

### WOMEN WAR WORKERS, EAGER TO SERVE, GO TO AID ARMENIANS

Mary Vail Andrees, Only Woman to Receive Distinguished Service Medal, Heads Party.

Equipped with uneventful civilian life for two years' vivid experience in the world war, a party of young women, led by Miss Mary Vail Andrees, of New York City, have just gone to the Near East,



MISS MARY VAIL ANDREES, Distinguished Service Heroine Who Now Goes to Near East.

where nearly a million people are suffering from disease and starvation. Miss Andrees had returned to this country after serving for the Red Cross, but when she read of the sad plight of the Armenians, she at once offered her services to Near East Relief, the former American Committee on Armenian and Syrian Relief, which already has saved thousands of lives in Western Asia. Miss Andrees is the only American woman war worker who was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by Congress. Most of the other members of her party likewise served with honor for the Red Cross and other war service organizations.

Among the other members of the group are the Misses Frances and Betty Anderson of New Canaan, Conn., who were decorated with the Croix de Guerre by the French Government; Miss Margaret Milne of Washington, D. C., who was a member of the Hoover Relief Commission for Rumania, and Miss Alex Sidney, an English woman who served for three years with the British Relief Commission in Serbia. Miss Doris Nevin, another member of the party, is a daughter of the late Ethelbert Nevin, the composer.

Col. William N. Haskell, commissioner to the Near East for the Paris Peace Commission and official representative of the Near East Relief, has credited that the relief workers now in the field are overwhelmed by the magnitude of their task. Col. Haskell says 800,000 Armenians will starve before the next harvest unless they are given aid and 120,000 orphan children face death from hunger and exposure. Thousands of refugees are daily being brought to the relief centers from the deserts.

### ALLENBY STOPS GRAFT OF TURK

Persecution of Armenians and Confiscation of Property Prevented by English Officer.

The most arbitrary city boss in the world, it seems safe to say, as well as the most unscrupulous politician of modern times, has turned up in Aintah, Armenia, to judge from an official report recently made by Major Stephen Trowbridge, under Gen. Edmund H. H. Allenby's orders.

He is a Turk named Besim Bey. Until the Near East Relief agents stopped him, he practiced upon the terrified Armenians such forms of super-graft as might well make every other corrupt politician in the world green with envy, and such cruelties as make all other heartless rulers, from Nero down, seem sweet and gentle characters. His office was that of Municipal Chief Accountant of Aintah; but, as all dishonest office-holders know, it isn't the job that matters, but the sugar-plums that go with it. Besim Bey plucked sugar-plums with both hands, night and day.

Even inspired city bosses have their day. Besim Bey's came when the Near East Relief agents found that no thorough Armenian relief work could be done in that city while such conditions of terrorization existed. General MacAndrew ordered the arrest and removal of the six worst Turks in the city that ruled the city, and Besim Bey qualified, as usual, for first place.

### MORGENTHAU PLEADS FOR HELPING HAND IN THE NEAR EAST

Former Ambassador to Turkey Says America Should Not Let Armenian Allies Starve.

By HENRY MORGENTHAU, Former Ambassador to Turkey and Leader in Near East Relief.

If they were good enough to fight and die for us when we needed their help so sorely, they are good enough now to share some meager little crumbs from our plenty when they have nothing, when hundreds of thousands of them are homeless, unclothed, foodless and threatened with extermination by their enemies and our own.

Not far from a million Christians have been murdered by their Turkish oppressors. Hungry, terror stricken hundreds of thousands of refugees now look to the United States for succor.

Have Trust in America. We cannot refuse. Next to their faith in God is their trust in the disinterested good will and generosity of



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the American people. They look to us as the human agency to extricate them from the frightful situation in which they have been left as a consequence of the war.

If we should fail to aid them, starvation and the winter's cold would go far to completing the work done by the unspeakable Turk.

I have not seen with my own eyes the misery in which the Armenians now exist. I have been spared that. But the reports which have been brought in by agents of the Near East Relief and by representatives of the Peace Conference paint a picture of wretchedness inconceivable to those who have not a first hand impression of the savagery of the Mussulman.

Expelled From Homes.

Since the beginning of the war the Turkish Armenians have been largely refugees from their homes. A simple agricultural people, they have been exiles from their farms, deprived of all opportunity to support themselves. Year by year their sufferings have increased. Now, a year after fighting has ceased, they are still living the life of nomads, able to continue to keep alive only by virtue of American philanthropy.

These homeless people—"filthy infidels" to the Turk—were good enough to exert their poor might in our behalf while the war was still in the balance. Massacres of a half century had not so broken their spirit that they dared not fight for right and for democracy when justice was the issue. We accepted their aid then. Surely we shall not pass them by without compassion now.

The day has passed when any self respecting man dares permit absorption in his own personal affairs to exclude consideration of his neighbor's well being. No honorable man can knowingly allow his neighbor to hunger or to go unclothed. The Christian peoples of the Near East are our neighbors. The money needed to relieve them can be spared without causing any man, woman or child in the United States to suffer.

Must Not Rest on Past.

In other years of our own free will we sent missionaries to Turkey. Our schools and colleges and hospitals have played a wonderful role in humanizing that dark spot in the world. Our ideas, our educational resources, our material equipment, have been leavened in the Near East. Because we have done well in times past we have this great opportunity for the present.

The Armenians have been treated as perhaps no people in history have been treated because they are the spiritual brothers of western races.

Will America help them? There can be but one answer. Their necessity is dire, but our power is great. We are wealthy. We are a member of the family of nations. Our brothers call us. Food, clothes, money, are immediately wanted. If ever unmerited suffering yielded for succor the plight of the Armenians should be heeded now. A few months more and it may be passed will be too late for those myriads whom only we can save. We shall not fail them.



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