

# Morgenthau Tells Story of Turkey

Former U. S. Ambassador Shows Hun Hand in the Armenian Massacres.

## WITHDRAWAL OF FLEET LEFT RUSSIA STRANDED

Another Effect Was to Isolate Turkey From All Save Germany and Austria.

### 26TH ARTICLE.

The Gallipoli deportation gives some idea of my difficulties in attempting to fulfil my duty as the representative of allied interests in the Ottoman Empire.

Now and then the Turkish officials would retaliate upon one of their enemy allies, usually in reprisal for some injury or fancied injury inflicted on their own subjects in enemy countries. Such acts gave rise to many exciting episodes, some tragical, some farcical.

Early in January, 1916, word was received that the English were maltreating Turkish prisoners in Egypt. Soon afterward I received letters from two Australians, Commander Stoker and Lieut. Fitzgerald, telling me that they had been confined for eleven days in a miserable, damp dungeon at the War Office, with no companions except a monstrous swarm of vermin.

### Turks Not Easy.

The failure of the allied fleet at the Dardanelles did not definitely settle the fate of Constantinople. Naturally, the Turks and the Germans felt immensely relieved when the fleet sailed away. But they were by no means entirely easy in their mind. The most direct road to the ancient capital still remained available to their enemies.

I was given to understand that the Bulgarian general staff had plans all completed for the capture of Constantinople, and that they had shown these plans to the entente. Their program called for a Bulgarian army of 300,000 men who would advance upon Constantinople twenty-three days from the time the signal to start should be given.

One of the best-informed men in Turkey was Paul Weitz, the correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung. Weitz was more than a journalist; he had spent thirty years in Constantinople and had the most intimate personal knowledge of Turkish affairs, and he was the confidant and adviser of the German Embassy. Weitz had really been one of the most successful agencies in the German penetration of Turkey.

### Changed Over Night.

I had several talks with Weitz about Bulgaria during those critical August and early September days. He said many times that it was not at all certain that she would join forces with Germany. Yet on September 7th Weitz came to me with important news. The situation had changed over night. Baron Neurath, the Counsellor of the German Embassy at Constantinople, had gone to Sofia, and, as a result of his visit, an agreement had been signed that would make Bulgaria Germany's ally.

Germany, said Weitz, had won over Bulgaria by doing something which the entente had not been able and willing to do. It had secured her the immediate possession of a piece of coveted territory. Serbia had refused to give Bulgaria immediate possession of Macedonia; Turkey, on the other hand, had now surrendered a piece of the Ottoman Empire. The amount of land in question, it is true, was apparently insignificant, yet it had great strategic advantages and represented a genuine sacrifice by Turkey.

The outcome justified Enver's prophecies in almost every detail. Three months after Bulgaria accepted the Adrianople bride, the entente admitted defeat and withdrew its forces from the Dardanelles and with this withdrawal Russia, which was the greatest potential source of strength to the allied cause and the country which properly organized and supplied, might have brought the allies a speedy triumph, disappeared as a vital factor in the war.

### FAR REACHING CONSEQUENCES

The withdrawal of the allied fleet at the Dardanelles had consequences which the world does not yet completely understand. The practical effect of the event, as I have said, was to isolate the Turkish Empire from all the world excepting Germany and Austria.

I can hardly exaggerate the effect which the repulse of the allied fleet produced upon the Turks. They believed that they had won the really great decisive battle of the war. Young Turk leaders saw visions of the complete resurrection of their Empire. What had for two centuries been a decaying nation had suddenly started on a new and glorious life. In their pride and arrogance the Turks began to look with disdain upon the people that had taught them what they knew of modern warfare.

"Why should we feel any obligation to the Germans?" Enver would say to me. "What have they done for us which compares with what we have done for them? They have lent us some money and sent us a few officers, it is true, but see what we have done! We have defeated the British fleet—something which the Germans and no other nation could do. We have stationed armies on the Caucasian front, and so have kept busy large bodies of Russian troops that would have been used on the Western front. No, the Germans could never have achieved their military success without us: the shoe of obligation is entirely on their foot."

### Pan-Turkish Ideal.

When the Turkish Government abrogated the capitulations, and in this way freed themselves from the domination of the foreign Powers, they were merely taking one step toward realizing this Pan-Turkish ideal. Their determination to uproot Austrian schools, or at least to transform them into Turkish institutions, was merely another detail in the same racial progress. Similarly, they attempted to make all foreign busi-

ness houses employ only Turkish labor, insisting that they should discharge their Greek, Armenian, and Jewish clerks, stenographers, workmen, and other employees.

These leaders not only reverted to the barbaric conceptions of their ancestors, but they went to extremes that had never entered the minds of the wary Sultans. The old conquering Turks had made the Christians their servants, but their parvenu descendants, bettered their instruction, for they determined to exterminate them wholesale and Turkify the Empire by massacring the non-Moslem elements.

### Unending Martyrdom.

In the north-eastern part of Asia Minor, bordering on Russia, there were six Provinces in which the Armenians formed the largest element in the population.

In face of persecutions which had no parallel elsewhere these people have clung to their early Christian faith with the utmost tenacity. For fifteen hundred years they have lived there in Armenia, a little island of Christians surrounded by backyard peoples of hostile religion and hostile race. Their long existence has been one unending martyrdom.

And now, as Abdul Hamid, in 1876, surveyed his shattered domain, he saw that its most dangerous spot was Armenia. He believed, rightly or wrongly, that these Armenians, like the Rumanians, the Bulgarians, the Greeks and the Serbians, aspired to restore their independent medieval nation, and he knew that Europe and America sympathized with this ambition. Abdul Hamid apparently thought that there was only one way of ridding Turkey of the Armenian problem—and that was to rid her of the Armenians. The physical destruction of 2,000,000 men, women, and children by massacres, organized and directed by the State, seemed to be the one sure way of forestalling the further disruption of the Turkish Empire.

### Government by Massacre.

And now for nearly thirty years Turkey gave the world an illustration of government by massacre. Yet Abdul Hamid was not able to accomplish his full purpose. Had he had his will, he would have massacred the whole nation in one hideous orgy. These atrocities called Gladstone, then eighty-six years old, from his retirement and his speeches, in which he denounced the Sultan as "the great assassin," aroused the whole world to the enormities that were taking place.

And now the Young Turks, who had adopted so many of Abdul Hamid's ideas, also made his Armenian policy their own. Their passion for Turkeyfying the nation seemed to demand logically the extermination of all Christians—Greeks, Syrians and Armenians.

The Turkish Province of Van lies in the remote north-eastern corner of Asia Minor; it touches the frontiers of Persia on the east and its northern boundary looks toward the Caucasus. It is one of the most beautiful and most fruitful parts of the Turkish Empire and one of the richest in historical associations.

When the war started, the central Government recalled Tahsin Pasha, the conciliatory governor of Van, and replaced him with Djedvet Bey, a brother-in-law of Enver Pasha.

Djedvet himself was absent fighting the Russians in the Caucasus and the near approach of the enemy

made it a wise policy for the Turks to refrain from maltreating the Armenians of Van. But early in the spring the Russians temporarily retreated.

### A Happy Turn.

In the eyes of the Turkish generals the withdrawal of the Russians was a happy turn of war mainly because it deprived the Armenians of their protectors and left them at the mercy of the Turkish army. Instead of fighting the trained Russian army of men, they turned their rifles, machine guns, and other weapons upon the Armenian women, children, and old men in the villages of Van. Following their usual custom, they distributed the most beautiful Armenian women among the Moslems, sacked and burned the Armenian villages, and massacred uninterruptedly for days. This procedure was repeated in about 80 Armenian villages in the district north of Lake Van, and in three days 24,000 Armenians were murdered in this atrocious fashion.

On April 20th, a band of Turkish soldiers seized several Armenian women who were entering the city; a couple of Armenians ran to their assistance and were shot dead. The Turks now opened fire on the Armenian quarters with rifles and artillery; soon a large part of the town was in flames and a regular siege had started. The Armenians fought with the utmost heroism and skill; they had little chance of holding off their enemies indefinitely, but they knew that a Russian army was fighting its way to Van and their utmost hope was that they would be able to defy the besiegers until these Russians arrived. I cannot describe in detail the numerous acts of individual heroism, the co-operation, of the Armenian women, the ardor and energy of the Armenian children.

The wonderful thing about it is that the Armenians triumphed. After nearly five weeks of sleepless fighting, the Russian army suddenly appeared and the Turks fled into the surrounding country, where they found appeasement for their anger by again massacring unprotected Armenian villages.

A common practice was to place the prisoner in a room, with two Turks stationed at each end and each side. The examination would then begin with the bastinado. This is a form of torture not uncommon in the Orient; it consists of beating the soles of the feet with a thin rod. At first the pain is not marked, but as the process goes slowly on, it develops into the most terrible agony, the feet swell and burst, and not infrequently, after being submitted to this treatment, they have to be amputated. If this did not succeed in bringing their victim to terms, they had numerous other methods of persuasion. They would pull out his eyebrows and beard almost hair by hair; they would extract his finger nails and toe nails; they would apply red-hot irons to his breast, tear off his flesh with red-hot pliers, and then pour molten butter into the wounds. In some cases the gendarmes would nail hands and feet to pieces of wood—evidently in imitation of the crucifixion, and then, while the sufferer writhed in his agony, they would cry:

"Now let your Christ come and help you!" (To be Continued.)



## Brain Power

**I**N the brain is consumed one-fifth of all the blood in the human system. This goes to feed the nerve cells and to create the all-essential nerve force—for whether you think or speak or move your hand, nerve force is consumed in that act.

When any unusual demand is made on the brain, whether by excessive mental effort or as the result of mental worry and anxiety, still more blood and more nervous energy are used in the brain and other organs of the body are robbed of the nervous energy necessary for their proper working.

This is why the thinker—the man who works with his brain, and who does not in these trying days—is most subject to nervous indigestion, nervous headache, sleeplessness and weak functioning of the vital organs such as the heart, stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels.

The human system is a bundle of nerves, and, whether we realize it or not, our health depends to a very great extent on the condition of the nerves.

There is always a big demand on the nervous system, and when this is increased by shock, or sorrow or any great mental worry or anxiety there is danger of a breakdown.

At this trying time suffering from kind or another is proving a blessing.

This food because it cures the nervous system generally.

When you body, have brain and feel that nerve food is a vital and bodily.

If your exp Food is like that who use it you increased capacity. You will feel necessary to ward off up nerve force the debilitating anxiety.

Dr. Chase's N that you can cents a box, 6 Bates & Co., L. signature of A Receipt Book & genuine.