

THE USAID *Participant* Journal

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Mr. Stuart H. Van Dyke, Director
of AID.

A MESSAGE FROM THE USAID DIRECTOR

It has long been my desire to have a means by which I can speak directly with all the participants of the United States Agency for International Development, more familiarly known to you in the past as ICA. In the *Participant Journal*, which will be published frequently, I will have an opportunity to tell you something about our current activities, past accomplishments and future plans.

You will now, through this journal, have an opportunity to learn more about your fellow participants. You will learn about the academic and professional achievements of AID participants all over Turkey and the United States, and at the same time have an opportunity to acquaint them with your own current activities and accomplishments. Your views and suggestions will make it possible to improve the training program and thus benefit people who will be selected for future training programs.

As you know, the Participant Training Program is carried out as an integral part of the program of technical cooperation between the USAID and the

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PARTICIPANT HELPS TURN WASTELAND INTO HIGH INCOME EARNER

Five provinces of Turkey, with more than 20,000 farmers, and covering 1,201,890 hectares of farm land, receive the technical help of Hüseyin Yegin, 32, a 1957 participant who studied irrigation methods at the College of Agriculture of Utah State University. At present, Mr. Yegin is Director of the Soil Conservation Office of the Ministry of Agriculture at Mersin. Since November 1960 he has supervised the implementation of about TL. 4,500,000 in loans out of a TL. 7,000,000 irrigation loan fund established by the AID and the Government of Turkey for use by small farmers to improve their land.

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Hüseyin Yegin, Director of Topraksu
Mersin.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ADDRESS PARTICIPANT LUNCHEON



Mr. Stuart H. Van Dyke is pinning a friendship emblem on the Minister of Education at a participant luncheon held on March 20, 1962 in Club 47, Ankara. Seated from left to right: American Ambassador Raymond Hare; the Minister of Education, Hilmi İncesulu; and Mr. Nihat Adil Erkmen, the Undersecretary of Education. Standing from left to right: AID Interpreter, Ekrem Dorukman; AID Director Mr. Van Dyke; and Director of the Training Office, Mr. Arthur Mekeel. (Story on page 4)

ICA CHANGES NAME TO AID

The International Cooperation Administration (ICA), a worldwide U.S. economic assistance program and the sponsor of the Participant Training Program, has recently changed its name to Agency for International Development or AID. The new Agency will incorporate the functions of various other aid projects previously administered by other organizations. AID, in addition to taking over the functions of ICA, has absorbed the work of the Development Loan Fund (DLF) which is helping to finance the Ereğli Steel Mill in Turkey, and the local currency loan functions of the Export-Import Bank. AID is now an integral part of the State Department. The head of AID in Washington, Fowler Hamilton, has the rank of Undersecretary of State, reporting directly to Secretary of State Dean Rusk and President Kennedy.

Working closely with AID in Turkey will be the State Planning Office of Turkey. This Office is now working out the master long-range economic development plan. It will be based on the AID's operating policy that economic development can best be supported by long-term economic planning, combined with low interest loans and effective "self-help".

As the Turkish Government's development plan goes into effect, the Agency for International Development will use economic, technical and educational tools to help achieve the objectives of the plan. It will continue to sponsor the Participant Training Program along the same lines as in the past.

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SUMMARY OF U. S. ECONOMIC AID TO TURKEY.

U.S. economic aid to Turkey began in 1947 and was continued as part of the Marshall Plan which was established in 1948. At the start, aid was concentrated primarily on capital goods, such as farm machinery, road building equipment, coal mining facilities and power generating and transmitting equipment. Since 1956, however, emphasis has shifted to raw materials, spare and replacement parts, and other items needed for maintaining industrial and agricultural production. It has also included technical assistance to develop new and improved skills through teaching and demonstration.

A MESSAGE FROM THE USAID DIRECTOR

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Government of Turkey. Its purpose is to help in furthering Turkey's economic development by sending qualified Turks to the United States to acquire technical training. Each year AID selects people for specialized training in support of an AID project on the basis of competence in English, academic records and the contribution they will be able to make to Turkey's progress. The people who are sent to the United States for this purpose are called "participants" because they are taking part in one of the technical cooperation projects being jointly operated by the several Ministries of the Republic of Turkey and the AID.

Since the inception of the Participant Training Program in 1949, AID has sponsored the training of over two thousand participants in the United States. Up to this year, about two-fifths of the participants were sent under Agricultural projects, with Education and Public Administration taking the second and third places. At the present time there are 217 active participants in the United States. We hope to send 278 more participants this year. In the fiscal year 1962, emphasis will be placed on projects under Education, with Agriculture and Public Administration taking second and third places.

The *Participant Journal* is your journal, published for your benefit. To make it a success, we need your help and cooperation. Please send us information about yourself and your work. We will welcome any new ideas or suggestions as to how this publication may be of greater service to you.

Best wishes for a successful year.

STUART H. VAN DYKE

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From 1948 through November 1961, U.S. economic aid to Turkey totalled \$ 1,558,000,000, including \$ 979,100,000 in the form of commodity imports, \$ 37,300,000 for technical assistance, \$ 183,100,000 for the Development Loan Fund, \$ 51,100,000 in loans from the Export-Import Bank, and \$ 307,400,000 in agricultural commodities under U.S. Public Law 480.*

*

The next issue of *Participant Journal* will carry an article explaining Public Law 480 and the Counterpart Fund.

TWO PARTICIPANTS COMMENDED BY THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Rauf Turgut and Servet Metin Altıntaşlı, 1961 AID participants, were highly commended for their outstanding performance and accomplishments during the practical training phase of their assignment in the United States in a letter sent by the Auditors of Public Accounts of the State of Connecticut to the Turkish Ministry of Finance. The letter, dated October 13, 1961, reads as follows:

"Two representatives of your country, Mr. Rauf Turgut and Mr. Servet Metin Altıntaşlı, are presently completing, in the State of Connecticut, a program of study conducted by the International Cooperation Administration for public administration officials of foreign countries.

"We have been so impressed with the diligent manner in which Mr. Turgut and Mr. Altıntaşlı have pursued the objectives of the program of study, as well as with the distinguished manner in which they have served as representatives of your country, that we requested the name of their superior officer in order that we might transmit this message directly to you.

"It has been a distinct pleasure to have your representatives as visitors in the State of Connecticut, and particularly in the Department of Auditors of Public Accounts. Their quick grasp of the manner in which affairs of government are conducted in this country has indicated keen insight and impressive ability on their part. In addition, they have noted methods of operation alternative to those presently used in Connecticut which might possibly be employed to accomplish more efficiently the desired results, and have pointed to these alternative methods in a very constructive manner. In this respect, it would appear their visit may prove to be of mutual benefit.

"It is our sincere hope that this commendation of the conduct of Mr. Turgut and Mr. Altıntaşlı during their stay with us will be entered in their official records in Turkey as an indication of the high regard which they have earned for themselves in Connecticut. This is, incidentally, the first commendation of its type issued by this Department, a further indication of our high opinion of your representatives."

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1st AND 2,000th AID PARTICIPANTS

2000th Turk to be sent to the United States last June under AID Participant Training Program, was Dr. Ahmet Kurt of Atatürk University at Erzurum. At present, he is completing an advanced research work in dairy technology at the University of Wisconsin. He is expected to return to Turkey in the near future and give us his impressions of U.S. together with some account of his academic achievements and experiences.

The first Turk to be sent to U.S. as an AID participant on September 23, 1949, was Mr. Rıza Tezulaş, who at the time was a project engineer with the Electric Research and Survey Administration (Elektrik İşleri Etüd İdaresi). During his training in U.S., he worked with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, studying hydro-electric power structure and earthen dam construction. He visited and observed various American construction jobs, and worked on a dam construction project at Borsen, Wyoming. Since his return, he has held many responsible positions in the Elektrik İşleri Etüd İdaresi. His last title in the organization was that of Chief of the Planning and Project Section. Since 1959 he has been a successful private contractor. In that capacity he has constructed hydro-power plants and irrigation systems for the Government and for various municipalities.



First AID participant Rıza Tezulaş and 2000th participant Ahmet Kurt.



Dr. Ayşe Erkut lecturing the village children of Susuz Köy on basic principles of nutrition.

AID PARTICIPANT HEADS NEW DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION

The first and the only university-trained human nutritionist in Turkey, former participant Dr. Ayşe Erkut, is going to be in charge of the Foods and Nutrition Program in the brand new AID-sponsored 4-million-lira home economics building of the Agriculture Faculty of Ankara University. For the first time in Turkey, young women will receive university level training in nutrition under the guidance of Ayşe Erkut who received her Ph.D. degree in 1960 at Kansas State College, under the sponsorship of the AID-Nebraska University training program.

Dr. Erkut's main goal, in the field of Food and Nutrition and Family Health is to train her students in the basic principles of nutrition and provide enough practical background to enable them to transmit the academic information obtained in the university to village homemakers. She hopes to spend the summer months in the villages for on-the-job training sessions with her students. Whenever she has some spare time left, she says, "I must allocate some time for translating books on nutrition, since a very limited amount of material from Turkish sources is available in this field." "However," continues Dr. Erkut, "our main problem will be equipping the foods and nutrition laboratories and the classrooms

properly." The laboratories will eventually be equipped with kitchens representing eight different levels of income groups in Turkey, starting with a fire place and ending up with a complete electrical kitchen unit.

In addition to her responsibilities and overload of work, Dr. Erkut is in the process of preparing her thesis for a Doçent Degree (Assistant Professorship) on the eating habits of villagers. She has personally observed the eating habits of 40 families covering five villages in Kırşehir province. Her research will cover food availability, diet deficiencies, storage facilities, and the cooking methods of the villagers. She is also working on introducing cottonseed flour and soybean flour into village diets as a cheap source of protein.

In July Dr. Ayşe Erkut will take part in the International Food Seminar sponsored by the Ministry of Health in Ankara. She and her colleagues are now preparing lectures and demonstrations on the topic of "Teaching Nutrition at All Levels of Society."

Overloaded with scholarly pursuits, Dr. Erkut could not spare much time for social activities while in the United States. However, she did on one occasion tour the states of Tennessee, Oklahoma and New Mexico, observing

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ADDRESS PARTICIPANT LUNCHEON

His Excellency the Minister of Education, Hilmi İncesulu; the Honorable Raymond Hare, American Ambassador to Turkey; and the AID Director, Mr. Stuart H. Van Dyke, addressed a luncheon given to honor all the participants working directly in the Ministry of Education and those other education participants who were due to receive Certificates of Achievement. The get-together luncheon which started with cocktails was followed by speeches. Each participant was presented with an AID pin and a gift packet of American and Turkish books. The recently returned participants, in addition were given Certificates of Achievement for successfully completing their assignment in the United States.

After a welcoming address from Mr. Van Dyke, Ambassador Hare described the great progress in Turkey that he has observed since his last visit here over 30 years ago when he was an instructor at Robert College in 1927. He thus considered himself a participant also, in a reverse sense however, - an American participant in Turkey. Upon his return after so many years, he noted the appearance of great highways, industries and buildings; but in particular, he was impressed with the development in human resources, creating experts in various lines of technical skills. He said he had great hope and

confidence that, as people in the field of education, the participants gathered at the luncheon would especially contribute toward making Turkey a great nation. Ambassador Hare concluded his address by saying, "Much of our civilization came from this part of the world and by our assistance in Turkey's development, we are humbly trying to repay our debt."

In response to the Ambassador's remarks, the Minister of Education, Hilmi İncesulu, agreed that there has been much progress in Turkey during the past thirty years. "We have a long way to go yet", added the Minister, "and we have to work much harder." He also assured the Ambassador that the aid granted to Turkey would be utilized effectively toward this cause. As a former participant himself, the Minister continued, he was keenly aware of the great value of the Participant Training Program in achieving this development. He expressed appreciation to those who are sponsoring and administering this worthy program.

As for the participants themselves, they seemed to share the opinion that the luncheon was a truly worthwhile occasion. "I am delighted to have this opportunity for a reunion with some of my fellow participants whom I haven't seen since our U.S. days", said Nezihe Özyürek, who was an active participant in 1960 studying public relations, administration and guidance at Wisconsin Menomonie State College. She is now a teacher of Turkish literature at the Girls Technical Teachers School. For Mr. Beşir Goguş, presently an assistant to a member of the National Board of Education, this luncheon served to revive memories of happy and profitable days in the U.S. Mr. Goguş toured the United States for four months in 1959, visiting high schools and observing the American elementary educational system in eight states.



Dr. Ayşe Erkut doing research in her laboratory.

AID PARTICIPANT HEADS NEW

DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION

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the work of home demonstration agents. "I was very much impressed with the active role the women play in the United States in community affairs on all levels of society," states Dr. Erkut. She hopes to emphasize the importance of active participation in community life to her students in the classrooms. These teachers in turn will encourage their own students and the village women with whom they come in contact to do the same.

The task facing Dr. Erkut is a very great one. A large per cent of Turkey's population is existing on a deficient diet. Only a physically healthy society can produce mentally alert and productive citizens. Turkey desperately needs university-trained nutritionists and it will be the responsibility of Dr. Erkut to fill this great gap by developing qualified people.

NEW GOVERNOR OF ISTANBUL 1956 PARTICIPANT

The new Governor of Istanbul, Niyazi Aki, was a US/AID participant for a month and a half in 1956. As the Governor of Erzurum, he was sent under the "General Agriculture Administration Project." In the past he has held the positions of mayor of Hatay, Konya, and Balıkesir. His last post before assuming the duties of Governorship of Istanbul was that of Mayor of Amasya. A graduate of the Faculty of Political Science, Mr. Aki had studied public administration in the United States from 1947-1949, and has done some research in England.



Education participants at the AID luncheon.



Hüseyin Yegin (Second from right) and his technicians are surveying an eroded burnt forest land to be terraced by a 1961 work camp.



Mr. Yegin is discussing the end results of an irrigation project with a farmer. The result in this case was a 45% increase.



Mr. Yegin is working on the "slip-form" device for canal building.



An irrigation canal built by "slip form" method to serve farms between Mersin and Tarsus.

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Wasteland Becomes High Income Earner

"To a great extent, my training in the United States is responsible for my accomplishments in Turkey", says Mr. Yegin. American administrative and working methods have been the primary tools of Mr. Yegin since assuming his present position. Working together with AID advisors, Mr. Yegin and his staff surveyed the farms of about 156 applicants. They supervised the planting and irrigation systems of lands covering an area of 74,130 hectares on the southern coast of Turkey.

Mr. Yegin conducts individual interviews in order to get acquainted with his farmers and takes inventories of farms to learn about farming problems. Back in his office, he devotes much of his time to thinking up possible solutions to these farm problems. The valuable information obtained from these interviews and inventories also enables Mr. Yegin and his planning staff to devise better and realistic approaches to future programs.

Mr. Yegin is noted for his ability to share the knowledge and experience gained in the U.S. with his fellow

workers and for getting them to put the new techniques to practical use. While working for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service during his on-the-job training period, Mr. Yegin noticed a new device for making concrete irrigation canals called the "slip-form" method. Back in his job in Turkey, he worked on a modified version of it to meet Turkish requirements. After considerable research and several experiments, the new canals were constructed under his supervision. A demonstration was held which showed an increase (over 400 meters) in daily canal construction from the previous 175 meters to 620 meters per day.

However, Mr. Yegin's main achievement is in the field of actual irrigation practices. He has been unusually successful in determining how much, how often, and under what circumstances water is to be applied to particular types of plants and soil. By this alone, he has contributed to doubling or even tripling of the yield per hectare of many farms.

Mr. Yegin's name is also directly linked with a project which developed

the swamps and dunes, considered wasteland for centuries, into the highest income land in Turkey. There are 80,000 hectares of sand dunes along the Mediterranean seashore extending from Iskenderun to Silifke. Because they are piled high there is a strip of swamp immediately back of them 100 to 500 meters wide. Under the direction of Mr. Yegin and his American counterpart Mr. Tom Kamsay, drains were opened through the dunes and concrete pipes installed. Then the dunes and swamps were levelled for irrigation using rebuilt surplus military equipment. Counterpart funds, with no dollars for equipment or supplies, helped the project. The result was a most productive land, producing winter tomatoes valued at TL. 10,000 per dekar only a few months after development.

As to future plans, Mr. Yegin and his staff, composed of 40 agricultural technicians and 200 workers, are busy developing new projects and programs. This year they will apply soil conservation practices to 5,695 hectares, will

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HISTORIC AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BY PARTICIPANT

A labor-management agreement, marking a significant step forward in solving Turkey's critical shortage of skilled man-power, was concluded under supervision of AID participant Alparslan İdil and AID advisors. This agreement signed on February 1, 1962 in Eskişehir, establishes an apprenticeship training program for the trade union members of the Eskişehir Iron Industrialists Association, which includes workers of 40 different shops.

This is an historic agreement because the Employment Service of the Labor Ministry and the AID advisors, for the first time, succeeded in setting up such a training program for the members of a large private enterprise trade union. Previous agreements were concluded only in government enterprises with a few small scale programs set up for the workers of individual private shops.

Mr. İdil, the Employment Service Training Technician of the Ministry of Labor and an AID participant for 6 months in 1960, played an important role in realizing this agreement. As a part of the AID Participant Training Program to send Turkish personnel to study and observe successful industrial training systems in operation in the United States, Mr. İdil visited industrial plants of about a hundred cities, covering 29 states. Our participant attributes

his achievement in organizing this training program to his experience gained in the United States.

According to this agreement, on-the-job training and classroom instruction will be provided for the apprentices of about forty shop owners belonging to the Eskişehir Iron Industrialists Trade Union. The management is to supply the instructors with the Ministry of Labor and AID furnishing the necessary equipment. Other provisions of the agreement call for the training period to extend from three to four years, giving credit for past experience and vocational training of individual apprentices. Each apprentice is to receive a starting allowance of TL. 6.00 a day with a 50 kuruş raise per day every six months if performance is found satisfactory.

Up to the present time, old apprenticeship practices, by which the father passed his trade on to his son, or the immediate family, jealously guarding the learning of the skill from others, has greatly aggravated the skilled labor shortage in Turkey's rapidly growing industries. To meet this demand for more skilled workers, the Ministry of Labor has set up an agency under its directorship, called the Employment Service, to encourage the organization of training programs and improve training methods and techniques.



Mr. Van Dyke (middle) talking to Raif Turgut (left) and Servet Metin Altıntaşlı (right).

TWO PARTICIPANTS COMMENDED BY THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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Messrs. Turgut and Altıntaşlı, after completing an academic work at the Syracuse University, were engaged in an actual work assignment with the Auditors of Public Accounts of the State of Connecticut. They are most grateful for the invaluable experience gained in Connecticut and the warm hospitality and assistance accorded them by the staff of the Auditors of Public Accounts. "We felt like citizens and employees of the State of Connecticut," they remarked.

Back in Turkey, Mr. Turgut, Controller at the Ministry of Finance, and Mr. Altıntaşlı, assistant to the Chief of the Department of Accounting Machines, are busy drafting suggestions for applying the methods learned in the United States. A new procedure to standardize and simplify the handling of the operating funds in Government offices was proposed by them to make the present accounting system more efficient.

LATEST DEPARTURES FOR U. S.

The latest AID participants to leave for the United States on March 24, 1962 are: Sabahattin Zaim, Associate Professor of Social Policy of School of Economics of Istanbul University; Ekmel Onbulak, Mineral Director under the Ministry of Labor General Directorate; and İbrahim Toygar, member of Research Board of the Ministry of Labor.

The main purpose of their visit will be to attend Michigan State Conference on Educational Institutions and International Labor followed by study in the field of labor education visiting other universities and various labor education divisions.

In this conference the participants will meet with labor education specialists from all over the free world exchange views and experiences, and establish guide lines particularly suitable to less developed industrial countries.

Both Messrs. Zaim and Onbulak were previous AID participants. Mr. Zaim went to U.S. from 1955 to 1957 under AID Project of "Industrial Relations and Research." Earlier from 1946 to 1950, Mr. Zaim had studied at the University of Wisconsin. Mr. Onbulak was in the U.S. under the same AID project from October 1958 to January 1959.



Left to right: Mr. Van Dyke is discussing travel plans with Ekmel Onbulak and İbrahim Toygar.

Wasteland Becomes High Income Earner

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construct irrigation canals to serve over 22,239 hectares and will introduce irrigation control practices on 49,420 hectares of farm land.

The economic planners of Turkey are convinced that with 50% of its population engaged in agriculture and 85% of its export coming from agricultural products, the economic development of Turkey may be achieved best through progress in agriculture. Although the great majority of the people are farmers, they contribute only 45% to the Gross National Product. At the same time, the population of Turkey is increasing at an extremely rapid rate (3% per year) while the land suitable for cultivation is being seriously damaged as a result of wind and water erosion.

In the past, increase in production resulted only from putting new land into cultivation rather than improvement in farming methods. Since there are no new lands suitable for cultivation, the demand for accelerated increase in agricultural products can be met only through improved farming practices. The farmers of Turkey must be trained in the light of modern knowledge and techniques for better farming if they are to increase their yield per hectare. To this cause, Mr. Yegin is contributing an invaluable service through his untiring efforts.



PARTICIPANT JOURNAL is published by the USAID for and on behalf of all the present and former participants of the AID Training Program.

PARTICIPANT JOURNAL depends on the news and suggestions sent by the participants in Turkey and in the U.S. Please notify this office in case of change of address or any other corrections. All correspondence should be addressed to:

US/AID PARTICIPANT JOURNAL
Office of the Editor
Dr. Vali Reşid Caddesi 16
Ankara, Turkey

ALUMNI COLUMN

1949

Please refer to the story on the "1st and 2,000th participant" on page 3.

1950

Atif Soyacıoğlu, who studied highway engineering for 12 months, is now working with the Construction Engineering and Contracting and Importing Co., in Ankara.

1951

Nezih Rona studied under "Sumer Executive Training" project for six months. He is now working for the Ereğli Iron-Steel Works Joint-Stock Company (Ereğli Demir-Çelik İşletmeleri Anonim Şirketi).

1952

Kemal Göçmençelabi is now working for the Employment Service of the Ministry of Labor (İş ve İşçi Bulma Kurumu Umum Müdürlüğü). Under the AID Program he had studied Statistics.

1953

Mustafa Tuncer, who studied farm mechanization under AID program, is Agricultural Director at Uşak. His address is Aybek Mahallesi, Eski Tabakhane, Dereboyu Cad 62.

1954

Necdet Yeşilovalı studied under "Specialized Weather Forecasting" project. He is with the Government Meteorology Office in Ankara.

Sezgin Abdurrahman is now holding the post of "Ministry of Agriculture Research Consultant" at the Ministry of Agriculture. In the U.S. he had studied farm production.

1955

Mehmet Bingül, a veterinarian, was in the United States for 12 months studying Crop and Livestock Development. He is the Director of the Laboratory of the Bacteriology Institute in İstanbul

1956

Muzaffer Baybek, the CENTO Consultant for the General Management of Budget of the Ministry of Finance, studied tax and finance as part of his training program in U.S.

1957

Satılmış Köksal, who got his training in civil police administration, is working at the General Directorate of Safety. (Emniyet Genel Müdürlüğü) in Ankara.

1958

Turgut Gökso was in the U.S. for two years under AID-Nebraska University Program. He is now an assistant professor of the Zoology Department of the Atatürk University at Erzurum.

1959

Safet Erdem is the chief of the Power Market Survey Section of the E.I.E. Hydrological Data Study and Training Department. He received training in power planning in the U.S.

Fuat Biringen, the head of Technical Accounting Section of the General Directorate of Highways, got his training in public administration under the AID program.

1960

Süreyya Demirtaşlan, who went to the U.S., under the Agricultural Extension Project, is the Vegetable Improvement Specialist of the Farmer Services Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Each issue of **PARTICIPANT JOURNAL** in its "Alumni Column" will contain brief information on the present profession and activities of individual participants, grouped according to the year in which they studied in the United States. Because of lack of current personal data, information in this issue is more abbreviated than we had hoped. With your help, we will give a more detailed account in the future issues.