fare is only \$295 — and may be as low as \$225 if we fill the plane.

The Farm School TWA 707 will leave New York for Athens May 11, 1972, and will return from Athens June 8 with a pick-up stop in Rome. Special events are planned at the Farm School over the May 13 weekend. The Annual Meeting of the Trustees will be held at the school May 16.

So read the insert — make sure you qualify — and send in your application!

A native of the Island of Lesbos, Mr. Condellis is one of Athens' leading young businessmen. It was he who put Mr. Hampson in touch with the school, and arranged for the Ford Motor Company to donate a new Ford tractor — complete with modern attachments.

Mr. Condellis has undertaken as his primary duty as a trustee the strengthening of support among Greek businessmen. He hopes that in two years the contributions by friends in Greece, together with money earned by the sale of Farm School products and services, will equal at least 50% of the funds needed for the school's operations.

The Greek government has ruled that contributions to the school in Greece are tax deductible — a privilege not generally given to foreign institutions.

43 Teenagers Are Selected For Greek Summer

"Yah harrah — may you have health and joy!" These were the opening words of notices that went out at the end of April to 43 American teenagers, informing them they had been selected for GREEK SUMMER 1971.

With more applicants than the program could accept, the GREEK SUMMER staff picked a well qualified, enthusiastic group comprised mostly of high school juniors and seniors. The largest contingents are from New York, Ohio and California. Eleven of the young people were included through the generosity of the Lilly Foundation and local sponsors. Five Greek boys, to be selected from the senior class at the Farm School, will bring the total to 48.

The work-campers will be under the leadership of John Jessup, a former foreign service officer based for two years in Thessaloniki. Mr. Jessup is now studying at the Graduate School of Education at the University of Massachusetts. He will be ably assisted by veteran GREEK SUMMER staffers Sarah Holland, Craig Duff and Kim Pittenger.

The group will tour Greece for eight days before arriving at the Farm School. They will live at the school for the month of July, while working on a construction project in the little village of Lakkia. A four-day cruise in the Greek Islands will complete a memorable summer's experience.

The overflow response to this year's GREEK SUMMER has prompted the staff to start planning now for 1972. A brochure describing this unique "peace-corps" type program will be mailed to all friends of the school this fall. Meanwhile, however, a note to the Office of the Trustees from anyone interested will bring more information and a pre-registration form for 1972.

"Hartford Day" in Thessaloniki

The Mayor of Hartford, Connecticut, George A. Athanson, and the Mayor of Thessaloniki, Christos Florides, visited the Farm School on May 6, during the celebration of Hartford Day. This has been an annual event, marked by parades and cross-oceanic visits, since Hartford and Thessaloniki became twin cities ten years ago.

On Hartford Day, Farm School boys in coveralls and girls in sparkling white blouses and gray skirts (their own handiwork) marched proudly down the main streets of Thessaloniki. Other Farm School students, boys and girls marched in traditional Greek costumes. Old and new Greece together welcomed Mayor Athanson to the city and greeted Thessaloniki Mayor Florides.

The following day, the two mayors visited the Farm School. Mayor Athanson was highly interested in the rug weaving techniques taught at the Girls School. Both mayors made a thorough inspection of the wide range of activities at the Girls and Boys Schools.

At lunch with the whole student body, Mayor Athanson won a standing ovation with his stirring speech congratulating the boys and girls on their industrious pursuit of new and useful skills.



HARTFORD Mayor George Athanson gets acquainted with Farm School freshman in woodworking class.

FLORENCE DEBUS RETIRES

The Board of Trustees wishes to express to Miss Florence Debus both its gratitude for her loyal devotion to duty during her fifteen years of dedicated service to the American Farm School and its regret that considerations of health require her to retire from active work at this time. The trustees and her many Farm School friends wish her many years of happiness in retirement.



Visiting students talk with Farm School boys and math teacher Nicos Papaconstantinou.

School's a Crossroads for Students

The Farm School attracts student groups from many countries, especially the United States. Most come in the summer. They spend several days to several weeks. Sometimes the school prepares special programs; sometimes the visitors simply use the Farm School as a base from which to explore Northern Greece.

Groups that come when school is in session can join the regular activities on campus. In April, a group from the Experiment for International Living was on hand during the spring Environment Day — so they joined the Farm School

students in their raking, sweeping, weeding, clean-up activities.

Another group, from DePauw University, took part in a three-day seminar on social change, rural life and socio-economic development conducted by Dr. Tony Trimis, Associate Director of the Farm School. They also spent a day and a night in the village homes of a number of Farm School students.

When the DePauw group was leaving, one student said: "We have learned more in three days here than we could in three months of classroom study!"

Expansion Under Way

SELF-SERVICE STORE MAKES HIT

Business is so brisk at the Farm School's self-service store that it's being expanded and remodeled.

Opened three years ago to demonstrate modern methods of selling farm-fresh foods at the retail level, the small store has attracted people from miles away. Even housewives from the far side of Thessaloniki find their way to the Farm School to buy the famous fresh eggs, rich milk and ice cream, chickens and turkeys. While there, they stock up on other meats — as well as fresh fruits and vegetables.

Floor space is now being enlarged. Thanks to a grant from the United States

government, much of the new space will be occupied by modern American storage, display and dispensing equipment.

The store has become far more than a retail-selling demonstration project. It has won many new friends for the school among people in the entire Thessaloniki area. And it has earned profits that help support other educational activities.

Expanding the store will make it a larger profit-maker for the school. During the coming year, income from all farm activities is expected to reach \$265,000, or 37% of the school's total income.

Thrift - Gift Shop Open Again for Summer Visitors

The Farm School's newest venture in salesmanship — the Thrift - Gift Shop, known to some as the "Barnyard Boutique" — has been reopened for the spring and summer seasons. Friends of the school and the girl students supply the merchandise.

Effie Hadjoudis, the daughter of Margarites Hadjoudis of the Poultry Department, has taken over management of the shop, which is open three days a week.

Items are sold on consignment, with the school earning one-fourth of the selling price. Merchandise ranges from toy knight's armor to Girls School rugs, from roller skates and records to evening wear and coats. Proceeds to the school from the fall and winter seasons came to more than \$400.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MISS CURTIS!

Miss Harriot Curtis, member of the National Committee and formerly a trustee, is celebrating her 90th birthday on June 30th. With gratitude for her many years of loyal service and generous support, the trustees of the Farm School and her many friends say happy birthday, congratulations and best wishes!

A Wedding in the Village . . .

On a recent Saturday nine Americans on a Farm School-sponsored tour of Greece arrived for a restful weekend at the school. There was more ahead of them than they knew.

Saturday brought a track meet, dinner with the students, and an evening recreation program. Sunday did provide a relaxing morning, but the afternoon and evening brought a treat that few tourists are ever privileged to see. The entire group was invited to a village wedding. The daughter of Diamandi Kamilis, an old friend of Bruce Lansdale's from the village of Metamorphosis, was being married to Athanassis Tsaliki from the village of Eliohori.

The American guests gathered at the home of the groom before the wedding and were permitted to see the bride's

dowry (prika). The dowry was kept under lock and key, under the watchful eye of the groom's mother, lest the bride's family — as tradition allows in the village of Eliohori — try to steal back the goods.

The wedding took place in the village church, in a traditional manner and with the traditional confusion — babies crying and villagers milling around and chatting during the ceremony. After the ceremony and a brief guided tour of the village, the entire village and their guests settled down to a post-wedding party at the village kafeneion. Dancing, eating, drinking — but mostly dancing — lasted well into the night.

Finally, weary again, the American visitors stumbled into the bus and rode "home" to the Farm School.

. . . and Under the Pines at the Farm School



Mr. & Mrs. John Garland Cosby, Jr.

Five hundred well-wishers gathered under the pines in the outdoor chapel with King Paul's cross suspended above the altar. It was April 3, the day of Kathy Hershey's wedding. Kathy is a Farm School staffer — assistant to President Bruce Lansdale. The sun shone for the first time in several weeks. Mt. Olympus stood across the bay, perennial and majestic, as if to grant the blessing of the gods on the marriage.

Farm School students formed an "aisle" for the bride and her father and the maid of honor, Tina Lansdale. The maid of honor came first, all gold and blue and smiling, accompanied by English flute music, while the groom, his best man (his father), and the two ministers slipped into the front of the natural chapel.

WILL YOU HELP WIDEN THE CIRCLE ?

The American Farm School plans to make its major appeals for support in the late fall and in the spring each year. A larger-than-usual late-fall solicitation will start this program. Meanwhile, we need to widen the circle of potential contributors. You can help! Send us names and addresses of people you think might take an interest in the American Farm School. If you think some of the people you suggest might have a special interest — such as travel in Greece, the handicrafts of the Girls School, or the GREEK SUMMER program for American high school boys and girls, please indicate on the list you send in.

With your help, we can widen the circle of friends — and broaden the base of support — for the Farm School.

After the words, Bach saw the newly married pair out, back through the aisle of Farm School boys and girls, to the gate at the edge of the yard, where they and their families and attendants all received the traditional "bonbonieras" — little tulle sacks containing an odd number (for luck, they say) of candy-coated almonds and tied with a flower and a blue bead.

A 1936 Buick arrived then, to take the couple to Cincinnati Hall where a rapid change of mood signaled the start of merriment to celebrate the new beginning. The guests streamed down the road and filled the room with joy and dancing to the music of the bouzouki band.

By eight o'clock, all was quiet again at the Farm School. And Mr. & Mrs. John Garland Cosby, Jr. departed, to begin.

ΑΜΕΡΙΚΑΝΙΚΗ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΚΗ ΣΧΟΛΗ
Sower
THESSALONIKI, GREECE

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THIS ISSUE OF 'SOWER' PUT TO BED IN HOSPITAL

Willard Colton of Mobil Oil Corporation, volunteer editor of THE SOWER, worked on this issue in a hospital room during the three days of preparation for a heart operation. Willard said he was glad to have something to do! The operation was completely successful, for which we are very grateful.

St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church
760 S. Michigan Street
South Bend, Ind. 46613