

NEWS LETTER -- 1

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER RECEIVED FROM

MRS. JOHN HENRY HOUSE,

THESSALONIA

AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE,

AT SALONICA, GREECE,

MAY 1, 1926.

Recently we have had guests that recall very vividly the tragic years that were beginning to grow a little dim.

They came from a refugee village about thirty miles away, to ask that we reserve places for some of their boys. The community is evangelical, a remnant escaped from one of the villages in Asia Minor near Marash.

The deacon of the church was accompanied by a woman whose face would attract and hold attention anywhere. She wore a plain black dress and a white sweater; over her head a black scarf was tied to show just a little of the dark hair that was parted over a serene face, and gave her a Madonna-like appearance, yet she is not a mother of children; she is the mother of a village. A graduate and later a teacher in the College in Marash, life opened out very hopefully for this girl. An American

friend offered to send her to America and have her trained to be a doctor, but dark clouds were gathering about her people, and she refused safety and opportunity for herself, and her reply to this tempting offer was always the same: "I am needed here. I cannot leave them".

Very soon the storm broke and the girl stood bravely at her post of danger. She was the comfort and dependance of her frightened people, and has stayed by the pitiful remnant of a large community, forty-five families and seventy-five orphans who are making new homes for themselves in a little Macedonian village, and notwithstanding changed conditions and the struggle with bitter poverty, they are anxious that their children should have an education, and they have come to us for help.

How much I wish that friends at home could understand the unusual opportunities that lie before us. All about us these villages are springing up, and in many of them are groups of people who are accustomed to care for large farms or carry on business requiring ability and some education. Now they are struggling to win a bare living from a few acres that need much more money than they possess to stock them and run them to advantage.

Our school seems to be here for this especial need. Many of these people want their boys

educated to fit them for the new circumstances in which they find themselves, just the education which we are prepared to give them. We have the plant and the teachers. What we need is money to finish the dormitory building, and more scholarships, until these people can get on their feet.

Some of our boys in a village (not refugee) have formed a company to introduce electric lights into their own and a neighboring village, by utilizing the water power. They have provided an automobile service between their village and the railroad, have introduced better pigs and chickens from the school farm, are working for better roads, and in other ways are trying to improve their village.

We want to send out boys like these as helpers and leaders.

One of the important lessons we are teaching our boys is that they are being fitted for service.

(Signed) A. B. HOUSE.

Funds for the Institute or for Scholarships may be sent to the Farmers Loan and Trust Company, 22 William Street, New York City.

Thessalonica Agricultural and Industrial Institute

President John H. House, D.D., LL.D.
Vice-President Lucius H. Beers
Secretary Frank C. Myers
Treasurer William B. Isham
Field Secretary Miss M. L. Matthews
48 So. 12th Ave., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Assistant Treasurer and Depository:
The Farmers Loan and Trust Company
22 William Street, N. Y. C.

DIRECTORS

Mrs. C. E. Bacon, Montclair, N. J.
Ray Stannard Baker, Amherst, Mass.
James L. Barton, D.D., Boston, Mass.
Lucius H. Beers, New York.
Dr. Kenyon L. Butterfield, Amherst, Mass.
Dr. John H. Finley, New York.
John Henry House, D.D., Salonica, Greece.
Mrs. Arthur M. Howe, Watertown, Conn.
William B. Isham, New York.
Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones, New York.
William Pierson Merrill, D.D., New York.
Rev. Irving W. Metcalf, Oberlin.
Frank C. Myers, New York.
Mrs. A. V. S. Olcott, New York.
L. Hollingsworth Wood, New York.
