



Religious Aspect Foremost in War in Near East

Cause of Both Christians and Jews Involved in Present Military Struggle
(By the Religious Rambler)

Optimism has not been killed by the war, for there are some far-seeing Christian leaders who are predicting, since the center of military interest has shifted to Bible lands, that a new spirit of Christian solidarity, if not actual church union, is being rapidly fostered in America and Europe by the focusing of Christians' attention upon the fidelity and suffering of branches of the church whose very existence was but dimly known to most western church members a year ago.

Back to the land of their faith's beginnings the thoughts of Christians are being carried by newspaper cablegrams and articles in the religious press, and, all unexpectedly, they are acquiring a new knowledge of and a new zeal for the historic Church which comprehends all classifications of believers.

The persecutions which these Christians of the Near East are now suffering at the hands of the Moslems are appealing to the deepest springs of universal religious sympathy. Protestant and Catholic find themselves "in unity," as the Friends say, with these sufferers for the Cross and the Name who believe in the same God. Nestorian, Gregorian, Coptic and Syriac Churches, as well as the Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic bodies.

"Fendish" Treatment of Christians Within the past few days private advices have come from Americans in Constantinople to the effect that the present condition of Christians in certain parts of the Ottoman empire is worse than it has ever been. This correspondent declares that the wholesale removal of large sections of Christians from their homes is being carried out in a way "nothing less than fendish." The massacres of 1896 and of 1908 are pale in comparison with what is now going on at Van, Mardin and other cities.

The writer intimates that the practical extermination of the Armenians is seriously contemplated in high quarters. For it must be remembered that all good Moslems are now supposed to be engaged in a "holy war." While this "jihad" has failed in all its larger political aspects, it is none the less bearing fruit in persecution and massacre of Christians in isolated communities, as this column predicted at the time.

In all this the effect is discernible that "the blood of martyrs" is becoming "the seed of the Church." For the peculiarly sensitive religious mood of this day is grasping as never before the real oneness of Christendom's faith and cause. Humanity may look for such manifestations of world-wide Christian unity as have not heretofore come into the imaginations of any but the most advanced thinkers. This unity will be sentimental and spiritual, rather than ecclesiastical. In it the Greek Catholic will share with the Roman Catholic, the Greek Orthodox with the Protestant, the Coptic with the Gregorian, the Syriac with the Chaldean, the Maronite with the Nestorian, and the churches of the Far East with the churches of Europe and America.

There is something dramatic about the way in which our minds are being turned back to the ancient centers of thought, in Bible lands. It is as if the race were being carried back to the scene of the earliest revelations of one Supreme God, to learn anew the lesson of earth's duty to heaven.

In the new emergence of Bible lands as the center of civilization's latest and profoundest interest many earnest Bible students see a clear fulfillment of scriptural prophecy, and premillenarians freely predict the return of Christ at Jerusalem.

At the outbreak of the war thoughtful persons were startled at what might be called a clash of deities, for every nation called upon God as if He were a national idol, to be produced in emergency as part of the nation's military equipment. Each of the warring peoples confidently invoked the aid of the Deity against its antagonists—who, in turn, were praying to presumably the same God. Now there has been a reaction. Larger conceptions of the Supreme Being are becoming dominant. It almost seems as if the race were being taken back to the land of the great revelation to the Jews in order to be taught anew the unity and sovereignty and love of Jehovah. Assuredly, the war will leave mankind with a bigger conception of God than prevailed a twelvemonth ago.

The Peril of the Jews Another bit of religious news that comes from the Near East is the effect that the Jews are scheduled to endure even greater suffering than has already come to them from the war. The plight of the Jews in Palestine for a twelvemonth past has been pitiable. But this latest intimation is to the effect that the Jews in Turkey are to share the fate of the Armenians. Only those who have seen the scattered communities of Jews in remote parts of the Ottoman empire, and especially down the Tigris-Euphrates valley, can understand how completely they are at the mercy of Moslem fanaticism.

Apparently the notable revival of Zionism and of the Jewish religion in the cause of the Jews, which has been manifest during recent months, has been displeasing to the reactionary element in Turkey. Whether the reprisals are to be as drastic as this confidential report intimates, only time can tell.

Meanwhile, the safest Jews in all Turkey are those who have taken the American flag. The prestige of America still affords shelter to its citizens and their dependents. Even the German missionaries on the Turkish city—Mar-sovan—placed themselves under the protection of the American flag, although Germany and Turkey are allies. The number of Bible-reading persons who are looking back to the Law of the Book is being increased by each day's dispatches concerning the war. The little land of Palestine is once more pregnant with religious possibilities.

HELPFUL INSECTS; BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN

[Continued from Page 8.]

one of the vigorous trees in all California is a single ripe fig. Scientific fruit men were called upon consultation and worked for years upon the mystery of this failure of



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the fig trees to bear fruit. Other expeditions were sent to Smyrna and cuttings were taken from trees that were known to be good producers. It took years to try these out and they failed to ripen their fruit just as the others had.

Trouble Lay in Fertilization Then the growers decided that the fault must be with the fertilization of the young figs. This theory they studied on the shores of the Mediterranean also. The United States government sent experts abroad for the purpose. These men found that the growing side by side with the great figs of commerce there was always to be observed a kindred plant known as the caprifig. This was a wild fruit of no commercial value. But, after years of study, it was found that the caprifig furnished the pollen that was necessary to make the Smyrna fig fertile. Without that pollen the figs of the Mediterranean would drop from the tree just as they did in California. Therefore the caprifig must always grow near the orchards of the Smyrna fig.

Bring in the Wild Fig So the American men of science brought the wild fig to California and planted it in the barren orchards they had grown. It required nearly another decade for it to gain maturity. When that time came the fig orchards still remained as unproductive as they had before. The mystery was still unsolved.

One of the government scientists tried artificial fertilization. He drew a piece of glass tube out to a very small point. This he inserted into the little hole in the end of the caprifig and sucked some of the pollen into the tube. Then he inserted this fine end of the tube into the hole of a developing Smyrna fig and blew. Thus, he figured, would he fertilize the Smyrna fig.

The First Smyrna Figs And he succeeded. The figs he thus treated hung to the tree and ripened. They were the first Smyrna figs that ever matured in California. This scientist had proved that the orchards had only the wrong kind of the pollen of the wild fig to the pod of that which it wanted to ripen.

The scientists drew the conclusion that America had the wrong kind of pollen to bring pollen to the Smyrna fig. Again an expedition was sent to Smyrna. These men broke open the wild figs of the age that yield pollen. In many of them they found a tiny insect which through a microscope looked like a wasp. The scientists named it "blastophaga." They began to watch the front doors of the Smyrna figs and soon detected blastophaga coming and going. In doing so it evidently carried the pollen of the wild fig and made it possible for the prize specimen to develop.

Obviously the one thing necessary to make the trees of California yield figs was to get sufficient of these tiny wasps to running in and out of the holes of the young figs and wiping their feet on the doormats. But bringing a colony of these tiny creatures half around the world and making for them a home under new conditions is no small task. To accomplish this the life cycle of the insect must be understood, the food it requires must be known and provided, conditions must be created under which it can make the long trip and thrive afterward.

Several trails failed until, finally, a consignment of the insects, brought over in a living caprifig tree, arrived at just the right stage of their development, immediately went forth upon their work of fertilization, thrived and started a race of their kind. They soon inhabited all the caprifigs in California and all the Smyrnas were yielding abundantly. From their work a great industry has grown.

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Laxol	17c	Glycerine	1/2 pt., 25c and 1 pt., 45c
DeWitt's Kidney Pills	34c	Bay Rum, Porto Rican	1/2 pt., 25c and 1 pt., 45c
Beecham's Pills	15c and 7c	Boric Acid, pound	15c
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Roger & Gallet's Talcum	14c	Fluid Ext. Cascara Aromatic, 3 ounces	19c
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last Spring, has left the Sunday party. Cardiff, who has been polishing up on Bible study at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago all summer, has

"signed up" with the Rev. Dr. Henry W. Stough and will appear with Stough when the latter begins his Fall campaign at Lebanon next week.

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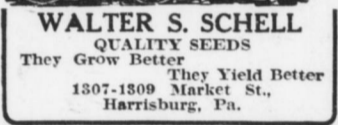
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