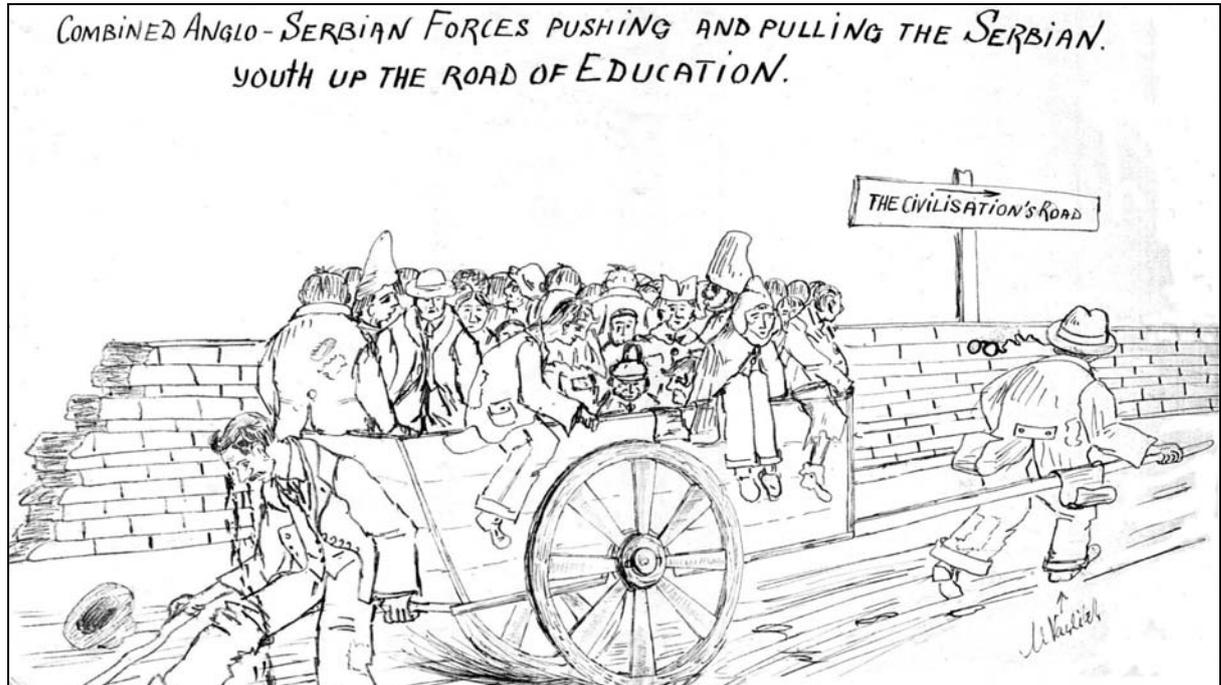




Serbian Refugee Boys at George Heriot's School



The following extract is from **George Heriot's School Roll of Honour 1914-1919**, published in 1921.

THE SERBIANS

It is peculiarly appropriate that some mention should be made in the Heriot War Memorial Volume of the appearance of Serbian boys at George Heriot's School.

Shortly after the commencement of Session 1916-17, twenty-five young Serbs, their ages ranging from 12 to 17 years, were admitted by the Governors to all the educational privileges of the ancient Foundation, and the last of them did not quit the School till the close of Session 1918-19.

It was the attempt of the Central Powers to crush little Serbia that originated the Great World War, and the boys who came to Heriot's to be educated were part of the 300 refugees who arrived in Britain after they had traversed the wilds of Albania and been rescued by the friendly hands of French and British.

During their stay at School they acquitted themselves very creditably in their studies. Seven of their number passed the University Preliminary Examinations and four are now Engineering students of Edinburgh University. The others have returned to Serbia to continue their studies at Belgrade University. Besides these there were four boys who passed part of the Preliminary Examination before returning home.

The Serbs took an active part in the Athletics of the School, chiefly Football, and a number were members of the Heriot Troop of Boy Scouts and of the O.T.C. As the Headmaster on one occasion pointed out, the advent of the Serbian boys was not

altogether a one-sided arrangement, for it had conferred many advantages on the School in respect of the feeling of camaraderie they had inspired amongst the other boys.

Lord Provost Sir J. Lorne MacLeod expressed the mind of the Governors when he said that what had been done for the Serbian boys at George Heriot's School might be regarded as an indication of their gratitude to Serbia and appreciation of the high services rendered by the Serbian people in the cause of humanity.

On several occasions the Serbian boys were visited at School by distinguished representatives of their nation. Among these were Prince George of Serbia, the Serbian Minister in London, the Presidents of the Industrial Chamber and Chamber of Commerce of Belgrade, the Education Minister and Professors of the University of Belgrade. The boys had also the pleasure of being introduced to the Russian Minister in London and to Lord Rosebery.

Before their departure, the Serbian boys deputed Sir Edward Parrott to beg the Governors to permit them to erect a brass tablet within the precincts of the building as a perpetual memorial and token of gratitude. The Memorial, erected in the Dining-Hall, bears this inscription –

"This Tablet records the everlasting gratitude of the Twenty-six Serbian Refugee Boys, who, during the Great War, were freely and generously admitted to all the educational privileges of this ancient and honourable Foundation."

Then follows a Serbian quotation from the Bible (Matt. xxv. 40) –

"Zaista vam Kazhem; sve shto uchiniste jednome od ove moje najmanje brache, meni uchiniste."

THE GREAT RETREAT IN SERBIA IN 1915, by M. I. Tatham

Miss M. I. Tatham served (1915) with Stobart Field Hospital (Serbian Relief Unit), Kraguyevatz, Serbia. 1916-1917, Corsica, S.R.F. Unit. 1918, Scottish Women's Hospital, Royaumont and Villers-Coterets, France, until the Armistice. Here she describes her experiences in the retreat from Serbia. The article was published by C. B. Purdom, 1930, as 'Everyman at War'.

The field hospital had been busy for eight months trying to stem the awful tide of death which was sweeping over the country, and, together with other volunteer units, had pretty well succeeded. The typhus, sinister legacy of the Austrians when they evacuated Belgrade at Christmas 1914, had been carried to the farthest corner of Serbia by soldiers going home on leave - to the little farms and cottages where, under Turkish domination for hundreds of years the ideas of hygiene and sanitation

were practically undeveloped. With the result that nearly a third of the total population succumbed.

By October 1915 the typhus had been fought and beaten and then the human enemy overwhelmed the country. The Bulgarians declared war early in October. Simultaneously the Austrians attacked on the north, and the field hospital had to retreat with the Army. We were in the town of Kraguyevatz, arsenal of Serbia, which had suffered the bombardment of Austrian aeroplanes for weeks before the evacuation, and was left an open city. Having sent off every man who had sound feet, and left those who were unable to move in charge of American doctors (who were then neutrals) the trek southwards began. It was southwards at first, for we had been told that, if we could reach Monastir, there was the possibility of transport to Salonika. The single railway line from Belgrade to Salonika had been cut the first day after the declaration of war by the Bulgarians; and there was the life-line, as it were, severed, for on that railway line all the stores, men, and ammunition were transported.

We started off with bullock-wagons with as much of the hospital equipment as we could carry, and for three weeks we trekked south - a long, slow procession of springless carts each drawn by oxen, moving deliberately at the rate of two miles an hour - day or night was all one. Several times the unit halted, hoping that the retreat was stayed, for all the telephone wires were down, and no one knew exactly what was happening. There we would rig up a dressing station, and dress the wounds of the men as they marched by, and there we were invariably sent to join the retreating mass again, as the sound of the guns drew nearer and the towns behind were occupied by the enemy. The stream of the refugees grew daily greater - mothers, children, bedding, pots and pans, food and fodder, all packed into the jolting wagons; wounded soldiers, exhausted, starving, hopeless men, and (after the first few days) leaden skies and pitiless rain, and the awful, clinging, squelching mud.

The roads were obliterated by the passage of big guns - those guns served by that wonderful "Last Hope" of the Serbians, the old men, the *Cheechas*, the "uncles", who held the enemy for the priceless few days or even hours, and so saved the youth of the country. For every Serbian boy - every man-child over twelve - had to retreat.

The Serbians had at last realized that the enemy was out to finish her as a nation, and the only way to save herself was to run away. And at first all those battalions of boys, gay with the coloured blankets they carried coiled across their backs, camping round the great camp-fires at night, were happy - until the days grew into weeks, and the rain fell and fell and there was no bread anywhere. But the rain, which churned up the mud and soaked the ill-clad people, was called by the Serbians "the little friend of Serbia", for it held up the Austrian advance, and consequently saved practically the whole of Serbia's remaining Army.

We camped one night in an old monastery, deep in the heart of the mountains, the residence of the Metropolitan, dating back to the thirteenth century. Here it was decided we might stop for a time, and the monks gave us their new school-house for

a dressing station. We had high hopes of being able to remain the winter, so entirely ignorant were we all of the real conditions, and we actually did remain for a fortnight, amongst the most beautiful hills, clothed in their gorgeous autumn colours, for the country thereabouts was one glowing wonder of beech-woods. Until again came the order to evacuate, and in haste, for we were not on the beaten track, and were in danger of being cut off.

We had orders to go to a town called Rashka, and we trudged there in a jam of ox-wagons and soldiers, big guns and refugees, in the most appalling mud and pelting rain - and quite unquenchable good spirits. Until we were nearly there, when one of our number was shot through the lungs - an accidental shot, fired by an irate farmer after some flying refugees who were stealing his horses. The injured girl was taken to a Serbian dressing station about eight miles back along the road, with two doctors and a nurse; after which the rest of us tramped unhappily on, knowing that they would inevitably be taken prisoners, which they were two days later.

They were well treated, however, by the Austrians, and when the girl who had been shot was sufficiently recovered to undertake the journey, they were all passed through Vienna and Switzerland, and so home to England. But that is another story.

Meanwhile, the rest of us arrived, soaked to the skin, at Rashka, and were cheered by hot soup and cocoa, in the awful little hovel in which the earlier arrivals were housed. We slept that night under a roof, but infinitely preferred our previous nights under the stars, for about twenty of us were crammed into an indescribably filthy room, over a stable full of Army horses, and next to a larger room in which they were making shells! In those days there was no time for factories. Things were made anywhere. Most of the Army had no uniforms. The country had not recovered from the Balkan Wars of 1912 and 1913, and there was no help outside the country when all Europe was engaged in her own bitter struggle.

Then, two days before we would have reached Monastir, the Bulgarians took it. We had no choice now but to cross the mountains - the mountains of Albania and Montenegro, which we had been told were impassable for women in the winter. The three weeks' trek south had made us three weeks later in the beginning of the attempt, and the very first night we got to the narrow ways, the snow came. The roads were now too narrow for wagons, even though at the beginning they had been sawn laboriously in half, so that two wheels might pass where four would not, and the only means of transport were pack-mules or donkeys. These carried what food we had, and the blankets without which we would have perished. For many died on those pitiless mountains, and the snow fell and covered up their misery for ever.

Yet, with all hope gone, their country left behind, their women left behind (for when we reached the mountains the only women were the Red Cross units), starving, beaten, miserable, how wonderful were those soldiers! Peasants, driven from the soil which bred them these men had no high education to tell them how to hold themselves in this disaster. But every Serbian is a poet: how else had they kept their souls free under 500 years of the Turkish yoke? And ever down those years, entirely

through their songs and stories, and through their religion (for, to give the Turks their due, they did not interfere with that), they had kept alive and burning bright the flame of the belief that one day their country would be free. And in the year 1912 it came true, for the small Balkan states banded together and pushed the Turks out of their country back to Constantinople. But for a pitiful short time, for in 1914 came Armageddon.

These retreating men, even if they won through wounds and starvation and exposure and hardship unspeakable, had only hope of exile. For us who were with them, the end of our journey was home. So it was easier to bear things cheerily, though hearts could hold no more of pity. Simple as children, with the unquestioning gratitude of such, no one ever saw them other than forbearing with each other when men fell dead of starvation while waiting for the ration of bread and were laid by the roadside and left for the snow to shroud; no one ever saw them other than courteous to women. And when one remembers how the conditions of retreat can turn men into animals, when things are down to the bed-rock of primitive passions and desire for life, then it is a proud thing to remember also the high courage with which this people bore their disaster.

To add to the horrors of the retreat, there fell upon the mountains in that December one of the worst snow-storms for decades, and then was the pathway indeed bordered by death. We were crossing the higher passes, and only a 2-foot track wound upwards. On the right were snow-covered cliffs, on the left a sheer drop to the river 1,000 feet below. Two mules could not pass each other on that path, deep in snow or slippery with ice, and when a pack mule fell and died (brave little faithful beasts of burden) there they froze and the trail passed over them. The worst night of the storm we sheltered in an Albanian hut. The fire smouldered in the middle of the mud floor, the smoke escaping through a hole in the roof - and round the fire squatted the family - unto the third and fourth generation! Around them again, the refugees, soldiers, and nurses, and the live-stock of the little farm. (My neighbour on one side was a warm and comfortable calf!) Everything that could be sheltered was sheltered; those that had no shelter remained out on the mountain and died. In the morning, the pack-mules, which were under the lee of the hut, were frozen stiff; and again the blankets and gear were reduced. At the last, when the mountains were crossed, and the weary, muddy miles to the sea lay before us, nothing remained to most of us but what we carried ourselves. But we had our lives, and many had left theirs on those cruel heights. But for those exiles, literally bereft of everything that made life worth living - family, home, country - what use, after all, seemed even that?

Those last days, towards the sea and the ultimate hope of rest, were even more dreadful than the rest. For now it was not the snow which covered death and corruption, but mud. It seemed as though there never had been and never again could be anything else than rain, rain, rain. And in all the world there is surely nothing more depressing than rain which falls soddenly on mud, and mud which receives all sullenly the rain.

Then, as the uttermost depths seemed reached, the skies of the nearly-last night cleared. It was late, nearly mid-night, but the little fishing village on the Adriatic coast had somehow to be reached by morning - for a ship was to be there to take us off. (It was torpedoed, and we sat on the shore, as it happened, for three more days.) And suddenly, out of the welter of misery, the road burst out on to the sea - lying dark and shining under stars; and perhaps the most vivid memory of all those weeks of adventure is the sight of her - sudden, beautiful, clean. "Who hath desired the sea the immense and contemptuous surges"; after all, what was starvation and death?

The Italian ship which was to meet us at San Giovanni di Medua was, as I said, torpedoed, along with every food-ship which was being sent by the Italian Government to meet the refugees. The little harbour was full of the sprouting masts and funnels of unhappy ships which had been sunk, a pitiful sight at the ebb of the tide. And the surrounding hills were quivering at night with the little fires of innumerable soldiers, who had survived starvation on the mountains only to meet it again on the shore. While overhead the Austrian aeroplanes circled, and dropped their bombs.

Then, after three days, a ship got through. Little as she was, she was able to take off all the Red Cross units. The soldiers had to set off again on that everlasting trek, down to Alassio and the further ports. No man of military age was allowed on board, but many refugees who were quite hope-lessly smashed, and women of the coast as well, filled the little ship literally to overflowing. There was not room for all to lie down. Twice she was attacked, and tacking, swerving, zigzagging across the Adriatic, we came at last at dawn to Brindisi. And as the light grew, to port and star-board of the little ship, loomed in the mist first one and then another protecting form. And hearts at last believed in safety, for they were British gunboats. We landed at Brindisi, and had our first real meal for over two months.

The Scotsman reported the decision to educate the Serbian boys and the visits made by Serbian politicians and academics to Edinburgh during the War.

The Scotsman - 13 June, 1916

GEORGE HERIOT'S TRUST

Councillor Chesser presided at a meeting of the Governors of George Heriot's Trust held yesterday in the Council Room of the Hospital, Edinburgh.

It was reported that the auditor of the Scotch Education Department had disallowed the expenditure of £21, 11s. 6d. upon the annual dinner of the Governors on the ground that there was no express authorisation for the same in the scheme. It was agreed to appeal to the Department...

SERBIAN BOYS TO BE EDUCATED.

A letter was read from Sir Edward Parrott, convener of the Committee for the relief of Serbians, asking that the Governors should provide free education for ten Serbian boys.

Professor Darroch mentioned that out of 18,000 boys who followed the Serbian army at the time of its flight, 9000 had been transhipped to this and other countries. Sir Edward Parrott proposed to take ten of these boys, and to house and feed them in Edinburgh; and he had asked the Heriot Governors to provide free education for them. After consultation with Mr Clark, headmaster, the Education Committee recommended the Governors to agree to the request.

The request was agreed to.

The Scotsman - 14 November, 1916

GEORGE HERIOT'S TRUST

VISIT OF A SERBIAN PROFESSOR.

A meeting of the Governors of George Heriot's Trust was held yesterday afternoon at the school - Sir Robert K. Inches presiding.

It was stated by the Chairman that Councillor Lyon, a member of the Trust, was very seriously ill.

A letter was read from the Clerk of Edinburgh School Board requesting the Governors to appoint a representative to sit on the Advisory Committee in connection with juvenile employment. Professor Darroch said it had been proposed to appoint Mr Marr, one of the teachers in the school, who knew the subject well, and who for a long time had interested himself in getting situations for the boys. This was agreed to...

THE SERBIAN BOYS AND THE SCHOOL.

At the close of the meeting, Mr J. B. Clark, the headmaster of the school, introduced the Rev Father Nicholas Velimirovic, Professor of Theology in Belgrade University, and the Rev. Dr Wallace Williamson.

In addressing the stranger, Sir Robert Inches welcomed him most heartily to that ancient educational establishment, one of the most excellent, he said, in the whole country. They had a number of boys from Serbia with them there, and they intended to do the best they could for them in the way of education. They intended to lay a foundation for them, which, if carefully taken advantage of, would lead them right through life. They recognised the unfortunate position these boys were in, and, as their institution was specially designed for "fatherless bairns", it was most appropriate that these boys should have been admitted there.

The Rev. Father Nicholas Velimirovic thanked Sir Robert for his kind words, and in the name of the boys thanked the Governors for the hospitality extended not only to save the bodies of the boys, but also their souls. In these times of universal catastrophe, Serbia had suffered more than any other country. Among the many famous things in Scotland he thought their Scottish education was the most famous, and those boys were given a great opportunity in being educated just in Scotland, which country, like Serbia, had suffered so much in the past. The people of Scotland would on that account be better able to understand the pain and the sufferings of the Serbians at the present time. They knew what Scotland had done for them during the war; they knew what the brave Scottish soldiers were doing; and they knew specially what the Scottish women did in Serbia, and what sacrifice they made for the sake of Serbia. (Applause.) Gratitude was one great quality possessed by the Serbian people, and they would not forget the hospitality that had been extended to Serbia in her time of distress, and to her sons, who were now being educated along with the sons of the Scottish people. (Applause.)

Dr. Wallace Williamson returned thanks to the Governors for the reception given to the Rev. Father Nicholas Velimirovic. It was a great delight to him, he said, to have their visitor from Serbia staying with him, and to enjoy converse with him. Never had he met with a man of more winsome personality or richer humanity. If anything could bring home to them the desolation of these times, it was surely the sight of these twenty-four bright lads, and one could not but feel deeply thankful for the opportunity afforded by such an institution to extend to them hospitality, and to make up to them in some measure for what they had lost in being separated from their country and their friends.

The Rev. Father Nicholas Velimirovic and Dr Wallace Williamson entered their names in the visitors' book before leaving, and an opportunity was given them of seeing the Serbian boys at the school.

The Scotsman - 1 December, 1916

SERBIAN MINISTER IN EDINBURGH.

ADVICE TO YOUTHFUL COMPATRIOTS.

An informal visit to George Heriot's School, in which twenty-five Serbian boys are at present receiving their education, made an interesting commencement of the series of engagements under-taken by the Serbian party who yesterday arrived in Edinburgh. The boys were assembled in the Board room, and the visit of the distinguished representatives of their homeland naturally afforded them interest and stimulus. The visitors included Monsieur J. Jovanovic, the Serbian Minister Plenipotentiary to this country, and Monsieur Geordjevic and Monsieur Paule Popovic, Professors of the University of Belgrade, and Monsieur Antonijevic. With the party there were also Professor Sarolea, at whose residence the visitors are staying while in Edinburgh, Sir Edward Parrott, and Mrs. A. Carrington Wilde, London, chairman of the Education Committee of the Serbian Relief Fund. They were received by Sir Robert K. Inches, Mr Peter Macnaughton, Clerk to the Heriot Trust, and Mr Clark, headmaster of the school. The visitors conversed individually with the boys, whose bright and alert appearance was favourably commented upon. At present the little Serbian company at Heriot's School, including a number of lads who have served with the Serbian Army, are being educated together in a single class until the language difficulty has been overcome, when they will be divided amongst the other classes according to their individual educational attainments and ages. The Serbian Plenipotentiary, addressing the boys in their native language, expressed satisfaction at their appearance, and at the individual assurances of contentment with their present conditions which he had heard. He urged on them the duty of profiting to the utmost from the educational facilities which had been placed at their disposal; and pointed out that by so doing they would be properly fulfilling their part in the struggle in which their country was engaged. Their fathers and brothers who were fighting Serbia's battle in the firing line would play their part with all the better heart if they knew that their young expatriated relatives were doing well amongst their new friends in Scotland. By profiting from the education they were receiving, they would also be preparing themselves to take their proper place in the reconstruction of their country after the war. He also observed that they would recognise it to be their duty to do their best as a proof of their gratitude for all the kindnesses which had been shown to them by their Scottish friends; and commented on the privilege which they had in being associated with such an old and interesting school and a city with such traditions.

Afterwards, Sir Robert Inches carried through the quaint and interesting ceremony in one of the other rooms of passing round the "loving cup" made by the founder of the school, over three hundred years ago.

From George Heriot's School the visitors proceeded to the City Chambers, where they were received by Lord Provost Lorne Macleod.

VISIT TO THE UNIVERSITY UNION.

SERBIA'S PART IN THE WAR.

The distinguished Serbian visitors were the guests in the afternoon of the Edinburgh University French Society at the Students' Union, where Father Nicholas Velimirovic delivered an address on "Serbia and the War". There was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen and at the gathering, though the number of students, reflecting the part the University is playing in the war, was necessarily small.

Dr Charles Sarolea, who occupied the chair, pointed out in welcoming the delegates in the name of the students that there had been in the past an important and historical connection between Edinburgh University and the Metropolitan University of Belgrade. He should always consider it a great honour that he was able a few years ago to send from the French department the first lecturer of English literature, who were taught our language and literature in Serbia. (Applause) The Balkans were the main goal of pan-German ambitions, and it would be to the eternal honour of the Serbian people that Serbia had been the main bulwark against those ambitions. (Applause.)

Monsieur Jovanovic, who was received with cordiality, addressed the meeting briefly in French, and referred to the great affection and admiration of the Serbian people for Great Britain, and especially Scotland. Scotland was the most popular country with them, and the Serbian people would be eternally grateful for what the Scottish women had done for them. For the great services of the Scottish Women's Hospitals and their workers he tendered the sincere thanks of the Serbian Government and people. (Applause.)

THE GERMAN TORCH OF SCIENCE.

Father Velimirovic, who was warmly received, said that politically and spiritually the ancestors of those in Scotland at the present time were for generations victorious, and the people to-day were going in the same way to be victorious over their common enemy. (Applause.) He briefly reviewed Serbia's struggles for freedom, and said the Serbs were proud of their Scottish Allies, and were glad to call the Scottish people their friends. He appealed to the students to use science for the dominion of nature. In the name of science Germany had declared war on the world. As a well-known Scottish Professor had said, the task of scientific man was to have a torch in his hand and mercy in his heart. German science was only the torch in the hand. With it Germany came not to make light for the world, but to burn down the world. (Applause.) Science was a magnificent thing, but used for the dominion of man over man, it was a diabolical thing. Giving a message to the leading men of Scotland in the name of Eastern Christianity and a suffering people, he urged them not to be afraid of sacrifices and suffering. They in Serbia knew what suffering meant. It led always to brightness, to light, and to God. This was not a war for the rectification of frontiers. It was something much greater. People had said that Serbia was fighting for an outlet to the sea. They were fighting for principles of freedom and unity. (Applause.) It was much bigger than anybody's commerce or trade. It was a war for the re-organisation of the world, and it would create a new basis for a pan-human brotherhood. Serbia's resurrection was beginning now, and Serbia would be

reconstructed as Belgium would be reconstructed, and in the new Serbia and the new Belgium would be many stones that would be called Scotland. (Applause.) He paid a tribute to the work of The Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Dr Sarolea, in conclusion, conveyed the thanks of the Society to the distinguished visitors.

The Scotsman - 14 September, 1918

SERBIAN MINISTER IN EDINBURGH

CONSERVATION OF SERBIA'S MANHOOD.

The wealth of a nation, Adam Smith made clear, consists in its people - those who do its work and carry on its affairs. Probably few in this country realise, in this aspect of it, on what a slight foundation the future of Serbia is based. Practically the whole of the Serbian manhood consists of the remnants of the Serbian army, the prisoners in Austrian and other camps, and some 5300 boys and other refugees who are being maintained in friendly Allied countries. On these the reconstruction of Serbia mainly depends. Efforts are being quietly made to make the best of this material, especially the young, in the way of educating and training them for the future. The importance of this work in which Britain is taking a leading part, and in which Edinburgh and Scotland are directly interested was emphasised by Mrs Carrington Wilde, of the Serbian Relief Fund, in conversation with a representative of The Scotsman. Mrs Carrington-Wilde accompanied M. Trifunovic, the Serbian Minister of Education, and his party, who were in Edinburgh on Thursday principally for the purpose of visiting the twenty-six Serbian boys who are being maintained in the city. The other members of the party were M. Bogdan Bpovic, Professor of Comparative Literature, University of Belgrade; M. Pavle Popovic, Professor of National Literature, Belgrade; M. Michel Popovic and Professor M. Ilbrovac, Serbian Board of Education.

SCHOOL COMRADESHIP.

The hostel in Bright's Crescent in which the Serbian boys in Edinburgh are accommodated was visited on Thursday morning. On arrival the party were greeted by the boys, several of whom wore the kilted uniform of George Heriot's O.T.C., while the younger lads were dressed in the familiar blouse and breeches of the Boy Scouts. Sir Edward Parrott, M.P., introduced to M. Trifunovic a deputation from the George Heriot Trust. Professor Darroch,

Professor of Education in the University of Edinburgh, speaking on behalf of Heriot Trust, welcomed M. Trifunovic and his colleagues.

Good progress was reported by Mr Clark, headmaster of George Heriot's College. Not only in scholarship, but in football, athletics, and the O.T.C., they took an active part, and a remarkable feeling of camaraderie prevailed throughout the school. The

advent of the Serbians was not altogether a one-sided arrangement, as it had conferred many advantages on the school in respect of the feeling they had inspired amongst the other boys.

M. Trifunovic, whose remarks were interpreted by Professor Pavle Popovic, returned thanks to the Scottish people for the care they were taking of the Serbian boys. He spoke in the name of the Serbian Government, the people, and the parents of these boys, who were fighting at the front. Though the energies of everyone were concentrated on the winning of the war, Scotland had found the opportunity to do this noble work. He was especially proud to see his countrymen in the national Scottish uniform, and was sure they would carry something of the Scots character back into their own country.

AT THE CITY CHAMBERS.

The Serbian visitors were received at the City Chambers by the Lord Provost, Sir J. Lorne MacLeod. M. Trifunovic expressed gratitude for what had been done by Edinburgh on behalf of his suffering country.

The Lord Provost said anything we had done for the education of the Serbian boys might be regarded as an indication of our gratitude and appreciation of the high services rendered by the Serbian people in the cause of humanity. We looked forward with assured confidence to the time when the rights of the Serbian people would be completely vindicated and restored.

Before lunch the Serbian party visited the headquarters in St Andrew Square of the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service. They were received by the members of the Committee. Before leaving, M. Trifunovic paid a tribute to Dr Elsie Inglis and the work which she and the Scottish Women's Hospitals had accomplished in Serbia.

THE SENSE OF NATIONALITY.

In the afternoon the Serbian Minister and his suite, accompanied by Sir Edward Parrott and Mrs Carrington-Wilde, chairman of the Education Committee of the Serbian Relief Fund, visited the University, where they were received by Professor Sir Richard Lodge, Professor Darroch, Professor Whittaker, and Professor Seth. Mr Clark, headmaster of George Heriot's School, and Mr James Wood were also of the party.

Sir Richard Lodge extended a welcome to the visitors on behalf of the Principal of the University, who had expressed his regret at being unable to receive them himself, and his colleagues. The history of Scotland, he said, was one which had many important lessons for the present time. The principle of nationality was intimately associated with the history of Scotland. Scotland might be said to be the first country in Europe which successfully vindicated the essential principle of nationality - the principle that the people who have the sense of nationality have a right to independence. Scotland, therefore, had an instinctive and inherited sympathy with all peoples struggling for freedom and independence. In the history of the nineteenth century hardly anything was more remarkable than the literary, artistic,

and educational revival in the Kingdom of Serbia – a revival associated with the University of Belgrade. They looked forward to the time when Serbian independence would be restored; when perhaps a greater Serbia might resume the task of guarding the great gateway between Europe and Asia, and they hoped that the ties between this country and Serbia might be ever closer and more intimate. (Applause.)

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