

Sea, Walls, Cultures Divide Istanbul

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of dispatches from The Eccentric from Donald Dennis and his wife, Margaret, as they make a seven-month trip around the world. Dennis teaches art at Bloomfield Hills High School; his wife is a visiting teacher in the same school system. The following letter was written after they toured Istanbul, Turkey.

Byzantium, the old name for the seat of the Ottoman Empire, is an appropriate one for Istanbul even today. Some of the finest examples of Byzantine art and architecture are located in this city which is strategically situated astride the Bosphorus with one foot in Asia and the other in Europe. In Turkey's oldest and busiest city we were separated from Asia and introduced to Europe. It was again our good fortune to have the names of two couples who had spent a year in the United States and only recently returned to their native Istanbul. A card notifying them of our arrival was enough to bring them to the air-

port to meet us and from there to launch us on a series of conducted tours that were to expose us to as much of Turkish culture as one week would allow. **IMMEDIATELY FROM** the airport we were driven to El Karive Museum to view the cream of Byzantine mosaics. Only recently uncovered, they surpass those of St. Sophia in detail and color. The walls of mosaics in Christian Churches were covered with cement when converted to mosques. It was like tasting the frosting before eating the cake, and what a cake it was. The balcony of our hotel room was a vantage point for viewing the beautiful panorama of the Bosphorus with all of its activity. A full moon enhanced its beauty for us at night. From this spot we were able to see at least a dozen of the largest mosques in Istanbul, several of which we visited. **WE DROVE AROUND** the Golden Horn to the medieval walls and gates of the old city and went

into the Great Bazaar. This is the world's largest collection of shops under one roof. Both of these immense constructions were built during the middle ages to give protection to the city and its treasures. Protection was from the numerous tribes of invaders and thieves who looked upon Constantinople as a top prize for plundering. **THE TURKISH PEOPLE** are very conscious of their heritage and talk with pride of their interesting past. Museums are vast warehouses of wealth collected from all over the Middle and Far East as well as Europe by the many Ottoman emperors. Excavations are in progress now throughout Turkey and many interesting artifacts of the Hittite, Greek and Roman civilizations are being uncovered daily. As a matter of fact, our hosts told us that one of the greatest worries facing those about to undertake a new construction is that of accidentally uncovering some old ruins. The moment such an event

Piano-Violin Concert Set At Oakland

Oakland University's concert-exhibit-lecture series will feature a piano-violin concert at 8:15 p.m. Friday in Oakland Center's Gold Room.

Miss Valerie Archibald, concert violinist, and Dr. David DiChiera,

pianist-composer and assistant professor of music at Oakland University, will present a program of sonatas by Tartini, Beethoven and Brahms, and a "Scherzo-Tarantella" by Wieniawski. Following the concert, there will be a brief coffee and discussion period in the Oakland Center lounge.

MISS ARCHIBALD, a native of California, has given concerts in Europe, Mexico and California. She began her musical training in Southern California, and recently

has been studying with Hans Lofler in Munich. Before his appointment at Oakland last year, Dr. DiChiera taught at UCLA, where he received his bachelor's degree, master's in composition, and doctorate in musicology. This is the only event in this term's series which is being opened to the public.

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AS GUESTS, we were exposed to many Turkish delights and we can both truthfully say we could easily convert to Turkish cooking. The only difficulty would probably be the weight problem, as the lunches are as large as the dinners and Turkish food is very rich. A typical dinner served to us in the home of one of our friends consisted of the following: appetizer of Borek (a thin pastry stuffed with white cheese, egg and parsley) served with white wine. The first course was baked white fish (Bosphorus variety) followed by baked chicken and dolmas (grape leaves stuffed with ground beef and rice). For dessert we had baklava (a sweet pastry with nut and honey bases). To finish the meal we sipped small cups of thick Turkish coffee. **ONE OF THE** interesting side-lights to our visit was to discover the lack of interest displayed by the Turkish housewife for canned foods or box mixes. Since time is not a factor, the mixing and preparing of the meals is the prime objective for most women. TV dinners and fast meals are out. Fruits and vegetables are seasonal with only an occasional delicacy (such as caviar) coming from a can. The Western way can be seen quickly in the congested traffic situation, but as yet has not penetrated to the kitchen shelves. **Teacher of French Shares in TV Award** Wayne State University Television and the Midwest Program on Airborne Television Instruction received a first award for the series EN ANANTI! at the American Exhibition of Educational Radio and Television Programs at Columbus, Ohio. George Zeff, of 23225 Laurel Valley Drive, Southfield, is teacher of the series which provides second year conversational French instruction for fifth and sixth grade students. Zeff, a native of France, has taught elementary French since 1959.

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