



# The Sower

THE AMERICAN FARM SCHOOL

THESSALONIKI, GREECE . . . Also called SALONICA

Summer,  
1961  
Volume XI,  
Number 3

## SALONICA-CINCINNATI FRIENDSHIP CEMENTED AT CORNERSTONE LAYING OF CINCINNATI HALL

Numerous Mementos Sealed in Box for the  
Interest of Future Generations at School

The cornerstone recently laid by Cincinnati Aletheia Pattison marked the beginning of a new building dedicated to the service of Greece and further cemented the bonds of friendship between two great cities. Nor can these bonds be easily broken, for in a steel box under the building are stored numerous reminders of the interest Cincinnati has in the School. Included in the "time capsule" are letters from the Mayor, the President of the University of Cincinnati, views of the city now and as it was eons ago, newspapers, coins, civic bulletins and samples of local products, and even a fossil trilobite, reputedly 400 million years old, and excavated from Cincinnati's present site.



Miss Pattison and Thessaloniki's Mayor Papaeliakis at Cornerstone Ceremonies.

Cincinnati Hall stands near the southwestern corner of the School's property, adjacent to the army barracks which have been used for adult-course training. It will be used as a training center for farm youth club leaders and agricultural technicians and as an extension of the present short-course center. When completed, the short-course center will enable the School to accommodate eighty adult students at a time and provide adequate facilities for visiting faculty.

During the ceremonies, Miss Pattison explained that the Cincinnati Committee of Friends of the Farm School consisted of forty distinguished citizens, several of whom were of Greek descent. Since 1954 this Committee has raised funds locally for the School and recently collected enough to provide more than ten full scholarships for

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Dear Friends:

This summer has been more hectic than any I can remember. We returned just in time for graduation and since then the days have been full of special events, such as the dedication of Cincinnati Hall and a sad farewell to Charles and Ann House, innumerable welcome visitors including a very personable young extension agent from Nigeria, two-score girls from Hollins College in Virginia, a group from Cyprus and, of course, just recently our own alumni in for a refresher course and an Alumni Association meeting. It is always a great source of satisfaction to hear others share our enthusiasm for the School.

Our capital development program is going very well. Rochester Hall should be finished soon and the new and necessary staff house is progressing well. I don't know what we would have done without Charlie House, as the number of different projects would have been too much for any one man on the staff.

The failure of this year's wheat crop was a great disappointment to us all. While generally the rain this year has helped most crops, it came too late for our wheat resulting in a \$10,000 loss as compared to expected sales. Nor have we been able to eliminate wheat rust completely. We are going to try some new American chemicals which have not been used before in Greece in the hope of improving our situation with the new harvest.

And now the boys are returning for another year. Once again that special metamorphosis will take place and the buildings, the fields and the roads will assume a character which only the presence of the boys can create. As I see them coming up the road, some alone, some with their families, I often think of the dreams and hopes — and maybe fears — which must fill their minds. We enjoy watching the older boys return, confident from a summer on their farms, and the new ones, too, uncertain yet full of pride and outward confidence.

We think often of our friends in the United States who have made all this possible. For their interest we are eternally grateful, for with it so much can be done, and there is still so much to do. To all our friends everywhere, however, we would like to say thanks. As the year goes on we hope to see many more of you in Greece and especially at the School.

— Bruce M. Lansdale

*Ed. Note. A number of letters from the Director of the School have reported on current news and expressed the Director's feelings toward important events. We have taken the liberty of compressing some of these for the interest of our readers.*



## LEARNING BY DOING TEACHES BETTER FARMING AND HELPS COVER COST OF STUDENTS' EDUCATION

While the ultimate aim of the prize chicks, pigs, calves, eggs, corn and tomatoes which grow at the American Farm School is to improve the Greek farmers' standard of living, their immediate accomplishment is to help cover two-thirds of the expenses of the four-year training program. In addition they demonstrate strikingly the effects of progressive breeding, feeding, cultivation and the superiority of improved seeds over scrub strains.

A few figures provide a clue to the intensity of the breed development program at the School. A total of 25,212 White Leghorn chicks were hatched from July 1960 through July 1961, plus 24,949 Rhode Island Reds and 29,096 broilers. Approximately 8,000 hatching eggs were furnished graduates from the new incubator, which accommodates 16,000 eggs at a time and works non-stop 365 days a year. In future years the supply will be considerably larger.



Chicks like this help the farmers of Greece improve their stock and egg production.

Those who want calves are not so fortunate as those who ask for chicks. Director of Studies Demeter Hadjis says, "It has reached the point where we have to sell calves before they are even born." Even though a record of 30 dairy calves left the Farm School this year, the waiting list has been discontinued because demand so greatly exceeds supply. In addition, three bull calves were sold for breeding this year, and the Eisenhower Aberdeen Angus bull fathered 100 calves now scattered throughout Northern Greece.

Leaving the animals and going to the garden, the School's tomato vines appear more like trees. Costa Partides, Garden Supervisor, has broken all previous records for production, quality and size of tomatoes this year with the use of new hybrid seed and hotkaps, recently developed plastic protectors to guard against wind and cold. Reaction to the amazing plants has been amusing. A priest strolling by the garden during graduation week stopped, astounded,

and looked at the tomatoes, and then blessed the plants in traditional fashion. More than one kindhearted soul has suggested hanging blue beads on the vines to ward off the evil eye — always, according to village superstition, a threat to something beautiful or remarkable. Vegetable growers and cooperatives in Salonica are already ordering similar seeds for the coming year.

Though tomatoes are usually ready for cutting about June 15th at the School, the hotkaps and new seeds produced the first crop on May 20th this year. By the middle of July, 37,400 lbs. had been cut from 6,000 plants. The first tomatoes, of course, sold at premium prices. When, later during the summer, tomatoes became plentiful everywhere, the School mobilized its canning facilities to make paste and sauce for hearty winter meals.

That old Farm School tradition, sweet corn, continue to please the palates of people from Salonica to Athens, where it is sent by air two times a week. Hybrid seed and planting every ten days produce about 30,000 ears of corn between June and November. Second in popularity only to Farm School milk, sweet corn is now grown extensively in rural Greece by Farm School graduates and others who have copied their endeavors.



Scholarship boy displays Angus calf destined for graduate's farm.

Though necessarily only by-products of the School's educational program, the fruits of the labor of the students and staff provide an essential part of the School's income and, more than all the classroom lectures, prove to student and parent alike what miracles can be wrought from the ground with modern methods, seed and cultivation. To achieve these results at home is the constant aim of a Farm School graduate. As he and his fellow villagers succeed, their lives improve and the strength of Greece increases.



## A SALONICA STREET NAMED TO HONOR JOHN HENRY HOUSE

Following a discussion on the Hall of Justice and a statue of Alexander the Great, the City Council heard a written motion made by the Mayor of the City that the deceased Founder of the American Farm School in Thessaloniki, Dr. John Henry House, be honored for his services to the city and Macedonia by giving his name to a street of the city. Also, that his son and successor, the retired Director of the School, Charles L. House, be named an honorary citizen of Thessaloniki. The Mayor praised the work of Charles L. House.

The motion was seconded by the members of the Council, Messrs. Bellas, Valayannis, Kandiliaris, and many others, and it was unanimously decided that a street of the city be named after Dr. John Henry House, and that his surviving son, Dr. Charles L. House, be named an honorary citizen of Thessaloniki.

*Ed. Note:* The above is an extract of the proceedings of the City Council of Thessaloniki, Greece.

## Cincinnati Hall

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deserving boys. Each year the Committee undertakes a community campaign on behalf of the School and each year new friends are found eager to help with such a grass-roots project.



Mementos of Cincinnati ready for burial beneath cornerstone.

To honor the efforts of the citizens of Cincinnati, the name Cincinnati Hall was given to one of the new buildings made possible by a capital grant. The second major structure is to be called Rochester Hall, in gratitude for the efforts of that community.

## FARM SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES

### Calf Rewards Hard Work and High Grades

Demetrios Halatsis and Charalambos Ketikides will share this year's prize for having made the most progress during their four years at school. Demetrios, with the highest average, receives a calf. But runner-up Charalambos has claim on its first female offspring. Both boys are scholarship students, one being sponsored by AHEPA and the other by Mrs. J. W. Cone of Greensboro, N. C.

### 4-H Members Convene at Farm School

New board members of the Federal Association of Rural Youth Clubs will be chosen when 150 4-H members, representing each of the 50 Greek prefectures, convene at the School this fall. Awards for outstanding achievements will be made on the grounds of the International Trade Fair in Thessaloniki.

### Ethiopian Educator Learns from School's Experience

Among the many visitors to the School this summer was Gebre-ab Biadgilign, an Ethiopian educator and founder of the Maymishiam School in the Province of Tigre. Having completed a study of community development projects in the U. S., Mr. Biadgilign has now returned to his country to assist there in the initiation of similar projects.



Ethiopian educator studies school chicks.

### CARE Kits Distributed to Graduation Class

Once again the School is indebted to CARE for the tool kits made available to each member of the graduating class. The welcome contents of these kits have played an indispensable role in the construction of model farm buildings from which other villagers can learn.

### Charles House and Family Bid Farewell to School

Ending a busy and fruitful nine months at the Farm School, Charles House, his wife and two sisters spent some time in Austria before returning to the United States. For all they have done this time for the School, the Trustees and staff are deeply appreciative.

### Cypriotes Visit and Glimpse Iron Curtain

Two hundred fifty members of the Teachers' Academy of Cyprus toured the School and accompanied by a member of the staff traveled to the Greek-Bulgarian border. Inexplicably, they consumed 251 glasses of School milk.

## FARM SCHOOL HISTORY IN PREPARATION

Catherine Owens Peare, author of numerous biographies and children's books, is working on a full-length history of the American Farm School. Among her many past successes she lists a definitive biography of William Penn, published by Lippincott.

Miss Peare would appreciate receiving any impressions, recollections and historical data which friends of the School would care to share with her. Documents loaned to her will, of course, be returned promptly.

Miss Peare can be reached at her home, 295 St. John's Place, Brooklyn 38, N. Y., telephone STerling 9-6477, or through the Office of the Trustees.

Many friends of the School are also interested in Greece today and Greece as it once was. In the hope that we may be of some additional service, we are beginning with this issue a brief new books list. While not a regular feature of *The Sower*, the list will be included as often as reader interest dictates.

GREEK HORIZONS. By Helen Hill Miller. 225 pages. Scribner. \$6.95.

YOUR HOLIDAY IN GREECE. By Ernest Welsman. Taplinger Publishing Co. \$2.95.

NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS AND HIS ODYSSEY. By Pandelis Prevelakis. Translated by Philip Sherrard. Simon & Shuster. \$5.00.

PROSPERO'S CELL and REFLECTION ON A MARINE VENUS. By Lawrence Durrell. E. P. Dutton & Co. \$5.00.

GREEK HOLIDAY. By Anne Anthony. Taplinger Publishing Co. \$5.00.

SIX POETS OF MODERN GREECE. Chosen and translated by Edmund Keeley and Philip Sherrard. Alfred Knopf. \$5.00.

If not available locally or on order, all books listed in this column may be ordered from the Office of the Trustees, 45 East 65th Street, New York 21, N. Y. Please include check when ordering from this office.

## ENDOWMENT FUND BENEFITS FROM BEQUEST

Ruth M. Havens Remembers Farm School

Ruth M. Havens was born in Rochester, N. Y. before the turn of the century and passed her long life in the service of others, first as a teacher in the Rochester public schools and then for many years at the State Teachers College in New Paltz, N. Y., as a professor of English.

During her lifetime Miss Havens executed a trust which provided that one-sixth of her estate, after payment of expenses and certain cash gifts, should accrue to the American Farm School. Recently the Trustees were notified that we would receive an amount in excess of \$25,000 from the estate of Miss Havens, who died during the summer.

Deeply moved by this expression of interest, the School's officers are recommending the establishment of a Ruth M. Havens Memorial Scholarship at the School, using a portion of the income from this principal sum to cover the tuition costs of a Greek boy at the School. Similar scholarships are being established with a portion of the income received from the bequests of Margaret Garrison Phourides and Charles M. Hall, both of whom left portions of their estates to the School. Through the boys selected for these scholarships, three of the School's most generous benefactors will forever be remembered.

Though small, the School's Endowment Fund provides an essential safeguard against the uncertainties of nature. Income from the Endowment is used for scholarship help and to enable the School to meet unusual and unexpected circumstances such as arise from crop failures or damage to the physical plant. Friends of the School wishing additional information about the Endowment Fund or the opportunities for memorial gifts to the School may inquire of the Office of the Trustees.

# NEWSLETTER

FROM

## The American Farm School

Thessaloniki, Greece

Α Μ Ε Ρ Ι Κ Α Ν Ι Κ Η Γ Ε Ω Ρ Γ Ι Κ Η Σ Χ Ο Λ Η

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

Dear Friends:

The opening of the new school year is an occasion for much rejoicing among the students and staff, but also a time when the School's financial needs are at their peak.

If you are not a contributor to the School, but have been telling yourself that you should do something, sometime, may I urge you to consider this the time to join the many who do contribute regularly. Your interest and support would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
CRAIG R. SMITH  
President

TO.