

remarking on the different customs that exist in different countries among different peoples, referred to the Oriental custom of removing shoes in entering a house or place of worship where one desires to show respect. There were Moslem girls in the class, and all denied that there had ever been such a custom in Cairo. That just meant that they had always worn shoes instead of *merakib*, and so had not even known that what was signified by the removal of the hat in one country was indicated by removing the shoes in another.

Many other trifles, or what may appear on the surface to be trifles, might be mentioned. But though they may be trifles, they indicate a trend. They show the direction of the wind, and that the air is moving.

Let it be noted in conclusion that not one element of any reform which has taken place, nor of any reform that is indicated by any change already accomplished, has been from within Islam. Islam has no reforming element within it. What has been done has been effected by contact with that which is without. Western civilization, Western customs, Western education, intelligence, and power have alone done what has been done, and must, I am persuaded, do what shall yet be done.

“Behold, the fields are white already to the harvest.”