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NO. 2.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND AUTHORITIES PAY HIGH HONOR TO PATRIARCH

After a six months' sojourn in Cyprus His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII, Catholicos Patriarch of the East, returned to his home in Chicago by way of England, where his visit created extraordinary attention and interest. (*Story begins on Page 5*)

Patriarch and Primate



HIS HOLINESS MAR SHIMUN DINES WITH HIS GRACE, THE
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

PATRIARCHAL EPISTLE

An Easter Message from the Patriarch of the East

To Our Beloved Children in Christ, our Brothers the Prelates; the priests, deacons and other orders of the Church, and all the faithful children of the Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East, peace and blessing in our Lord.

Some two thousand years before this day a new world was created upon Calvary. The electrifying message of the Resurrection was heralded by angels and men: "He is not here for He has risen, just as He had said", the angel proclaimed. "Truly our Lord has risen", witnessed the disciples.

The disheartened, frightened, disillusioned, tiny group of the disciples and other followers of Jesus Christ were afforded a new vision and a new courage which no power of demons nor earthly authority could withstand. The prophecies were fulfilled, the second Adam had vanquished sin and death. St. Paul the Apostle, stirred to the depth of his soul cries: "O, death where is your sting? O, Shyool, where is your victory?"

Inspired by that message, an innumerable host of apostles, saints, martyrs and confessors of the holy church have since followed the footsteps of the Master and shared in His victory. With the thief on the right hand they are inheritors of the promise: "Jesus said unto him, Truly I say unto you, today thou shalt be with me in paradise". A world that was free of superstition and fear was fashioned and the shackled mind was set free to investigate the mysteries of the creation and to achieve a knowledge which has astounded man himself. Created with a free will, and afforded the guidance of the ordinances of God contained in the Scriptures and expounded by His holy Church, man himself is responsible for the good or ill use of that knowledge.

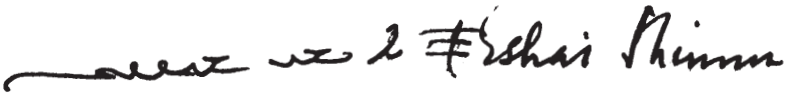
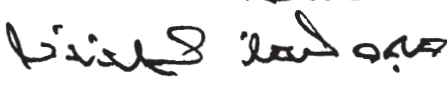

Today more than ever before in history, Christianity is faced with a materialistic doctrine which is devoid of all spiritual concepts, and is utterly opposed to the teaching of Our Lord Jesus Christ. At no time has a greater challenge been thrown to Christianity, nor a better opportunity afforded it to examine itself in the light of history and on the basis of the holy Scriptures, and thereby face the crisis as a united body--a unity which has not existed for centuries.

In the words of Our Lord: "Every kingdom which is divided against itself will be destroyed; and every house or city that is divided against itself will not stand".

The meaning of the victory of the cross remains as true today as it was in the first Century of our era, and will remain so for ever. It is the unity that is lacking. It is therefore our request to our Beloved Children in Christ, that we join in prayer with all those who truly profess and believe in our Lord and His promises, on this Feast of the Resurrection, which all Christians celebrate on the same day; beseeching Him that the unity for which He prayed may be granted us, and that all men may be brought to the knowledge of the truth.

We greet you, Our Beloved Children, with the message of the disciples: "Shareraet Qamleh Maran" - Truly Our Lord has risen. May the message of His resurrection bring life and renewal to the whole world, so that all men may share in His victory; which is eternal life.

The Grace of Maran Eshoo M'shikha, the love of Alaha Awa, and the communion of Rukha Qaddisha, be with us all, amen.


By Grace,

Catholicos Patriarch
of the East


FIRST ASSYRIAN WEDDING IN CYPRUS

The marriage of Mr. Paul d'Mar Shimun and Miss Sophia Abraham Aziz took place on December 14, 1952, at St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Kyrenia. His Holiness, Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII, Catholicos Patriarch of the East CXIX, officiated and was assisted by his brother, Honorable Mr. Theodore d'Mar Shimun who acted as deacon. The small church was crowded. Besides the bridegroom's family and the bride's father, brother and sister, there were friends of many different nationalities present; Americans, English, Greek, Iranian, Albanian, and Arab.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. Abraham Aziz of Arzin, Eruwan, whose father originally came from Karagoz, Urmia. Her mother, Mrs. Gozal Aziz, is the daughter of Mr. Yonan Mirza of Tutrush, Urmia. They have been living in Beirut, Lebanon the last twenty-eight years. The qariwa (best man) was Mr. Kika Loizou, and his sister, Mrs. Anastasiades was the qaruta (matron of honor). The reception was held at the Bristol Hotel in Kyrenia. After the reception there was a family luncheon party at the bridegroom's house, after which the happy couple left for Famagusta where they spent their honeymoon.

Below is a photo of His Holiness, the bridal group, and the relatives of the bride and groom. The numbers identify the persons in the photo.



- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun | 13. Lady Surma d'Beth M.S. |
| 2. The Bride | 14. Virginia Z.d'Beth M.S. |
| 3. The Groom | 15. Wardia d'Beth M.S. |
| 4. Mr. Kika Loizou | 16. Plarim d'Beth M.S. |
| 5. Mr. Abraham Aziz | 17. Rowena d'Beth M.S. |
| 6. Lady Elizabeth Zaya d'Beth M.S. | 18. Mersina Z.d'Beth M.S. |
| 7. Sulty Z.d'Beth M.S. | 19. Sargina d'Beth M.S. |
| 8. Mr. Harelous | 20. Bride's sister, Suria |
| 9. Mrs. Harelous | 21. George Z.d'Beth M.S. |
| 10. Lady Esther d'Beth M.S. | 22. Hon. Sargon d'Beth M.S. |
| 11. Mrs. Anastassiades | 23. Bride's brother, Aziz |
| 12. Hon. Theodore d'Beth M.S. | |

NEWS FROM LEBANON

Loco Badawi in jail

Various sources in Beirut, Lebanon, including Simon M. Y. Badawi, a relative of Loco S. Badawi, have reported that Loco Badawi was recently seized by the Syrian police and cast into jail. He is out on bail, awaiting trial. Readers will remember that Badawi was chief instrument in the hands of Yusuf Malik, of Beirut, a Uniat Chaldean, in the Brazilian hoax.

Influential American periodicals, including the Christian Science Monitor and the Chicago Tribune, have reported a flood of Communist propaganda aimed at the Assyrians, emanating from Beirut under the signature of Youaw K. Zodo. Zodo is well-known as a henchman of Yusuf Malik.

THE PATRIARCH'S TRIP FROM CYPRUS TO THE UNITED STATES

On Monday January 19 being the feast of the Epiphany (Eastern Calendar), His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun, Catholicos Patriarch of the East, celebrated the Qurbana Qaddisha in Karavas, Cyprus, attended by Archdeacon Mando of Beyrouth, Lebanon, and the Patriarch's brother, Hon. Theodoros d'Beth Mar Shimun. These served as deacon and subdeacon respectively.

Immediately after the service His Holiness bade farewell to the members of the Patriarchal House. This ended a most enjoyable yet extremely busy time spent on the island of Cyprus. His Holiness was accompanied to the boat by his mother, Lady d'Beth Mar Shimun, and his aunt, Lady Surma d'Beth Mar Shimun, also his brother Theodoros d'Beth Mar Shimun and cousin Polos Zaya d'Beth Mar Shimun.

While on the boat, His Holiness received two telegrams from the Rev. H. M. Waddams, asking whether he could dine with His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, on Feb. 7. and address the Church of England Council on Foreign Relations on Feb. 13. Father Waddams expressed the Archbishop's deep regret that the Patriarch's arrival again coincided with the archbishop's absence from London, and said His Grace was looking forward to welcoming His Holiness for lunch at Lambeth Palace on Feb. 7th., the day of his return to London. The Patriarch was very glad to accept both engagements.

The boat docked in Marseilles Sunday, Jan. 25, and the Patriarch took the night train for Calais, arriving in London Monday, Feb. 26. Reservations had been made at Kensington Palace Hotel, where His Holiness stayed for the duration of his visit in London. He expressed his appreciation for courtesy and kindness of the management and staff of the hotel.

Among the mail His Holiness found on his arrival at the hotel was an invitation from the Athenaeum Club, according him the privilege of honorary membership during his stay in London. The Patriarch has always deeply appreciated the kindness of the authorities of this most distinguished club, which during his long sojourn in London before the second World War, and on these last two subsequent visits, has granted him honorary membership.

During the next three weeks of his stay in London, The Patriarch had a very full schedule. It is not possible to list all his engagements but some of the main ones, along with some press publicity, are listed below.

SCHEDULE OFFICIALLY ARRANGED

His Holiness paid this visit at the invitation of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury. All his engagements therefore were made by the secretary of the Church of England Council on Foreign Relations, or with his knowledge, so that there would be no conflict with the official program.

On Sunday Feb. 1, the Patriarch preached in All Saints, Ennismore Gardens, by invitation of the rector, the Rev. F. H. A. Micklewright.

Feb. 2, the Patriarch lunched with Father Waddams and Gen. J. M. L. Renton, and dined with Mr. Ivor Bulmar Thomas, editor of the Daily Telegraph and Morning Post.

Feb. 4 he lunched with Father Tinker, Anglican chaplain to the Church of England hostel of the University of London, at the United University Club. Two other priests had been invited to meet his Holiness.

LUNCH WITH SYRIAN AMBASSADOR

Feb. 5 His Holiness lunched with his old friend His Excellency Faiz El-Khoury, formerly Syrian minister in Washington, now Syrian ambassador in London. The ambassador had invited a few guests to meet the Patriarch. His Holiness enjoyed very much meeting again the ambassador and the hospitable Mme. El-Khoury.

On the same afternoon the Rev. Dr. C. B. Moss had tea with the Patriarch at the Athenaeum Club.

On Feb. 6 His Holiness lunched with Mr. Dennis A. H. Right, of the Foreign Office, at the Travellers Club. In the evening he dined with the Rev. Gage Brown, at St. Cuthbert's House, one of the well-known churches of London, and after dinner addressed a group of men on the history and teachings of the Holy Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East. Following the address many questions were asked, and keen interest shown.

GUEST AT LAMBETH PALACE

On Feb. 7, His Holiness lunched with His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Fisher at Lambeth Palace. The Rev. Fr. Waddams was also present at the lunch. This was the first meeting between the Patriarch and the Archbishop, although regular correspondence had been exchanged between the two prelates. As the Archbishop remarked to the Patriarch "Now that we have met in person, our correspondence will have a more personal reality."

The Patriarch was greatly impressed by the friendship of the Archbishop, and the graciousness and charm of Mrs. Fisher. The occasion brought to the mind of His Holiness many happy memories of previous visits to Lambeth Palace in the days of Archbishops Davidson and Lang, when he stayed there as a guest.

The same afternoon Mar Shimun went down to Billingshurst, in Sussex, where he stayed for the night as guest at the beautiful home of General Renton, one of his oldest personal friends, who is greatly interested in the welfare of the Church of the East and of Assyrians as a whole. Gen. Renton had invited to meet the Patriarch the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chichester and Mrs. Bell, whom His Holiness had known since 1925. Another guest was the priest of Billingshurst, the Rev. M. C. Langton, with Mrs. Langton. Bishop Bell's interest in the Church of the East is of long standing.

Next day, Sunday, Feb. 8, His Holiness preached in Billingshurst Church. In the afternoon the Patriarch returned to London, where he was met in Victoria station by the Rev. Eric James, assistant priest, and driven to the church of St. Stephen, Rochester Road, where he preached to a capacity congregation, including a number of priests. After the service, the Patriarch went to the parish hall to answer many questions put by the audience, showing deep interest in the Catholic Church of the East, its history and teachings. Many in the audience expressed desire to attend the Qurbana which the Patriarch was to celebrate the following Sunday.

LUNCH AT NIKEAN CLUB

Feb. 9 a lunch was given in honor of His Holiness by the Nikean Club, at St. Erwin's Hotel, which was attended by His Grace, the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Templewood, a former distinguished member of the Conservative Party, who has held various ministerial positions in the government. The Patriarch first met Lord Templewood in 1925.

Other guests were Mr. Julian Amery, M.P., Sir Charles Jeffrey, Colonial Office, James Rowland, a representative from the Foreign Office, Mr. Dennis Right of the Foreign Office, Sir Harry C. Luke, the Rev. Canon J. A. Douglas, and the Rev. H. M. Waddams.

The Archbishop spoke on the friendly relations which have existed between the See of Canterbury and the Patriarchal See of the Church of East and likewise between the two historic churches. He spoke warmly of the services rendered to England by the Assyrian people, and mentioned especially the emigration of the Patriarchal Family from Cyprus to England, warmly commending the idea.

The Patriarch responded, confirming what His Grace had said about the ties of friendship existing between the two historic Sees and churches. He expressed deep appreciation for the courtesy and kindness which the Archbishop had shown him on this visit, an honor which His Holiness knew would be appreciated by the Church of the East all over the world.

His Holiness thanked His Grace especially for the interest he had shown on the question of the Patriarchal House, and hoped that with their settlement in England that problem would be solved, since they could find employment to maintain themselves, which in Cyprus was not possible. Feb. 10 His Holiness and Sir George Rendel of the Foreign Office lunched with Canon Douglas at the Athenaeum Club. In the afternoon the Patriarch had tea with the Rev. Gordon Hewlin.

LECTURE AT ASIAN SOCIETY

On Feb. 11 His Holiness gave a lecture at the Royal Central Asian Society, The Patriarch was introduced by Lord Templewood, who spoke of the days when he first met the Patriarch, and later met his aunt, Lady Surma d'Beth Mar Shimun, during his official visit to Mosul, Iraq, as minister for Air when he was known as Sir Samuel Hoare.

Lord Templewood spoke with especial warmth of the services rendered by the Assyrian Levies in Iraq, whom he came to know personally during his visit to that country.

His Holiness then spoke on the present situation of the Assyrians in the Middle East, namely Iraq, Iran, Syria and Lebanon. He dwelt especially on the situation of the Church of the East in all these countries and in India.

The Patriarch had a most attentive and interested audience, all of whom had been stationed as officials or lived in the Middle East. Many had served with the Assyrian Levies, or had been connected with them in other official capacities.

Among these were such men as Gen. Gilbert Brown, who commanded the Assyrian Levies for a number of years; Gen. James L. Renton, Col. Bark, Col. Hamilton, Canon Douglas, and many others known to most of the Assyrians in Iraq and Syria. Some of these had travelled from the farthest parts of England in order to meet again and hear the Patriarch.

His Holiness stressed his well-known advice to his flock in the Middle East that they contribute their best as loyal citizens in whatever country the Assyrians are living.

His lecture is due to appear in the forthcoming issue of the Royal Central Asian Journal.

SOCIETY OF THE FAITH

After the lecture His Holiness went to the Athenaeum Club where a party was given in his honor by the Society of the Faith, founded by the Rev. E. Charles Douglas whose brother, Canon J. A. Douglas is the principal. A list of those who attended is given elsewhere in this issue.

His Holiness was honored with the presence of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London, the Lord Bishop of Gloucester, and the Bishop of St. Albans. Also present were Mr. Quintin Riley, son of Athelstan Riley, the first emissary of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the late Mar Ruwil, Patriarch of the East, nearly 70 years ago.

Following a short address by Canon Douglas, the Lord Bishop of London spoke, welcoming His Holiness to London. The Patriarch responded expressing hope that he may welcome his lordship at the Patriarchate in Chicago during the forthcoming meeting of the World Council of Churches, to be held in Evanston in 1954.

The Patriarch expressed his deep appreciation for the honor accorded him by the Society of the Faith, and spoke of his long standing friendship with Canon Douglas and Father Charles, and on his happy memories of that association.

Feb. 12 The Patriarch went by train from London to Beaconsfield, Sussex, where he lunched and later spoke to about 200 girls and teachers of Oakdene school. He had a most attentive and interested audience, who after the speech asked many questions about the Church of the East and the Assyrian people. His Holiness received a most appreciative letter from Miss Farish, principal of the school.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND COUNCIL

Feb. 13 His Holiness addressed the Church of England Council on Foreign relations. The Lord Bishop of Chichester, chairman of the Council, welcomed the Patriarch. He spoke warmly of the vicissitudes of this ancient church and people, and of the friendly relations which have existed between the Church of the East and the Anglican Communion.

The Patriarch responded thanking the chairman and the Council for the honor accorded him, and for the interest which the council has shown in his ancient church.

He spoke at some length on the present situation of the Church of the East, the difficulties confronting it, and the progress which has been made in recent years.

In the evening Mar Shimun dined with Mr. D. A. H. Right and Mrs. Right, whom he had known when Mr. Right was British consul in Chicago. The Rights had invited a number of persons to meet His Holiness.

On Feb. 14 the Patriarch received callers, returned a visit by the Lord Bishop of Kensington, and had tea with the Rev. Micklewright. Otherwise he spent the day with his cousin Shamasha (Deacon) Abris Shlimun d'Beth Matran. In the evening His Holiness entertained the Syrian Ambassador, Mr. Right and Canon Douglas at dinner in the Athenaeum Club.

QURBANA AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday Feb. 15 the Patriarch celebrated the Qurbana Qaddisha in the beautiful chapel of the Church House, Westminster. He was attended by Shamasha Abris and his other cousin Qaruya (Reader) Eshaya Zaya d'Beth Mar Shimun. Among the congregation were a number of prominent men, both clergy and laity, a number of students, and His Excellency, the Syrian Ambassador.

His Holiness explained the order of the liturgy and spoke especially about the late Rev. Dr. Wigram.

Dr. Wigram died while the Patriarch was on his way from Cyprus to England, information of the death reaching him on his arrival in Marseilles.

His Holiness spoke of the true friendship and unequalled faithfulness of Dr. Wigram to the cause of the Church of the East and the Assyrian people, recounting the services he rendered to this ancient church as a member and later head of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Mission to assist the Church of the East (Assyrians).

The Patriarch spoke with feeling of his meeting with Dr. Wigram last summer, when he told Mar Shimun that he had been waiting for this occasion, and that he now felt the end was nigh, and he would welcome it.

Miss Wigram, writing to the Patriarch about the death of her brother, said "He failed steadily since he saw you. Your visit was a great pleasure to him."

His Holiness offered special prayer at the "Kushapa d'Anidey" (Supplication for the Departed) for Dr. Wigram praying that he may be counted

with those on His right hand. All Assyrians will mourn the loss of such a devoted friend of our people. May the Lord grant peace to his soul.

SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL STUDIES

Feb. 16 His Holiness, accompanied by Canon Douglas and the Rev. H. M. Waddams, went to the School of Oriental Studies at the University of London, where he was received by Sir Ralph Turner, vice chancellor of the University, and a number of professors. The chancellor himself was out of London, and had sent his regrets.

Following refreshments, a recording was made of a short speech of welcome by Sir Ralph Turner and the response of the Patriarch, who concluded by reciting the Lord's Prayer in the original language, the Aramaic, with a blessing in the same. After writing his name in the visitors book, the Patriarch and his party were shown around the University.

AT ST. BRIDE'S CHURCH

The Patriarch and his party then drove to St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street, where he was received by the Rev. Cyril M. Armitage, rector of St. Bride's and the civic authorities. Traffic was halted momentarily to afford free passage for the Patriarch's car. He was preceded by a mace-bearer and the Whittington Rangers of St. Michael's Royal College, playing silver hand-bells. After refreshments the Patriarch, who had been honored with the presence of the Right Rev. Cyril Estaugh, Bishop of Kensington, along with a number of clergy, went in procession into the eighth-century basilica of bombed St. Bride's Church. Following a message of welcome by the Lord Bishop of Kensington, the Patriarch spoke as follows:

"A close friendship has existed between the small Assyrian people and the great English nation for over a hundred years, and likewise between the Church of England and the Church of the East -- or the Assyrian Church, the name by which it is better known in this country.

"I am now in this country at the invitation of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, to discuss certain church matters, and also the question of bringing the Patriarchal Family from Cyprus to England.

"As the hundred and nineteenth Patriarch of this ancient Christian church, I greet the English people in the very language in which Our Lord greeted his eleven apostles, namely, the Aramaic language in which he said to them, after his resurrection "Shlama amkhun" -- "Peace be with you."

"In this language my people received the Holy Scriptures, and in this language they pray daily.



Patriarch and Bishop of Kensington in St. Bride's Church.

"May that peace abide with Her Majesty the Queen, and the people of England."

This message was quoted widely in the English press.

The Lord's Prayer was then recited by the Patriarch and the people alternately in Aramaic and in English. Then the Patriarch gave them the blessing in Aramaic.

On the same evening the Patriarch had dinner with the Bishop of Kensington at his home.

ILLNESS CANCELS ENGAGEMENTS

Feb. 17 His Holiness had to cancel two engagements set for this day, because of an attack of flu. One of these was with his Royal Highness Amer Zaid, Iraqi ambassador in London, whom the Patriarch had met many years ago, and who was looking forward to renewing the acquaintance. His Holiness was sorry to miss this pleasure.

On Feb. 18, The Patriarch boarded the train in London, seen off by Father Waddams and Father McCarthy, acting secretary of the Church of England Council on Foreign relations. He boarded the Queen Mary in Southampton, where he was shown all courtesies by the Port authorities to avoid complications due to his illness.

The ship docked in New York on Feb. 23. The Patrarch was met by a group of some fifty Assyrians from New Britain and Yonkers, including Archdeacon Neesan, Joseph J. Durna, and many others.

Tuesday, Feb. 24, the Patriarch had dinner at the home of George Burney, at Yonkers, where a number of church people visited him. He was seen to the station and boarded the train for Chicago.

On arrival in Chicago he was met at the station by his father, Rab Khaila d'Beth Mar Shimun, his sister Lady Helen d'Beth Mar Shimun, the parish priests, the Rev. Isaac Rehana, the Rev. Harry Sutcliffe and the Rev. Eshaya Sliwo, Mr. Gabriel Sargis, president of the church committee in Chicago and a number of the faithful.

BRITISH PRESS GIVES GREAT SPACE TO PATRIARCH'S VISIT IN LONDON

Millions of persons throughout the world read in the columns of the British press of the visit of His Holiness Mar Shimun to London. The London Times, the Manchester Guardian, the Glasgow Herald, the London Daily Telegraph and Morning Post and the Birmingham Post gave detailed descriptions of his activities, with photographs of the Patriarch and of events in which he took part.

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LONDON TIMES on Feb. 2.

SPREADING THE GOSPEL IN ASIA PATRIARCH ON TASK OF THE CHURCH OF THE EAST

Mar Shimun, Patriarch of the Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East, preaching at All Saints Church, Ennismore Gardens, Knightsbridge, yesterday spoke of the efforts now being made to reestablish and extend one of the most ancient branches of the Apostolic Church in Asia.

Mar Shimun is the 119th Patriarch in a line of succession that goes back to the earliest days of Christianity in Assyria. For more than 600 years the Patriarchate has descended from uncle to nephew in his family. He is the twenty-third to bear this name. He is now a naturalized citizen of the United States, where the headquarters of his church has been established, and is returning through London from a visit to Cyprus, where his family took refuge in 1933. Mar Shimun was educated at St. Augustine's College, Cambridge, but as he said yesterday, his community speak among themselves Aramaic, the language spoken by Christ.

Describing the history of the Church of the East, he said that by the fourth century it flourished throughout much of Asia, but from then until now it has suffered persecution. Now there are churches in India, Persia, Iraq and Syria, as well as the United States, and schools are being established in the villages of the Middle East to keep the Christian faith alive among Muslims. In recent years the position of the Church has improved considerably, especially in Persia. In all, 25 village schools and one clergy training school have been opened, and more are to follow.

It was his earnest prayer that the ancient Church might once again play its part in the propagation of the Gospel in Asia, where it was better equipped for the task than the Churches of the West.

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The MANCHESTER GUARDIAN, Feb. 17 commented on the visit to St. Bride's, remarking:

"The Patriarch — an imposing man with the coal-black hair, handsome profile, and piercing black eyes of his race, wore black robes and a cross similar to those of the Anglican clergy who had gathered to greet him."

It added, "The Church of the East traces its origin directly back to the original apostles. One of its chapels, founded by the Three Wise Men on their return from Bethlehem, is still in use today in the town of Rezaieh, in Northern Iran. The Patriarch attended that chapel as a boy."

Concerning St. Bride's, the GLASGOW HERALD remarked:

"As archaeologists dig deeper into the foundations of St. Bride's, discovering ever more ancient origins, we have ceased generally to feel surprised; pre-Reformation, Norman, Saxon, Roman-Christian St. Bride's succeed one another in an atmosphere of decreasing excitement. The visit to the celebrated ruins by the Assyrian Patriarch could still excite a proper sense of wonder. His Beatitude MarShimun is himself a sufficiently venerable and exotic person to cause astonishment in the neighborhood of Fleet Street . . . His descent to the remains of uncovered remains of the ancient Basilica were a notable theological excursion . . . It is a memorable thing to hear recited, in what is claimed to be the oldest church in London, the words of the Lord's Prayer spoken in Aramaic, the tongue in which they were heard for the first time."

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The WEST SUSSEX GAZETTE, Feb. 12, commenting on the address in Billingshurst, said:

"In the seventh and eighth centuries, when Europe was in the grip of the Dark Ages, and when the Byzantine Church and Empire were content with a sort of fossilized existence, the Church of the East was expanding and was developing that philosophy, science and culture which later permeated the West through the Arabs of Spain, and was wrongly attributed to Arab origin.

"As time went on, however, the Church of the East could not withstand the rush of Islam, which swept all before it across Central Asia. A remnant however, remained faithful in India, Persia, and in the mountains of Assyria, where they suffered further persecution at the hands of the Turks.

When, after the First World War, the State of Iraq was formed, the Assyrians rebelled under this patriarch (a very young man, the office passing from uncle to nephew and remaining in the same family for 600 years) and a massacre of the Assyrians followed. Mar Shimun, the present Patriarch, went into exile in Chicago. Bishops who remain in Iraq, Persia and India acknowledge him as their head.

"The Church of the East is now progressing, and in trying to cultivate friendly relations with the governments of the Middle East, and establish schools where clergy can be trained."

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The DAILY TELEGRAPH AND MORNING POST, Feb. 16.

"Yesterday in the handsome chapel of Church House, Westminster, Mar Shimun, hereditary Patriarch and head of the Assyrian people, sang the Aramaic liturgy of his church, assisted by two cousins as deacon and subdeacon.

"It has rarely been celebrated in this country, and is said to have come down in the language spoken by Christ, virtually unaltered since the first century.

"Mar Shimun, now established with his father and sister in Chicago, is in England to make arrangements for the transference of the Patriarchal Family of 15 from Cyprus, where they have been exiled for the last 20 years.

"There had been no marriages during that period until last month. Ages of the younger generation of the family, who are looking forward to living

and working and doubtless marrying in England, range from 18 to 38.

"The Patriarchate descends invariably from uncle to nephew, the Patriarch being celibate."

Extensive notices also were given by the Birmingham Post and the Church of England Newspaper, with beautifully-printed pictures of the Patriarch and the Bishop of Kensington in the ruins of St. Bride's Church.

GUESTS AT ATHENAEUM

At the Athenaeum Club reception in honor of His Holiness the following were present:

The Bishops of London, Gloucester and St. Albans; Canons J. A. Douglas, H. Pickles, Dudley Symon, also the Rev. C. E. Douglas, all of the Society of the Faith; Sir Harry Vaisey, Judge of the High Court, and Sir James Brown, secretary of the Church Commissioners.

Other clergy present; Rev. Cyril M. Armitage, rector of St. Bride's; Rev. Eric C. Bailey, Vicar of St. John's, South Norwood; Rev. J. A. Burley, secretary of the Society of St. Willibrord; Ven. John Grimes, archdeacon of Northampton; Ven. L. W. Harland, archdeacon of Rochester; Ven. T. Dilworth Harrison, archdeacon of Chesterfield; Rev. Howard Hollis, canon, Westminster Abbey; Rev. F.H.A. Micklewright, vicar of All Saints, Ennismore Gardens; Rev. Chad Yarah, editor of "The Symbol"; Rev. Ivan R. Young, Vicar of Kensworth.

Distinguished laity; H. W. Littlewood, secretary, Society of the Faith; Quintin Riley, son of Atheltsan Riley; Major C. Lisle Watson, Warden, Pitt Street Settlement; F. B. Wilkins, of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

CHICAGO NEWS

Peter DeKasha, son of Deacon and Mrs. Bodakh DeKasha, left for military service with the U.S. Army on February 3. We wish Peter the best of luck.

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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bacus were recently blessed with the arrival of a baby boy, Jeremy John.

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On February 28th, Mr. Robert Marogol and Miss Lillian Saiad were united in holy matrimony. The wedding took place in St. James Episcopal Church with the Rev. Isaac Rehana officiating.

TURLOCK NEWS

By Juliet DeKelaita

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Some of the news is several months old, as it was received subsequent to the publication of the December-January issue.

On December 6 the Daughters of the Church of the East gave their annual bazaar, and it resulted in a very successful event. On December 12 the Church of the East held a dinner in honor of Deacon Jerry Bacus, who has been so instrumental in the progress of the church in Turlock. On December 24 the A.C.E. Youth Club presented a Christmas program under the direction of Mrs. Fred Tamimi. Refreshments were served by the club members. On December 28, a turkey dinner was given in honor of the new church officers. The Daughters of the Church of the East recently held a luncheon in honor of Rt. Rev. Sumner Walters, Episcopal Bishop of the San Joaquin Valley.

Sgt. Norman DeKelaita, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kezakia DeKelaita is home after serving twelve months in combat in Korea. Joe Yonan, son of John and Shmoonie Yonan, and Paul Nazar, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Nazar, both serving in the U.S. Air Force spent their Christmas leave at home. Joe and Alice Yonan are the proud parents of a baby boy, David George, born Christmas day. Mr. and Mrs. Shimun Zaya have been blessed with another baby boy, born January 8. The members of the Church of the East are proud of their 16 year old Sub-Deacon, Narsai David. He recently won the American Legion local student's speaker contest, and will represent the post in the district elimination. Narsai has also been on the high school scholarship for four years. The following groups have chosen their officers for 1953.

Church Committee

President Avesha Yohannan
Vice-President. Alex Baba
Secretary Fred Tamimi
Treasurer Kheyoo Yonan

Daughters of the Church of the East

President Miriam Oushana
Vice-President. Khanime Pera
Secretary Mary Tamimi
Ass't. Secretary. Nellie Badall
Treasurer. Sophie Simon

Youth Organization

President Lydia Warda
Vice-President. Joe Yonan
Secretary Helen Zaya
Treasurer Melba Oushana
Social Chairman. Dollie DeKelaita

Funeral services were held December 8, 1952 for Thomas (Tooma) Essa, age 75, who passed away December 5 after a long illness. Services were held in the Church of the East with Rev. Elisha K. Oushana officiating. Interment followed in Turlock cemetery. Mr. Essa leaves two brothers Tamu of Iran, and Newyia of Hughson, California; a niece, Mrs. Shimun Yohanan of Denair, California; and two nephews, Mark and Robert Essa of Modesto, California.

FLINT, MICHIGAN NEWS

The three organizations of the Church of the East have elected their officers for 1953.

Church Committee

President Jacob Baly
Vice-President Danoo Lazar
Secretary Mary Moorhatch
Treasurer Mathew Shirina

Daughters of Mar Shimun Bar Sabye

President Mary Gabriel
Secretary Helen Lazar
Treasurer Nancy Lazar

Youth Organization

President Mary Moorhatch
Vice-President. Ann Smith
Secretary Martha Moorhatch
Treasurer Jo Ann Lazar

NEW BRITAIN NEWS

William Yonan of New Britain and Julia Rowell of Chicago were recently united in holy matrimony. Mr. and Mrs. Sargis Nathan, Mr. and Mrs. R. Daniels, and Mr. and Mrs. B. Abraham were recently blessed with the arrival of baby girls. George Yonan, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Yonan was recently discharged from military service.

THE LONDON TIMES, on Feb. 17, said of the visit to St. Bride's;

ASSYRIAN PATRIARCH AT ST. BRIDE'S
THE LANGUAGE OF CHRIST

"The Patriarch of the Assyrian Church, His Beatitude Mar Shimun, wearing a caftan of black and old gold and the cap and mittens in which he wears in his own country, conducted a brief service yesterday in the ruins of the seventh or eighth century basilica discovered under the bombed church of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, E.C.

"The Patriarchate has been hereditary in the family of Mar Shimun for 600 years. His Beatitude is the 119th holder of the office. He was educated at St. Augustin's College, Canterbury, and Westcott House, the late Arch-Archbishop Davidson acting as his guardian. He was consecrated at the age of 12.

"Tunes played on silver handbells by the Whittington Rangers, of St. Michael Royal, College Hill, heralded his arrival. He spoke of the close friendship between the Assyrian People and the English nation, and between the Church of England and the Assyrian Church, and said he was in this country at the invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury to discuss church matters and the question of bringing the Patriarchal Family from Cyprus to England. He extended a greeting to the English people in Aramaic, the language of Christ and his apostles, and recited the Lord's Prayer in it. The Bishop of Kensington, the Right Rev. Cyril Eastaugh, also conducted prayers.

After the service Mr. W. F. Grimes, director of the London Museum, explained the archaeological discoveries.

LIGHT FROM THE EAST

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1. 2019-2020: 100% (100%)
 2. 2020-2021: 100% (100%)
 3. 2021-2022: 100% (100%)
 4. 2022-2023: 100% (100%)
 5. 2023-2024: 100% (100%)