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UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
SPECIAL SERVICESREPORTof Dr. Charles R. Watson, as Presidentto theTrustees of The American University at CairoFor the Year 1928-29.

It is with a great sense of relief and of gratitude to God that I present to the Trustees this report of the year 1928-29. When certain difficulties and dangers have been passed by safely, there is no objection, but rather a measure of advantage in referring to them. It may inspire confidence for the future and it certainly should stimulate thanksgiving to God. In my report of a year ago, I merely mentioned three serious anxieties: withdrawals from our staff, a lowering of the University morale and a discouraging deficit of \$27,000. Could there be a more serious combination of adverse conditions affecting our work at Cairo? With reduced funds, reduced staff and a lowered morale, how could we meet opportunities that were steadily enlarging? But once again, through a brave resolve on the part of those in America as well as those in Egypt, through the very challenge of a difficult year, and, we must add, through the release of God's Spirit in richer measure upon us all, doubtless in answer to our large circle of intercessors, we have come to the end of the year with the limitations removed which caused us so much anxiety a year ago. In spite of withdrawals from the staff, there has been neither a falling back nor a break, but even certain advances. Through the untiring labors of the Philadelphia office, the generous gifts of many donors and the outstanding help received from one particular source, the deficit of a year ago has been wiped out and the obligations of the current year have been fully met; we even start the new year with a small balance. While it is always difficult to evaluate with equal definiteness spiritual conditions, I can say without reserve that in my judgment the past year has appeared to be a year of gratifying spiritual progress and of unity and sympathetic cooperation in the University circle.

To this gratitude over the past we can now add a sense of inspiration because of certain political developments affecting Egypt which seem to promise great things for the service to be rendered by the American University at Cairo. Through the new Treaty proposals made to Egypt by the new British Labor Government, national responsibilities are offered to Egypt far surpassing anything realized hitherto. It seems unthinkable that Egypt should not accept these proposals. At any rate, they indicate the direction in which Egypt is moving steadily, namely, toward increasing national self determination and independence. Such a development spells demand, increasing demand for all that the American University represents: character training, leadership, moral ideals, Christian standards of life for the individual and the nation. We make bold to assert that no other single organization is in a position to supply Egypt with these indispensable elements for national success as is our own University, providing of course we can command a University personnel with greatness of heart, wisdom and judgment and also the required educational equipment to enable us to minister on a worthy scale to so large a unit as Egypt's national life. The recent British Conservative Government represented in Egypt by Lord Lloyd tended toward a British imperialistic policy which discouraged Egyptian national leadership. The new Labor Party's policy represents on the contrary a committal to Egyptian

control of practically the entire life of Egypt. Incidentally, we find in such developments a fresh justification of the policy adopted by the University from its very beginning: that we would identify ourselves with Egyptian rather than with foreign elements, that we would adopt for our guidance the national needs of Egypt and that we would give emphasis to Egyptian cultural values and to the Arabic language.

In turning now to a detailed Report of the year's work, I have followed the plan adopted a few years ago of attaching to my report the reports of the administrative heads of the several departments, so that any special information or viewpoint may reach the Trustees which each executive may wish to emphasize.

I. The College of Arts and Sciences

The outstanding fact in the history of the College during the past year is the transfer of its executive leadership to Mr. Galt. Changes in leadership are always a ground for anxiety, because every new man, no matter how capable, must be given time to adjust himself to the work and to adjust the work to his methods and ideals. In this case the anxiety was due however not to any inexperience of the new Dean but to the fact that his staff was being reduced by the retirement of Dr. McGlenahan, Dr. Eddy and Mr. Harris - three Americans out of a former staff of six permanent Americans. In addition to this the enrolment brought to the College 192 new students, unacquainted with its methods and ideals, as against 162 old students; and as a further difficulty, two of the American short termers were incapacitated during half of the year by unexpected illness. I must confess that as President, I looked forward with genuine anxiety to the outcome of the year and my sense of relief and satisfaction must find expression in appreciation of the splendid record achieved by Mr. Galt, aided by his staff of Americans and Egyptians. Not only was the ground gained in previous years held, but important advances are recorded.

First to be mentioned is the numerical gain. The enrolment advanced from 317 to 354. Of these, 313 paid full tuition fees. The enrolment in the Government Course advanced from 140 to 161, that of the Preparatory Department from 415 to 127, while that of the College proper from 62 to 66. The entire enrolment was marked by a more severe selection of candidates. Of the total number 189 were Moslems, or over 53 per cent., 100 were Copts, 37 Protestants, 21 Catholics, 6 Jews and one Behai. The racial distribution of these students is worthy of comment. There were 257 Egyptians, 28 Palestinians, 23 Armenians, 18 Syrians, 7 Greeks, 3 Americans, 3 Arabs, 4 Javanese, 2 Persians and one each of the following nationalities: English, French, Higazi, Indian, Italian, Moroccan, Russian, Sumatran, Yemeni.

The year was also marked by a considerable reorganization of the faculty methods of administration. A development of action by committees has helped to decentralize the burden of administration, leaving faculty meetings much freer for the discussion of vital issues. Most important has been the organization of the Government Course into a separate faculty under the leadership of Amir Effendi Buktor. Last year, I commented on the distinctive character and problems of this section of the College. These problems are still largely unsolved and are presented with clearness in Mr. Galt's report which is