

MORGENTHAU URGES AID FOR ARMENIANS

Ambassador Appeals to Americans to Save Them from Annihilation.

HE CALLS FOR \$5,000,000

Thinks We Should Be Big Brothers to All Suffering Humanity—\$30,000 Quickly Raised.

After Henry Morgenthau, Ambassador to Turkey, had told of the pitiable plight of the outlawed Armenians, his audience at a mass meeting in Carnegie Hall yesterday afternoon started a \$5,000,000 relief fund, with contributions of more than \$30,000. Mr. Morgenthau has resigned the Ambassadorship, but his resignation has not been accepted by President Wilson. Yesterday was the first time he has spoken publicly on the affairs of the Turkish Empire.

Drawing the picture of America, "the Big Brother of the suffering of the world," the Ambassador said that the ability of America to effect peace would be measured by its success in convincing the warring nations that she was actuated only by altruistic motives. He thought there was no other way to convince the world of this nation's honesty of purpose than by aiding those on whom the curse of the war has fallen most heavily.

"It may be a little indiscreet for me to say this," Mr. Morgenthau told his hearers, "but I want to say that unless help is given to the Armenians, as well as to the Moslems in Turkey, there will be a fearful amount of starvation next Winter. If we are all brothers, and we are, have we a right to live on in the comfort and luxury of America and allow these people to starve? I do not think we have, and I believe it is our duty—and it is our privilege—for each of us to assume the guardianship of as many war sufferers, either there or elsewhere, as possible.

America's Chance.

"I do not preclude the other countries. They are suffering just as much. But I do believe the moral force of America, which is doing so much to maintain, or is going to do so much to bring about peace, will be doubled and tripled if the rest of the world understands that we are ready and willing and anxious to help the suffering masses.

"One of the main reasons why I want to stay in this country is to explain to the public the conditions in Turkey. I am positively convinced that I can be of more service at the present juncture by being here and giving the proper assistance and help and advice and explanations of the real condition of things and also by showing the Turkish authorities what the American public thinks of the conditions there."

Mr. Morgenthau then paid an eloquent tribute to the Armenians. He said that the credit he had received for the conduct of his post was due to the help of an Armenian connected with the American Embassy in Constantinople for sixteen years. He said he had employed an Armenian as private secretary because he was the most efficient man obtainable. And then he went on to tell how the Armenians had been driven from their homes by the Turks.

Our Meagre Help.

"When you think that this entire country of 100,000,000 has contributed only the insignificant sum of \$30,000,000 to all the suffering humanity abroad, we ought to drop our heads in shame. We have an average wealth of \$1,600 each and have given 30 cents each.

"When I tell you that these people are now exposed to the cold, with scanty clothing and nothing to eat, with disease rife among them, dying from starvation, and remind you that we are the only people to whom they can appeal for help today, you see the need of your generosity. The other nations are unable or afraid to help them.

"I believe this country ought—and some way must be found to do it—to assume the rôle of Big Brother to all the suffering now in the world. We can raise in this country easily, if organized, \$500,000,000. That is only \$5 per capita. There must be some way found to prove to the world, just as she has proved to Turkey, that America can be an altruistic friend. Let the whole world understand that we are not willing to profit by this war, but that we are willing to disregard profit and be a Big Brother, listening to the needs of the whole world.

To Save the Starving.

"We have got to help. Don't shift the burden to some one else. Picture to yourself that you personally are responsible for the starvation of one or two persons if you do not give funds to save them. I wish I had the power to picture to you one Armenian encampment when an American missionary hospital fed a thousand people a day at a cost of 3 cents each. Heretofore we weren't allowed to help, but the Turkish Government has seen the folly of this and is consenting and insisting on our aiding the Armenians."

Cleveland H. Dodge presided. He referred to what had been done in the way of relief work for other nations, but said America had done only a small part of her duty. He said \$600,000 had already been contributed to aid the Armenians, but that the American Committee must raise \$5,000,000 to aid the 1,500,000 sufferers.

"Five cents from each American will do this," he said. "The price of five sticks of chewing gum or a seat in the movies. Won't you give that?" "America has gone crazy in selfishness. With humans dying by hundreds of thousands because they haven't a crust of bread, every church and college in the land is trying to raise money for extensions and endowments. It makes me sick. They can wait, but the starving cannot."

Rabbi Wise's Appeal.

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise drew a parallel between the Armenians and the Jews in Russia.

"As a Jew who thanks God and America for what has been done for his race, I appeal for Armenians," he said. "My fellow Jews in Russia could gain relief by forsaking the faith of their fathers; the Armenians could obtain succor from sorrow by becoming Moslems. I, a Jew, honor them because they will not forsake their Christianity. Is there a man here that would not rather see the Armenians nobly die than to believe their souls and ignobly live.

"Justice to the little peoples, the small races, is the blessing God is going to send from the war's holocaust of horror. Tomorrow the Jews will be free; tomorrow the Armenians will be free. But we must see that they live until tomorrow."

Rabbi Wise then asked for contributions. Aryn Gulbankin, a rug im-

porter, handed a check for \$2,000. Dikain Sarkisian followed with \$1,000. Albert Tarkisyan and "An Armenian" gave \$1,000 each and "A Friend of Armenia" promised \$20,000 in four monthly installments. Twenty Armenian girls then passed through the audience and took more than \$1,000 in their baskets. Hundreds of pledges of small amounts were given the committee, which will announce the total today.

It was announced that the Laymen's Missionary Society would give the undivided time of twelve of its workers and part of the time of twenty more to go all over the country in aid of the \$5,000,000 fund.

The American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief distributed printed appeals for aid among the audience.

JEWS APPEAL TO LANSING.

Urge State Department to Intercede for Those in Russia.

At a meeting of the members of the American Jewish Committee, held yesterday at the Hotel Astor, an amendment to its laws was adopted by which its membership is increased from 96 to 200, to provide for the admission of members from every State in the Union and representatives from every Jewish organization in the country.

In view of the fact that the committee has received information that the Jews of Russia are in a state of terror because they fear an outbreak of pogroms at the time of the Russian Easter, the State Department at Washington has been requested to use its influence to prevent these outbreaks.

A resolution was adopted to authorize the committee to unite with other Jewish societies for the calling of a congress of Jewish societies in June for the purpose of obtaining full rights for the Jews of all lands and the abrogation of all laws discriminating against them.

The committee announced that it had brought to the attention of the State Department the subject of the protection of Ottoman Jews of Vera Cruz, there being no representative of the Ottoman Government in that place. The department has given the necessary instructions for their protection by American Consular officers.

MOVIES AID ACTORS' FUND.

Screen Stars to Appear Personally Today in Many Theatres.

Today is the day designated as National Motion Picture Tribute Day by the committee of motion picture men in charge of the movement to raise \$500,000 in the industry for the million-dollar endowment the Actors' Fund is endeavoring to collect. The proprietors of hundreds of movie theatres throughout the country have offered to give a small percentage of their receipts for the day. In the larger cities there will be special entertainments for the fund, while in New York many screen stars will appear personally at the movie theatres to create added interest. Many of these players have already made liberal personal donations. A troop of twenty-five actresses from the Thanhouser studios at New Rochelle will invade the Wall Street district to solicit contributions from the brokers.

The last of the series of benefits for the fund will be given tomorrow afternoon at the Metropolitan Opera House. A program made up of musical numbers will be given by opera stars. One of the most interesting features will be the first appearance of Antonio Scotti since his illness last Winter. Mr. Scotti will appear with Geraldine Farrar in the second act of "Madam Butterfly."

The officers and Trustees of the fund made their annual visit to the home on Staten Island yesterday. The party was headed by Daniel Frohman, President of the charity, and included Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Grismer, F. F. Mackay, Joseph Brooks, Virginia Fox Brooks, Hazel Dawn, Margaret Romaine, E. F. Albee, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Eagle, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Scriber, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Nobles, and W. C. Austin. After luncheon Mr. Frohman made an address, and a musical program was given in the drawing room.

CHARITIES AT HIPPODROME.

Benefits Given There for Catholic Works Society and a Summer Camp.

Yesterday was a day of benefits at the Hippodrome. In the afternoon there was an entertainment under the auspices of the United Catholic Works Society for the Poor and Destitute Children of New York, and at night the fund that maintains a Summer camp for newsboys at New Dorp, S. I., was the beneficiary of another entertainment.

Cardinal Farley occupied a box at the afternoon performance, the receipts from which approximated about \$4,000. Sir Herbert Tree, Julia Arthur, Hattie Williams, and Bourke Sullivan appeared on the program. Sir Herbert made a brief address and read several selections from Shakespeare. J. C. Ungerer, organist of St. Patrick's Cathedral, accompanied the singers on the pipe organ.

The night performance also brought in about \$4,000, and in addition to this amount about \$1,500 was realized from the sale of advertising in a souvenir program and of copies of the program. Will Rogers presided and a long program was given by vaudeville artists and players from current musical and dramatic attractions.

SING SING TO SEE "JUSTICE."

Company Now at the Candler to Play for the Convicts.

Galsworthy's drama "Justice" is to be presented in the chapel at Sing Sing within the next fortnight by the company appearing in the play at the Candler. Recently John Barrymore and the other members of the company visited the prison, and it was suggested that the play be given for the prisoners on Monday, May 22, or the following Monday. Warden Kirchwey gave his consent, and the heads of the Mutual Welfare League were enthusiastic over the proposal.

As the regular scenery would not fit the stage the league leaders decided to make all the scenes except the cell scene themselves. Mr. Barrymore has undertaken to pay all the expenses of the trip, including the cost of duplicating the solitary confinement cell. It is probable that two performances will be given, one at 10 o'clock and the other at 2, since the chapel only accommodates half the inmates at one time.

\$1,012 More for Granados Orphans.

When the concert for the benefit of the children of Enrique Granados, the Spanish composer, who lost his life on the Sussex, was given a week ago last night at the Metropolitan, Ernest Shelling was in Spokane, Wash. It was Mr. Shelling who introduced the piano compositions of Granados in America, so that indirectly he was responsible for the Metropolitan obtaining the composer's opera "Goyescas" for presentation. Since Mr. Shelling could not be present to take part in the benefit, he arranged a similar entertainment in Spokane. From this concert \$1,012 has been forwarded by the pianist to the Spanish Ambassador at Washington, D. C.

Crowell to Try Experiment Here.

Cedric Crowell, who was formerly associated with the Municipal Theatre at Northampton, Mass., is establishing an experimental theatre at Richmond Hill, L. I. A stock company will be organized to be known as the Community Players. The art and literary side of the venture will be under the direction of G. B. Ashworth, Ruth Hambidge, and Arthur Pollock.