

NEW YORK OFFICE: 17 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

News-Letter

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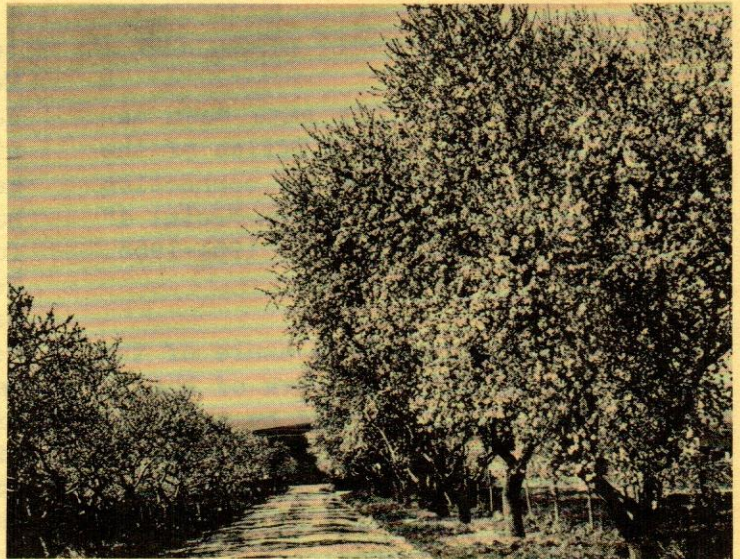
SEEING IS BELIEVING

Thomas Jefferson once said, "The plough is to the farmer what the wand is to the sorcerer."

No one has yet coined so descriptive a phrase to suggest the magic of hybrid seed and sprinkler irrigation, but these pictures speak for themselves. The boys who come from the isolated rural villages of Greece to the American Farm School learn in part by seeing the practical advantages of the modern methods taught at the School.

These two rows of almond trees were planted at the School at the same time, and received the same care - but the trees on the right of the road border on the vegetable garden which is irrigated, while those on the left are watered only by the infrequent rains.

The School has this year received some substantial gifts to increase its supply of water for irrigation purposes, and to demonstrate what can be done by the proper conservation and use of rainfall. Three new wells have been dug,



These two pictures of Irenie were taken on the same day. The two fields of corn, with only a narrow strip of road between, were planted at the same time, and grew under identical climactic conditions. At the left is a neighbor's field of ordinary corn; at the right is the Farm School's field, planted with hybrid seed.



Late in March Mrs. House wrote: "One day we had foresters here from the American Mission, the University of Salonica and the Ministry of Agriculture. Demeter Hadjis was in on their discussion, and got to talking about some of our boys' achievements. He told of one graduate who had inoculated his poultry against Newcastle's disease; his neighbors, many of them, laughed at his new ideas, but some asked him to inoculate theirs also. The disease practically wiped out the poultry of the scoffers! The following year, with new stock, practically all the villagers came to him to learn how to protect their flocks, and the poultry population of the village is thriving."

OBLIGATIONS SATISFACTORILY DISCHARGED

The School's accounts have been audited by the Controller's Office of the U.S. Mission in Greece in connection with the Agreement under which "Point 4" help was given the School in 1951-1953. The Auditor's report states:

"The investigators were aware of the high esteem in which the work of the American Farm School is held by the personnel of the FA Division of USOM and by officials of the Greek Ministry of Agriculture. During the course of the audit, however, a number of inquiries were made through County Directors of Agriculture and other sources regarding the practical results of the school. They were informed that the work of the school was of considerable value. The students return to their communities and were a major influence in the introduction of improved agricultural methods and the techniques and development of community services.

"The obligations imposed on the Thessaloniki Institute under TCA Proj. appear to have been satisfactorily discharged. ... The project has been carried out in a manner and has achieved objectives which will materially contribute to the fulfillment of the TCA program for the better development of resources in Greece."

The first students came to the School in the spring of 1904. By May there were 10 or 12 orphans on the farm with a native teacher, and Mr. Haskell wrote from Salonica to Dr. John Henry House in the United States: "We now have: the house and stable; two good yoke of oxen; one 12-lira horse, given by Mr. H. N. Brailsford from London Relief Fund; one donkey; several fowls. All these are paid for. We have planted as follows: 422 mulberry trees growing nicely; 12 dunums (Turkish acre is 1/3 our acre) oats; 5 dun. vetch; 6 dun. water and musk melons; 4 dun. sesame; 14, maize; 1/2 dun. potatoes; 1/2 other garden 'sass;' 1/2 dun. alfalfa."

Dr. House quoted the above in a letter of May 14, 1904 to Rev. Irving W. Metcalf of Oberlin, Ohio, and added: "Of course this is only a very small beginning, but it seems to me that Mr. Haskell's showing above is excellent. What has been done so far is almost entirely for the orphans and keeping up the farm. We need a main building which would eventually cost about \$12,000. It could be erected in sections - the most necessary parts first. Then we must have one or two experts at the head and two assistant teachers to begin with. Of course all this is a work of faith, but God seems to be wonderfully blessing us and leading us."

DURING THE PAST YEAR

..... Friends in Rochester, N. Y. and Cincinnati have organized committees for the American Farm School. Such committees in cities and towns around the U.S. give real meaning to American friendship for the people of Greece.

..... Five Trustees have visited the School: Arthur L. Lanckton of the Socony Vacuum Oil Co.; Herbert P. Lansdale, Jr., Executive Secretary of the International Committee of the YMCA; George C. McGhee, recently U.S. Ambassador to Turkey; Charles H. Morgan, Mead Professor of Fine Arts at Amherst College, and Mrs. Henry Hope Reed who is now living at the School.