

Thanksgiving Day, 1931

at the

American Farm School

Salonica, Greece

Mrs. Charles L. House writes:

We had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day! About 300 gathered for the Thanksgiving Service and Mr. Theocarides spoke beautifully of what Father and Mother House and Ruth have meant to all of us. As he began to speak, one of the boys quietly drew to one side the large School Banner which Josh Brush gave, and behind it were Miss Miner's paintings of Father and Mother, elaborately decorated. It was a surprise to us all.

We celebrated the day as Founder's Day, since it is 25 years since Father and Mother and Ruth came out to live at the School, and 59 years since Father and Mother arrived in the Balkans as missionaries.



THE TRIBUTES

Mr. Theocarides said:

"Dear Dr. House: As a token of deep gratitude for your blessed life and valuable services of twenty-five years in our School, where so many youths have studied to realize the great purpose for which you

founded it, the whole body of the students present you with these flowers, a present, which, though simple in itself, proceeding from the hearts of the boys, may well interpret their loyalty and love to you."

(A little boy handed Father the flowers.)

"Dear Mrs. House: In a stage of life when others seek rest and retirement, you have devoted twenty-five blessed years in the work of our School. With an inborn spirit of Christian service, you have given all the needed help to your loving life-long partner, doubling his courage and dividing his difficulties in the uphill work of organizing this Institution. The boys of our School offer you these flowers to show their appreciation of all your valuable services as their teacher and to express their thankfulness for your care and love for them as their Mother."

(A little boy handed her the flowers.)

"Dear Miss Ruth House: Everything useful, everything beautiful we see in this Institution, you have your full share in it. During these twenty-five years of useful service you have been a loving teacher and a kind sister to the boys and the boys offer you these flowers as an acknowledgment of your good work and your sisterly care and love for them."

(Then a boy handed her the flowers.)

After the service, they had their picture taken with the flowers. At the Thanksgiving Dinner, 310 of us sat down together, including about 60 Russian refugee workmen on the place.