



Mission's "plant." It had not been especially hard at the last to secure concession which had a temporary and conditional character, but an outright sale meant an irrevocable surrender of the town to Christian influence. There was tremendous reluctance to make this surrender in a town of almost exclusively Moslem inhabitants and of exclusively Moslem institutions and government, and Dr. Bennett had to exercise much tact and earnestness, not to mention faith and prayer, to hold the good-will of the Sheikh and to gain the willingness of a score of his advisers, and, indeed, of the public in general, since all the negotiations were conducted in open mejlis and lasted some days. The desire of all, however, for medical ministrations overbalanced their religious prejudices and other objections.

In 1914 Dr. Mylrea approached the Sheikh for the addition of a plot of land behind the purchased ground, as it would give the house to be built a much better situation on the hill, and the Sheikh, in a highly dramatic and public speech, gave the land desired as a free gift to the Mission.

E. E. C.

Evangelistic Activities at Kuwait

EDWIN E. CALVERLEY

In 1911 the Mission was able to appoint a clergyman to Kuwait for only part of the year. When Mr. Pennings arrived he at once began making friends among the people by visiting them to induce them to visit him. It was his best and indeed almost his only means of influencing them, for the Sheikh had requested him not to open religious discussions outside of the Bible shop and the dispensary,—“lest,” the Sheikh said, “the ignorant Bedouin should become fanatic.” As he lived in the dispensary, he was able to make an extended use of the permission outside of clinic hours. The temporary character of his appointment did not allow him to do more in school work than some tutoring in English for a few young men.

When Mr. Calverley came the next year the same methods were continued for a time. Then advances were made by the gathering together of half a dozen boys for schooling along the usual lines. Also the sale of Scriptures at the Bible shop was pushed so that in one month more copies were sold than had been disposed of the whole previous year. The school boys were gathered into a Sunday School class. Dr. Harrison made an increased use of the advantages afforded by his medical work. These efforts were perhaps begun too soon. At any rate, they coincided with a visit to Kuwait of the editor of an influential Moslem journal in Cairo, who knew the methods and universal tendencies of Christian missions. He had in us a “modern instance.” In daily lectures in the principal mosque of the town, he urged them to avoid association with us and to make it unnecessary for the people to come to us by themselves providing medical and school facilities along progressive lines. The whole town agreed with him as regards the advisability of avoiding the Christians, and sermons to that effect were preached in the other mosque. But not all

approved of establishing modern Moslem institutions. However the Moslem Benevolent Society of Kuwait was formed and within a year had founded a dispensary and school. Meanwhile our school, Bible shop and medical work have all been seriously affected, but the methods of working were maintained even during the period of greatest opposition, and gradually some of the advances were made effective again.

We thought that year that we had a convert, but he afterwards proved a disappointment, as he continued falling into sin. The Moslem Society had several converts, but they too proved unsatisfactory, although for different reasons, as may be inferred from the statement of one of the Society's officials that "Whoever wanted to might become a Moslem, but he must not expect to receive money for it."



ROOFING THE HOSPITAL.

The Moslem dispensary was established in 1913 with a Turkish doctor after a great deal of agitation and expense, and it had considerable support from the Sheikh. But it lasted less than three months, when the doctor resigned and the Sheikh withdrew his patronage and the enterprise collapsed. Their school, however, is a splendid success, and, although its curriculum is limited, having only geography in addition to the usual Koranic studies, it is a great improvement upon the ordinary Mulla schools. The Moslem Benevolent Society still meets regularly and employs an especially imported Mulla to preach for them and guide their discussions. They recently requested and received a large Bible and a two volumed Bible dictionary as well as other Christian literature, which indicates how much the claims of Christianity are occupying their attention.

In 1913 Messrs. Shaw and Haynes built our new hospital of steel and concrete, and it is still a marvel to the native, whose most frequent remark about it is that it will not melt, as their mud and plaster houses have a habit of doing in even the little rain that Kuwait gets.

A second colporteur was added to the staff that year and he began extending the field of canvassing without serious disturbances or opposition from the Bedouin or anybody else. The ships stopping in the harbor were regularly visited for possible purchasers among the passengers. A fuller use was made of the medical department's advantages. Three trips were made to outlying villages. Bible sales doubled and text books in grammar and writing were supplied to the Moslem school.

In 1914 the work was carried on steadily and a slight increase in our acceptibility with the people was noticeable, perhaps because no new strain was placed upon their tolerance. Our school work, however, was begun anew and is slowly growing. The residence for the medical missionary was built near the hospital and the new accommodations for working and living are now being enjoyed. The building operations themselves gave opportunities, which were not, however, used as often as they should have been, for witnessing and proving the value of Christian conduct. But undoubtedly many from Busrah, the Nejd, and the desert tribes have new and better ideas of the ways of Christians, after working with us.

Kuweit is the newest station of the Mission and is indeed fortunate to have secured within its first five years two new buildings for its work and workers. But another house is urgently needed for the evangelistic workers and we are thankful that a portion of the funds for it have already been secured. The necessity for the Mission to build for itself is the more imperative in Kuwait, because, unlike some other of our stations, suitable dwellings cannot be rented at any price. And when the Mission "plant" is completed, as we hope it will be, in the near future, with this second residence, and with a dispensary next to the new hospital, which was planned as only an in-patient institution, and with a school and chapel building, then the full energies of all the workers can be devoted to using to the utmost all the possible methods of winning the Moslems of Kuwait and its environs to Jesus Christ.

Working for Kuwait's Women

MRS. C. STANLEY G. MYLREA

First impressions are often the right and lasting ones, and many of us lay much stress on them, but it is not wise to consider them infallible, as I found to my joy after living in Kuwait for a few months.

One of my first tasks after reaching Kuwait last January was to learn the road from my house to Mrs. Calverley's—only a five minutes' walk, but full of turns and very confusing to a newcomer. As I went back and forth between the two houses I passed many groups