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3003

2007 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HCR 3003

## 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HCR 3003

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 19, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 1444

Committee Clerk Signature

*Mikayla Benite*

Minutes:

**Rep. Hanson:** I'm here to proclaim April 24 as Armenian Genocide Day.

**Jacob Kerbeshian:** Testimony Attached.

**Rep. Dahl:** We have some groups in the state that celebrate their heritage like the Norwegians, etc. Do the Armenians have a celebration of culture?

**Jacob Kerbeshian:** There is a small number of us in the state, our getting together as socials, and social networking is the time we all get together.

**Rep. Haas:** How many Armenians came to the Jamestown area in 2004?

**Jacob Kerbeshian:** I can't give you a number. In the 1990's was more evenly distributed across the state. We have some in Jamestown, Grand forks, etc. There was a wide variety.

**Rep. Potter:** I just want to thank you for your testimony. All of us have learned a lot about something that we didn't know about before.

**G. Makobyan:** *I am from Armenia. We were immigrants, we moved six years ago. We came to America. My great grandpa was in this genocide. When he was a boy he lived in eastern Armenia. They came and killed his family while he was away. He ran away because they showed no mercy. On my grandmother's side they killed her father and youngest brother. Her*

*oldest brother moved to America. They then kill her cousin's father and youngest brother, again. They crossed the river and moved to eastern Armenia.*

**Jim Reimers:** Testimony Attached.

**Antoosh Mardirosian:** Testimony Attached:

**Rep. Haas:** Any questions? Is there additional testimony to HCR 3003? Any opposing testimony on HCR 3003? If not we will close the hearing on HCR 3003.

Date: 1-19-07  
Roll Call Vote #:

**2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES**  
**BILL/RESOLUTION NO. "Click here to type Bill/Resolution No."**

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number

HCRL 3003

Action Taken

DO PASS

Motion Made By

Weiler

Seconded By

Kasper

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. C.B Haas Chairman	X		Rep. Bill Amerman	X	
Rep. Bette Grande V.P	X		Rep. Louise Potter	X	
Rep. Randy Boehning	X		Rep. Jasper Schneider	X	
Rep. Stacey Dahl	X		Rep. Lisa Wolf	X	
Rep. Glen Froseth	X				
Rep. Karen Karls	X				
Rep. Jim Kasper	X				
Rep. Lisa Meier	X				
Rep. Dave Weiler	X				

Total (Yes)

013

No

0

Absent

Floor Assignment

Rep. Dahl

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
January 19, 2007 1:07 p.m.

**Module No: HR-13-0861**  
**Carrier: Dahl**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3003: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Haas, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
HCR 3003 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2007 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HCR 3003

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 3003

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 03/01/07

Recorder Job Number: 4176, 4177

Committee Clerk Signature

*Vanessa Spaulding*

Minutes:

All members of the committee were present.

Senator Dever, Chairman, opened the hearing on HCR 3003.

State Representative Lyle Hanson from District 12 introduced the resolution. He mentioned that the people from Jamestown who came to testify had braved two feet of snow to come.

Senator Dave Nething from District 12 also spoke in favor of the resolution.

Dr. Jacob Kerbeshian spoke in favor of HCR 3003. See attachment # 1.

Senator Lee asked where the Armenians who have come more recently have settled in North Dakota.

Dr. Kerbeshian said they have come to Jamestown and to Grand Forks through the help of Lutheran Social Services.

Senator Dever asked if the Armenian community in North Dakota is a formal organization and whether the chairman of the organization was present at the hearing.

Dr. Kerbeshian said it is a loosely formed social group and the former mayor of Jamestown

Charlie Coragen represents the group. He would like a copy of the completed resolution sent to Charlie.



Senator Lee mentioned that in the past the Secretary of State's Office has had trouble knowing who to send the notifications of the resolutions to. She requested that Jacob turn in the names of the correct individuals to the sponsors of the resolution.

Dr. Kerbeshian said he will do that.

Senator Dever asked if the Ottoman Turks were Muslims and the Armenians were Christians.

Dr. Kerbeshian said that was so. There was some discussion about the history of the countries involved.

Viola Reiners spoke in favor of the resolution. See attachment # 2.

Viola also read an account of the Kourajian family written by Mary Werner of Jamestown. See attachment # 2, pages 2 and 3.

Gayane Hakobyan, an immigrant from Armenia in 2000, spoke in favor of the resolution. See attachment # 3.

Dr. Artoosh Mardirosian spoke in favor of the resolution. See attachment # 4 and the folder that is labeled attachment #5.

Senator Dever asked if the genocide ended at the end of WWI.

Dr. Mardirosian said the Ottomans were taken out of power but the genocide still continued under the nationalistic government that took over.

Senator Lee asked if it would be good to also send the resolution to the Congressional Delegation and the US President.

Dr. Mardirosian said that was an excellent idea.

Senator Oehlke asked why the US would be reluctant to acknowledge the genocide took place.

Dr. Mardirosian felt it had to do with politics and alliances between countries.

Senator Oehlke asked if there would be other reasons.

Dr. Mardirosian said that was the reason and also oil.

Support: -

Opposition: -

Neutral: -

Chairman Dever closed the hearing on HCR 3003.

**JOB #4177**

Senator Lee made a motion to amend HCR 3003 to have the Secretary of State also notify the members of the ND Congressional Delegation and the President of the United States.

The motion was seconded by Senator Horne.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 6 No 0 Absent 0

A do pass motion was made by Senator Lee.

The motion was seconded by Senator Horne.

Roll Call Vote: Yes 6 No 0 Absent 0

Carrier: Horne

Date : 3-01-07  
Roll Call Vote # : 1

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3003

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken amend

Motion Made By Lee Seconded By Horne

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dick Dever - Chairman	✓		Senator Robert Horne	✓	
Senator Dave Oehlke - VC	✓		Senator Richard Marcellais	✓	
Senator Judy Lee	✓		Senator Carolyn Nelson	✓	

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

on page 2 include <sup>be it further resolved</sup> 170 Congressional Delegation  
each member of 1/3 President of the U.S. on the list  
of who it will go to  
further re

Date : 3-01-07  
Roll Call Vote # : 2

**2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES**  
**BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HLR-3003 as amended**

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken do pass as amend.

Motion Made By Lee Seconded By Horne

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dick Dever - Chairman	✓		Senator Robert Horne	✓	
Senator Dave Oehlke - VC	✓		Senator Richard Marcellais	✓	
Senator Judy Lee	✓		Senator Carolyn Nelson	✓	

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Horne

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
March 2, 2007 8:27 a.m.

**Module No: SR-40-4275**  
**Carrier: Horne**  
**Insert LC: 73008.0201 Title: .0300**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3003: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman)**  
recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends  
**DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3003 was placed  
on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 2, line 3, remove "and" and after "Committee" insert ", each member of the North Dakota  
Congressional delegation, and the President of the United States"

Renumber accordingly

2007 TESTIMONY

HCR 3003

January 19, 2007

The Committee of the House of Representatives:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to appear before you in connection with the Resolution for the recognition of the 1915 Armenian Genocide by the Legislature of North Dakota.

The people of North Dakota stand for good moral values that many early immigrant families brought with them when they settled here in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. They came here to escape persecution and hardships suffered in their home countries.

Armenians had been living under Turkish rule for centuries. prior to the beginning of the 1915 Genocide . In 1915, at the age of 12 years, My mother was living in Central Turkey at the beginning of the 1915 Genocide. She was 12 years old at this time when she was forced to leave her home with her father and brother. When they were killed , she was alone w/the people of her village, on the march toward the Syrian desert. Somehow she survived the desert caravans and massacres. After several years, she was able to escape to Syria. There the ports were closed for over 3 years; and when they opened, she sailed as far as Havana, Cuba. The US then closed its ports to Immigration and so she lived in Havana for several more years. My father was working on the Northern Pacific Railroad right here in Jamestown. In 1925 he went to Cuba where they met and married and returned to Jamestown. They raised their 8 children here in North Dakota. (In the Jamestown community among a few other Armenian familaies.)

Through the decades, I have learned little by little of the genocide of the Armenians during WW 1 and the atrocities they suffered. Also, I have found some of my father's relatives who escaped to Armenia SSR, which is now Republic of Armenia. And, interesting of all, I have met other Armenians in this country who are also first generation members of those who survived. Before many more of us fade, away, we wish to have this Resolution passed in each of the 50 States.

And so, those of us who call North Dakota home, would like to go on record as joining the other 38 states or so who have already passed this Resolution.

I ask your support of the Resolution, as it ~~has been~~ *is being* presented at this session of the Legislature.

Thank you for your time. .

*You can  
insert your  
own  
comments  
in the  
introduction.*

*Jim*

January 19, 2007

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I thank you for the privilege of providing testimony in favor of the passage of HCR 3003, proclaiming April 24 as a day of remembrance of the Armenian genocide. My name is Jacob Kerbeshian. For the past thirty years, my family and I have resided in Grand Forks, North Dakota. I am a third generation American of Armenian descent. Both my mother's parents and my father's parents immigrated to the United States from Turkish Armenia about 100 years ago.

Who are the Armenians?

The Armenians are an ancient people who are descendents of a branch of the Indo-Europeans, settling in Asia Minor in the 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> centuries BC. The homeland of the Armenians was a mountainous region where the fabled Mount Ararat is situated. According to Old Testament biblical tradition, Mt. Ararat was the resting place for Noah's Ark after the great flood. The ancient Kingdom of Armenia survived as a buffer state between the warring factions of the Persian and Roman empires. In 301 AD, a defining event for the Armenian identity occurred when Christianity was proclaimed as the national religion, making Armenia the first Christian state. Between the years 1000 AD and 1300 AD, the Ottoman Turks conquered Anatolia, which comprises modern Turkey, and subjugated the indigenous Armenians, as well as other ethnic groups. Initially, the Ottoman Turks were somewhat tolerant of the diverse ethnic and religious minorities among their subjects, although these minorities were treated as second class citizens. During the declining years of the Ottoman Empire, towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, what became known as the "Armenian Question," was part of a movement for equality among all the nationalities of the Empire. Sultan Abdul Hamid II, the head of the Turkish Caliphate, sought to answer the Armenian Question with the cruel and sadistic mass slaughter of 200,000 Armenians between 1894 and 1896. These massacres took hold of the American public consciousness for the next decades, but are barely remembered today. These massacres, however, paled in comparison to the systematic, state sponsored, and state organized campaign to exterminate the Armenian people within the Ottoman Empire starting during World War I, from 1915 through 1923. Upwards of 1.5 million Armenians, representing about two thirds of the total population of Armenians in Turkey, were killed, either by being brutally slaughtered, or dying along the path of deportation death marches. These were not only the young men, but also women, children, and the elderly. The numbers speak for themselves. In addition to eye witness accounts, there is more than adequate historical documentation that these atrocities were sponsored and orchestrated by the Turkish authorities in power in World War I. As the United States had not declared war on Turkey, during World War I, there was ample opportunity for American diplomats and American Protestant missionaries to observe and report in the historical record and in the public press on the Armenian genocide. The Honorable Henry Morgenthau, United States Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire from 1913 to 1916, explicitly described to the United States Department of State the policy of the government of the Ottoman Empire as "a campaign of race extermination." Following the end of World War I, the international outrage towards Turkey regarding the Armenian genocide gradually diminished as other geopolitical concerns came to the forefront. To this day, the government of Turkey asserts a denial of the Armenian genocide.



"Genocide is the crime of destroying national, racial or religious groups... by the state or by powerful groups which have the backing of the state." The term genocide was coined by Raphael Lemkin in 1944, invoking the Armenian case as a definitive example of genocide in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Lemkin was the earliest proponent of the United Nations Convention of the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide. April 24, 1915, is generally regarded as the opening salvo in the Armenian genocide, and is hence a day of commemoration.

For what purpose should the state of North Dakota formally acknowledge and commemorate the Armenian genocide? The Armenian genocide was the first, and is the template for all the state sponsored, organized, and implemented campaigns of mass murder in the modern age. It likely served as a template for the Holocaust. Adolph Hitler is reputed to have commented in regard to his race extermination policy for the "Jewish Question," "Who today, after all, speaks of the annihilation of the Armenians?" The Armenian genocide also serves as a template for state condoned denial of brutal historical fact, by a government whose antecedents were perpetrators of genocide. The Armenian genocide serves as a template for the expedient ignoring of man's inhumanity to man by an otherwise principled international community. The Armenian genocide serves as a template for the forgetting of a savage lesson of history, due just to the passage of time.

What is the North Dakota connection? It has been estimated that 50,000 Armenians immigrated to the United States between 1900 and 1914, the years between the earlier massacres and the Genocide. In those years, it has been estimated that a thousand Armenian immigrants lived for at least a time in the state working for the railroad. In 1920, seventy-five Armenian immigrants were listed in the census as living in the state, mostly in the Jamestown area, and again associated with the railroad. There is still an enclave of Armenian descendants living in the Jamestown area. In the 1990s another group of Armenian immigrants arrived in the state, mostly from the former Soviet Union. In 2004, the mayor of Jamestown, North Dakota, issued a proclamation commemorating the 89<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

The passage of HCR 3003 by our North Dakota legislature can help ensure that the Armenian genocide is not forgotten or denied. In doing so, the state of North Dakota will join the 21 countries including Canada which have formally recognized the Armenian genocide. In doing so, the state of North Dakota will join the ranks of Vatican City, international bodies, and 38 other states of the United States which have formally recognized the Armenian genocide. Our revered, Theodore Roosevelt felt passionately about the Armenian genocide, and the lack of action on the part of our federal government in the aftermath of World War I. He wrote, "The news of the terrible fate that has befallen the Armenians must give a fresh shock of sympathy and indignation. Let me emphatically point out that the sympathy is useless unless it is accompanied with indignation, and that the indignation is useless if it exhausts itself in words instead of taking shape in deeds." I believe that Theodore Roosevelt would have felt passionately about the passage of HCR3003 regarding the commemoration of the Armenian genocide.

# JAMESTOWN DAILY ALERT

THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR

## CLOSE TO HALF MILLION SLAIN

Armenian Massacres Aggregate 450,000.

### AFRICAN HELP IS ASKED

United States Urged to Take Steps to Put an End to Wholesale Killing of Christians Described as Worst in History.

New York, Sept. 25.—Dr. M. Symon Gabriel, president of the Armenian General Progressive association in the United States, has received from Nubar Pasha, diplomatic representative in Paris of the Armenian church, advices in regard to the massacres of Armenians in Turkey, in which it is stated that "Christian martyrdom has at no time assumed such colossal proportions."

The letters containing the advices were received by Nubar Pasha from "authoritative sources" in Constantinople and Athens and contain an appeal to the United States "to intercede and stop the persecutions."

Dr. Gabriel, in making public the letters, said that from information contained in them and from other reports he had received directly he estimated that 450,000 Armenians had been put to death and 600,000 made homeless or exiled, out of a population of 1,500,000.

"What has occurred in a few months in Cilicia and Armenia," wrote Nubar Pasha, in transmitting the correspondence, "is unbelievable. The great massacres of Abdul Hamid seem insignificant compared to the recent atrocities, which are without precedent in the history of our nation's martyrology."

"It is nothing more or less than the annihilation of the whole people. But Armenia is so far away that practically nothing has yet been heard about this frightful tragedy in Europe and

Sept 25 1918

# JAMESTOWN DAILY ALERT

## SLAUGHTER ON TIGRIS RIVER

Turks Charged With Killing  
Forty Thousand.

## WIVES AND CHILDREN SLAIN

After Massacring All Males, Report  
Says Nine Thousand Women and  
Little Ones Were Assembled on  
Bank of Stream and Shot, the  
Bodies Being Thrown Into the River.

Paris, Aug. 4.—B. Varazdate, member of the committee of the Armenian Social Democratic party, writing to L'Humanite, says the committee has received word that Turks, after massacring all the males in the region of Bitlis, Turkish Armenia, assembled 9,000 women and children and drove them to the banks of the Tigris, where they shot them and threw the bodies into the river.

The Armenian population of Cilicia, in the Turkish vilayet of Adana, also has been subjected to persecution, according to the reports of the committee. More than 40,000 persons already are dead and it is feared the Armenians at Moucke and Diarbekr, in Kurdistan, also have been massacred.

Twenty members of the Armenian Social Democratic party, M. Varazdate says, have been publicly hanged in Constantinople after having been charged with attempting to found an independent Armenia.

# JAMESTOWN DAILY ALERT

THIRTY-FIFTH

State Historical Society

## MASSACRES IN ASIA RESUMED

Turks Renew Wholesale Kill-  
ing of Armenians.

### CABLE FROM MORGENTHAU

American Ambassador at Constantino-  
ple Sends Report That Majority of  
Armenians in Asiatic Turkey Have  
Been Slaughtered.

Washington, Oct. 13.—Armenian  
massacres in Asiatic Turkey have  
been renewed with vigor since Bul-  
garia's entrance into the war as Tur-  
key's ally. This information reached  
the state department from Ambassa-  
dor Morgenthau, who stated that the  
majority of the Armenians in Asiatic  
Turkey had been killed.

Although representations were made  
by this government some time ago  
warning Turkey that further atroci-  
ties against the Armenians would  
alienate the sympathies of the Ameri-  
can people no answer has been re-  
ceived.

Earlier representations were met  
with two concessions promising that  
those Armenians who wished to leave  
the country would be permitted to do  
so unharmed and further that Protes-  
tant Armenians would be spared. In-  
formation recently reaching this coun-  
try, however, indicates that these con-

# JAMESTOWN DAILY ALERT

NOVEMBER 2, 1915.

## MISSIONARIES ARE TORTURED BY TURKS

Boston, Nov. 2.—Four professors of the Euphrates American college, founded by American missionaries at Harpoot, Armenia, were horribly tortured by the Turks before being put to death, according to a letter made public here by Rev. Robert Keating Smith of Westfield, Mass.

The hair and mustache of one professor were pulled out by the roots. The nails of another were pulled out with pinchers.

Seven-eighths of the students were deported, killed or exiled and the young girls carried away to harems, the letter said. The letter was written by an American connected with the college, Rev. Smith said, and was addressed to Bishop Casparian of Boston. It is dated July 19, 1915, but the name of the writer is withheld in the fear that he may be hunted and killed by the Turks.

Fourteen professors were engaged in instructing 150 Armenian students, two-thirds of them girls, in American ides's, when the war broke out, it was stated. The Turkish authorities took over seven of the eight buildings of the school.

as the Germans, they assert, send adequate re-enforcements as long as the present press maintained in France, Russia ally.

**Thousands Are Slain.**  
 entente forces now in action are said to comprise 60,000 line French troops and per-10,000 British colonials, the Ser- the experts say, will be able to or retard the various invasions in country until the Allies can their full strength to bear. This, urse, is the British view; Berlin less confident that the invasion greasing exactly as it was plan-

bombardment of Dedeaghat and the death of 10 civilians and than 1,000 soldiers, and there were a large number of soldiers led, says a dispatch to the Ex- Telegraph company from is.

## TONS PAY BIG PRICE FOR EVERY MILE INVADED

don, Oct. 26.—The Bulgarians, ding to their official report, have ed Uskup, an important junction e Saloniki-Nish railway and have themselves across the which the Allies' re-inforce- s for the Serbs would travel. e Austro-Germans in the north begun a more vigorous offensive ave crossed the Danube near Or-

ccess is not being achieved with- eavy losses, as the Serbian vete- well entrenched in their moun- are offering stubborn resistance are making the invaders pay a rice for every mile of country in- l.

**amba Danies He Was Snubbed.**  
 lin, Oct. 26.—Dr. C. T. Dumba, r Austro-Hungarian ambassador ashington, who has arrived here the United States, gave out the ing interview: "As to the s which necessitated my return enna, I need not go into details. you ask me if the tales are true people on board the steamer ed me I can only reply that the ite is true. My wife and I felt lves under the necessity of con- g ourselves with reserve toward ell "avelers."

had been decorated with the Iron Cross for fighting in the Champagne district in France, covers his arrival in the United States on April 23 last, his making of clock-worked bombs since then and his activities in ex- perimenting with explosives along the Hudson river. Quantities of acid in the room occupied by Fay and Walter L. Scholz in Weehawken, N. J., and boxes, each containing 120 pounds of chlorate of potash used in making so- called sugar bombs, in a boat house on the Hudson, had been found after the arrest of these men on Sunday.

## MASSACRE EVERYONE IN TOWN

**Turks Slay Entire Armenian Popula- tion of Kerasund on the Black Sea, Says Dispatch.**

London, Oct. 26.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Odessa says:

"The Turks have massacred the en- tire Armenian population of Kerasund on the Black sea.

### To Pass on Idaho Prohibition.

Boise, Idaho, Oct. 26.—The United States supreme court is to be asked to pass on the constitutionality of Idaho's drastic prohibition law, which makes possession of liquor a felony on second conviction. Permission for ap- peal was granted on a writ of error by the state supreme court, which re- cently upheld the law.

### Greece Pressed by Allies.

London, Oct. 26.—The Allies have repeated their request that Greece decide whether to join them or the central powers, according to an Athens message.

### Woman Battles Cougar; Wins.

Aberdeen, Wash., Oct. 25.—By giv- ing battle with a piece of iron pipe to a cougar, which had attacked her, Mrs. E. Burckhardt saved her baby's life and her own near Taholah, 30 miles from here, according to word re- ceived by her parents here. Mrs. Burckhardt was walking along a moun- tain trail, carrying her child, when she came across a cougar pursuing a fox. The cougar abandoned its chase and made toward her. Seizing a piece of pipe, the woman faced the infuri- ated animal as it sprang.

turned a few minutes legiti- mate incumbent had nsurped had awn map, and repaired imm- directors' room.

"He ain't in, sir." Miss Doty, who had con- exciting chapter of her



6 B. 1000

"Leggo," Jackie cried; "here!"

ed him into the room and time to hear him deliver h "All right," Mr. Brans "get Henry Carr on the ph Miss Doty preceded him room, and as soon as he threshold she clutched t shoulder.

"What are you doing asked.

"Leggo," Jackie cried; "here!"

"Since when?"

"De big guy gimme de plied.

The Valley City Courier  
 Oct-29 1915



# AN AMERICAN WOMAN LOST

MISS McLAREN, MISSIONARY IN ARMENIA HAS DISAPPEARED.

New York, Oct. 7.—Miss McLaren, an American nurse attached to a mission at Van, Turkey, has been missing since July, and is believed to have been slain in the Turkish massacres of Armenians, in that district, today announced Miss Emily C. Wheeler, secretary of the National Armenian and Indian Relief association. Miss Wheeler was in Armenia during the massacre. "It is Enver Pasha's boast that he killed more Armenians in 80 days than Abdul Hamid did in 80 years. And Abdul Hamid was known as the 'great butcher' and the 'red sultan,'" said the relief worker.

Information on which her statement was based was given her by a missionary, an American physician just returned from Turkey. Miss Wheeler herself spent 16 years in Armenia.

"Certain classes of Turks are not in sympathy with the horrible outrages," continued Miss Wheeler, "but they dare not protest as the movement is being directed from Constantinople."

"One of the young women attached to the Van mission has been missing since July. She is a Miss McLaren, an American, who volunteered to serve in the Red Crescent, the Turkish Red Cross. She disappeared when the Turks fled before the Russian soldiers. She is probably dead. Another instance is that of Sister Martha, a German woman, who fled with 53 orphans from the savage Kurds in July. Nothing has been heard of them."

"Out of the Armenian nation of 1,500,000 people 800,000 have been killed or exiled into the desert. The Ottoman government is waging a campaign of extermination. This is evident from the slaughter and is further indicated by the statement of the governor of Van made in November, 1914, that the government intended to kill every Armenian even down to the babies, to rid Turkey forever of the Armenian question."

"They have succeeded so well in some villages there is not even a sign

OCT 11 1915  
NOT DAILY OPTIC-REPORTER

of life. The entire district of Tiflis has been leveled by fire. Women have been scorched, scalded and beaten to death. Even the orphans in our missions have been deported. In the Van district alone 57,000 Armenians were killed in August.

"Those who managed to escape death are suffering indescribable torture from starvation. The government hinders all outside aid and will do nothing to relieve conditions."

"Of the 270,000 Armenians who started for Russia more than 100,000 died of typhus. There are 60,000 Armenians serving in the Russian army. This, and the fact that there is a handful of Armenian revolutionists stirring up trouble, are the excuses offered by the government for the persecutions."

The physician said a former Princeton man killed at Harpoot was Professor Vorperian, an Armenian who graduated from Princeton 20 years ago. He was executed for alleged participation in the revolution.

Miss Wheeler said funds for National Armenia and India Relief association work are urgently needed.

She's Wise.

Patience—I suppose the spelling reformers will want to spell kiss with one s. Patrice—Don't you worry. I think that is one thing they won't want to make any shorter.—Yonkers Statesman.

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We have a pretty five-room cottage, close to the Normal. Has a large lot. Reasonably easy terms. Price \$3,100.

A large lot sewer, water streets. Price we will build

Thurs. 14th—CAPTAIN COUG  
Fri. Sat.—MIDUP, Charlie C

Bring The Chill

**JOCKEY**  
**SA**

HAS DRIVEN  
POLE IN

A special Lieutenants night at the Scotland, and on the Derby. Jockey.

The Lieutenants interesting as what have taken the Minnehaha, nine year Dillon against the music meeting invited. The

**THRES**  
**LEAV**

Rugby. Oct. continuation of which set in is apparently to the farmers



# Id Forks Daily Herald.

NORTH DAKOTA'S GREATEST

NEWSPAPER

MORNING  
EDITION

ID FORKS N. D., SATURDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 27, 1915.

FIVE CENTS.

ARE  
ORDER  
DIERS

HORRIBLE ATROCITIES PRACTICED BY TURKS ON  
ARMENIANS IS TOLD IN REPORT MADE BY BRYCE;  
SHORTEST MEANS OF KILLING WOMEN IS BURNING

F  
/ TO  
WILSON

MAIN SERBIAN ARMY IS  
BACKED AGAINST BORDER  
OF MONTENEGRO. REPORT

REVOLTING PRACTICES ARE  
TOLD BY VISCOUNT; HERDED  
INTO SHEDS WHICH ARE FIRED

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London, Nov. 26.—Viscount Bryce tonight made public the following further statement—

## IE OF EADY TO VEN WILSON

with the women, had in statements, some of from officials in some of countries on both sides bean conflict, to the gen- hat they would interpose to the calling of a con- neutrals to make peace

ident Impressed. wimmer, who saw the eral months ago on the and who was not op- said tonight she believed to the calling of a con- neutrals to make peace

dent made no definite e added, "but I think e something from the before long."

to Statement. the House it was said be no statement regard-

Up to this time the po- president has been that i nothing from Europe him to believe that the one for him to take any

mond Declines. ov. 26.—Governor W. S. e today telegraphed to declining his invitation to e the proposed peace Europe. The governor Mr. Ford's "desire to peace," but said state id prevent him from ip.

## S PLAN VNOUNCED SECRETARY

# MAIN SERBIAN ARMY IS BACKED AGAINST BORDER OF MONTENEGRO, REPORT

## DEVELOPMENTS OF IMPORTANCE ARE LOOKED FOR

Kouropatkin on His Way at  
Head of Russian Re-  
inforcements.

AUSTRIANS ARE  
FIGHTING HARD

Turkish Troops in Mesopo-  
tamia Falling Back  
Before British.

London, Nov. 25.—The Serbian main army having been driven to the border of Albania and Montenegro, where they are being attacked by the Austro-Germans, the Bulgarians, with the assistance of General Von Goltz,

## VICE INVESTIGATION MAY BE TURNED OVER TO GEORGE ARMSTRONG

(Herald Special Service.) Minneapolis, Nov. 26.—County Attorney John M. Rees and two members of the Hennepin county jury, M. P. McInerney and C. E. Ashworth, were closeted today in the county attorney's office.

Prosecution of the grand jury's investigation of vice conditions and alleged graft were discussed and the county attorney was asked as to the advisability of assigning an assistant county attorney to the investigation. Assistant County Attorney George W. Armstrong's name was mentioned in this connection.

Final action will not be taken until the return to Minneapolis of George F. Piper, foreman of the grand jury, who was Tuesday called to Minn.

## EXECUTIVES IMPLICATED

Two Board Members Were  
Brought Into Murder  
Case by Dyer

# REVOLTING PRACTICES ARE TOLD BY VISCOUNT; HERDED INTO SHEDS WHICH ARE FIRED

London, Nov. 26.—Viscount Bryce tonight made public the details of further Armenian massacres, which in a letter accompanying them he says, "surpassed in horror, if that were possible, what has been published already."

"I feel," his letter continued, "that such crimes ought to be exposed to the utmost, and that the charity of other nations will more than ever be drawn to the unhappy refugees when it is known what their friends and fellow countrymen have suffered."

Viscount Bryce says that the following extracts were taken from his correspondence at Tiflis:

### GOVERNOR EXPELLED.

"Toward the end of May, Djevdet Bey, the military governor, was expelled from Ban Djeddet, fled southward and entered Sairt with some eight thousand soldiers, who he called butcher battalions. He massacred most of the Christians of Sairt, the detail of which nothing is known. On the best of authority, however, it is reported that he ordered his soldiers to burn in the public square, two Armenian bishops.

### SHOT ALL PRISONERS.

"On June 25 the Turks surrounded the town of Bidlis and cut its communications with neighboring Armenian villages. During the following few days all the men under arrest were shot outside the town and buried in deep trenches dug by the victims themselves.

"The young women and children were distributed among the rabble. The remainder were driven to the south and are believed to have been drowned in the Tigris.

### 15,000 DISPOSED OF.

"It is in such a fashion that the Turks disposed of about 15,000 Armenians at Bidlis. At Mush, in July, the head men of the village were subjected to revolting torture. Their finger nails and their toe nails were forcibly extorted; teeth were knocked out and in some cases noses were whittled down, the victims thus being done to death under shocking lingering agony.

### ASSAULTED IN PUBLIC.

"The female relatives of the victims, who came to the rescue were assaulted in public, before the very eyes of their mutilated men. The shrieks and death cries of the victims filled the air, yet they did not move the Turkish beasts.

"In the town of Mush itself the Armenians entrenched themselves in churches and stone-built houses and fought for four days in self defense, but Turkish artillery, manned by German officers, made short work of all the Armenian population and every one of the Armenians, leaders as well as their men, were killed in the fighting.

### BURNING THE SHORTEST.

"When they were dead, the rest of the Moslem rabble descended upon the women and children and drove them out of town and into large camps.

"The ghastly scenes which followed may seem incredible, yet these reports have been confirmed beyond all doubt. The shortest means employed for disposing of the women and children in the various camps was by burning. Fire was set to the large wooden sheds in several Armenian villages and these absolutely helpless women and children were roasted to death."

## CHARGED WITH NEW BRITISH

9-23-15

G.F. Herald

(Five vacant material has W. Norton and he has lighted with club. A ants appears

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## EMENT.

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## W. B. GRACE DIES IN ROCHESTER, MINN.

Grand Forks Man Passes Away at  
Hospital With Wife and Brother  
at Side.

W. B. Grace, aged 29, of this city, died at Rochester, Minn., at 6 o'clock last evening, according to information received here.

Mrs. Grace was with her husband when the end came. A brother of Mr. Grace was also present. The deceased left this city three weeks ago for Rochester in a very ill condition.

He was a salesman for the Williams Hardware company of St. Paul, travelling out of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Grace lived at 524 Griggs avenue in this city since their wedding one year ago.

The funeral will be held in Minneapolis, the former home of the widow, who was Miss Jessie Robertson before her marriage.

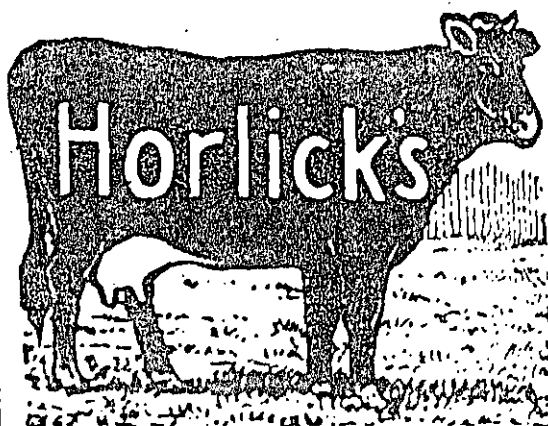
The deceased had a host of friends in this city.

## French Aviators

## Save Armenians From Turkish Force

Paris, Sept. 22.—The rescue by French warships of a large band of Armenians from pursuing Turks is recounted in a statement issued by the ministry of marine.

"Pursued by Turks," says the state-



# Horlick's

THE ORIGINAL

## MALTED MILK

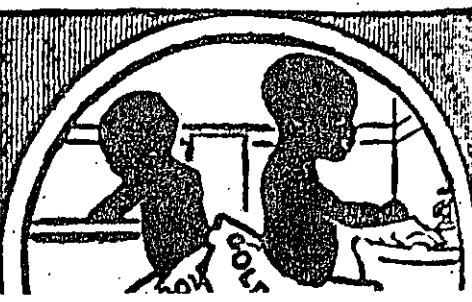
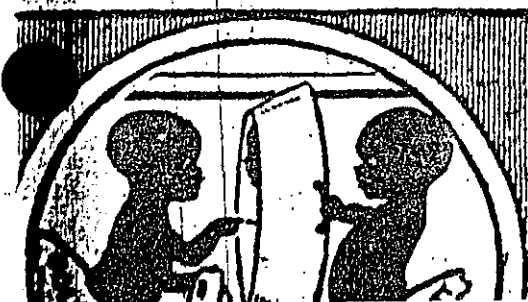
The Food-Drink for all Ages

Rich milk, malted grain, in powder form. For infants, invalids and growing children. Pure nutrition, upbuilding the whole body. Invigorates nursing mothers and the aged. More healthful than tea or coffee.

**Unless you say "HORLICK'S" you may get a Substitute.**

ment, 5,000 Armenians, 3,000 of whom were women, children and old men took refuge in the Djebel Moussa mountains at the end of July. They succeeded in keeping their assailants at bay until the beginning of September.

"Ammunition and provisions then gave out, and they would inevitably have succumbed had they not succeeded in getting word of their grave situation to a French cruiser. Cruisers of the French blockading squadron off the Syrian coast went to their help and took all of them to Port Said, where they were installed in a provisional camp."



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## U. S. CITIZENS MUST REGISTER

Those in Western Canada  
Must Make Their Resi-  
dence Known.

(Herald Special Service.)

Winnipeg, Man., Sept. 12.—There is no war significance in the present campaign to have every citizen of the United States in western Canada register, asserted American Consul General Frederick M. Ryder tonight. The United States government has for a lengthy period considered it the duty of every citizen residing in Canada to register.

Every facility has been provided, and there is no expense attached. If a naturalized citizen of the United States should return to the foreign state from which he came he would in two years become expatriated. Or if a naturalized citizen resides in any other foreign state for five years, he is no longer presumed to be an American citizen. Ryder as consul general has jurisdiction over Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and that part of Ontario between Fort William and Kenora.

### MANUFACTURER DEAD.

New York, Sept. 12.—William King, who was known as the father of the cork industry in America, is dead at his home in Perth Amboy. Mr. King was born in England 79 years ago. He came to New York when 18 years old. His death last night was due to pneumonia.

## ONE BISHOP IS BURNED ALIVE

Armenian Memorial Sets  
Forth Atrocities of  
the Turks.

Sofia, via London, Sept. 13.—The correspondent of the Associated Press was given the privilege today to read an interesting document addressed by Armenians to the Bulgarian government, ~~interceding with the govern- ment in behalf of the Armenians in Asia Minor, of whom it is asserted nearly 825,000 have been driven from their homes.~~

The government is requested to use its good offices to ameliorate the conditions of the Armenians. Of those who have been driven away to other parts of Asia Minor, the document says that a number of them have been killed or are missing. It does not, however, state their number.

The petition says that many of these deported persons have adopted the Moslem faith. The bishops molested are said to have included one who was burned alive, three hanged, three murdered, seven interned and two arrested. The fate of some of the other bishops is declared to be unknown.

### MEXICANS MAKE ATTACK.

Brownsville Texas, Sept. 13.—Mexicans attacked a patrol of American cavalrymen about two miles up the river Rio Grande from here, wounded two American troopers.

The fight occurred soon after daylight today.

## Dumba Is Crushed Says Personal Friend of His

He cannot sleep, does not eat, and feels his position as a prisoner.

9/14/15

C. F. Herald

# SOLDIER TELLS OF ATROCITIES

## Red Hot Shoes of Iron Are Placed on Christian Ar- menian Bishop.

London, Oct. 25.—A long account by an eye witness of Armenian atrocities is telegraphed by the Reuter correspondent with the Dardanelles fleet. The statement is from an official source, the correspondent explaining that it was given to the British staff by an Armenian serving in the Turkish army, who was taken prisoner.

This account begins at Erzerum, the principal city of Turkish Armenia last March. It covers travels about various parts of Armenia and gives details of various atrocities along familiar lines—how the Bishop of Sivak was shod with shoes of red hot iron by a village blacksmith at the order of the Turks, how men of Tokat were tied together in groups of four and taken out 100 at a time to the marshy districts for massacre, how mothers were bayoneted before the eyes of their children, how Armenian girls were distributed as chattels among civil and military officials.

The prisoner says that as a soldier he himself was compelled to assist in many massacres, being on one occasion member of a party of forty soldiers which superintended the death of 800 Armenians.

His account closes:

There is reason to believe that German advisors of the Turks have urged upon them the undesirability of allowing a large alien and presumably unfriendly population to inhabit ports which lie open to Russian attack.

## Automobiles Lead In Export Trade During Last Year

Washington, Oct. 25.—Foreign

idolized and ridiculed, and his work has become the theme of almost daily discussion in the newspapers of Sweden, some of which criticize him for being too moderate, and others too extreme in his reforms. But on one point all are agreed. The system works.

In the first place, the liquor companies, while directed by private individuals, were practically made government concerns, for all profits were to go to the government. This removed any incentive on the part of the directors to over-production. It was followed by a careful supervision of the supply of liquor furnished to hotels, restaurants and public bars. These places still had a right to as much liquor as they required, but they were only allowed profit on a reasonable amount of trade. If they did business in excess of that amount fixed by the government, they had to purchase this additional supply at retail price, and were forced to sell at the same price. This, it would seem, would have removed the zealous effort of hotel proprietors to make their liquor trade as large as possible.

But none of these expedients was successful. The total consumption of liquor was scarcely diminished. The amount of drunkenness in Sweden showed no decrease, and hospitals and medical records were as full of alcoholic patients and cases of illness caused by alcoholism, as before. It was evident that the decrease in the amount of liquor sold at hotels and bars was offset by the increased business done at wine stores where customers bought as much bottles spirits as they liked and took it home for consumption.

The "book system" which is now in operation, was devised by Dr. Bratt at the beginning of the war. It allowed every citizen in good standing to buy one litre and no more of spirituous liquor every five days. To make this plan feasible, each person was provided with a small book resembling a commutation railroad ticket, from which a coupon was torn every time the consumer bought his litre of whiskey, brandy, cognac, punch, "acnappa," or whatever kind of alcoholic beverage he fancied. At the same time, his book was stamped with the date of the purchase so that it would be clear to the dealer when he made his last purchase. Without showing his book, no citizen in Stockholm, has the remotest chance of obtaining a bottle of liquor anywhere in the city. The regulation is rigidly enforced.

It is true that in some cases, however, exceptions are made. If one can persuade the authorities that on account of his social position and the demands of constant entertainment one litre every five days is totally inadequate and if the authorities are con-

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10-18-15  
G-F Heard

# RIA AGAINST TANEOUSLY

## RRANZA IS CONTROL OF LARGE CITIES

Probable That United States  
Will Recognize Govern-  
ment Soon.

### MANY MASSACRED BY YAQUI INDIANS

General Hernandez Reported  
Shot by Own Men—Re-  
volts From Villa.

Washington, Oct. 7.—Recognition of  
the Carranza government in Mexico,  
it was learned in official circles today,  
is likely to be accorded by the United  
States within the next few weeks.

Within the last few days the Car-  
ranza authorities have transmitted to  
the American government statements  
which conform to Counsel's reports  
showing that the Carranza forces have  
achieved a military supremacy in  
Mexico, controlling the majority of  
the states and the large cities.

#### Massacre Reported.

Douglas, Ariz., Oct. 7.—Twenty-  
three inhabitants of La Colorado, a  
mining town in the Hermosillo, Sono-  
ra district, were massacred by Yaqui  
Indians, who captured the town this  
morning, according to reports received  
today. Women and children  
beaten to death, it was said.

#### Shot By Men.

El Paso, Tex., Oct. 7.—Official re-  
ports from Juarez today state that  
General Rosalio Hernandez, who was  
reported to have revolted from Villa,  
was shot by his own men when they  
learned of his intended defection. Car-  
ranza advisers had stated that the Her-  
nandez command had given battle to

## GRIM ANSWER TO ARMENIAN IN MILL CITY

Town Destroyed and Ad-  
dressee Hanged by the  
Turks.

### TWO-THIRDS PEOPLE BELIEVED WIPED OUT

More Killed in Last Month  
Than in 30 Years Is  
Pasha's Boast.

Minneapolis, Oct. 7.—Local Armeni-  
ans confirm the report that the Arme-  
nian nation is being wiped from the  
face of the earth.

The alleged statement of Enver  
Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-  
chief, that he had killed more Arme-  
nians in the last 30 days than the sul-  
tan of Turkey did in the preceding 30  
years, is true, according to Minneap-  
olis members of the persecuted race.

Only one letter has been received in  
the last six months by Armenians in  
the local colony from the persecuted  
people. This was the return of a  
money order sent to a resident of the  
former town of Harpott, a city of 25,-  
000 inhabitants. On the back of the  
letter was written the laconic state-  
ment of some Turkish official:

"There is no more Harpott. The  
man to whom your letter is addressed  
has been hanged."

The letter was sent from here by  
Arsene Nakkashian, employed at the  
Kellik Itug Shop, 1015 Nicollet ave-  
nue. It was sent to his grandfather.

Nakkashian today expressed the be-  
lief that the Turks know their doom  
is fast coming, so they have thrown  
caution to the winds and are now bent  
on paying in full their debt of centu-  
ries of race hatred against the Arme-  
nian people and against Christians in  
general.

"I really believe that two-thirds of  
the 1,000,000 of my people in Asia  
Minor have been butchered," contin-  
ued Nakkashian.

## TO ESTABLISH A LABORATORY

## MRS. GALT AND PRESIDENT TO NEW YORK CITY

Will Purchase Engagement  
Ring and Be Entertained  
by Colonel House.

### SEE BALL GAME IN PHILADELPHIA

Wilson to Open Big Game on  
Saturday—Wedding to  
Be Held Soon.

Washington, Oct. 7.—President Will-  
son and Mrs. Norman Galt, whose en-  
gagement to be married was announc-  
ed last night, were the recipients to-  
day of congratulatory messages from  
all parts of the United States and  
from the representatives of foreign  
governments. Telegrams came to the  
White House in such numbers that  
an extra force of operators and clerks  
was needed to handle them. Many  
were read by the president and Mrs.  
Galt together.

Definite arrangements for the wed-  
ding will not be made immediately,  
but it was disclosed that the president  
and Mrs. Galt have agreed it shall not  
take place in the White House because  
of the formality which would be ne-  
cessary there. The ceremony will be  
solemnized within the next two  
months before the convening of con-  
gress in December, either in Mrs.  
Galt's home or in one of the Wash-  
ington churches.

An extended honeymoon will be im-  
possible because of the imperative de-  
mands of official duties upon the pres-  
ident.

When the president received callers  
today and when he left and entered  
the White House, he was wearing a  
broad smile and seemed very happy.  
Mrs. Galt was extremely shy when  
asked regarding details of her plans.

The president and Mrs. Galt and  
several friends will leave here early  
tomorrow for New York, to be the  
guests there of Colonel House, the  
president's closest friend, and Mrs.  
House. They will reach New York  
in the afternoon, and the time before  
dinner probably will be devoted to the  
purchase of an engagement ring. Af-  
ter dinner Colonel and Mrs. House will  
give a theater party. Saturday morn-  
ing the party will go to Philadelphia,  
where the president will throw out  
the first ball used in the second game  
of the world's series.

## AMERICA BE I

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## SAN FRANC TWO SLIG OF EARTH

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## GERMAN C INSTRUCT STATEME

# Bismarck Daily

NO. 2433

(NEWS OF THE WORLD)

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA, WEDNESDAY

## MAY ATTEND EXPOSITION FRIDAY TWIN CITY MEN ARE HERE

TWIN CITY MEN WILL BE GUESTS OF CITY  
AT EXPOSITION SATURDAY TO

## All Climbing Up Yesterday's Features

CONTRIBUTE TO SUCCESS OF HAR-  
VEST IS ONE OF THE MOST UNIQUE  
FEATURES OF THE STATE. THOS. COOPER HERE  
TODAY.

Box of candy to be given away to  
winner of mobile show tonight.

At the Bismarck Exposition Friday.  
Paul yesterday that, if possible, he  
of Twin City bankers and railroad  
Friday to put the finishing touches

on better days in the big agricul-  
ture show become larger and the interest  
held here.

to the president of the Northern  
day between trains and was caught  
tractor together with Gerald Pierce,  
St. Paul Tribune and P. J. Lyon,

## Turkish Atrocities Reported

New York, Oct. 12.—Further evi-  
dence of the atrocities inflicted by the  
Turks upon the Armenians was given  
out here tonight by the American  
committee on Armenian atrocities, in  
the form of a letter received from an  
American professor in one of the  
American colleges in Turkey.

The writer says that the American  
consul was told that the Turkish gov-  
ernment intended to exterminate the  
Armenians. "He further said," the  
professor continues, "that when the  
Armenians were disposed of the  
Greeks would be similarly treated  
and after that the foreigners. A like  
statement was made by Enver Pasha,  
the minister of war to our Ambassa-  
dor Mr. Morgenthau."

## File Brief on Income Taxes

Washington, Oct. 12.—(Heavier tax-  
ation on big incomes as a relief from  
the "this proportionate share" of gov-  
ernmental support borne by the poor  
under direct taxation was defended  
by the government in a brief filed  
with the supreme court here in the  
income tax cases.

The brief represents months of  
study by the government's legal tal-  
ent on the income tax question, the  
nature of which would reduce the gov-  
ernment income \$82,000,000 a year.

The ordinary system of indirect

## BIG NAVAL PLANS ARE DISCUSSED

Fifteen to Twenty Fighting Ships  
Will be Constructed.

Soon.

MAP OUT FIVE  
YEAR PROGRAM

Cost for First Year Will be  
Nearly Two Hundred Forty-  
eight Million.

Washington, Oct. 12.—Fifteen to  
twenty fighting ships of the dread-  
naught and battle cruiser types, with  
a proportionate number of sea going  
submarine, coast submarines, scout  
cruisers, auxiliaries, enough to  
make a new American fleet, is con-  
templated by Secretary Daniels for  
recommendation as a five year build-  
ing program for the United States  
Navy.

President Wilson and Secretary  
Daniels have discussed informally  
the needs of the Navy, and are  
agreed that in order to be adequately  
prepared for defense, the present  
strength of the fleet must be almost  
doubled in the next five years.

(Continued from page one)

year 194,958,000; October 1 price 46.8 cents, year ago 51.8 cents.

#### Potatoes

State—October 1 forecast 7,370,000 bushels, September 1 forecast 7,900,000; final estimate last year 7,630,000; October 1 to producers 41 cents a bushel, year ago 51 cents.

United States—October 1 forecast 368,000,000 bushels, September 1 forecast 405,909,000, final estimate last year 405,921,000; October 1 price 45.7

the Dardanelles the British have gained on an average something more than 300 yards all along the four-mile Subla Bay front, according to official statement given tonight.

Discussing the attitude of the Greek people toward recent political developments, the Athens correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says:

"The public remains apathetic and no troubles are expected. The General feeling is that the people do not want to fight. At the root of this attitude is the condition inspired by an able propaganda of German military ingenuity."

### ADMINISTRATION SENDS FORMAL PROTEST ON ARMENIAN ATROCITIES

Washington, Oct. 5.—Ambassador Morgenthau at Constantinople was instructed by cable today to inform the Turkish minister of foreign affairs that public sentiment in the United States was so stirred by the reports of the Armenian atrocities that unless the massacres ceased friendly relations between the American people and the people of Turkey would be threatened.

Officials made it clear that this method though important was by no means minimized did not threaten a break in diplomatic relations. Turkey already has let it be known that she will not permit interference by any foreign powers with her so-called "Armenian policy." As American life or property has not been affected, the United States government without submitting official protest merely informs Turkey of the effects continued Armenian atrocities would have on the American people.

Scott! Our six keep us hustling).

There is a soft spot in every man's (She thinks Teddy Roosevelt must have been something like her boy? Ho! Ho!).

Marriage is a lottery in which— (Just one moment, Maria! You know I've got to get these reflections off tonight).

### WEALTH'S VEXATIONS.

Mrs. Newriche—Mrs. De Smyth told me last evening that she is troubled with ongwes.

Mr. Newriche—What's that?

Mrs. Newriche—Dear me! I don't know. I've looked all through the "O's" of three different dictionaries and can't find any such word.

### FOR INSTANCE.

First City Man—Flatman has just bought a place in the country.

Second City Man—There isn't enough variety in country life to suit me.

First City Man—Well, Flatman says he's running across something new all the time.

### A DECEIVING WORLD.

Madge—Did you ever love a man you wouldn't marry?

Dolly—Certainly! Sometimes it takes a long while before you find out he hasn't any money.

### WE MIGHT ESCAPE.

Oh! Wad some power the giffle give us

To see some folks before they see us!



play, "The College Widow," at the tenly.



to live.

### Killed And Wounded.

The United States soldiers killed and wounded are: Stephen Littles, aged 22, Co. L, 12th Infantry, shot through head, died tonight; Earl Fairmount, North Carolina, enlisted February, 1914; Herbert L. Oates, aged 25, Co. L, 12th Infantry, shot twice in stomach and hip, recovery doubtful, home at Sepsonville, N. C., second enlistment; Arthur L. Faupe, aged 23, Co. L, 12th Infantry, shot in right foot, home Vernon, Ind.

### Carranzistas Hold Nogales.

Tonight Carranza troops held the town after a victory over the Villa forces a few miles south. Advancing Carranza cavalry facing the last of the fleeing Villa troops came under fire of the United States soldiers and returned it, but the error was discovered before anyone was hurt.

### General Obregon Establishes Order.

General Alvaro Obregon came into town with the troops and exchanged apologies with Colonel Sizer over the mistake. He set a squad to work destroying what liquor the Villa soldiers left behind and announced that order would be maintained.

### Soldier Fighting A Woman.

The Villa forces were evacuating Nogales at daybreak, but stalled troop trains some 12 miles south balked Villa's attempt to attack. The Carranza forces met and defeated Villa, according to reports of Obregon officers. The intoxicated Villa soldier who started the fighting with United States troops, was fighting with a woman in the main street of the Mexican town. She tried to take his rifle from him. He snatched it from her grasp, whirled around and fired directly into a squad of United States soldiers fifty yards away. This seemed to be a signal for snipers. A moment later bullets began to fly over the line. The Villa contingent men replied. They were ordered, however, to endanger no Mexicans who were not actually firing at them. The first exchange of shots lasted 10 or 12 minutes. Six thousand Carranza forces under General Obregon occupied Nogales tonight.

1907.

# ARMENIANS HORRORS ARE UNSPEAKABLE

According to Lord Bryce Who Tells World of the Awful Fate of Asians.

## BUTCHER BATTALIONS

### BURNED TWO BISHOPS

In Public Square of Town in Sairt and After Shooting Men Enslaved Women.

London, Nov. 26.—Vincent Bryce tonight made public the details of further Armenian massacres which in a letter accompanying them, he says, "surpass in horror, if that be possible, what has been published already."

### Horrors Unspeakable.

"I feel," the letter continues, "that such crimes ought to be exposed to the utmost and that the charity of other nations will more than ever be drawn to the unhappy refugees, when it is known what their friends and fellow countrymen have suffered."

### Burned In Public Square.

Vincent Bryce said that the following extracts were taken from his correspondent at Tiflis: "Near the end of May, Djedvet Bey, the military governor, expelled from Van Djedvet, fled southward and entered Sairt with some 8,000 soldiers, whom he called 'Butcher battalion.' On the best authority it is reported that he ordered his soldiers to burn in the public squares the Armenia bishop Eglise and the Chaldean bishop.

### Dug Own Graves.

"On June 25 they first surrounded the town of Pitis and cut its communication with neighboring Armenian villages. During the following day all the men under arrest were shot outside the town and buried in deep trenches dug by the victims themselves.

### Driven In Tigris River.

"The young women and children were distributed among the rabble. The remainder were driven to the south and are believed to have been drowned in the Tigris."

ears to suggestions from women gathering.

### 400 Called on President.

The ladies talked with the president for more than half an hour—went away much pleased over reception, though the president made no promises. About 400—advocates, fresh from a mass meeting, held at a local theater, accompanied the president's callers to White House.

### Urged to Initiate Peace Move.

The president was urged to initiate a peace conference, or at least to notify that he would appoint a delegate from the United States if any of neutral country called a conference. He was told that women peace advocates who had visited every belligerent and neutral nation in Europe believed from talks with officials abroad that practical results would follow.

### Ford Had Seen

He was informed that "He had seen the Detroit manufacturer, I to co-operate with the women, had his possession statements, some of them signed, from officials in some of the principal countries on the sides of the European conflict, to general effect that they would in pose no objection to a calling of conference of neutrals to make proposals.

### Women Enthusiastic.

Madame Schwimmer, who saw the president several months ago on the same subject, however, was optimistic and said tonight that she thought the president was deeply impressed by the information laid before him. She said:

"The president made no definite promise, but I think you will find something from the White House before very long."

### President Still Skeptical.

At the White House it was stated that there would be no statement made regarding the call. Up to the time the opinion of the president been that, he has heard nothing from European governments which led him to believe that the time is opportune to take any steps.

# \$300,000 DAMAGE IN BIG TORNADO

Ten Lives Lost and Many Destitute; Injured Will Recover Is Report.

Hot Springs, Nov. 26.—With the exception of one child, all of the injured in yesterday's tornado were reported tonight to be recovering, and death list is still held at ten. Forty damage was estimated at \$

NOV 27 1918 Bismarck Daily Tribune

# MUST ADJUST HAIL LOSSES

Or Stand Suit and Have Company Barred From Writing New Business in the State.

A meeting has been arranged to take place at Fargo Monday, between the officials of the Des Moines Mutual Hail and Cyclone association of Des Moines, Ia., and State Insurance Com.

# Bismarck Daily

(NEWS OF THE WORLD)

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 1915

ELAS FOR  
NVENTION

## 10,000 KILLED BY TURKS IN PERSIAN CITIES

Bodies Are Cast Into Tigris and  
Euphrates Rivers for  
Disposal.

### WAR ON THAT

#### FRONT INTENSE

Thousands of Women and Chil-  
dren Shot as Part of  
Holy War.

Miler, Trans-Caucasia, Aug. 10.—  
The Armenian bishop received infor-  
mation that 60,000 Armenian refugees  
have arrived at Igar. It is expected  
that fully 100,000 will be driven from  
Van alone, and another exodus of  
Christians from Persia is feared.

Kurds are reported to have mass-  
acred 10,000 Armenians in the Vilayet  
of the Bitlis, throwing the bodies of  
the victims into the Tigris and Eu-  
phrates rivers.

The war on this front has reached  
a degree of intensity hitherto fore-  
unknown except in the recent Russian  
victory at Sayr-Kamysh.

A member of the committee of the  
Armenian social democratic party,  
writing to L'Humanite, of Paris, on  
August 2, said the committee had re-  
ceived word to the effect that the  
Turks after massacring all the males  
of the population in the region of Bit-  
lis, Turkish Armenia, assembled 9,000  
women and children and drove them  
to the bank of the Tigris, where they  
shot them, throwing the bodies into  
the river. Six thousand Armenians  
were said to have been slain at Van  
in May.

## Windy City Police Are Convicted

Aug. 11  
1915  
Chicago, Aug. 10.—Walter O'Brien  
and William Pagan, former Sergeant  
of the city detective force, were found  
guilty on charges of accepting bribes  
to protect criminals. The case went  
to the jury late this afternoon.

The conviction carried with it an  
indeterminate sentence of from one  
to five years' imprisonment. Counsel  
for the convicted men entered a mo-  
tion for a new trial, but the date for  
hearing on the motion was not set.

## 2 BATTLESHIPS SENT TO MEXICO BY PRES

Only Precautionary Steps  
of Anti-Foreign Dis-  
tributions.

### CONDITIONS UNFAVORABLE AT VERA CRUZ

Wilson Will Reach W  
Friday to Attend C  
Meeting.

Washington, Aug. 10.—Two  
can battleships, the Louisiana  
New Hampshire, sailed for  
Newport, Rhode Island, for  
in response to an urgent re-  
quest from Commander McNamee that  
fleet of gunboats in Mexico  
be reinforced, in view of a  
demonstrations at that por-  
t. It is understood that  
Wilson himself ordered the  
sent, although no official  
statement would even admit  
had sailed.

#### Purely Precautionary

Care has been taken during  
to point out that any navy  
activity at this time  
purely precautionary to safe-  
guard interests and could not  
be construed as having any connection  
with the Pan American conference  
is to be resumed in New York  
row to complete a program  
ing about a restoration of gov-  
in Mexico.

Commander McNamee, an  
American naval officer on the  
coast, called his request for  
reinforcements last night.

## RESERVE FULLY RIGHT TO EXPORT WAR MUNITIONS

United States Sends Reply to the  
Austrian Note on Export of  
Supplies.

### REPUDIATES STAND

#### TAKEN AT VIENNA

Washington, Aug. 10. The United  
States government today dispatched  
to Vienna a reply rejecting the Aus-  
tro-Hungarian views recently set  
forth in a note contending that the  
great scale on which war munitions  
are being exported from America to  
enemies of the Germanic allies is  
not in consonance with the definition  
of neutrality.

The note was called to Ambassa-  
dor Penfield, who probably will pre-  
sent it to the Vienna foreign office  
Thursday. It may be made public  
later by agreement between the two  
governments.

Though framed in diplomatic lan-  
guage and entirely courteous,

Breath.

Democratic na-  
an from Tulsa,  
f breezed into  
rted a life sized  
stat, as the next  
convention city.

TOR FISH  
NORMAL

Names H. C.

of History

en

MBER

TOOL BOARD

made yesterday



Aug. 10.—The United States today dispatched a dispatch to the Austrians recently set containing that the United States munitions and supplies of the American consignment in at neutrality. The United States tomorrow cabled to Ambassador probably will pre-empt a foreign office may be made public between the two

in diplomatic language friendly in tone, understood to repudiate the United States violation of neutrality and firmly upon the American exporters to the belligerents who chase and to receive

## U.S. SEND SHIPS DOWN

Aug. 10.—(London)—A dispatch issued here today of an air raid on the night aeroplanes in Sankt and Ingbert. The persons were killed in the latter town. The material damage was

Aug. 10.—The British auxiliary has been torpedoed on the coast. A Swedish ship up 80 members of the antinople dispatch says the entente allies was in this afternoon by a mine which threw bombs. All of the crew was

Aug. 10.—The Danish ship has been burned by a mine. The Minister, Harbor and Ardner have been of the crews of all involved with the exception

to Router's Telegram says that the Norwegian Geiringer of Bergen. The members of the ship by a Dutch fish-

## STATES WILL PAY FOR FRYE

Aug. 10.—The American note regard



Aug. 11-1915 The U. S. A. and the A. B. C.'s and the B. U. G.'s

Robert Lansing, U. S. secretary of state. At left (reading upwards) are the A. B. C.'s, R. S. Gentine Republic, Domico Da Gama of Brazil, and Eduardo Saurez-Mujica of Chile; at right (read are the B. U. G.'s, Ignacio Calderon, Bolivia; Carlos Maria De Pena, Uruguay, and Joaquin Menz

# 10,000 ARMENIANS MASSACRED BY KURDS; BODIES ARE THROWN INTO THE TIGRIS AND EUPHRATES

Tiflis, Trans-Caucasia, Aug. 10.—The Armenian bishop here has received information that 60,000 Armenians have arrived at Igdir, the principal outlet of vilayet of Van. It is expected that fully 10,000 will be driven from Van alone and that another exodus of Christians from Persia is feared.

Kurds are reported to have massacred 10,000 Armenians in the vilayet of Bitlis, throwing the bodies of the victims into the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

The war on this front has reached a degree of intensity heretofore unknown except in the period just preceding the Russian victory at Sary-Kamyah.

## GOVERNMENT WINS

PROSECUTING WITNESS SAYS HE WAS MISLED;

## WHAT PACIFIC PROGRAM MEANS THOSE PI

By Gileon C Washington, Aug. Mexican pacification glance. It is perfect. The participants are: Ambassador R. Argentina, Ambassador Gama of Brazil, and Saurez-Mujica of Chile. Ignacio Calderon of Maria de Pena of U. quinn of Guatemala. State Robert Lansing ler, special American Mexico. The participants:



**FARGO Daily  
COURIER  
News  
P. 16  
Nov 14 1915**

The morning prayer and sermon will occur at 11 o'clock and the evening prayer and sermon at 7:30.

Bishop Edsall is one of the well known churchmen of the Northwest and is sure to have something to say that will interest his audience.

An informal reception will be given for the bishop Monday evening from 8 to 10 o'clock in Civic Center by the young men of the Cathedral congregation. All members of the congregation and other friends and acquaintances of the bishop are urged to attend.

## **TODAY IS ARMENIAN SUNDAY IN CHURCHES**

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ have issued an appeal to the churches throughout the nation for a consideration of the terrible conditions in Armenia, where one of the oldest of the Christian nations is being wiped out of existence by their Turkish tyrants. November 14, has been appointed by the Council as the memorial day, and notices to that effect have been sent to the pastors throughout the United States.

At the Christian church, Third avenue and Ninth street north, the morning services will take the nature of an address by a native Armenian, now a well known physician of Fargo, Dr. H. K. Mallarian. Dr. Mallarian was educated in this country and was on his way back to his native land to enter the profession of medical missionary to his own people, but was stopped by the Turkish authorities and was refused admittance to Turkish territory without resuming Turkish citizenship, which he had announced for American citizenship. This the doctor refused to do. He then attempted to have his aged father visit him in Athens, Greece, where he was living pending the Turkish decisions in his case. The father was forbidden to leave Turkish soil, and the doctor never again saw his parents, who have since died.

### **DR. ELMER SPEAKER AT TONIGHT'S VESPER SERVICE**

At the Open Forum service to night at the First Congregational church Dr. Elmer, of Fargo College, is to speak on "The Church and the Community." It goes without saying that the test of the value of any given church is service. Dr. Elmer will discuss some of

First Congregational church—Morning, "The Central Truth of Christianity;" evening, 5 o'clock, open forum service, address by Dr. M. C. Elmer, on "The Community and the Church." First Church of Christ, Scientist—Morning topic, "Mortals and Immortals."

Broadway Methodist Church—Services will be conducted in the Broadway Methodist Episcopal church at the regular hours. Preaching at 10:30 a. m.; Sunday school at 12 m.; Epworth League at 6:30 p. m.; preaching at 7:30 p. m. A cordial invitation extended to all strangers in the city. W. Frank S. Hollett, pastor.

First Church of Christ Scientist—Corner Ninth street and First avenue south. Sunday services, 10:45 a. m.; Sunday school at 12 m.; the Wednesday evening testimony meeting at 7:45. The public is invited to attend these services. The church maintains a free reading room in the Huntington block, rooms 2 and 5, second floor; hours from 12:30 to 5 p. m., daily except Sundays; all authorized Christian Science literature is kept on file, also for sale. You are cordially invited to visit and enjoy its privileges.

First Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church (United)—Roberts street and Fourth avenue north. Morning services in Norwegian at 11 o'clock. Evening services in English at 8 o'clock. Sunday school in Norwegian and English at 9:45 a. m. Rev. E. R. Anderson, pastor. Parsonage 711 4th avenue north. Phone 2087.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church—Corner Fifth street and Sixth avenue north. Sunday services at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m.; Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. C. Davick, pastor. Residence, 827 4th St. N. Telephone.

The Salvation Army—Saturday night, open air and inside service; good music and singing Sunday, 10:30 a. m.; open air 11 a. m.; holiness meeting, 2:30 p. m.; open air and inside service conducted by the band; 3:45 p. m., junior company meeting; 6:20 p. m., junior company meeting; 8:30 p. m., Y. P. L. service conducted by

the young people of the corps; 7:30, open air; inside service at 8 p. m. Music by brass and string bands. Strangers welcome to worship with us. Captain Buyer in charge.

Church of Seventh Day Adventists—Located 1017 Fourth Avenue north. Sabbath school every Sabbath (Satur-

## **Fargo Bigger, A Cleaner and Better City**

Dr. Elmer, the man who knows how to make sociology of practical value, secured by Dr. Beard to speak at the Open Forum Sunday.

FARGO FORUM and DAILY REPUBLICAN

# Almost the Entire Armenian Nation Has Been Wiped Out by Dreadful Massacres

Sept 27, 1915

New York, Sept. 24.—Dr. M. Symbad Gabriel, president of the Armenian general progressive association in the United States received from Nubar Pasha, diplomatic representative in Paris of Katholikos or head of the Armenian church advices in regard to the massacres of Armenians in Turkey, in which it is stated that "Christian martyrdom has at no time assumed such colossal proportions."

The letters containing the advices received from Nubar Pasha, contain an appeal to the United States, "to intercede and stop the persecutions."

Dr. Gabriel, in making public the letters, said that from the information contained in them and from other reports he had received recently, he estimated that 450,000 Armenians had been put to death and 600,000 rendered homeless or exiled, out of a population of 1,500,000.

"What has occurred in a few months in Gallicia and Armenia," wrote Nubar Pasha in transmitting the correspondence "is unbelievable. The great massacres of Abul Hamid seem insignificant compared to the recent atrocities which are without precedent in the history of our nation's martyrology. It is nothing more or less than the annihilation of the whole people. But Armenia is so far away that practically nothing has yet been heard about this frightful tragedy, in Europe and America."

# Pleads With America to Stop the Awful Slaughter of Armenians

London, Sept. 21.—Viscount Bryce, formerly British ambassador to the United States, has sent to the Associated Press a plea that America try to stop the slaughter of Armenians.

"The civilized world," he says in his plea, "especially America, ought to know what horrors have been passing in Asiatic Turkey during the last few months for if anything can stop the destroying hand of the Turkish government it will be an expression of the opinion of neutral nations, chiefly the judgment of humane America."

"Soon after war broke out between Turkey and the allies," continues the viscount, "the Turkish government formed, and since has been carrying out with relentless cruelty a plan for extirpating Christianity by killing off Christians of the Armenian race. Accounts from different sources agree that over the whole of eastern and northern Asia Minor and Armenia the Christian population is being deliberately exterminated, the men of military age being killed and the younger women seized for Turkish harems, compelled to become Mohammedans and kept with children in virtual slavery. The rest of the inhabitants, old women, men and children have been driven under convoy of Turkish

soldiers into unhealthy parts of Asia Minor, some to the deserts between Syria and the Euphrates."

Many die or are murdered en route and all perish sooner or later.

"In Trebizond City, where the Armenians number over 10,000, orders came from Constantinople to seize all Armenians. Troops hunted them, drove them to the shore, took them to sea, threw them overboard and drowned them all, men, women and children. This was seen and described by the Italian consul."

"Some in the country escaped by professing to accept Islam, and a quarter of a million escaped over the Russian frontier, but perhaps a half million were slaughtered or deported, and those deported are fast dying from ill treatment, disease or starvation. The roads and the hillsides are strewn with corpses of innocent peasants."

"We can all try to send aid to the miserable refugees now in Russian territory, but what man can stop the massacres? Not the allied powers at war with Turkey. Only one power can take action for that purpose. It is Germany. Would not the expression of American public opinion, voicing the conscience of neutral nations, lead Germany to check the Turkish government?"

# Turkey Slaughters Armenians Like Sheep Following Bulgaria's Entrance Into War

Washington, Oct. 12.—Armenian massacres in Asiatic Turkey have been renewed with vigor since Bulgaria's entrance into the war as Turkey's ally. This information reached the state department from Ambassador Morgenthau who stated that the majority of the Armenians in Asiatic Turkey have been killed.

Although representations were made by this government some time ago, warning Turkey that further atrocities against Armenians would alienate the sympathies of American people, no answer has been received. Earlier representations met with two concessions promising that those Armenians who wished to leave the country would be permitted to do so unharmed and further that Protestant Armenians would be spared.

Information reaching this country, however, indicates that these conditions have not been ~~strictly~~ adhered to. From one quarter it is asserted, "they were rescinded the next day."



# FARGO FORUM and DAILY REPUBLICAN

Constantinople, August 12.—The extent to which the war has promoted good roads building in Turkey is indicated in a report just issued by the Ottoman Ministry of war stating that 740 miles of roads have been graded, leveled and resurfaced with gravel, and 382 miles of roads have been macadamized by the "work battalions" of the Turkish army since the beginning of the war.

European Turkey has benefitted greatly by these improvements, but the greater mileage of the new roads is in Anatolia, the Asiatic Peninsula. The work has involved not only actual road improvement, but the construction of hundreds of bridges and culverts.

The total mileage of roads built by the Ottoman army during the war is 1122 English miles. The work was done entirely by the older Turkish reserves and by Armenians of military age who were not sent into the field because their loyalty to the Turkish flag was doubted.

From his own experience in traveling over several hundred miles of the new roads, the Associated Press correspondent can say that the work was well done on the whole. Much care was taken in finding the best grades. Wherever necessary the embankments were revetted, and no labor was spared in making cuts where they were necessary to a favorable grade. This is especially true of the roads built between Adrianople and Constantinople and those built in the Taurus and Amanus mountain ranges. While the majority of the engineers and officers supervising the work were Turks, there were a few Armenians and Greeks and a number of Germans and Austrians.

Sept. 9. 1915

# FARGO FORUM and DAILY REPUBLICAN

London, Oct. 7.—Replying to a question by Lord Cromer in the House of Lords the Marquis of Crewe, Lord President of Council, said that information which had reached the government in regard to the massacre of Armenians was based mainly on statements from Tiflis. In one district it was declared, the population had been absolutely exterminated and the most terrible description was given of the condition of the country.

The government, he continued, had no official confirmation of statements that German consular representatives in Asia had encouraged these horrors, but the statements had been made by an observer from the United States and he was bound to say that, knowing what had happened elsewhere, there could not be said to be unprecedented improbabilities that such was the case.

The government had not thought, said the Marquis of Crewe, that any advantage would follow from an attempt to make either direct or indirect representations to the Turkish government on the subject.

Viscount Bryce, former British ambassador to the United States, said that such information as had reached him from many quarters showed that the figure of 300,000 Armenians destroyed since May was quite a possible number. Virtually the whole nation had been wiped out, he declared, and he did not suppose that there was any case in history of a crime so hideous and on so large a scale.

The means for saving the unfortunate remnants of the Armenian people, added Viscount Bryce, was to be found, he believed, in the expression of the opinion of the world, especially of neutral countries which might possibly exert some influence on the German government and induce it to take steps to prevent further massacres.

# Associated Press Letters From the War Zone

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

London, Sept. 18.—Details of the siege of Van and the massacre of Armenians by the Turks are given in the current issue of The Near East, which fixes the responsibility for the crime on Jevded Pasha. It was on Jevded Pasha also that the refugee American missionaries, in the story of their sufferings recounted to The Associated Press correspondent at Petrograd this week, laid the guilt. Jevded is the supreme commander of the Turkish army operating in this province.

Van, the ancient capital of the Armenian Ardzruni dynasty, was occupied by the Russian army in its advance in the Caucasus during the first week of last May. The Russian commander, General Oganessov, who is an Armenian, was assisted by six Armenian volunteer regiments under the Armenian revolutionary, Andranik, who had fought with the Belgians against the Turks in the first Balkan war. But long before Van fell to the Russians, Jevded Pasha started the work of massacring the Armenian population.

The massacre began at Shadokh, a large and isolated village, where not a man was spared except those over 60 years of age. Of the women, the more comely were carried away by Jevded's soldiers and Kurd tribesmen. The massacre was carried out systematically in the entire province of Van beginning with the outlying village. Great care was taken to pre-

vent rumors of this from reaching the capital.

There was living in Van City at that time Prince Ishkhan, an Armenian who had formerly been useful to the government in settling troubles between the Turks and the Armenians. He was asked by Jevded to go to the villages and try to reconcile the contending parties. Jevded addressed the prince in letter as his "dear friend." The prince, unaware of the plot, started out with a number of advisers. The entire party was slaughtered by a party of Jevded's horsemen while taking lunch at a coffee house.

At this time also there was in Van an Armenian member of the Turkish parliament by the name of Vramian, who was invited by Jevded to call on him at headquarters. On arrival at headquarters Vramian was arrested; a large stone was tied to his feet and he was thrown into a lake and drowned.

The Russians were now reported on the advance. Talaat Bey published a warning against the Armenians participating on a penalty of dire punishment. But the story of the massacre in the isolated parts was carried by survivors, and the Armenians prepared to sell themselves as dearly as possible, the peaceful element as well as the revolutionaries. Jevded then called on the Armenian bishop to visit him. The bishop refused. Thereupon Jevded descended upon the "rebellious" city of Van with an army of 8,000 Turks and Kurds and called on the people to lay down their arms, surrender without conditions and trust to the clemency of the sultan. This offer was made through the Italian consul.

Of the 50,000 Armenians in Van only 150 were armed with rifles and the rest with revolvers. For twenty-nine days this handful defended the city. On the 30th day General Oganessov arrived with the Armenian volunteers and Russian regulars and the Turks retreated.

Conditions were at that time frightful as the only doctor in the city to look after the sick and wounded had been Dr. Allen, an American missionary. But with the Russians came help, and doctors and nurses soon arrived from the Caucasus.

Puts "Pop"

in a Man

That excess energy, brightness of mind, and general physical fitness so noticeable in real "doers" is largely the result of carefully selected food.

**ANI****AFFIRMATION****EDUCATION****RESEARCH****QUICK REFERENCE****SEARCH**Genocide  
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*America and the  
Armenian Genocide  
of 1915*

# The Armenian Genocide: Context and Legacy

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## *The Armenian Genocide: Context and Legacy*

Adalian, Rouben Paul.

Social Education: The Official Journal of the National Council for the Social Studies:  
1991, (February).  
(read indepth content below)

*"At a time when global issues dominate the political agenda of most nations, the Armenian genocide underlines the grave risks of overlooking the problems of small peoples. We cannot ignore the cumulative effect of allowing state after state to resort to the brutal resolution of disagreements with their ethnic minorities. That the world chose to forget the Armenian genocide is also evidence of a serious defect in the system of nation-states which needs to be rectified. In this respect, the continued effort to cover up the Armenian genocide may hold the most important lesson of all."*

### **Description:**

This essay provides extensive background reading on the distinctive aspects of the Armenian Genocide. It focuses on three aspects of the Armenian genocide that have broader applicability to any study of genocide: (1) distinction between massacres and genocide; (2) use of technology in facilitating mass murder; and (3) the legacy of genocide.

### **Sample Chapters:**

- Distinguishing between the Massacres and the Genocide
- The Use of Technology for Mass Killings
- Legacy of the Armenian Genocide

### **Rouben Adalian**

(The article below first appeared in *Social Education: The Official Journal of the National Council for the Social Studies*, February 1991.)

Between 1915 and 1918 the Ottoman Empire, ruled by Muslim Turks, carried out a policy to eliminate its Christian Armenian minority. This genocide was preceded by a series of massacres in 1894-1896 and in 1909, and was followed by another series of massacres beginning in 1920. By 1922 Armenians had been eradicated from their historic homeland.

There are at least two ways of looking at the Armenian experience in the final days of the Ottoman Empire. Some scholars regard the series of wholesale killings from the 1890s to the 1920s as evidence of a continuity in the deteriorating status of the

Armenians in the Ottoman Empire. They maintain that, once initiated, the policy of exposing the Armenians to physical harm acquired its own momentum. Victimization escalated because it was not the countermanded by prevailing outside pressure or attenuated by internal improvement and reconciliation. They argue that the process of alienation was embedded in the inequalities of the Ottoman system of government and that the massacres prepared the Ottoman society for genocide.

Other scholars point out that the brutalization of disaffected elements by despotic regimes is a practice seen across the world. The repressive measures these governments use have the limited function of controlling social change and maintaining the system. In this frame of reference, genocide is viewed as a radical policy because it reaches for a profound alteration of the very nature of the state and society. These scholars emphasize the decisive character of the Armenian genocide and differentiate between the periodic exploitation and occasional terrorization of the Armenians and the finality of the deliberate policy to exterminate them and eliminate them from their homeland.

Like all empires, the Ottoman Empire was a multinational state. At one time it stretched from the gates of Vienna in the north to Mecca in the south. From the sixteenth century to its collapse following World War I, the Ottoman Empire included areas of historic Armenia. By the early part of the twentieth century, it was a much shrunken state confined mostly to the Middle East. Yet its rulers still governed over a heterogeneous society and maintained institutions that favored the Muslims, particularly those of Turkish background, and subordinated Christians and Jews as second-class citizens subject to a range of discriminatory laws and regulations imposed both by the state and its official religion, Islam.

The failure of the Ottoman system to prevent the further decline of the empire led to the overthrow of the government in 1908 by a group of reformists known as the Young Turks. Formally organized as the Committee of Union and Progress, the Young Turks decided to Turkify the multiethnic Ottoman society in order to preserve the Ottoman state from further disintegration and to obstruct the national aspirations of the various minorities. Resistance to this measure convinced them that the Christians, and especially the Armenians, could not be assimilated. When World War I broke out in 1914, the Young Turks saw it as an opportunity to rid the country of its Armenian population. They also envisioned the simultaneous conquest of an empire in the east, incorporating Turkish-speaking peoples in Iran, Russia, and Central Asia.

The defeat of the Ottomans in World War I and the discrediting of the Committee of Union and Progress led to the rise of the Turkish Nationalists. Their objective was to found a new and independent Turkish state. The Nationalists distanced themselves from the Ottoman government and rejected virtually all its policies, with the exception of the policy toward the Armenians.

This essay focuses on three aspects of the Armenian genocide that have broader applicability to any study of genocide: (1) distinction between massacres and genocide; (2) use of technology in facilitating mass murder; and (3) the legacy of genocide.

### **(1) Distinguishing between the Massacres and the Genocide**

From 1894 to 1896, Sultan Abdul-Hamid II carried out a series of massacres of the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire. The worst of the massacres occurred in 1895, resulting in the death of thousands of civilians (estimates run from 100,000 to 300,000) and leaving tens of thousands destitute. Most of those killed were men. In many towns, the central marketplace and other Armenian-owned businesses were destroyed, usually by conflagration. The killings were done during the day and were witnessed by the general public (Bliss 1982, 476-481).

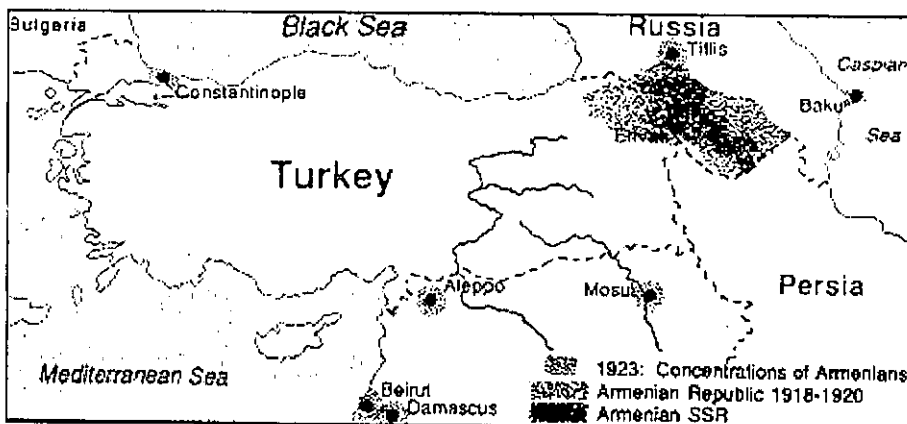
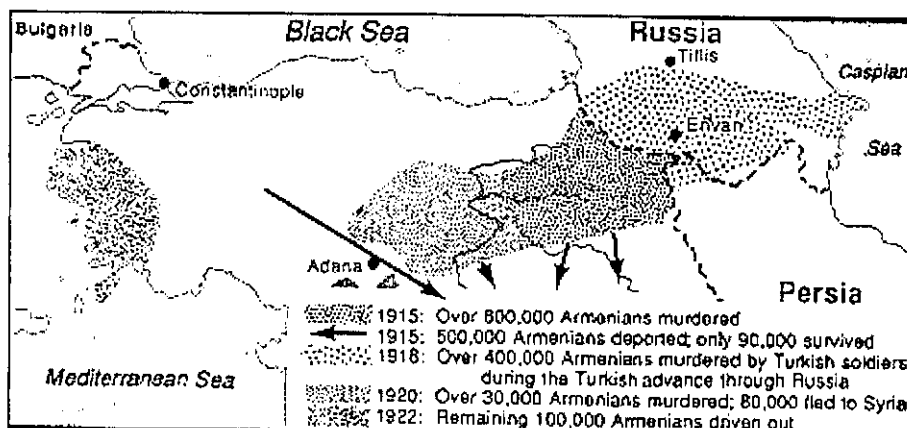
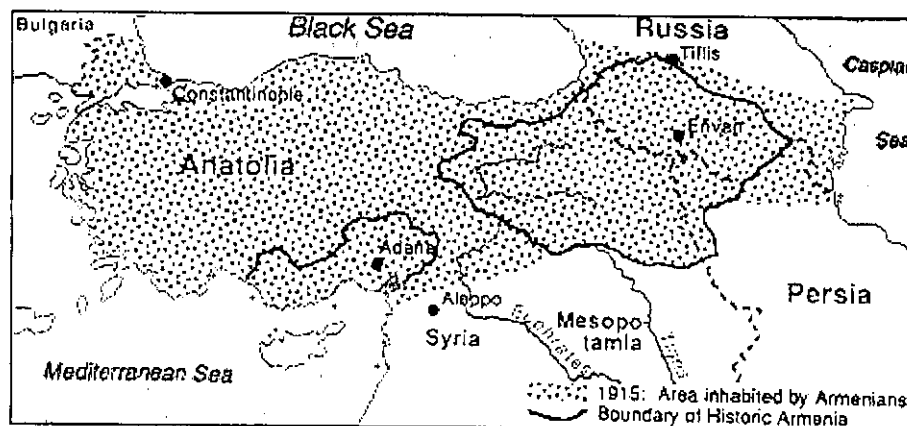
This kind of organized and systematic brutalization of the Armenian population pointed to the coordinating hand of the central authorities. Widespread violence erupted in towns and cities hundreds of miles apart over a matter of weeks in a country devoid of mass media. At a time when the sultan ruled absolutely, the evidence strongly implicated the head of state.

**Intent of Massacres**

The massacres were meant to undermine the growth of Armenian nationalism by frightening the Armenians with the terrible consequences of dissent. The furor of the state was directed at the behavior and the aspirations of the Armenians. The sultan was alarmed by the increasing activity of Armenian political groups and wanted to curb their growth before they gained any more influence by spreading ideas about civil rights and autonomy. Abdul-Hamid took no account, however, of the real variation in Armenian political outlook, which ranged from reformism and constitutionalism to separatism. He hoped to wipe away the Armenians' increasing sense of national awareness. He also continued to exclude the Armenians, as he did most of his other subjects, from having a role in their own government, whether individually or communally. The sultan, however, did not contemplate depriving the Armenians of their existence as a people. Although there are similarities between Abdul-Hamid's policies and the measures taken by the Young Turks against the Armenians, there are also major distinctions.

**The 1915 Measures**

The measures implemented in 1915 affected the entire Armenian population, men, women, and children. They included massacres and deportations. As under the sultan, they targeted the able-bodied men for annihilation. The thousands of Armenian men conscripted into the Ottoman army were eliminated first. The rest of the adult population was then placed under arrest, taken out of town, and killed in remote locations.



The treatment of women was quite different. The bulk of women, children, and older men. Countless Armenian women lost their lives in transit. Before their tragic deaths, many suffered unspeakable cruelties, most often in the form of sexual abuse. Many girls and younger women were seized from their families and taken as slave-brides (Sanasarian 1989, 449-461).

During the time of the sultan, Armenians were often given the choice of converting to Islam in order to save themselves from massacre. However, during the genocide years, this choice was usually not available. Few were given the opportunity to accept Islam as a way of avoiding deportations. Most Armenians were deported. Some lives were spared during deportation by random selection of involuntary conversion through abduction, enslavement, or the adoption of kidnapped and orphaned children.

#### The Cover of War

A second distinguishing feature of the genocide was the killing of the Armenians in places out of sight of the general population. The deportations made resistance or escape difficult. Most important, the removal of Armenians from their native towns was a necessary condition of maintaining as much secrecy about the genocide as possible. The Allies had warned the Ottoman government about taking arbitrary measures against the Christian minorities. The transfer of the Armenian population, therefore, was, in appearance, a more justifiable response in a time of war.

When the Ottomans entered World War I, they confined journalists to Istanbul, and since the main communications system, the telegraph, was under government control, news from the interior was censored (Sachar1969). Nonetheless, the deportations made news as soon as they occurred, but news of the massacres was delayed because they were done in desolate regions away from places of habitation. Basically, this provided cover for the ultimate objective of destroying the Armenian population. Inevitably the massacres followed the deportations.

#### **State of Confiscation of Armenian Goods and Property**

A third feature of the genocide was the state confiscation of Armenian goods and property. Apart from the killing, the massacres of 1895 and 1909 involved the looting and burning of Armenian neighborhoods and businesses. The objective was to strike at the financial strength of the Armenian community which controlled a significant part of the Ottoman commerce. In 1915 the objective of the Young Turks was to plunder and confiscate all Armenian means of sustenance, thereby increasing the probability of extinction.

Unlike the looting associated with the massacres under Sultan Abdul-Hamid II, the assault against the Armenians in 1915 was marked by comparatively little property damage. Thus, the genocide effortlessly transferred the goods and assets — homes, farms, bank accounts, buildings, land, and personal wealth — of the Armenians to the Turks. Since the Young Turk Party controlled the government, the seizure of the property of the Armenians by the state placed local party chiefs in powerful positions as financial brokers. This measure escalated the incentive for government officials to proceed thoroughly with the deportation of the Armenians.

The Young Turks did not rely as much on mob violence as the sultan had. They implemented the genocide as another military operation during wartime. The agencies of government were put to use, and where they did not exist, they were created. The Young Turk Party functionaries issued the instructions. The army and local gendarmerie carried out the deportations. An agency was organized to impound the properties of the Armenians and to redistribute the goods. "Butcher battalions" of convicts released from prisons were organized into killer units. The Young Turks tapped into the full capacity of the state to organize operations against all 2 million Armenian inhabitants of the Ottoman Empire, and did it swiftly and effectively (Bryce1916;Trumpener[1968] 1989, 200-270).

## **(2) The Use of Technology for Mass Killings**

The Armenian genocide occurred at a time when the Ottoman Empire was undergoing a process of modernization. Apart from the new weapons of war, the telegraph and the railroad were being put to expanded use. Introduced in the second half of the nineteenth century, the networks of transport and communication reached the areas of heavy Armenian concentration by the early part of the twentieth century. Whereas the telephone system was largely confined to the capital city of Istanbul, telegraph lines extended throughout the empire. The rail system connected many of the largest towns in the Ottoman Empire, but it was less extensive than the rail networks in the European countries.

#### **The Telegraph**

Coordination of the massacres during the reign of Abdul-Hamid II, and of the deportations under the Young Turks, was made possible by the telegraph. Of all the instruments of the state government, the telegraph dramatically increased the power



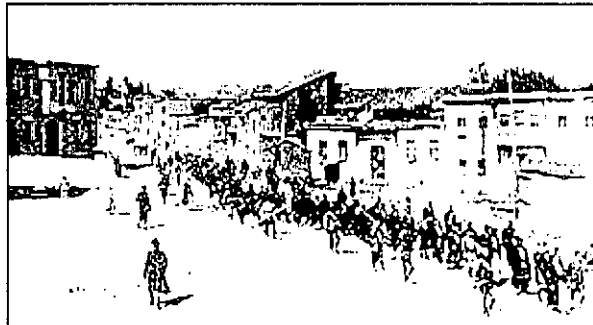
of key decision-makers over the rest of the population. The telegraph system allowed for the kind of centralization that heretofore was impossible.

During the 1895 massacres, the telegraph in the Ottoman Empire was a government service. It was managed by a separate ministry. Therefore, all the communicating during the massacres was done by the Ottoman government (Walker 1980, 156-173). During the genocide of 1915, the telegraph was controlled by the Minister of Interior, Talat, who was in charge of the government agencies that implemented the genocide. Talat began his government career as a telegrapher, and he had a telegraph machine installed in his office so that he could personally send messages across the Ottoman Empire. This gave Talat immediate connection, literally and technologically, with the enforcement of mass death. His ability to use the telegraph gave him unsurpassed access to subordinates and allowed him to circumvent other government officials and agencies in Istanbul. For the most part a telegram from Talat was sufficient authorization to proceed with the decimation of the Armenians (Dadrian 1986, 326-328).

Modern states rely on their bureaucracies in order to handle the paperwork involved in carrying out a policy affecting vast portions of their population. The same applies to the policy of genocide. The more modernized the state, the greater the mountain of paper generated. If not destroyed, a monumental record is left behind. In the case of the Armenians, it might be said that their genocide was carried out not so much bureaucratically as much as telegraphically, thus minimizing the record keeping and leaving behind a great deal of confusion about the degree of individual responsibility.

#### **The Trains**

To expedite the transfer of Armenians living in proximity of the railways, orders were issued instructing regional authorities to transport Armenian deportees by train. Instructions were explicit to the point of ordering the Armenians to be packed to the maximum capacity in the cattle cars which were used for their transport (Sonyel 1978, 8). The determination of the government to complete this task is demonstrated by the deportation of the Armenians in European Turkey who were ferried across the Sea of Marmara to Anatolia and then placed on trains for transport to Syria.



Kharpert, Armenia, Ottoman Empire, 1915. Armenians are being marched out of town to a prison under the guard of armed Turkish soldiers. An anonymous German businessman took the photograph from his window.

The removal of Armenians from Anatolia and historic Armenia was carried out mostly through forced caravan marches or by the use of trains. Although a large portion of the Armenians survived the horrific conditions of the packed cattle cars, they were not able to endure the Syrian desert where they were to die of hunger and thirst. In contrast, the majority of the Armenians in the caravans never reached the killing centers in the Syrian desert; many were murdered by raiding groups of bandits or died from exposure to the scorching days and cold nights. Most of those who were able to endure the "death marches" could not survive the starvation, exhaustion, or the epidemics that spread death in the concentration camps of the Syrian desert.

### **(3) Legacy of the Armenian Genocide**

All too often the discussion of genocide centers on the numbers killed and fails to

consider the wider implications of uprooting entire populations. Genocides are cataclysmic for those who survive because they carry the memory of suffering and the realization of the unmitigated disaster of genocide. Genocides often produce results and create conditions that make it impossible to recover anything tangible from the society that was destroyed, let alone permit the subsequent repair of that society. From this standpoint, it can be argued that the ultimate objective of genocide is a permanent alteration of the course of a people's history.

#### **Losing a Heritage**

In a single year, 1915, the Armenians were robbed of their 3000-year-old heritage. The desecration of churches, the burning of libraries, the ruination of towns and villages — all erased an ancient civilization. With the disappearance of the Armenians from their homeland, most of the symbols of their culture — schools, monasteries, artistic monuments, historical sites — were destroyed by the Ottoman government. The Armenians saved only that which formed part of their collective memory. Their language, their songs, their poetry, and now their tragic destiny remained as part of their culture.

#### **The Scattering of a People**

Beyond the terrible loss of life (1,500,000), and the severing of the connection between the Armenian people and their historic homeland, the Armenian genocide also resulted in the dispersion of the survivors. Disallowed from resettling in their former homes, as well as stateless and penniless, Armenians moved to any country that afforded refuge. Within a matter of a few decades Armenians were dispersed to every continent on the globe. The largest Armenian community is now found in the United States.

Dikranagert, Armenia, Ottoman Empire, before 1915. The Garabed Deriklian family. They were all killed during the Genocide in 1915.



By the expulsion of the Armenians from those areas of the Ottoman Empire that eventually came to constitute the modern state of Turkey, the reconfiguration of Armenia took a paradoxical course. Whereas the genocide resulted in the death of Armenian society in the former Ottoman Empire, the flight of many Armenians across the border into Russian territory resulted in compressing part of the surviving Armenian population into the smaller section of historic Armenia ruled by the Russians. Out of that region was created the present country of Armenia, the smallest of the republics of the USSR.

The contrast on the two sides of that frontier spotlights the chilling record of genocide. Three and half million Armenians live in Soviet Armenia. Not an Armenian can be found on the Turkish side of the border.

#### **The Absence of Justice and Protection in the Postwar Period**

During the genocide, the leaders of the world were preoccupied with World War I. Some Armenians were rescued, some leaders decried what was happening, but the overall response was too little too late.

After the war, ample documentation of the genocide was made available and became

the source of debate during postwar negotiations by the Allied Powers (Harbord 1920; Blair 1989). It was during these negotiations for a peace treaty that the Western leaders had an opportunity to develop humanitarian policies and strategies that could have protected the Armenians from further persecution. Instead of creating conditions for the prevention additional massacres, the Allies retreated to positions that only validated the success of ideological racialism. The failure at this juncture was catastrophic. Its consequences persist to this day.

With the defeat of their most important ally, Germany, the Ottomans signed an armistice, ending their fight with the Allies. The Committee of Union and Progress resigned from the government and in an effort to evade all culpability soon disbanded as a political organization. Although many of the Young Turk leaders, including Talat, had fled the country, the new Ottoman government in Istanbul tried them in absentia for organizing and carrying out the deportations and massacres. A verdict of guilty was handed down for virtually all of them, but the sentencing could not be carried out.

The Istanbul government was weak and was compromised by the fact that the capital was compromised by the fact that the capital was under Allied occupation. Soon it lost the competence to govern the provinces, and finally capitulated in 1922 to the forces of Nationalist Turks who had formed a separate government based in Ankara. As for the sentences of the court against the Young Turk leaders, they were annulled. The criminals went free (Dadrian 1989, 278-317).

The postwar Ottoman government's policies toward the Armenians were largely benign. They desisted from further direct victimization, but rendered no assistance to the surviving Armenians to ease recovery from the consequences of their dislocation. Many Armenians returned to their former homes only to find them stripped of all furnishings, wrecked, or inhabited by new occupants. Their return also created resentment and new tensions between the Armenians, filled with anger at their mistreatment, and the Turks, who, because of their own great losses during the war, believed they had a right to keep the former properties of the Armenians. In the absence of the Ottoman government's intervention to assist the Armenians, this new hostility contributed to increasing popular support for the Nationalist movement.

#### **Rise of the Turkish Nationalists**

The armistice signed between the Allies and the Ottomans did not result in the surrender of Turkish arms. On the contrary, it only encouraged the drive for Turkish independence from Allied interference. Organized in 1919 under the leadership of an army officer, named Mustafa Kemal, the Turkish Nationalist movement rejected the authority of the central government in Istanbul and sought to create an exclusively Turkish nation-state.

As the Kemalist armies brought more and more territory under their control, they also began to drive out the surviving remnants of the Armenian population. The Nationalist Turks did not resort to deportation as much as to measures designed to precipitate flight. In a number of towns with large concentrations of Armenian refugees, massacres again took a toll in the thousands. With the spread of news that the Nationalist forces were resorting to massacre, Armenians selected two courses of action. In a few places some decided to resist, only to be annihilated. Most chose to abandon their homes once again, and this time for good.

The massacres staged by the Nationalist forces so soon after the genocide underscored the extreme vulnerability of the Armenians. Allied troops stationed in the Middle East did not attempt to save lives. Even if the Turkish Nationalist forces could not have been stopped militarily, the failure to intervene signified the abandonment of the Armenians by the rest of the world.

#### **Silence and Denial**

For the Allies, their failure to protect the Armenians had been a major embarrassment, one worth forgetting. For the Turks, their secure resumption of sovereignty over Anatolia precluded any responsibility toward the Armenians in the form of reparations. All the preconditions were created for the cover-up of the

Armenian genocide. The readiness of people on the whole to believe the position of legitimate governments meant that the suggestion that a genocide had occurred in the far reached of Asia Minor would be made the object of historical revisionism and, soon enough, complete denial.

For almost fifty years, the Armenians virtually vanished from the consciousness of the world. Russian Armenia was Sovietized and made inaccessible. Diaspora Armenians were resigned to their fate. The silence of the world and the denials of the Turkish government only added to their ordeals.

The insecurities of life in diaspora further undermined the confidence of Armenians in their ability to hang on to some form of national existence. Constant dispersion, the threat of complete assimilation, and the humiliation of such total defeat and degradation contributed to their insecurities.

The abuse of their memory by denial was probably the most agonizing of their many tribulations. Memory, after all, was the last stronghold of the Armenian identity. The violation of this "sacred memory," as all survivors of the genocidal devastation come to enshrine the experience of traumatic death, has reverberated through Armenian society (Smith 1989; Guroian 1988).

The persecution and later the abandonment of the Armenians left deep psychological scars among the survivors and their families. Sixty years after the genocide, a rage still simmered in the Armenian communities. Unexpectedly it exploded in a wave of terrorism. Clandestine Armenian groups, formed in the mid-1970s, sustained a campaign of political assassinations for a period of about ten years. They were responsible for killing at least two dozen Turkish diplomats.

Citing the Armenian genocide and Turkey's refusal to admit guilt as their justification, the terrorists were momentarily successful in obtaining publicity for their cause. They were unsuccessful in gaining broad-based support among Armenians or in wrenching any sort of admission from Turkey. Rather, the government of Turkey only increased the vehemence of its denial policy and embarked on a long-range plan to print and distribute a stream of publications questioning or disputing the occurrence of a genocide and distorting much of Armenian history (Falk 1988, 1-10).

#### **Seeking International Understanding for the Armenian Cause**

During these years of great turmoil other Armenians sought a more reasonable course for obtaining international understanding of their cause for remembrance. In the United States, commemorative resolutions were introduced in the House of Representatives, and in the Senate as recently as February 1990. These resolutions hoped to obtain formal U.S. acknowledgment of the Armenian genocide. But, the intervening decades had seen a close alliance develop between the United States and Turkey. The State Department opposed passage of these resolutions. The Turkish government imposed sanctions on U.S. businesses and military installations in Turkey. In the final analysis the resolutions failed to muster the votes necessary for adoption.

Terrence Des Pres observed: "When modern states make way for geopolitical power plays, they are not above removing everything — nations, cultures, homelands — in their path. Great powers regularly demolish other peoples' claims to dignity and place, and sometimes, as we know, the outcome is genocide" (Des Pres 1986, 10-11). These words are important in establishing the context in which peoples, Armenians and others, seek congressional resolutions, and perform other commemorative acts. It is part of the continuing struggle to reclaim dignity. The reluctance of governments to recognize past crimes points to the basic lack of motivation in the international community to confront the consequences of genocide.

#### **Conclusion**

It is helpful to distinguish between the attitudes and policies of the Ottoman imperial government, the Young Turks, and the Nationalist movement. The Ottoman government, based on the principle of sectarian inequality, tapped into the forces of

class antagonism and promoted the superiority of the dominant group over a disaffected minority. It made rudimentary use of technology in the implementation of its more lethal policies.

The Young Turks, based on proto-totalitarianism and chauvinism, justified their policies on ideological grounds. They marshaled the organizational and technological resources of the state to inflict death and trauma with sudden impact. When the Young Turks deported the Armenians from Anatolia and Armenia to Syria, the result was more than simply transferring part of the population from one area of the Ottoman Empire to another. The policy of exclusion placed Armenians outside the protection of the law. Yet, strangely, because they were still technically in the Ottoman Empire, there was the possibility of repatriation for the survivors given a change in government.

The Nationalists tapped the popular forces of Turkish society to fill the vacuum of power after World War I. Their policy vis-a-vis the Armenians was formulated on the basis of racial exclusivity. They made the decision that even the remaining Armenians were undesirable. Many unsuspecting Armenians returned home at the conclusion of the war in 1918. They had nowhere else to go. With the expulsion from Nationalist Turkey, an impenetrable political boundary finally descended between the Armenians and their former homes. The possibility of return was canceled.

Genocide contains the portents of the kind of destruction that can erase past and present. For the Armenian population of the former Ottoman Empire, it meant the loss of homeland and heritage, and a dispersion to the four corners of the earth. It also meant bearing the stigma of the statelessness.

At a time when global issues dominate the political agenda of most nations, the Armenian genocide underlines the grave risks of overlooking the problems of small peoples. We cannot ignore the cumulative effect of allowing state after state to resort to the brutal resolution of disagreements with their ethnic minorities. That the world chose to forget the Armenian genocide is also evidence of a serious defect in the system of nation-states which needs to be rectified. In this respect, the continued effort to cover up the Armenian genocide may hold the most important lesson of all. With the passage of time, memory fades. Because of a campaign of denial, distortion, and cover-up, the seeds of doubt are planted, and the meaning of the past is questioned and its lessons for the present are lost.

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## Armenian Genocide, International Recognition of

Home > Educational Resources > **Encyclopedia Entries on the Armenian Genocide**

During and immediately after World War I, the atrocities committed against the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire were public knowledge. In their May 24, 1915 joint declaration, the Allied Powers, namely Great Britain, France, and Russia had accused the Young Turk regime of crimes against humanity and civilization. In 1919 the post-war Ottoman government prosecuted a number of Young Turk conspirators of the crimes of massacre and plunder. By signing the Treaty of Sèvres on August 10, 1920, Turkey obligated itself to the apprehension of those "responsible for the massacres." The international community did not question at the time the veracity of the reports on the extermination of the Armenians.

Developments intervening between the first quarter and the last quarter of the twentieth century, however, altered public perception and created the conditions for the denial of the Armenian Genocide. This regressive transformation in historical memory became the basis of the search by later generations of Armenians, descendants of the survivors, to seek international reaffirmation of the Armenian Genocide as a gesture of public acknowledgment of the terrible sufferings endured and of the crime committed against their forebears.

In 1923 the international community abandoned the Armenians when the European Powers agreed to the Treaty of Lausanne in which Turkey was absolved of further responsibility for the consequences of the policies of the expired Ottoman state. Turkey took license from this posture to embark upon a policy of denial, suppression of public discussion, and prevention of any official mention of the criminal treatment of the Armenians. The mood in Europe of escape from the horrors of WWI, isolationism in the US, and revolutionary utopianism in Russia, further stigmatized the Armenian survivors as witnesses of a catastrophe policy-makers and the public wanted to forget or bury. World War II, however, brought the problem of mass extermination into sharp relief as the revelation of the Holocaust revived the sense of international obligation toward victimized peoples. As this sense of duty to a moral order respectful of human life and of the dignity of the individual became embodied in a number of international covenants forged under the auspices of the United Nations, Armenians began to find renewed hope that their case would receive attention again. The 1948 *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide* attached a label to mass slaughter and a new word entered the post-war political vocabulary: *genocide*. With it came the realization among Armenians that they had been victims of a crime which at the time still lacked a name.

To retrieve the memory of their forgotten genocide, Armenians worldwide in their diaspora domiciles initiated efforts for national and international recognition. These began with the introduction of commemorative resolutions in the United States Congress in 1975 and with efforts to enter the subject on the record at the UN, which occurred with the 1985 adoption of a report on genocide by the UN Commission on Human Rights. In 1987 broader recognition was achieved with the adoption of a resolution by the European Parliament, which stated that "the tragic events of 1915-1917...constitute genocide." In the following years, the legislatures of countries such as Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, France, Greece and Russia adopted resolutions affirming the historical record on the Armenian Genocide. Acknowledgment also came through declarations by heads of states and pronouncements by legislators. Among these have been the statements issued by presidents of the United States and many members of Congress on or about April 24 extending official condolences to the Armenian people on their day of mourning, although, bowing to Turkish government pressure, US presidents to date have avoided the word *genocide*. These efforts have contributed to greater media attention and the education of the broader public about the legacy of genocide in the twentieth century. The continued denial by the Republic of Turkey, however, has created conditions, which in the view of many Armenians, necessitates the continuation of the search for international reaffirmation until such time as

tragedies that ever befell any group. And there weren't any Nuremberg trials. There weren't any high public figures who recognized how much you and your families had to suffer.

Well, I feel very deeply that I, as President, ought to make sure that this is never forgotten, not only the tragedy of your history but also the present contributions that you make and the bright future that you have.

• RONALD REAGAN'S LETTER

*Dated April 15, 1980 addressed to "Asbarez" Daily, an Armenian newspaper in Los Angeles.*

Sixty five years ago one of the greatest tragedies in the annals of recorded history occurred when one and a half million innocent Armenian men, women and children were massacred in the shadow of Mt. Ararat.

Their only "crime" was their century-old dedication to live their lives as free Armenians, professing their Christian beliefs, in a homeland that had previously dazzled Asia Minor with its prominence and power.

To this day, the Armenian diaspora is recovering from the blood-bath of 1915. Armenians in Lebanon, Turkey, and other parts of the Middle East are still suffering from ancestral hatreds and discrimination... And in this country, the Armenian cause is still only dimly understood.

The 1980's must be that period when the voices of Americans of Armenian ancestry are heard in the councils of government. It must be that period when Americans and its allies throughout the Free World resolve that the tragedy of 1915 never again be repeated.

I join with the American Armenian community in solemn remembrance of the martyrs of 1915.

• FRANCOIS MITTERAND

*On January 7, 1984 the French President, Francois Mitterand concerning the Armenian Genocide, said, "It is impossible to erase the trace of the Genocide. It has to be registered in the memory of human beings".*

*"Le Monde" of Paris wrote on January 9, 1984 "It is the first time a French President expresses so clearly about the genocide where the Armenians were sacrificed".*



I am about to show these plotters that the Republic of Turkey cannot be overthrown by murderers or through their murderous designs.

These left-overs from the former Young Turkey Party, who should have been made to account for the lives of millions of our Christian subjects who were ruthlessly driven en-masse, from their homes and massacred, have been restive under the Republican rule. They have hitherto lived on plunder, robbery and become inimical to any idea or suggestion to enlist in useful labor and earn their living by the honest sweat of their brow.

Under the cloak of the opposition party, this element, who forced our country into the Great War against the will of the people, who caused the shedding of rivers of blood of the Turkish youth to satisfy the criminal ambition of Enver Pasha, has, in a cowardly fashion, intrigued against my life, as well as the lives of the members of my cabinet.

• ADOLF HITLER

~~On August 22nd~~, 1939 Adolf Hitler in a speech he gave to his military commanders mainly dealing with his immediate plans for attacking Poland said "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?"

• GERALD FORD

~~From an address~~ delivered on April 29, 1965 in the House of Representative, Washington, by Congressman Gerald R. Ford.

"Mr. Speaker, with mixed emotions we mark the 50th anniversary of the Turkish genocide of the Armenian people. In taking notice of the shocking events in 1915, we observe this anniversary with sorrow in recalling the massacres of Armenians and with pride in saluting those brave patriots who survived the attacks to fight on the side of freedom during World War 1.

"The stouthearted Armenian people who escaped the terror, murder, and carnage set an example for the free world by their devotion to the cause of freedom and by their tremendous personal sacrifices. I join my colleagues in pausing to extend our deep sym-

pathy to thousands of Americans whose Armenian forefathers fought for freedom with our war allies and who have given so much of themselves to make this a better country, and a strong one". Congressional Record, pg. 8890.

- **GISCARD D'ESTAING**

*French President, Giscard D'Estaing said in 1973, "The Armenian case is an example of a historically solid truth and the events of 1915 were undoubtedly a genocide executed upon the Armenian nation".*

- **JIMMY CARTER**

*In a statement issued on October 22, 1976, U.S. President Jimmy Carter said:*

*"The history of Armenia, extending over 3,000 years, is one of survival against overwhelming odds, victory over oppressors, and tragic human suffering".*

*The Armenian people have consistently demonstrated an indomitable spirit and a dedication to the cause of freedom, as exemplified by the creation of a Republic following the 1915-1917 bloodbath".*

*"An estimated one and a half million persons were murdered during the first genocide of 20th century, yet even though the tragedy of history has not been corrected, Armenians, wherever they are, continue to maintain their culture and strong desire for freedom".*

*(President Jimmy Carter's remarks during a reception honoring Armenian Americans at the White House on May 16, 1978).*

*I feel close to you because you were the first Christian people, first Christian nation, and because of that, your deep religious beliefs, I doubt that any other people have ever suffered more. I know that through the early years of the foundation of your people's home, you suffered a great deal. But it's generally not known in the world that in the years preceding 1916, there was a concerted effort made to eliminate all the Armenian people, probably one of the greatest*



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• BARON VON WANGENHEIM

*Baron von Wangenheim, German Ambassador in Constantinople, in a report to the German Chancellor dated July 17, 1915, writes:*

"It is obvious that the banishment of the Armenians is due not solely to military considerations. Talaat Bey, the Minister of the Interior, has quite frankly said to Dr. Mordtmann of the Embassy, that the Turkish Government intended to make use of the World War and deal thoroughly with its internal enemies, the Christians in Turkey, and that it meant not to be disturbed in this by diplomatic intervention from abroad".

• JAMES BRYCE

*Viscount James Bryce was a British politician, diplomat and writer. On the subject of "The Armenian Massacres" on October 6, 1915 he delivered a speech in the House of Lords excerpts of which are given as follows:-*

"I am grieved to say that such information as has reached me from several quarters goes to show that the number of those who have perished in the various ways to which I shall refer is very large. It has been estimated at the figure of 800,000. Though hoping that figure to be far beyond the mark, I cannot venture to pronounce it incredible, for there has been an unparalleled destruction of life all over the country from the frontiers of Persia to the Sea of Marmara, only a very few of the cities on the Aegean Coast having so far escaped. This is so, because the proceedings taken have been so carefully premeditated and systematically carried out with a ruthless efficiency previously unknown among the Turks. The massacres are the result of a policy which, as far as can be ascertained, has been entertained for some considerable time by the gang of unscrupulous adventurers who are now in possession of the Government of the Turkish Empire. They hesitated to put it in practice until they thought the favourable moment had come, and that moment seems to have arrived about the month of April. That was the time when these orders were issued, orders which came down in every case from Constantinople, and which the officials found themselves obliged to carry out on pain of dismissal.

..."In some cases the Governors, being pious and humane men, refused to execute the orders that had reached them, and endeavoured to give what protection they could to the unfortunate

has been revived, high dignitaries of the Church have been hanged, families scattered to the four winds, and thousands upon thousands of defenseless, miserable persons herded together like cattle and driven into the desert lands of the empire, there to starve and die.

## "The Red Cross"

In his article entitled "The Greatest Horror in History," *The Red Cross Magazine*, March 1918, Ambassador Morgenthau asserted:

The final and the worst measure used against the Armenians was the wholesale deportation of the entire population from their homes and their exile to the deserts, with all the accompanying horrors on the way. No means were provided for their transportation or nourishment. The victims, which included educated men and women of standing, had to walk on foot, exposed to the attacks of bands of criminals especially organized for that purpose. Homes were literally uprooted; families were separated; men killed, women and girls violated daily on the way or taken to harems. Children were thrown into the rivers or sold to strangers by their mothers to save them from starvation. The facts contained in the reports received at the Embassy from absolutely trustworthy eyewitnesses surpass the most beastly and diabolical cruelties ever before perpetrated or imagined in the history of the world. The Turkish authorities had stopped all communication between the provinces and the capital in the naive belief that they could consummate this crime of the ages before the outside world could hear of it. But the information filtered through the Consuls, missionaries, foreign travellers, and even Turks. We soon learned that orders had been issued to the governors of the provinces to send into exile the entire Armenian population in their jurisdiction, irrespective of age and sex. The local officers, with a few exceptions, carried out literally those instructions. All the able-bodied men had either been drafted into the Army or been disarmed. The remaining people, old men, women and children, were subjected to the most cruel and outrageous treatment!



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Encyclopedia  
Entries

Chronology

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## Morgenthau, Ambassador Henry, Sr.

Home > Educational Resources > **Encyclopedia Entries on the Armenian Genocide**

Henry Morgenthau (1856-1946) was United States ambassador to the Ottoman Empire during the Armenian Genocide. A naturalized American from a German Jewish family, Morgenthau was a successful lawyer active in Democratic Party politics. With the election of President Woodrow Wilson, he was appointed United States Ambassador to the Sublime Porte in 1913. In Constantinople he established personal contact with the Young Turk leaders of the Ottoman Empire, especially the Minister of the Interior, Talaat, with whom he unsuccessfully intervened to alleviate the plight of the Armenian population when beginning in April, 1915, news of the deportations and massacres began to reach the Embassy. The US consulates in the interior of the Ottoman Empire relayed a stream of alarming reports detailing the extent of the measures taken against the Armenians. Despite the difficulties of communication during the war, Oscar H. Heizer in Trebizond, Leslie A. Davis in Mamuret-el-Aziz, or Harput (Kharput in Armenian), and especially Jesse B. Jackson in Aleppo regularly posted the Embassy with their own eyewitness accounts of the treatment of the Armenians. On June 5, 1915, Jackson shared his views about the persecutions with the Ambassador and concluded that they constituted "a carefully planned scheme to thoroughly extinguish the Armenian race." Morgenthau forwarded all the reports to Washington, D.C. The accumulating evidence also led Morgenthau to cable the Department of State on July 16, 1915, with his own dispatch that "a campaign of race extermination is in progress." Drained by his failure to avert this disaster, Morgenthau returned to the United States in 1916 and for the remainder of the war years he dedicated himself to raising funds for the surviving Armenians. In 1918 he published *Ambassador Morgenthau's Story*, a memoir of his years in Turkey, in which he stressed the German influence and role in the Ottoman Empire. He titled the chapter on the Armenians, "The Murder of a Nation." He described the deportations and the atrocities as a "cold-blooded, calculating state policy." He avowed at the time: "I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this." Morgenthau was the father of Henry Morgenthau Jr., Secretary of the Treasury during the administration of US President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

—Rouben Paul Adalian



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to the dependence of peoples who had hitherto been under Ottoman rule. The Empire was being steadily weakened, not least due to its foreign debt.

From 1878, following the Russian-Turkish war the Armenian question became a factor in the question of the Orient. Article 16 of the Treaty of San Stefano (1878) provided that a series of reforms would be carried out in Armenian areas under Russian guarantee. However, following a reversal of alliances, the Treaty of Berlin (1878) relieved Turkey of part of its obligations and charged Great Britain to supervise the reforms; but they were never implemented.

A revolutionary movement began to develop within the Armenian community (Dashnak and Hunchak parties). Following the Sasun insurrection in 1894, approximately 300,000 Armenians were massacred in the Eastern provinces and in Constantinople on the orders of Sultan Abdul Hamid. Protests by the Powers led to more promises of reforms which, again, were never kept; the guerilla ('fedayis') struggle continued. From the turn of the century onward, Armenian revolutionaries also began to cooperate with the Young Turk party in the definition of a federalist plan for the Empire. Following the hopes generated by the constitutional revolution of 1908 Young Turk ideology, under pressure of the exercise of power and external events as well as from the radical wing of the movement, began to develop toward a form of exclusive nationalism which found expression in Pan-Turkism and Turanism.

The Armenians' situation in the Eastern provinces had not changed either as the result of the revolution or of the overthrow of Abdul Hamid in 1909 (massacres of Adana), and demands for reforms were again made by the Entente Powers. These demands were eventually heard in February 1914, and two inspectors were appointed to supervise their implementation. These appointments were considered by the Ottoman government as unacceptable interference.

At the outbreak of the First World War, the Ottoman Empire was uncertain as to which side to join. At the beginning of November 1914, under German pressure, it sided with the Central Powers. This placed the Armenians in a difficult position. They occupied a territory which Turkey considered as vital to the realization of its Turanist imperialistic ambitions with regard to the peoples of Transcaucasia and Central Asia. Furthermore, the division of the Armenian people between the Ottoman Empire (2,000,000 Armenians) and Russia (1,700,000) inevitably meant that the two sections of the population found themselves on opposing sides. At the Eighth Congress of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation at Erzerum in August 1914, the Dashnak party rejected Young Turk requests to engage in subversive action among the Russian Armenians. From the beginning of the war, the Turkish Armenians behaved in general as loyal subjects, signing up with the Turkish army. The Russian Armenians, on their side, were routinely conscripted into the Russian army and sent to fight on the European fronts. In the first

months of the war, Russian Armenians enrolled with volunteer corps which acted as scouts for the Tsarist army — the Russian answer to the plan Turks had submitted to Armenians in Erzerum some months earlier. The Erzerum refusal and the formation of these volunteer battalions were used as arguments by the Young Turks to allege Armenian treachery. Enver, who had been appointed Supreme Commander of Turkish forces, achieved a breakthrough into Transcaucasia in the middle of winter, but was defeated at Sarikamish as much by the weather conditions as by the Russian army. Of the Turkish Third Army's 90,000 men, only 15,000 remained. In the depressed aftermath of the defeat in the Caucasus, the anti-Armenian measures began.

## II. The Genocide

Beginning in January 1915, Armenian soldiers and gendarmes were disarmed, regrouped in work brigades of 500 to 1,000 men, put to work on road maintenance or as porters, then taken by stages to remote areas and executed. It was not until April that the implementation of a plan began, with successive phases carried out in a disciplined sequence. The signal was first given for deportation to begin in Zeytun in early April, in an area of no immediate strategic importance. It was not until later that deportation measures were extended to the border provinces.

The pretext used to make the deportation a general measure was supplied by the resistance of the Armenians of Van. The vali of Van, Jevdet, sacked outlying Armenian villages and the Van Armenians organized the self-defence of the city. They were saved by a Russian breakthrough spearheaded by the Armenian volunteers from the Caucasus. After taking Van on May 18th, the Russians continued to press forward but were halted in late June by a Turkish counter-offensive. The Armenians of the vilayet of Van were thus able to retreat and escape extermination.

When the news of the Van revolt reached Constantinople, the Union and Progress (Ittihad) Committee seized the opportunity. Some 650 personalities, writers, poets, lawyers, doctors, priests, and politicians were imprisoned on April 24th and 25th, 1915, then deported and murdered in the succeeding months. Thus was carried out what was practically the thorough and deliberate elimination of almost the entire Armenian intelligentsia of the time.

From April 24 onwards, and following a precise timetable, the government issued orders to deport the Armenians from the eastern vilayets. Since Van was occupied by the Russian army, the measures applied only to the six vilayets of Trebizond (Trabzon), Erzerum, Bitlis, Diarbekir, Kharput, and Sivas. The execution of the plan was entrusted to a 'special organization' (SO), made up of common criminals and convicts trained and equipped by the Union and Progress Committee. This semi-official organization, led by Behaeddin Shakir, was under the

Russian army, one had to be afraid of the internal enemy as much as of the enemy abroad.<sup>146</sup> The doctor, who came to possess some documents on the activities of the Armenians in the region, was trying to persuade his friends in Istanbul that it was necessary to eliminate this danger.<sup>147</sup>

There is a high probability that the actual decision for Genocide was taken during this set of meetings in Istanbul at the end of March. The leaders of the CUP reviewed the situation in the light of the new information they had received. As a result of these discussions 'it was decided that Bahaettin Şakir Bey should stay away from the responsibilities of the Special Organization's activities concerning the enemies abroad and should deal only with the internal enemies.'<sup>148</sup> Arif Cemil stated: 'finally the deliberations resulted in the passage of the law on deportation.' He continued: 'By the time Dr Bahaettin Şakir returned to the Caucasian front his assignment was completely clear.'<sup>149</sup>

All these documents indicate that in March a clandestine decision was made against the Armenians. Bahaettin Şakir was tasked with the implementation of the decision. Ottoman-Turkish sources verify also that two decisions were taken during these deliberations, one on liquidation and one on deportation.

### The Decision Was Made After Long Deliberations

There is ample evidence that the decision for a Genocide of the Armenians was made by the Central Committee of the CUP following intense discussions and deliberations. In the indictment of the Main Trial, the following information is provided: 'The massacre and liquidation of Armenians were the result of decisions by the Central Committee of the CUP.' These decisions were made as a result 'of broad and deep discussions.' In the indictment Dr Nazım is quoted as having said the following on the Armenian problem: 'The Central Committee had intense deliberations to make a decision,' and 'this undertaking would solve the Eastern Question.'<sup>150</sup>

In the memoirs of Celal, the Governor of Halep (Aleppo), it is reported that the same words were transmitted to him by a deputy from Konya with 'regards from a person of the Central Committee.' The deputy who transmitted these words to Celal added that 'in case he disagreed with their stance on this subject, they would do away with him.'<sup>151</sup> The private secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ihsan Bey, testified that when he was the *Kaimakam* of Kilis, Abdu'lahad Nuri Bey, who was sent from Dersaadet (Istanbul) to Halep, admitted to him that the aim of the deportations was liquidation. Nuri said: 'I was in touch with Talât Bey and received the orders for liquidation directly from him. Salvation of the

country depends on it.' With these words Nuri tried to persuade Ihsan Bey.<sup>152</sup>

In December 1918, in written testimony to the special Commission Investigating Sordid Affairs (established in 1918 in the Department of the Interior for investigating genocide) Vehip Paşa, the commander of the Third Army since February 1916, stated, 'The massacre and annihilation of the Armenians and the looting and plunder of their properties were the result of a decision of the Central Committee.' According to the Paşa, the atrocities

were carried out under a program that was [specifically] determined upon and represented a definite case of premeditation... They [the atrocities] were made possible primarily through the involvement of Ittihat's representatives and provincial central bodies [of the Party], and secondarily through higher governmental officials who, abandoning their conscience and discarding the law, allowed themselves to be co-opted by the Party and issued the necessary order.<sup>153</sup>

The Paşa added that state officials did not take any preventive measures, even though they saw and heard of these crimes. Furthermore, they incited further killings, which was one of the most important proofs that this operation was planned.<sup>154</sup>

In the reports of foreign consulates and embassies, particularly those of German officers, one can find statements indicating that the order for the deportation of Armenians by the CUP leaders was a well-thought-out plan to liquidate them.<sup>155</sup> Clearly, the most definite statement on this subject was made by Talât Paşa to the Istanbul consul Mordtmann. Mordtmann quoted Talât in a report to Berlin: 'The subject of the matter is...the liquidation of the Armenians.'<sup>156</sup>

It is further possible to conclude that the decision for deportation directly aimed at liquidation when one looks at the dismissals and even killings of officials who thought that the 'deportation' should merely involve resettlement. In addition, telegrams, which clearly point to this fact, were read during various hearings in the Istanbul trials, but mostly during the Yozgat trial, where, during the ninth session (February 22, 1919) 12 telegrams were read which made clear that the deportations meant liquidation and massacre.

For instance, in a telegram sent by Mustafa, commander of the Bogazliyan gendarmes detachment, to the Deputy Commander of Ankara's Fifth Army Corps, Halil Recyai, on July 22 (August 5) 1915, it is reported that a group 'of harmful Armenians gathered from the towns and countryside were sent on to their destination.'<sup>157</sup> In his reply on the same day, Halil Recyai asked for the exact meaning of the word 'destination.'<sup>158</sup> In response, the commander of the gendarmerie stated that 'the aforementioned Armenians were massacred because they are malicious.'<sup>159</sup> In the same trial,



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination  
and Protection of Minorities  
Thirty-eighth session  
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

E/C. 4/Sub. 2/1985/6  
2 July 1985

REVIEW OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELDS WITH  
WHICH THE SUB-COMMISSION HAS BEEN CONCERNED

*Revised and updated report on the question of the prevention  
and punishment of the crime of genocide prepared  
by Mr. B. Whitaker*

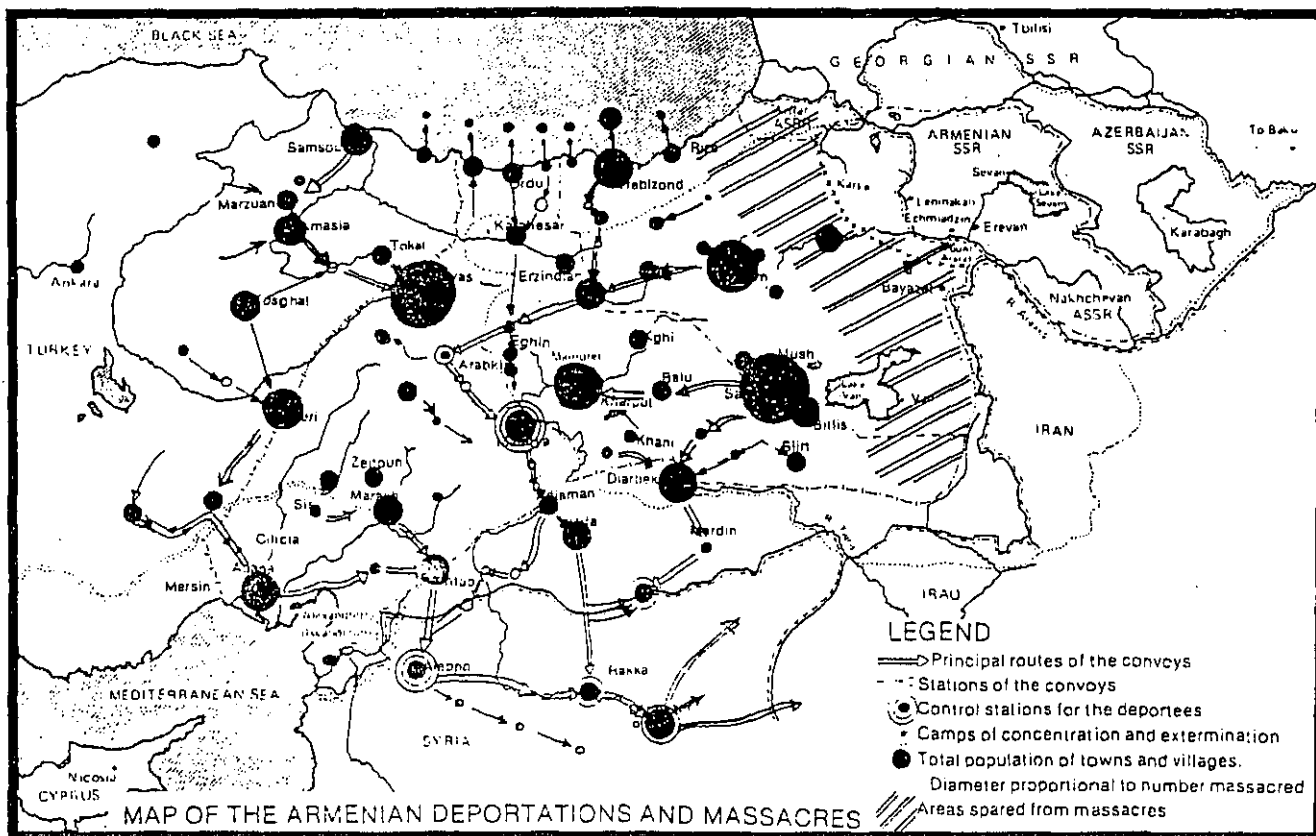
Paragraph 24 and Footnote 13

The full text of the Paragraph as it appears  
in Whitaker's Report

*Paragraph 24:* Toynbee stated that the distinguishable characteristics of the twentieth century in evolving the developments of genocide "are that it is committed in cold blood by the deliberate fiat of holders of despotic power, and that the perpetrators of genocide employ all the resources of present-day technology and organization to make their planned massacres systematic and complete." The Nazi aberration has unfortunately not been the only case of genocide in the twentieth century. Among other examples which can be cited as qualifying are the German massacres of Hereros in 1904, the Ottoman massacre of Armenians in 1915-1916, the Ukrainian pogrom of Jews in 1919, the Tutsi massacre of Hutu in Burundi in 1965 and 1972, the Paraguayan massacre of Ache Indians prior to 1974, the Khmer Rouge massacre in Kampuchea between 1975 and 1978, and the con-

temporary Iranian killings of Baha'is. *Apartheid* is considered separately in paragraphs 43-46 below. A number of other cases may be suggested. It could seem pedantic to argue that some of the most terrible mass-killings are legalistically not genocide, but on the other hand it could be counter-productive to devalue genocide through over-diluting its definition.

*Footnote 13:* At least 1 million, and possibly well over 2 million of the Armenian population, are reliably estimated to have been killed or death-marched by independent authorities and eyewitnesses. This is corroborated by reports in United States, German and British archives and of contemporary diplomats in the Ottoman Empire, including those of its ally Germany. The German Ambassador Wangenheim, for example, on 7 July 1915 wrote: "The government is indeed pursuing its goal of exterminating the Armenian race in the Ottoman Empire" (Wilhelmstrasse archives). Though the successor Turkish Government helped to institute trials of a few of those responsible for the massacres at which they were found guilty, the present official Turkish contention is that genocide did not take place although there were many casualties and dispersals in the fighting, and that the evidence to the contrary is forged. See, inter alia, Visconti Bryce and A. Toynbee, "The Treatment of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire, 1915-1916" (London, HMSO, 1916); G. C. Hand and Y. Ternon, "Genocide des Armeniens" (Brussels, Complexe, 1980); H. Morgenthau, "Ambassador Morgenthau's Story" (New York, Doubleday, 1918); J. Lepsius, "Deutschland und Armenien" (Potsdam, 1921; shortly to be published in French by Fayard, Paris); R.G. Hovanissian, "Armenia on the Road to Independence" (Berkeley, University of California Press, 1967); Permanent People's Tribunal, "A Crime of Silence" (London, Zed Press, 1985); K. Gurun, "Le Dossier Armenien" (Istanbul, Turkish Historical Society, 1983); B. Simsir and others, "Armenians in the Ottoman Empire" (Istanbul, Bogazici University Press, 1984); T. Ataov, "A Brief Glance at the Armenian Question" (Ankara, University Press, 1984); V. Goekjian, "The Turks before the Court of History" (New Jersey, Rosekeer Press, 1984); Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, "Armenia, the Continuing Tragedy" (Geneva, World Council of Churches, 1984); Foreign Policy Institute, "The Armenian Issue" (Ankara, F.P.I., 1982).



## Genocide Affirmations: ONE STATE AT A TIME

Through legislation at both federal and state levels, the Assembly continues to work towards its most basic goal – re-affirmation of the Armenian Genocide. To that end, the upcoming 90th anniversary necessitates that we step up efforts to affirm the historical record. In the coming months, the Assembly will continue to press Administration officials to properly characterize the events of 1915 as genocide. We will also work hand-in-hand with our State Chairs and mobilize our network of activists to obtain Genocide proclamations and resolutions from all 50 states. That is something, as evidenced by the map, which has never been done. As we approach this milestone anniversary, the Assembly urges all of you to join with us and help secure re-affirmation coast to coast.



For a complete list of proclamations and resolutions, log onto [www.armenian-genocide.org/affirmation.html](http://www.armenian-genocide.org/affirmation.html)

☐ Proclamations/Resolutions in 2004  
 ☐ Proclamations/Resolutions in Previous Years  
 ☒ Never Issued Proclamations/Resolutions

when a family member recommended that he intern with the Assembly. The 26-year-old took the advice and left the West Coast for DC, landing an internship with Congressman George Radanovich (R-CA) based on his interests and educational background. While there, he had a hand in garnering support for the ultimate passage of the Armenian Genocide amendment to the House Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, which withheld aid to Turkey until it acknowledged the atrocities committed against the Armenians.

"Interning for the Congressman and working closely with his staff helped me

understand the inner-workings of Congress," Moushigian said. "Also, being surrounded by other Armenians led to a deeper appreciation and interest in Armenia and things Armenian."

In fact, Moushigian says his Assembly internship led to his first visit to Armenia in 1997. The month-long trip went so well that the California native made Armenia his home in September 1998. "The main reason I moved was based on my desire to live in a free and independent Armenia; something my grandparents were never able to do," he said.

Moushigian has held several jobs since

1998, including teaching, tutoring English and contracting for USAID. He returned to the U.S. for a short stint in 2000, but ultimately decided he belonged in Yerevan. Since returning to his adopted home, Moushigian has been focusing on his real estate business, known as Yerevan Apartments, which helps Diasporans purchase and remodel homes. He says one of the major benefits of his work is to, "be able to provide people here with a salary."

And adds: "The fact that I can bring Armenians back home to Armenia is also very rewarding." □

D

My name is Artoosh Mardirosian. I am a retired physician from Jamestown, North Dakota, where I have resided and been in practice since 1976.

I am of Armenian ancestry. I was born in Iran seventy years ago and lived there for the first twenty years of my life.

Some 600 years ago, my ancestors and those of the majority of the Armenians in Iran were forcefully brought to Persia (Iran of today) by Shah Abbas, who invaded and plundered Eastern Armenia, deporting the Armenian people of that region and resettling them in and around Isfahan, the capital of Persia at that time.

(2)

Armenians are a branch of the Aryan people, who settled in the southern Caucasus and Asia minor, around 2500 years ago.

They were the first nation to convert to Christianity, in the year 301 AD.

With the development of an alphabet, the Armenians acquired a national identity, that they were able to preserve in spite of many invasions, that brought them death and destruction.

The country where Armenians lived, was at the cross-roads of invading armies from East, West and South. Thus periods of independence were interrupted by periods of occupation and instability.

③

The last Armenian Kingdom collapsed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century with the invasion of Turkish tribes, overrunning the major part of the country by the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Eastern part of Armenia fell under the control of Persia at the beginning, however it was annexed by Tsarist Russia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The Ottoman Empire expansion was followed by a decline in the 19<sup>th</sup> century for a variety of reasons. The condition of the Armenian people became intolerable. Promises made by Sultan Abdul Hamid to make reforms were never carried out.

In 1908 the Young Turks, belonging to a revolutionary party overthrew Sultan Abdul Hamid. By 1914, Turkey had lost much of its European conquests, following the

(4)

Balkan wars of independence, which brought about old nationalistic fervour to look for expansion eastwards, and uniting all the Turkish speaking people to form a Turkic Empire.

The Christian Armenians, living in Eastern Turkey were seen as an obstacle.

The governing nationalist party started the planning for the extermination of the Armenians in August 1914 at a special meeting of the central committee of their party. The First World War was seen by the Young Turks as an opportunity and an excuse to act against the Armenians.

April 24, 1915 is the date that the Armenians around the world commemorate

⑤.

as the date that the Armenian Genocide began. 850 members of the Armenian intelligencia, clergy, teachers, professionals and parliament members were arrested on trumped up charges, imprisoned loaded onto trains, shipped to the interior of the country and eventually killed.

Armenian soldiers, who had fought bravely in the Turkish army, in the war against the Russians, were disarmed, sent to labour battalions, deprived of food, worked to death or killed outright.

On the order of the Ministry of Interior the so called relocation of the Armenians in the Eastern Provinces of Turkey was started. The deportation began with a short-term notice, often only hours, for the



⑥.

Armenians to leave all their belongings, to take only some necessities for the march to the nearest town. In the meantime the men, under the pretext that they had not handed over their guns were imprisoned, hanged or shot. Tens of thousands of women, children and elderly from the six Eastern Provinces were herded together and sent towards collection camps, from where they were driven in long death marches towards and beyond the Syrian deserts. On their way they were plundered of the little belongings they still carried, beaten, Tortured, women were raped, elderly left to die on the side of the roads, children were drowned in the rivers. The young women were abducted

⑦ .

to be used as slaves or added to the harem of the chieftains.

From a population of about two million Armenians in Turkey, 1.5 million were exterminated.

The international community was well aware of these events. Warnings were issued by the Allied Governments to the Turkish Government about their violation of Human rights and the massacres. At the end of the First World War, the Turkish Government was replaced and 400 individuals were indicted, including the three principal culprits, who were in control of the Government of Turkey between 1915 to 1917. These were Talat Pasha the Minister of Interior and later the Prime Minister, Enver Pasha the Minister of War, and Ahmed Jemal the Minister

⑧

of Marine and Military Governor of Syria. They were judged and found guilty in Turkish courts, but were allowed later, to escape punishment.

The Armenian Genocide and the atrocities done to the Armenian population of Turkey are well documented by missionaries, travelers, German officers, Consulate officials who sent reports to their respective Embassies. The most outstanding among them was the United States Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, who wrote about his experience in his book "The Murder of a Nation", in which he stated "I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this."

Even in North Dakota these atrocities

(9)

and the deportations were reported by the News media. In your folder you will find copies of 25 articles, out of 69 reports published, between August and December 1915 in:

The Fargo Forum and Republican,  
The Fargo Daily courier News,  
The Bismarck Daily Tribune,  
The Minot Daily Optic Reporter,  
The Grand Forks Daily Herald,  
The Valley City courier,  
The Jamestown Daily alert.

The Armenian Genocide, has left a debilitating wound on the psyche of the Armenian people. For it to heal we need an admission by the Turkish Government rather than a denial of such an act.

(10)

It is therefore of great importance that the western Governments exert pressure on the Turkish Government to admit to this horrendous crimes against the Armenians.

The United States Federal Government has for political reasons stopped the passage of the Armenian Genocide resolution in the Congress. We need to rectify. Former Presidents such as Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan had publicly acknowledged the Armenian Genocide, supporting letters and statements are enclosed!

38 states have acknowledged and passed the Genocide Resolution. We are sincerely hoping that the North Dakota House of Representatives and Senate will do the same.

For this we thank you!

*Attach #1*

March 1, 2007

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

I thank you for the privilege of providing testimony in favor of the passage of HCR 3003, proclaiming April 24 as a day of remembrance of the Armenian genocide. My name is Jacob Kerbeshian. For the past thirty years, my family and I have resided in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where I have been a practicing physician. I am a third generation American of Armenian descent. Both my mother's parents and my father's parents immigrated to the United States from Turkish Armenia about 100 years ago.

Who are the Armenians?

The Armenians are an ancient people who are descendants of a branch of the Indo-Europeans, settling in Asia Minor in the 5th to 6<sup>th</sup> centuries BC. The homeland of the Armenians was a mountainous region where the fabled Mount Ararat is situated. According to Old Testament biblical tradition, Mt. Ararat was the resting place for Noah's Ark after the great flood. The ancient Kingdom of Armenia survived as a buffer state between the warring factions of the Persian and Roman empires. In 301 AD, a defining event for the Armenian identity occurred when Christianity was proclaimed as the national religion, making Armenia the first Christian state. Between the years 1000 AD and 1300 AD, the Ottoman Turks conquered Anatolia, which comprises modern Turkey, and subjugated the indigenous Armenians, as well as other ethnic groups. Initially, the Ottoman Turks were somewhat tolerant of the diverse ethnic and religious minorities among their subjects, although these minorities were treated as second class citizens. During the declining years of the Ottoman Empire, towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, what became known as the "Armenian Question," was part of a movement for equality among all the nationalities of the Empire. Sultan Abdul Hamid II, the head of the Turkish Caliphate, sought to answer the Armenian Question with the cruel and sadistic mass slaughter of 200,000 Armenians between 1894 and 1896. These massacres took hold of the American public consciousness for the next decades, but are barely remembered today. These massacres, however, paled in comparison to the systematic, state sponsored, and state organized campaign to exterminate the Armenian people within the Ottoman Empire starting during World War I, from 1915 through 1923. Upwards of 1.5 million Armenians, representing about two thirds of the total population of Armenians in Turkey, were killed, either by being brutally slaughtered, or dying along the path of deportation death marches. These were not only the young men, but also women, children, and the elderly. The numbers speak for themselves. In addition to eye witness accounts, there is more than adequate historical documentation that these atrocities were sponsored and orchestrated by the Turkish authorities in power in World War I. As the United States had not declared war on Turkey, during World War I, there was ample opportunity for American diplomats and American Protestant missionaries to observe and report in the historical record and in the public press on the Armenian genocide. The Honorable Henry Morgenthau, United States Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire from 1913 to 1916, explicitly described to the United States Department of State the policy of the government of the Ottoman Empire as "a campaign of race extermination." Following the end of World War I, the international outrage towards

Turkey regarding the Armenian genocide gradually diminished as other geopolitical concerns came to the forefront. To this day, the government of Turkey asserts a denial of the Armenian genocide.

"Genocide is the crime of destroying national, racial or religious groups... by the state or by powerful groups which have the backing of the state." The term genocide was coined by Raphael Lemkin in 1944, invoking the Armenian case as a definitive example of genocide in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Lemkin was the earliest proponent of the United Nations Convention of the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide. April 24, 1915, is generally regarded as the opening salvo in the Armenian genocide, and is hence a day of commemoration.

For what purpose should the state of North Dakota formally acknowledge and commemorate the Armenian genocide? The Armenian genocide was the first, and is the template for all the state sponsored, organized, and implemented campaigns of mass murder in the modern age. It likely served as a template for the Holocaust. Adolph Hitler is reputed to have commented in regard to his race extermination policy for the "Jewish Question," "Who today, after all, speaks of the annihilation of the Armenians?" The Armenian genocide also serves as a template for state condoned denial of brutal historical fact, by a government whose antecedents were perpetrators of genocide. The Armenian genocide serves as a template for the expedient ignoring of man's inhumanity to man by an otherwise principled international community. The Armenian genocide serves as a template for the forgetting of a savage lesson of history, due just to the passage of time.

What is the North Dakota connection? It has been estimated that 50,000 Armenians immigrated to the United States between 1900 and 1914, the years between the earlier massacres and the Genocide. In those years, it has been estimated that a thousand Armenian immigrants lived for a least a time in the state working for the railroad. In 1920, seventy-five Armenian immigrants were listed in the census as living in the state, mostly in the Jamestown area, and again associated with the railroad. There is still an enclave of Armenian descendents living in the Jamestown area. In the 1990s another group of Armenian immigrants arrived in the state, mostly from the former Soviet Union. In 2004, the mayor of Jamestown, North Dakota, issued a proclamation commemorating the 89<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian genocide. During this 2007 legislative session, the North Dakota House of Representatives passed HCR 3003 recognizing April 24 as a day of remembrance of the Armenian genocide.

The passage of HCR 3003 by our North Dakota Senate can help ensure that the Armenian genocide is not forgotten or denied. In doing so, the state of North Dakota will join the 21 countries including Canada which have formally recognized the Armenian genocide. In doing so, the state of North Dakota will join the ranks of Vatican City, international bodies, and 38 other states of the United States which have formally recognized the Armenian genocide. Our revered, Theodore Roosevelt felt passionately about the Armenian genocide, and the lack of action on the part of our federal government in the aftermath of World War I. He wrote, "The news of the terrible fate that has befallen the

Armenians must give a fresh shock of sympathy and indignation. Let me emphatically point out that the sympathy is useless unless it is accompanied with indignation, and that the indignation is useless if it exhausts itself in words instead of taking shape in deeds." I believe that Theodore Roosevelt would have felt passionate about the passage of HCR3003 regarding the commemoration of the Armenian genocide.

Thank you.



*Official  
Bureau  
many other*

*attach #2*

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to appear before you in connection with the Resolution 3003 regarding the 1915 Armenian Genocide as presented by this Legislature.

*My name is Tiana A. Binnaro - mother of 5 is date 29*

The people of North Dakota stand for good moral values that many early immigrant families brought with them when they settled herein the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. They came to escape persecution and hardships suffered in their home countries.

Armenians had been living under Turkish rule for centuries. My mother was about 12 years old at the beginning of the 1915 genocide, living in Central Turkey, near the Euphrates River. Along w/her father and brother, she was forced to leave her home. Her brother and father were killed when found hiding in a haystack and she became an orphan. This left her w/the people of her village, on the march to the Syrian desert. Somehow, she survived the desert caravans and massacres. After several years, she was able to escape to Syria. There, the ports were closed for over 3 years, and when they opened, she sailed as far as Havana, Cuba. Then the U.S. closed its ports of Immigration and so she lived in Havana for several more years. She provided for herself by working for a Syrian family.

My father emigrated to the US from his home near Mt. Ararat in Turkey, in 1911. He found work on the railroads in Kansas and on up to North Dakota. In 1925, he went to Cuba to meet my mother and they married, and returned to Jamestown. Here, they raised and educated 8 of their 9 children among other Armenian families in the Jamestown - Eldridge - Tappen - Bismarck communities. We grew up w/out knowing our grandparents and family relatives.

Being the eldest child, I recall my parents and Armenian neighbors talking about the years of the genocide. I didn't understand all of it until meeting others later in life who had experienced the marches and starvation and the loss of their family members. But through the decades, I have learned, little by little, of the genocide of the Armenians during WW 1, ~~(and the atrocities they suffered)~~ Also, I have found some of my father's relatives who escaped to Armenia SSR, which is now Republic of Armenia. And, interesting of all, thru our travels to Armenia, I have met other Armenians in this country who are also first generation relatives of those who survived. Before many more of us fade away, we wish to have this Resolution passed in all 50 States.

And so, those of us who call North Dakota home, would like to go on record as joining the other 38 states or so, who have already passed this Resolution.

Therefore, I am here to request your support of Resolution <sup>HCR</sup> 3003, as it has been presented at this session of 2007 Legislature.

Thank you for your time.

I will be reading an account of the Kourajian family, written by Mary Werner, of Jamestown, written for her family of 3 generations, in order to remember their heritage.

MARY KOURAJIAN WERNER WRITES: Vahan and Sarah Kourajian, our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, have left us with a rich heritage. Both are of Armenian descent and fled their homeland to avoid further persecution from the Turks. They settled in their home in Jamestown, N D., as a young couple in 1926, and lived in the same house for 60 years.

Theirs is a story of faith, courage and survival. Disaster is no stranger to Armenians and nor is faith. The Christian faith became the lasting glue that held together the Armenian people through the thick and thin of invasions, exiles, persecutions and massacres for 16 centuries. Both parents endured the hardships and were forced to leave their homeland. They suffered along w/ thousands of Armenians during the forced death marches through the desert where many of them died and their bodies left behind.

①

As a young girl, Zarouhi (Sarah) left Tarsus and went w/ her family to Beirut, Lebanon. Along the way, Sarah remembers eating grass from the ground for nourishment during the march. She also recalls her sister dying in her arms on the march. Later, through a cousin, in the old country, Vahan and Sarah met in Marseilles, France, and married, and set sail for America and freedom. They entered the US through Ellis Island, then traveled by train to Jamestown, North Dakota. The first years, they shared their home with Melkon and Katherine Abrahamian, another Armenian refugee family, who later moved 1 block away. Two other families settled near by, the Tarpinians and Melikians, within 2 blocks.

②

Mary Werner says "Ours is a rich heritage. Because our parents had the courage to find their way of out of their own homeland, we were privileged to be born in this great country. Vahan and Sarah have left us all much to be thankful for- instilling in us a love of home and family, a love for our country and a love for the same God that cared for them. They gave us the motivation to make good use of our education and all the opportunities that America offered."

Thank you for this opportunity to tell you of my parents coming to this country and settling in North Dakota.

I request your support for Resolution HER 3003.

*Altho I'm not here in Bismarck today, I wish to convey to this Committee my heartfelt support for the passage of Resolution 3003.*

*Thank you for your time.*

③ *She was separated from her family - and 50 years passed before she was re-united w/ her brother when he came to (CA).*



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Attach #2 pg. 3

①  
John K. was born in Orel, Y. in 1896.  
At military age, he was forced to fight  
in the Turkish army. He escaped  
several times, but was caught and  
beaten. Finally, he did escape and  
found his way to America. He found  
work on the railroads - in Lugo, Texas,  
Nebr. and St. Louis, & finally N. Dak.  
w/ the No. Pacific RR - as did many  
young Armenian immigrants. →

My name is Gayane Hakobyan. I moved with my husband and two children to the USA on April 23d, 2000. We had the green card lottery and we had sponsor from ND Jamestown, my father's first cousin and her husband. We are American citizens now and I am proud of that. I will do my best to be proud American citizen.

Armenia was a big country, and the river (Araks) is between Western and Eastern Armenia. The difference is Western Armenians live together with Turkish people, but Eastern Armenians did not have many Turkish people, most of them are Armenians and Russians. My grandparents were from Western Armenia, they are survivors. When they were alive, I did like sitting by them and listening to the stories about their family.

My grandpa had many cattle to take to the mountains with his neighbors and left his family for many days. One time, when he was coming back, he did not see his children and he was worried, because his children always came running toward him to greet him. He was saying 'my heart fell, something terrible happened', His house was empty. He could not find his wife, but he found his two boys, 4 and 2 years old, in the corn field, killed. After what happened with his family, he moved to Eastern Armenia.

My Grandma had a father, mother and 3 brothers. One brother came to the USA in 1911, and he started working on the railroads in ND Jamestown. My grandma's father and the youngest brother were killed, then her and her mother, and brother crossed the river and came to Eastern Armenia. Shortly after that her brother died from pneumonia. Her mother could not take those horrible things, she died too. My grandma met my grandpa, they got married, and raised 5 children. But they never had smile on their face.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to talk before you, and I am asking your support of Resolution HCR 3003.

*Attach #4*

My name is Artoosh Mardirosian. I am a retired physician from Jamestown, North Dakota, where I have resided and been in practice since 1976. I am of Armenian ancestry. I was born in Iran seventy years ago and lived there for the first twenty years of my life.

Armenians are a branch of the Aryan people who settled in the southern Caucasus and Asia Minor around 2500 years ago. They were the first nation to convert to Christianity in the year 301 AD. With the development of an alphabet, the Armenians acquired a national identity that they were able to preserve in spite of many invasions that brought death and destruction. The region inhabited by the Armenians was at the crossroads of invading armies from east, west, and south. Thus, periods of independence were interrupted by periods of occupation and instability. The last Armenian Kingdom collapsed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century with the invasion of Turkish tribes overrunning the major part of the country to the west by the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The eastern part of Armenia was under control of Persia. Parenthetically, at that time my ancestors and those of the majority of the Armenians in Iran were forcefully brought to Persia (Iran of today) by Shah Abbas, who invaded and plundered eastern Armenia and deported the Armenian people of that region. The area was subsequently annexed by Tsarist Russia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

What had been the western part of Armenia had been incorporated into the expanding empire of the Ottoman Turks. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Ottoman Empire was in a decline for a number of reasons, and conditions for the Armenian people became increasingly intolerable. Although Turkish Sultan Abdul Hamid promised reforms, they were never carried out. In 1908 a revolutionary party known as the Young Turks overthrew Sultan Abdul Hamid. By 1914, following the Balkan wars of independence, Turkey had lost much of its European conquests. This resulted in a revival of nationalistic fervor for expanding eastward and uniting all the Turkish speaking people to form a Turkic Empire. The Christian Armenians living in eastern Turkey were perceived as an obstacle, and the First World War was seized by the Young Turks as an opportunity and as an excuse to act against the Armenians. The governing Nationalist Party started planning for the extermination of the Armenians at a special meeting of the Central Committee in August of 1914.

April 24, 1915, is the date that the Armenians around the world commemorate as the beginning of the Armenian genocide. Six hundred fifty members of the Armenian intelligentsia, clergy, teachers, professionals and parliament members were arrested, imprisoned, loaded onto trains, shipped to the interior of the country, and eventually killed. Armenian soldiers, who fought bravely in the Turkish army in the war against the Russians, were disarmed, sent to labor battalions, deprived of food, worked to death, or killed outright. On the order of the Ministry of the Interior, the so called relocation of the Armenians in the eastern provinces of Turkey was started. The deportation began with short notice, often only hours, for the Armenians to leave all their belongings and to take only some necessities for the march to the nearest town. In the meantime the men, under the pretext that they had not handed over their guns, were imprisoned, hanged, or shot. Tens of thousands of women, children, and elderly from the six eastern provinces were herded together and sent towards collection camps. From there, they were driven in long death marches toward and beyond the Syrian Desert. On their way they were plundered of the few belongings they still carried, were beaten and tortured. Women were raped, elderly were left to die by the

side of the road, and children were drowned in the rivers. Young women were abducted to be used as slaves or added to the harems of the chieftains. From a population of about two million Armenians in Turkey, 1.5 million were exterminated.

The international community was well aware of these events. Warnings were issued by the Allied governments to the Turkish government protesting the massacres and the violation of human rights. At the end of the First World War, the Turkish government was replaced. Four hundred individuals, including the three principal culprits who were in control of the government of Turkey between 1915 and 1917, were indicted by the new government. These ministers were judged and found guilty in Turkish courts, but later were allowed to escape punishment. The Armenian genocide and the atrocities done to the Armenian population of Turkey are well documented by missionaries, travelers, German officers, and by consular officials who sent reports to their respective embassies. The most noteworthy among them was the United States Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, who wrote about his experience in his book The Murder of a Nation. He stated, "I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this." In North Dakota these atrocities and deportations were also reported by the news media. In your folder, you will find copies of 25 articles out of 69 reports published between August and December 1915 in: The Fargo Forum and Republican, The Fargo Daily Courier News, The Bismarck Daily Tribune, The Minot Daily Optic Reporter, The Grand Forks Daily Herald, the Valley City Courier, and the Jamestown Daily Alert.

The Armenian genocide has left a debilitating wound on the psyche of the Armenian people. For it to heal, we need an admission by the Turkish government rather than the persistent denial of such an act. It is therefore of great importance that governing bodies at every level exert pressure on the Turkish government to acknowledge this horrendous crime against the Armenians. The United States federal government has for geopolitical reasons repeatedly hindered the passage of an Armenian genocide resolution in Congress. We in North Dakota need to rectify this trend. Former United States presidents such as Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan have publicly acknowledged the Armenian genocide. Supporting letters and statements are enclosed in your folders. Thirty-eight states have acknowledged and passed an Armenian genocide resolution, or have issued a governor's proclamation regarding the Armenian genocide. The North Dakota House of Representatives has passed House Concurrent Resolution 3003 commemorating the Armenian genocide. We trust the North Dakota Senate will do the same.

For this, we thank you.