

NEAR EAST ISSUE IS BATTLE OF CHARTS

Paris Misled by Many Kinds of Propaganda.

TEUTONIC IMPRINTS SHOWN

Attempt Made to Prove That Armenians Robbed and Massacred

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

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CONSTANTINOPLE.—Figures cannot lie, but liars can figure, is a cynicism perhaps too bald to apply to the diplomatic use of statistics in the near east, but any less definite word would not state the facts which confront an investigator.

Bedrock to any permanent settlement of the near eastern question is the determination of what races and religions occur in the region and their relative proportions. If Greeks predominate in Thrace and Western Anatolia, they have a basis of claim to the sovereignty there. So the Greek official figures show in great detail the numerical superiority of Hellenic population. No room is left for doubt or discussion. The case is closed, settled—'Fenish Johnny,' as they say in Salonica.

Along come the Turkish claims, official also, mark you, and supported by various disinterested authorities. At once one wonders at the mendacity of the Greeks, who would dare to make such false and unfounded claims. At least, one might wonder if this were his first experience with near eastern statistics. For the Turks demonstrate utterly that the Greeks are so small a minority as to be insignificant.

Be it remembered, these are not the idle flurries of irresponsible zealots. They are prepared by responsible governments for presentation to the Paris commission. Yet each discredits the other.

And the traveler himself who goes over the ground in question is likely to discredit both. For a population claimed as Greek or Turkish may really be Bulgarian, or a district which Armenians and Turks each call theirs may be Georgian, Kurdish, Greek or Syrian. A lover of euphemisms could safely say that the orient is the region of the inexactitude.

When the Turks put forth their printed-in-Germany tables they affect a fine show of impartiality by proving that the population of two or three islands—including Cyprus, which belongs to Great Britain—is predominantly Greek.

Did Armenians Massacre Turks? Credulity is taxed, however, when the official memorial addressed to the powers by the Armenian government undertakes to show by statistics that the Armenians have within five years massacred more than 1,000,000 innocent Moslem men, women and children in private conversation with me Turkish officials freely translate this into 'millions.' When I flatly told Rustum Bey, the one-time ambassador to Washington, that I did not believe these figures he was apparently astonished and took on such an air of indignation that I felt a challenge to a duel would have been quite in atmosphere.

As an aside upon this matter it is to be said that the Turks either deny or minimize the reports of the Armenian atrocities. Their attitude is of injured innocence, victims of propaganda and of their own lack of opportunity to be heard abroad. It is the complaint of adolescence, 'Nobody understands me.' If the truth were known, and reasoning, the Turks would be seen in the light of long-suffering victims of oppressive minorities. No Turk ever massacred an unarmed man or a woman or a child,' declared an English-speaking Turk to me, with the fire of conviction in his eye, as we sat at lunch in the Cercle d'Orient.

On my table at the moment as I write are two albums and a big, thick book showing by tax and photographs all evidently prepared somewhere near the northern terminus of the Berlin-Bagdad railway that the Armenians plotted, conspired, abetted, and massacred, and there are the portraits of the slain to prove it. The text attached to the pictures in the albums is in four languages, and the captions done with characteristic Teutonic thoroughness, although stamped with a 'Turkish seal.'

Practically all these atrocities charged against the Armenians are located in the Caucasus and in regions where I myself have traveled since the date of their alleged perpetration. A few other Armenians, consuls and relief workers, have been in the same region, and by a coincidence these men during the last few days have been in Constantinople, and I have talked with them about the charges made by the Turkish government. Likewise, I have inquired of the British experts. There are always one or more British experts upon every bit of ground on the surface, if one may only get at them.

In this case the extreme figures to be debited against the Armenians are unofficially British; namely, that not more than 25,000 Moslems have been massacred by Armenians within the last five years. Even that is rather an appalling total, but it must be set over against the provocation and the fact that nearly a million Armenians were slain, and perhaps as many more survive, starving, in exile, by the fiendish cruelty of the Turkish government. 'You're another' is a poor answer for the Turco-Teutonic cabal to make to

the Armenians. Some day an independent international commission will give us the facts, in balance and proportion.

To return to the theme of statistics: One of the cruel and inhuman weapons that has come into general use in this war is the ethnographic chart. This is shown to show who's who and where in the disputed regions of the earth, like Alsace-Lorraine, the Balkans and Turkey. By colored dots, squares, stars and circles, it purports to tell the location and size of each racial group. The first of these vivid charts one encounters is most impressive. The fairness of it carries one away. Here is the truth at a glance.

Alas, that is only a first impression! For the very next ethnographic chart that is poked under one's nose by some zealous partisan proves diametrically the opposite of the first. There, even may be a third, to make clear that the two others were entirely wrong. Apparently it is all merely a matter of access to a color printer.

As new and elaborate and beautiful ethnographic charts are flashed before me they freeze in stone cold. I attach more weight to the opinion of an honest man who has visited the regions in question than to all the ethnographic charts ever published.

Charts, tables, maps and observers all unite in making clear one basic condition in the Near East. This must be understood before a student can get anywhere with a solution of the problem. It is that races and religions are inextricably intermingled. A few square miles may contain distinctive villages of four or five contending factions or groups. A snake would break its back trying to mark a boundary between them.

Much more is it impossible—simply impossible—for the Paris commission or any other body to erect a line of division that will respect the racial and religious claims which are paramount here. Where the nations impinge there are no solid blocks of population that can be treated as units.

Except by vast migrations, it is out of the question to enable each man or village to dwell under the sovereignty of its choice. Some strong overlordship will have to be interposed to give everybody justice where he now is, irrespective of his past or present pretensions. That suzerain, or mandatory, will have as an important part of its work the difficult task of teaching people how to get along amicably one with the other. For the old state of affairs breeds only suspicion, fear, antipathy, disorder—and statistics!

ARMY IN GALICIA REPORTED TO BE IN FULL FLIGHT.

Ukraine Premier Scores Allies for Supporting Poles When Latter Break Agreement and Fight.

WARSAW, May 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—Dobychyn, Boryslaw and Mikolajow have been captured by the Poles in their campaign in Galicia, says an official statement issued today. The official statement issued today, near Rozwadow, according to the statement, which adds:

'The prisoners taken have not yet been counted. The enemy is fleeing in a panic.'

VIENNA, May 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—Fighting of the most severe character is in progress between the Poles and Ukrainians in Eastern Galicia, according to reports received here. M. Holubowicz, premier of West Ukraine, in a statement telegraphed here says:

'The insane policy of the allies in supporting the Poles is responsible for the situation. The allies stipulated that General Haller's army should not be used against us, but it is being used against us, and it is being used against us because of a comedy threat of resigning because of being unable to keep his promises. The Ukrainians are upon the heads of those who are directing or permitting the attacks and the destruction of the Ukraine's hopes to be free.'

WEEK MORE GIVEN BOCHES

(Continued From First Page.)

the former Government as the party which was solely or chiefly to blame for the war. The draft of the treaty contains no facts in support of this view; no proof on the subject is furnished therein. The German delegates therefore beg you to be so good as to communicate to them the report of the Premier Clemenceau, and the associated governments for the purpose of establishing the responsibility of the war.

The reply of Premier Clemenceau says:

'In your note you state that Germany while accepting the obligation of 1918, the obligation to make reparation, did not understand such an acceptance to mean that her responsibility was involved either for the war or for the acts of the former German government and that it is only possible to originate an obligation of reparation if the author of the damage. You add that the German people would never have undertaken a war of aggression.'

'Own Statement Cited. 'Yet in the note from Secretary of State Lansing of November 5, 1918, which you approve of and advise in favor of your contention, it is said that the obligation to make reparation arises out of Germany's aggression by land, sea and air. 'As the German government did not at the time make any protest against this allegation, it thereby recognized it as well founded. Therefore, Germany recognized in 1918, implicitly but clearly, both the aggression and her responsibility. 'It would be impossible, you state further, that the German people should be regarded as the accomplices of the faults committed by the former German government. However, Germany has never claimed, and such a declaration would have been contrary to all principles of international law, that a modification of its political regime or a change in the governing personalities would be sufficient to extinguish an obligation of aggression undertaken by any nation. She did not act upon the principle she now contends for either in 1871 as regards France after the proclamation of the republic, nor in 1917 in regard to Russia after the revolution which abolished the czarist regime. 'Finally, you ask that the report of the commission on responsibility be communicated to you. In reply we beg to say that the allied and associated powers consider the reports of the commission set up by the peace conference as documents of an internal character which cannot be transmitted to you.'

Coos Mud Source of Profit.

MARSHFIELD, Or., May 21.—(Special.)—A shameless ruffian profiteer, who refused to divulge his name, made \$36 last Sunday pulling stalled automobiles from the mud at the eastern and western termini of the Coos City bridge, where the rains had created a mire condition not observable until the machines plunged in over the hubs.

The rancher said his team could have made twice as much had the necessary number of tourists happened along.

Marriage License Issued.

TACOMA, Wash., May 21.—A. A. Lindner and Alice A. Howard, both of Aberdeen, obtained a marriage license in Tacoma today.

TRADITIONAL LUCK OF MANY WDS AVIATORS

Science Solves Weather Problems in Way Denied British.

EVERY SAFEGUARD TAKEN

Naval Experts Spend Months Digging Up Data on Aerial Conditions Before Start.

BY W. P. BEAZELL.

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TREPASSAY, N.—Trepassey bay is 18 miles wide, running from Cape Pine to Cape Race, the site of the great wireless station. The high land which ends in Cape Pine forms the western shore of the harbor as well as of the bay. About 200 years east of this land runs Powle's Peninsula, a narrow tongue of land which forms the western shore of Mattson bay.

The excellence of the weather that marked the stay here the Nancys was phenomenal. To natives it was a source of actual astonishment, for they are entirely frank regarding the climate and agree that it is generally bad in May. Since Friday they have pressed their luck and potato patches have been made, cod traps gone over and schooners repaired by the score. No better evidence of exceptional weather could be asked than this.

Nature Kind to Expedition. Visitors have been told by the men in charge of the planes some advantages have been taken of the presence of the elements. Except for a stiff breeze, when One was being moored, it will stand in relation with a launch, there has been no single untoward moment. Not an hour's delay attended the examination of the planes and making trivial repairs that were required, effecting readjustments that suggested themselves or refueling for the long voyage. It is not too much to say, indeed, that if the officers could have had the making of the weather during their stay they would have made just what they wished.

One might go to the fanciful length of imagining that nature had been awaiting the desires of the Americans and that when their program was ready for the start on the trans-Atlantic flight she signed on with them for the duration of the exploit. When comparison made with the breaking difficulties that have stood in the way of the Sopwith and Martinsyde expeditions at St. John's it is hard to believe that the way could be so smooth for the Americans.

The long succession of fortunate developments will stand in evidence that there is standing luck in the American navy, as well as in the British army. But these same developments will still more eloquent of the infinite care, no less than of the extraordinary presence, with which preparations for flight were made. Some day the full story of that will be told. When it is, it will be found to be as amazing as dramatic.

Every Available Record Used. The story of advance preparations for this flight will furnish a most important chapter in the study of weather conditions. There was no taking things for granted as marked the coming of the Sopwith and Martinsyde expeditions for a flight for the Premier Padon, and they found that with patience it was possible to get records covering all their period of years and covering them in detail, although all had not been kept officially or by scientists.

From these observations it was established that a break in the weather comes here around May 10. For this reason the full moon of May was chosen as the time when the flight should be made, as the records had promised. Tuesday and Wednesday of last week brought bitter winds from the northwest, which tore destroyers from their moorings in the harbor. Thursday did not bring much improvement, but on Friday, May 9, a fair weather set in, though with high winds that lasted all through Saturday. At sunset on Saturday the wind was not too great for the planes to weather. Sunday and Monday were days as perfect as any that New York can boast and though Tuesday began with fog, the air had cleared by noon, and the afternoon was so fine that only the knowledge that conditions over the ocean would be better by waiting another 24 hours made it possible for the voyagers to wait in patience.

In gathering and collating the weather data there was a union of aerographers, of naval experts, of weather bureau officials and of the flyers, who all worked for months in digging up the data. As has been said before, a programme was laid out in February, and there has been surprising adherence to it.

Date set Approximately. The only official intimation of this achievement is contained in this single phrase of the orders co-ordinating the progress of the department. It is desired to start from Trepassey on May 14, but if the planes are ready and the weather favorable a start may be made any day after May 10.

It is possible now to say that the same antecedent preparations attended all other aspects of the flight. There was a section on operations headed by Bellinger and a section on navigation headed by Towers, with Lieutenant-Commander E. E. Bird, Jr., as associate.

UNION ACTION IS DELAYED

(Continued From First Page.)

wonders in some places. Eight locals are in force in California, and the 79th charter for a teachers' union has just been granted at Atlanta, Ga.

Has' Action Is Opposed. Miss Madge Hill asked, 'Is there any immediate need for our joining a union? It is easy to get in, but hard to get out. I am not for or against the proposition, but I want to know more about it.'

The matter of a probable or possible strike was discussed and Miss Jean Richardson declared that the charters carried a no-strike clause. Miss Julia Spooner argued that if the unions supported the teachers they would expect something in return.

'If we are going to be fair and square, three months let us long for us to consider this matter,' said Miss Spooner. 'There are more than 600 of us. One hundred may know all about it. The other 500 may be like me and need information.' She cautioned them against haste.

Miss Mary Harper asked: 'Did you ever realize that the teachers are government officials, a part of the government? We are exempt from income tax. If we should take the weapon of the strike we would be officials striking at our government. I sympathize with the unions and know they do good. But we should be careful about tying ourselves hastily with too many organizations. We are well organized now. Our problem now should be to strengthen

the tenure of office. We don't want to protect incompetency. Incompetent teachers are expensive at the best. One poor teacher in a building burdens all the capable teachers. We are working for the patrons of this city of Portland, not for any board of managers. If we want anything we have the ballot, let us use that.'

That the teacher is employed by the taxpayers, by labor and capital alike, was the argument advanced by a Shattuck school teacher. She said: 'We went before the taxpayers and we received liberal support. Are we now going to lose the friends we made? Let us be cautious and keep all these friends. We teach the children of the laborer and the capitalist and we must consider the children's best interests.'

CLAY COMPANY GETS SITE

DAILEY PRODUCTS CONCERN TO BUILD PLANT AT VANCOUVER.

Agreement Is Reached With Railroad Company for Lease of 27 Acres of Land.

VANCOUVER, Wash., May 21.—(Special.)—The price which the Vancouver port commission has offered for land to be used by the Dailey Clay Products company has been agreed upon between the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway company and the port commission and the actual construction of the plant now only awaits acceptance by the company of the lease which the commission has to offer.

A tentative agreement setting forth the terms of the lease acceptable to the port commission was prepared yesterday by A. L. Miller, attorney, for submission to the products company. According to Mr. Miller, the tentative agreement provides that the products company is to have 27 acres of land for the building site for a term of 20 years, only upon the condition that they use the land for their factory and just as soon as they cease to use it for that purpose they forfeit all their rights. The lease provides that the work of actual construction shall commence within 30 days after the signing of the lease. The tentative agreement will be submitted to attorneys for the company for their approval.

The proposed site east of Vancouver barracks and arrangements have been made with the railroad company for a spur track. At a recent meeting of the Commercial club, A. L. Haley, a representative of the company, stated that work would begin just as soon as the site is secured.

BAN ON BEER TO BE URGED

National Leaders of Prohibition Forces Plan Concerted Protest.

CHICAGO, May 21.—National leaders of the prohibition forces will make a concerted protest against congressional removal of the July 1 ban on beer and light wines, as recommended by President Wilson, here next Sunday.

William J. Bryan, former Governor Malcolm K. Patterson of Tennessee, Richmond Pearson Hobson and many others have been named on a long list of speakers.

TUCK FUNERAL IS TODAY

Double Services to Be Held; Brother of Man Who Died in Jail, Here.

Double funeral services for Eugene Tuck and wife will be held at 4 o'clock this afternoon at the chapel of J. P. Foley & Son, 1111 Third street. Mrs. Tuck was fatally shot in her home on the night of May 16, and Tuck died May 14 at the county jail while being held pending investigation of the death of his wife.

It is understood that a brother, I. J. Tuck, has reached Portland and taken charge of the burial arrangements.

BANGOR TO BANGKOK

To gain an idea of the immensity of an edition of The Delineator, take a single copy and measure the length of it. It is 16 inches. In 122 pages and covers there are 63 sheets each 16 inches long. Put end to end the paper in one copy of The Delineator would therefore stretch 99 feet. But an edition of The Delineator consists of a million copies, and the paper placed end to end would reach 15,909 miles, or from Bangor, Maine, around the world to Bangkok, Siam, and then on to Tokio. This huge force among the housewives of America goes out each month. Does it carry your message?

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