

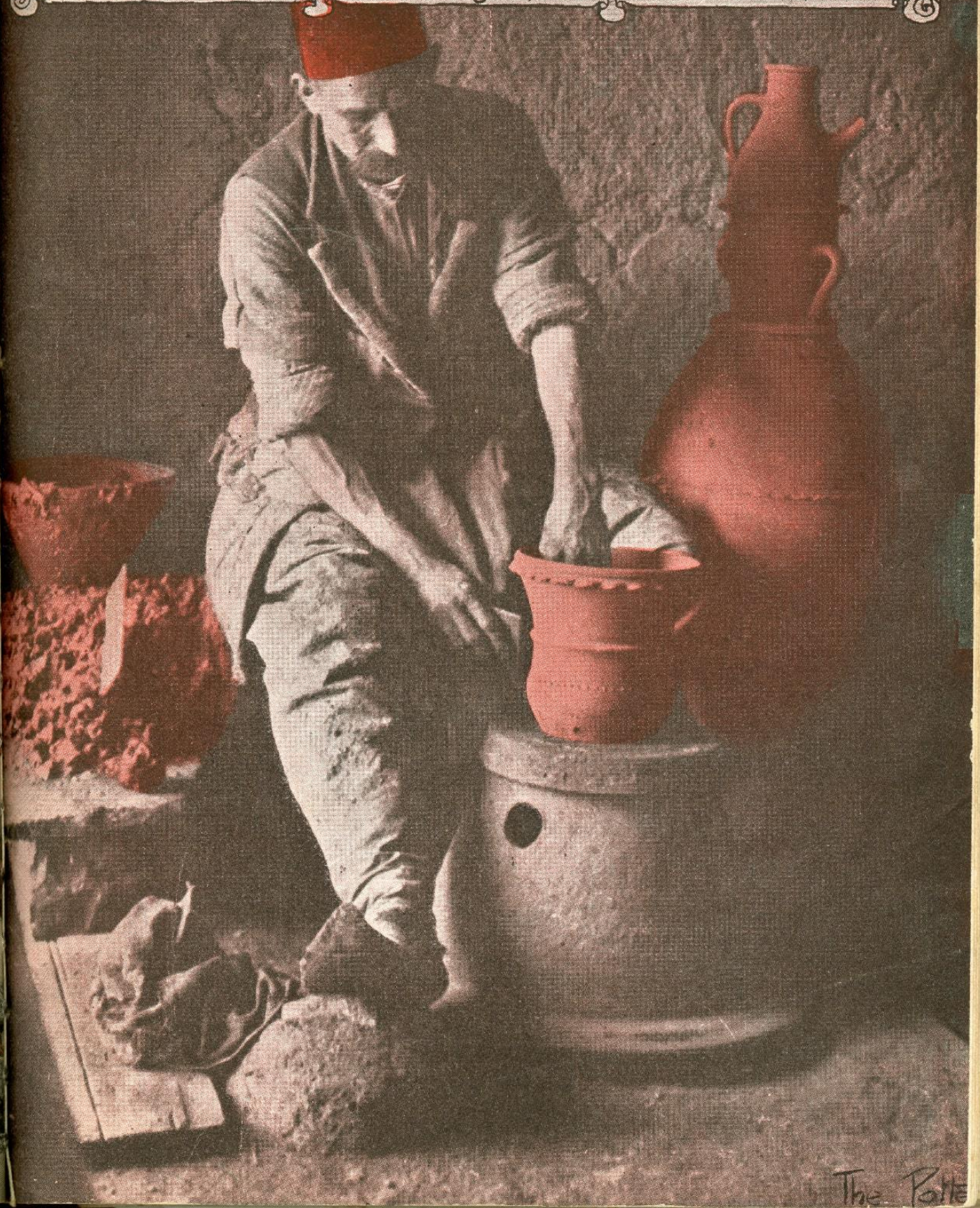
# The New Near East

Published by the  
Near East Relief

One Madison Ave.

February 1920

New York, N.Y.



The Potter

## THE POTTER

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The picture on the cover of this issue of The New Near East was taken in Harpoot by Dr. Samuel Bartlett while on a recent tour of inspection for Near East Relief.

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Near East Relief

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## WINTER RELIEF IN THE CAUCASUS

By Capt. E. A. YARROW, A. R. C., Asst. to Chief of Staff, N. E. R.

On the order of the Chief of Staff, I have been making a tour of the Districts where the Near East Relief is operating and the first point touched was,

### THE DISTRICT OF NAKHETCHIVAN

A few months ago Nakhetchivan was within the Republic of Armenia, but one of the official acts of the British occupation of the Caucasus was to witness the violent annexation of this territory by the Azerbaidjans by force of arms, and so at the present, Nakhetchivan is within the confines of the Azerbaidjan, or Tartar, Republic. The fighting was still going on when Col. Haskell arrived, but with his influence as High Commissioner he was able to call off actual hostilities and to stabilize the situation at least temporarily. The railroad from Tiflis, Georgia, to Tabriz, Persia, runs thru Erivan, the Capital of Armenia, and Nakhetchivan, and the result of this rupture of the relations between Armenia and Azerbaidjan has been to cut off this important line of communication, which makes our work more difficult and adds to the suffering of all concerned. Both sides are now in the position of armed watchfulness and as we passed thru the lines by automobile, a pitiful picture presented itself, of little groups of soldiers on outpost duty, half starved, poorly clothed, and altogether miserable, but alert in the defense of what they considered their duty toward their respective Nations.

We have had work in Nakhetchivan for many months, but in the turmoil and disorder of ousting the Armenians, our small American personnel was forced to withdraw. We are back again, however, and under the energetic direction of Col. Daley, a new and larger work is rapidly being organized. Our activities there are not only necessary from a relief standpoint, but they are also diplomatically wise. There is a wide-spread feeling among the Tartars that our aid to the Armenians has more of a political aspect than economic and everything we can do to prove that our mission out here is to help those in need irrespective of race or creed, will go a long way toward gaining the confidence of all classes and helping establish a more sympathetic spirit among the three Republics. Considerable stores were being shipped to Nakhetchivan from Tiflis, and other food supplies were being purchased in Persia.

Coming back thru the "lines" again we arrived at the

### DISTRICT OF ERIVAN

Erivan ought to be one of the most prosperous and happy cities in the world, but it isn't; in fact it probably represents today more concentrated suffering and misery than any other equal portion of the globe's surface.

Erivan is by far the largest district in which the Near East Relief is operating, probably representing thirty-five per cent of the activity of the Caucasus branch. The personnel is large and efficient, but seems dwarf-like in comparison to the gigantic task before them. I must leave statistics to those who are handling them, but the one figure of eleven thousand children in orphanages is a sufficient indication of the problem to be handled, especially when one realizes that probably eight-tenths of the general population is in need. The scheme of relief begins with a reception camp into which the "down and outs" pour each day, and here they are bathed and deloused and fed and clothed. Then they are sorted out, the sick going to hospitals and others being placed in quarters either in town or nearby villages, the orphans are either sent to hospitals or orphanages, and thus a steady stream is kept flowing each day. Many looms are in operation to furnish clothing, but they supply only a very small proportion of the needs. Generous supplies of old clothes and socks and sweaters supplied by the American Red Cross are the basis of this reclothing, but altho we have received many hundred bales and boxes of these materials, they are simply a drop in the bucket. We need and could use immediately many thousand additional bales and boxes, as it takes considerable material in order to go into the clothing business for hundreds of thousands of people!

The day I was in Erivan they had fed seventeen thousand individuals in the city alone and the normal population is not much greater than that! At the sub-station of Garmaloo, where one officer and one nurse are working, they are planning to increase the number of soup kitchens to about fifteen, and feed over twenty thousand; this was in addition to their orphanage and hospital activities. Etchmiadzin has an enormous refugee population which is being directed by an officer and two lady assistants. At Kanakar they have secured extensive barracks and two American girls are building up an orphan and refugee city. This is the way the work is divided up everywhere; tremendous and sometimes seemingly impossible tasks being placed on people who would never have dreamed in the States of tackling such problems, but the splendid thing about it all is that they are getting away with it!

## THE DISTRICT OF ALEXANDROPOL

Alexandropol city is situated on the railway between Tiflis and Erivan. It is the "show" District of the Near East Relief, and this is due to the wonderful housing possibilities which are found in the fine Russian barracks which formerly accommodated large forces of the old Czar's troops. The Turks took this city in 1916 and pretty well messed up things, and what they left undone the inhabitants in search of fire wood, completed. We began early in the Spring to put in order a group of buildings known as Kazachee Post, and this work is now practically completed, and one can look with pride at the finished product. There are about forty substantial dignified stone houses which are surrounded by extensive fields and this "village" is located about a mile from the city. Kazachee Post is a well organized, efficiently manned, beautifully housed, and smoothly running American orphanage and hospital institution. Here as in other places, is in evidence the personal interest the workers take in their wards; hundreds of little urchins followed us about calling to the friends they knew, "Hello Colonel this or, Hello Miss that." A thousand children were brought here from Baku and nearly that number from Erivan, and there are over five thousand children in this one institution.

In the vicinity of Kazachee Post are situated the fine large central warehouses of the Near East Relief in Armenia. From this station is distributed the flour and other supplies on which the lives of so many thousands depend, and a spur track of the railroad to the very doors of the warehouses makes the question of transportation quite simple. When I was there, the Supplies Officer showed me with mournful countenance the small and rapidly dwindling supply of flour on hand, enough to last only two or three weeks and no assurance that any more was coming. I might state here that the work itself is exceedingly nerve racking, but this constant worry over additional funds and supplies adds to the burden a thousandfold.

Probably the most interesting and dramatic individual piece of work being done by the Near East Relief at present is that at the "Polygon." The Polygon is another group of barracks situated on the opposite side of the city, and these are being fitted up for a general refugee population. This is a new project, but no time could be given to get buildings in order before the guests arrived and **twenty thousand** were piled in with almost no warning.

The receiving hospital in the city is another splendid institution. Here the children are received off the street, heads clipped, bathed, clothed as far as our meagre supplies will allow, fed, and put to bed. They are kept for twenty-four hours and then given a thoro medical examination and later distributed either to orphanage or hospital; thus this receiving station has a new set of inmates every day and there are never any empty beds. They told me that about thirteen hundred children had passed thru this station in the few weeks it had been established.

## KARS DISTRICT

Kars is about one thousand feet higher than Alexandropol, from which city there is railway communication by a branch line. Owing to the political uncertainty of the summer months, this district was not developed to its capacity, but when the Allied High Commissioner arrived, he took the stand that we should go ahead with the expectation that the decrees of the Peace Conference would be respected, and during the past few weeks there has been a greater widening of the activities at Kars than in any other one district. As at Alexandropol, there are a number of well built barracks, and these will allow of the transportation of many hundreds of orphans and refugees from congested districts such as Erivan and Karakalis.

I was there, about one thousand five hundred refugees arrived from Tiflis, and they were put into a receiving camp. This is about half the number we are sending from Tiflis. All three of the Republics are trying to get rid of their surplus alien population, and the Georgians' request for the removal of these people from Tiflis was considered reasonable, and the transfer was undertaken by the Near East Relief. There are several thousand orphans in our institutions in Kars, and buildings are being prepared to accommodate more than a thousand from Erivan. The city itself presents a very sad appearance as it has been very badly manhandled by the different armies sweeping backwards and forwards during the past five years.

Before Spring we shall probably have between thirty and thirty-five thousand orphans in American institutions in the Caucasus. These institutions will have to be continued from five to seven years, and the natural locations are Alexandropol, Kars, and Sarakamish.

#### DISTRICT OF TIFLIS

The central offices of the Near East Relief in the Caucasus are located in Tiflis, the capital of Georgia. At present this is the only logical location from the standpoints of diplomacy, transportation, and the relief needs themselves. The offices and dwelling of the High Commissioner are under one roof and the location is central and the building dignified. A Chief of Staff and his Assistants keep close control of all the activities of the organization. The control is divided among five sections whose heads are on the General Staff. Section one handles personnel and correspondence; section two, political and publication; section three, orphanages, hospitalization, and refugees; section four, warehouses and transportation; section five, finance. \* \* \* \*

The situation in the Caucasus is infinitely better than it was in the Spring, but no one need flatter himself that all the evils have been corrected, as anyone coming here newly and not having the background of last Spring's condition in his mind, would say that they are very, very bad. The only thing lacking now in order to complete the job is **backing**; backing in supplies and funds. The organization is all right and the spirit of the personnel is all right, and if there is any criticism of results, certainly those on the field cannot be held responsible.

The appointment of Colonel Haskell as Allied High Commissioner and Director General of Relief is more than justified by what has been accomplished under his regime. Among the more important results are the following:

(1) Stopping the war between Armenia and Azerbaidjan to the South of Erivan. This was still in progress while the British were in control, and the province of Nakhetchivan was wrested from the Armenians while the British were still here.

(2) Stabilizing the political situation at Kars. I firmly believe that Kars would have fallen to the Turks within a few days after the withdrawal of the British, if Colonel Haskell had not arrived.

(3) Inducing the three Republics of, Armenia, Azerbaidjan, and Georgia, to sign a treaty of peace and to come into an economic agreement, which will be of mutual benefit.

(4) Building up an efficient relief organization which will be able to efficiently and adequately deal with the situation if it received the necessary backing from America.

I have read the above statement on "Winter Relief in the Caucasus" with keen interest and consider it a fair, but conservative survey of the general situation, and the organization of the Near East Relief.

(Signed) COL. W. N. HASKELL,

Allied High Commissioner and Director Near East Relief.



*Stark alone but for Near East Relief*

## GLIMPSES OF THE INFERNO

Conditions in Erivan, the proposed capital of the new Armenian Republic reported in cable despatches as formally recognized by the Allied Powers, were described recently by Miss Louise Chamberlain, a Red Cross nurse, who had just returned to America after ten months' service in the Near East Relief hospitals.

"It isn't too much to say that my soul was frozen within me last winter in Erivan," said Miss Chamberlain. "Time and time again we workers could neither eat nor sleep so awful was the conditions of the people, and especially the children and the babies.

"With my own eyes I have seen living children in the shelters sleeping on what I supposed were dirty mattresses in a court yard. Not until we roused the little ones did we see the mattresses were the blackened bodies of their companions, some of them dead for several days. I asked some of the children why they slept on the bodies, and their answer was they had to have something to sleep on to keep their almost naked bodies from the frozen ground.

"Emaciated, half naked little ones, their skins stretched across their bones and shriveled until with their claw-like fingers and parchment-skinned faces they looked more like mummies than human beings, they were sleeping—with the dead.

"Death was all around us. So many had died, so many more were certain to die, that the people had lost all fear of it. Some of them awaited it with almost the fatalism of the Moslem. The Armenian Government was shocked at conditions but powerless to remedy them. It gave what it had, but God knows it had only too little to give. It had no money, no credit and what food it could get from outside vanished on the way.

"Will American mothers believe me when I tell them I have seen with my own eyes babies barely able to toddle, stand for hours in the bread line at one of the first soup kitchens we established, every bone in their naked little bodies showing. Only the pressure of their companions kept them from falling. Among them were babies that by right should have been at their mothers' breast. The mother was dead, and her baby was one of hundreds among the starving refugees.

"We have seen hopeless mothers, themselves on the verge of death, beg their priests to bless their infants and then drown them that they might be spared the horrors of slow starvation.

"If you had seen children in the streets of Erivan last Winter pounding with stones the bones of animals into a rough, pasty mass and greedily



*"If they got bread they ate. If not, they starved"*

devouring it; if you had known that in the cemeteries bodies had been stolen and the next day seen in the cooking pots of the refugees, human bones, what would you say? Could you blame them?

"In normal times, Erivan had a population of 35,000. When I first came there I was told that there were at least 100,000 people in the city. They congested the streets, the alleys, the courtyards, ruined, roofless buildings, they huddled in the squares and fields, anywhere and everywhere that gave any promise of shelter from the pitiless, penetrating rain of the Caucasus that chills one to the bone, even when warmly clad.

"And these thousands were not warmly clad. Far from it. In rags and tatters they had wandered four years. The once rich and the once poor who had fled before the advancing Turks, were now on the same level of raggedness. The Turk had gone but he had left in his wake hunger, disease and a wretchedness that neither I nor others who have seen and lived with it can describe.

"Neither the government of the Armenian Republic nor the regular population of Erivan were prepared in the slightest for this invasion of the starving. The government did what it could. It gave an allowance of eight pounds of so-called flour mixed with ground beans to each adult.

"This allowance was to last for **five months**.

"For the children no special provision was made. If they got bread they ate. If not, they starved. In the streets thousands of them roamed restlessly around, resembling nothing else so much as hungry puppies, seeking food. Scenting a piece of garbage they would flock to it and squabble childishly over the fragments before they wolfed them down. Never were the streets of Erivan so free from garbage, for the children scaven-



gers ate everything, bones, scraps, bits of melon rind, anything that looked at all like food.

"And this was the situation when the Near East Relief personnel arrived and took charge. For two weeks we could get no supplies. We lived on what food we had brought in our trucks. We ate when the insistent call of hunger overcame the repugnance to food brought on by the horrors everywhere before our eyes and by the odors that everywhere assailed our nostrils and by the pitiful pleas from babies and children and men and women that assailed our ears.

"But the imperative call of duty overcame everything. There was so much to be done, so pitifully few to do it and so little to do it with.

"That first bread. Black it was and sour. You could see the coarse bits of chopped straw. But when the American flour came and we issued our first real bread, it came as a royal feast to these starving ones to whom bread is indeed the staff of life.

"Did they need the Near East Relief in the Caucasus? Do they still need it? Let me tell you as dispassionately as I can. Yes.

"That the situation is much improved since the relief work began is indisputable. But it is also indisputable that with all that has been done, all that has been spent, only the surface of the misery has been scratched. In Erivan alone we are feeding and caring for 10,848 orphans in our shelters, feeding, clothing and housing them. In Erivan there are fully that number more wandering aimlessly about, hungry, shelterless and half clad.

"In one, just one, of our refugee camps are 1,600 people. We are feeding 20,000 people a day—thousands more are starving because we have not the supplies to give them food. In one camp hospital we have 200 patients. There are not enough blankets and the sick ones shiver under the thin bed coverings.

"The work cannot stop. I hope and pray with all my heart that America will heed the appeal of the Near East. I have tried to have you visualize things as they are, as I have seen them. Don't think they are exaggerated. The actual conditions need no exaggeration. You cannot exaggerate conditions when an entire people is starving and freezing and dying, where the quick and the dead have to lie together and the pitiful wails of hungry, orphaned babies sound through the long winter days and nights of the icy Caucasus."



*"Death was all around us"*

## AN AMERICAN RETURNS TO PERSIA

Monday morning I made my first inspection of Martmaryam. It was a sad sight indeed. The big double doors opening into our yard were still there, evidently too big and too heavy to be broken down or carried away. We pushed them open and entered, first into the carriage yard and then into the residence yard. In front of us the Allens' house was a ghastly sight, the bay-window sagging and ready to fall, not a door nor window left in the building.

Poor Urumia is full of sick and hungry; what will it be this winter? Who will be left next Spring? I was talking to one of my old-time merchant friends on the subject of loot and the treatment the native and foreign Christians had received in Urumia. He said: "Sahib, the Moslems of Urumia have not only sold what they have looted, but they have been obliged to sell their own possessions that they have come by honestly to keep starvation from their doors."

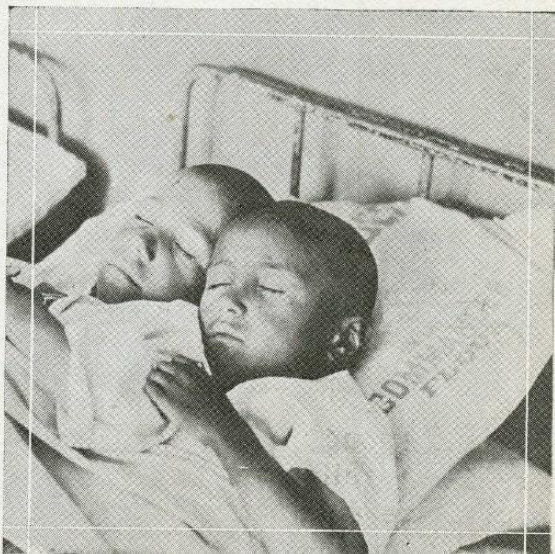
We climbed up to the roof and we looked off to the south and east, over the ruins of Martmaryam, a maze of uncovered buildings, a wilderness of white walls looking to Heaven. The street below that used to be such a busy thoroughfare was dead and silent. One almost listened for the sound of jackals. When perchance a man walked up the street, his heavy footfall seemed almost an intrusion in the City of the Dead. This whole section had been built up by the sweat of Christian brows; and now because of their religion and because of their defense of the Allied cause, these Christians are scattered to the four winds and dare not return unprotected—some in Tabriz, some in Kasvin, many where they cannot return and from where they would not return if they could.

Then the row of Administration buildings—a sorry row it is! Fire and sword have done their worst there. I need not go into details of smoked walls and missing stairways and charred bits of paper (the re-

mains of ten or fifteen years of work on the Concordance), of broken pieces of stove and battered safes, of blood streaks on the window sills and on the outside of the wall where the bleeding bodies had been thrown out of the windows and onto the streets. An attempt at cleaning up had been made preparatory to General Beach's visit a few months ago, but blood blotches still unscraped from the wall, tell the wicked story which I heard Kasha Yaku rehearse in June. The dead bodies had all been carried away before the great General's visit, but we were informed by more than one person that our wells were full of dead bodies.

The iron roof was removed from the Church quite systematically, so as almost to suggest that it had been done by contract, and now there is nothing left of the roof but the bare timbers. Some of the galvanized iron was used in Urumia and much of it was shipped to Tabriz, where it now exists in the form of bathtubs, buckets, etc. (Mirza Ali Agha gave us four cans of doshab (molasses)—the cans for which he had bought in the bazaar and they were unmistakably made from our Church roof iron). Two things are left in the Packard home, the kitchen range and the iron frame of the piano.

Hugo Miller.



*Peace at last for two little tots*

## VOICES FROM THE FIELD

### CABLEGRAMS

**Sivas**—For the first time in their lives each child in our orphanage had a happy Christmas. The little ones received toys made by the older boys and girls. On the other hand there were hundreds of children in Sivas and hundreds more in the surrounding villages and towns who spent the day, with the thermometer twenty-two below centigrade, clothed in the rags in which they returned from exile in a bare room, without fire or bed. A bare crust of bread to keep body and soul together is all the Near East Relief at present is able to supply them. An increase in appropriation would enable us to help a large part of these children and widows and rescue hundreds of young girls. Arnold.

**Van, Bitlis, Ezerum** — Reports received in Constantinople through Turkish official channels, indicate conditions in the large area of Turkey which lies east of Ezerum and Bitlis, including Van, points beyond which the Near East Relief so far has been unable to penetrate, are much worse than had been at first supposed. Owing to the isolation of the area and almost complete stoppage of communication by heavy snows the starving population has been reduced to such straits that cannibalism is practiced. Number of cases recorded on good authority. Winter unusually severe. People with scantiest clothing are suffering intensely from the cold. Near East Relief advised of situation by Turkish Government and is taking steps to get relief to stricken area. Obstacles are not alone extreme difficulty of transportation, but disturbed condition country making travel dangerous. Turkish officials themselves admit conditions in this area the worst in Ottoman empire, and only prompt measures will pre-

vent thousands from starvation and exposure. Heavy snows.

Arnold.

**Caesarea** — Bitter cold. Transportation tied up. Scores of snow-bound villages need clothing and blankets. Yesterday over five hundred Turkish refugees in city Caesarea at government gate seeking assistance. Three hundred more coming from neighboring villages. Committee has been obliged to open another building for Armenian orphans Talas, but is anxious in regard to future support. Would like to place two thousand six hundred orphans in private homes, but such homes non-existent. Industrial educational institutions only practical solution of orphanage problem. Large equipment needed. One or two years' training will prepare older boys for self-support, but for infants and other children work must continue five to ten years. We must be prepared to assist villagers with farm work in spring and summer, after which, under satisfactory peace conditions, general conditions should improve rapidly.

Arnold.

### Armenia

I saw a sparrow fall today  
Beside the Berlin-Bagdad way!  
And didst Thou also note its fall,  
O Thou, who seest, knowest all?

And didst Thou hear, in dying  
cry,  
Thine imaged ones whose bones  
still lie

Beside this boasted empire path  
Of exile and inhuman wrath?

—John H. Finley.

Asia Minor, 1919.

## ANNUAL MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Near East Relief is now under government control, though without government subsidy. The special act of Congress by which the former "American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief" was incorporated under the name of "Near East Relief" provides that

"Each year said corporation shall make and transmit to Congress a report of its proceedings for the year ending December 31st preceding, including in such report the names and addresses of its officers, and a full itemized account of all receipts and expenditures."

In accord with the requirements of its charter, the first annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Near East Relief was held at the University Club, New York City, Thursday, January 22, 1920. The meeting was largely attended by members of the Board and Officers, including nine officers or commissioners, who during the year had made personal inspection of the problems and work in Western Asia.

The reports of these commissioners which had previously been presented in typewritten form, contained a clear survey of the task before the Committee.

In connection with the Secretary's report, stereoptican slides and motion pictures were shown, presenting graphically the need of the field and progress that has been made in meeting the need.

One of the most gratifying features of the meeting was the report of the Auditing Committee, presented by the Chairman, Mr. Edwin M. Bulkley, a summary of which will be found printed elsewhere in this issue of *The New Near East*.

The following statement of purpose, as taken from the articles of incorporation, was read:

"The object for which said cor-

poration is incorporated shall be to provide relief and to assist in the repatriation, rehabilitation, and reestablishment of suffering and dependent people of the Near East and adjacent areas; to provide for the care of orphans and widows and to promote the social, economic, and industrial welfare of those who have been rendered destitute, or dependent directly or indirectly, by the vicissitudes of war, the cruelties of men, or other causes beyond their control."

The work of the organization falls into two fairly distinct divisions: (1) Physical Relief of the homeless dependent people (2) Provision for the orphans and their reestablishment on a self-supporting basis.

With reference to the physical relief of the homeless dependent people, it will be and is, the fixed purpose of the Committee to throw the responsibility for support and repatriation of the refugees upon governments at the earliest practicable moment. Unfortunately, however, it must be recognized that there is at the present time no sympathetic government who can be held responsible for these phases of relief work and the burden must remain on the shoulders of private philanthropy at least for the next few months, or until under the peace conference, some form of stable, and if possible, sympathetic government is established.

The second phase of the work, provision for the orphans and their reestablishment on a self-supporting basis, is likewise immediate and urgent as regards elementary physical relief, for the tens of thousands of widows and orphans must be kept alive during the remainder of the winter, calling for large sums for the simplest necessities of food, clothing and shelter.

But the obligation with reference to these orphans extends beyond mere provision of bread for the next few months. The following typical quotation from a cablegram from Caesarea suggests the problem. The workers on the field feel this keenly.

"We would like to place 2,600 orphans in private homes, but such homes are not existing. Industrial and educational institutions are the only practical solution. One or two years' training will prepare older boys for self-support, but for infants and other children, work must continue five to ten years."

Some provision must be made for these orphans for a longer period of time than is necessary in the case of the adult refugees.

Near East Relief will make every effort to place the financial responsibility for these orphans upon government, religious, secular and other agencies who are willing to give them protection. The support and education of these orphans, constituting in large measure the hope of the future for the "New Near East," compose the second and perhaps most important phase of the work of Near East Relief, and a work in which the co-operation of all other sympathetic agencies is desired.

The business transacted at the annual meeting, included the reelection of the following trustees, for the three-year term ending January, 1923:

Mr. Charles E. Beury  
Dr. John B. Calvert  
Dr. Charles W. Eliot  
Hon. Myron T. Herrick  
Hon. Charles E. Hughes  
Mr. Frank W. Jackson  
Dr. Charles S. Macfarland  
Hon. Vance C. McCormick  
Col. Wm. Cooper Proctor  
Bishop Philip Rhineland  
Hon. Elihu Root  
Mr. George T. Scott  
Mr. Harry A. Wheeler  
President Ray Lyman Wilbur  
Rabbi Stephen S. Wise

and also the election of the following new trustees, all of whom have recently returned from important service in the Near East:

Dr. John H. Finley  
Mr. Howard Heinz  
President Henry Churchill King  
President John H. T. Main  
Professor E. C. Moore.

Dr. Finley recently travelled thru the Near East as Red Cross Commissioner: Mr. Heinz as American Food Commissioner: President King as a member of the Mandate Commission appointed by President Wilson: and Professors Main and Moore as members of our own Commission sent out last January.

The following were elected as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:

Dr. James L. Barton  
Mr. Edwin M. Bulkley  
Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge  
Hon. Abram I. Elkus  
Mr. Harold A. Hatch  
Mr. Alexander J. Hemphill  
Mr. Arthur Curtiss James  
Mr. William B. Millar  
Hon. Henry Morgenthau  
Mr. Walter George Smith  
Mr. Charles V. Vickrey  
Dr. Stanley White

The following officers were re-elected:

CHAIRMAN  
Dr. James L. Barton

VICE-CHAIRMAN  
Hon. Henry Morgenthau

SECRETARY  
Mr. Charles V. Vickrey

TREASURER  
Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge

ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
Mr. H. C. Jaquith

ASSISTANT TREASURER  
Mr. E. C. Miller

**HURDMAN AND CRANSTOUN**  
 Certified Public Accountants  
 55 Liberty Street, New York City

January 20, 1920.

Mr. C. V. Vickrey,  
 Near East Relief,  
 New York City.

Dear Sir:

We have audited the financial records of the **NEAR EAST RELIEF** to December 31, 1919, and submit our report in the accompanying statements and the following comments.

As the Near East Relief incorporated under a Federal charter approved August 6, 1919, continued the work of the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief, we have prepared the accompanying statements in coordination with our report previously rendered to June 30, 1919.

The following is a comparison of general and individual relief contributions, appropriations and payments:

	Total	General Relief	Individual Relief
Relief payments .....	\$30,666,247.01	\$30,269,585.88	\$396,661.13
Balance of Relief Appropriations .....	2,721,192.79	2,216,502.70	504,690.09
Relief Appropriations .....	\$33,387,439.80	\$32,486,088.58	\$901,351.22
Relief Contributions .....	31,556,822.33	30,655,471.11	901,351.22
Excess of Appropriations over Contributions .....	\$1,830,617.47	\$1,830,617.47	
Relief Fund Balance December 31, 1919 .....	890,575.32	890,575.32	
Relief Fund Deficiency .....	\$940,042.15	\$940,042.15	

The amount of the appropriations shown above included \$1,350,000 for use in the Near East during January, February and March, 1920.

In the domestic field a uniform system of accounting with provision for periodic reports and audit of receipts and disbursements from headquarters in New York is now in operation. A traveling auditor in the permanent employ of your organization has made possible a very close control over finances handled by agents in various parts of the country.

A system of advices from representatives in the Near East, whereby information is received in New York of all drafts drawn by them, has enabled us to submit in this report a complete statement of the appropriation accounts and to provide thereon for all drafts drawn as per the last advices received from abroad.

During the course of our audit proper vouchers in support of all disbursements were submitted and examined by us.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) HURDMAN & CRANSTOUN,  
 Certified Public Accountants.

## THE HONOR ROLL

The scythe of the great reaper was busy during the entire period of the world war, among the American workers in Turkey. When the record is finally written, signal honor will be paid to those who at the call of duty elected to remain in this country when they were officially advised to leave, and who laid down their lives a sacrifice for the good of this land. In ample time before the break of diplomatic relations with Turkey, the American Ambassador sent word to every American in the country, warning them all that it would in all likelihood soon be impossible for him to afford them any degree of protection, and that his official advice to them was to come to places of safety. Those who remained at their posts did so with the full realization of the risks they ran. But the majority of those who fell were not victims of violence, but of disease, which they caught while ministering to the sick and suffering. In two cases there is distinct indication of foul play; but the various epidemics that have ravaged the land spared no nationality or creed. Here is the roll of those who passed away in 1915: Dr. H. H. Atkinson, of Harpout; Mrs. Daniel Bliss, of Beirut; Miss Charlotte Ely, of Bitlis; Rev. George P. Knapp, of Bitlis; Rev. Francis H. Leslie, of Ourfa; Prof. Frank T. Moore, M. D., of Beirut; Mrs. George C. Reynolds, of Van; David Sandler, M. D., of Constantinople; Fred. D. Shepard, M. D., of Aintab; Dr. and Mrs. D. M. B. Thom, of Mardin; Mrs. Clarence D. Ussher, of Van.

The roll for 1916 is just about as long, and includes: Mrs. A. L. Andrus, of Mardin; Rev. Daniel Bliss, D. D., former President of the Syrian Protestant College; Rev. J.F. Clarke, D. D., of Sofia; Miss Mary C. Fowle, of Sivas; Mrs. McDowell, of Persia; Mrs. W. S. Nelson, of Tripoli; D. McKenzie Newton, M. D., of Smyrna; Mrs. M. P. Parmelee, of Harpoot; Mrs. W. G. Shedd, of Persia;

Dr. Andrew Watson, of Cairo; Dr. S. G. Wilson, of Tabriz.

Only three of the workers on the field ended their courses in 1917: Miss Frances C. Gage, of Marsovan; Miss Esther S. Maltbie, of Samokov, and Mrs. Henry H. Riggs, of Harpoot. But in 1918 there were quite a number: Rev. O. P. Allen, of Harpoot, who died in Constantinople; Rev. L. S. Crawford, D. D., of Trebizond; Rev. C. A. Douglas, of Teheran; C. F. Malbon, D. D. S., of Constantinople; Professor and Mrs. William T. Ormiston, of Robert College; Rev. William A. Shedd, D. D., of Urumia, and Mrs. C. V. A. Van Dyck, of Beirut.

The record for the year just closed is not complete, perhaps, but the starred names include those of Mrs. Charles Anderson, of Robert College; Rev. R. S. M. Emrich, of Mardin, and Mr. Paul D. Peltier and Miss Edith M. Winchester, of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East.

### Testimony from the Maronite Region of Kessrowan

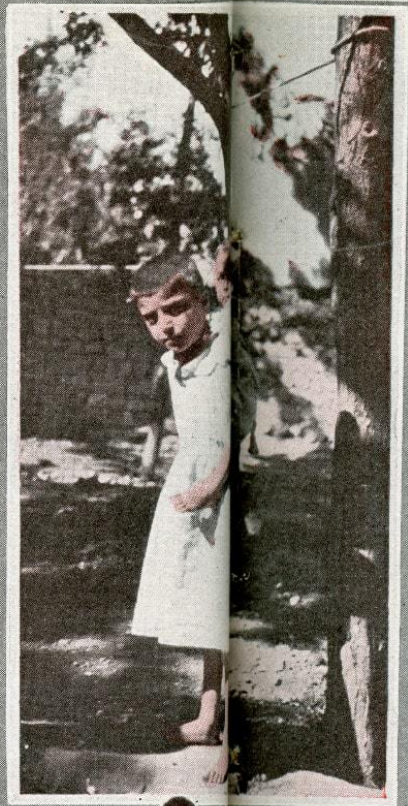
To the Near East Relief:

As we deem it a duty on all who consider themselves of human kind to offer the thanks and praise due to the members of this Committee, we, the inhabitants of Jubail who were most severely dealt with by this terrible war, and were most efficiently succored by your sublime Committee, who was to us as a loving kind mother who did not draw a line of distinction as to racial and religious differences.

Deserves the thanks as all the members who are noted for their honesty and fidelity are of a high rank among their countrymen.

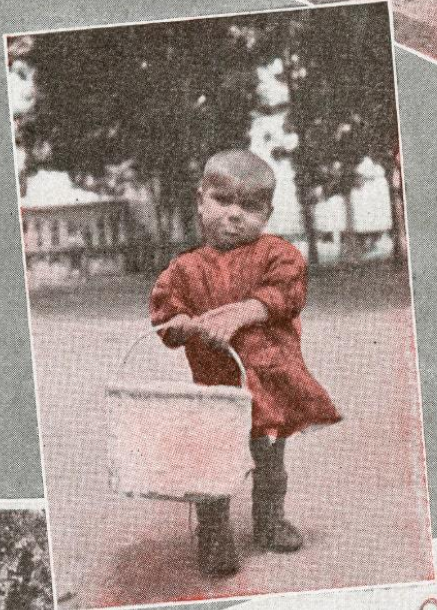
This is what we deem a duty and we beg that you accept our thanks and also beg to draw your attention to the more pressing need of the poor in this vicinity.

(Signed) Simaan Tawa,  
Butrus Mansoor Sfair,  
Maroun Elias Awais,  
A priest from Jubail,  
Dr. Nakily.



THE BURDEN BEARS OF THE NEAR EAST





THE BURDEN BEARERS OF THE NEAR EAST

## CAESAREA

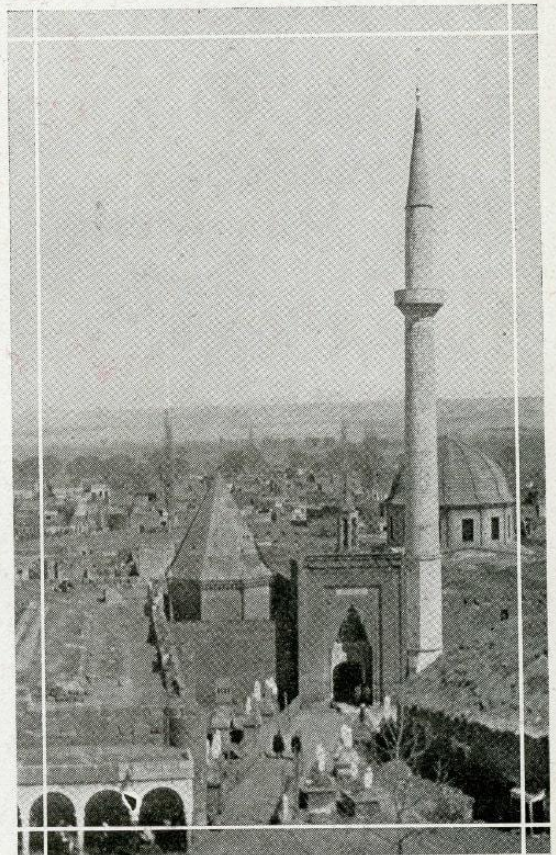
Caesarea, one of the most important centers of the Near East Relief, has in modern days many advantages in its valleys and hills. It is now the first stop of the Relief automobile trucks running from Oulou Kishla, a railroad station on the plain south of the Konia and north of the Cilician Gates where half of the transportation men have their lonely headquarters, through Sivas to Harpoot, 300 miles as the crow flies, but 500 over the Roman roads. From earliest times Caesarea was on the road of travel, trade and war. Along the hills there is sufficient to show that here was an old Hittite capital. As Mazaka in the olden days, the city was on the trade route from Persia through Konia, 200 miles then west to Sardis on the Mediterranean. There are still bits of the Roman roads following north the same route through which the conquering armies marched. Later a trade route of the Greeks went from the Euphrates river through Mazaka and Angora, 200 miles northwest, to Sinope on the Black Sea.

A later city was on the foothills of Argaeus, the last outpost of the Anti-Taurus Mountains, rising 13,000 feet above the sea, and 9,000 feet above the plain to which the city was moved by the Greek Bishop Basil in the 4th Century A. D. It was here that Gregory, the Illuminator, the founder of the Christian Church, was born, in that same century, and the cave dwellings near Urgup and Soghanlidere to the south show evidences of having been used as monasteries at this time, though the caves themselves must date back much further. Before this the city had been the capital of Cappadocia, had been conquered in turn by the Armenians and Romans, and destroyed by the Persians in 260 A. D.

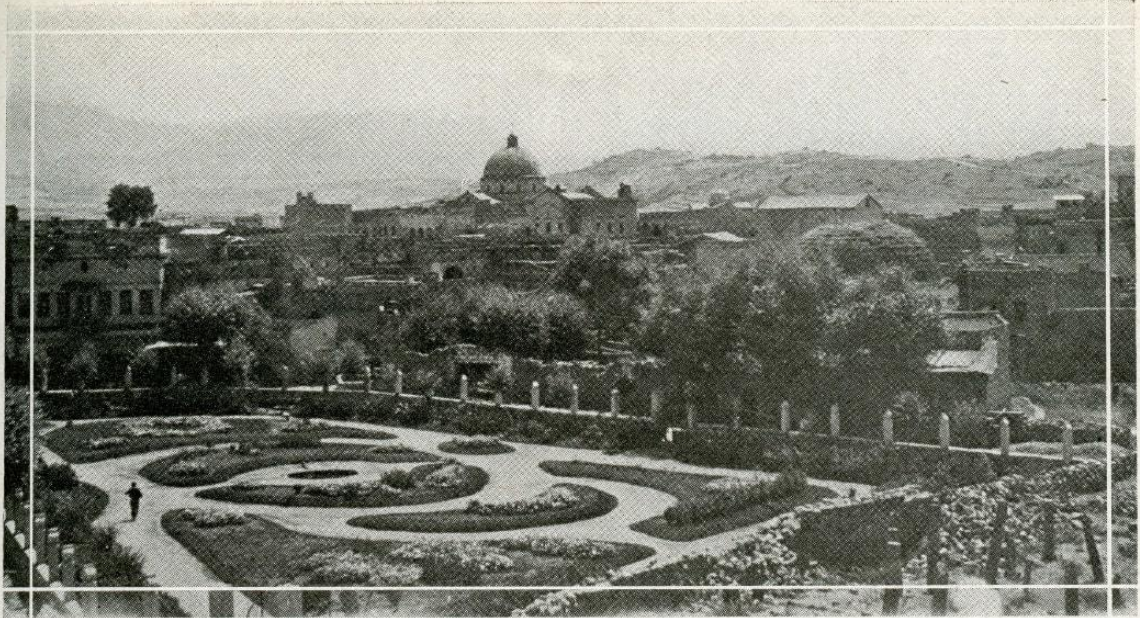
The name Caesarea was probably given it by Claudius. Justinian built the citadel in the moat of which are

grown today the finest watermelons in the country. In 1064, the Seljuks, the predecessors of the Osmauli Turks, took the city and made it their capital. The city has a fine Seljuk mosque and all along the road to Konia and north to Sivas, are their great khans with enormous arched stables where caravans of camels could rest on their journey over the old Roman roads.

Caesarea has been in modern times a market for Persian rugs and the center of a modern rug industry. The yellow-berry, used in making dye, was one of the chief exports of this region until the cheap aniline dyes drove the more expensive old ones out of the market. On the rocky hillsides grow many varieties of the finest grapes, and the plains to the north provide one of the great wheat-growing centers of the country.



*Seljuk Mosque, Caesarea*



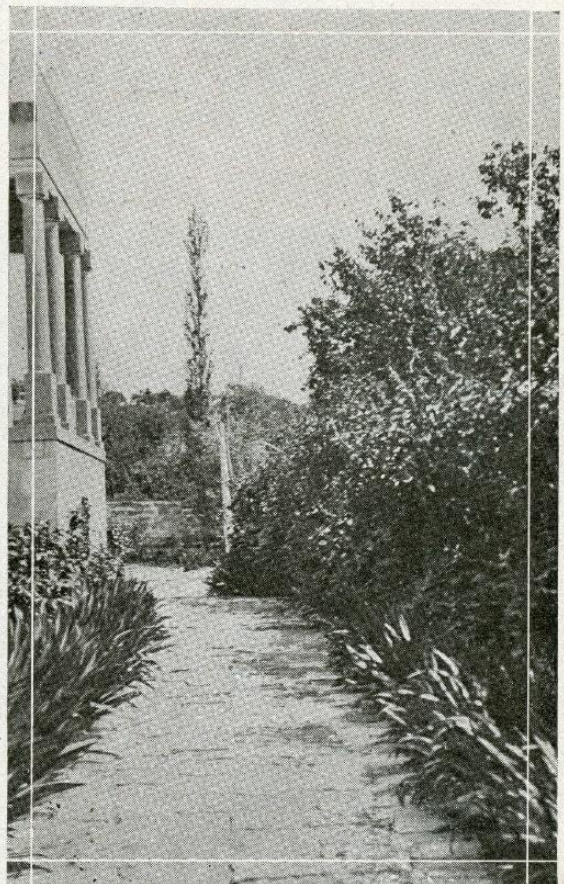
*Caesarea as she once was*

Here in 1854 came the first missionaries of the American Board, Dr. and Mrs. Farnsworth, three of whose grandchildren are now working for the Near East Relief, and one of whom, Miss Mary Fowle, gave up her life during the war. The missionary work grew fast, and in 1914 there were out-stations in 30 villages in the farming districts of the north. The city then had about 70,000 people, 10,000 of whom were Armenians, as many more were Greeks, and the rest were Turks of the most fanatic type. Through 70 years of missionary work, thriving churches had grown up, village schools throughout the out-stations, and a central plant located at Talas. 500 feet above the plain there is a hospital, a dispensary, and boys' and girls' school built of volcanic rock, the boys' school on the brow of the hill, the others below.

The hospital was closed soon after the beginning of the war, and in 1916 all the other institutions were seized by the Turks to be used as Turkish hospitals.

In 1917 the Americans were forced to leave and the only relief work for two years was done by a Greek woman, the daughter of an old Prot-

estant pastor, with her Armenian husband, had been holding together an orphanage in Zinjirdere, another neighboring village. In April, 1919,



*Walk before Girls' School, Talas*



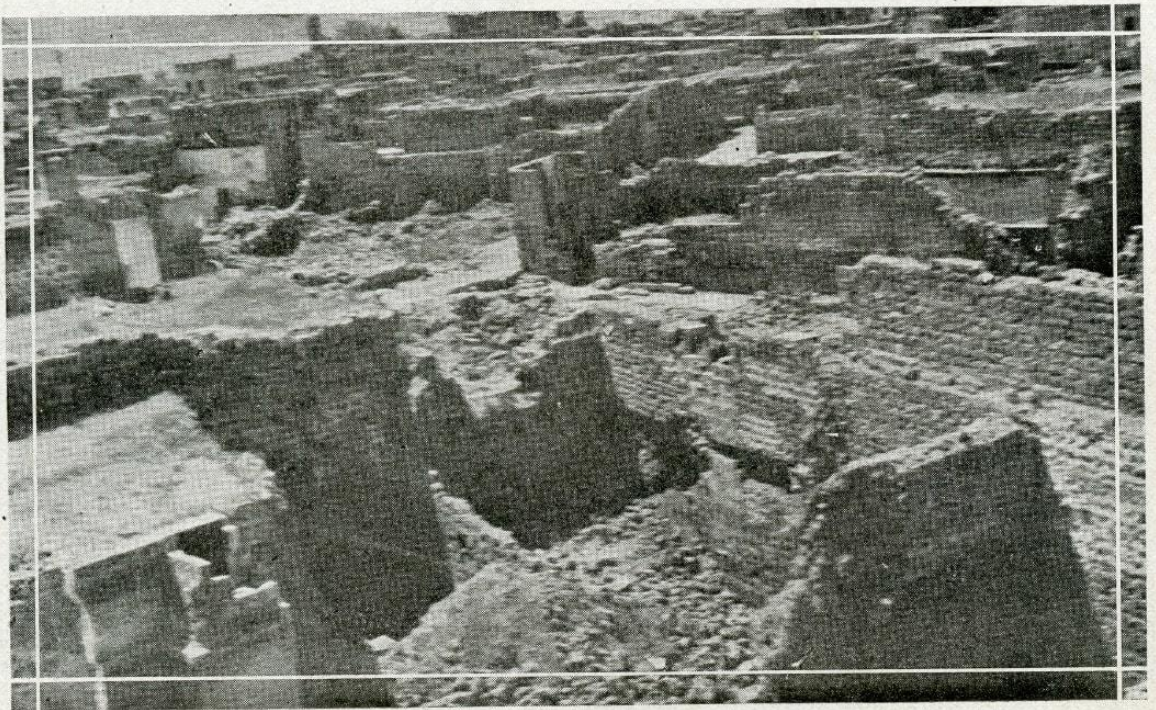
*Compound at Talas, Ali Dagh*

when Mr. Irwin, who had remained with his family in Constantinople during the two years of exile, came in with the first of the relief workers, he found the place had just been evacuated by the Turks in an indescribably filthy condition. It took three months of hard work to make the buildings habitable.

It will be years before the high schools can be brought back to their old basis, and for the present emergency, the Board has given first

place to the urgent needs of the Near East Relief. As promising children appear in different orphanages, there will surely develop once more the training schools of the past, that have provided so many workers now employed by the Committee.

With modern farm implements and irrigation, the devastated region to the north will flourish as never before. The clear mountain torrents in the foothills of Argaeus will furnish water and electric power for Caesarea, Talas and the nearby villages where heretofore there has been one water course, partly above ground, carrying water to fountains in the different quarters of the city, or to irrigation ditches in the gardens, while most of the water ran to waste on the plain. The railroad will bring travelers and archaeologists from all over the world, and Caesarea will once more be one of the great centers of Asia Minor.



*Caesarea as she is today*

### Two Americans Killed in Near East

Two American Y. M. C. A. workers, James Perry and Frank Johnson, have been killed at El Mali, fifteen miles south of Aintab, Western Asia. The meagre information comes through the State Department from the Vice Consul at Beirut:

"James Perry and Frank Johnson, representatives of the Y. M. C. A., were the Americans killed in the recently reported attack by Turkish brigands on a convoy of American relief supplies near Aintab in Syria, the State Department was advised today.

"Previous dispatches reported three Americans were killed, but later messages indicate only the two named were victims of the brigands. The bodies have not been recovered.

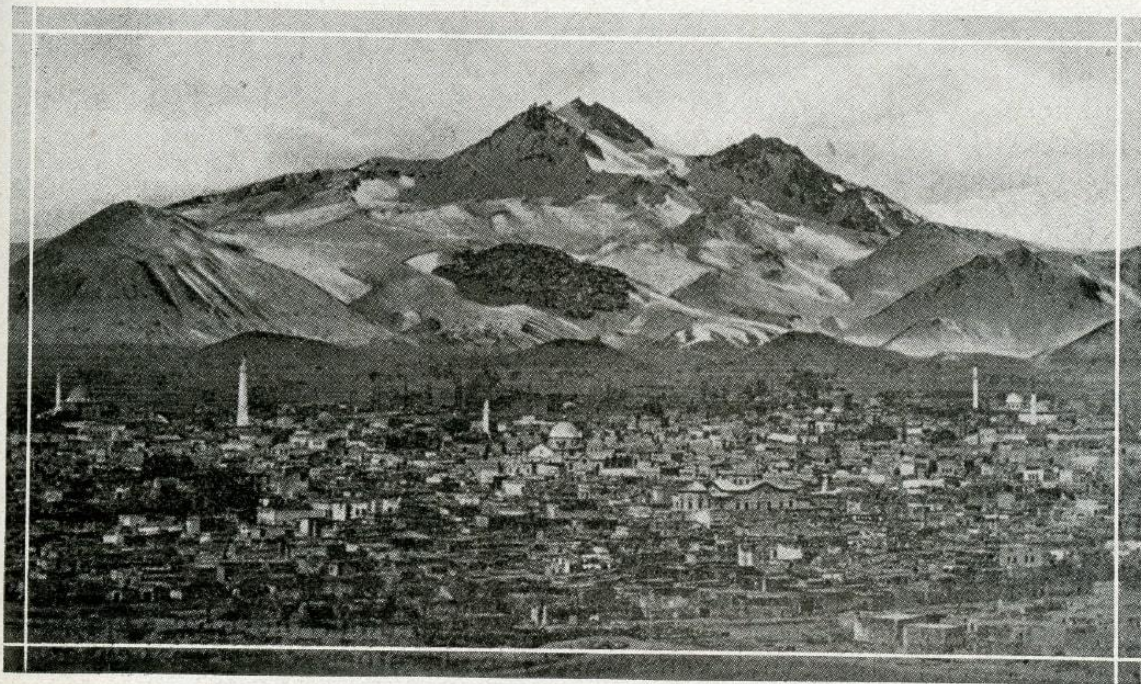
"The attack occurred at 3 a. m., February 2, at a point fifteen miles south of Aintab and not far from Aleppo, according to information received by courier at Beirut from Aleppo and cabled to the State Department. The Turks later repulsed a French force of 150 dispatched to the scene of the murder."

These two young men, enlisting with the Y. M. C. A., and doing relief work, have offered their lives on the altar of unselfish sacrifice. They

might have enjoyed the security of home. They chose the service abroad in a ministry of mercy. These names have been written with D. Miner Rogers and the other American heroes into the Near East.

Such incidents arrest the attention. Were these two Americans merely the victims of brigands, irresponsible wayfarers, disassociated individuals or were they attacked by armed Turks directly or indirectly influenced by the Turkish reaction to French occupation? The French flag was fired upon early in December at Marash by Turks and Marash is not many miles north of Aintab and El Mali.

What will be the political significance of two Americans killed in what is ostensibly French territory? Will there be a concerted movement in the spring on the part of the French to push from the Mediterranean northward to the Black Sea and an attempt to enforce order under French authority? Will the French be asked to become the guarantors of Armenian security? Will the Allies exact from the Turks any penalty for not protecting the citizens of the Allies in Turkish territory? Such questions as these naturally press for an answer.



*Caesarea and Mt. Arjish*

## Campaign News

Virtually every state in the Union will start its campaign on schedule. The first three weeks of February will witness a simultaneous presentation of the needs of stricken Armenia in every part of the United States. No recent national campaigns have been launched with greater promise of success.

Every state in the Union has its chairman and state organization.

The month before the campaign fourteen hundred counties were fully organized and ready to start operations. In one of the southern states, ten counties have already raised their quota.

The co-operation accorded by various influential organizations is one of the big factors making for success. Practically every prominent woman's organization in the country has promised its support. Chambers of Commerce and business men's clubs are backing our movement in an earnest way.

The Christmas mail appeal cleared one million dollars above expenses. The greatest campaign expert in America regards our special Christmas drive as the most ambitious and successful mail appeal ever undertaken in this country. For the attending newspaper and magazine publicity, we are indebted to the Literary Digest in New York and Mr. Charles Swift, in Chicago.

One of the unique outgrowths of this year's campaign is the publication of a campaign bulletin in every state, modelled after the national "Twinkler." There have appeared among other state publications the New Hampshire "Echo," Ohio "Camel," Michigan "Sparkler," Albany "Dipper," New Jersey "Star," Connecticut "Nutmeg," Arkansas "Booster," Louisville "Kentuckian." The far-reaching influence of these state bulletins in disseminating information and purveying inspiration is illimitable.

## Harry Lauder Sings for Near East Relief

That a comedian's heart is open to the cries of the suffering all over the world is proven by the response of Sir Harry Lauder to the appeal of the Near East Relief for aid in its effort to save the survivors of the Armenian massacres and deportations from extermination by hunger and cold.

Lauder is the latest recruit to the number of stage people who have helped in the generous work of the Near East Relief. Since his only son lost his life fighting with the British in Flanders, the Scotch comedian who has made millions laugh, has been devoting much of his time to philanthropy, and the desperate plight of the remnants of the Armenian people appealed to him so strongly that he visited the conference last week of Western State Chairmen of the Near East Relief at Milwaukee and spoke strongly on the necessity of prompt and generous aid by the American and Canadian people.

"We all know America won the war," he said in a brief address. "We all know there are other situations to be righted. The sooner we get at it the sooner will we make comfortable situations. Anything we leave undone we are responsible for."

"The Armenians have suffered cruelly and they have asked us to help. There is nothing better we can do at this time. Let's do it."

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## No Individual Packages Sent to Near East by Near East Relief

It is not possible for Near East Relief to accept packages for individuals in the Near East. These may be sent through the American Express Co., by other commercial channels or by mail.

## PERSONALS

J. Wylie Brown of Brown, Welles & Co., export and import manufacturing agents, sails for Constantinople on February 16th.

Albert Staub, Executive Secretary for Robert College and American Christian College at Beirut, has recently arrived in Constantinople after spending several months at the College in Beirut. He will spend the next three months at Robert College before returning to America.

Major General Watson, Chief Administrator of O. E. T. A. (S), has been appointed Inspector General of Service Troops in India, and has proceeded to England on a short leave. His successor, Major General Sir Louis Bols, K. C. B., K. C. M. G., D. S. O., formerly Chief of the General Staff of the E. E. F., has arrived and has taken over his duties.

Field Marshal Lord Allenby left Cairo for the Sudan on January 5, via the Red Sea. Lord Allenby was to meet King Hussein of the Hedjaz at Jeddah.

Sir Edwin Pears died at Malta on November 27th. He was returning to London from Constantinople which he had made his home for forty years. He was perhaps the greatest living authority on Constantinople and its history, and was the author of the book entitled, "Turkey and Her Peoples."

Major M. P. Lane, associated with Major Arnold in Constantinople, recently left the Near East for America.

Major Arnold recently visited the regions of Aleppo and Syria.

Mr. Fred Ells is sailing for Constantinople. He is connected with the Standard Oil Company in New York, and his address in Constantinople will be in care of the Standard Oil Company's office in Constantinople.

The following personnel have returned from the Near East:

Aitkenhead, William C.  
Bailey, Charles  
Bishop, Troy A.  
Carr, Gladys L.  
Chamberlain, Louise Hannah  
Culler, A. J.  
Davis, Major G.  
Drummond, Anna C.  
Dunham, Chester F.  
Gilchrist, John  
Graham, Margaret B.  
Harding, Fred D.  
Hibben, Paxton  
Higgins, Thomas S.  
Janney, Cornelius M.  
Kent, E. M. Violet  
MacGeehon, Seldon Ezra  
Mitchell, Edwin Knox, Jr.  
Morresette, J.  
O'Grote, Walter P.  
Partridge, Ernest C.  
Patterson, W. B.  
Peabody, Stephen Clough  
Phillips, Carl J.  
Rhea, Col. J. C.  
Richards, George L.  
Richards, Mrs. George L.  
Robinson, Leslie H.  
Rumsey, Morris V.  
Salman, Harry Bennett  
Steves, Major Frank W.  
Warden, David Royal  
Weinberg, Louis L.  
Willson, Richard Tyler

Mgr. Dolci, Papal Delegate to the Sublime Porte, has received the award of Commander of the Legion of Honor in recognition of his services to French prisoners of war and civilians in Turkey during the war.

Rev. E. A. Yarrow, of Van, who for several months has been connected with the Near East Relief at Tiflis, Russia, has been decorated by the Russian government with the Vladimir Cross for his work among Russian soldiers in the early part of the war. He has also more recently been decorated by the Russian Red Cross. (The Orient, December 24, 1919.)

## The Speech of Premier Venizelos to the Greek People

I am happy that after such a long absence I am once more in your midst. Perhaps nothing else could express better how intensely I desired to return as soon as possible than the fact that three hours after the signing of the Bulgarian Treaty I left Paris for home.

If, however, we celebrate with good reason our national success, I know that anguish is created in you by the delay of the realization of our national claims and the anxiety which such a delay calls forth and which will be ended with the signing of the Turkish Treaty. I think, however, that my fellow countrymen can share the optimism with which I am filled returning from the seat of the Conference.

The exclusion of the Bulgarians from the Aegean and the occupation of the Western Thrace evacuated by her in part by the Greek and in part by the Allied armies, constitutes the beginning, as I have good reason to hope, of the recognition of our national claims over or upon Thrace, a claim which is supported by all the great powers excepting one, whose disagreement is not due to any unfavorable disposition, but rather to an error concerning the actual conditions under which the national question of Thrace appears, and which disagreement we hope we shall see removed as soon as this error is dispersed.

It is natural to come from Dodecanese to the question of western Asia Minor. You know that towards the end of April last, the Supreme Council asked Greece to undertake the military occupation of Smyrna, including the great section of the Villayet of Aidin, and to insure order there. The final fate of the occupied territory was left to be regulated in the Treaty of Peace with Turkey. It is plain, however, that we did not go to Smyrna, neither were we in-

vited to go, for the same reason for which we went to Southern Russia, that is for the performance of simply police duties for the more general interest of the Allies. I had already submitted a signed statement before the Supreme Council in February last and explained orally our national claims. The Supreme Council had referred the examination of these claims to a committee which in March had set forth the report in which they proposed the acknowledgment of these claims of ours even over regions wider than what is included now in our occupation. Consequently, when the Supreme Council at the end of April invited us to occupy this territory it was impossible that they should entrust this mission to us, had they not in their conscience already decided substantially the granting of this territory to Greece.

Therefore, with unshakable confidence, I consider our military occupation there as the prelude of the final confirmation of this territory to Greece after a short time

I do not by any means undervalue the greatness of the work before us. Yet this work does not surpass the powers which the nation can dispose. Having, as I have, confidence in the Greek people and knowing what this people can do when well led, and knowing also that I can rely on the confidence of the greater majority of the nation for the carrying out of this great work, I feel sure that in a comparatively short time this work will be fulfilled through which the Grecian State will be the means of the establishment of the new political status in the Near East, that will result from the treaties, and also the factor of a radiatory power of the liberal spirit therein. And although I am already on the threshold of the Old Age, I hope to live long enough to see this work started, if not fully carried out, so that I may be able to say like Simeon: "Nunc Domine



**Armenia and Turkey**—(Near East News, Jan. 9, 1920.)

The Manchester Guardian of January 5th discusses in a leading article the Turkish Treaty generally. It says:

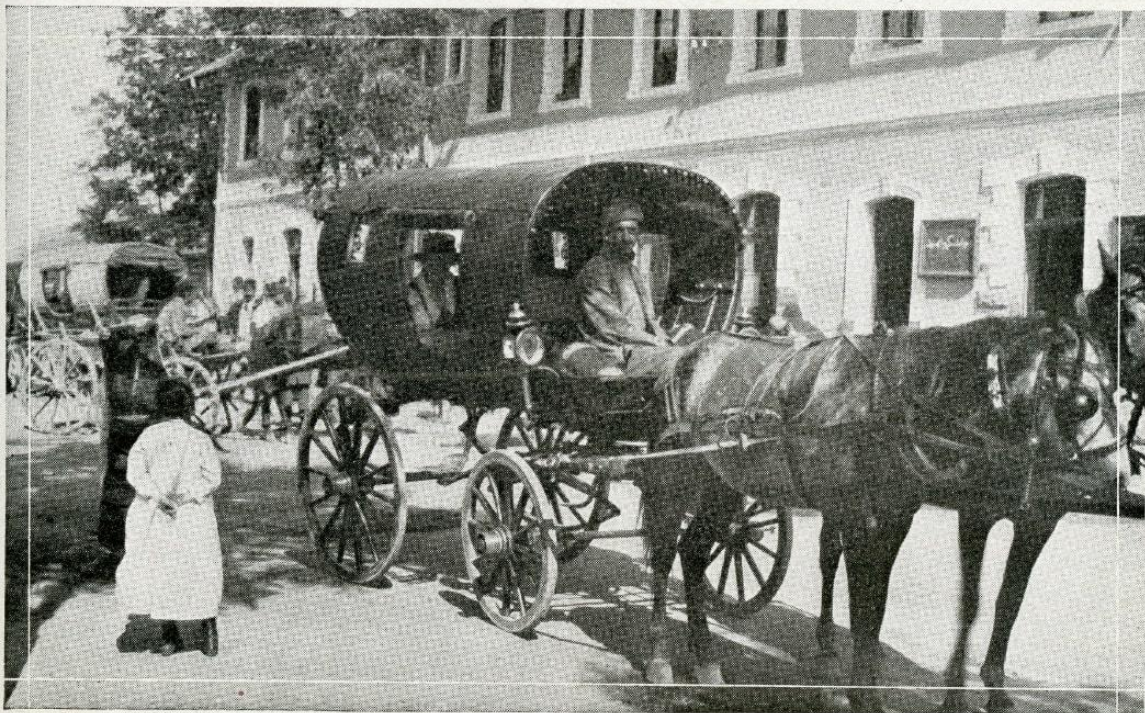
"There can scarcely have been anything on which opinion, in this country at least, was more agreed, than that the successful ending of the war would mean the disappearance of the Turk, complete and absolute, from the regions in which he misgoverned a variety of subject races, and above all, from Armenia, the stage upon which he had finally demonstrated, on a vast scale, the atrocities of which he is capable. To most people it would come with a shock of surprise and disgust to think that, under any circumstances or with any ostensible safeguards, the Turks could again be tolerated in Armenia, yet for some time it has been reported that certain Continental politicians, anxious for the purposes of their own diplomacy to keep the Turks alive, were disposed to recommend that Turkish authority should be maintained in Armenia. We should like to think that no British government would even consider so infamous a proposal, and that if it did it would soon end its own life as a Government."

**Konia Needs Clothes**

Major Arnold, who is in charge of the distribution station for the Near East Relief at Derindje, quoted a message from Konia which says that the intense cold is the most severe since 1917 and that exorbitant prices for fuel, food and clothing are putting these necessities entirely without the reach of the poor and causing untold suffering, especially among the refugees who are illy clad and without means.

Little children, barefooted and with only a few rags to partly cover them, are begging in the snow-filled streets, the message to Major Arnold reads. The price of meat has doubled, while that of bread has been increased fifty per cent. The intense cold has put out of commission one of the Near East Relief flour mills, which runs by water power, making it difficult to get flour.

Major Arnold adds that warm clothing and bedding would mitigate the situation, but that these are almost unobtainable. The influenza is raging, he adds, making the situation worse than was anticipated, and medicines are so scarce and so high-priced, that they are absolutely out of question for the poor, whose needs are being met as far as resources will permit by Near East Relief.



*A C. R. N. E. Relief Worker traveling in state*

## BRIEF NEWS ITEMS

### Our Exchanges

THE NEAR EAST NEWS is published in Tiflis by the Near East Relief. The ACORNE is a multigraphed typewritten bulletin sent from the N. E. R. headquarters at Constantinople to all the relief workers. THE ORIENT is published by the American Board in Constantinople. Established in 1909, it was suppressed during the war and has just resumed publication.

From Near East News

### Erivan to Confiscate Speculators' Supplies

Slova: Because of the increased prices, the Mayor of Erivan has asked the Minister of Supplies to permit the municipality to requisition goods of speculators who increase the price of goods or are hiding them, also to fine merchants who sell for higher prices than those established by law, 3,000 roubles or one month's imprisonment.

### New Alexandropol Electric Light Station

Slova: At the request of the Alexandropol municipality the Council has decided to supply the materials necessary for a new electric light station.

### Persian-Azerbaijan Conference

From Vosrojdenie: On Friday, December 5th, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Baku, the first sitting of the Persian-Azerbaijan Conference was held. Three commissions were appointed, viz: political, commercial-industrial and judicial.

### Glass Factory in Azerbaijan

From Vosrojdenie: The first Azerbaijan glass factory has opened under the firm name of "The Caucasus Company of Glass Factories." The new Caspian Co-operative Union has given to the new factory an order amounting to more than a million roubles.

### Seed Asked for Armenia

From Slovo: The Armenian National Council in Georgia, and the

representatives of the peasants in Akhalkhalaki have petitioned the Georgian and Armenian Governments, and the American Near East Relief, for the necessary seeds for sowing, or for a sum of money to purchase such seeds.

### Baku Oil

From Slovo: An official commission has been appointed by some oil firms in Baku, to go to Batum and negotiate with the British authorities on the regulation of the pumping of oil through the pipe line.

The reservoirs are overflowing, and great reserves of oil have accumulated, and the owners of oil storage houses are demanding very high prices for storing, often exceeding the price of oil.

### Quinine Industry in Batum

From Znamia Truda: A new industry has been inaugurated in Batum. For the first time eucalyptus leaves are being harvested for quinine. The leaves will be worked out at the first factory specially built for the purpose.

### Foreign Exchange, Constantinople, December 30, 1919.

Dollar .....	\$0.95
Pound sterling.....	3.71
20 francs.....	1.91½
20 lire.....	1.56
20 drachmas.....	2.80
20 leva.....	0.42½
20 marks .....	0.52
20 kronen .....	0.14½
Gold lira.....	4.39

Exchange on American checks, Russian Caucasus (Near East News, December 9, 1919).

English pounds.....	775	780
Francs .....		23
Turkish gold.....		600
Turkish paper.....	236	240
Dollars .....		285

Caucasus — American Embassy announcement yesterday Peace Conference recognized Azerbaijan and Georgia as de facto governments resulted in wild enthusiasm.

Haskell.

**Azerbaidjan Cabinet** — (Near East News, December 9, 1919)

From Borba: The Azerbaidjan Cabinet is as follows: President and Minister of the Interior, Nasibek Ussebekoff; Minister of Foreign Affairs, Khau-Koicky; Minister of Finance, Trade and Industry, Mamed-Kasan-Hadjeusky; Minister of Ways and Communications, Post and Telegraph, Mamed Aslanoff; Minister of War, Mechmandaroff; Minister of Justice, Khas-Mamedoff; Minister of Public Health, Charity and Agriculture, Rasieff; Minister of Education and Labor, Karlanoff.

Over one hundred cases of Spanish influenza were reported in Constantinople during the week of December 23rd. The municipality has ordered the closing of its schools for a period of ten days. Many of the cases have been fatal.

In connection with the information we published last week regarding the Busrah-Baghdad Railway, Reuter states that the latest news is that it is proposed that at first there shall be a daily passenger service between Busrah and Baghdad, doing the journey in twenty-eight hours, while the goods service will take forty-eight hours. Later, with necessary improvements, it is hoped to reduce the passenger service to twelve hours. (Near East)

Swiss technicians are being enlisted by the Persian government for employment in government railways, telephones and telegraphs. (Near East)

Mr. James Rothschild has given £500 for the purpose of instituting the Deborah Prize for Hebrew poetry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. (Near East)

The Emir Faisal, a Busrah message states, has intimated that those responsible for the recent outrages at Deir-er-Zor will be punished as rebels.

**Paris-Constantinople Trains**—(Near East, Jan. 2, 1920)

The following memorandum on the train service between Paris and Constantinople has been forwarded by the British High Commissioner at the latter city:

A train leaves Paris (Gare de Lyons) and Constantinople (Birk-edji) daily. It contains six wagon-lits and one restaurant car, each wagon-lit being numbered. The restaurant car runs to Bucharest, via Brodi, but there is no restaurant car service between Belgrade and Brodi. There is no direct wagon-lit service between Constantinople and Belgrade, but there is a wagon-lit service from Constantinople as far as Sofia only, three days a week, and the usual daily train leaving 14-15 hours on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and from Sofia to Constantinople on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. The first-class fare between Constantinople and Belgrade is approximately £10 sterling, including wagon-lit accommodation as far as Sofia. Between Belgrade and Paris the first-class fare is 600 francs, wagon-lit charge 207 francs extra.

Civilians traveling through Serbia must have their passports vised before leaving the frontier towns of Belgrade or Tsaribrod. These must be vised by: (1) Serbian Prefecture; (2) Serbian G. H. Q. Civilians traveling Belgrade to Paris must have their passports vised by (1) Serbs; (2) Italians; (3) Swiss. The same applies for journey between Paris and Belgrade. The journey takes two days between Paris and Belgrade and three days between Paris and Bucharest. Owing to the lack of rolling stock and bad conditions of track, there is an improvised service between Tsaribrod and Pirot, consisting usually of one ordinary box truck and the engine. Passengers are thus obliged to transfer their baggage, etc., into the improvised train for the short journey before joining the connecting mail train at Pirot. This journey takes half-an-hour only.

**Congressional Record,  
January 23, 1920**

Why do we not recognize some of these other countries, as, for instance, Armenia and Georgia? There are two Christian peoples who stepped of their own accord into this war and declined all offers from the enemy and fought on our side. One hundred and sixty thousand Armenians were engaged in this war on our side. When they were pouring back from the Russian front with the rest of the Russian army, the Armenians came by train to Baku, from Russia, and could get no farther, and found themselves surrounded by a horde of Moslem Tartars. The Armenian Bagrotouni, who had been Kerensky's chief of staff, organized them and took possession of Baku. They fought for several weeks and conquered the Turks and Tartars there, and held Baku for months and months. We did not know, nobody knew, what had happened at the time. A great victory had been won for the Allies. Central Asia had been taken for the Allies.

The leader in that movement, Gen-Bagrotouni has been here for weeks and no hand extended to welcome him. This one-legged hero of the Caspian—he should have recognition here, and his nation should have recognition. How does it happen that Armenia and Georgia are not

recognized as well as Poland and the Czecks? We have cheered in our galleries several splendid soldiers of European nations, none of them more worthy of our applause than the Armenian. He is as much entitled to recognition as any other hero of the war. There is Gen. Androvik, the mountain chieftain, who fought the Turks to a standstill and actually won Armenia's independence on the field of battle. It was agreed that Armenia's existence should be recognized by the Turks themselves. Why does not our government recognize it? Androvik has a record not surpassed by any in all the stories of forlorn hopes for freedom.

When Allenby beat the Turks below Damascus, 8,000 Armenian veterans were with him and 100,000 Turks were away fighting Armenians toward Ezeroum, where Androvik had become one of the Orient's resplendent and chivalric figures, a nation's hero. Let us welcome him and Bagrotouni by according Armenia recognition and a minister. Is this a Christian nation? Then let us recognize in this bill the oldest Christian people, over whom the Star of Bethlehem swung over nineteen hundred years ago. If the President can recognize one nation, we can appropriate the money for another.

—Congressman Little of Kansas.



*On the way from Alexandropol to Erivan*

## Arab Kingdom

It is inevitable that occasional conflicts should occur as a result of the transfer of responsibility from the British to the Arabs on the one hand and the French on the other. The Baalbek incident and the raid on Deir-Zor by the desert Arabs seems to have called for a proclamation from the Great Prince, recently issued at Damascus.

### PROCLAMATION

Owing to the recent withdrawal of the British troops from our Oriental zone our affairs have entered in a new phasis which is the first step toward free life, because our Arab government has become in charge of the maintenance of the public order in this piece of sacred land of the Arab liberated territory for which we are doing our best efforts to secure its political independence and its unity, basing ourselves on the promises of our Allies.

It goes without saying that the patriotic duty requires nowadays from the men of our government to exert energy, prudence and zeal in the execution of the affairs of our country more than before, in order to prove to the whole world that the Arabs are worth to be trusted with free life and absolute National Independence which is the only coveting of each member composing our nation, and for which we have entered this terrible war for four years on the side of our Allies. Thereupon, in my quality of representative of my brother the Great Prince "Feizal" recommend all the officials and responsible men of the government to do as follows:

This is the proclamation of His H. the Great Prince which we publish for the notice of the people, and con-

forming ourselves to the wish of His Greatness, we invite the population to observe the following:

1. To obey the orders of the government in all the acception of the world.

2. To avoid whatever successible to disturb public order.

3. To denounce to the government all propagators of false news, disturbers, and trouble-makers who wish to trouble the public order for their own benefit, and who will meet with their deserts.

4. To avoid manifestations and public meetings without the authorization of the government, because it comes to the government to plead the cause of the nation.

5. Not to use any kind of arms within the towns.

6. To help and assist each other in anything referring to the benefit of the country.

7. To tighten the relations of friendship and concord among all the denominations treated on a scale equal with regard to their rights and duties toward the country in the eyes of the law.

The government declares its decision in the carrying out and putting into vigor—the proclamation of the Great Prince Feizal, and that with great exactness and energy in a measure not less than that of the nation in safeguarding the rights of the sacred country. Anybody who dares to disobey this proclamation will meet with the severest punishment, and any calumny compromising the aspirations of the nation will be met with the greatest energy and God is Greatest of All.

General Military Governor of Syria,  
Aly Rida El Kikaby.

### List of Steamers as Sailing for Near East

Siboney	McDonnell & Truda	Feb. 27th	Constantinople
Henry Mallory	McDonnell & Truda	March	Constantinople
Canada	Fabre Line	March 11th	Pireaus
Pannonia	Cunard Line	March	Pireaus
Black Arrow	American Line	No Date Set	Constantinople

The New Near East assumes no responsibilities for this information



*All dressed up and no place to go*



# CAMPAIGN FIELD DEPARTMENT

## ALABAMA

H. T. McBroom,  
607 Lyric Bldg.,  
Birmingham, Ala.

## ARIZONA

Chas. F. Willis,  
Phoenix Nat'l Bank Bldg.,  
Phoenix, Ariz.

## ARKANSAS

Edmund C. Lindsay,  
15 Urquhart Bldg.,  
Little Rock, Ark.

## CALIFORNIA (North)

F. R. Buckalew,  
333 Mills B'dg.,  
San Francisco, Calif.

J. S. Wells, Camp Dir.,  
332 Mills B'dg.,  
San Francisco, Calif.

## CALIFORNIA (South)

H. N. Wells,  
517 Wright & Ca'ender Bldg.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.,

## COLORADO

J. Mont Travis,  
411 Chamber of Com. B'dg.,  
Denver, Co'o.

## CONNECTICUT

Mrs. E. H. McDonough,  
31 Hartford Tr. Co. Bldg.,  
Hartford, Conn.,

(P. O. Box 1342)

## DELAWARE

Near East Relief,  
H. F. Pellegrin,  
201 Church Bldg.,  
Wilmington, Del.

## DIST. OF COLUMBIA

Mrs. Cabot Stevens,  
937 Woodward Bldg.,  
Washington, D. C.

## FLORIDA

B. M. Shive,  
504 Clark Bldg.,  
Jacksonville, Fla.

## GEORGIA

F. V. Dennison,  
1111 Flatiron Bldg.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

## IDAHO

H. G. McPike,  
316 Yates Bldg.,  
Boise, Idaho.

## ILLINOIS

P. J. Byrne  
Near East Relief,  
19 So. La Salle St.,  
Chicago, Ill.

## INDIANA

Mead A. Kelsey,  
403 City Trust B'dg.,  
Indianapolis, Ind.

## IOWA

Rev. J. B. Kirby,  
8th and Pleasant Sts.,  
Des Moines, Iowa.

## KANSAS

Phil Eastman,  
Central Nat'l Bank,  
Topeka, Kans.

## KENTUCKY

Miss Beth Higgins,  
Speed Bldg.,  
Louisville, Ky.

## LOUISIANA

Jas. L. Ewing, Camp, Dir.,  
Near East Relief,  
Room M, Grunewald Hotel,  
New Orleans, La.

## MAINE

Geo. H. Sisson,  
404 Benoit B'lock,  
270 Middle St.,  
Portland, Maine.

## MARYLAND

H. F. Pellegrin,  
453 Title Bldg.,  
Baltimore, Md.

## MASSACHUSETTS

Wm. F. English, Jr.,  
838 Little Bldg.,  
Boston, Mass.

## MICHIGAN

J. J. Spillane,  
110 Fort Street, West,  
Detroit, Mich.

## MINNESOTA

Nels Martinson,  
303 Oneida Bldg.,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

## MISSISSIPPI

Dr. Chas. H. Currens,  
Edwards' House,  
Jackson, Miss.

## MISSOURI

Near East Relief,  
1423 Chemical Bldg.,  
St. Louis, Mo.

## MONTANA

J. M. Kennedy,  
Bailey Block,  
Helena, Montana

## NEBRASKA

Mrs. R. A. Finley,  
Y. M. C. A. Bldg.,  
Omaha, Nebr.

## NEVADA

Near East Relief,  
Clay Peters Bldg.,  
Reno, Nev.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Geo. H. Sisson,  
811 Amoskeag Bank Bldg.,  
Manchester, N. H.

## NEW JERSEY

Julian Zelchenko,  
800 Broad St., Room 315,  
Newark, N. J.

## NEW MEXICO

Rev. Walter S. Trowbridge,  
Salmon Bldg.,  
Sante Fe, N. Mex.

## NEW YORK

### New York City District

Cyrus P. Keen,  
259 Madison Ave.,  
New York City  
Director New York State  
Capt. Stephen M. Bobo,  
1 Madison Ave.,  
New York City.

### Albany District

J. Field Speel,  
112 State Street,  
Albany, N. Y.

### Binghamton District

W. M. Howe,  
312 Press Bldg.,  
Binghamton, N. Y.

### Buffalo District

Hubert Cowley Carroll,  
205 Liberty Bldg.,  
Buffalo, N. Y.

### Syracuse District

Robt. B. Lindsay,  
Seitz Bldg.,  
Syracuse, N. Y.

### Poughkeepsie District

Bolton J. Love,  
45 Market St.,  
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

## NORTH CAROLINA

Claude W. Hopper,  
901 Citizens' Nat'l Bank,  
Raleigh, N. Car.

## NORTH DAKOTA

Gordon B. Smith,  
62 Broadway,  
Fargo, N. Dak.

## OHIO

E. W. Huelster,  
332 Schofield B'dg.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

## OKLAHOMA

F. L. Carpenter,  
516 Houston St.,  
Muskogee, Okla.

## OREGON

J. J. Handsaker,  
606 Stock Exchange B'dg.,  
Portland, Oreg.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Geo. E. Silloway,  
213 South Broad St.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

### Harrisburg District

J. Calvitt Clarke,  
Red Cross B'dg.,  
119 Front St.,  
Harrisburg, Pa.

### Pittsburgh District

Near East Relief,  
509 Grant St.,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

## RHODE ISLAND

Near East Relief,  
56 Steiner Bldg.,  
Westminster St.,  
Providence, R. I.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

W. Banks Dove,  
Liberty National Bank,  
Columbia, S. Car.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

L. A. Hill,  
224 Western Nat'l Bk. Bldg.,  
Mitchell, S. Dak.

## TENNESSEE

Near East Relief,  
1218 Independent Life Bldg.,  
Nashville, Tenn.

## TEXAS

### North

O. M. Lowry,  
811 Southwestern Life Bldg.,  
Dallas, Texas.

### South

H. C. May,  
814 Milian St.,  
Houston, Texas.

## UTAH

Earl A. Rowell,  
330 Atlas Block,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

## VERMONT

Ro'and E. Stevens,  
First Nat'l Bank Bldg.,  
White River Junction, Vt.

## VIRGINIA

C. W. Hopper,  
321 Am. Nat'l Bank B'dg.,  
Richmond, Va.

## WASHINGTON

### Spokane District

E. A. Potter,  
539 Peyton Bldg.,  
Spokane, Wash.

### Seattle District

Near East Relief,  
22 Lippy Bldg.,  
Seattle, Wash.

## WEST VIRGINIA

W. E. Smith,  
Day & Night Bank B'dg.,  
Charleston, W. Va.

## WISCONSIN

Jas. W. Thompson,  
213 P'ankinton Arcade,  
Milwaukee, Wisc.

## WYOMING

Near East Relief,  
Cheyenne, Wyoming.

