

ARMENIAN SUFFERING IS GRAPHICALLY TOLD

Lieutenant John A. Shishmanian Writes Sister in Portland.

NEED FOR AID IS GREAT

Efficient Relief Slow in Organizing and Jealousy Between Nations to Be Considered.

The sufferings of the Armenians at the hands of the Turks and their great need for aid is graphically described in a letter received by Mrs. H. O. Cartozian



Lieutenant John A. Shishmanian, native Armenian, who was awarded cross de guerre by the French.

from her brother, Lieutenant John A. Shishmanian of the Legion Armenienne. Lieutenant Shishmanian, who is now stationed at Adana, was recently decorated by the French government with the cross de guerre with silver stars for bravery.

Lieutenant Shishmanian has been in the service for over two years. He expects to get his discharge soon and will return to this country for a time, stopping in Portland to visit his sister. His mother, Mrs. G. N. Shishmanian of Fresno, Cal., and his father have come here to meet him. His father was a missionary of the Christian church in Turkey for 24 years.

Early Education in Constantinople. Lieutenant Shishmanian has divided his time between Europe and America. He is a graduate of the Roberts college for boys in Constantinople, of the University of Kentucky and the University of Virginia law school. He was a practicing lawyer in Fresno at the time of his enlistment. He was wounded during the war.

"You will be surprised to know that your brother really hates to come back," he writes to his sister. "My physical condition is the least of all considerations when I realize the tremendous amount of work there is to be done in this region. However, without funds I am absolutely helpless and so is everyone else. Efficient relief is very, very slow in organizing and there is still the jealousy and rivalry between nations to be taken into consideration. Armenians are nobly doing all they can to help their own, but oh, what poverty, what degradation and misery around me here. I wonder how long it will last."

6000 Deported Gathered In. "Our little orphanage was built for 150 and we have placed over 600 there. I have sent in several that I took out of Turkish homes. They are little girls and boys who were forced away from their fathers and mothers by Turks who were trying to make Turks of them."

"Then there are the refugees. Dregs of the deported thousands who have been gathered here—over six thousand of them. The women have been put to work at making lace and rugs. Oh, if I could stay and organize them into something efficient and enable Armenian relief has hardly started. It is discouraging. Armenians are holding their own, but of course their means are very limited for the gives themselves were among the deported also."

Hundreds of Orphans There. "I may try to bring with me a young orphan whom I saved from a Turk a few months ago, a bright boy of 13 or 14. His father and mother were massacred. He has the makings of an artist. Apparent: a fine family, for he is refined and modest and very sensitive. Lieutenant Shishmanian, who is from Marsellus, has adopted a beautiful little Armenian girl of 5 years, who has nobody in the world. There are hundreds of these. Don't you want a few?"

In a letter to his mother Lieutenant Shishmanian describes the sufferings that were brought to the Armenians. "Don't you before the war," he writes, "was surrounded by its wealth of orange groves, clean, thrifty and very contented, entirely Armenian with its old-fashioned church and winding streets, its pretty girls and high-spirited men."

Armenians Driven Out. Then came the war and the Hun officers and the Turkish soldiers. They took the schoolhouse for barracks. They drove the leading citizens out of their homes and got in themselves. Then came a fearful order from the dread city of "Istamboul" from one whose name every Armenian pro-ceeds with a curse—Talaat Bey—who women and donkeys and the children and cattle were driven out at the point of the bayonet and told to march whither? No one knew.

Then he describes how Armenian girls were made the servants and slaves of Turkish masters and how some of them were rescued later by the Armenian troops from the hands of the Turks, who claimed that they had become Mohammedans and embraced the "true" religion.

Idaho Enthusiastic for Good Roads. BOISE, Idaho, July 12.—(Special.)—Governor Davis is highly pleased over the enthusiasm shown by the people in northern Idaho for good roads. He has just returned from a trip to the panhandle by automobile with Commissioner Hall of the state department of public works. Both were pleased with the way in which highway construction work has been carried on and the determination shown to put in as many miles of hard surface road as is possible.

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SYSTEM OF ANNUAL RATE RE-ADJUSTMENT ADVOCATED.

Citizens National Railroads League Opposes Return of Lines to Pre-War Conditions.

SALEM, Or., July 12.—(Special.)—H. H. Corey, member of the Oregon public service commission, yesterday received a copy of the platform adopted by the Citizens National Railroad League, which recently closed its sessions in New York. The platform follows:

The Citizens National Railroads league is opposed to government ownership and to the return of the railroads to pre-war conditions.

We stand for a plan by which the railroads can be operated under private ownership in the best interest of the public, the employees and the legitimate security holders. Such a plan would provide for:

A unified railroad system under private ownership, operated by regions.

Valuation of the railroads by the valuation adjustment commission, so as to arrive at an actual true money value of the properties.

A federal railroad corporation, which shall absorb the equities of all the roads over and above their bonded debts and issue in payment of those equities its own stock on the basis of one share for every \$100 actual value of existing stock.

Rates to yield a dividend on the new stock not to exceed 6 per cent.

Interstate commerce commission to build up a scientific rate structure by distributing justly the cost of operation of the railroads among the industries and commodities that can best afford to stand said cost and make such lower rates as are necessary for such industries and commodities as need lower rates.

Should the income of the federal corporation in a five year period exceed the full cost of operation a part of this excess shall go to the railroad employees and executives as a profit-sharing distribution to efficiency and initiative. The remainder shall be used for property improvement and extension in the public interest without capitalization.

The interstate commerce commission shall make an annual revision and readjustment for the purpose of correcting any deficiency or excess in rates.

Management of the federal corporation by a board of governors, numbering 7 to 15, representing the security holders, the employees, the farmers, the shippers and the government. The manner of nominating this board of governors or trustees shall be determined by congress.

This is an outline of a plan which the league believes, if adopted, will result in the most economical and scientific operation of the railroads in the best interests of the American people. It will eliminate all exploitation and profiteering and avoid the weaknesses which government ownership must entail.

Cowlitz Court to Sit at Kelso.

KELSO, Wash., July 12.—(Special.)—Judge Darch will hold superior court in Kelso next week when a number of condemnation cases for right

of way for the Pacific highway will be heard. The attorneys in these cases have stipulated for trial without a jury and will let Judge Darch make the decision, so the jurors called for the coming term have been dismissed. These cases will be heard in Kelso instead of in the county seat in order to save extra expense to the state for fees and also to save the witnesses the time it would take to go to Kalama. Kelso, being more centrally situated, all the witnesses and others interested can attend court without much inconvenience.

IRRIGATION SAVES CROPS

Spirit of Farmers Shown in Conservation of Water is Praised.

BOISE, Idaho, July 12.—(Special.)—Everett M. Sweeley of the public utilities commission praises the spirit shown by farmers on irrigation projects where there is a water shortage. He has just made an inspection of the Twin Falls south side project, one of the biggest in the state, and says that, so far as the wheat crop in that section is concerned, it is safe.

For 30 days all of southern and eastern Idaho has been without rain, causing a heavy consumption of water and greatly reducing the supply. The heavy loss of crops, which was anticipated at one time, will not now be realized.

ARMENIANS ARE DOOMED

Hoover Reports 200,000 Refugees Face Certain Starvation.

NEW YORK, July 12.—Declaring it now is too late to save from death 200,000 of the 700,000 starving Armenian refugees in the Caucasus, the American relief administration announced last night that the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief had "pledged every dollar at its command" to aid in relieving distress in that war-torn district.

Quick and efficient aid will be necessary to save even 500,000, it was stated in official reports received at Paris by Director-General Herbert Hoover.

GERMAN BANKS COMBINE

Plan Calls for Branch Office in New York.

NEW YORK, July 12.—Seven leading German banks are considering formation of a "kartel" for the handling of all foreign business, according to a report current in financial circles here yesterday. According to this report, the plan calls for establishment of a branch office in New York, with possibly branches in other American cities.

It was pointed out by financial ex-



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GLACIAL GEYSERS VIEWED

Compressed Air Sends Pools of Mountain Water Skyward.

HOOD RIVER, Or., July 12.—(Special.)—Guests at Cloud Cap inn were privileged yesterday to see the spectacular phenomena of glacial geysers. The warm days early this week sent great volumes of water pouring down from the snow banks on the peak and ate away the surface of the great ice fields.

The force of compressed air blew great holes in Elliot glacier and sent the pent-up floods spouting skyward hundreds of feet. The picturesque display was accompanied by explosions like cannonading.

FOREST ROADS SURVEYED

\$5000 to Be Spent This Year on Road to Base of Mt. Adams.

GULER, Wash., July 12.—(Special.)—Engineer Carl V. Hersey of Portland, who is engineer for the Columbia na-

tional forest, is at work with a crew of assistants surveying the road from Trout lake to Goose lake, some 16 miles to the southwest of Guler.

Mr. Hersey has just completed a survey and location of the road to Morrison valley at the base of Mount Adams, and P. H. Brundage, supervisor of the forest, states that he will spend \$5000 on this road this summer and

that he has \$16,000 available for next year. This will make a very good automobile road on a grade not to exceed 7 per cent from Guler to the summer snow line of Mount Adams.



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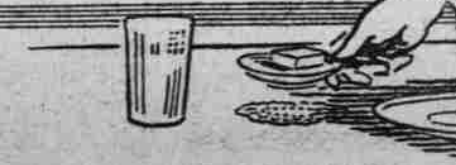
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