

Arabs Find Welcome in Boro

By JEANNE TOOMEY

When Arabic sailors dock in Brooklyn, many of them head immediately for the Islamic Mission of America, 143 State Street.

Founded by Sheikh Daoud Ahmed Faisal, the mission includes a school where Arabic and Islamism are taught.

According to the spiritual leader of the institution, the Mohammedan religion and culture are one of the strongest enemies of Communism.

"We are fighting Communism by presenting to mankind the truth so man will live according to law," Sheikh Faisal said yesterday.

"The only way to stop Communism and all isms," he continued, "is to destroy them by destroying their philosophies. The people of the world must be taught to know themselves. They must be taught to know that all men are equal regard-

less of the color of their skins and their place of birth so that human rights of each individual may be respected mutually. This will stop Communism."

Services on Friday

Born in Morocco, Sheikh Faisal finally made his way to this country, because "America has a fascination."

On the second floor of the house on State St. occupied by the mission is the mosque or place of public religious worship. Here the Moslems gather on Fridays to praise Allah.

They leave their shoes out in the hall. Private quarters screened off from the main room are for women.

The institution is presently building additions, including a recreation room for the use of the regular congregation and for the transient seamen who find in the borough mosque a place to hear their own language and meet friends.

Sheikh Faisal, author of "Al-Islam, the Religion of Humanity" and other theological works, loves America but objects to the widespread sale of alcoholic beverages, which Moslems are not permitted to consume.

Wearing a white headdress and the masbaha or beads for counting prayers around his neck, he complained:

"The greatest industries in the United States deal with the forbidden things of God, fermented beverages and games of chance."

He performs marriage ceremonies and funerals for his people. The Moslem cemetery is in Heavenly Rest Memorial Park in New Jersey.

"There are no baptisms in our religion," he said. "Baptism means blessing and we believe only. Almighty God blesses."