



The garden—"So they took Jesus, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of the Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha." (John 19:17). "Now in the place where He was crucified, there was a garden, and in the

garden a new tomb where no one had ever laid." (John 20:41). British archeologists contend that the garden shown above near a knoll whose rock formations outline a skull is the place of the holy sepulchre.



The tomb—In the garden discovered by the archeologists is a tomb that matches New Testament descriptions of the place where Joseph of Arimathea laid Jesus. However, all are not agreed on the site. As Mary stood weeping outside the tomb

the day after the crucifixion, a voice asked her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She replied, "Because they have taken away my Lord and I do not know where they have laid Him." (John 20:13).

The Holy Land—where His great love soothes and cools the Hot Sands of Hate

THIS IS LAST in a series of 11 foreign travel articles by Alyce Billings Walker, director of The News Women's Department. In them she has attempted to share with readers the experiences of a recent study tour through the Near East and Middle East. The itinerary included Greece, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel, Egypt, Tunisia, France and Spain. The trip as far as Israel was made through a fellowship from the American Christian Palestine Committee, supplemented by a group of friends in the Birmingham Jewish community. She travelled with 22 persons from all parts of the country and from various walks of life.

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer

THE "LITTLE TOWN" was lying very still in the June sun. Memories of Sunday School pictures and all my Christmas Eves welled up in a great gush of tenderness.

We came upon it over a winding road from the Mount of Olives. Along the way, shepherds still watched their flocks.

I guess Miss Sarah was the most excited to see Bethlehem. She had been waiting more years than the others to come where Christ was born. This blessed septuagenarian, only woman Ruling Elder of the Presbyterian Church, the constant joy and inspiration of our trip, will now always be "The Christmas Lady" to me.

A long way

WE HAD COME a long way to visit the places where the New Testament began and ended. Both Bethlehem and Jerusalem are in Arab Jordan. Travelers cannot enter them from Israel.

Our route was via Lebanon and Syria. We crossed green plains, climbed terraced mountains, dipped into rocky valleys, spanned blazing deserts.

The ride was like flipping the pages of the Old Testament. Camels looked down their haughty noses at our racing, noisy motorcade. Bedouin shepherds piped their flat-tailed sheep out of our way. Farmers and oxen were threshing wheat just as it was done centuries ago. Men and women, girls and boys wrapped in layers of clothing, tossed it to the winds to remove the chaff.

In Damascus

OUR FIRST BIBLICAL STOP was Damascus, but just for a night. We arrived at sunset, went immediately to the Street Called Straight, The House of Judah, where Paul found refuge in his blindness, was there. The case of Ananias, after he was converted and healed, was

just where the New Testament says it was. We visited the great Omayyad Mosque in Damascus, fourth most sacred place to Moslems. The head of John the Baptist, the guide said, was in one of the tombs. The remains of the last Crusade are in another and more elaborate one.

Jesus is supposed to appear on one of the minarets of this mosque for the final judgment. I didn't question that the rugs on which rich and poor were kneeling eastward in prayer were the most beautiful in the world.

It was no easy journey through these Arab countries. Tires and again we waited in the parching heat while officials studied our credentials. These included letters stating our Christian faith.

Across the river

WE LUNCHEd in Amman, bustling new capital of Jordan. The hotel faced ruins of a Roman amphitheater.

By sundown we had crossed the River Jordan, visited Jericho and were swimming in the Dead Sea.

Anthony gave Jericho to Cleopatra as a Winter resort. The devil offered it to Jesus, along with "all the kingdoms of the earth." We climbed over its tumbled walls to the rock where the proposition was made and refused.

Below, women came winding along the road to fill their water jugs at the well Elisha had sweetened. Marthas, Ruths, Rachels—they hid their faces from our eager photographers.

We passed two clapping, dancing, singing processions

along Jericho's streets. One was bound for a wedding, the other for a circumcision. Nothing had changed.

Holy City

THE MOON ROSE out of the Dead Sea as our drivers headed the cars upward toward Jerusalem. Truly, these drivers are "Sons of the Road." The craggy mountains were magical in the silver spilled all around us that night and every night, we were in the Holy City.

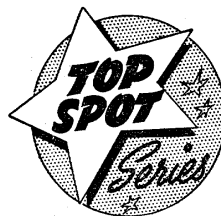
"The Star Spangled Banner," tooted by a uniformed band of youngsters from the Christian Approach Orphanage, welcomed us to our hotel and reminded us this was Circa 1953.

Every day we had to remember that Present was swallowed by the past everywhere we went. We choked on heavy incense as Armenian priests, in heavy gold robes, led candlebearing choirs through the dark passages of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Roman Catholics were saying "Hail Marys" at the end of another passage. Coptics and Greek Orthodox also have chapels in this holy place.

Mosque of Omar

I LIKE THE STORY of the Mosque of Omar, near the Holy Sepulchre Church. When Patriarch Sophronius surrendered Jerusalem to Omar in A.D. 637, he invited the conqueror to pray with him in the Holy Sepulchre. Omar declined, explaining that if he did his followers would consider the church theirs. The mosque was built in honor of his thoughtfulness.

It stands where Solomon built his temple, and Herod the one



In His footsteps

THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, the Milk Grotto, the Jewish Wailing Wall, the pool of Siloam where Christ opened the eyes of a blind man — these and all the holy places, we visited. For three days we walked in the footsteps of Jesus, in and around the old Walled City. We followed the way of His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and along Via Dolorosa, the route to His crucifixion.

Present in focus

THE PRESENT was brought sharply into focus on the last afternoon in Jerusalem. While we drank tea on the hotel terrace, we heard how Arab youth feel about the partition of Jordan.

Pretty, bright Mary Attalla, Smith College graduate and now a government worker, reminded us, "There are 70 million of us living astride the most strategic area in the world. We are surprised that America did not realize this sooner."

She was full of resentment toward the British, contended that Israel did not defeat the Arab by arms, but by political decisions.

"Our feelings toward the Jews are not based on intolerance. Moslem tolerance is too well known for that. Our resentment is not toward Jewry, but toward Zionism."

The stars came out as Mary spoke. I am sure they shine more brilliantly in the East than any where else—beacons of hope and faith to a leadership that could solve man's differences with man.

Back to past

IN ISRAEL, we filled in other events of Christ's ministry. Mount Tabor, said to be the place of His transfiguration, and Mount Carmel became as familiar as Red and Shades Mountains.

We paused at Kfar Cona where Jesus turned water into wine, and at Tabgha where He fed the multitude with a little boy's loaves and fishes. We went to Tiberias, Communist slogans on walls, filthy streets, made Nazareth, the scene of His childhood, a sad place.

We traveled over the Mount of the Beatitudes, crossed the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum. In the ruins of the synagogue built by the centurion whose servant Christ healed, one of us read aloud the Sermon on the Mount.

Up Mount Zion we trudged to the temple area. The room of the Last Supper is there, and so is the tomb of King David. Whatever Biblical doubts one might have, they lose their force in the land holy to Christian, Jew and Moslem.

Unforgettable

MANY MORE MILES that led to Egypt, Tunisia, France, Spain were traveled before journey's end in Birmingham. I returned in the still-dark hours of early morning, weary, but sleepless. Faces and scenes in faraway lands were still too real to be just memories.

I watched the dawn chisel familiar sights out of darkness. Once more, "goodness and mercy had followed me."

I was at home. "My cup runneth over."

Tunis is two cities—one smartly modern, the other colorful Arabic

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer
 Of all places—
 I had zig-zagged the Mediterranean from Cairo, via Rome, Palermo, Pantelleria to get to Tunis. And what did I find?
 A city apparently surrendered to the flies. They were the only living things the least bit interested in my arrival. In the 10 miles from the airport to the hotel, I saw three persons:
 A sleep-soused bus driver.
 A steep-walking porter.
 A sleepwalking clerk.
 Of all places!



Of all places—
 Tunis, I love you almost the best. Especially because you nap from 1 to 3 p.m., weekdays, and go sound asleep on Sundays.
 When you do this, the sea is so beautiful. The air is so breezy. The mountains across Tunis Bay to Ben Corneire (Two-Horned Mountain) is so breathtaking. I wonder more travelers don't come your way.
 Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Marney, Ben Vulcan, Abdullah, Raphael and Garcon give me many more reasons for loving you.

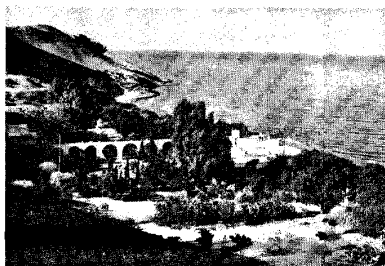
THE MARNEYS are charming friends of Birmingham's Bill and Grete Lathrop. They live at lovely Old Bou. Said one of the cluster of little villages along the coast. He literally dug their house out of the ground, for its walls are Roman remains.
 He has just finished one of the most beautiful, functional, economical schools I ever saw. I went with him to visit the American World War II cemetery which he is developing. It's a beautiful resting place for 2000 of our lads.

BEN VULCAN, from New York via war duty in the South Pacific and Europe, is social work director of the Joint Distribution Committee, Jewish Red Cross that has reached all over the world to rescue and help its needy.

There are 100,000 Jews in Tunisia, 70,000 of them in Tunis. Until the 12th century they were confined in a ghetto. Thousands still live there of economic necessity.
 A tour of schools, clinics bygiene demonstration centers, milk and food centers, adult education projects impressed over that Jews take care of their own needy.

BEN had taken a house for the summer at La Marsa, just a crane's step from the beach. You had to push through oleander, bougainvillea and phlox to get into the patio.
 RAPHAEL, OUR chauffeur, is a handsome young Tripolitanian Jew. One day he asked to bring his beautiful wife and children along with us to the beach. He and the children swam, but not his wife. He explained that because she wouldn't have an opportunity to swim seven times during the summer, she couldn't swim at all.

GARCON is a hotel waiter. I swapped him English words for French, but wouldn't have dared violate his dignity by asking his name.



Where blue meets blue—The Mediterranean and the sky gem one off the coast of Gammarth, one of the coastal suburbs of Tunis, capital city of Tunisia in North Africa. The coast will be familiar to boys who served in the African campaign during World War II.



Dido was smart gal—Queen Dido, in flight from her brother in Tyre, Lebanon, chose this part of the North African coast to build Carthage. Here are some of the ruins of the city that once held a million people, and controlled the Mediterranean.

APPOINTMENT OF THE MONTH—
 I was sent me as a guide by Richard Lewis of the U. S. Information Service. He lives in one of the better hotels, but prefers the sidewalk for his asista. The hotter the day, the more clothes he wore.
 He steered me toward the excavations at Carthage, once a proud city of a million people. Queen Dido did all right when she chose this spot on her flight from Tyre. She bargained with the farm folk to buy "as much land as could be contained by the skin of an ox." By cutting the hide into narrow strips, she encircled a whole hill.
 Most of the excavations have been done by the White Fathers whose monastery is nearby. Unlike other ruins we saw, there were flowers planted everywhere, just as they must have been when Carthage ruled the Mediterranean.

Another day, we went to the museum at Bardou, once palaces and harems of Hafids and Ays. The world's most beautiful mosaics are said to be here. I'm sure they are.

TUNIS IS TWO cities—one European, the other Arabic. The former has smart shops, handsome buildings. Over its broad streets seat tens of little cars, dozing clopping horses drawing open carriages, clanking street cars and ambling donkeys.
 The Arabic section is as you see it—charming or depressing, romantic or drab. To me it was colorful, picturesque and endlessly fascinating. The souks (markets) were the cleanest, best arranged and quietest of any I visited.

THE NATIVE population is basically Berber. Much has been surmised about origin of these people whom the Arabs found when they swept across North Africa. Theory is that they, with Egyptians, Nubians and Ethiopians, compose the Hamitic race, supposed descendants of Ham, Noah's second son.
 When Arab and Berber intermarried, the result was the Moor. It was the Moors who seized Spain and held it for centuries, much to the benefit of that country's culture.

THERE WERE MORE women in Arab dress on Tunis' streets than elsewhere I'd been. They glided along in their white baraccas, like swarms of white moths. Abdullah said I could get a better look at them on the trains. I rode them many times, sometimes with him, sometimes alone.
 The baracca is a single piece of cloth, wrapped around the waist, thence upward over the head and across the face, where a corner is usually caught between the wearer's teeth. Sometimes, a married woman will wear a black veil over her eyes.

When I commented how large and bright the eyes were that looked out from the baraccas, Abdullah granted, "Kohl" is a black powder, used much as we do mascara. Some of the women's hands were painted with henna. All of them wore bracelets on both wrists and some had them on their ankles. Many pieces of their jewelry are "charms." Most favored are the Hand of Fatma (Mohammed's daughter), gold and silver fish and amber beads.

ON THE WAY to the souk one day, Abdullah reminded me that politeness gets a better reception. This meant that I must accept and drink the tea or coffee offered me in each shop. My manners and tummy were at constant war, for I don't drink coffee and the tea was sickeningly strong and sweet.

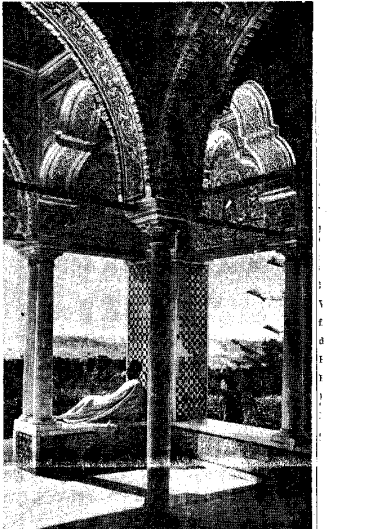
ABDULLAH ALSO told me about marriage, divorce and funerals.
 Desert weddings must be more fun than town ceremonies. There are shooting contests and horse races, feasting and dancing. The bride rides to her husband's tent on a white camel, followed by a kind of clapping procession.
 The groom usually has a chance to see his bride before the wedding in the field, or drawing water. But, the town man has to take the word of his women relatives about his bride. Both infidels must have a "pide" (divorce) before the wedding.

DIVORCE in the desert is simple. A husband doesn't have to give any explanation, but he does have to support his children.
 WOMEN RELATIVES do the weeping and the males receive the condolences when there is a death. After the burial, bread and oil are distributed to the poor in memory of the departed.

HOWEVER, behind its romantic, latticed windows and high, mysterious walls, Tunisia has serious problems.
 A French protectorate since 1881, a United Nations constitutional survey shows Tunisia is parative survey shows Tunisia is ahead of all other countries in the Muslim world.

In the economic field, it is out front in equipment and the standard of living. In the cultural field, it is led only by Syria—though only about a fourth of its school-age children are in the classroom. It has fewer medical doctors, but better hospital facilities than any of its neighbors.

NATIONALISM is rampant in Tunisia. Just before my arrival, the heir to the present Bey was assassinated in his gardens at La Marsa. He was pro-French. His killer is said to be a hireling of the Neo Destour (Constitutional) Party. Bourghiba, the party leader, is in "forced residence" on a small island off Tunisia, but the impatience for independence spreads.



African beauty—An Arab rests in one of the lovely courts of the Belvedere pavilion in a park in Tunis. The mosaic and tile work found in this area is world famous.

FRANCE'S POSITION is difficult. It must protect the Bay. Nationalist inclined, he is absolute sovereign at a \$3 million a year salary.
 It must protect the French residents who control the large part of the country's economy. And, it must protect the people and teach them democratic procedures.
 That these people want independence is understandable. For 2000 years of recorded history, they have been ruled successively by Phoenicians, Romans, Vandals, Byzantines, Arabs, Spaniards, Turks. France, however, does they are not yet ready for complete self-government.

I FIRED THE "M" that I rooster when I left Tunis. I didn't ask a serious question the two days I was in Nice. Just swam, slept, ate and rode about the beautiful South France countryside.
 For a week I gulped Spain's majestic past and left its troubled present to France.

Next: The Holy Land.

Politics, dislike of British, squalid poverty outstanding in ancient Egypt

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER
News staff writer

EVERYWHERE IN EGYPT, everyone talks politics. You get it in the museums, along with the fantastic glories that were buried with the Pharaohs. . . . On streets crowded with a never-ending nightshirt parade. . . . Dining under wondrously bright stars, overlooking the Nile. . . . Riding over countryside roads between canals that are shaded by waterwomen, naked children and wallowing water buffaloes. . . .

(Egypt—Ninb in series)
In the tomb of the scarred bulls. . . Under the snub nose of the sphinx. . . . While you bargain and drink the shop keeper's tea in bazaars. In dancing rooms, hotel lobbies, newspaper offices.

THE PASSIVE OPPOSITION of some wealthier folk is completely eclipsed by the masses, who are beside themselves with pride over their one-year-old revolutionary government.



Only the Koran is quoted more often than the speeches of Gen. Mohammed Naguib.



A job to do — Dr. Abbas Ammar, minister of social affairs, seeks to mobilize Egypt's millions of peasants for a better way of life.

president of the new Egypt. He tells them, "I feel that I can hear your heart beating with joy, all Egypt's heart beating with gratitude and thanking God for the resurrection he is giving to his reborn people."

"All of us, people and government, need bold reforms, a clear-cut program, and protection for our citizens. The revolution seeks to give the people the final say and spare none at the expense of others. It protects everyone and undertakes to guarantee its citizens dignity of life based on self respect, sacrifice and respect for the nation."

THE MASSES LOVE IT because, as I was repeatedly told, Naguib's government is the first that has shown it cared anything about the peasants. Whenever he appears, he is showered with flowers and pink sugar-coated almonds.

And Naguib loves talking to the people and being cheered by them, but not because he is an egotist. A high American official called him "the most modest ruler I ever saw, at least naive in his love for his people."

A CANCELED plane flight prevented me keeping an appointment with Egypt's Man of the Hour. He went into the north of the country the day after I arrived in Cairo. One of the most accessible of the world's leaders, he was, naturally,

Middle East tour now nearing end

Alyce Billings Walker has recently returned from a study tour through the Near and Middle East. She traveled most of the way with 22 companions from all parts of the country, and from varied walks of life. The trip as far as Israel was made possible by a fellowship by the American Christian Palestine Committee, supplemented by some friends of the Birmingham Jewish Committee.

This is ninth in a series that will be continued Friday and concluded Sunday.

would have told me what he has told other correspondents: "His country wants to be rid of the British."

"Their fifth column methods are striking a blow at our economy that could lead to starvation. This would cause our people to revolt against our regime. . . ."

"Ninety per cent of the 80,000 technicians the British took they must have at the Suez Canal as soldiers in civilian clothes. . . ."

"The British don't want good relations between Egypt and the United States. That's why they want out of the Suez Canal."

"I said no, because there would have been two enemies then instead of one."

2. He's worried about Communist infiltration.

"If we could get rid of the British, we'd be rid of the Communists. They stimulate nationalism out of which communism grows."

3. The Israeli matter is postponed for the time being, but not forgotten.

(Meantime, Egypt in violation of the United Nations sponsored Egyptian-Israeli armistice agreement signed in 1949, continues to search all ships entering the Suez and to confiscate all Israel-bound cargoes.)

BEHIND PRESIDENT NAGUIB'S talk is a 12-man council that planned and executed the coup d'etat that gave Egypt its "resurrection." According to one of Cairo's top newspaper publishers, Naguib was asked only three weeks before the coup if he would "flirt" for young revolutionaries.

Mastermind of the revolt and now of the government that leaped on King Farouk, abolished all the "royal" titles, supposedly divided the land, is 50-year-old Col. Gamal Abd-El Nasser.

SON OF AN Upper Egypt postoffice clerk, Nagib had a fling at law study, then began a professional military career. He was a teacher in the graduate military academy until the day of the coup.

For 10 years he and 11 fellow soldiers scouted at the old regime, which they felt kept them ill-equipped, poorly trained puppets of Britain. Defeat by Israel was the final humiliation that set the spark into flames.

Their plot to take over the government clicked with little bloodshed. The king folded up, crawled away and 15 young men had 50 and a half million people on their hands.

"They are young but dedicated," the editor of another publication told me. "Their government is based on simple truths. They have no foreign policy now except to be free of occupation. We forgive them their errors of inexperience because they are honest and are seeking the counsel of older and wiser people."

AMONG THE "SIMPLE TRUTHS" the new government faces are:

Egypt has an area of 286,000 square miles, of which only 4 per cent is habitable. The rest is desert.

Population in this habitable area is 1800 persons per square mile, and is increasing at the rate of 80,000 annually.

Eighty-two per cent of the people are illiterate.

Ninety per cent of the fellahin (peasants) have bilharzia (blood flukes) and hookworm. Trachoma causes Egypt to have the world's highest rate of blindness.

Death rate among children is highest in the world. Sixty per cent of them die before they are six years old.

people are engaged in agriculture. Their methods are the most primitive. Animals live in mud hovels with the family.

IT IS THE JOB of Dr. Abbas Ammar, minister of social affairs, and Dr. Ismail E. Kabany, education minister, to solve most of these "simple truths."

I spoke briefly with Dr. Kabany and Erwin G. Hannum, acting director of U. S. Point Four in Egypt, just after they had signed the first educational project agreement.

It arranged a series of Summer courses for in-service training of 150 Egyptian teachers of English, and a similar series of conferences for 300 Ministry of Education inspectors and head masters of primary schools.

United States they can understand because, for the most part, they originate in Egypt and are given by Egyptians.

"These people feel a special kinship with us and are sure we understand their aspirations. As one Egyptian put it, 'You had your Boston Tea Party, we have our Suez Canal.'"

EGYPT IS THE MOST fascinating country I've visited. It will be exciting to watch its developments.

Egypt and Israel — what a team they would make to lead the rest of the Middle East out of the wilderness.

NEXT: TURK.



Against a backdrop of great history—Even here, chief subject of conversation was politics. Asked the dragoon, "Are you Republican or Democrat?" Mrs. Walker was out aboard (and rode) Canasta, the same camel Adlai Stevenson rode when he visited the pyramids and sphinx.

Canasta belongs to and was trained by Dragoman Lamoum, at the left, and the guide, at the right, 61-year-old Sayed Mouse, speaks English, French, Spanish and German, but can only read and write his name in Arabic. George Sheik, wearing Christian Egyptian from the American embassy, was the driver.

He chaffed as he discussed how he plans to mobilize a highly-trained, realistic, superstition-ridden people to improve their living standards.

A highly-trained, realistic social scientist, he has begun his program in the most rural areas.

A JOINT EGYPTIAN-AMERICAN Rural Improvement Service has been set up as an agency of the Egyptian government, to demonstrate in two western provinces what can be done by pursuing an intensive development of an agricultural community.

A special task force of U. S. experts are there now helping Egyptians put plans into action. Every care is being taken to keep methods simple and costs low so other fellahin can understand and afford to copy them.

Some Egyptian women have been inspired to help with village improvements. A group of graduates of the American College for Girls adopted a village south of Cairo. Their health and welfare accomplishments there earned them special government citation.

A Ford Foundation grant to the college will erect a new building in which more women can learn better rural living.

The U. S. Navy's medical research program is helping battle the disease problem.

AT THE MOMENT, our country is set high in Egypt, thanks to the fine leadership of Ambassador Jefferson Caffery. Here, more than in any other country I visited this Summer, I found our representatives better known to the people, and our philosophies better understood.

The latter is due in no small measure to the excellent job Birmingham's Burr McKee is doing as Voice of America director in that area of Africa. Burr has devised programs that tell Egyptians a story of the

Women in Israel work shoulder with men to build homes and a better life

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BY
ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER
Director,
News women's department

Women were called Israel's "secret weapon" in the war to establish a Jewish homeland.

Their heroism isn't surprising for many of those women were defending the only home they had known outside a ghetto. Those in remote agriculture villages had labored shoulder-to-shoulder with their men to build their homes and till the land. Many of them were physical and spiritual brands of pogroms.

And so they fought.

Girls shoulder arms

THEY'LL FIGHT AGAIN if necessary, but they will be better prepared. Military service is compulsory for girls between 18-20, unless married, just as it is for boys. They must serve a month each year thereafter until they are 27.

On our way to Ceserea, we picked up a young thing in uniform trudging along the hot roadside. It turned out to be a 15-year-old girl soldier, complete with rifle. It's no sissy paper-work training these youngsters get. She was taking ROTC in school and attending three-week Summer camp so she could go into service as a captain.

Life in the open had burned her young face and hair, but had not destroyed her femininity. Shy, soft of speech, she tried to keep her grubby little hands hidden.

'First Lady'

INDEED, ONE of the

founders of Hoshmer, out of which emerged Hagannah, Israel's army, was Rachel Yanait, wife of Israel's president, Itzhak Ben-Zvi.

Her retiring manner and simple dress wouldn't have indicated Mrs. Ben-Zvi as a "First Lady," by usual standards. Her face has been turned to the sun and her hands have turned the soil. In her eyes there is a story of quiet courage, determined dedication. A French-trained agriculturist, her life has been devoted to establishing farm settlements in Israel and then defending them. When she speaks of trees, water, land it is with profound and stirring reverence.

We met her at a reception in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rechelle Yarden. We had ice cream made of strawberries raised by our hostess in her tiny garden. Cookies were contributions from many of her friends. They were served with lovely graciousness as if from overflowing pantries. We knew differently.

From swamp to home

WE FOUND this graciousness and refinement in all of the women we met, despite the hardships most of them have endured. Such a one was Mrs. Nadia Jehuda.

As we drove into Nahalal, Mrs. Jehuda put aside a book to welcome us and then show us through its cooperative village near the Sea of Galilee. It was "Moulin Rouge" in French. Mrs. Jehuda came to Israel 32 years ago, a widow

with two small children. She cast her lot with 75 families who leased from the Jewish National Fund a malaria-infested swamp site. Each family was allotted 25 acres on which to build their home and plant their garden.



There are now 150 families of some 850 members in the beautiful, tidy little village. No new families are allowed now, but most of the houses have added an extra story to take care of children who have married.

Women protected

THOSE SMALL-SHAREHOLDERS communities while cooperative in many aspects are not extremely communal as is the kibbutz. "We do everything ourselves," Mrs. Jehuda told us with a toss of her fine head. "The happiest day of my life was when I ate bread I made myself from grain I had sown and tilled."

He had been a chemist in Chicago. From its inception, the Zionist movement adopted a liberal attitude toward women. This is sustained in the new State of Israel. Eleven of the 120 members of the Knesset (parliament)

are women and there is one woman in the 13-member cabinet. Women are found in all professions and other occupations.

Special laws protect the women worker and equal pay for equal work is recognized, but I was told, not always applied.

Other rights

THE MINIMUM AGE for marriage in Israel has been fixed at 17. This has special significance for Jewish oriental groups and Arabs, as does the law forbidding polygamous marriages. Jews who came from the Sephardic communities sometimes had two wives and Arabs are permitted by their religion to have four. Divorce cannot be granted without a woman's consent.

There are other laws protecting the property rights of women. In fact, the stigma is set for them to have full participation in Israel's political and economic life. However, most of Israel's women are too preoccupied with domestic problems to have time for much else. A regime of strict austerity and rationing prevails so that the housewife is hard pushed to feed and clothe her brood. Numbers of them are working outside the home to supplement their husbands' incomes.

IT WAS HADASSAH that gave Palestine its first nursing school and also its first medical college. Both of these now in temporary quarters will be located in a projected \$10 million Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center.

Hadassah services

ALL THE WOMEN who have helped build Israel aren't there. Indeed many of them have never seen the country. They are the 300,000 members of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America.

The late Henrietta Szold of Baltimore, scholar, social welfare worker and teacher, visited Palestine some 40 odd years ago. She was shocked by the substandard health conditions there, returned to the United States and organized Hadassah to do something about it.

Her most extravagant aspirations could not have included the vast network of health, social welfare and educational services this organization has developed since 1912. Seven hospitals, with a total of 729 beds, were founded by Hadassah. Five of these, known as Rothschild-Hadassah University Hospital are operating now in temporary buildings in Jerusalem. They had been located in a handsome Medical Center on Mount Scopus, standing idle now in Arab territory.

A hospital at Safad in the northern part of the country is devoted exclusively to treatment of tuberculosis. The seventh is a constantly-expanding one at Beersheba in the Negev Desert.

Next to New Zealand, Israel has the lowest infant mortality rate in the world —thanks to Hadassah. For

A program of preventive medicine on a community basis is being piloted now by Hadassah, built largely around the newcomers to the country. It will have 35 centers where physicians, nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, town officials are mobilized in behalf of the individual's health and welfare needs.

Preventive medicine

Young lads were working on delicate precision instruments, a shipment of just-finished microscopes was ready in the vocational center we visited. In another section of the center, boys and girls were learning family and mass cooking. There is a hotel management institute on the grounds of one of Tel Aviv's hotels where students are getting on-the-spot training. Stylists and fashion experts are being developed. Nor has agricultural training and rural living been neglected in Hadassah's pilot vocational training program.

AS OFFICIAL representa-



A new generation

—A Youth Aliyah social worker interviews young immigrants en route to one of the 270 villages and settlements in Israel. Hadassah is official American representative of Youth Aliyah which already has rescued 62,000 persecuted and homeless children from over the world and rehabilitated them in Israel.

years, it operated 132 mother-baby clinics all over the country, serving both Arab and Jew.

Most of these now, however, have been turned over to the Ministry of Health with diminishing financial aid from Hadassah. This is in keeping with the organization's policy of turning over to government operations which have been sufficiently developed and should be under government control.

Egypt, Tunisia and Holy Land will be discussed

This is the eighth in a series of articles being written by Alyce Billings Walker, who has recently returned from a study tour of the Near and Middle East. Subsequent articles will be concerned with Egypt, Tunisia and the Holy Land.

five in the United States of Youth Aliyah (immigration), Hadassah has helped

resettle and rehabilitate in Israel more than 60,000 Jewish youth and refugees from all over the world. Its attention now is focused on the ghettos of the Middle East, North Africa and Iron Curtain countries of Europe.

Through the Jewish National Fund it has aided in reclamation of Israel's land. It already has planted 400,000 trees and has pledged another 200,000.

It is no wonder that wherever Hadassah is mentioned in Israel, it is called blessed.

NEXT: Egypt.



Things to come—Here is a model of the \$10 million Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center to be built at Ein Karem near Jerusalem.

Hadassah's former Medical Center, like the Hebrew University, an Mount Scopus, stands idle now in Arab territory.

Hadassah—blessed AS OFFICIAL representa-

Humanity's 'preserved' Educational system, religious phase are fascinating aspects in Israel

BY ALYCE BILINGS WALKER, News staff writer
 IF AMERICA HAS BEEN CALLED a "melting pot" for humanity, then Israel is aptly described as a "pressure cooker."
 Literally overnight to Israel's 8000 square miles came about 700,000 Jews from 50 different countries. They

were brought by airlift from Yemen and Iraq. A boy running the boat that took us across the Sea of Galilee came with a shipload from China. Thousands poured in from all parts of Europe.

These people doubled Israel's population. They came with meager or no possessions. They brought a babel of languages, diverse customs and attitudes.

Of this "human stew" a new nation is being created.

MUCH HAS BEEN heard of the truly phenomenal progress the country has made in building homes, hospitals and factories, reclaiming wasted lands, etc.

To me, however, the most fascinating aspect of the whole effort is the development of an educational system—cornerstone of the nation's future. Closely allied and basic too, is the religious aspect of this new land.

AT THE CORE of Jewish history has always been education. When the Modern Zionist movement began to rebuild Jewish life in Palestine, looking to the time when the country would be a Jewish state, this rich tradition of learning was not sacrificed. Paralleling its emphasis on a return to the land—through agricultural settlements—was insistence on education.

During the British Mandatory

Jews from Spain and Portugal had considered the goal that was adopted as the national language.

EDUCATION LEADERS "had a bull by the tail." Not only were they faced with the hodgepodge of languages to be trained, but they had to contend with four already existing "education trends" within the Jewish community.

Since Jewish education had operated on its own during the Mandate, the various communities had developed schools based on their own specific types of social and religious attitudes.

There was the Labor Trend—the largest—aimed at inculcating in the child the principles of manual labor, economic equality, cooperation and mutual help. The General Trend—the oldest—provided general education without stressing any particular social or religious philosophy.

The Mizrahi Trend gave special emphasis to Jewish religious and traditional studies. And the Agudat Israel Trend devoted almost all teaching to religious studies.

IT IS EASY to see how trying to satisfy these four educational philosophies would present manifold difficulties and they have. However, progress was made and there was a bill before the Knesset when we were in Israel that would end affiliation of schools with parties and organizations.

Dr. Moshe Avdor, associate minister of education with whom we talked, was confident it would be passed.

While it would require 75 per cent of the curriculum to be standardized, the other 25 per cent was to be left to the determination of parents under supervision of the Education Ministry. In 1948 there were 500 teachers in Israel. Today there are 16,000, recruited from every source and maintained by accelerated teacher training courses. Classes are conducted in shuls where there are buildings, in tents and fields where there are none.

However, effort now is bent toward quality rather than quantity of teachers. A new teachers training college has been established and secondary school graduates are being urged to apply for scholarships offered by it.

THE COMPULSORY EDUCATION LAW, of course, applied to the Arab children in Israel. This brought more, and many unexpected, problems.

In the first place there were few schools in the Arab villages in Israel, and fewer Arab teachers. These facts contributed to what was practically a social revolution for, of necessity, co-education came into existence. Resentment was inevitable, but is now disappearing except among the Druzes and some of the Bedouin tribes, the latter objecting not only to co-education, but to any education at all for girls.

Other areas are occupying the program, as attested to by school enrollment. In 1948, there were 7000 Arab children in school. About 65 per cent of the boys were attending in a haphazard way, and only 15 per cent of the girls. Now of the 28,000 in school, 9000 are girls.

There has been no effort to force Arab girls to attend school, but enrollment in the primary grades now is about equally boys and girls.

ANOTHER HANDICAP in promoting Arab education is the great difference between their written and spoken language. Along with the herculean task of preparing textbooks in Hebrew, has been that of preparing them in Arabic.

GREAT EMPHASIS is placed on the Kindergarten in Israel, as the best way of moulding together children of parents speaking dozens of different languages and possessing widely-varying social habits. By laying natural foundations of Hebrew as the everyday language and by helping young children achieve a common form of Israel life, the Kindergarten is proving of inestimable value in creating a homogeneous new generation.

BOB BRITAIN and I made friends with two German-Jewish couples at an outdoor concert by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Later over coffee at one of Tel Aviv's sidewalk cafes, among much we heard about the average family was that parents are teaching their Hebrew from children.

Incidentally, Bob's book, "There Shall Be Bread" was known everywhere we went and brought us in contact with many agriculture specialists.

WHILE EDUCATION by law is free in primary and working youth schools, the great majority of secondary schools must be maintained now by tuition fees. A strong teacher's union's constant demands for increased wages have impeded the education out of reach for many children.

Adult education, so important in this heterogeneous population, is spreading. There are special schools for physically and mentally handicapped children. Vocational education is of special concern. Indeed, the educational network is excellent.

service. They will join the Technion Service this year.

THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE is a great monument to the scientific leadership of Israel's first president. It is responsible for theoretical and practical

Since the Orthodox in coalition with the Moderate Socialist Mapai party of Ben-Gurion controls the government, this group now has upper hand. It is thus that food served the armed forces is kosher and that strict sabbath observance is

law. No buses, for instance, run on Saturday.

THE MINORITY GROUPS are granted full freedom of worship and freedom of speech. Consequently Orthodox Jews are constantly being contested. In fact, one of the reasons given why Israel hasn't yet adopted a constitution is that its preamble would have to state whether it was a secular or theocratic state and this would arouse great bitterness.

There is a Declaration of independence in which God and "by the Book of Israel" are mentioned.

Next: Israel's "secret weapon."



A newcomer—The child of immigrants is pointing out to her teacher the route by which her refugee parents fled to Israel.

Seventh in series

This is seventh in a series of articles being written for The News by Staffer Alyce Bilings Walker, recently returned from a study tour of the Near and Middle East. She traveled with 22 other persons from all sections of the country and varied professions.

The first five concerned Arab countries, and Greece and Turkey. Three are being written on Israel. Others will deal with Egypt, Tunisia and the Holy Land.



period, the small appropriation made to education went largely to Arab schools. The Jewish schools, therefore, had to depend almost entirely on voluntary efforts of individuals and organizations, contributions from worldwide Zionists and self-taxation of the Palestine Jews.

When the State of Israel was proclaimed in 1948, it thus had the foundation of a modern school system. This included kindergartens, elementary and secondary schools, a technical college, a university and the famous Weizmann research institute.

A QUICKLY-DOUBLED population, however, greatly taxed this foundation. The problems of equipment lack and teacher shortage were compounded. However, realizing its population must make up in quality what it lacked in quantity as compared to its neighbors, Israel leaders immediately adopted a compulsory education law for children from ages 5 to 14.

Specialize Hebrew, used by the



Music is stressed—Here is a children's orchestra being developed in one of the outlying kibbutzim, agricultural settlement

ment, but greatly in need of money and trained personnel.

IN THE FIELD of higher education are three world-known institutions: the Technical College (Technion) at Haifa founded in 1912; the Hebrew University organized in 1918, and the Weizmann Institute of Science located at beautiful Rehovot.

Hebrew University moved into magnificent new buildings on Mount Scopus in 1951. Now in Arab territory, its buildings, including every modern equipment, fine laboratories and library, stand idle. Although it is operating in scattered buildings in New Jerusalem, two new facilities have recently been added, medicine and law, and the enrollment has risen since 1948 from 900 to some 3000.

THE TECHNION has been responsible for most of the know-how that has gone into Israel's development. More than half the engineers practicing in Israel are graduates of the institution. We were told during our tour of the school that its specialists are confident they will strike oil at the southern tip of the Dead Sea by Christmas. Needless to say what this would mean to Israel's shaky economy.

Too, we learned that Dr. W. C. Lowdermilk, who has served as chief of the U. S. Soil Con-

research, so important to Israel's agricultural and industrial future.

Its staff of 80 scientists are working in the field of biophysics, optics, polymer research, isotope research, applied mathematics and bio-chemistry. One of its 16 women, Dr. Anna Weizmann, sister of the founder, is finishing work that will extract from a thistle weed a medicinal for a widely prevalent childhood disease.

AS FOR RELIGION in Israel, the questions have been many since my return. Chiefly they are whether Israel is a secular or theocratic state.

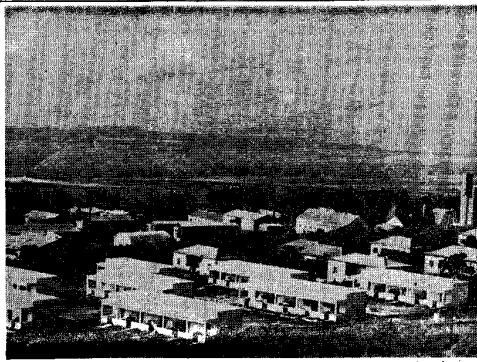
No authority on Jewish religion, I can only answer that my interpretation of the population attitudes with which I was in contact is that it is neither, but both. I saw absence of religion and its presence. The largest groups are Orthodox and Unorthodox, in that order, some non-religious groups, about 200 Reformed Jews, Muslims and a sprinkling of Christians.



New Jerusalem—The city sacred to three faiths again is the center of strife, divided as it is between Arabs and Jews. This busy, bustling section is held by the Jews. The other portion, literally just across the street, contains most of the places sacred to Moslem, Jew and Christian. It is held by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.



Land reborn—By modern methods Israel's farmers are making neglected lands come to life, making deserts "bloom like the rose." Part of Zionist credo is that Jews must build their homeland with their own hands.



Communal settlement—Shown is one of the newer kibbutzim, the agricultural cooperative that dot the Israeli countryside. In these settlements, everything from the purchase of clothes to the rearing of children is handled by the community. Not all kibbutzim are wholly agricultural. Some have other primary interests such as fishing.

New nation in 'The Hot Sands of Hate'—

Israel, land of hope, blood, work and progress

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer
 "By history, by decision and by blood, this is our land and we will not yield one inch of it."
 "We have always been here in our hearts and minds, though scattered all over the earth."

Then reaching for the Talmud on his desk—"It is written there that we must be suddenly at the age of 44. His remains have recently been brought to Jerusalem and are buried at the entrance of the cemetery for those who lost their lives in the war to create this state."

And war there was, a comparatively short but bitter one.



Speaking was a round, stumpy man in a gray suit with a broad neck spilling out of the open collar of a pink shirt. His white hair filled the bald pate of his large head and made cutting curls over his piercing eyes. His words came fast and sure.

"We were 650,000 against 30 million. Not a single member of United Nations lifted a finger to help us. Now, after that indifference, I don't think it would be decent for them to take away a bit of our land."

By the same token, when Jerusalem was besieged no one interested in Washington in the United States and London in England, Jerusalem is Jewish and will remain so.

Speaking was David Ben-Gurion. Since childhood wholly devoted to Zionism, this man now at the top of his life calls the signals in the country where he serves as prime minister and minister of defense. Lawyer, philosopher, orator, linguist, he has his head in the politics, his feet in the earth and his hand on the industrial switch of Israel.

He fled
 WHEN David Ben-Gurion, born David Green 67 years ago in Poland, tells you Israel's story it is autobiographical for he has lived it.

Activities against the 1908 pogroms put him on the Czars' black list so he fled to Palestine at the age of 19. His visa was for three months, but like many others then, he stayed on under an assumed name he kept.

He worked as an agricultural laborer and watchman in remote Jewish settlements in Galilee and Judea. From the first he was active in the labor movement and was one of the organizers of Shomer, defense unit later to become the Haganah.

His outspoken sympathies with the British in World War I caused him to be expelled by the Turks from Palestine to Egypt. Run out of Egypt as a "political agitator," he found his way to the United States.

When this country entered the war, he organized the American Jewish Legion and returned to Palestine as a corporal under Gen. Allenby.

HE REMAINED in Palestine under the British Mandate and resumed his labor work. This led to the formation of the present moderate socialist Mapai Party which now dominates the country's government. He played a leading role in creating Histadrut, Jewish Federation of Labor, and was its general secretary until his election as prime minister.

Two fights
 BEN-GURION was leading the opposition to the British White Paper which limited Jewish immigration and land purchases in Palestine when World War II broke out. However, he threw himself into recruiting a Jewish Brigade, battles as commanding. "We shall fight the war as if there were no White Paper, and the White Paper as if there were no war."

By 1948, he was the top world Zionist leader. On May 14, 1948,

The Israel Story

Alyce Billings Walker, director of The News Women's Department, has just returned from seven weeks of touring and studying problems in Near and Middle East Countries. First of three articles on Israel is presented here.

Mrs. Walker's travels took her into 10 countries. Most of the trip was made available to her through a fellowship from the American Christian Palestine Committee, supplemented by friends in the Birmingham Jewish Community.

Disinterest
 WORLD WAR II WEARY and so far away, few Westerners, other than Jews, took much note of that war. Their disinterest is partially responsible for the high prices we are paying for a flimsy peace in the East today.

When Arab-Jewish relations in Palestine became increasingly strained, Britain turned the matter over to United Nations.

The UN by a convincing ballot voted on Nov. 29, 1947 to partition Palestine into a Jewish homeland and an internationalized Jerusalem.

Whether one agrees or disagrees with that decision, the United States as one of the sponsors of partition and as the most influential member of UN should have insisted it be carried out in an orderly manner.

The records show we didn't. We thereby weakened the prestige of UN and, who knows, probably paved the way for Korea.

The records also show a weird story of British conduct, to state it mildly, for which both the Arabs and the Jews paid dearly.

The facts are that 800,000 pitifully armed men not only held out against 30 million Arabs, but when an armistice was ordered, had bested them.

The Arabs had taken 250 square miles of Jewish territory, most of it in unoccupied desert country around BeerSheva.

The Jews had conquered 810 square miles of territory allotted the Arabs by UN, including Western and Central Galilee, the Arab cities of Jaffa, Acre, Ramle and Lydda, and most of the road to Jerusalem and its adjacent Arab lands and villages.

Failed in boast
 THERE WERE TERRIBLE atrocities committed by both sides and border incidents today are to neither country's credit.

But the Arabs did not push their hands to the hilt, they hesitated when they left UN Assembly when partition was voted.

Inclined by Zion ideals to be capable of the Haganah Tenet of Zionism—self-defense.

We saw proof they can use their hands to till the earth, dig ditches, build houses and operate machinery. Today, Israel's favorite perfume is fertilizer, her favorite music the hum of new machinery. Every little tree, every new brick and every drop of water elicits her adoration.

Economy
 THE STRUCTURE of the economy is multiple and varied. At one session, only 5 per cent of Israel's land was under cultivation. Now five times that much is producing food.

We traveled southward to BeerSheva and saw already one-third of the Negev's 200,000 desert acres have been turned back to life by modern irrigation.

We saw from a distance work that is draining the swamps and marshes of the Huleh Basin. When reclaimed, this potentially rich land will produce three crops a year.

able to go into immediate action as a nation because of long-range planning and preparation by Zionist leaders. It already had a Jewish Council that had served with the British during the mandate, and was now ready to function as a provisional government until statehood was declared.

Israel as yet has no constitution. It has a 100-member Knesset, or Parliament, patterned after the old Sanhedrin. Strongest parties are the Mapai, General Zionists (Conservatives), the religious block, and the extreme leftists. The minorities include extreme rightists, Communists, Progressives and five Arab representatives.

While deprived of arms by the British, the Haganah trained secretly in the Commando tactics it had learned during World War II.

Two closely inter-related institutions were already functioning, the Jewish National Fund and the Histadrut.

Forever Jewish
 BASIC PRINCIPLE of the former, which owns more than half the Jewish owned land in Palestine, is that the land is forever the possession of the Jewish people. It had been sought up over the years, often through straw men, and removed from the reach of speculators. Its land is leased, not sold, and terms include its production from abuse or use for anything other than the national good.

To fulfill Zionist principles, it limits its allotments to what a man can develop with his own family or village comrades. Thus, the fund is and has been the keystone of the cooperative settlements.

The Histadrut from the beginning was to be in Ben-Gurion's words, "the worker's instrument for the founding of a state, for the building of a land, for the liberation of a people."

The new project they are dedicated to creating as well as protecting workers. This means it has played a big role in the training of the thousands of unskilled people who immigrated to this new land, as well as providing them with work, health and social benefits of broad scope.

Still shaky
 WHILE MILLIONS of dollars in private gifts and \$1 billion in aid from the U. S. government have flowed into Israel, the five-year-old state is in a shaky economic condition. The Arab blockade of Jewish effect—exports covered only 20 per cent of imports in 1952. Raw materials to keep new plants operating are not available.

Though I have real sympathy for the Arabs displaced by the establishment of Israel, I feel it would be a terrible tragedy if in this venture failed, for Israel is cutting a centuries-old groove.

In the words of Gershon Goren, editor of the Jerusalem Post, "The world is tired of the Jewish problem, and we're tired of Jews."

Next: Education and religion in a new nation.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1953

The Burning Sands of Hate— Emotionalism and misunderstanding in the way of Arab-Jewish peace

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer
IN BEIRUT, Lebanon, we ran head-on into the Arab-Jewish problem. It was not surprising, of course, for Lebanon is the threshold of the Arab world as we approached it from Turkey.

It was surprising, to me at least, that from the American faculty of the University at Beirut we heard the Arab cause extolled less objectively and with greater emotionalism than it was by many Arabs. This heavy

overlone of emotionalism and sometimes—disregard of facts on the part of those kind-hearted, well-meaning people, alas, isn't helping to solve this lamentable, dangerous situation.

Just how deplorable it is we were to see as we visited Arab refugee camps en route from Beirut to Old Jerusalem via Damascus. The best camp we visited was at Beirut, the worst St. Paul's gate of Damascus.

West knows little

ONE CANNOT UNDERSTAND the Arab refugee problem, or even discuss it, without some knowledge of the Arab

Fifth in a series

This is fifth in a series of 10 articles being written by Alyce Billings Walker, director of The News Women's Department, following a study tour of the Near and Middle East.

Mrs. Walker was granted a fellowship by the American Christian Palestine Committee, supplemented by friends in the Birmingham Jewish community. She extended her tour into Egypt, Tunis and Spain in order to bring to The News readers added information about places in today's headlines.

people. To know the Arab people, one must know at least the fundamentals of the Moslem religion which is as strong if not stronger, within them today than when it was spread by Mohammed.

Unfortunately, as our role in the East is so vital, the West in general knows little about that



part of the world, geographically, historically or culturally. Only to the degree that our leaders at home and our representatives in those lands do acquaint themselves with this knowledge can we be successful in our attempts to solve the problems that rend the East today.

Inconsistent attitude

DURING THE THREE weeks from the time I knew I was to have this wonderful travel-study opportunity, I spent every free moment reading. I read parts of the Bible, reams of material on the new Israel and the Zionist movement, some Arab history, the life of Mohammed and skimmed the Koran.

Time shortage, of course, limited the thoroughness of that reading. However, my knowledge of Arab history and the Moslem religion was not so scant that I could not see in their attitude toward the Palestinian refugees inconsistency and contradiction.

Blocking progress

FURTHERMORE, knowing and then seeing how strong monotheism is with these people, I cannot believe, despite their veiled threats, they will be easily won by communism, which has no god. Allah—God—is ever present with the Arabs. His will rules the smallest detail of their daily lives. All that has been, is now or ever shall be, was decreed in eternity and inscribed on the Preserved Tablet.

This philosophy of Kismet—fate—is a strange thing. I cannot understand how their belief in fate allows them to be so adamant in accepting recent events between them and the Jews. On the other hand, their strong belief in it blocks the progress of the less educated Arab and tends to make him accept, rather than improve his lot in life. His priests apparently fail to teach him that Allah also helps those who help themselves.

Wasting away

TO RETURN to the Arab refugee—by United Nations count, there are 880,000 of them today, increasing by birth at the rate of 22,000 annually. They are scattered over five Arab countries, with the largest number in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the country least able to take care of them.

For the most part, they are sitting in tents and hovels, wretchedly wasting away mentally and morally, while UN and various private outside groups feed and clothe them. The

contributed \$153,513,000 to their relief and resettlement, and has allocated another \$110,000,000 as its part of the \$250 million three-year development and resettlement program.

Food and education

THESE PEOPLE have never missed their food ration since United Nations Relief Agency for Palestine Refugees appeared on the scene almost immediately after the Jewish-Arab armistice. True, it is not an extravagant ration, but it meets the basic daily requirement of 1600 calories and 40 grams of protein. This is much more than many of these people ever had.

Furthermore, there have been no epidemics in these camps, testimony that UN's World Health Organization personnel have been doing an excellent job.

And, while not every refugee child is in school, UN surveys report a larger proportion are being given educational opportunities than in surrounding areas or than they had received in Palestine during the British mandate.

Pitiable and favored

ANY REFUGEE is one of the world's great sorrows, and especially those who were made homeless by war. The world, today, is full of them today.

The Arab refugee, to me, is at the same time one of the most pitiable and the most favored. He is pitiable because he is unwanted by his own people, and is being used by them as a political weapon against Israel. For instance, Syria admittedly absorbs all of the Palestinian refugees, with room to spare, but she won't. It would be admitting the existence of Israel.

Strong deterrent

IN ALL ARAB COUNTRIES it is supposedly illegal to employ any of these refugees. The primary reason again is that it is far greater than the Arab one and is getting much less world attention. My last available figures are that 11 million of them are crowded into that already over-crowded, highly industrialized, war-impooverished country.

I saw last Summer the effort Germany is making to absorb these people and to provide them decent asylum. Neither did little Finland duck her responsibility when 450,000 refugees were dumped on her doorstep by loss of territory to Russia.

Doesn't make sense

HOWEVER, many of the educated and trained among the refugees have been able to find employment. In fact, almost half of the 80,000 in Syria are employed, but the governments won't permit the UN to drop these self-supporting refugees from their rolls.

It just doesn't make sense to

me that a people as historically proud as the Arabs would now sacrifice that pride by imposing on the world to take care of the victims of a war they lost.

And theirs is a proud history. Their conquest of the Middle East came when Europe was bogged down in the Dark Ages. While Europe was stagnant, they were founding universities. They absorbed and developed philosophy, advanced medicine and surgery, and certainly produced some of the world's most beautiful architecture.

Their influence was widespread. I found many reminders of their presence in Spain, a far-away land in that time. It was they who laid the foundations of the University of Seville and who built the Alhambra.

True, the Arab world fell into decline under the Turks and subsequent mandate "visitors," but this could be its greatest era. Never before have there been so many willing and able to help them back to importance in the community of nations.

Violating tenet

EVEN HARDER for me to understand than their lack of pride is their continued violation of one of their five basic religious tenets—to give alms and help to the poor and needy. For five years now they have been disobeying this preachment of their prophet, Mohammed.

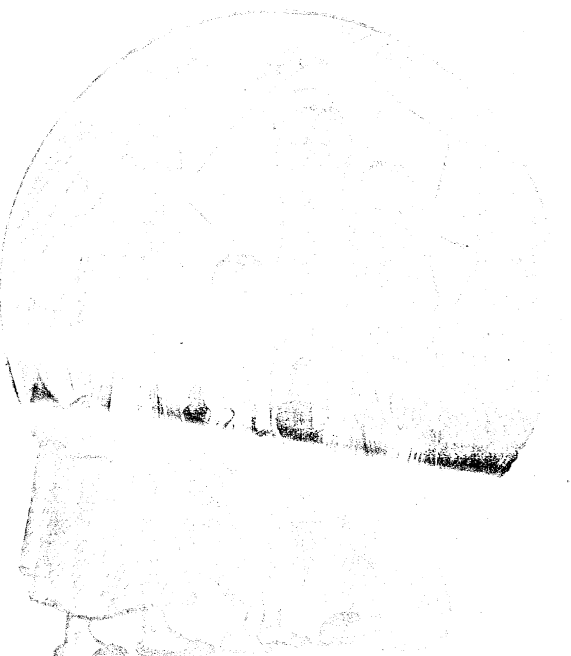
I have already mentioned whereby the Arab refugee is among the most favored in citing the UN help they are receiving. No such consideration was shown the German refugees—also victims of a lost war. United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and later UN's International Relief Organization helped rehabilitate persons displaced by the Axis powers, but a German refugee was considered a German problem.

True, that attitude has been modified somewhat today since IRO has been dissolved. Even so, Germany's refugee problem is far greater than the Arab one and is getting much less world attention. My last available figures are that 11 million of them are crowded into that already over-crowded, highly industrialized, war-impooverished country.

I saw last Summer the effort Germany is making to absorb these people and to provide them decent asylum.

Neither did little Finland duck her responsibility when 450,000 refugees were dumped on her doorstep by loss of territory to Russia.

One cannot forget either the



12 million Hindus and Moslems who became religious minorities by the partition of India.

The 800,000 Palestinian refugees become comparatively few when one reads that no less than 50 million people have lost their homes by war and civil strife in China. The Korean war has certainly produced many thousands of homeless there.

Nor can it be ignored that Israel has 750,000 refugees to absorb, many of them still waiting in camps for the home and work they came to find. At least half of these are from Moslem countries.

Not forever

AND SO IT seems to me, the significance attached to the Palestinian refugee has been allowed to get out of proportion, politically and emotionally. I repeat, the Arab refugee is a sad, pitiful creature and I, for one, do not begrudge any help we have given him. But our help can't continue forever, and the inclination to have these people is lessened by the attitude of their own governments.

Charming, courteous

I LIKED THE Arabs with whom I was in contact. They are charming people and among the most courteous I have ever met. And though the masses have been victimized by many of their own leaders and foreign exploiters, there are sufficient numbers of them educated and realistic enough to know they are defeating themselves by their present attitude.

They lost a war. Blaming the

British or their own leaders, as they do in turn, doesn't alter that fact.

Nor is Israel ever going to agree to the original UN partition boundaries which they broadened in the war the Arabs started rather than accept the UN partition. Neither is Israel going to repatriate the Arabs who left Palestine. This would be risking her own security so long as the feeling is so bitter between the two.

Israel has said she is willing, and certainly I think she should, pay reparations to those Arabs who lost their property in Israel during the war. This payment will be difficult to make, however, so long as the Arabs continue their economic blockade of Israel.

More optimistic

WHILE I WAS AMONG these two peoples, there seemed little hope for solution of their cleavage. Now, apart from them, I am a bit more optimistic, remembering that they are both smart people.

The Jews, surrounded as they are by the Arabs, have everything to lose by not seeking ways to live with them in peace. Arab intelligence certainly will spur them to quit brooding over "lost face" and be about the business of making their countries productive agriculturally and industrially as that of their Jewish neighbor. Experts are standing by and money is available to them, just as it has been to Israel.

It's just robbing their own potential greatness remember-

EIGHT

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Lebanon, doorway to Arab world, struggles to close gap between rich, poor

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer
THE SOUND OF THE MEDITERRANEAN washing against the shores under my hotel window was like a giant metronome. I fell asleep thinking what stories those shores could tell, for now we were in Lebanon.

From the end of World War I until 1946, the little country that is about twice the size of Delaware was a French mandate. Now it is a republic with full autonomy, where even the women have the right to vote.

Our group had come by chartered plane from Ankara, Tur-

Fourth of 10 articles

This is fourth in a series of 10 articles being written by News Staff Writer Alyce Billings Walker who has recently returned from a trip through the Near and Middle East.

Mrs. Walker's trip was made possible by a fellowship grant from the American Christian Palestine Committee, supplemented by a group of friends in the Birmingham Jewish community.

Her itinerary took her into 10 countries on three continents.



key, to "the land of milk and honey," the land of the giant cedars that built Solomon's Temple. We were a weary lot, for into one week of traveling we had crowded centuries of history. More centuries were

leaded. The harbors along these 120-mile Levantine shores had seen the coming and going of many conquerors. From here Dido sailed to found Carthage, whose ruins I was to visit later in Tunisia. Here came the galley of the Pharos. Assyrians, Tartars, the pagan Romans of Caesar and the Christian Romans of Constantine, were here. So were the armies of Alexander the Great, Napoleon, the Ottoman Turks, the French, Germans, Italians, British.

And somewhere between Tyre and Sidon came Jesus Christ to cast out the devils from a young girl. Paul knew these shores and so did Elijah.

Some who came to these shores left no reminders. Many did. Architecturally, the Greeks

and Romans left deepest imprint, for ruins of their presence are widespread. Especially impressive are those at Baalbeck. We detoured to see them en route to Damascus.

OUR GROUP, among whom were some antiquity authorities, was truly amazed at the magnitude and size of this former Heliopolis of the Graeco-Roman world. Dedicated to Baal, the sun god, the hill of buildings has suffered at the hands of invading hordes and of earthquakes. Excavations were started by the Germans and are continued by private foundations. The best-preserved of the temples are those of Jupiter and Bacchus, the former larger than the Parthenon at Athens. We marveled at the ancient eng-

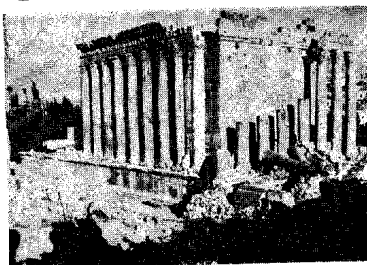
messages to the Azar family of Birmingham.

IT IS, OF COURSE, the American University at Beirut that has been our great friend-maker with the Lebanese and indeed the whole Arab world.

I saw this magnificent institution with Dr. Alfred Diab, chief of the eye section of the university's medical school and friend of Birmingham's Dr. Alston Callahan. Dr. Diab had gone, when he was 19 with his mother and brother for a visit to her native land. They stayed.

I heard AUB's remarkable history from faculty members and from Dr. Costi Zurayh, former minister to the United States and acting president, and from Vice President Fuad Sarraf, former Arabic editor of Reader's Digest.

THE UNIVERSITY has been at the core of the Arab Cultural Renaissance and movements of national self-recognition in other areas. It began more than a century ago as an off-shoot of the Protestant movement, yet its gates have always welcomed students of all faiths, without attempting to proselytize them. Among its 3000 students today there are some 19 religious groups. While its name includes American and Beirut, it



Lebanon, past—A reminder that the Romans passed along Lebanon way are the ruins of Baalbeck in the northern part of the country. Above are the ruins of the temple to Jupiter, the largest of three in the Heliopolis where sun worshippers used to gather. It is larger than the Parthenon of Athens.

magnificent new library. The new hospital wing of the Medical College in final stages of completion was financed by funds from the Rockefeller Foundation and private gifts.

The new wing will give the hospital a total of 500 beds—and

had world-wide reputation as smart traders and money handlers. Wall Street is but a ticker tape's distance from its financial houses.

There is a small wealthy class in the country. Between it and the large masses of people there is a widening gap in standards of living which the country, with U. S. aid, is attempting to narrow.

Of the working population of the nation, an estimated 50 per cent is directly or indirectly engaged in agriculture. Small industry employs about 40,000 and another 40,000 are chronically unemployed.

ACCORDING TO our representative with whom we talked, major factors hindering development of the countryside, aside from a lack of natural resources, are lack of reasonable credits for agriculture and industry; control of financial resources by a relative small group which appears unwilling to invest their money in local development and a lack of ef-

fective government planning. The future's hope lies in harnessing the Litani River for irrigation and power, constructing irrigation and village water systems to stem the flow of population from the land to the cities and in stepped-up health and education programs. The United States has appropriated \$2,852,000 to be spent during 1954 to assist with these projects.

most beautiful stops on our itinerary. The Mediterranean gracefully wraps itself about the city through her coves and bays. Semi-tropical flowers and shrubs are extravagant in beauty and profusion. Broad boulevards pass handsome modern buildings and homes.

Yet, here it was that we ran full force into the gnawing problems of the Middle East, for Lebanon is the doorway to Arab world.

BEIRUT WAS ONE of the NEXT: The Arab World.



Lebanon, present—Here is a partial view of the magnificent campus of the American University of Beirut. The institution has contributed greatly in cementing friendship between the United States and Lebanon, as well as with the whole Arab world from which it gets

most of its students. At the left in the foreground is the new engineering building, overlooking a beautiful athletic field. At the right is seen College Hall, first of 50 buildings erected on the campus.

engineering prowess that lifted into place the huge blocks of marble and granite many 60 feet long and 13 feet thick.

SPIRITUALLY, Jesus Christ and Mohammed left their marks. The population is about equally Christian and Moslem. The political structures of the country is based on religion, with the small minorities having proportionate representation, too. It was hard to accept the news that a few days after our visit in this beautiful, modern city, violence accompanied the elections.

EDUCATIONALLY, the United States and France have led the way in this little country, whose influence in the Near East and Middle East is so tremendous. Materially and culturally, it is more advanced than other Arab countries.

AMERICA'S REPUTATION has long been especially high and connections with our country strong. This latter is due to the fact that there are said to be more Lebanese in the U. S. than in Lebanon, and their home ties are kept strong. I was asked repeatedly by their friends in Beirut, to bring back

has students from 40 countries. Of course, it draws heavily from the Arab world. In fact, at the last United Nations session, five of the seven Arab delegations were headed by AUB graduates.

BEGINNINGS were in a private home, thence to small scattered buildings. It was chartered first as the Syrian Protestant College by the State of New York State educational regulations.

The cornerstone of the first building on the present site was laid in 1871. Today, the more than 50 buildings of the university cover an area of more than 70 acres.

I sat with Dr. Diab and an Irish professor in the snack bar of the new engineering building. Below us stretched the beautiful athletic field. Farther in the distance at the sea's edge was the university's private swimming beach, reached by a tunnel under the highway.

At the west end of the campus a separate compound houses the International College students of elementary and high school age, which operates under the direction of the university and provides teaching opportunities for the university students.

ALL TEACHING is in English, though the faculty is largely Lebanese. As of this year, it is entirely educational.

It is financed by income from endowment funds and from contributions and grants from individuals, private companies and foundations.

The Arabian-American Oil Co. has been one of its largest benefactors. The Bechtel Co. gave the impetus for the new engineering

they are needed. The eye section of the hospital will be one of the finest—and it, too, is greatly needed for 90 per cent of the people of the Middle East have eye troubles.

A GRANT by our Technical Cooperation Administration (Point Four) has enabled the university to offer a number of fellowships in regional training courses established by TCA. One hundred and twenty-three students by appointment of their governments are enrolled in public health, public administration, agriculture-engineering, industrial, chemistry and economics. They have come from Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabi, Ethiopia, Aceh, Eritrea, Lybia, Tripoli-tania, Liberia and Yemen.

THE FORD FOUNDATION gave the \$500,000 for the nearly-completed agriculture building. It seemed strange to me that this phase of the university's contribution to the Middle East was relatively late in coming, when food is so great a problem.

For instance, of Lebanon's 2,555,000 acres, 46 per cent are cultivable, yet only 28 per cent are under cultivation. Too, it seemed strange that public health training is only now being developed in the university's medical college when the life expectancy in Lebanon is but 40 years and disease is only slightly less prevalent than in other Arab countries.

A population of 1,285,000, including 125,000 Palestinian refugees lives primarily along the coast. About 40 per cent of the population lives in cities and towns which are primarily com-

Where the 'Burning Sands of Hate' are cooling—

Veil has lifted in Turkey, charm lingers

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer

TURKEY IS STRUTTING today like a young gobble. I saw it through the young eyes of four student guides.

In little more than two hours, our plane had sped northward from Athens

across the Aegean Sea, over the Hellespont, through the Dardanelles to the Marmara Sea and deposited us in Istanbul. It was late at night. We had to wait for morning to see, but the feel of unexplained excitement was thick around us.

GONE ARE VEILED FACES from Turkey. Moslems can still have four wives, but few can afford them and the Sultan's harem is now a museum.

But the land's mysterious charm lingers on. Minarets etch it against the sky. Old castles along the Bosphorus hoard it. The tombs, kermesse and kermesse preserve it in music. The muzzens recall it five times a day when they call the faithful to prayer.

Third in a series

This is third in a series of 10 articles being written by Alyce Billings Walker, director, News Women's Department. She is just back from the Near and Middle East. Where hate and envy flourished, there also flourished poverty and unrest. Where people are busy as they are in Turkey, there the scars of old hates are vanishing.



quisite six-minareted blue mosque, my favorite of the many I visited.

IF I CLOSE my eyes, my chair is a boat gliding over the Marmara to beautiful Princes Islands, playground of potentates, to have dinner in a mountain-top restaurant . . .

Or I can go floating again between the shores of Europe and Asia on the Bosphorus . . . But, if I dream too long, my boat will get tangled in the mines stretched between the Bosphorus and Black Seas to keep the Russians out of Turkey.

EVERYONE BUT the Russians and their satellites are welcome in this country. New Turkey wants to throw away along with its fetters, the enemies born in the bloody periods of its past. Especially is it holding out the olive branch to its centuries-old foe, Greece. Its gestures of good will toward that country are example for all the world, and especially for its Middle East neighbors.

WHEN ISTANBUL celebrated the 500th anniversary of the fall of Constantinople this Spring, the many mosques in the city were lighted. Gracefully, they didn't light famed Saint Sophia Mosque out of respect for the Greeks who had founded the city.

The seat of the Greek Orthodox Church is in Istanbul. As we sampled beyaz talli, the sweet cream and water dessert of Turkey, Patriarch Athanasios beamed with pleasure that "Greece and Turkey have decided to live together as brothers in the warm arms of the United States."

WE HAVE played well our role of peacemaker between

these countries. Under the eyes of U. S. observers and cameras, the two NATO members will hold joint military maneuvers next Autumn in the narrow strip of Thrace which joins the two countries along the border of enemy Bulgaria.

There is evidence that we have no ally upon whom we can rely so well as the Turks. They are sturdy to have, in past and present, testily. They were one of the first UN members to send forces to Korea, despite the fact it rendered them more vulnerable to attack at home. Their heroism earned them the title Bee-Hive Brigade—bravest of the Brave. Forty-five per cent of the national budget goes into defense.

Reminders of their past power were along my route in the Middle East, on Cyprus, in Egypt and North Africa.

TURKEY STILL turns to the East in prayer, for 98 per cent of its population is Moslem, but in everything else it turns to the West.

Indeed, these people are obsessed with democracy. They are so enthusiastic about it, you'd think they had written the Bill of Rights. It was first expressed in the military reforms of 1939, again in the Faidmat or Young Turk Movement of 1907-08-09. It came into reality when Kemal Ataturk led the country's successful war of independence and became its first president.

NUMEROUS monuments, pictures everywhere attest to the nation's respect for him. However, they ended his 27-year one-party, paternal dictatorship in the free elections of 1950.

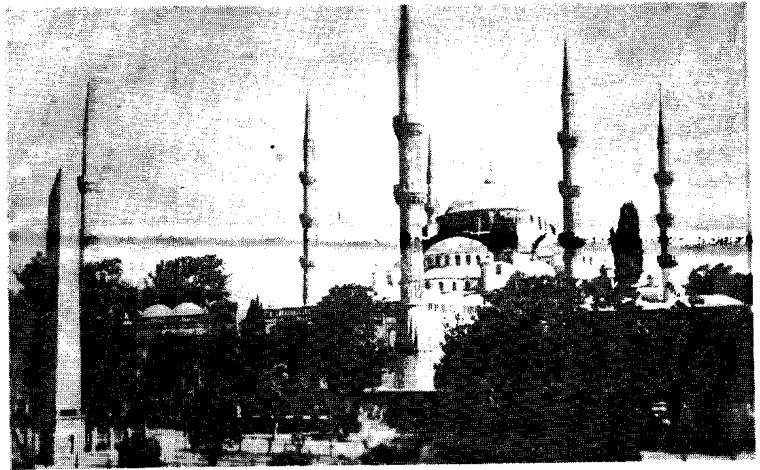
GREATEST MONUMENT to Ataturk is the shining new capital he established at Ankara, an overnight trip from Istanbul on an excellent train. Here, even more than in Istanbul, one can compare old and new Turkey. Its railway station is one of the nicest we've seen, yet five and six large suitcases are loaded on a man's back.

A fine, broad boulevard takes you past beautiful modern buildings, including a concert hall where the first Turkish opera was recently presented, up a hill to the Old Ankara (Ankara) and its citadel. I wouldn't have been surprised if an armored Crusader had clanked out of any doorway along the narrow, winding, arched streets. New Ankara has grown from 50,000 to more than 500,000 population in 20 years, and is laid out to accommodate a million people.

ATIF BENERLIOGLU, Ankara's suave mayor, received us, as did Speaker of Parliament Ferik Karallan and Assistant Speaker Nark Doyraz, hero of the Korean Battle of Kunuri. Each served us thick, black Turkish coffee or fruit juice. Each expressed admiration and gratitude for the U. S. They, like other officials we met, left us breathless with plans for their country's future and reports of recent progress.

IT ISN'T IDLE chatter either, for these people have been busy since we sent them their first aid in 1947. At that time, according to Lee Davton, chief of our economic mission there, 85 per cent of the nation's 21 million people were trying to eke a living from the land. Therefore, our first job was to try and help the farmer, both the strength and the weakness of the country.

It hasn't been easy to convert the country from primitive to modern farm methods. Peasants had to be shown not only how to operate machinery, but how



A thing of beauty—Against Istanbul's skyline minarets of many mosques write a fairy story for the visitor. This is the blue mosque of Sultan Ahmet, slender spires of

which are surpassed only by the seven-spired Shrine of Mecca. This mosque, whose whole interior is blue, was the favorite of many visited by the writer.

to repair it when it broke down. But the farmer was determined to improve his yield and the government solidly backed him, so the 3,000 tractors of 1947 have increased to more than 40,000.

SOME CRITICS said mechanization was too rapid but land products figures dispute them. In five years, Turkey changed from a cereal import country to the fourth largest cereal exporter. Cotton production has increased from 55,000 to 750,000 tons.

Ton, mining has been important. Our health authorities have jumped from 285,000 tons to 750,000 and this, one of the world's largest coal basins, has increased its yield from 4,500,000 to 6,000,000 tons.

FIVE YEARS AGO, most of Turkey's roads were mere mule trails. The father of Avhan Dozane, one of our student guides, contracted to haul overland to market a large shipment of salt. Came a rain and his trucks bogged down in the mud. Before they could be released, the salt had melted in the road, and he was ruined financially. It's a typical story.

Much of our aid is going into improving roads and much, too, has gone into making more adequate the nation's ports. The Golden Horn, Istanbul's port, now is crowded with ships from all parts of the world. I was amazed and pleased to see how many ships were flying the Turkish Crescent and Star and to learn they could be quickly converted for defense.

THE NATION'S economy is still wobbly, despite the fact the national income has doubled in the past five years. The government has asked us to send experts to help them evolve plans for attracting private capital and at the same time protect them against exploitation. The U. S. is more stable than it has been in many years, but black marketeers are offering more for the U. S. dollar than legitimate money changers.

Widespread illiteracy is a thorn in the nation's pride. It handicaps the farmer, keeps infant mortality and death rates high. It makes unskilled labor costly by its inaptitude. All sorts of measures are being taken to whittle down the 75 per cent illiteracy rate of five years ago.

Improved roads are enabling teacher and medical personnel to take their knowledge to remote sections. Free medical services and free medicines are being provided the poor and medical cooperatives are being organized for those of moderate income. Our health authorities have guided the preparation and aided with distribution of illustrated booklets on maternal and child care among illiterate mothers.

Malaria has been wiped out and, apparently a lot of DDT has been sprayed around, for pigeons that have taken over the once-famous Pera Palace Hotel were the only "varmints" that bothered me.

SCHOOLS ARE BEING built as rapidly as possible. They are free and low tuition. There are being more students into the universities, now co-educational.

But, shortage of trained teachers, lack of basic equipment makes education a tedious task for both teacher and student. There are no textbooks for the university students. They have to depend on inadequate libraries and lectures for their learning.

In Turkey, as in Greece, there is still too much emphasis on classical rather than practical education, due in part to the fact that most teachers are women. We have stayed out of the education field except when asked for counsel. However, American Robert College for women is in Istanbul, open to any young person interested in learning Western ideals and methods. Its influence has been tremendous in linking our two countries together in friendship and has provided Turkey many of its chief leaders today.



Famous Galata Bridge—This is the link between the parts of Istanbul which are in Europe and Asia. Over it flows a heavy stream of traffic all the time. Under it, crowds board steamers as people go to and from their work and to the many resorts along the Bosphorus. At the right is the Golden Horn, famous port.

THE DETERMINED eagerness of Turkey's young people to learn will be the greatest factor in solving its many problems.

The four young guides to whom I referred earlier are examples. Bright, pretty little Guner Gorgun, sensitive and artistic Ayhan, brilliant Sylvio Mutal and clever Gilbert Salmons are members of the National Students Federation. Alan Lukens, U. S. cultural attache and cousin of Dr. John Lukens, pastor of our Independent Presbyterian Church, commended it highly.

The federation tackles all student problems. At present it has

a fine program pointed toward reducing tuberculosis found prevalent among its age group. Its travel department, headed by Sylvio, was organized to bring its members into contact with people from other countries. It especially seeks to encourage foreign youth to visit Turkey and organizes trips abroad for its own members.

Our young friends, fluent in English and stocked with vast information, were the best and most enthusiastic guides of our journey.

THERE IS A SWEETNESS about the young Turks. We met scores of them through our guides and at a luncheon at the university. For instance, Guner heard me say James E. Chapell liked Turkish music. I'm sure she spent most of what she earned during our three days with her to buy the record she sent him.

Edgum Ulus, young newspaper lad whom Charles A. Fell, our managing editor, met two years ago in Ankara, asked me to deliver a tie he bought for me when he was in Shanghai. Yes, Turkey has gotten up off its divan and is a busy, friendly, strong young cock forty.

NEXT: A great American institution in a far-away land.

8 million people 8 million acres
Approved For Release 2000/09/01 : CIA-RDP83-00423R000901210002-6
Land of legend, loveliness, Greece's chief problem is to stabilize economy

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer
 OUR BRITISH JEINUS BELLEDED PLANE eased its way through a surfeit so brilliant it was almost garish—to deposit us in Athens, capital of the land of myth and magic. Three hours earlier we had left the new Rome airport, where Phil Locke, of The Dayton Daily News, and I had attempted to interview Daniel Molan, prime minister of South Africa. A benign face masks his strange conscience.

Our route took us down the Italian coast past my beloved Capri, over the Bay of Naples, across the Adriatic Sea sprinkled with its islands of the Odyssey, over the apex of Peloponnesus where Mercury and Diana made legend, then to skim the Bay of Saranokos.

By NOW, some 8000 air miles less than 48 hours from New York, the 23 of us traveling together were using first class. A cannister of champagne that bloomed into great affection.

My seat companion thus far the trip was Dorsey Callaghan, music and drama critic of the Detroit Free Press. A gentle man in his 40s, with a soft frequent chuckle, poet, musician, flower-grower, old-coin collector, with a reservoir of assorted knowledge like James L. ChapPELL's. He could even tell in what key a train or a boat blew its whistle.

QUITE A DELEGATION from the U. S. missions was on hand to welcome us. Photographers and reporters busied around, looking especially for India Edwards, chairman of the Democratic Party, grand travel chum and roommate. Next day pictures and stories in some of Athens' 12 newspapers announced the Democratic Party was in town. Bob Grant for 10 years Republican congressman from Indiana's Third District, and his wife Margaret had to take a lot of teasing.

BY THE TIME we reached our hotel a moon had appeared and a resolve was made—I was going to see the Acropolis in the moonlight! Dick's know then our group was considered VIP enough that the Parthenon would be lighted in our honor.

Discovered at dinner that Carl Voss had made the same resolve. He's a faculty member of the New School for Social Research in New York, associate secretary of the American Christian Palestine Committee and was leading our party sponsored by that organization.

Dick Evans had the same idea for the evening. He is minister and director of Labor Temple, and senior minister of the Presbyterian Church of the Crossroads in New York. So had Phil Locke.

A TAXI TOOK US UP the gently-sloping hill atop which glowed the Parthenon like a crown for the city. The iron gates were ajar and we went in. A guard caught us just as we started up the steps of the Propylae, or entrance building. We thought he wanted our entrance fee. He shook his head.

In English, German and French we tried in vain to persuade him. Dick even showed him his letters from the Archbishop of Athens and Greece. Please is in my 25-word Greek vocabulary. I said it over and over again.

We walked down the hill, out of sight and ran for the fence. Carl and Dick went over first. Phil hoisted me up, and they got me down. As we started climbing the hill, a flashlight rounded a column. Can't remember in what order we went back over the fence.

We sat in a sidewalk cafe down in the city and looked longingly at that exquisite gem of architecture erected by Pericles five centuries before Christ, until the lights went off at midnight.

NEXT AFTERNOON as we climbed up and down the steep steps, over tumbled columns and heard how this had been a choice spot from which Communist guerrillas attacked the city, we were thankful not to have broken our necks or been shot.

In the early days, Athenian kings lived on the Acropolis, safe from attack. Later the hill

of the buildings, of course, in the Parthenon whose story is so closely linked with Athens' history. It's sickening to know how careless disrespect caused the ruin of the pride of ancient Greece and one of the marvels of the world.

The first unfinished building was burned by the Persians. Pericles had it rebuilt on the same site. In the Fifth Century A.D. it was converted into a Christian church, then later when the Turks came it was used as a mosque.

When the Turks were besieged on the Acropolis by the Venetians, a bomb ignited powder stored in the sanctuary. Many of its finest sculptures were sent by Lord Elgin to the British Museum after World War I. Parts of the beautiful frieze that decorated the lovely Temple of Athena Parthenon in the British Museum. So too is a missing Caryatid from the Porch of the Maidens of the Erechthion, a temple that mixes

Hatred impedes M-E problems

Alyce Billings Walker, director of The News women's department, has just returned from a study tour of the Near and Middle East. She was greatly disturbed by the intense and deep-seated hate she found among people of the Middle East, and believes it to be the great impediment to a peaceful solution of the many problems there. In this and the next article of a series of 10, she tells what good has been achieved since enemy has been buried by two old foes, Greece and Turkey.

been made of the finding of two large buildings which saw being dug out of centuries of dirt and debris.

WE HAD AN audience with the venerable Spiridon, Archbishop of Athens and all Greece.

We drank fresh orange juice and nibbled delicate crystallized fruit in the flower-filled patio of Korner Premier Sophocles Venizelos. Rooms through which we passed into the garden were exquisitely appointed. He is dapper and politically discreet. His wife, gracious and charming. Miss Sarah Dickson, a member of our group about whom I'll speak later, was wearing a decoration he had awarded her for effort in behalf of Greek war orphans.

A visit with Kallias Kontantonis, minister of education, disclosed the great effort being made to meet the country's need for basic school equipment and teachers. Here, too, we met Mrs. Helen Skoura, first woman member of Parliament.

AMERICAN OBSERVERS feel Greek education, generally speaking, puts too much emphasis on the classics when there is such need for vocationally trained people. However, no representative has emphasized education because it is too involved with the country's religious structure.



We jammed the office of personable, young U. S. Ambassador Jack Puerlfoy. Sitting on the floor with us, he spoke high praise of the effort being made by the Greeks and of their fine contribution to NATO and the Korean war.

He quoted Prime Minister Papagos: "We are grateful for American aid, but with or without it, we'll fight the Communists."

Mr. Puerlfoy's praise was echoed by Leiland Barrows, chief of our Mutual Security Mission and his staff.

By the end of this year, we shall have invested \$1 1/2 billion to help Greece recover from Italy's World War II invasion and then a Communist-inspired civil war.

CHIEF PROBLEM plaguing her now is how to stabilize her economy in view of our dwindling dollar aid. President Eisenhower proposed that it be reduced from \$80 million to \$20 million. To try and stimulate exports and impede imports, the drachmas was drastically devaluated last April. It was too soon to evaluate this action when we were there, but reports lately have shown it has served its purpose ament exports.

Legislation is being planned to attract private capital to the country. At present, there is very little foreign investment, the water system being the only U. S. private interest.

GREECE HAS 8,000,000 people and 8,000,000 acres of land. Sixty per cent of the population is agrarian. Seven hundred thousand people were driven from their homes by Communists, who also abused the land as severely as possible.

The result was a country of hungry people to whose aid we came.

Hearty J. D. Pope, formerly of Auburn (and, incidentally, former farm editor of The Birmingham News), and whose wife Peggy used to work with the late Winifred Collins of TCI welfare staff, is another who believed that in short time the Greeks will be self-sufficient foodwise.

"These farmers are much quicker than Americans to adopt land improvement and crop development programs. Their progress is slowed because of widespread illiteracy. We have to show them."

Greeks live chiefly on bread, olive oil and vegetables.

The wheat crop this year was expected to be more than 1,000,000 tons, as compared to 70,000 in pre-war years. There's enough olive oil to permit exporting some. They are raising adequate vegetables. The rice yield is now better than that of California. It was predicted this year's chief export, tobacco, will amount to 70,000 tons as compared to last year's 50,000.

Coupled with the problem of

food production was the rebuilding of roads to get the products to markets. We put \$200,000,000 into this program. Too, with our aid one steam plant and two hydroelectric plants have been constructed.

An exciting, admirable new chapter is being added to the history of this ancient land of legend and loveliness.

Next: Turkey—an old country with a new look.



Pride of Greece—Ruined though it is through careless disrespect of war, the Acropolis with its magnificent Parthenon crown Athens, capital of Greece. At the lower left can be seen the Agora excavations of the American College of Classical Studies. This section at the side of the Acropolis is believed to have been the commercial and administrative center of the old city.



Proud Greek—There's nothing sissy about this stalwart member of the Evzones, Greece's select military unit. Forty yards of material are in the layers of that skirt and eight more in those balloon sleeves. Communists can attest there's plenty of power in those fancy shoes that booted them out of Greece.

News writer reports from the lands of—

THE HOT SANDS OF HATE

Middle East is tortured by conflict and distrust

BY ALVYCE BILLINGS WALKER, News staff writer
 THE 75 STEPS I walked June 29 from Old Jerusalem into New Jerusalem are ground forever in my memory. Border officials of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Israel had agreed our 22-member group could pass through the Mandelbaum Gate at exactly 9 a.m. on that date.

Actually, there is a "gate." There are merely warden posts across the road and guardhouses at each end of the small No Man's Land that separates the new-old Jordan and the new-old Israel. The skeleton of a home once occupied by a Mandelbaum and his family gives name to the spot.

They said 'peace'
 I HAVE NEVER KNOWN such loneliness or such sickness as I did during that brief walk.

The Arab guard bade us farewell with "Alidum-as-salam." Peace be with you. The greeting of our Israeli escort who met us midway was "Shalom." Peace.

Emotion tore at my whole being. Symbols of the war were all around us — snarls of barbed wire, road-blocks like hideous dragons' teeth. One knew armed patrols were not far away. The bitter wail of Jerusalem was within me. "Peace, peace; when there is no peace."

Steps through hate
 THIS WAS LAND trod by Him who preached peace and brotherly love.

Yet I walked through a corridor of hate.

I knew to those moments that hate is the fountainhead that tortures the great problems that torture the Middle East. This led to infer that hate is peculiar to the peoples of the East. However, to the Western mind there is a peculiar kind of hate and, at the moment, it threatens the peace of the whole world.

High hopes
 I HAD NOT TRAVELED so most bull work around the globe in quiet of hate. Rather, I had left home in a spirit blent of family and high adventure. The American Christian Palestine Committee, a national organization, and some unnumbered friends in Birmingham's Jewish community had made possible most of the trip. I was grateful. I was excited. I was off to the Holy lands. I would see the Acropolis in Athens, the mosques of Turkey, the pyramids of Egypt. I would visit the new State of Israel and see firsthand the accomplishments there that have amazed the world.

I would prefer now to speak only of the hostiles and wonderers that do abound in the 10 countries which I visited. Subsequent articles will be full of them. But the presence of hate seared itself into my consciousness with the ferocity of burning desert sands. It would not be ignored.

Background

Alvycy Billings Walker, director of The News Women's Department, has recently returned from seven weeks' travel through the Near and Middle East. She traveled most of the time with a group of 22 other persons from all parts of the country and varied walks of life.

The trip was sponsored by the American Christian Palestine Committee, an organization primarily interested in implementing the United Nations' decision that Israel should be a homeland for the Jewish people. A fellowship from that organization was supplemented by some members of the local Jewish community who wanted Mrs. Walker to see the new State of Israel, and bring back its story in relation to the whole picture of the Middle East.

To round out her observations, Mrs. Walker extended her travels to Egypt and Tunisia. This is the first in a series of 10 articles in which she will review her experiences.

Terrible habit
 MATES IS A HABIT most of these people, and not without historical justification. From the beginning of time, the story is alternately one of conquest and conquest, their role that of invader—and of their own rulers.

The deeper one traveled into the heart of the East, the greater was the impact of this seething loathing, compounded by the events of centuries. I watched eyes narrow to burning slits with it, lips curl with its spitting. I heard men boast they teach hate to their young children. I watched a mother glow with pride as her young son vowed revenge for an injustice. This is a certainty: wherever hate was most expressed, the more evident were its devastating, destructive effects.

Busy Israel
 ONLY IN ISRAEL, whose people have been the victims of world-wide hate ever since the Diaspora in Babylonian times, was there no outspoken, no outward display of hate.

These people are too busy carrying out their new homeland to waste energy hating. However, one can be sure they would quickly turn upon anyone who attempted to take away the long-earned-for refuge they contend is theirs by history, decision and blood.

Seeking reality
 AND SO IT IS that one travels through the Near and Middle East in a state of schizophrenia, rent by the presence of good and evil, horror and beauty, of illiteracy and intellectual mastery. One is constantly drawing on memories of home to find reality in a land where a Chrysler and a camel stand outside a Bedouin tent in the desert; where on one side of the road a man plows his field with an oxen and on the other another uses a tractor; where modern sprinklers send their life-giving spray over large farms, and a Tunisian waist-deep in a marshy stream pumping water onto his tiny plot.

Like oases
 OUT OF THIS CHAOS of past and present, Israel, Turkey, Greece and Tunisia are well pleased that it has had a part in giving back to these people their self-respect. We have poured billions of dollars into their empty coffers, for which they are grateful. What we saw and what was reported to us by U. S. personnel of the Mutual Security Agency testified the money has been well used. Land that was barren is being made to yield food. Wasted power of lakes and rivers is being captured.

Too Greece and Turkey are greatly comforted that our military arm has reached out to enfold them, not only with aid to rebuild their own strength, but by basing our own ships and planes in their area.

One look at the map impresses the comfort we should find in the fact that these countries have buried their enmity and just recently joined hands, too, with Yugoslavia to stand guard of the Mediterranean with us.

Others want help
 WHAT WE HAVE DONE for these countries, most of the Arab countries want us to do for them. Some governments admittedly want our money, but what the people want goes far deeper than our pocketbooks. They long for our kind of individual freedom security and opportunity. A Greek business man at the Athens airport looked longingly at the passport in my hand. "What I would give for one of those!" he said.

One is touched, and at the same time frightened, by the belief of most of these people that the United States has the elixir for all their ills. They especially look to us to guarantee them justice at the world's conference table.

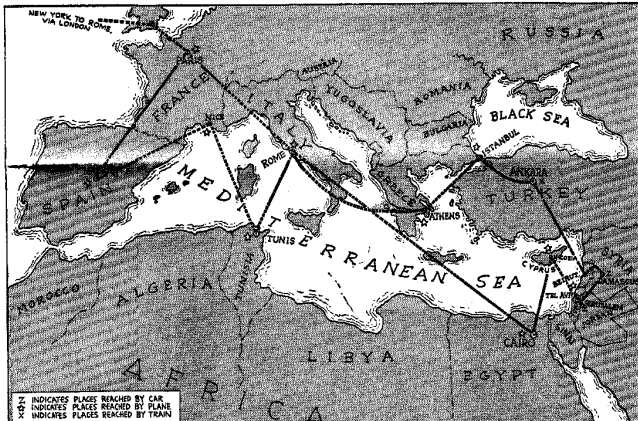
On our shoulders
 IT'S A DANGEROUS tight-rope we are walking in that far-away part of the globe. With wise policy-makers here at home and skilled representatives in those lands, we can make it. If we fall, down will go all these people with us, and the world again will be rife with wars.

Our role must be that of peace-maker and teacher of the benefits of "loving thy neighbor."

We pin our faith to accomplish that role on a promise and a gift of Jesus Christ. He said, "Ask, and it shall be given unto you."

His last words to his disciples were: "My peace I give unto you, my peace I leave with you."

Next Greece, land of myth



Into far-away, strange lands—The map above shows the approximate 20,000-mile route covered by the author during her recent trip to the Near and Middle East. Giant planes, some jet-propelled, were substituted for seven-league boots to make it possible for so much territory to be covered in the seven weeks of her journey. The itinerary was: Birmingham to New York to Rome, via London and Paris; Rome to Athens, Istanbul, Ankara, Beirut, Damascus, Old Jerusalem in Jordan, Israel, Cyprus, Cairo, Rome, Tunis, Nice, Madrid, Paris to New York via Iceland—HOME.

and Greece loomed like oases in our desert of understanding. True, there are contradictions in these lands that are disturbing, but not in such degree as those in others we visited. Lebanon, for instance, where one can feel at home and in one's element.

Those are the countries where the lot of the people is better, where more men are content. Where men idly sulk in refugee camps or around coffee houses, there one feels the greatest impact of hate. There children are dirtier and more disease-ridden. There women are more silent and more hard-bitten. Animals are scrawny and stullen. Even the land seemed to have furiously belched up great areas of rocks and sand.

Ready to follow
 THE PEOPLE of these lands first must be rescued from themselves before we can help them. They must be saved from destruction in their own venom, generated by real and imagined injustices.

In their desperation, they are ready to follow any leader who will offer them something better than their present animal existence.

Will that leader be us or the Communists?

An Arab to whom I put that question replied, "I will answer you in the words of Winston Churchill. I will make peace with the devil, if it will benefit me."

I was glad I could cite to him what had been accomplished in Greece, Turkey and Israel, where we were helping people help themselves. The effort to stir his interest was shrugged away. There was no display of the national pride one finds has been resurrected in Greece and Turkey. However, that must be guided by a respected and unselfish friend lest it get out of hand.

Good for U. S.
 THE UNITED STATES can well be pleased that it has had a part in giving back to these people their self-respect. We have poured billions of dollars into their empty coffers, for which they are grateful. What we saw and what was reported to us by U. S. personnel of the Mutual Security Agency testified the money has been well used. Land that was barren is being made to yield food. Wasted power of lakes and rivers is being captured.

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