

December 26th, 1932

Order

Hymn 642  
In Memoriam - Tenmyson  
Hymn 320  
Psalm 90. Proverbs 31:10  
Prayer  
Talk  
In Memoriam: The New Year  
Hymn 580

*Caroline Lee Estes*  
*Daughter of her mother and daughter*

Our Christmas celebrations this year have been saddened and overshadowed by the death of one of the dearest and best known members of the community, Caroline Lee Estes. She died in Auburn-dale, Massachusetts, on December 18th, Vesper Sunday, a day with which she has been associated for many years, for she and her husband took a personal delight in the decorating of the chapel and the management of the program on that day. She will be greatly missed, not only by us, the members of the community, but by many students whom she knew well and entertained frequently in her hospitable home. She was a young woman and it is terrible to think she has been taken at a time when her family so badly need her. Our hearts go out to them in infinite sympathy.

She was one of the last links that the College had with the Hamlin family. Her immediate relatives have all been connected in some way with educational endeavor in the Near East and she was proud that it was so. She had a very special feeling of proprietorship for Robert College and Constantinople College, for her grandfather had founded the first, and her mother had been the principal of the second. She is associated in the minds of those of us whose memories go back a little way, with the Washburns, her aunt and uncle, with the Andersons, also her aunt and uncle, and with the Ormiston, her cousins. She is intimately bound up with the lives of American lovers of Turkey. Her mother lies buried in Marash and her father was for many years a missionary there.

She was born on September 1, 1890, in Marash, Asia Minor, and all her childhood until she was 13 was spent there, except her one year in America during her father's furlough. Her father was the Rev. Lucius O. Lee and her mother, Clara Hamlin, daughter of Dr. Cyrus Hamlin. She had the simplest childhood days, and very few companions of her own nationality. She did not go to school for the simple reason that there was no primary school to go to. Her mother gave her all her elementary education, and it is not surprising that a very close and tender relationship grew up between mother and daughter. She had no brothers or sisters - only two half sisters, but these were so much older than she was, that they were already being educated in America, while she was a child in Turkey.



Tonight I want to pay my small tribute to her as a staunch and affectionate and loyal friend of more than twenty-five years' standing. I would like to tell of my own association with her and to give a picture, if I can, of her quiet, strong, unassuming personality.

We first met in 1904 when we were in our early teens, both of us with pigtails down our backs as was the fashion in those days. Her mother had died the previous year in Marash (this death was a terrible and cruel shock to the child, which it took her years to recover from) and she had come to stay with her cousins, Professor and Mrs. Ormiston, who were living that summer in the house occupied by the Creightons last year. I remember meeting her in that little garden at the back of the house. She was in a pink checked gingham dress and we were shy at first with each other, as children are inclined to be. Shortly after this, the Ormistons moved to the house now used by the Tubinis where they lived for many years, until after the beginning of the War.

Carrie had come to school at Scutari that fall (where I had been for a year) and during that one year of her stay there she and I laid the foundation of our long friendship. She was carrying out her mother's wish in going there, for her mother, Clara Hamlin Lee had been, before her marriage co-principal with Dr. Patrick at the Home School as it then was. Dr. Patrick was particularly anxious to mother her friend's daughter. There were very few American and English girls at Scutari in those days and we naturally sought each other's society. We walked together, played ball together and prepared our Latin together (it was Caesar's Commentaries and I can see the old green book we used, with its much worn pages). She was always better at construing than I was. She had a gift for languages. What remains as a vivid memory of those days was the way in which Carrie used to speak of her mother. Mrs. Lee must have been a remarkably devoted and strong personality, for she had indelibly impressed herself on the mind of her young daughter. Carrie was always telling me of how her mother had spoken to her, of her preparation for life; of the ideals for service and integrity that she hoped her daughter would acquire.

Carrie left Scutari the following year and went away to complete her education, much to her regret and mine and that of the good Ormistons. But Dr. Lee wanted his daughter to have an American education in America. She went first of all to Blair Hall, Blairstown, N.J. which was a coeducational boarding school (it is still flourishing, but is only for boys now) where she remained for three years. When she was ready for college she went first to Parsons College, Iowa, where a Lee relative of hers was the President. She was there a year, or perhaps two, and then was transferred to Oberlin, where she completed her college career in 1912. She stayed one more year to study Music at the Conservatory in Oberlin and finally came out here in the fall of 1913 to take the position of teacher of Music at Constantinople College.

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**Kişisel Arşivlerle İstanbul'da Bilim, Kültür ve Eğitim Tanıtı**

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