

<p>HAMILTON HOLT Editor</p> <p>HAROLD HOWLAND Associate Editor</p> <p>EDWIN E. SLOSSON Literary Editor</p>	<h1>The Independent</h1> <p>FOUNDED 1848</p> <p>Including Harper's Weekly</p> <p>PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY</p> <p>INDEPENDENT CORPORATION</p> <p>119 West Fortieth Street, New York</p>	<p>KARL V. S. HOWLAND President</p> <p>FREDERIC E. DICKINSON Secretary</p> <p>WESLEY W. FERRIN Treasurer</p>
--	--	--

"Thanks, kind readers, for answering my cry for help! Thanks to you I've landed on my feet all right!"

CONTENTS	
FOR FEBRUARY 28, 1920	
Volume 101	Number 3711

Remarkable Remarks

PREMIER CLEMENCEAU—Don't go to theaters.

MINNIE MADDERN FISKE—Furs are unnecessary as clothing.

Shall Armenia Perish?

By Henry Morgenthau

Former Ambassador to Turkey, and National Vice-Chairman of Near East Relief

TWO hundred and fifty thousand Christian Armenian women enslaved in Turkish harems call to the people of America for liberation! One hundred thousand women already rescued by Near East Relief agents from harems will perish unless support from America is continued! Two hundred and fifty thousand children, orphaned by the unspeakable Turks, are calling in the only English they know, "Bread, Uncle Sam." One million two hundred thousand destitute, homeless, clotheless adults look to the giant in the West for the succor that will keep them from annihilation. What shall our answer be?

If they were good enough to fight and die for us when we needed their help so sorely, are they not good enough to be given some crumbs from our plenty?

Since the beginning of the war, the Turkish Armenians have been largely refugees. A simple, agricultural people, they have been exiled from their farms and deprived of all opportunity to support themselves. Now, more than a year after the armistice, they are still living the life of nomads, able to continue alive only by virtue of American philanthropy. If ever unmerited suffering called for succor the plight of the Armenians should be heeded now. A few months more and it may be relief will come too late for those myriads whom only we can save.

Let the American slogan now become—Serve Armenians for a little while longer with life's necessities that they may be preserved for the day of national freedom and rebirth, which no people more truly and greatly deserves.

The belief, held by some persons, that Turkey has repented and can do no further harm, is without foundation. The group that led Turkey into the war on the side of Germany is now in the saddle. The Turk has not been disarmed and these leaders are now aiding the Tartars. Kurds and Bolsheviks are urging them on to

kill and rob the surviving Armenians at every opportunity. The deportations and massacres during the war were not spontaneous uprisings of unorganized mobs, but were the working out of a well-plotted plan of wholesale extermination in which regular Turkish officers and troops took part as if in a campaign against an enemy in the field.

More than 2,000,000 persons were deported. The system was about the same everywhere. The Armenians, men, women and children, would be assembled in the marketplace. Then the able-bodied men would be marched off and killed by being shot or clubbed in cold blood at some spot which did not necessitate the trouble of burial.

Next the women would be sorted out. Agents of the Turk officers picked the youngest and fairest for their masters' harems. Next the civil officials had their pick, and then the remainder either were sold for one medjidi—a silver coin valued at about 80 cents—or were driven forth to be seized by the lower class Turks and Kurds.

As a last step, those who remained, mothers, grandmothers, children, were driven forth on their death pilgrimages across the desert of Aleppo, with no food, no water, no shelter, to be robbed and beaten at every halt, to see children slain in scores before their eyes, and babies dashed to death against rocks or spitted on the bayonets of the soldier guards.

If America is going to condone these offenses, if she is going to permit to continue conditions that threaten and permit their repetition, she is party to the crime. These peoples must be freed from the agony and danger of such horrors. They must not only be saved for the present but either thru governmental action or protection under the League of Nations they must be given assurance that they will be free in peace and that no harm can come to them.

New York



The youngsters at mess above are at an American orphanage in Beirut, Syria—saved from actual starvation by the Near East Relief

Hunger Knows No Armistice

There are hundreds of thousands of orphans—Greek, Syrian, Armenian—who depend on the Near East Relief for food and a place to live. And the Near East Relief depends upon American contributions to keep the good work going



A bread line in Erivan, Armenia, where the people wait hopefully for hours to get the daily meal provided by American charity. "Next to their faith in God," says former Ambassador Morgenthau, "is their trust in the disinterested good will and generosity of the American people." On another page Mr. Morgenthau gives some graphic information of the Near East Relief



These victims of Turkish cruelty were driven out to suffer extremes of hunger and hardship in their wanderings thru the desert where so many thousands of refugees died



The scarcity of clothing for refugees in the Near East resulted in this case in a dress made out of an American "Missionary Map of the World"