

July 23, 1939.

Dr. Fisher invited the Summer School to His Herem, where he is spending the summer.

July 24. American pastor kidnapped near Mar Saba, not yet released by bandits. Helen and Charles Jonathan arrived at Boston at 8 A.M.

July 25. Newspaper reports that the American clergyman is to be freed this morning on the payment of 5000 dollars. The payment is being made in 10,000 two shilling pieces. Bandits both in the Near and Far East seem to have a penchant for pieces of silver.

In a battle two days ago on the Bersheba road several British soldiers were killed and several wounded. The young Englishman who was shot ~~while~~ while walking in the Musrara quarter several months ago, died recently. It was a merciful death; I had to live, he would have been completely paralyzed all his life! He and his fiancée had come out on a good-will mission to the Arabs. She is still living in the Musrara quarter, and carrying on the work. More power to her!

Transjordan is being given an added degree of independence. A visum for Palestine is no longer automatically good for Transjordan, it now being necessary to secure a special visum for it. Thus the natural flow of travel is being hampered more and more. The Sandjak region, including Antioch and Alexandrette, has been completely ceded to Turkey, which means now that when we want to visit Antioch, we shall have to get not only a French visum for Syria, but a Turkish one for this new section of Turkey. I am sure that Aleppo will sooner or later also be detached from Syria and given to Turkey, because geographically and commercially the Antioch and Aleppo districts go together. I am hoping that we can finish our excavations at Tell at Khabifah near Apolonia before the Apolonia district becomes detached from Transjordan and is given to Ibn Saud as a price for not exercising his nuisance-values. However, I doubt whether even should this desert king attempt, so to speak, to fish in muddy waters, he would be given Apolonia, which has immense potential strategic and commercial importance. It is, I guess, a sign of the times, when archaeologists whose main energies must be devoted to extracting the history of ancient civilizations from the ruins in which they were buried by destructive wars, must make his plans when the war which may soon break out and destroy our present world order.

* In this part of the world, history will probably be written by the victors. The British will again take their share when villages and towns plundered and killed were restored, and will name landmarks after the British and French of the land. But some from the east will again record a book in the history of permanent revolutionary occupation. Contrary to the usual view, the 26th cent. AD. will record the book to the up-division from the east.

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AMERICAN SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH
JERUSALEM PALESTINE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

CABLE ADDRESS: MONUMENTS

got to Amman this evening Tuesday or Wednesday
in order to bring a last load of my camp
equipment & the objects from the Museum there
I also to have an interview with Genl
I am also taking Dr. Vaukers, the head of
a mission at Basrah with me. Of course, even
if I can't go on with the survey work this
summer, I have plenty to do at home to keep me
busy getting some of my excavations in shape.
There are one or two reports which Engberg did not answer & I shall look
forward to hearing from you about them.

Helen & baby are on their way home on the 25th
I shall have made no sailing arrangements yet
but I may leave on one of the Export Boats
either on the 14th or the 25th of Sept. The sailing
date will depend on how much work I shall
have gotten done & how tired I feel at the
time. I was del. to hear from Albright that
the Egyptian Museum was to appear as a double number
of the Annual. I am very anxious to get the
survey finished & I am now standing more or less
before the goal & only need to do the rest below.
The Wadi Terya & the Wadi Larnay in order to
finish the work & that section should be the
next and has I recently sent Alb. an outline
of the plan of the Wadi Terya which deals with the discover