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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

Lebanon is a name given to the central mass of the mountains of Syria. The word is of ~~Hebrew~~ origin which means "white" and it is named so, because of the white snow that covers its peaks all the year over. The mass extends from N.N.E. to S.S.W. for about 180 kilometers and is divided into two ranges which run parallel to each other between which lie the rich plains of Bukai'. The range that is to the east of these plains is called Anti Lebanon (Jebel el Sharki) and that which is to the west is called Lebanon proper (Jebel Libnan). The width of Lebanon proper in the extreme north is 46 kilometers and this decreases little by little while going southward till it reaches a width of 29 kilometers.

Before the World War Lebanon was smaller in area than it is now, but in 1920 different stretches of land were added to it. As it stands now, it is bounded on the north by Nahr el Kabir, on the south by Makoura or the frontiers between Syria and Palestine, on the west by the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, and on the east by the heights of Anti Lebanon. The area of Lebanon is 12,000 square kilometers with about nine hundred villages scat-

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(1) History of Lebanon by I. Aswad, p. 17.

(2) Ibid, p. 19.

(3) Ibid.

tered all over the country and a population of 754,000.<sup>(4)</sup> Not all these villages are suitable for summer resorts due to their bad location or inaccessibility. The villages that visitors patronize are few in number, but this can be increased if only certain developments are introduced. The population is mixed of different origins, the majority being Arabs; but when it comes to religion it will be seen that different kinds and sects are found.

In attacking this subject, most of the discussion will be about Lebanon proper as it lends itself more to summer resorts than Anti Lebanon due to its nearness to the sea and its better sceneries. Lebanon can be divided into two main divisions : (1) Northern Lebanon, that is everything north of Beirut-Damascus railway, and (2) Southern Lebanon which includes everything to the south of Beirut-Damascus railway, including such places as Aleih, Bhandoun, and Sofar. However, due to thier nature these two regions are really insapperable, and so the treatment of the subject will be mostly general with special reference to Southern Lebanon whenever possible.

Lebanon is the highest and most rugged part of Syria and because of its unrivalled scenery and salubrious climate, it can be considered as the best summer resort in the Near East. You can hardly look at any **part** of the country without being impressed by the beautiful scenes that lie before you with the different colors.

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(4) Lebanon After the War by A. Adib, p. 129.

The thing that makes Lebanon more beautiful than other parts of the world, is the fact that you can see both scenes at the same time -- namely mountains and sea -- and in some places the plains that lie to the east of the mountains are seen.

At this point a person cannot pass on without going back a century or more ago and finding out the reasons why Lebanon was not so well known at that time as a summer resort. The answer to this is simple to a person knowing something about the past and the present conditions of the country. In the first place the means of communication were not good, and by that is meant external as well as internal communication. The visitor who wanted to come from Egypt to spend the summer season in Lebanon was at a disadvantage. To a greater degree, the same may be said of those who wanted to come from Iraq. During the World War, the railway across the desert between Egypt and Palestine was constructed, and the carriage road between Syria and Palestine was opened. This facilitated the matter a great deal, and now it does not take more than twenty hours to come from Egypt to Lebanon. After the war, the road across the Syrian desert between Syria and Iraq was also opened by which it takes less than twenty-four hours to travel from Bagdad to Syria, while before that a person who wanted to come to Lebanon from Iraq was obliged to go to India, then back to the Red Sea

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(5) Guide of the Villegiature du Mont Liban Tourist Co. of 1928, p. 8.

and then to the Mediterranean Sea, which took a long time  
(6)  
and was very expensive. Means of internal communication  
were also not efficient, and so people found great difficulties in travelling from place to place as carriage roads were very rare and cars were not found. In most cases, they were obliged to use horses, mules, or donkeys which are very tiresome.

The second factor contributing to make Lebanon an important summer resort is, of course, the spread of education and European civilization among the well-to-do people of the Near East. This is quite obvious, because the people who are not educated do not find much pleasure nor benefit by going to summer resorts. They do not realize the importance of change of climate and feel that they would only be paying their money for something that has no benefit whatever.

The third important factor is emigration. Emigration before the year 1860 was practically unknown in Lebanon. After that year the number of people going abroad began to increase year after year. The cause of this was the unsettled political conditions and the religious prejudices prevailing at that time, and the poor industrial and agricultural conditions of the country. Emigration increased the wealth of the people here because of emigrants' remittances. The money sent here helped a great deal in building up-to-date houses and

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(6) Summer Resort in Lebanon; published by the Government in 1928, p. 5.

and hotels that are suited for summer resorts. The old houses are absolutely not good for such purposes because of lack of sanitary conditions and of their mode of construction. The emigrants coming back from foreign countries after collecting some money, also introduced new plans of building houses which they got from countries abroad.

Due to the nature of the soil of the mountains, Lebanon is not suited for agriculture. To be sure, little agriculture is carried in the valleys and along the coast as well as on some of the fertile slopes of the mountains. But the area of these places is insignificant and cannot support the population. Likewise, industry is not developed due to the lack of the minerals which are of great importance for the development of industries, namely coal and iron. However, we might have industries springing up in the future in different localities if an effort is made on the part of the government and the rich people to utilize the water power found in the different parts of the country. At present this is not found, and it takes a long time to be accomplished and even in that case, the country will not be able to succeed to a great extent due to the lack of capital and the competition of foreign products.

Most of the people depend upon emigrants' remittances that are sent frequently, and which help a great deal in bettering the financial condition of the inhabitants. Had it not been for this source of revenue,

the conditions here would be terrible. One disadvantage of this source, is that it is making the people lazy and totally dependent on it. This is a thing that should be guarded against, as this source is not permanent and the people are feeling that these remittances are becoming less and less at present. Directly after the World War, they were sent in great amounts due to the horrible rumours that used to reach the emigrants about the terrible conditions here, in other words they were sent mostly as a result of sentimental feelings. This source is liable to be cut off at any instant in case a war breaks out between some nations. So now we face the problem of what is the most reliable source of revenue to Lebanon. Everybody is apt to answer this correctly and that is summer resort. The idea is spreading more and more among the inhabitants and the government is doing its best to encourage it.

At present, we find many who are getting their living out of their work during the summer season. The majority of people are coming to realize this, and improvements as well as new developments are being introduced in the country which help and encourage visitors to come and spend the summer season here. It is hoped that within a few years Lebanon will be to the Near East as Switzerland is at present to Europe.



## CHAPTER II

### ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF SUMMER RESORT TO LEBANON

Summer resort is a great help to the country, and it is rightly believed that it is one of the best means, if not the best, that can be utilized to an extent that makes the country in a favourable condition economically. As it was mentioned in the first chapter, Lebanon cannot be utilized to an advantage agriculturally and industrially, but as a summer resort it can be utilized advantageously.

#### NUMBER OF VISITORS

In comparing the number of visitors coming to the country from outside to spend the summer season, a person finds some difficulty as he cannot get the statistics necessary. In the past, statistics concerning such numbers were not kept, but the government is beginning to demand this urgently. In trying to get the number of visitors for the last few years from the Department of Economics of Lebanon, I was informed that they can supply me only with the number of visitors for the last three years. The statistics collected are not accurate with the exception of the year 1928, which can be considered to a certain extent representing the exact number. However, it is hoped that this defect will be obviated in the future, as the government is be-

ginning to demand that the number of persons entering the country should be recorded very carefully at the ports as well as on the frontiers, and sent to the Department of Economics where such things are verified and kept.

The visitors come mainly from Egypt, Iraq, and Palestine. The number of the Egyptians is by far the greatest, but how much greater, is not really known. The Department of Economics roughly estimates that not less than 3/4 of those coming to Lebanon from outside are Egyptians. The number of Palestinians and Iraqians is not great, but it is hoped that in the future more will be coming from these two countries, especially from Iraq. The government sends every year written materials about Lebanon and sometimes representatives to the above-mentioned countries to appeal to the people. <sup>(1)</sup> This is proving successful to a certain extent as four or five years ago few, in fact, no Iraqians used to come here, but the number is increasing more and more. During the past year, it was estimated by the Department of Economics that not less than five hundred Iraqians came to spend the summer season in Lebanon. <sup>(2)</sup>

The visitors who come here are usually scattered all over the country, and we cannot say definitely that such and such a place is the most attractive or is mostly catered to. Some years we see that a few villages in the

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(1) Department of Economics

(2) Including the students as well as other Iraqians residing here who do not go back to their country during the summer season.

south are crowded while in other years we see the same villages with a few persons only. Of course, disturbances that usually occur between the inhabitants of southern Lebanon affect that part very badly, and in the year 1923 when such disturbances were very frequent that part of the country lost a great deal because all the visitors went to the northern parts. It is not infrequent that some people do not settle always in one definite place, but prefer to travel from one part to another, spending a few days or weeks in one village and then going to another. As a general conclusion, we can say, that the most popular villages in Lebanon are Aleih, Souk-el-Gharb, Jazzin, Bhandoun, and Sofar which are in the southern part; and Shweir, Brimmana, and Falougha in the northern part. Zahlé which may be considered in the northern part is also a famous place.

The number of visitors coming for the summer season during the last three years were:-  
(3)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number</u>
1926	3,500
1927	12,000
1928	8,000

A person comparing the numbers of these three years will be astonished at the small number of visitors during the year 1926, because a number of 3,500 is really insignificant. But this was due to the fact that in 1926 the Druze Revolution in Syria was at its worst and

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(3) Department of Economics.

and it was spreading to some parts of Lebanon. The fear was spreading more and more and rumours were circulating that Lebanon itself was going to revolt. This had a very bad effect, as a foreigner would not care to go to a place where revolutions are taking place because he would not be sure of his safety. During that year, the people here were expecting this and everybody was sure that the summer season would be dull, in fact, they were expecting no visitors at all. Those who came in that year went to Northern Lebanon because it was far away from the revolution. In the year 1927 the number of visitors was normal as the conditions in Syria were restored back to their origin and peace was maintained all over the country.

In the year 1928 there was quite a considerable decrease in the number of visitors in spite of the fact that the conditions in Lebanon were as good as in 1927, if not better. The government also in 1928 tried and worked as much as it did in 1927, if not more, to appeal to outsiders for the summer season. The reason for that will be clear when it <sup>is</sup> known that during 1928 the conditions in Egypt were not very good. (4) In the first place there was a crisis and business was very dull which prevented many people with limited means of being able to go outside Egypt for the summer season. A similar crisis was also found in Palestine and Iraq. The

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(4) Report issued by the Government at the end of the summer season in 1928.

political crisis and disturbances existing in Egypt at that time, especially before the summer season, prevented many from leaving their country. Lastly, the summer season in 1928 was not very hot in Egypt and the people were able to endure the climate, in contrast to other normal years of hot climate when the people, unable to endure it, were obliged in some cases to cut down on their other expenses and leave Egypt for other countries having milder climates.

It is to be understood at this point that these statistics include only foreigners. No statistics are available as to the number of Syrians who spend the summer season in Lebanon. The number of these is never less than twice the number of outsiders. <sup>(5)</sup> This includes the people originally from Lebanon, but are not living there, who usually spend the summer season in their villages among their relatives and friends.

The visitors who come to Lebanon have to choose between renting houses or staying at hotels. This mostly depends upon the circumstances of the visitors. It will be much cheaper for a family composed of four or more persons to rent a house than to stay at one of the hotels. On the other hand, it is more convenient and possibly cheaper for a single man or a family of two or three to stay at a hotel rather than taking the trouble of renting a house, the rent of which is usually high. There is

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(5) Department of Economics.

another instance under which even big families would prefer to stay at hotels, and that is when they do not want to spend the whole summer season in one place. In this case, it pays them to stay at hotels because houses are usually rented for the whole summer season regardless of the period they are to be occupied.

#### INCOME

In discussing the income from summer resort the reader should keep in mind the fact that Lebanon, at present, is not self-supporting. It cannot produce all the commodities necessary for the inhabitants and as a result of that great quantities of goods are imported from Europe and America. A country should pay for the goods imported either by exportation of goods or by settlement in cash. The goods exported from Lebanon are insignificant if compared with those imported and so the country has every year an unfavourable balance of trade which is settled by shipment of gold. Our agricultural and industrial conditions are in a primitive stage and the hope for their development is not great. The land is barren and unfertile and the country depends upon other countries for the supply of food. Industries are lacking in all the parts of the country with the exception of a few small silk factories that are scattered here and there. These run only for a short period and then are closed for the rest of the year. The hope that the country will develop industrially and

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(6) Department of Economics.

agriculturally is not great due to the lack of the mineral resources and of capital. However, the country might become self-supporting in the future if the summer resort business is developed as it is in other European summer resorts. This can be accomplished very easily because the country lends itself favorably to such an undertaking.

The income to Lebanon from the summer resort business is not great at present and cannot support the country considerably. But this can be increased greatly and in the future we might find Lebanon self-supporting due to the development of its different summer resorts. In trying to get the income to Lebanon from summer resort from the Department of Economics, I was told that they do not have statistics to that effect. I was able, however, to calculate this from the number of visitors and the estimated amount that is spent by each during the summer season. (7) I came to the conclusion that in normal times, the income to Lebanon from this source is above £500,000. This income is not great if the country is to depend upon it, and so it should be increased greatly. The only way by which it can be increased is by increasing the number of visitors.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE INCOME

The income that is gotten from the summer resort business is distributed among the different members of the community. This does not mean that every member is getting

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(7) For cost of living see infra p. 31.

what the others get, because it is obvious that some classes are benefited more than others. There are four or five classes who get most of the benefit. In the first place we have the hotel owners and keepers. <sup>(8)</sup> These people usually get the greatest benefit and they make a lot of money. We should not take this to mean that every hotel owner is gaining out of his work. We find instance after instance, where the owners lose all what they have and at last resort to selling their businesses. I personally know of one case that took place in one of the villages of Southern Lebanon in the year 1927. A person rented a hotel for the summer season and paid 120 gold pounds as rent for the three months. He did not have the money necessary and so he was obliged to borrow a part at a very high interest. At the end of the summer season he found out that the business was an absolute failure to him as he had lost the greatest part of his money. Why is that? It is because of lack of experience along that line of business, and at the same time the service rendered was very inefficient. While the other hotels were most of the time full of visitors and used sometimes to turn out a number of them, this hotel was always empty and if one person or a group of persons happened to go to it, they used to remain one or two days and then move to another.

The second class of people who benefit from the summer resort season are the owners of houses for rent. The

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(8) For hotel rates see infra pp. 32 & 33.



(9)  
rents in Lebanon are fairly good and bring a good return. Because of the demand for houses the people began to sell everything they have in order to build houses that are suitable for such purposes. This had bad effects on some of them because the rents as a result of that went down. Not only that, but many houses were not rented because the demand was not enough. As a result of that, many a man in the past few years found himself in a very critical position when the summer season came and was unable to rent his house or houses. During the year 1923 when the conditions were not safe in Southern Lebanon because of the disturbances between the people on account of religious prejudices and during the year 1926 when the Druze Revolution was going on, most of the houses in Southern Lebanon were not rented and so the owners lost a great deal.

The third class of people who benefit from the income are the farmers. These supply the people and the hotels with the necessary vegetables and other farm products. The farmers are becoming more and more anxious to raise more products during these years as they realize the fact that because of the summer resort business the demand for their products is increasing. This puts the farmer in a better situation as his condition in Lebanon is not good due to the infertile nature of the soil and the lack of modern farm equipments.

Another class of people that benefit from this income

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(9) For rent see infra p. 33.

are the automobile owners who find that their greatest demand is during the summer season. As people always try to follow others who seem to be gaining, this job of car driving is becoming more and more popular in Lebanon. As a result of that its gains are decreasing little by little. It is leading to great extravagance on the part of some of the people. Poor men who cannot afford to buy cars are borrowing money or mortgaging their property for that purpose. In recent years they are beginning to make use of the instalment plan which has been introduced by most automobile companies. This plan appears on the surface to be good, but in spite of this fact it carries with it certain marked disadvantages.

The last group of people who benefit directly from the summer resort business are the professional and the business men. During the summer season the demand for their services or commodities increase which in turn helps to increase their gains and incomes. It should be understood at this point that I only tried to mention the principal classes that benefit directly from the income of summer resort. Generally speaking, we can say that every member of the community gets some benefit. Of course, most of it or its greatest part is received by the above mentioned five classes.

## CHAPTER III

### REQUIREMENTS SOUGHT BY THOSE WHO PATRONIZE SUMMER RESORTS

There are a few places or countries in the world which might be used as summer resorts because of their nature and the climate which they enjoy. This does not mean that any country having such natural resources will prove to be a good summer resort, as there are other requirements beside climate that are essential for that. The inhabitants and the government should cooperate with nature in order to attain such an end. Those who patronize summer resorts have certain requirements and unless these requirements are fulfilled they do not care to spend their summer season outside their countries.

#### CLIMATE

Fortunately the requirements are not very numerous, nevertheless, they are of prime importance. The first of these is the climate of the country. A country that is barren and has no good sceneries is not in a position to attract the visitors. Usually mountainous places or sea-shores are preferred, and many of the summer resorts in the world are mountainous or hilly. Everyone realizes the importance of climate upon the health. In general, we can divide the world from that point of view into three main regions or zones: The rigid and the tropical zones which are not suitable for summer resorts, and the tem-

perate zones. Some parts of the temperate zones can be used advantageously as summer resorts, others cannot depending upon certain climatic conditions. Climates in general are either maritime, continental, or mountainous and every one of these may have a dry or a humid air. Generally speaking, the climate of any country is affected (I) by the following factors:-

1. Distance from the equator.
2. The sun, and whether its rays fall perpendicularly or in a slanting position.
3. Distance from sea because this acts as a regulator which helps to make the climate milder.
4. Height above sea-level.
5. Winds.
6. Local factors such as the kind of soil, lakes, forests, and the like.

As a general conclusion of the subject of climate, we can say that the best places suited for summer resorts are those having mild climates, with fresh air, and pure water.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

To have good climate and beautiful sceneries is a good thing, but these alone do not attract the visitors if they are not helped by other factors. An important thing that should be found in every summer resort country is public safety. This is a very important factor

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(I) Guide of the V. M. L. Tourist Co. of 1928, p. 19.

because no person would like to lose his life or money in order to spend his summer season in a place where the climate is good. A country that is used for summer resorts should look after the factor of safety with great precautions. It is not only important to have peaceful conditions during the season, but it is important to have<sup>it</sup> all over the year, and year in and year out. This is because a person who would like to go to a country will have first to investigate and get some knowledge about the conditions in general there, and then he would make his choice as to whether to go to that country or to some other place. If during the year, he hears that there are certain disturbances in such and such a place, he is sure to give up going there because he cannot tell whether such a condition will end and the country will return to a normal peaceful state in a short period. Also if there are competing countries they will take advantage of that and will try to spread such news about the disturbances, exaggerating the conditions and affecting the country badly. This is what is happening at present with Lebanon. Many things are written about disturbances in Lebanon in some newspapers of Egypt with such exaggerated mannersthat divert visitors to other countries. The government of a summer resort country should be always on the lookout to maintain peace and security in order to make a check to the bad results coming out of disturbances. To accomplish this end, all cases of this sort should be dealt with immediately and very severely.

### COST OF LIVING

The third important requirement is that connected with the expenditures and the cost of living. A country with a high standard of living will not attract all kinds of visitors representing the different classes, and it is quite possible that only the well-to-do people will be able to patronize such a country. We know that rich people are few in number compared to the other classes, especially in the Near East. As a result of that, a country with high prices will not prove successful due to the small number of people that can afford to pay such high prices. It is not infrequent that people who leave their countries to spend the summer season outside, are obliged to cut down on their other expenses and sometimes on necessaries. But if they have to sacrifice a great deal by so cutting down on their other expenses, they would prefer to stay in their countries. The country with a low standard of living is sure to win a great number of visitors every year. It will attract the different classes of society even those who have only a little to spare, because they will be able to save enough money from their income to carry them all over the summer season.

### COMMUNICATION

A fourth requirement is that of transportation and communication, and this is divided into external and internal. In the first place the country should have a good system of external communication in order to make it easy

for foreigners to reach it. Of course, it will be to its advantage if the distance between it and those countries that patronize it is short, because that makes it much easier for outsiders to come and then to go back to their countries in cases of emergency. External communication is very important but the country should have also good systems of internal communication. A visitor will not be satisfied if he can arrive easily to the borders or to the main ports of the country but when it comes to travelling in it from one portion to another he finds the means of communication not good. Internal communication is quite as important, if not more important than external communication.

There is another advantage besides this resulting to a country from a good system of internal communication, and that is it helps to connect the different parts of the country together which is very important for trade and commerce. It is not enough that we should have good systems of communication with excellent administration and equipment but in addition, we should have fairly low rates in order to attract the visitors to the country. Nobody would like to go to a country where he will be obliged to pay a large part of what he wants to spend in order to arrive to the place required.

#### ACCOMMODATION

The fifth important requirement that should be found in all summer resort communities is the matter of accommodation, or the presence of hotels and houses ready for

rent. The presence of hotels in summer resort communities is very important and they should be of different grades because all kinds of classes with different means come for the summer season. If there is only one type of hotels, say first class hotels, it will be very inconvenient for persons of the middle class to stay at them as it costs them more than what they can afford to pay; and if there is only second class hotels the rich people will complain because they would prefer to have first class hotels and pay more. The best policy to follow in such places is to have hotels of different grades and rates so that every visitor will be able to choose in accordance with his means. The hotel owners should not be left to do whatever they like. The rates should be limited by the government in order to guard against overcharging visitors. The government should have also strict supervision of hotels in order to insure good service and to observe sanitary conditions.

Not all those who patronize summer resorts stay at hotels. Some prefer to rent houses and so the country should have a number of these. The same conditions observed in hotels as to rates and governmental supervision should also be applied here. I think that it will be better to have such houses in a special quarter by themselves, and not together with the houses occupied by the original inhabitants. It is not infrequent that the visitors do not like to live in the same quarters with the inhabitants, especially when the latter are not from the



well-to-do people and uneducated. The visitors would like to rent houses near one another, <sup>especially</sup> if they happen to come from the same place because they are accustomed to live together.

#### SERVICE

The sixth important requirement is that of service. The people going to spend the summer season in a country expect to find certain facilities in it. The inhabitants should try to serve them as much as they can in helping them to find out what they want. The visitors should be treated in the same way, if not better, than the inhabitants. It is quite possible and frequently happens that the inhabitants do not treat the visitors or foreigners as they ought to, because they would like to take hold of such an opportunity to gain from them. The places of summer resort should contain the necessary things for everyday life. At least one doctor as well as a pharmacy should be found in each village to take care of cases of illness and to supply the medicine necessary.

Organized daily post to all places of summer resort and telegraphs and telephones are greatly demanded by tourists and these should be found in every summer resort village. Visitors usually leave their countries in which they have certain dealings that they would like to keep in contact with. If the post is not regular and telegraphs and telephones are not found it will be very difficult for such persons to keep in contact with their representatives to be informed about the conditions in their countries.

## RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The last important requirement to every summer resort community is the presence of recreational facilities. Every civilized country is coming to believe more and more in recreation and its importance to health. The visitors who go outside their countries for the summer season do not usually have work to do, and so they have to spend a great part of their time in recreation. How can they attain such an end if these facilities are not found? The visitors who do not have the privilege of using such facilities will soon get tired of the place and seek to patronize some other district or village having such facilities. Countries which lack such facilities are coming to utilize them more and more, and it is of great importance that they should be introduced in every summer resort community. Such facilities, in addition to giving the visitors a good time, will bring a good return.

## CHAPTER IV

### LEBANON IN RELATION TO THESE REQUIREMENTS

In the previous chapter the general requirements necessary for countries that are to be used as summer resorts were discussed. In this chapter the discussion will be continued by applying such criteria to Lebanon and finding out whether it fulfils the general requirements or not.

#### CLIMATE

The climate of Lebanon is one of the most important factors helping it to be a good summer resort site. It has a dry fresh air, with a mild temperature, and pure water. The year is divided into four equal divisions -- winter, spring, summer, autumn -- a thing rarely found in any other part of the world. This condition is not found even in Syria proper which is very near to Lebanon; it is not found also in the plains that lie along the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, which are at present a part of Lebanon. While you are in Lebanon during the summer season, you feel that it is summer and the same is true of the other seasons of the year. The air is very pure and good, as it contains nothing of the impurities found in the big cities.

Dr. Aley Bey Brahim, a famous surgeon of Egypt, visited Lebanon a few years ago, and after returning home he

wrote a short article in one of the English newspapers describing the climate of the country very briefly. The  
(I)  
article runs as follows:-

"IN THE MOUNTAINS OF THE LEBANON

Mild Climate, Fresh Air, and Pure Water

Twenty Hours from Egypt

"Health, Strength, Exercise and Economy

Altitude from 1500 to 6500 Feet

"From the point of view of health, the Lebanon possesses three qualities which exist in no other holiday resort.

"The first is the dry rainless climate for four or five months. During this period one can really enjoy walks and life in the open air, in the shade of trees and on the mountain tops. This privilege of nature can be found nowhere in holiday resort in Europe, where sudden showers keep you a prisoner in your room.

"The second is the varying temperature according to altitude. At the foot of the mountains you have the temperature of Egypt which grows less as you climb until you reach intense cold at the summit. Thus the traveller spending the summer there can choose the climate that suits his temperament and constitution, as if he were in a building with rooms with varying temperature. He has only to open a door to have the climate he desires.

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(I) Guide of the V. M. L. Tourist Co. of 1928, pp. 829.

"Everybody goes to spend his summer holiday either at the sea-shore or in the mountains. The sea-winds like those of the mountains, contain much ozone. When the two winds meet, the profit becomes much greater. The resorts in Mount Lebanon possess this double advantage of being at the same time maritime and mountain resorts which you cannot find elsewhere. Such is the third quality."

This is only one example given to show the reader the attitude of the visitors who come here. There are many others who have written such things after spending a short time in the country. Before leaving this subject and discussing briefly the subject of water, I want to mention the following advantages attributed to most mountainous regions which apply to Lebanon:-

1. The air is thinner than that of the plains.
2. Increased motion of the air.
3. Less humidity in the air.
4. Increased rays of the sun.
5. Absence of organic and mineral matters in the air.
6. Decreased temperature of the air.
7. Respiration increases at high places and the longer a person stays in such high places, the wider his breast will be and the better will all the organs of his body function, especially those of the heart and the stomach.
8. The possibility of curing certain diseases that are difficult to be cured by ordinary medical treatment.

Such diseases are either cured because of the good air found or of the mineral water. The diseases against which Lebanon will prove advantageous are tuberculosis and other troubles of the heart, kidneys, stomach, liver, and blood.<sup>(2)</sup>

Closely connected to the subject of climate is the water. The streams and rivers that are found in different parts of Lebanon contribute to its development as a summer resort country. Professor André Rochet, a teacher in the Jesuit University of Beirut, analysed the water of some streams and fountains of Lebanon. The results were encouraging due to the presence of certain minerals in the water that are useful for the body. In his report that was published in the Guide of the Villegiature du Mont Liban Tourist Company of the year 1925, he says that the water of Lebanon is one of its treasures and on it depends the good agricultural and economic results which are needed by the people. Seeking to find out the advantages of the water for the health, he took a journey all over Northern Lebanon analysing the different streams in that region. He was unable to analyse all the water in Southern Lebanon due to lack of time. The streams that he was able to analyse in Southern Lebanon are those that are found beside the main road that goes from Beirut to Jazzeen, Deir-el-Kamar, Barook, Ain Zehalta and some other fountains of the plains of Bukai'. In his analysis of the

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(2) Guide of the V. K. L. Tourist Co. of 1925, pp. 47 & 48.

water of Nahr El-Kelb which was not complete in the full sense of the word, but sufficient to show the different minerals and the quantity of each in a liter, he found  
(3)  
the following results:-

calcium carbonate	70 m.g. in a liter
carbonic acid	65 m.g.
calcium sulphate	nothing
sodium chloride	traces
magnesium salts	traces

Another person analysed the water of Ain Jarran,--  
(4)  
Bemakeen -- and found the following results:-

calcium bicarbonate	62 m.g. in a liter
calcium carbonate	82 m.g.
manganese bicarbonate	30 m.g.
chlorates	15 m.g.
sulphates	very little
azotes	nothing

The water of Lebanon in its course passes through line-stones and it gets some minerals that are very useful. The temperature of this water rises with the length of the course of the river, and at the same time the minerals increase. The Society of Health in Paris defined good water as that water which is cold, clean, mixed with the air that is free of microbes, and which contains a limited quantity of minerals (between 100 and  
(5)  
200 m.g. in a liter). If the minerals exceed 250 m.g. in a liter it will be very harmful for the body. Generally speaking, the water in Lebanon contains all these qualities. It is very cold and clean because its sources come directly from the melting snow or from reservoirs

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(3) Guide of the V. M. L. Tourist Co. of 1925, p. 33.  
(4) Ibid, p. 41.  
(5) Ibid, p. 32.

that collect the water at the top of the mountains.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

Before the World War, safety was maintained all over Lebanon. However, directly after the World War many disturbances took place due to political reasons, and some were simply due to religious prejudices. The government tried, and is still trying its best to put a check to such disturbances which carry with them bad effects. In the year 1923, the disturbances that took place in Southern Lebanon between the Christians and the Druzes made that part of the country lose most of its income from summer resort. During the Druze Revolution of 1926, Lebanon also lost a great deal due to the small number of visitors who came at that time. For the last two or three years no such disturbances are taking place, and it is hoped that nothing of this sort will take place in the future. The people have realized the fact from past experiences, that such things lead to destruction and to loss of <sup>one of</sup> the most important sources of revenue. Unfortunately, it is sometimes written in some foreign newspapers things about disturbances in Lebanon which do not exist. These are published and circulated among the people by competing countries. This is one form of propaganda that is carried by some countries against Lebanon, and for the last few years it was effective to a certain extent.

#### COST OF LIVING

If the cost of living in Lebanon is compared with



that of other countries, it will be seen that it is much cheaper for a visitor to come to Lebanon, especially if he lives in Egypt, Iraq, or Palestine. The price level in Egypt is high compared to that of Lebanon, and the same thing may be said of Palestine and Iraq. It is sometimes argued, that a person coming from Egypt to Lebanon for the summer season will not spend more than if he were to remain in his country. The exact amount spent by each individual cannot be stated exactly but only a rough estimate can be made. The average person coming here for the summer season will have to spend about fifty Egyptian pounds. <sup>(6)</sup> When we say that, it does not follow that each person has to spend this amount. There is a difference between a person who comes alone and stays at one of the hotels, and a family or a group of four or five, renting a house or staying at a hotel but receiving some rebate due to their number.

Most of the steamship companies working across the Mediterranean, charge cheap fares during the summer season for travelers from Egypt going to the different summer resorts. If we compare these fares we will find that it costs less to come to Lebanon than to go to other parts such as Turkey, Greece, or Roumania. The fares to Cyprus are exactly the same as those to Lebanon. Reductions are also allowed to passengers taking return tickets in the same companies. The following table shows the fares charged

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(6) Department of Economics.

by the Khedivial Mail Line between Egypt and the summer  
resorts patronized by the Egyptians:-  
(7)

	<u>Ist. class</u>	<u>2nd. class</u>
Alexandria to Beirut	£E 6.50	4.50
Alexandria to Cyprus	6.50	4.50
Alexandria to Piraeus	8.00	6.00
Alexandria to Smyrna	11.00	7.00
Alexandria to Constantinople	13.00	9.00
Alexandria to Constanza	14.50	10.50

The above mentioned fares are charged from persons coming by sea, but it costs a person coming by train from Egypt to Haifa and then by car from Haifa to Beirut, 775 Egyptian piasters in the first class, 420 in the second class, and 260 in the third class. The fares charged for the first and second classes include expenses for food on the road and hotels at Haifa.  
(8)

The rates of hotels as well as the rent of houses in Lebanon are lower than those of other summer resort countries. I happened to find out the rates charged in Roumania in hotels and they vary between 50 and 100 Egyptian piasters a day. The rates charged in Metropole Hotel at Monte Carlo vary from 170 to 230 francs a day, that is between 135 and 150 Egyptian piasters. Nearly the same rates are also charged in Hotel Bristol at Beau-lieu and in Hotel Metropole at Cannes. The rates of hotels in Lebanon are much cheaper, as first class hotels do not charge more than 65 Egyptian piasters a day, while  
(9)  
(10)

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- (7) Cheap Round Voyages & Cheap Summer Fares, pp. 2, 4 & 5.  
(8) Guide of the V. L. L. Tourist Co. of 1928, p. 175.  
(9) Cheap Round Voyages & Cheap Summer Fares p. 7.  
(10) Rates of Hotels published by the Gordon Hotels of the French Riviera, Season 1928/9.

second class hotel rates vary between 35 and 45 Egyptian  
(II)  
piasters. The rent of houses is much dearer in Roumania  
than it is in Lebanon. It costs in Roumania from £E 20 to  
40 per month to rent furnished houses of three to six  
(I2)  
rooms, that is for the three months it costs from £E 60  
to 120. In Lebanon a house of six rooms in one of the  
best summer resorts of the region, can be rented for less  
than £E 80. In other places of the country where the  
number of people going is small, it is much cheaper.

From what was written about the cost of living, it  
appears that Lebanon is one of the cheapest, if not the  
cheapest, of all the places that the Egyptians patronize.  
What is said about the Egyptians, can be said with equal  
truth about the Palestinians and Iraqians. To be sure,  
the fares charged between Iraq and Beirut across the de-  
sert are higher than those between Egypt and Beirut. Hainn  
Transport Company charges £E 20 in the first class and  
(I3)  
£E 16 in the second class. But there are other companies  
that charge less than that, and some even charge as low a  
(I4)  
rate as £E 10. Between Palestine and Beirut the fares are  
very cheap as a person pays at most half an Egyptian pound  
from Haifa to Beirut.

Lebanon should be patronized by the people of Egypt,  
Palestine, and Iraq regardless of the cost of living or  
other minor factors because all these people speak the

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(II) Department of Economics.

(I2) Cheap Round Voyages & Cheap Summer Fares, p. 7.

(I3) Hainn's Central Office in Beirut.

(I4) Guide of Kawatly and Taweel of 1927.

same language and have the same culture and customs. This adds to the advantages that Lebanon has over other summer resorts of the world patronized by the people of the Near East.

#### COMMUNICATION

If we go back a century ago, or even less, we find that the communication between the different parts of most countries was very poor. As nations progressed and civilization advanced, it became more and more believed that one of the most important things for a nation is the development of its internal and external systems of communication. It is rightly believed that railways and highways are the veins and arteries of the nation. A good system of communication will also help to develop and increase commerce and trade. This idea spread very rapidly in the last century, and we see today that most countries have developed their systems of communication; Lebanon being not an exception.

The external communication between Lebanon and the Near East countries is quite satisfactory. The visitor from Egypt can come to Lebanon either by sea or by train to Haifa and then by cars to Beirut. Anyone preferring the former will be able to find ships at Alexandria or Port Said, as there are regular service between these two cities and Beirut. However, most of the visitors prefer the latter route, and those choosing it will take a train from Cairo at 6 p.m. and reach Kantara at midnight, after which they will continue their journey over the desert and

(15)

reach Haifa at 9 a.m. From Haifa they will be able to take cars and reach Beirut after five or six hours. From that it will be seen that the visitor leaving Egypt by train will be able to reach Beirut in twenty hours. The communication between Iraq and Lebanon is also good as mentioned in the Introduction of this paper. The Governments of Syria and Iraq have built in the desert some stations with guards for the help of travelers.

The means of internal communication in Lebanon are fairly good, especially between the villages that are good summer resorts. Many parts of Lebanon are connected with one another by carriage roads. To be sure, not all these roads are good, for in some places travelers find it very difficult to go from one place to another because of the bad condition of the roads. There are three main carriage roads in Lebanon from which other smaller branches diverge to the different villages. The first one of these is that which connects Beirut with Haifa. The second one connects Beirut with Damascus and crosses the Lebanon mountains from one end to the other. The third road is that which connects Beirut with Tripoli. Railroad communication is not developed in the country and there are only two lines, one of them running over a very short distance. The first one is that which connects Beirut with Damascus passing through some of the important villages of Lebanon such as Aleih, Bhamdoun,

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(15) Summer Resort in Lebanon; published by the Government in 1928, p. 5.

and Sofar. The second which is very short, runs along the coast and connects Beirut with Ma'amaltine, a village near Junieh.

#### SERVICE

The people coming to spend the summer season in Lebanon find the inhabitants and the Government ready to help <sup>them</sup> in any way possible. The government gives orders to those in charge of the port of Beirut, and to officials on the boundaries, to treat the tourists in the best way possible. Policemen are kept on the main roads of the country in order to watch and regulate the car traffic and to avoid the accidents due to high speed. The government also issues every year a small guide of Lebanon which is distributed freely in Egypt, Palestine, and Iraq.

Concerning the posts, telegraphs, and telephones the government tries its best to facilitate the work of the tourists. In case there is a village suitable for summer resort, daily mail goes to it during the summer season. But telegraphs and telephones are not found in all the summer resorts of Lebanon, which is really a great drawback. The people coming here usually have dealings in their countries and they would like always to be informed about them. Telephones are found in a few villages in Lebanon but they are in the hands of the "gendarmierie Libanaise" and the people are restrained from the privilege of using them.

Granting the above mentioned facts, sometimes partia-

lity is shown in the treatment of the visitors and the inhabitants of the country. Not infrequently, it is found that the visitors are charged higher prices than the inhabitants for the same commodities bought, especially when they are foreigners or when they look to be rich. This is one of the main criticisms that is given by those who come to Lebanon.

Organized companies are found in Lebanon which help the people coming here; the most important<sup>of</sup> them is the Villegiature du Mont Liban Tourist Company whose work is chiefly concerned in carrying passengers between Egypt and Lebanon and supplying them with the information necessary. This company was originated before the World War but stopped working after the declaration of the war and then started again in the year 1920. (16) Every year it issues its guide which contains many information about Lebanon and which is distributed freely in Egypt. It carries also a propaganda in Egypt to persuade people to come and spend the summer season here instead of going to Europe. The company is doing a good piece of work, but I think that it is not developed to an extent that it can perform all of this work alone.

#### ACCOMMODATION

The number of houses ready for rent during the summer season is not known and an estimate of this without any basis will prove far from being accurate; and so I am not

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(16) Central Office of V. M. L. Tourist Co. in Beirut.

going to attempt to do that. I want to say, however, that in every village in Lebanon that can be used ~~as a~~ summer resorts, there are houses ready for rent. The number of such houses depends upon the size of the village and its importance for summer resort. The number of good hotels that afford to give the necessary comfort and service was estimated by the Department of Economics of Lebanon to be not less than ninety. This number does not include all the hotels present, because it is only an approximate estimation and I personally think that the number is more than that.

In the *second* chapter of this paper a comparison was made of the number of people spending the summer in Lebanon during the last three years, and it was shown that the greatest number was 12,000. <sup>(17)</sup> This does not mean that Lebanon cannot hold more than that. In its present condition it can hold more than 50,000 visitors. <sup>(18)</sup> By comparing these two figures after adding to the former the number of Syrians who spend the summer season in Lebanon, a person can judge that the country is having in the prosperous years half the number that it can hold. If the people and the Government work together hand in hand, and improve the villages that are not used at present due to lack of roads or to the mode of construction of the houses or the like, Lebanon will be able in the future to hold twice or more the number estimated.

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(17) See supra p. 9.

(18) Department of Economics.



### RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The people here confess that the country is lacking in recreational facilities to supply the needs of the visitors; which is a great drawback. A person coming to a place for the summer season has to spend at least a part of his time in recreation. Someone might contradict this, by saying that a number of these facilities is found, and meaning by that coffee houses. I agree to that, and say that we have more than needed of this sort of recreation, but what we need is outdoor recreational facilities. Very few villages in Lebanon have tennis courts or other sorts of outdoor games, and I can say that not a single village contains a public park. Movies and theaters are not found except in one or two villages. Instead of introducing such useful and good recreational facilities, the government every then and now discusses the matter of introducing gambling into the country. They say that if gambling is allowed it will be a great help in increasing the number of visitors coming to the country. They confirm this by trying to explain to the people that Switzerland found it to its advantage to allow gambling after prohibiting it for a time, in all places where schools are not found. It is claimed that gambling helps to increase the number of visitors because some people do not go to a country where gambling is not allowed. In spite of this, I feel myself justified in saying that the

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(19) Al-Ahrar, No. 1150, March 16th., 1929.

government should not allow this in all the parts of the country without any exception. Though it increases the number of visitors, it introduces certain marked disadvantages by increasing vice and lowering the standard of morality of the inhabitants; a thing which we are not in need of. It is far more advantageous for us to cater to people who do not care for gambling or such things, though we are going to have a little decrease in the number of visitors. But if we try to improve our other and more useful recreational facilities, we will have more people coming interested in such facilities and thus compensating for the loss due to the prohibition of gambling. The people are deceived by thinking that a large income accrues to the country if gambling is allowed. Last year's income was only £S 24,000 of which more than half was paid for salaries of the officials looking after places where gambling was allowed. One third of what remained was distributed to municipalities of summer resort villages. From that the reader can judge for himself that the net income is insignificant compared to the disadvantages that it brings with it.

#### DIFFICULTIES TO BE MET

Every kind of business, no matter what its purpose is and whether it is public or private, has to encounter in its daily life certain difficulties. The summer resort business is not an exception, and so the people should

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(20) Al-Ahrar, No. 1150, March 16th., 1929.

realize the fact that if they do not provide means to overcome such difficulties, very soon the country will lose the greater part of its income from summer resort. The main difficulty that confronts Lebanon is the competition of other summer resort countries that are patronized by the Egyptians, the most important of which are Cyprus, France, Switzerland, Turkey, Greece, and to a little extent Roumania. All of these countries carry one form of propaganda or another to attract visitors and to compete with the other countries, while Lebanon is doing very little of that. To achieve such ends, these countries are sometimes resorting to illegitimate means, such as publishing news about Lebanon that are far from being correct.

#### MEANS OF OVERCOMING THESE DIFFICULTIES

In the following pages I am going to discuss the main ways which will be of help to Lebanon to get along in spite of the competition found:-

I. The Government should help and encourage the people to do certain things which are of prime importance to summer resort. This is done to a small extent at present, as the government helps and aids the companies and hotels engaged in summer resort work that prove to offer good service and comfort. In the year 1927 the government distributed to such companies and hotels \$T 1000 and in the year 1928 this amount was increased to \$T 1500.<sup>(21)</sup> This

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(21) Department of Economics.

shows that the government is really interested in improving the country and increasing the number of visitors. But other things should be done which might prove advantageous along the same line, such as offering prizes to companies, hotel owners, and the like who perform their <sup>work</sup> sincerely. This will help to raise the standard of service given, because those engaged in such work will try to offer the best service in order to win the prizes.

2. A propaganda should be carried on a large scale in the countries of the Near East. This can be done by advertising and by the use of other forms of publicity. The government at present spends about ET 500 yearly for that purpose, and as mentioned before it publishes a guide which is distributed freely. <sup>(22)</sup> However, it should be carried to a greater extent by increasing publicity and sending delegates to the countries of the Near East to lecture in public places about the advantages of Lebanon as a summer resort. It will be an excellent idea if a film is taken of the sceneries of Lebanon and shown freely in the countries of the Near East.

3. The difficulties that travelers find in entering the country should be eliminated or decreased as much as possible. Sometimes visitors find great difficulties in the technicalities concerning passports. If such technicalities are lessened during the summer season, it will help a great deal. The government should be ready to

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(22) Department of Economics.

help a foreigner whenever he fall in trouble in order to settle his case as soon as possible, because a person coming to a summer resort would not like -- if for one reason or another falls in trouble -- to spend most of his time following up his suit or case in the courts.

4. Prices of all necessities and rates charged by hotels, cars, and carriages should be fixed either by the government or by the municipalities of the different villages in order to avoid partiality. This is one of the main criticisms that is advanced by the visitors. The government should put a check to such things, and when necessary should impose fines upon people who charge visitors more than they charge the inhabitants.

5. Hygienic principles and cleanliness should be observed carefully by the municipalities of the summer resort villages. They should be very strict concerning this, because cleanliness is very important for summer resorts. Every house and hotel should be supplied with all the accommodations necessary. Mosquitoes and dust as well as all other things which have bad effects on the health should be done away with. Generally speaking, the municipalities of all villages have enough funds to carry on this work successfully. They charge hotel owners, those having houses for rent, and all those connected in summer resort business, 12 1/2 per thousand of what they get, and  
(23)

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(23) Department of Economics.

jects which help to increase the income of the country. Closely connected with this subject, is the question of the water which is used for drinking purposes. The water in each village should be well preserved and examined every then and now to be sure that it contains no microbes.

6. Public safety should be maintained all over the country. This subject was discussed briefly at the beginning of this chapter, and I do not feel myself justified in discussing it again. Suffice it to say, that without it a country cannot progress nor develop economically and commercially. One of the main functions of the government is to keep internal order, and our government is in no way justified if it allows disturbances to take place.

7. The organization of a special bureau in the government, the purpose of which is to receive the criticisms of the visitors either by mail or by interviews, will prove advantageous. The work of this bureau will be to look after these criticisms and try to avoid them in the future.

8. The authorities of Lebanon should communicate with the steamship companies and with railway departments for the purpose of reducing the fares during the summer season. This of course, will encourage outsiders to come to Lebanon. If travelling rates are high between the countries of the Near East and Lebanon, it might serve as a hindrance to those desiring to come here but having limited means.

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(24) See supra p. 30.

9. The improvement of the external and the internal systems of communication, especially the latter will be of a great help. It was mentioned previously that the roads in Lebanon are fairly well but many improvements should be introduced. Some of the roads are very narrow that it is difficult in certain places for two cars to pass one another; others are wide but need to be repaired. Some villages that are gifted by nature to be good summer resorts lack the privilege of having a carriage road. Railroad communication should be developed in some regions of Lebanon where it is greatly needed. Automobiles do not take the place of railroads in all cases, and as it was mentioned at the beginning of this chapter this way of communication is absolutely undeveloped in the country. An important line which helps Lebanon a great deal if constructed, is that which connects Haifa with Beirut. The need of such a line was felt many years ago and it is hoped that it will be constructed within the next few years.

10. The service of the posts, telegraphs, and telephones should be improved. In many parts of Lebanon the postal service is quite satisfactory, especially in the important summer resorts. But telegraphs and telephones are lacking in most of the villages, and they are found only in a few places. The connection of the telephone lines of Lebanon with those of Palestine and Egypt will help a great deal. Frequently, the visitors like to discuss things with persons in their countries but it takes

a long time if they are to use the post and it cost much by telegrams. The best way by which such communications could be carried on, is by the use of the telephone. The Lebanese Government and the Palestinian Government have been communicating with one another concerning this for the last few years. Till now nothing has been accomplished, but it is hoped that very soon the two lines will be connected.

II. The organization of companies to serve and give information to the visitors who come here will give excellent results. The visitors usually know nothing, or very little, about the different places in Lebanon and such companies, if organized, will be ready to give them the necessary advice as to the best places where they can spend the summer season. The most important company of this kind at present, is the Villegiature du Mont Liban Tourist Company which does most of its work in Egypt. We need others that do the same kind of work in the other countries of the Near East. To attain this end, the rich people of the country, who can afford to pay a considerable amount of money as capital, should step forward and follow the idea of the Villegiature du Mont Liban Tourist Company.

12. The inhabitants and the government should co-operate with nature to better the sceneries of Lebanon by the introduction of artificial beauty. Most of the slopes of Lebanon, especially in the southern part, are barren. This is a great disadvantage, because trees and forests make the sceneries better and also help the country agri-



culturally by increasing the amount of rain and preserving the soil. To be carried successfully, such an accomplishment needs the co-operation of both the government and the inhabitants. The government should introduce very strict laws prohibiting the cutting down of trees without special permission. Cattle should be prevented from going to places where the trees are still small and are liable to be damaged.

13. Recreational facilities of all sorts, including both indoor and outdoor facilities should be increased. Movies and theaters should be introduced in places patronized by a large number of visitors, because such things are too costly to be introduced in places where only a few visitors go. The introduction of recreational facilities is very important, as the lack of such facilities represents one of the main arguments that is mostly brought against Lebanon by the other competing summer resort countries.

14. The foundation of small libraries in most of the villages that are used for summer resort will be of service. The size of such libraries in the different villages will depend on the size of the village itself, and on the number of visitors patronizing it. Books, periodicals, and newspapers should be found in such libraries treating different subjects, mainly those that interest people of the Near East. It will also be very useful, if certain books are found about Lebanon describing its different summer resorts and giving information about each.

Visitors should have access<sup>to</sup> and free use of such libraries whenever they want. Such a project can be carried very easily by the municipalities of the villages with the help of the government.

15. Lastly, the organization of a bank the purpose of which is to lend money to municipalities, hotel owners, and other persons working in summer resort business at moderate rates of interest is indispensable. To attain full development, some funds should be supplied to persons engaged in the summer resort business, as very few have the funds needed. Also the presence of an institution that advances money for the purpose of building residences to be rented during the summer season, or that builds houses itself in different parts of the country according to definite plans demanded by the visitors will be of a great help.

In the appendices attached, the reader will find a table showing the most important summer resorts of Lebanon with their respective heights and distances from Beirut. There are also two other tables, one showing the most important rivers and streams in the country; and another showing the places of interest in Lebanon and in Syria that should be visited by all persons coming to the country because of their historical importance. A map of Lebanon with the most important villages and the different roads connecting them together will also be found.

The last word that I want to leave with the reader,

is the fact that the economic prosperity of the country will be largely determined by the future development of summer resort. But we should be careful in attaining this end, to use only legitimate means and I am sure we will succeed in spite of all difficulties because the country is endowed with certain qualities that make it one of the best summer resorts in the world. However, nothing can be accomplished if the people are not ready to work hand in hand with the government.

APPENDICES

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TABLE I

The following table shows the most important summer resort villages in Lebanon with their respective heights and distances from Beirut. It is compiled from the Guide of the Villegiature du Mont Liban Tourist Company of 1928 and arranged according to height.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Distance in km. from Beirut</u>	<u>Height</u>
Ain 'Inoub	16	360
'Arayya	11	510
Deir-el-Kamar	<del>25</del> 35	850
'Ibeih	24	740
Aleih	14	780
Souk-el-Gharb	20	780
Beit Kiri	15	785
Rishmayya	31	800
Al-Moukhtara	59	825
Beit-ed-Din	47	840
Ainab	19	850
Ain Traz	26	850
Brimmana	18	850
Ras-el-Matn	45	850
Bitatir	27	870
Bikfayya	21	890
Shtoura	44	890
Mu'alaket Zahli	50	900
Khinshara	29	910
Nab'-es-Safa	41	975
Zahli	55	915
Jazzin	73	915
Bhandoun	22	1010
Barook	47	1070
Hamma	30	1070
Ba'albeck	84	1075
Falougha	33	1155
Mouraijat	39	1125
Kirnail	50	1130
Reefoun	41	1140
Ain Zehalta	44	1200
Sheweir	26	1210
Sofar	24	1210
Risharri	116	1250
Biskinta	40	1230
Hasroun	109	1250
Fiteroun	44	1240
Meeroba	60	1260
Ihdin	139	1280
Al-Arz (Cedar)	124	1500
Rounieh El Matin	18	800

TABLE II

The following table, compiled from a book entitled "History of Lebanon" by I. Aswad, shows the most important streams and rivers of Lebanon with the places from which the different sources begin.

<u>River</u>	<u>Source</u>
Antilyas	Antilyas
Awwali	Barook
Beirut	Kanisa and Sannin Mts.
Brahim	Ofqua Cave
Damour	Ain Zehalta
Kabir	Housayriyya and Akkar Mts.
Kadisha	Mokammel Mountain
Litani (Kassimiyya)	East of Mt. Mokammel
Nahr-el-Kelb	J'eeta Cave
Zahrani	Neeka Mountains.

TABLE III

The following table shows places of interest in Lebanon and Syria that should be visited by all those coming to the country because of their historical importance.

Ba'albeck	Ma'anatine Cave
Beirut	Nahr-el-Kelb
Beit-ed-Din	Palmyra
Damascus	Sidon
Deir-el-Kamar	Tripoli
Jubeil	Tyre



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