

UNITED CHURCH BOARD FOR WORLD MINISTRIES  
475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, N.Y.

To the Friends of  
Mrs. Caleb W. Lawrence  
Near East Mission

January 7, 1964

It is a strange coincidence that within a little over a month two colleagues and close neighbors at International College in Izmir, Mrs. Samuel L. Caldwell and Mrs. Lawrence, should have left our midst after long and useful lives. You have already been notified of Mrs. Caldwell's death on November 20.

Today I would like to share with you word just received of the death of Mrs. Caleb Wakefield Lawrence (Helen Lewis) of the Near East Mission, retired since 1933, on December 30, 1963 in Oakland, Rhode Island, at the age of 86. She suffered a heart attack shortly before Christmas, but up to that time she was alert, active, and very helpful around the home and in the care of her grandchildren.

Because she was a resident for many years of Norton, Massachusetts, the service was held at the Congregational Church in Norton, a church very close to her heart, with interment beside her husband and their son Henry at the Norton Cemetery. Professor Lawrence died in May of 1939.

Since 1961 Mrs. Lawrence had made her home in Oakland with her daughter Dorothy's family, Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Smith, on Main Street, Oakland, R. I.

Professor and Mrs. Lawrence were associated with International College in Izmir both in the city proper and in "Paradise," during their entire service, his covering a period of thirty-seven years (1896-1933). A very profound person, also a poet, he was professor of English and English Literature, and served as the college librarian. Their appointment under the American Board as career missionaries came in 1920.

Of English parentage, granddaughter of a pioneer British missionary, and a native of Turkey, "Nellie" (as she was affectionately called) Lewis Lawrence was born on November 18, 1877 in Sokia, Turkey (near Ephesus), and attended the American Collegiate Institute in Izmir, graduating in 1897. She then went to England to receive her nurses' training. Her marriage to Mr. Lawrence took place in Tanta, Egypt, on June 6, 1904, and in her case at least she was a missionary in "home" territory, not far from her kith and kin. She had a good command of the Greek language. Mother of six sons and one daughter, she presided over a very active and busy household with kindly patience and quiet strength, and also found time to be a gracious neighbor to the faculty, students, and friends of the college community. In Norton, in retirement, their home was on a farm and life was by no means easy, but Mrs. Lawrence carried on there happily and resourcefully for many years even after her husband's death.

*Adding for:*  
Her immediate survivors are five sons, Arthur L., Edward W. (Reservoir Avenue, Johnston, R. I.), Alfred A., Ralph K., John P. (Jack); one daughter, Mrs. E. J. Smith (Dorothy) of Main Street, Oakland, R. I.; many grandchildren and some great-grandchildren. I am sorry that at the moment I do not have addresses for all her sons.

Joining you in gratitude for a wonderful life of devotion and service,

*Ruhama Yeranian*  
Ruhama Yeranian