

SULTAN DESPERATE AT REBEL ADVANCE

Sheik Says Allah Will Bless All Who Die Fighting Against Nationalists

INSURGENTS NEAR CAPITAL

By the Associated Press
Constantinople, April 13.—Sultan Mehmed VI of Turkey has dissolved the Chamber of Deputies and has thrown all his political and religious power into the balance as a final measure in combating the Nationalist movement in Anatolia.

Observers here declare the next fortnight will determine whether he can rally any real force to oppose Mustafa Kemal, head of the nationalist movement, who is virtual ruler of most of the Turkish possessions east of the Dardanelles.

"Wrath of heaven and eternal torments of hell" are called down on the heads of all Moslems who do not support the sultan by Durrizade Abdullah Efendi, the new Sheik-ul-Islam. He excommunicates the nationalists and declares "all Mussulman who kill Nationalists will be blessed by Allah and all who die fighting the rebels earn eternal glory hereafter."

Mobilization of the sultan's adherents has begun in the islands in the sea of Marmora and along the shores of the Black sea. Anzevour Pasha, formerly a Circassian bandit, has organized several thousand opponents of the Nationalists at Biglia and Panorma on the southern shore of the sea of Marmora, and is the most important supporter of the sultan.

Nationalist forces are reported to be closing in on Anzevour in an effort to cut him off from Constantinople and capture the city of Bursa, fifty-seven miles southeast of here. This is the ancient capital of Turkey and the Nationalists wish to secure it for sentimental reasons. They are also said to be approaching close to the British base at Lemid, but it is doubtful if an engagement will be fought there, as a formidable fleet is supporting the British land forces.

There is little disposition on the part of the Turks in this city to join the sultan's forces. They say their fathers and brothers are fighting in Mustafa Kemal's army and that they will not engage in a civil war.

Rome, April 13.—(By A. P.)—Questions which will be discussed at the meeting of the Supreme Allied Council at San Remo were considered by the Council of Ministers yesterday. Italy has reached an agreement with England regarding the Turkish problem and colonial compensation, according to the Epoca.

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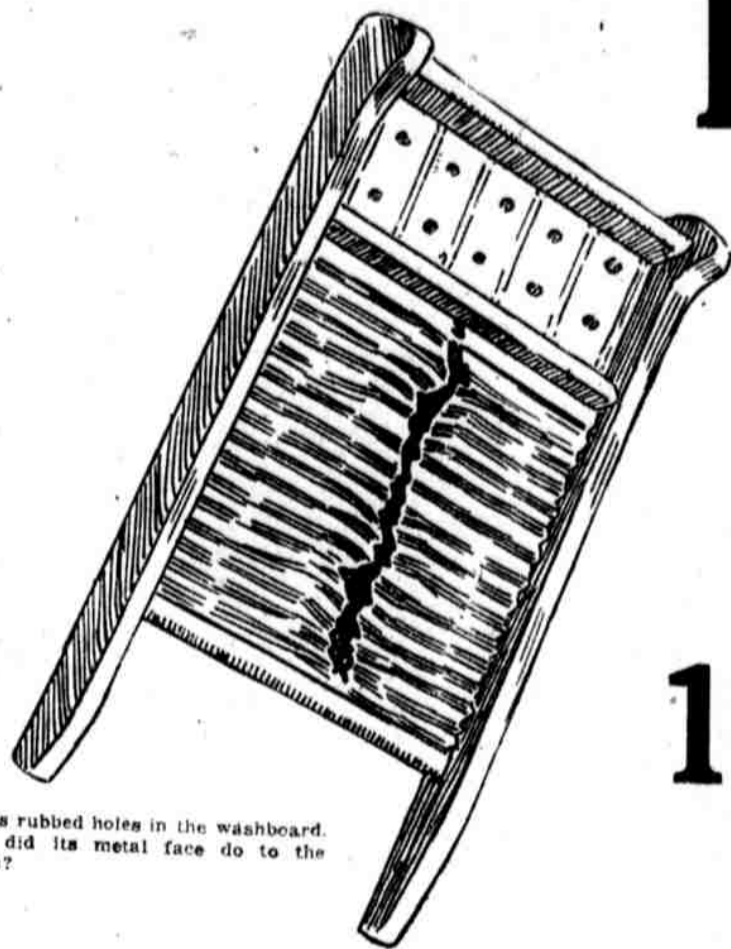
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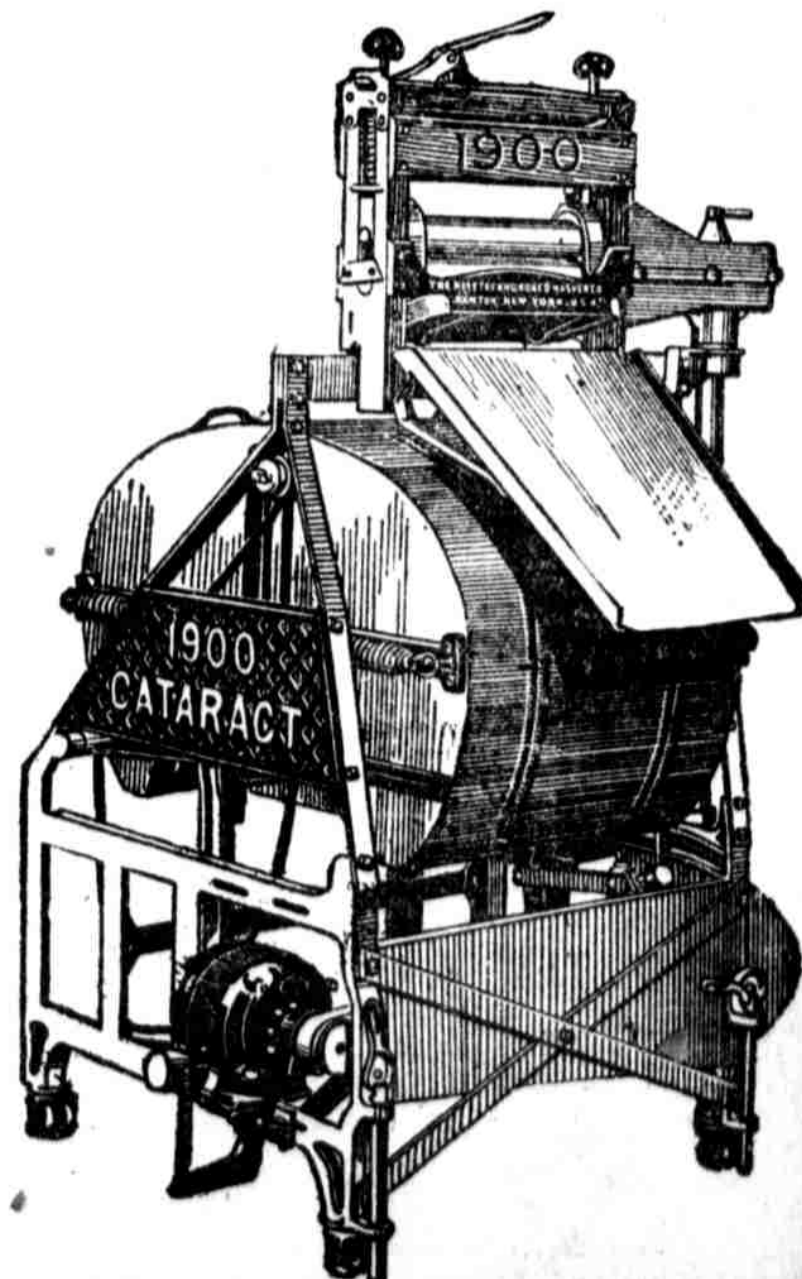
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