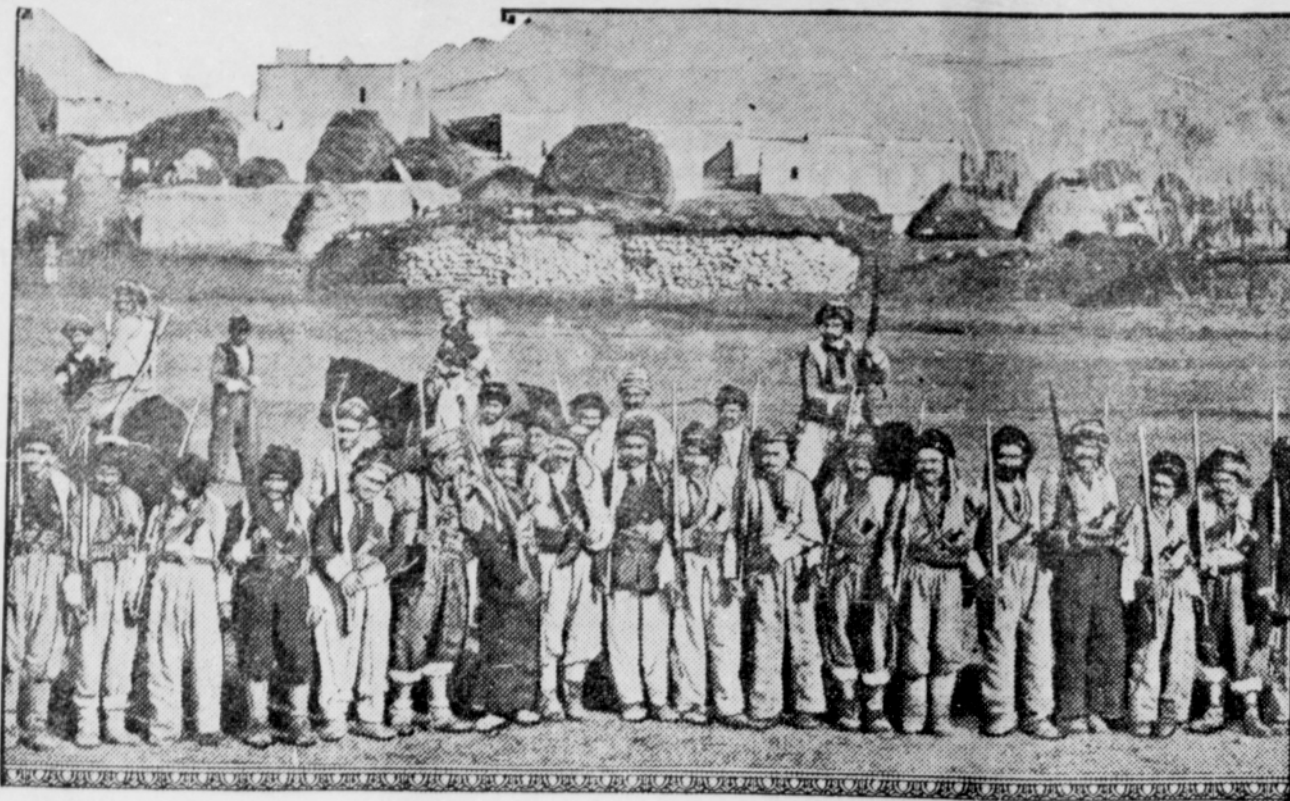


CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS OF PERSIA FIGHT TURKS



The people of Mavana, a town on the Turco-Persian frontier, 15 miles from Ourmlah City, the only Christian inhabitants of Persia with the privilege of carrying arms, valiantly defended their homes when the Turks invaded this neutral territory in order to turn the flank of the Russian army in the Caucasus. These brave soldiers, considered by many as the best fighters in the Turco-Persian region, have joined the regular armed force of the Persian government.

GREAT BRITAIN ANSWERS NOTE

Nation Will Continue to Protect Her Own Interests.

Ships Still to Be Detained in Accord With Policy—Injury to Neutrals Not Intended.

Washington, D. C.—Great Britain's second and complete reply to the American note of protest, which on December 28 last asked for an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet, was made public by mutual agreement between the State department and the British foreign office.

The note, addressed to Ambassador Page by Sir Edward Grey under date of February 10, denies that the depression in American industries is due to the activity of the British fleet, and suggests among other causes the shortage of shipping facilities, the consequent diminution of cotton trade and the destruction by submarine mines "laid by the enemy indiscriminately" of many neutral vessels.

After giving a lengthy detailed answer to the charge that American ships and cargoes were being unduly detained, the communication contains in its concluding paragraph the announcement that Great Britain intends to take retaliatory measures against the German submarine campaign against enemy ships, but does not reveal their nature.

Conceding that foodstuffs intended for the civil population of the country are not contraband, the British government points out that "in any country in which there exists such tremendous organization for war as now obtains in Germany, there is no clear division between those whom the government is responsible for feeding and those whom it is not."

"It will still be our endeavor," says the final paragraph, "to avoid injury and loss to neutrals, but the announcement by the German government of their intention to sink merchant vessels and their cargoes without verification of their nationality or character and without making any provision for the safety of non-combatant crews or giving them a chance of saving their lives has made it necessary for His Majesty's government to consider what measures they should adopt to protect their interests."

"It is impossible for one belligerent to depart from rules and precedents and for the other to remain bound by them."

Since the presentation of the preliminary note, Sir Edward says that he has had "further opportunity of examining into the trade statistics of the United States as embodied in the census."

Kaiser May Exile Rich.

Copenhagen—The report is in circulation here that, owing to the necessity to restrict food consumption, the German government intends ordering 5,000,000 Germans who possess independent incomes and are ineligible for military service to leave Germany for neutral countries and remain there until the war is over. It is planned, according to the report, that 3,000,000 of these persons shall go to the Scandinavian countries, 1,000,000 to Holland and 1,000,000 to Switzerland.

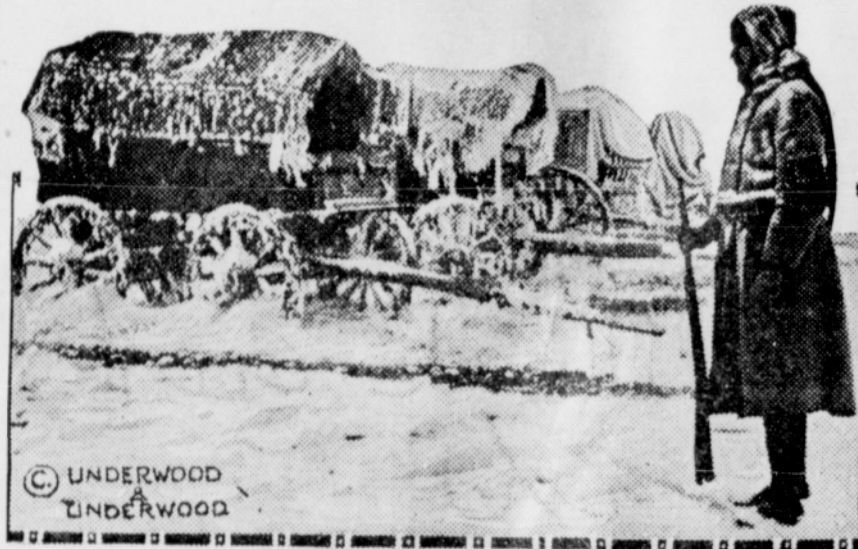
toms returns, in order to see whether the belligerent action of Great Britain has been in any way the cause of trade depression, which your excellency (Ambassador Page) describes as existing in the United States and also whether the seizures of vessels or cargoes which have been made by the British navy have inflicted any loss on American owners for which our existing machinery provides no means of redress."

Britain to Divert Food.

London—The foreign office announced definitely that if the cargo of the American steamship *Wilhelmina* should be diverted for the relief of the distressed in Belgium, the decision to send her cargo to a British prize court would be reconsidered. Otherwise her cargo must be submitted to the decision of the court.

The *Wilhelmina*, which sailed from

STORMY WEATHER IN SERBIA



Servian sentinel doing guard duty over a commissary train in the midst of one of the fierce snow storms that have been sweeping over that country.

New Mineral.

In the course of recent microscopical study of a number of samples from the old Searles' deep well at Searles lake, San Bernardino county, California, several minerals were found which could not be determined optically. A

chemical analysis of one of these showed it to be a hydrous borosilicate of sodium, and the name Searlesite is proposed for the new mineral, after John W. Searles, the pioneer, who put down the deep well from which the specimen came.

Revised Ship Purchase Bill Passed by House

Washington, D. C.—The government ship purchase bill, as an amendment to the Weeks naval auxiliary bill, was passed by the house at 1:20 o'clock a. m. Wednesday, by a vote of 215 to 121.

When Minority Leader Mann saw that the Democratic leaders were determined to stop the filibuster, several conferences were held and it was agreed not to keep up the dilatory fight and a few minutes after 1 o'clock a vote began on the final passage of the bill.

The passage of the bill followed a 14-hour parliamentary struggle, which, until long after midnight, threatened to extend interminably, because of a determined filibuster by Minority Leader Mann, who yielded only after administration leaders decided to apply a second special rule to bring the fight to an end.

The bill now goes to the senate. Nineteen Democrats voted against the bill. They were: Bathrick, Borchers, Callaway, Dies, Donohoe, Fitzgerald, Gerry, Gordon, Jones, Kindel, Kitchin, Morrison, Moss of Indiana, Page of North Carolina, Saunders, Slayden, Whitacre, White and Witherspoon.

All of the Republicans present voted against the bill.

Italy Is Shaken Again.

Rome—Another earthquake in the province of Aquila damaged many houses, rendering a number of them dangerous for habitation. The population, greatly alarmed, has even abandoned the undamaged houses, fearing another catastrophe.

Britons' Howitzers Have German Guns Surpassed

London—The British army in France is now using heavy howitzers, which, according to a report from the official "eyewitness" with the expeditionary forces, have gained ascendancy over the heavy German guns.

These howitzers, he says, were used in successful attacks on the German positions in the brick fields south of La Bassee canal a week ago.

"Our heavy howitzers took part in this bombardment, their fire being directed on the railway triangle," the "eyewitness" says. "The boom of these pieces and the detonation of their shells were audible 20 miles away, above the roar of the other artillery, while to those close at hand the shrieking of the great projectiles through the air was most impressive, as were the volumes of smoke and debris thrown up."

"The effect of the lyddite shells was truly terrific, one house being blown bodily into the air, and as they burst among the brick stacks they created great havoc among the enemy."

"The assault was launched against a strong position, or 'keep,' among the stacks of bricks held by the Germans. Our storming columns rushed the work from three sides at once and captured it with little loss, for, as prisoners afterward said, the noise of the bursting shells was so great and the clouds of dust with which the defenders were surrounded were so thick that they did not observe our men advancing until too late."

"At the same time the trenches to the north of this point, between it and the canal, were stormed by another party."

"By seizing these points we were enabled to occupy a continuous line southward from our forward posts on the canal, which formed an advantageous position in front of the brick fields."

Neutral Envoys Approve Uncle Sam's Protests

Washington, D. C.—Reading of the official texts of the two notes from the United States to Germany and Great Britain developed Saturday an intense interest among officials and diplomats in the question of what would be the nature of the replies from the two belligerent governments.

That Great Britain would give assurances of no intention to sanction the general use of neutral flags by British merchant ships was the belief of many officials. The widest sort of speculation, based on a variety of conceptions of Germany's plans in waging a submarine war on merchant ships was heard as to the probable response of the Berlin foreign office.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, declined to discuss the note to Germany, as he had received no advices from Berlin concerning it, and the British embassy also was silent.

What excited most attention in congress and among diplomats, however, was the serious tone of the notes, even though qualified by polite terms of diplomatic usage. The determination of the United States government to have the American flag used only by ships entitled to fly it and the warning that Germany would be held to a "strict accountability" if American lives or vessels were lost in the attacks on merchant vessels in the new sea zones of war were practically the sole topic of discussion in executive and congressional circles, as well as among the ambassadors and representatives of belligerent and neutral nations.

While there were no authorized expressions, it was evident that the neutral diplomats in general gave both notes their approval because of the identity of interests of their governments and of the United States in the circumstances.

Less "Uplift" Is Wanted.

Indianapolis—Henry Lane Wilson, ex-ambassador to Mexico, speaking here before the Columbia club, said: "There will be no hope for Mexico until either the present administration reverses its policy in entirety or until a new administration, committed to less uplift, but more genuine practical advice and assistance in the way of intelligent evolution, comes into power."

Mr. Wilson said it was not his purpose "to question the intention or patriotism of the President, but the performance of the administration."

Unit To Be Exchanged.

Berlin—The first exchanges of disabled prisoners of war under the plan of Pope Benedict were arranged through the Berlin embassy. One hundred and forty-six British prisoners unfit for further service will leave Germany February 16, and Great Britain will release 107 Germans. The exchanges apparently are not on a numerical basis, but all those who are disabled will be included within the scope of the order eventually.

KAISER SUMMONS U. S. AMBASSADOR

Gerard to Confer With Emperor On American Notes.

Choice of Friendship of Two Nations Seems Offered—Situation Very Delicate.

London—The German emperor, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from The Hague, has invited the American ambassador to Germany, James W. Gerard, to a conference at eastern headquarters.

Washington, D. C.—A situation of the utmost delicacy for the United States has arisen in relation to the European war. Its character is indicated by the request of Emperor William that Ambassador Gerard in company with Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German chancellor, shall come at once to his headquarters in the eastern theater of war.

This request is equivalent to a command. Mr. Gerard and the chancellor will go without delay. Mr. Gerard has been equipped with the proper instructions, approved by the President. These instructions are in line with the principles laid down in the note to the German government protesting against the enforcement of the German "war zone" decree.

What results will follow from the audience which the emperor, surrounded by his troops, will grant to the American ambassador, no one in Washington knows. It will be a dramatic setting for the conference. Within the armed camp of a marvelously efficient military power will be the diplomatic representative of the United States, who realizes that the regular army of his country comprises only 80,000 men. This force constitutes only two army corps.

Under Emperor William's command in the theater of war to which Mr. Gerard has been summoned, there are about 1,000,000 Germans—26 army corps. There are also a larger number of Austro-Hungarians.

Backed by the bayonets around him, Emperor William will feel his power. With the recollection of what the United States has, Mr. Gerard cannot but make comparisons which German diplomacy perhaps hopes will cause him to feel at a disadvantage.

The German emperor is playing for great stakes. It is nothing more nor less than victory in the war. If the United States can be brought to the point of insisting that its cargoes of foodstuffs shall pass freely to Germany, the emperor believes his cause will be as good as won. Either Great Britain must abandon its seizures of such foodstuffs, in which event the policy of "starving out" Germany will no longer be effective, or continue to do so in spite of objection of the American government and thus force drastic action on the part of the United States.

Belgian Socialists Give Aid to Needy Countrymen

London—The organization of the Socialist party in Brussels is doing splendid work in alleviating distress, according to a report from the American Commission for Relief. It has two bakeries, employing 185 men, with a possible weekly output of 220 tons of bread. At present they are baking and distributing about half that amount. Their bakeries are not allowed to sell for money, but for every ounce of flour they receive from the commission for relief they turn in a coupon signed by the head of a Belgian family saying he has received the bread.

"When a man makes application for help," said the Socialist secretary, "we ascertain his business and if possible how many of his family are dependent on him and how many have trades of their own. If it is possible for him to do work that will assist the commission for relief we let him pay for the coupons by doing that work."

"For example, if a man is a shoemaker we let him make boots that are turned in to the commission. This particular form of work is, however, becoming impossible on account of the failure of the supplies of raw material of all kinds. The number of the unemployed among the many weavers, bookbinders, miners, etc., in Brussels and the country at large is increasing enormously."

Kaiser to Control Oats.

Berlin—The Bundesrath has decided to expropriate all the domestic stocks of oats, with the exception of seed oats and the grain necessary for fodder for horses. The order became effective February 16. The Bundesrath also raised the maximum price of oats by 50 marks (\$12.50) per metric ton.