

AMERICAN
FRIENDS
OF THE
MIDDLE
EAST

ANNUAL
REPORT
1957-1958

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The Hon. Harold B. Minor

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

to members and friends

The American Friends of the Middle East, since its founding in 1951, has functioned in a climate of mounting tension. The past year was no exception.

Political crises and military activities dominated much of the region of our interest. The vitality of nationalism, accompanied by an accelerated drive toward political integration, awakened the world to its swift progress. The evolutionary spirit sweeping through these lands brought temporary in-

stability to some nations and cast a long shadow of changes to come in others. The Middle East remained a focal point in the cold struggle between the two major power blocs.

Played against a backdrop of great potential dangers and a continuing threat to peace, the events of the year held the fixed attention of the world and especially, perhaps to a greater degree than ever before, of the citizens of the United States. While our nation played an unsolicited but key role in the drama, Americans began to realize that events in the Middle East might very well determine the kind of future in store for us all.

What we were watching in essence was the assertion by small nations, some of which had become independent during this generation, of their right to political, national self-determination. The American people have always had inherent sympathy for this ideal. Yet, despite a plethora of reports, interpretations and analyses, the true image of the historical factors at work in the Middle East has not always come through with meaning or clarity. Much emphasis was given the increasing distrust of the motives of the West with the consequent decline of its influence and position. Unfortunately, anti-Americanism, which increased in the last year, was often considered at home as *prima facie* evidence of pro-communism. The image was clouded indeed.

It was in this troubled climate that the American Friends of the Middle East continued its unique mission. We were not dismayed by the impassioned temper of the times. Both at home and overseas we worked steadily toward a common goal of understanding and friendship between the people of the Middle East and the United States. What is more, we expanded our services here and abroad with the promise of further growth in the days to come.

Perhaps it was the urgency of the times that made AFME's services of greater value. There were occasions when official and even private sources in the Middle East were not always accessible to outsiders (as in Syria, for example); yet AFME functioned everywhere with usual efficiency and ease. With our reputation of independence from the pressure of any special interest, we continued to enjoy the respect and welcome of the host nations. In this favorable position we were

able to continue and in fact accelerate our intercultural relations and student service programs. In addition, a great many American visitors, including newspaper and other media correspondents, businessmen and corporation representatives, and tourists found AFME responsive to their needs; these ranged from simple travel guidance, through background briefings, to interviews with Middle Eastern statesmen and private citizens.

On the home front we also expanded our programs and facilities to carry the true picture of the Middle East to the heartland of America. First steps were made at headquarters to reorganize our departments and services for greater efficiency and coordination. We extended our chapter structure and began formation of additional committees in areas where knowledge and favorable interest in Middle Eastern affairs needed active stimulation. It is our belief that a great impact can be made through a widening fabric of chapters whose members can convey, with authority and conviction, an accurate, informative image of the Middle East and the need for a two-way friendship and understanding between our peoples.

We have all been concerned with the lessening of American prestige in the Middle East during the past year and we have dedicated ourselves to the task of doing everything in our power to arrest this drift. We do so in the best interests of our friends there who need our disinterested assistance in the time of transition. And the welfare of our own country dictates this course.

As the following report will endeavor to show, we have made a larger and more effective contribution to these ends in 1957-58. But a more far-ranging effort is needed.

We are indeed grateful to our many members and friends for their cooperation in seeing this job done. We know that they will continue this needed and vital support during the coming year of further reorganization and expansion. It is our sincere hope that in the period ahead we can all move forward toward the goals set for us by the founders of the American Friends of the Middle East.

Respectfully submitted,
HAROLD B. MINOR, *President*

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1957-1958 – A YEAR OF CHALLENGE

Impact

The American Friends of the Middle East, in a broad sense, is an instrument of public information using selected data, materials and projects to influence and inspire a positive, human response to its major objective – the pursuit of peace through the nurturing of amical relations with the nations of the Middle East.

During the fiscal year under review, AFME used all its big guns to this purpose; they included its intercultural affairs, educational services and research and publications programs. The Public Relations Department provided vehicles of expression for them all. It was a year of expansion, but it was also a year of reorganization. A beginning was made at headquarters.

Personnel

A plan that would knit more closely the activities and the services of the various departments at headquarters was authorized during the year and will be put into execution during the coming months. This reorganization was accompanied by personnel changes and additions.

The Board of Directors elected the Hon. Harold B. Minor

as president, replacing AFME's founder, Miss Dorothy Thompson. Miss Thompson had retired to devote more time to writing and lecturing. Mr. Minor, whose many years in diplomatic affairs and previous association with AFME brought invaluable experience to the office, took over the position January 1, 1958, on a full-time executive basis. The Board also appointed Dr. Edward A. Monaghan executive director, who assumed his duties April 1, 1958. Mr. Robert H. Nicklas was appointed assistant to the president in the field of corporate fund raising and as liaison with business firms and corporations. He joined AFME May 19, 1958.

The Board has always felt that AFME's headquarters should be located in the nation's capital if the organization is to achieve its maximum effect. The executive director, whose assignment it was to find suitable quarters, reported that progress had been made and that the move to Washington would take place in the fall.

Expansion in the Field

The move to Washington did not mean that AFME would not be represented in New York. As a port of entry and exit and because of the presence of the United Nations, together with the fact that the city is a major communications center, New York was considered of first importance for a field office and one is to be opened in the early fall. It will be under the direction of William Z. Cline, present director of Public Relations. A decision was also reached to open formally an office in San Francisco that will give AFME coast-to-coast representation.

In addition, AFME chapters and committees were being set up in various American cities. A charter was granted in Indianapolis to a chapter headed by Dr. A. C. Brooks. Committees were formed in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul with Mr. Chester B. Tobin as chairman and in Salt Lake City with Mr. Tracy R. Welling as chairman.

Progress has been made also in establishing AFME committees in a number of other cities. Both chapter and committee establishments are expected to facilitate a forthcoming

membership drive. However, their greatest value is that they provide means of informing the people of their communities of the need for good relations between Middle Easterners and Americans and, moreover, that the American Friends of the Middle East is uniquely equipped to encourage this relationship.

Overseas Offices

The year reviewed was certainly one to try the strength and determination of AFME's overseas branches. Almost everywhere the atmosphere was charged with emotion and confusion. Yet AFME not only consolidated its previous establishments and enlarged the scope of their activities; the organization expanded its operation abroad by opening three new field offices. Two of these were located in areas where events fluctuated wildly, in Amman, Jordan, and in Arab Jerusalem. Both of these were placed under the directorship of Mr. Charles R. Hulac, Dr. Monaghan's predecessor as executive director. During the period a third office was officially put into operation in Karachi, Pakistan, under the direction of Mr. Daniel S. Watson.

Meanwhile, Mr. Virgil C. Crippin was named director of the office in Cairo, Egypt, U.A.R., and Mr. John T. Blake, whom he replaced, moved on to head up the office in Damascus, Syria, U.A.R., Mr. Blake, in turn, replaced Mr. James H. Noyes, who returned to the United States to take charge of the new office opening in San Francisco. Formal dedication has been scheduled for the fall. No personnel changes involved the remaining field offices in Iran or Iraq.

NATIONAL STAFF



DR. EDWARD
A. MONAGHAN
Executive Director



MR. ROBERT
H. NICKLAS
*Director of
Fund Raising*



MR. WILLIAM
Z. CLINE
*Director of
Public Relations*



MR. ROBERT
L. STEINER
*Director,
Educational
Services*



MISS EVA
GRAHAM
*Administrative
Secretary*



DR. ERICH
W. BETHMANN
*Director,
Research and
Publications*



MR. GEORGE
A. NAIFEH
*Director,
Midwest Regional
Office, Chicago*



MR. JAMES
G. NOYES
*Director, Western
Regional Office,
San Francisco*

Intercultural Exchange

As it does each year, the American Friends of the Middle East arranged and financed extensive speaking tours for prominent guests from the Middle East. Last year three statesmen or civic leaders from Iraq, Egypt and Jordan respectively, were AFME-sponsored visitors and a fourth, the organization's Middle East Director, also made a wide speaking tour of the States. The interest that the people of this country have now developed in affairs of the Middle East can be measured not only by the keen attention these speakers received from their large audiences, but also by the much wider distribution given their ideas and points of view through the press, TV and radio.

Egyptian Leader is First Guest

Dr. Mahmoud Kamel, president of the Cairo Rotary Club, was the first to arrive. Dr. Kamel, who is also an Egyptian jurist, reached New York September 3, 1957. Two days later he departed on a tour of a number of American communities where he addressed members of rotary clubs, among other organizations. In Chicago, where he spent six days, he spoke before the Chicago Bar Association and the American Association of University Women and participated in the Conference of the International Association of Legal Science. With other conference members, he was entertained in the home of Mr. Adlai Stevenson.

In addition, Dr. Kamel was interviewed on one radio and two TV programs in Chicago. A typical report of his point of view appeared in the *Chicago News*:

“There is no affinity between the Arab East and Communism . . .

“There is an increasing desire on the part of Arab-speaking people to be reunited . . .

“But this Arab nationalism — as you call it — has been unfairly, dishonestly, untruly — choose the English word you want — presented to the world as communism . . .”

Iraqi M. P. Follows

Mr. Faisal Damluji, member of the Iraqi Parliament and a former member of the nation's UN delegation, arrived in this country with Mrs. Damluji September 20 and almost immediately departed for a tour of American universities and colleges. Many of these institutions were affiliated with the newly-formed and AFME-inspired Association of Liberal Arts Colleges for the Advancement of Middle East Studies.

Mr. Damluji brought a new and more comprehensive picture of affairs in the Middle East than the average American had heretofore seen. The audience response was immediate and again his message was carried on TV and radio and in the press wherever he went. He spoke before such highly influential groups as Chicago's Council on Foreign Relations and the Union League Club. An excerpt from a Cleveland newspaper may best illustrate the impact he made:

"For the United States to form a just foreign policy in the Middle East, Americans must begin a new approach to the study of history, culture and spiritual value of the Arab world...

"Arabs are more familiar with American history than Americans are with Arab history. Our nationalism has been basically inspired by American democratic institutions since 1860. The Arab world is anxious that the United States always stand, in its foreign policy, by principles of justice and freedom to all people . . ."

Jordan Ex-Minister Arrives

The Hon. Anwar Z. Nuseibeh of Jordan, who had variously held the portfolios of Minister of Defense, of Education and of Reconstruction and Development, had been scheduled for an earlier speaking tour but was delayed by the pressure of events. He arrived, however, on April 15, 1958. AFME's Department of Public Relations arranged a press conference attended by representatives of the New York Times and the Associated Press. A subsequent informal press luncheon drew top flight press coverage together with several executives of the various communications media.



AFME'S EGYPTIAN GUEST

Mahmoud Kamel, President of the Cairo Rotary Club, visited the United States in the fall of 1957 on a speaking tour sponsored by AFME as part of its Intercultural Exchange Program. He is shown here at a news conference held for him in Chicago.

Photo: Los Angeles Times

IRAQI LEADER ON TOUR

Faisal Damluji, Iraqi political leader, was one of AFME's Middle East guests on a speaking tour of the United States last year. He is shown here (left) watching a football game in St. Paul with Dr. Yahya Armajani, Macalester College history professor.

Photo: Pioneer Press, St. Paul



Mr. Nuseibeh's lectures were given before interested audiences in Washington, D. C., Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Chicago, Minneapolis, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Honolulu. At many stops his views were sought in interviews by radio, TV and the press. The *Chicago American's* report perhaps best illuminates these views:

"America must support the union of Arab countries to keep communism out of the Middle East . . .

"The present disunity among the Arab nations provides a convenient target for communist infiltration . . ."

And the *Chicago Daily News* said:

"Possibility of an East-West war in the Middle East within two or three years was forecast unless the Arab world is united . . ."

AFME's Middle East Director

Commander Elmo H. Hutchison, AFME's Middle East Director, spent March and part of April in the United States on a tour that took him to Washington, Indianapolis, Chicago, Minneapolis, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Tulsa. Through his long acquaintanceship with the Middle East and its leaders, Commander Hutchison had many pertinent things to say that included this statement appearing in the *Chicago Sun Times*:

"We are in a position of urgency now. The United States must take action to better her position in the Middle East.

"We must discard middleman diplomacy . . .

"National security is at stake . . .

"We are throwing away the friendship of 45,000,000 Arabs and the respect of 400,000,000 Moslems . . ."

AFME's Officers and Directors

The attention given AFME's guests from the Middle East was paralleled by that extended to officers and members of

JORDAN GUEST ON TV IN CHICAGO

Anwar Nuseibeh, former Jordan Defense Minister, told American audiences of recent trends in the Middle East. His coast-to-coast tour was sponsored by AFME. He is shown here during a panel news conference on a Chicago program.

Photo: Chicago Sun-Times



AMERICAN CLUB WOMEN VISIT MIDDLE EAST

Three officers of the General Federation of Women's Clubs were AFME-sponsored guests in a lengthy tour of Middle Eastern countries. Left to right: Mrs. Zaio W. Schroeder, Chairman of GFWC International Affairs Committee, Mrs. R. I. Prout, President; His Excellency Shukri Al-Kuwatly, former President of Syria; and Miss Sally Butler, Legislative Consultant to the GFWC.



the Board of Directors who lectured or participated in panel discussions on affairs of the Middle East. These included President Minor, Dr. Edward L. R. Elson, Chairman of AFME's National Council, the Hon. Edwin A. Locke, AFME board member and president of the Union Tank Car Company, Chicago, Mr. John Nuveen, board member and Chicago investment banker, and Mr. Earl Bunting, board member and former president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The size of AFME's audience in the United States during the year would be difficult to estimate; certainly the organization's objectives in Middle Eastern affairs were articulated for a greater impact on attitudes than ever before.

Our Envoys to the Middle East

Travel grants were made to Americans who by position and ability could open up new channels of communications through which the American views could reach Middle Easterners in large numbers. In addition, they conveyed their first-hand views to audiences on their return home.

Among these were three officers of the General Federation of Women's Clubs: Mrs. R. I. C. Prout, president, Miss Sally Butler, legislative consultant, and Mrs. Zaio Woodford Schroeder, chairman of GFWC's international affairs committee. The three ladies visited eight Middle East countries with travel, interviews and background information handled by AFME's field officers. Middle Eastern people, alerted by a good press for the ladies, were helped to see a warm, friendly America. On their return, a press conference was arranged by AFME's Public Relations Department. A wire service story quoted Mrs. Prout this way:

"The United States must furnish more financial and political support to the Arab countries or they will turn to the Soviet Union for help . . .

"The Soviet Union has been very generous so far in their help to some of the Arab countries. This is no time for us to let up on our aid program . . ."

The effect of their visit continues to be felt among American

groups. A film record was made of the trip for use as a technical aid in lectures they have been giving members of their organization and others in the ensuing months. No recent visitors to the Middle East had met as many important leaders as had the three GFWC officials—due mainly to the efforts of AFME's overseas directors. Some of the interviews were taped for American radio consumption.

The 1957 Travel Fellowship

Mr. Arthur Tichenor, who won the AFME Travel Fellowship for 1957, during his tour met scores of educators and numerous students interested in study at an American university. On his return to his post as Foreign Student Advisor at Purdue University, he discussed his experiences in lectures and over a daily radio program in the Lafayette, Indiana, area.

During the year, Adolphe Bigge, foreign student advisor at the University of Kentucky, was selected for the 1958 Fellowship award.

Other Travelers Abroad

Mr. Hulac, presently the field director in Amman and Jerusalem, visited all the field officials on an inspection tour in his former capacity as executive director. Dr. Erich Bethmann, director of Research and Publications, traveled through several North African countries en route to Azrou, Morocco, where he attended the Muslim-Christian Educational Conference.

The Rev. Dr. Elson

At the start of the fiscal year under review, Dr. Elson, Chairman of AFME's National Council, was on a visit to the nations of the Middle East. From the point of view of intercultural relations and as an example of the high regard AFME enjoys abroad, the visit must be considered one of the highlights of the year. Dr. Elson was declared State Guest in Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. Dr. Elson received the Lebanese Medal of Merit and the Second Order of the Jordan Star.

While the American press followed Dr. Elson's tour, the most important impact on media and public was made in his report on his return home. A press conference at Idlewild arranged by the Public Relations Department enabled him to give a preliminary account of his visit. Dr. Elson's sermon as pastor of the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, August 11, 1957, in which he commented on the Arab-Israeli tension was given wide circulation throughout the country. Excerpts of the news story said:

"In the light of recent events it is probably more important to keep the Arabs and Israel apart than try to bring them together in direct negotiations . . .

"By next year the time may be right for the United Nations to make a new study of boundaries, waterways, resources and other factors . . ."

A New Trend

Travelers to the Middle East not formally sponsored by AFME nevertheless often availed themselves of assistance of the organization's offices in the field, thus accelerating a new trend in AFME's unique services. Scores of American newsmen, either permanently stationed in the region or on special assignment, found AFME officers helpful in a variety of ways, as did a number of American tourists and businessmen.

This aspect of AFME's services can be illustrated by the assistance given Mr. Norman Thomas, Socialist leader, on a tour in November, 1957. In Cairo he met President Nasser and a long list of Egyptian and foreign representatives. In Baghdad, AFME's director arranged interviews, luncheons and dinners with a total of twenty-five Iraqi leaders in politics and other fields. The AFME director in Damascus gave a dinner, among other events, that brought Mr. Thomas and Syrian statesmen together.

At a press conference in New York on his return, Mr. Thomas credited AFME with the special aid he said had facilitated his otherwise unsponsored trip. In lectures and articles Mr. Thomas gave Americans a broader than usual



AFME-TEHERAN OPENS NEW OFFICE FACILITIES

Leaders in government, business, educational and social fields turned out to honor AFME on the opening of new office quarters in Teheran during the year. Left, Dr. Karim Fatemi, Technical Director-General, Ministry of Education and Mr. Saleh Abusaidi, Director of Training for the National Iranian Oil Co. (see Report from Teheran).



DR. ELSON RETURNS FROM MIDDLE EAST TOUR

Dr. Edward L. R. Elson, Chairman of AFME's National Council and pastor of the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, is shown with Mrs. Elson stepping off the plane at Idlewild. He had just completed a six-week tour during which he conferred with high government officials, including President Nasser of the U. A. R., and was honored as a state guest by several Middle Eastern countries.

Photo: Lufthansa



HAROLD LAMB VISITS MIDDLE EAST

On a tour of the Middle East in the fall of 1957, the noted author and AFME Board Member joined several AFME staff members in conference at Beirut. Left to right: Mr. Lamb; Commander Elmo H. Hutchison, Middle East Director; and Mr. Charles R. Hulac, Director of the new Amman and Arab Jerusalem offices.

view of the Middle Eastern situation with special emphasis on the need for a solution to the Palestinian Refugee problem. Undoubtedly Mr. Thomas reached a special audience of vocal Americans who may not have re-examined their attitudes toward the Middle East in recent years.

Educational Services

The Department of Educational Services, one of the most effective instruments AFME has developed in cultivating new and better relations with the Middle East, conducted its activities both at headquarters and in liaison with the field offices with a substantial increase in tempo. This applied to its basic program of assistance in many forms to Middle East students in America or those wishing to take up studies in the United States. It was especially true of the special projects, many with long-range impact, growing out of the student assistance program.

The number of students interviewed or who sought aid and guidance at field offices or in the United States reached literally into the thousands. The number screened and examined and those who found final placement through AFME also showed a marked increase during the year.

Student Leadership Encouraged

However, it was the quality of maturity among Middle East students, developed through a number of AFME-sponsored activities, particularly its student organization program, that stood out among tangible results for the period. The student organization program has a two-fold objective:

a — Encourage the students in their roles as “unofficial ambassadors” during their university years in the United States. A greater and more favorable impression can be made on Americans through organized effort.

b — Accustom the students to habits of democratic cooperation through group activities. It has become evident, particu-

larly during the past year, that the students are taking home these techniques of organized activity that aid them in asserting their leadership qualities.

Student Organizations Convene

During the year the department continued to extend administrative aid and financial assistance to the Afghan, Iranian and Pakistani student organizations. The Organization of Arab Students, which AFME first assisted with financial and administrative help in 1951, has been independent of this aid for several years. However, a close and friendly contact and cooperation has been maintained with this group.

Afghan Students

In September, 1957, the Associated Students of Afghanistan met at the University of California's Santa Barbara College for its fourth national convention. Internationally-minded residents of the area, including the Hon. Louis G. Dreyfus, Jr., former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, gave the students a warm reception. AFME was represented among convention speakers by its president, Mr. Minor. Activities of the meeting were given regional coverage by press, TV and radio.

Iranian Students

At Estes Park, Colorado, the Iranian Student Association called its fifth convention in September, 1957. The theme was based on "positive and negative factors determining a student's decision to return home." Several members of the group organized an entertainment program featuring Iranian dancers and music. The Educational Services Department later assisted this group on a tour of four cities: New York, Washington, Chicago and Milwaukee.

Iranian students again convened a special session in Minneapolis in honor of His Imperial Majesty Mohammed Reza, Shah of Iran, during his official visit to the United States in

June, 1958. Approximately 140 students registered for the meeting. His Majesty spent the afternoon of June 24 with the students and in the evening addressed a banquet given in his honor. President Minor presided.

Headquarters and field personnel of AFME worked together as a team in helping the students plan and put into execution this obviously important project, one that demonstrated the impact an organized effort can have on a community for AFME's good relations goals. Minneapolis was chosen as representing the typical American city, noted for a blend of industrial, agricultural, educational and civic leadership. Full cooperation was given by Minnesota's Governor Orville L. Freeman and leading citizens of the Twin Cities including Mr. Harry A. Bullis, chairman of the board of General Mills and Mr. J. R. Duncan, President of Minneapolis Moline. Obviously, from the impression made on the public, and the thorough coverage by media communications, AFME and the student organization both gained in stature and significance.

Pakistan Student Organization

The Pakistan Student Association of America called its fifth convention at Oberlin College, Ohio, in June, 1958. With 135 students assembled, a program of lectures, panel discussions, project reports, business meetings and entertainment was conducted with usual student efficiency. A number of Pakistani diplomats, including Ambassador Mohammed Ali, and prominent Americans attended. Mr. Abdul Hakim and Mr. A. S. Kirmani of the East and West Pakistan Legislative Assemblies respectively, and Dr. Gustav Papanek of Harvard, and Professor K. B. Callard of McGill University, addressed the convention. President Minor and Department Director Robert L. Steiner attended for AFME.

Arab Students

The Organization of Arab Students held a lively annual convention in San Francisco in September, 1957. While AFME played no part in the arrangements, its president, Mr.

IRANIAN STUDENT DANCERS

AFME sponsored a tour of several major cities for these artists of Persian songs and dances as part of the Intercultural Relations program. Dancers and musicians in costume are, from left to right: Miss Pouri Golestaneh, Mr. Reza Rezazadeh, Mr. Anthony "Bijan" Shay, and Miss Susan Abraham.



SHAH OF IRAN IN WASHINGTON

The Shah of Iran and his sister, Mrs. Vincent Hillyer, greet Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Monaghan at a Washington reception. Mr. Monaghan is the Executive Director of AFME.

Minor, and Mr. Steiner attended as guests and Mr. Minor gave one of the major addresses of the meeting. Over 400 students were on hand to discuss the convention's theme, "Arabs and Imperialism." In general, the student gathering showed unusual spirit in the discussions and activities. They also displayed confidence and a sense of pride in organization.

Student Career Service

Educational Services has added an all-important link, a final one, to its assistance to Middle Eastern students. A student may be well counselled during the preliminary screening at field offices regarding university training in the United States. In the United States AFME helps him understand American ways and adjust to the life around him. What was needed, however, was assistance in his reintegration under optimum conditions in the community life of his homeland. It was all too obvious that students unable to use fully the skills and training received in American schools became restive. The key to a solution was satisfactory employment. To this end AFME inaugurated its Student Career Service.

Although the program calls upon the services of headquarters and field offices, it receives its immediate direction from Mr. George Naifeh, who heads up AFME's Midwest Regional Office in Chicago. The system involves a long series of interviews by Mr. Naifeh with Middle Eastern students in the various universities and colleges around the country. Their qualifications, aptitudes, and preferences are drawn up in detail on an application which is then circulated by the National Association of Manufacturers to members with business interests or affiliations in the Middle East. Copies are sent to the Ford Foundation and the International Oil Consortium of Iran at their own request. Others go to AFME field offices for use by local industries and businesses.

The program has had little more than a year of operation and yet has produced gratifying results in placements made during the twelve months under review. What is needed is a wider knowledge of the need for this activity and its mechanics. Preliminary work has been started on a brochure that is to explain the program to interested organizations.

Medical Placement

The Department continued on an interim basis to secure internships and residencies in American hospitals for Middle Eastern doctors. The service is not without its difficulties. In spite of a demand for doctors, the academic requirements and the schedule for submitting, considering and accepting applications spelled complication and delay for the program. For approximately two years Mr. Joseph Kostal of East Orange, New Jersey, had been doing the work of securing placements with considerable success. It was unfortunate that at the end of 1957 Mr. Kostal had to relinquish much of this work.

At the time Educational Services informed the overseas offices that appointments would be made for the most part by direct correspondence with United States hospitals and clinics. During the year appointments were secured here for fourteen Middle Eastern doctors for terms beginning in January or July of 1958. Other placements were made from the field, including 24 from Cairo alone.

Colleges Expand Middle East Studies

The Association of Liberal Arts Colleges for the Advancement of Middle East Studies, formed in May, 1957, under AFME auspices, expanded during the past year to include a total of seventeen members. The organization assists colleges in introducing courses on the Middle East at the undergraduate level. Financial assistance was given by AFME to the association to enable one of the member colleges (Thiel in Pa.) to employ a professor from the Middle East who gave three courses on the subject. These lectures alone demonstrated the popularity and need for further courses in the culture and history of the Middle East. The outlook for this project is especially promising.

Other Student Activities

A branch of the Iranian Student Association was established in Iran by Abdollah Khodadad, association president, on a visit to his country during the year.

AFME subsidized travel and expenses for the Pakistan students' debating team for a series of four debates at New York University, University of New Hampshire, Thiel College and University of Michigan. The subject was "Pakistan and United States relations."

* * *

An AFME grant was given Mr. Aziziali F. Mohammed which enabled him to start work on a book that is expected to give a favorable but realistic view of America as seen through the eyes of a foreign student. The work will be of particular use for future students arriving in the United States. Dr. Mohammed is a Ph.D. from George Washington University and is now employed by the State Bank of Pakistan. A previously published book by him is "Economy in Pakistan."

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Ghani published a book called, "The Alien and United States Laws." It was printed by the Iranian Students Association with the aid of an AFME grant. The book gives emphasis to facts about U. S. immigration laws relating to students. Mr. Ghani and his wife, Caroline, were former students at New York University and Columbia. He is now assistant editor of the *Teheran Journal*, an English language paper of which Javad Vafa, another former student officer in the Iranian Student Association, is editor. Mr. Ghani is also legal counsel for the Seven-Year-Organization, an economic development program.

* * *

Mr. Robert B. Lea, an American engineer and member of the board of "People to People" program, who toured the Middle East during the year and visited AFME offices, arranged to have their libraries stocked with magazines on engineering. These are in great demand in the Middle East.

* * *

The AFME-financed "Iran at a Glance," published in 1956, continued in demand during the year. A total of 500 copies were purchased by Standard Oil of New Jersey for use by its personnel going to Iran.

* * *

The Travel Grant Program enabled an increased number



PAKISTAN STUDENTS HOLD CONVENTION IN OHIO

His Excellency Mohammed Ali, Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States, addresses students at a banquet held at the Convention in Oberlin, Ohio. At his right stands Suleiman Kakli, Student Association President in 1957. Others, left to right: Begum Ali; Dr. William E. Stevenson, President of Oberlin College; and Dr. Keith Callard of McGill University, a speaker at the Convention.



HOLD INSTITUTE IN INDIANAPOLIS

Among those who helped make the Institute on Middle East Affairs a success in Indianapolis were: left to right: Mr. Kurt Pantzer, Indianapolis attorney; Mr. John Nuveen, AFME Board Member and Chicago businessman; and Dr. A. C. Brooks, Chairman of AFME's Indianapolis Chapter.

of graduate students of the Middle East to attend professional academic conferences. During the year twenty such students attended seventeen conferences. As in the previous two years, the service was made possible by special grants from the Doris Duke Foundation administered by AFME.

* * *

Another program of financial aid, the Student Emergency Loan Fund, continued to be of service. Small sums are loaned to students in temporary financial difficulties.

Midwest Regional Office

The Midwest Regional Office, while continuing its usual round of duties, inaugurated a number of new projects that gave considerable visibility to AFME's major goals. Under the able direction of Mr. Naifeh, formerly of the organization's Baghdad Office, a series of two-day institutes, featuring panel discussions of Middle East issues, was held in Indianapolis, Minneapolis and Lake Forest, Illinois. In addition, a program to stimulate increased press, radio and TV attention for AFME activities was undertaken.

The Institutes

Facilities and personnel of Butler University were made available for the two-day institute held in Indianapolis January 10 and 11, 1958. Topics selected for discussion included the question of communism in the Middle East and the Middle East's challenge to American business.

Panelists included three of AFME's Board of Directors, Mr. Bunting, Dr. Elson and Mr. Nuveen. Others were Dr. David S. Collier, executive director of the Foundation for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Kurt F. Panzer, Indianapolis attorney; Mr. Sa'adat Hassan, Midwest director of the Arab Information Office; and Preston G. Woolf, president of the American Beverage and Supply Company.

A second institute was held April 11-12, 1958, at Mac-

alester College in St. Paul with the theme: America's Stake in the Middle East. Principal conclusions made and strongly endorsed by a large audience were that the spread of nationalism, of which U.A.R. President Nasser is the symbol, should be aided and not hindered; and that the economic aspect of United States foreign aid is far more important than military assistance.

Panelists and speakers included Mr. Minor and Mr. Nuveen of AFME; His Excellency Dr. el-Mehdi Ben-Aboud, Moroccan ambassador to the United States; Dr. Edith Sampson, Chicago attorney and former member of the U. S. Mission to the United Nations; Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchinson, educational advisor for the Oil Consortium in Iran; Mr. Duncan, president of Minneapolis Moline Co.; His Excellency Dr. Djalal Abdoh, Iranian ambassador to the United Nations; and Mr. Frederick W. Manley, International Division of the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company.

A third institute took place at Lake Forest May 2 and 3, 1958. Its purpose was to offer a program dramatizing the need for recognition and support by Americans of the realities of the Arab union. The meeting was jointly sponsored by AFME, Ferry Hall School and Lake Forest Academy. Speakers included Mr. Nuseibeh, then on an Intercultural Exchange tour for AFME, Dr. Elson and Mr. Bunting. Also attending were Mr. Locke, and Dr. Robert G. Andrus, Ferry Hall headmaster.

The institute was of special interest not only to the audience attending but the newspaper readers and TV viewers of metropolitan Chicago. Media coverage in the area was outstanding. Press quotes of remarks made by Mr. Bunting, who called for increased investment in the Middle East by American capital, included these:

"Investment of American capital in the Middle East will hasten stability . . .

"Reviewing the known history of the world, one arrives at the inescapable conclusion that wars do not bring peace . . .

"Only through progress will peace ever come . . ."



CHILDREN'S BLOCKS — AND THE UNCOMMITTED MILLIONS

John Nuveen, AFME Board Member and Chicago investment banker, uses blocks to demonstrate his lecture on need to keep uncommitted "bloc" of nations strong and free. The speech was given during AFME's Institute on Middle East Affairs last April in St. Paul.



AFME SPONSORS MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE AT LAKE FOREST

Mr. Earl Bunting, AFME Board Director and former President of the National Association of Manufacturers, delivers a lecture at the Institute held in Lake Forest, Ill. Left to right: Mr. Bunting; Mr. John F. Fennelly, Chicago investment banker; Mr. John Nuveen, AFME Board Member.

Chicago Press, Radio and TV

Major elements of the communications world in Chicago gave more coverage to AFME's projects than in any preceding year. Local press and wire service representatives attended press conferences for all AFME-sponsored visitors in the Intercultural Exchange program. Middle Eastern visitors also appeared on CBS and NBC TV news programs, one a half hour news panel.

AFME—Overseas

The Middle East Director Reports

During the year, the Middle East Director spent almost twenty weeks in travel, visiting AFME centers in the Middle East on inspection trips and in the United States on a speaking tour. Through his on-the-spot observation he was able to keep AFME informed through special and regular reports of the ever-changing Middle East panorama. The frequent travel projects gave the director an opportunity to keep up with an increasing circle of friendly contacts and to bring about a degree of standardization in the operation of AFME field offices.

In October, 1957, a conference of AFME country directors was held in Beirut, Lebanon, with Mr. Hulac as chairman. Also attending were Mr. Harold Lamb, distinguished author and a member of AFME's Board of Directors, and Col. William Eddy, Middle East political affairs analyst and a member of AFME. A general exchange of views, ideas and projects enabled each of the directors to improve his own program on his return.

The Middle East Director's office in Cairo attracted an increased number of guests including local and area officials, visitors officially sponsored by AFME, travelers seeking tourist and other information and press representatives in the Middle East. Through the cooperation of local Government, business

and educational leaders, the director was able to meet all requests for information, itinerary advice, briefings and interviews.

A sharp increase in interest and understanding of today's Middle East issues, including those inherent in the rise of nationalism and the desire for Arab unity, was obvious among visitors. It was apparent that more of them were circulating their "new views" on their return to the United States.

Report from the Cairo Office

The director of AFME in Egypt received during the year an unusual number of requests for information and for, especially, clarification of trends in the Middle East. He adopted a policy of pointing out the progress being made in solving some of the nation's major problems under an alert leadership. A factual report on the social and economic reforms being made, for example, was considered the most useful method of describing the temper of the times and the need for American approval of these aspirations of the people of the United Arab Republic.

Prominent among the visitors who called on AFME's office in Cairo were: Mr. Charles Austin Cary, former vice president of duPont Co.; Dr. David Collier, executive director of the Foundation for Foreign Affairs, Inc., and associate editor of *Modern Age*; Dr. Scott D. Johnston of Hamline University; Mr. Edward Curtis, ARAMCO political affairs officer; Mrs. Albert H. Barber, AFME member from Chicago; and Miss Liza Sergio, author, lecturer and radio and TV news analyst.

Also Mr. Alfred Lilienthal, author and lecturer; Miss Reba Hurn, AFME member from Spokane, Washington; Mrs. Elaine Westfall Gould of the *Christian Science Monitor*; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Bowes, Chicago executive; Mr. Salom Rizk, author and speaker for Rotary International; Mr. Mike Wallace and Ted Yates of the American Broadcasting Company; and Mr. Lea.

In educational services, the Cairo Office interviewed 425 students applying for entrance to United States colleges and



COMMANDER ELMO
H. HUTCHISON
*AFME Middle
East Director*



MR. JOHN H.
BRUNER
*Director
AFME-Iran*



MR. VIRGIL C.
CRIPPIN
*Director AFME-UAR,
Egyptian Sector*

universities. Of these, a total of 367 applications were forwarded and 81 placements made. The office obtained five fellowships for U.A.R. students, nine full scholarships, sixteen partial scholarships and twenty-eight salaried appointments.

Report from Teheran

Among the activities undertaken during the review period in the Teheran Office, student services took precedence, if for no other reason than the numbers involved. A total of 12,171 persons called at the office in the twelve-month period, of which most were students seeking counsel on American schools. Personal interviews by appointment were given 1,865, and 2,457 transcripts translated or certified. Applications sent to United States schools numbered 1,353.

In addition to screening and counselling services, Teheran

Office has conducted a four-week orientation program with two-to-three hour sessions given each Saturday morning. A special full-day orientation program was carried out for a group of students chosen by the Ministry of Education for full scholarship study in the United States. During the year the office shifted emphasis in its student program to give each student more careful guidance. Psychological testing was frequently employed and interviews arranged with organizations such as the Oil Consortium to assist the student in making a more careful selection of the school he would attend and the course of study he would take.

Previously, a number of students departed for United States schools with little or no English facility. This year the Ministry of Education introduced a policy of refusing passports to students unless they possessed a letter from AFME vouching for their language ability or had an acceptance to a language center. Further confidence in AFME was shown by the Iranian Government in making monetary transfer more flexible for students — on AFME approval.

AFME Teheran held a formal opening of its new office facilities attended by members of the diplomatic corps and the American community. A large, new student lounge included in the new quarters offered needed additional space for meetings.

Baghdad Reports

During the year the office in Baghdad stepped up the tempo of its dual press and public relations program. An informal working relationship with editors was given priority that resulted in an increased use of AFME's editorial materials, particularly those relating to visitors from America. Special attention was given to AFME representation in community functions of all kinds, broadening the scope of friendship and good relations with leaders in Government, business, professional, educational and civic circles.

The office interviewed 2,554 students and submitted 330 applications for entrance into American colleges and universities. Placements were obtained by AFME for 82 and orienta-



MR. WILLIAM G.
GREENIP
*Director
AFME-Iraq*



MR. JOHN
BLAKE
*Director AFME-UAR,
Syria Sector*



MR. CHARLES
R. HULAC
*Director of AFME-
Jordan and Arab Jerusalem*

tion programs held for them. Altogether, however, AFME assisted in the departure of 144 students for United States schools. As part of the counselling program, the Baghdad Office selected names of seven Iraqi scholarship candidates for consideration by the Institute of International Education, one of whom won five awards of varying amounts.

Damascus Reports

The most significant aspect of AFME's work in the Syrian Sector of the United Arab Republic has been that office's ability to maintain—and in fact improve—our official as well as personal relationships there during an extremely difficult and delicate period. For many months official relations between America and Syria were all but severed; nevertheless, through its student program, its assistance and encouragement to

visitors, the translation program of the Syrian Press as a guide for those interested in Arab public opinion, and its close contacts with members of the foreign press corps, AFME-Damascus helped maintain and improve the historic ties between Syria and the United States.

Despite political conditions, interviews with former President Al-Kuwatly and other prominent leaders, as well as informal social functions, were arranged for Dr. and Mrs. Elson, representatives of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, reporters from American newspapers and magazines, professors, lawyers and other interested visitors.

Good coverage in the Damascus papers was given to AFME-sponsored visitors. Translations of such items as Mr. Minor's statement to the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee, his letter to the *New York Times* at the time of the unification with Egypt, and Dorothy Thompson's columns dealing with Middle Eastern affairs, were prepared by our Damascus office and published in local newspapers. Mr. Minor's statement appeared in four Damascus papers.

AFME visitors and guests included Wellington Long, of Scripps-Howard Newspapers; Joseph Morris of the *New York Herald-Tribune*; Welles Hansgen of the National Broadcasting Company; Nihad Ibrahim Pasha of Aleppo, selected to be the first lecturer in the United States under next year's Intercultural Exchange Program; Richard Mathews of the *Chicago Sun-Times*; and three San Francisco businessmen and their wives: Mr. and Mrs. G. Williard Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Pearson Henderson and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Volkman.

Amman, Arab Jerusalem Report

The two posts were opened toward the end of the report period and the time was occupied largely with establishing office quarters and making personal contact with leaders in the two communities. The fact that this new expansion move was accomplished during a period of mounting tension again attests to the importance of AFME's function in the Middle East and the unusual reputation it enjoys in these areas.

Mr. Hulac was placed in over-all direction of the two offices

and set up a schedule which calls for his presence for three days a week in each. Mrs. Ruth Schmucker, formerly of AFME headquarters in New York, was appointed manager of the Jerusalem office.

MR. D. STANLEY
WATSON
Director
AFME-Pakistan



Karachi Reports

At the beginning of the fiscal year, AFME's new office in Karachi was officially opened as part of the organization's program of expanding services. The student counselling began slowly but progressively to take form. The director made several trips to Lahore and distant Dacca, where the principal universities are located, to make known AFME's presence in Pakistan and the services it had to offer to the academic and student world.

However, the principal activity of the office was the establishment of a research library devoted entirely to Middle East affairs. Careful investigation showed that, with Pakistan almost exclusively concerned with the sub-continent and its involvement in the Middle East only a recent phase in its history, there was literally no research or information facilities on the Middle East. Over 600 books were ordered as of June 1, 1958, from a London bookseller and additional volumes solicited from cultural offices of Middle Eastern embassies in Karachi.

Setting up a library of this sort was a new project for AFME.

The initiative came originally from the Pakistan Foreign Office and the Ministry of Education.

Another "first" for AFME in its enlarging scope of activities was the sponsorship of an exhibit of the work of Pakistan's modern artists, selected and organized by the AFME office. It was the first such exhibit ever brought together in Pakistan. The office, following a show in Karachi, sent the exhibit to Baghdad and Teheran, where it aroused considerable interest and comment. Again AFME had made a notable impact.

During the year the Rev. Dr. Elson was welcomed as a State Guest by the Government in Pakistan. On his visit, Dr. Elson met with a large number of Government senior officials, representatives of the press and many others. It was especially felicitous since it drew favorable attention to AFME's presence in Pakistan and enabled its staff to broaden the scope of its contacts in a much shorter period than could normally be expected.

Department of Research and Publications

Events in the Middle East during the fiscal year, stimulating interest in the United States for information and interpretative analysis, were reflected in an increase in the activities of the department. The area covered in this report includes the AFME library, publications, research facilities and speaking engagements by the director.

The Library

More use was made of AFME's lending and research library than in any previous period. Circulation averaged 66 books a month on special Middle East subjects among visitors and members. The average circulation the previous year was fifty. A thousand volumes in all were used for reference purposes.

With the addition of 281 new books, the number of volumes now stands at 1,579.

Research

Special research was made on 268 separate requests and 14 manuscripts were evaluated, two of which were recommended for publication by outside interests. A complete new list of films on the Middle East was compiled and a bibliography of suggested material was prepared for the Association of Liberal Arts Colleges. Requests for distributional material totaled 550, an increase of 269 over the preceding year.

Publications

During the year Minaret Series No. 13, "Decisive Years in Palestine, 1918-1948," was issued and No. 14, "The Fate of Muslims Under Soviet Rule," was undertaken. Both were written by the department's director, Dr. Bethmann. The department revised and reprinted "Economic Development From a Sea of Oil," by Earl Bunting, an original AFME brochure.

HASKINS & SELLS

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

67 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK 4

ACCOUNTANTS' CERTIFICATE

The Board of Directors,
American Friends of the Middle East, Inc.:

We have examined the balance sheet of American Friends of the Middle East, Inc. as of June 30, 1958 and the related statement of income and expense for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet and statement of income and expense present fairly the financial position of the Corporation at June 30, 1958 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

August 22, 1958.

Haskins & Sells

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1958

INCOME:

Contributions, membership dues, counseling,
publications, etc. \$ 516,626.15

EXPENSES:

National Office:

Executive (including salaries, domestic
travel, etc.) \$ 82,916.01
Administrative 68,273.08
Total \$ 151,189.09

Department of Intercultural Relations 33,809.49
Department of Public Relations 33,205.97
Department of Educational Services 49,540.22
Department of Research and Publications 17,205.08
Midwest Regional Office 27,922.53
Western Regional Office 7,834.95
Overseas Program:
Office of the Middle East Director 61,184.97
Overseas Country Offices 146,273.01
Fixed Assets Expensed at Time of
Acquisition 19,233.13
Total Expenses \$ 547,398.44

EXCESS OF EXPENSES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR \$ 30,772.29

BALANCE SHEET, JUNE 30, 1958

CURRENT ASSETS:

Cash in bank	\$ 19,286.24
Petty cash funds	433.29
Accounts receivable	1,781.11
Working advances for overseas offices and travel	11,378.15
Loans to students from the Middle East	989.52
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 33,868.31</u>

Gift of Jewelry (at nominal value) 1.00

FIXED ASSETS:

Furniture and equipment	67,081.36
Reference library	4,964.78
Expensed at time of acquisition	(72,046.14)
Total Fixed Assets— net book value	<u>0.00</u>

DEPOSITS AND PREPAID EXPENSES:

Deposits (rental, etc.)	\$ 5,091.68
Prepaid expenses	<u>13,750.78</u>
Total Deposits and Prepaid Expenses	<u>\$ 18,842.46</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 52,711.77</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND UNEXPENDED FUNDS

CURRENT LIABILITIES:

Accounts payable	\$ 12,874.63
Social Security Taxes payable	614.25
Withholding taxes payable	2,286.55
Miscellaneous	<u>112.75</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 15,888.18</u>

UNEXPENDED FUNDS:

Beginning balance, July 1	\$ 67,595.88
Excess of expenses for the fiscal year	<u>(30,772.29)</u>
Ending balance, June 30	<u>\$ 36,823.59</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 52,711.77</u></u>

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE MIDDLE EAST, INC.
225 E. 46th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

Please accept my application for membership as,

- Regular Member \$ 5.00
 Student Participating Member \$ 1.00

Name of School

- Contributing Member \$ 10.00 or more
 Clergy or Teacher Contributing Member \$ 1.00

Church or School

- Sponsor \$100.00 or more

Name.....
(please print)

Address.....

Amount enclosed \$.....:

Check Money Order Cash

This Contribution is deductible for income tax purposes.

Please make checks payable to
AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE MIDDLE EAST, INC.

