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“BE FRIENDLY WITH THE PEASANTRY”: ENGLISH GUIDEBOOKS ON CYPRUS DURING THE BRITISH OCCUPATION (1878-1960)

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ABSTRACT.

In this article we analyse the English guidebooks on Cyprus, either on this isle or in combination with other countries and areas (usually Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Malta, the Mediterranean, etc) which were published during the time span of the British occupation of the island (1878-1960). Such works endeavoured to boost the main assets of the island. These included its fine weather and the hospitality of its inhabitants, the tranquillity of life there for the foreign resident, its antiquity and its archaeological potential and its historical and monumental heritage. However, they did not live up to their objective. In general terms, despite their enormous efforts, English guidebooks failed to effectively promote Cyprus's tourist potential.

KEY WORDS: guidebooks, travel literature, Cyprus, Britain, British Occupation of Cyprus, English-speaking tourists and residents, archaeology, monumental heritage, hospitality

RESUMEN:

En este artículo analizamos las guías turísticas sobre Chipre en lengua inglesa durante el periodo de ocupación británica de la isla (1878-1960), tanto las escritas en exclusividad sobre la isla como las publicadas en combinación con otros países o regiones (normalmente Turquía, Grecia, Egipto, Malta, el Mediterráneo, etc). Tales obras intentaron potenciar los principales atractivos de la isla: su agradable clima, la hospitalidad de sus habitantes, la vida apacible de los residentes extranjeros, su antigüedad y su potencial arqueológico así como su patrimonio artístico. Sin embargo, tales obras no alcanzaron su objetivo. Por lo general, apesar de los grandes esfuerzos realizados, las guías turísticas en lengua inglesa no lograron incentivar con éxito el potencial turístico de Chipre.

PALABRAS CLAVE: guías turísticas, literatura de viajes, Chipre, Gran Bretaña, ocupación británica de Chipre, turistas y residentes anglófonos, arqueología, patrimonio artístico, hospitalidad

Guidebooks written and published in English on the island of Cyprus during the British occupation of the island (1878-1960) were addressed almost exclusively to the British traveller and tourist. In fact, one of the main aims of these guidebooks was to ease the stay of visitors in Cyprus (mainly coming from the metropolis) and to guarantee their relaxation and comfort. Information on hotels, restaurants, monuments, weather, administrative procedures, routes to follow,

useful tips on the local customs, etc, were inevitable elements of these works. Indeed, these guidebooks constitute a great interest in the study of the phenomenon of travel and tourism as they provide ample information on the interests of foreign travellers in Cyprus at different chronological periods within the 82-year span of British rule.

As soon as the British administration took over the island of Cyprus from the Porte, in July 1878, a sudden interest was aroused in Britain for their new acquisition (Demetriou and Ruiz Mas 2004; Demetriou 2006 and 2007). Proof of this is that the fourth edition of John Murray’s popular *Handbook for Travellers in Turkey in Asia, including Constantinople, the Bosphorus, Plain of Troy, Isles of Cyprus, Rhodes, &c. Smyrna, Ephesus, and the Routes to Persia, Bagdad, Moosool, &c., with General Hints for Travellers in Turkey, Vocabulary, &c.* (1878) now included Cyprus, whereas its previous editions had not¹. John Murray attributes the fashion of travelling east to the remarkable discoveries of Schliemann in Troy, of Wood in Ephesus, and of Di Cesnola in Cyprus². The author states that these historic places were now attracting the attention of scholars and tourists alike (1878: v). The fourth edition of Murray’s *Handbook* includes a revised text and the addition of new routes. Indeed, section II is dedicated to Cyprus,³ Rhodes, Crete, and the Turkish Islands in the Aegean.

The encouragement of tourism in Cyprus is evident in this influential guidebook. Murray informs his readers that the island can be reached by an Austrian boat from Smyrna or Beirut (174). He adds that a fortnight or three week tour would be ideal to allow the traveller to see the most interesting sites (179), and that the tourist is guaranteed perfect security now that the island is under the British rule. What is more, he assures that before long the island will enjoy the luxury of good roads and comfortable hotels (181), and that it offers a most inviting field for the antiquarian (190). However, Murray does not hide that Cyprus’ biggest drawbacks are its shortage of water and the ravages of locusts that consume one-half of the crops almost every year (179).

¹ The previous editions of Murray’s guidebooks in Turkey were the following: *A Hand-book for Travellers in the Ionian Islands, Greece, Turkey, Asia Minor, and Constantinople* (1840); *A Hand-book for Travellers in Turkey, describing Constantinople, European Turkey, Asia Minor, Armenia, and Mesopotamia* (1854), and *A Handbook for Travellers in Turkey in Asia, including Constantinople, the Bosphorus, Dardanelles, Brousa and Plain of Troy* (1871). Cobham (1929) does not mention Murray’s fourth edition of this book. For more information on Murray’s handbooks, see Lister (1993).

² General Luigi Palma di Cesnola (1832-1904) was an American consul at Larnaca from 1865 to 1877. He took advantage of his position in pre-British Cyprus and the lack of interest in archaeological matters of the Ottoman authorities to carry out archaeological excavations on the island. His collection was later acquired by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Cesnola became its first director in 1879 and continued in this capacity until 1904. In Cyprus his archaeological findings are nowadays considered to have been the fruit of looting.

³ Cyprus is described between pages 174 and 191. The issues dealt with in reference to Cyprus are the following: ‘General Information’, ‘Historical Sketch’, ‘Sporting’, ‘Antiquities’, ‘Products’, ‘Climate’, and ‘Tour of Cyprus, starting from Larnaka’

Soon afterwards another key guidebook that now included Cyprus saw the light in 1881. It was Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Lambert Playfair's *Handbook for Travellers, Mediterranean. Handbook to the Mediterranean: its Cities, Coasts, and Islands. For the Use of General Travellers and Yachtsmen*⁴. The popularity of this guidebook is proved by its early second edition as soon as 1882 and its third edition only a few years later, in 1890. Its Part I is dedicated to the North of Africa, Egypt, Syria, Asia Minor and Turkey, the Greek Archipelago, Greece and Albania and includes a section on Cyprus and Malta (1881:152-70). In order to write about Cyprus⁵, Playfair admits to having consulted Murray's 'Handbook', Di Cesnola, and Baker and Brassey's respective travel accounts (1881: 152)⁶, all of them well-known works at the time. Playfair does his best to encourage tourism to the island by declaring that the bad reputation of the Cypriot weather comes from the fact that the summer of 1878 happened to be 'one of the most unhealthy on record' and the troops posted there were overworked and badly lodged (153). As for the ill-famed Cypriot malarial fever, he writes that, although it is true that it is caused in the summer by the miasmatic exhalations from the pestilential marshes of Larnaka, Famagusta and Limassol, it is also true, he adds, that 'this is neither so general nor so dangerous in its character as has been represented and it is hoped that, under the British rule, steps may be taken for having them thoroughly drained' (153).

During the last quarter of the 19th century, most English-speaking travellers to Cyprus used either Murray's or Playfair's different editions of their guidebooks. Once the urge to know about the then recently-acquired island had disappeared, the importance of Cyprus within the main tourist routes of the Mediterranean was minimized, to the extent that in the anonymous *Guide to the Eastern Mediterranean* (1901) Cyprus is only covered by four pages (149-152). The rest of this book is dedicated to describing the south and east coasts of Italy, the eastern coasts of the Adriatic, Greece and the Greek islands, Constantinople, Brousa,

⁴ Cobham (1929:31) names the author R. Lambert-Playfair and titles the book *Murray's Handbook to the Mediterranean*. He also mentions the 1881 and 1890 editions, but not the 1882 one. Playfair was an experienced author of handbooks for travellers. Before his "Handbook to the Mediterranean" he had already published *Travels in the Footsteps of Bruce, Handbook to Algeria and Tunis*, etc.

⁵ The following are the issues that Playfair mentions in reference to Cyprus: means of communication, travelling in the interior, map of Cyprus, population, climate, sports, wine, antiquities and pottery. As for towns and places of interest, he writes about Larnaka, Santa Croce, Amarthus or Palaeo Limisso, Limassol, Episcopi, Pissouri, Palaeo-Paphos or Kuklia, Neo-Paphos or Baffo, Chysoroghiastisa, Mount Troödos, Ciaco, Lefka, Morphou, Soli, Lapethus, Kyrenia, Nikosia, Kythrea, St Elias, St Barnabas, Salamis, Famagusta, Leucolla, Tremitus, Golgoi and Idalium. Place names are spelt according to each individual author's spelling in the works cited.

⁶ The books alluded to are the following: John Murray's *Handbook for Travellers in Turkey in Asia, including Constantinople, the Bosphorus, Plain of Troy, Isles of Cyprus, Rhodes, &c. Smyrna, Ephesus, and the Routes to Persia, Bagdad, Moosool, &c., with General Hints for Travellers in Turkey, Vocabulary, &c.* (1878); Luigi Palma Di Cesnola's *Cyprus, its Ancient Cities, Tombs and Temples* (1877); Sir Samuel White Baker's *Cyprus as I Saw It in 1879* (1879), and Baroness Brassey's *Sunshine and Storm in the East; or, Cruises to Cyprus and Constantinople* (1880). For more information on them, see Demetriou and Ruiz Mas (2004).

Smyrna and Ephesus⁷. Besides, Samos and Rhodes are erroneously included as part of Cyprus (1901:150 and 151 respectively). As for the political situation of the island, the guidebook states that, ‘it is administered by the British, paying a tribute to Turkey which leaves very small margin for such necessary expenses as roads and public works’ (149). The next guidebook we have found is the anonymous *Guide to Greece, the Archipelago, Constantinople, the Coasts of Asia Minor, Crete and Cyprus, etc.* (1910), but it is merely a third edition of the previously published *Guide to the Eastern Mediterranean* (1901)⁸.

The Great War had obliged all tourism in Europe to come to a halt during the previous two decades. English guidebooks on Cyprus became more abundant (though not excessively either) from the 1930s onwards, when there was an evident interest in the island as a place of rest, of tourist value, benevolent weather, interesting history and archaeology and civilized European-like accommodation and facilities. It was at the beginning of the 1930s when the first guidebook exclusively dedicated to Cyprus was published. This was H. Preston Giles and Albert Rowland Maiden’s *A Guide to the Island of Cyprus* (1931)⁹. Apart from being a pioneering guidebook on Cyprus, it was also published on the very island¹⁰.

Special attention is granted in it to the accessibility of Cyprus from Europe and Egypt. The authors include ample information on the routes and services from Paris, via Brindisi and Piraeus, via Port Said, via train to Athens or via Istanbul, all ranging between five and eight days. Longer journeys to Cyprus are also included, via Port Said and Khedivial or via Venice, Piraeus, Istanbul, or via Syria and Palestine, which take between twelve and thirteen days (1931: 6-7).

As for useful information for the leisured visitor, special attention is also given to indicating the numerous clubs existing on the island, among which are some English ones: in Nicosia, Famagusta, Limassol, Kyrenia and Troodos, all boasting tennis courts, and in the case of Nicosia, even a squash court. There are also golf courses in most of them. There is also a social club at Skouriotissa, but except on

⁷ As far as Cyprus is concerned, this guidebook gives information on the following places: Cyprus (in general), Salamis, Famagusta, Larnaca, Limassol, Paphos, Poli tes Chrysochou, Kyrenia, Lapithus, Bella Pais, Nicosia, and the Museum. The anonymous author also includes some useful yachting notes and miscellaneous data with a list of hotels.

⁸ Cobham (1929:68) titles it *Guide to Greece ... and Cyprus*.

⁹ Giles was a specialist of Egypt and the editor of *The Cyprus News*, the only English newspaper in Cyprus, published on Saturdays, which circulated all over the Near East and in Britain. We have found no information about Maiden.

¹⁰ The Table of Contents of this guidebook includes the following chapters, giving ample information on the Cypriot issues dealt with of the tourist’s interest: Introduction; I, The accessibility of Cyprus from Europe and Egypt; II, Useful information for visitors (on passports, clothes, luggage, personal effects, liquor, tobacco, firearms, dogs, motor cars, prohibitions, churches, motor-car fares, distances between the principal towns, banks, clubs, fishing, shooting and riding); III, A sketch of the history of Cyprus; IV, The Cyprus Museum; V, General Information (a) List of Consuls in Cyprus; b) Postal Information; c) Weights and Measures; d) Currency; e) Telegraphic Information; f) Schools and Hotels); VI, Cyprus to-day; VII, Winter Sports; VIII, The Towns and Villages of Cyprus and their principal and most interesting monuments and antiquities, etc.

invitation of one of its members, it is reserved for the personnel of the Cyprus Mines Corporation (10). In the section on fishing, shooting and riding, the authors name the wide variety of game at the disposal of hunters: hares, partridges, quail, and in winter plentiful duck and snipe. There are also moufflon in Troodos, but a special license costing about ten pounds is required to shoot a single specimen (10). As for winter sports, 'the main idea is to provide a venue in the Near East, easily accessible to thousands of people who find Switzerland much too far away (...)' (37). Giles and Maiden also describe the different types of schools existing in Cyprus, no doubt with the expatriate resident, the civil servant or the military men in mind: Greek schools, Turkish *lycées*, convents and an English school, staffed with English masters, similar to an English Grammar school, with a boarding section. It is explained that sports, 'esprit de corps' and 'playing the game' are given high priority there, statements that are evidently addressed to a readership who was considering moving to this British dominion or being posted there; they were therefore expected to have the moral duty to keep the British way of life as a distinctive mark from the local customs and the behaviour of the local population. The authors add that there is also an American Academy with American and English masters (29). As for the hotels, the authors say that there is at least a good hotel in every town. The ones in Nicosia are 'The Aqueduct', which is the best, 'The Palace' and 'The George', all of them adequate but not first class to European standards. There are other hotels run by the natives. Although the hotel in Kyrenia is good enough, in Larnaca and Limassol the accommodation is not so adequate. The food is good and the service is reasonable. Baths and sanitation are improving (29-30)¹¹.

The interest in the post-WWI promotion of tourism in Cyprus continued with another guidebook written by Alexander R. Cury (better known locally as 'Khoori')¹²: *Cyprus: How to See It* (c.1934). In spite of the title it is a guidebook on Cyprus *and* on Egypt (and is therefore published in Cairo's The Anglo-Egyptian Supply Association). Cyprus is covered between pages 1 and 58, which makes for approximately two thirds of the book. It is mainly focused on informing the visitor on the tourist resources of the island: its history, sights, routes, etc. The remaining contents are dedicated to Egypt (from page 59) and to commercial advertisements (from page 66). Above all, it praises the 'Olympus' and the 'Majestic' hotels as

¹¹ The photographs, taken by Mosditchian in black and white, include 'a fine collection of Cyprus pottery – in the Museum' (16-17), 'A Greek Stone Altar (c.300 B.C.) in the Museum' (32-33), 'Kyrenia Gate before demolition to meet modern needs' (34-35), 'A view of the interior of St. Sophia Cathedral - now a mosque-, Nicosia' (38-39), 'Once a Royal Castle - the ruins of St. Hilarion on Kerynia Hills' (42-43), 'Othello's Tower – Famagusta' (58-59), 'Remains of Ancient Salamis. A ruined white marble colonnade' (60-61), 'The Gothic Cathedral of St. Nicolas – Famagusta' (62-63), and 'Remains of the once splendid palace of the Lusignan kings of Cyprus – Famagusta' (64-65). Giles and Miles' guidebook also gives detailed information on the following towns and venues: Nicosia (35), Cathedral of St Sophia (37), other churches in town (39), Nicosia district (Morphou, Kythraea, Machaera and Kykkou monasteries) (40-41), Kyrenia (42), Limassol (47), Paphos (50), Larnaca (55), Famagusta and district (59), Mount Troodos, Platres and Pedoulas (66).

¹² Cury was the author of other guidebooks on Athens (*Athens: How to See It*) and Cairo (*Cairo: How to See It*), Alexandria and Jerusalem.

well as the other hotels and transportation companies in every major tourist site: the Nicosia Cyprus Palace Hotel, the Larnaca Majestic Hotel, the Olympus Hotels (in Troodos and Limassol) and the Savoy Hotel (Famagusta). The guidebook openly recommends patronising the ‘excellent hotel system successfully run by Messrs Najem Houry & Sons, of Cyprus fame’ (c.1934: 21)¹³.

The most popular of the guidebooks written on Cyprus during the first half of the 20th century is Krevork Krikor Keshishian’s *Romantic Cyprus. A Comprehensive Guide for Tourists and Travellers* (c.1946). It was published as soon as WWII was over, with a generous amount of 30 illustrations and 3 maps, that is, with more additional material than any other previous guidebooks. Proof of its popularity and commercial success amongst British and other English-speaking travellers was the high number of revised and enlarged editions that followed: in 1947, 1948, 1951, 1952, 1954, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1962, 1963, 1967 and 1971, up to the present day. The last ones known to us were published in c.1987 and 1992, that is, the 16th and 17th editions respectively¹⁴.

According to ‘The Presentation’ (c.1946:16), written by T. Steward Bell, former officer at the Public Information Office in Nicosia, Mr Keshishian was a boy of eleven when he arrived at Cyprus as a refugee from the Great War. He studied at the American Academy and soon gave evidence of his gift for languages. When he was a young man he worked for Messrs Cable and Wireless Ltd. As his hobby was to help tourists who visited the island, he decided to write a guidebook for them¹⁵.

¹³ *Cyprus: How to See It* offers the English-speaking visitor information on the following issues, places and sites of Cyprus: a glimpse of history, Cyprus of today, Famagusta, the ruins of Salamis, Nicosia, The Cyprus Museum, Larnaca (Ancient Citium), Kyrenia, Troodos (Ancient Mount Olympus), Mesopotamos, Platres, Paphos (the City of Aphrodite), Limassol, the Cyprian religion (sic), churches and clubs, motoring tours through Cyprus, newspapers and reviews, visa information, postal information, motor car, carriage and horse fares, railway, telegraph and telephone information, and weights and measures.

¹⁴ Of its 1992 edition (Nicosia: Romantic Cyprus Publication, 17th edition, 128 pages), Kitromilides and Evriaviades (1995) write that, although first published in 1946, ‘this work remains a favourite for many visitors, despite the proliferation of tourist books on Cyprus’ (1995:10). It is now also available in German and French. Panteli (1995:199) mentions the 1967 edition (12th edition).

¹⁵ The contents of the book are the following: an Introduction that gives information about the geographical situation of Cyprus, its communications, its physical features, climate – ‘generally speaking the climate is healthy’ (22)–, population, languages spoken, local time, education, exports and imports, currency, telecommunications, weights and measures used on the island, length and area; a brief historical survey (‘Historical Glimpses’), with a special interest on the Byzantine Crusades, a short outline of the history of Christianity in Cyprus, ‘A General Glimpse of Cyprus’, with information on Limassol, Paphos and Ktima Paphos, Kyrenia (and St Hilarion and Bellapais), Nicosia and its places of monumental interest (including a map of the city), Salamis, Famagusta and its important sites, including a map of the town and of Varosha, Larnaca, a collection of useful hints for the tourist, a description of the summer resorts, an official report on the Summer Health Resorts of Cyprus (Troodos, Platres, Prodhromos, Pedhoulas, Kalopanoyiotis and Ayii Anargyri), ‘Bits of Wisdom of Cyprus’, taken from Demetrios Stylianou’s *The Inner Life of Cyprus* (A Collection of the Traditions [.] Customs, Beliefs and Wisdom of the Peasantry of Cyprus. By ... M.A.D.B. Master at the American Academy Larnaca, Cyprus. Nicosia: ‘Apollo’ Press, of J. G. Cassulides, 1931), a table of distances in miles, and a folded map of the island. The first fourteen pages of the book are

The part of the guidebook dedicated to the population of the island is especially interesting, as the problem of the considerable amount of emigration of Cypriot youths to the United Kingdom, the United States and the Middle Eastern countries is much regretted. According to Keshishian, this is due to ‘the urge for a better living’ and ‘the spirit of adventure in their [the Cypriots’] blood’ (22). This is the reason, he adds, why one can now find Cypriots in almost every corner of the globe (22).

A book such as this, so overtly inclined to promote tourism in Cyprus, does not forget to include a number of useful hints on different aspects of Cypriot life that the foreign visitor should take into account to avoid any misunderstandings with the local population. These hints, clearly addressed to the British tourist, include advice on greetings (‘Don’t be surprised if an unknown person salutes you in the street’), the hospitality of the Cypriots (‘Don’t be surprised if the shopkeeper offers you a chair or perhaps a lemonade or a coffee’), social life (‘Eat whatever [the Cypriot] offers you whether you enjoy it or not; if this is impossible, at least eat some to make him feel that you accept his hospitality’), travelling in the island (‘A motor car trip from Larnaca through Nicosia and on to another part is not *seeing* Cyprus’), visiting monasteries (‘You are expected to contribute in the way of an offering by dropping any amount you like into the money box’) and village life (‘Be friendly with the peasantry’) (v). This is evidence of the attempt to encourage human contact and mutual understanding between visitors from the metropolis and natives. Most of the author’s advice seems to be directed to avoiding any misunderstanding on the visitor’s part of the Cypriot’s deep sense of hospitality.

The interest for Cyprus as a potential tourist resort is maintained by compilers and editors L. and H. Mangonian’s *The Island of Cyprus. An Illustrated Guide and Handbook* (1947), again published in Nicosia, by the Mangonian Bros. themselves, a photographic firm specialising in subjects of interest to tourists. This guidebook is in reality a compilation of articles written by well-known names in relation to Cyprus. It is full of overtly tourist photographs and therefore written ‘for the holiday-makers’ (1947:ix)¹⁶. Of special interest is the mention of the issue of ‘Enosis’ in one of the articles, signed by G. K. Congreve¹⁷. The author writes a

dedicated to advertisements. There are many more from pages 81 to 100. Many black and white photographs of great quality are also included.

¹⁶ It includes a list of addresses of tourist interest and a map at the end. The book begins with a poem by Philip Newman, ‘Treasure in Cyprus’ (v). In the Foreword, his author, A. H. S. Megaw, Director of Antiquities, admits to having been in charge of revising certain chapters (vii). The guidebook includes a map of Cyprus (viii). The Preface was written by Haig A. Mangonian. In the latter, he expresses the need for a small and comprehensive handbook of Cyprus in recent years. He also reminds the reader of the possibility of acquiring prints of the illustrations included in the book from the offices of the publishers in Nicosia (ix). Apart from the aforementioned Foreword, Preface and Illustrations, Maps and Abbreviations, the contents include the following sections and articles: ‘Historical Survey’ (‘Prehistoric to Roman Times’, by Miss E. E. Pitsillides, and ‘Medieval to Modern Times’, by G. K. Congreve).

¹⁷ For more information on ‘Enosis’ in travel literature on Cyprus, consult Demetriou and Ruiz Mas (2004: 35-45), Ruiz Mas (2005), Demetriou (2006: 55-72 and 2007: 17-36).

brief history of the movement up to the 1940's: the first public expression of the Archbishop to the High Commissioner in 1878, the more insistent and vocal desire after 1918 and the wild riots of 1931. 'They were soon suppressed and stern measures followed, some leaders were deported, a collective fine was imposed and the Legislative Council abolished' (13), he writes. Congreve adds that, 'the movement continues' (13)¹⁸. This seems to be the only time that such an uncomfortable political issue of Cyprus is mentioned in a problem-free type of book that guidebooks usually represent. This guidebook was published a year later in a condensed version by the Mangonian's brothers with the title *ABC of Cyprus: an Easy Guide* (1948).

The EOKA troubles in their pursuit for *enosis* and for the independence of Cyprus from Britain in the 1950s did not encourage tourism for obvious reasons. However, George Panayiotis Dacoglou, an experienced guidebook writer, author of the *Travel Manual and Guide of Hellas* (1934), a book for which he was awarded the Hellenic Prize of the 1934 Exhibition of Books in Athens¹⁹, tried his luck at promoting tourism in the area through his *Handbook to Greece-Turkey Cyprus-Malta with Hellenic Self-taught Section* (1954), published at the beginning of the troubled period of Greek-Cypriots' demands for *enosis* and therefore a very unfavourable stage for the promotion of tourism in Cyprus. Its author justifies its publication by declaring the lack of an up-to-date post-war guide to Greece and Turkey, Cyprus or Malta²⁰. He

¹⁸ Other sections follow: People and Religion (consisting of six articles, written by a representative of every church and community in Cyprus: The Orthodox Church, by Parthenios I. Kirmitsis, B.D., The Turkish Community, by Fadil Niyazi Korkut (lawyer), The Armenian Community, by Dr R. Takvorian, B.A., The Maronites, by Rev. Père Jean Foradaris, The Roman Catholic Church, by Rev. Godfrey Kloetzli, O.F.M., and The English Community and the Church of England, by M. L. Maxwell, Archdeacon of the Church of England in Cyprus); Places of Interest (Nicosia capital and district, Larnaca and district, Limassol and district, Famagusta and district, Paphos and district and Kyrenia and district), by Kaloyiros; Antiquities (Mythology, by Christos Charalambous, Master of Literature in the Pancyprian Gymnasium, The Cyprus Museum, by Miss Pitsillides, Byzantine Churches and Wall Paintings, by Kaloyiros, and Heraldry, by G. K. Congreve); Folk Art (Peasant Craft, by Mrs O. Raouf, and Folk Music, by Solou Michaelides); Holiday Resorts (Seaside Resorts and Hill Resorts, no authors indicated); Sports (Game Shooting, by G. F. Wilson, C.B.E., Skiing, by Mrs O. R. Arthur, Yachting, by A. W. Vaughan, and Fishing, anonymous); Village Life and Agriculture, by Kaloyiros and anonymous respectively; Geographical Notes, by C. Lapas; Forests, by R. R. Waterer, Conservator of Forests; Natural History (Flora, by L. J. S. Littlejohn, B. Sc., A.I.C.T.A., and Birds, by G. F. Wilson, C.B.E.); Administration, by Nicos Stylianakis; Education (anonymous); Transport and Communication, by George S. Papaphilipou; Trade and Industries (A Brief Economic Review, by Th. Tavernaris, Secretary of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce). The last chapter, called 'Miscellaneous Information, with Hints to Visitors', includes aspects of great use for tourists such as money, weights, measures, postage and telegraphic rates, consular representatives, banks and banking, income tax, the press, population of Cyprus (census of 1946), hotels and an index of importers, with no indication of authorship. The book includes a folded map of Cyprus, a bibliography, an index and a number of commercial advertisements.

¹⁹ And above all, the President of the Union of Travel Executives, Employees, and Guide Lecturers of Greece, the Founder-President of the Ramblers' Mountaineers' and Climbers' Association of Greece, the Founder-Secretary of the Skala Club of Athens and the Founder-President of the Rovers' Club of Greece.

²⁰ Cyprus is dealt with from page 177 to 185 only, in a chapter called 'The British Colony of the Island of Cyprus'. The rest of the book is dedicated to the other countries mentioned in the title. In this

assures the reader that every place in Greece and Turkey described in the handbook has been visited personally by himself. Dacoglou's optimism towards Cyprus's tourist potential is seen, among other things, in the fact that he boasts, for example, that ten thousand foreigners had already visited Cyprus in 1939.

The story of English guidebooks on Cyprus is the story of a number of irregular and more often than not unsuccessful attempts to make the island attractive as a place for rest and relaxation mainly for members of the metropolis. Several reasons have influenced Britain's failure in achieving this: firstly, the great distance existing between Britain and Cyprus and the limited amount of sea connections between both countries in addition to its slowness; secondly, the frugal facilities of the island and the very unhurried progress towards their improvement due to the meagre investment carried out on them owing to the stiflingly high yearly sum of rent paid by Britain to Turkey; thirdly, the two world wars and their corresponding periods of necessary economic recuperation; and fourthly, the EOKA troubles in the 1950s. Nevertheless, these guidebooks did try hard to boost the main assets of the island, such as its fine weather and the hospitality of its inhabitants, the tranquillity of life with which it provided the foreign resident, its antiquity and its archaeological potential and its historical and monumental heritage, but, alas, to little avail.

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chapter, Dacoglou writes about the geography and topography of the island and its main roads (1954: 178), he includes a brief sketch of the history of Cyprus (179), a chronology of events and a few paragraphs on archaeology (180). He also writes about the island as a tourist resort (with special reference to Kyrenia, Famagusta, Varosha, Troodos, Platres, Pedoulas, Prodomos and Mesopotamos-Saitras) (181), about how tourism should be encouraged (183), and adds a few hints to visitors (183). He also describes the main towns: Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Famagusta-Varosha, Salamis, Paphos and Kyrenia (184-85).

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