

1971(?)

ISTANBUL AMERİKAN KOLEJLERİ
THE AMERICAN COLLEGES IN ISTANBUL

ERKEK KISMI - BEBEK
ROBERT COLLEGE

KIZ KISMI - ARNAVUTKÖY
AMERICAN COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MEMO : From the Board of Trustees of Robert College.
TO : All Alumni and Alumnae
SUBJECT: Report on the Present Status of the College

On September 10, 1971, a special law was passed by the Government of Turkey establishing a third university in Istanbul - the University of the Bosphorus. This University occupies the Bebek campus named after Christopher Rhineland Robert, incorporates all of the facilities of the Robert College Yüksek division including faculty, staff, library, laboratories, etc., and will continue the structure and method of instruction of the Robert College Yüksek as an autonomous Turkish university financed by the Turkish Government. The Rector of the new University is Dr. Aptullah Kuran, and he will be assisted by an executive committee composed of Professors Süheyla Artemel, Emre Gönensay, Ahmet Koç, Hikmet Sebüktekin, Aydın Umur and Vedat Yerlici.

The creation of the University of the Bosphorus, and the gift of the campus, buildings and facilities of the Yüksek from the Robert College Board to the Turkish Government culminates two years of strenuous labor by all of the elements of the Robert College community, trustees, administrators, faculty, students and alumni/ae to find a successor to the Robert College Yüksek. It had become impossible both financially and politically to continue the Yüksek as an American sponsored and financed institution. An agreement was signed in May after several days of negotiation between his Excellency Şinasi Orel, Turkish Minister of Education and James F. Lawrence, Chairman of the Robert College Board of Trustees, which resulted in the drafting of the special law. All concerned hope that the traditions of the Robert College Yüksek will be carried forward and extended in an even more successful educational program in the coming years, with far reaching benefits to the Turkish nation.

This autumn, the Robert College Orta/Lise program will be combined on the Arnavutköy campus on a co-educational basis, and will continue under American sponsorship with the name: Robert College. The Turkish Government has made certain vital concessions both legal and financial which will enable Robert College to build what it needs for its new plant. The Board

will make every effort to insure that the Orta/Lise program is maintained at a high standard, but it will also work toward a financially balanced operation.

For more than a hundred years, Robert College and the American College for Girls have provided a firm link between Turkey and the United States. We are all confident that the new Robert College will continue its important contribution to Turkish-American understanding and friendship.

Even without the Yüksek, Robert College will continue to operate at a deficit. Your contribution toward scholarships, the building fund for a separate ORTA school, for a gymnasium, for improved kitchen facilities, for leveling and fencing the plateau to make playing fields would be most welcome. The size of your gift does not matter. Please visit your alma mater and see how it is operating and how you can help it continue and improve.

(Mrs.) Jane N. Page
Vice-Chairman of the Board