



The Duluth News Tribune.

DULUTH, MINN., MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 4, 1915.

VOLUME 47, NO. 155.

STORE AND HOME

New Tribune advertising is the direct result of the store and home. Readers look to the advertisements for news that will guide them to the factory buying. They buy advertised goods.

EVIDENCE PORTRAYS TURKS AS BUTCHERS

History Records Nothing So Brutal as Massacre of Armenians in Last 1,000 Years.

NEW YORK, Oct. 3.—Documentary evidence of the atrocities inflicted by the Turks upon the Armenians was made public tonight by the committee formed by Charles R. Crane, Cleveland H. Dodge and others to investigate the facts of the Armenian massacres, and which also is taking steps to aid sufferers.

The committee states that the evidence was collected from sources that are unquestioned as to the veracity and authority of the writers, but that for obvious reasons their names cannot be given, and in most cases names of towns and cities must be concealed.

Quotations are given in the committee's report from 24 sources, some of which describe in detail instances where Armenians have been put to death, women violated and children slaughtered, of robbery, torture, death by starvation and of terrible privations endured in long marches to the desert regions to which the Armenians have been exiled—crimes described by the committee as surpassing "in their horror and cruelty anything that history has recorded during the last 1,000 years."

New Method of Massacre.

"The idea of direct attack and massacre, carried out in former times," says one authority, writing under date of Aug. 3, "has been altered somewhat in that the men and boys have been deported in great numbers, and disappeared en route, and later on the women and children have been made to follow."

Describing, under date of June 20, the wholesale deportation of 26,000 Armenian inhabitants of Zeitoun to the Konieh region, Alepho and places in Mesopotamia, one writer gives the text of the Turkish government order, giving authority for the expulsions. It reads:

"The commanders of the army, of independent army corps and of divisions may, in case of military necessity, and in case they suspect espionage or treason, send away, either singly or en masse, the inhabitants of villages or towns and install them in other places."

Deported at Hour's Notice.

"Whole villages were deported at an hour's notice," says the writer, "with no opportunity to prepare for the journey, not even in some cases to gather together the scattered members of the family, so many little children were left behind."

"In many cases the men were bound together tightly with ropes and chains. Women with little children in their arms, or in the last days of pregnancy, were driven along under the whip like cattle."

Another writer tells of the cruel use of the bastinado in a certain prison where Armenians were held.

"At the time of the Romans," he writes, "40 strokes were administered at the very most; in this place, however, 200, 300, 500, and even 800 strokes were administered. A young man was beaten to death within the space of five minutes. Apart from the bastinado, other methods were employed, too, such as putting hot irons on the chest."

Men Sent Away First.

Telling of the expulsion of the Armenian inhabitants from an unnamed town, another writes:

"They (the men) were sent off toward * * * in groups of from 30 to 100 and 150. Various reports have been circulated, the only one generally accepted being that they were killed."

"The panic in the city was terrible. The people felt that the government was determined to exterminate the Armenian race. Many of the convicts of the prisons had been released and the mountains around * * * were full of outlaws. It was feared that the women and children were taken some distance from the city and left to the mercy of these men. The women believed that they were going to worse than death, and many carried poison in their pockets to use if necessary."

In another instance "a number of lighters have been loaded with people at different times, and sent off toward * * *. It is generally believed that such persons were drowned."

Recorded as the testimony of the widow of * * * a harrowing story is given of the experiences of a party of some 500 Armenians. She and her daughter escaped death by accepting the Mohammedan faith, she says.

Robbed of Everything.

"We had got only two hours away from home when bands of villagers and brigands with rifles, guns, axes, etc., surrounded us and robbed us of all we had. The gendarmes took my money and that from my daughter's neck, also all our food. After this, they separated the men, one by one, and shot them all within six or seven days—every male above 15 years old. These bandsmen took all the good-looking women and carried them off on their horses. Very many women and girls were thus carried off to the mountains, among them my sister, whose 1-year-old baby they threw away. A Turk picked it up and carried it off, I know not where."

"We found on the road many of those who had been in previous sections. Some women were among the killed with their husbands and sons. We also came across some old people, and infants still alive in a pitiable condition."

Corpses Dot Hillside.

"The worst and most unimaginable terrors were reserved for us at the banks of the Euphrates and in the Erzingian plain. The mutilated bodies of women, girls and little children made everybody shudder. The bandsmen were doing all sorts of evil deeds to the women and girls that were with us, and whose cries went up to heaven. At the Euphrates the bandsmen and gendarmes threw into the river all the remaining children under 15 years of age. After seven days, we reached * * *. Not an Armenian was left alive there. The Turkish women took my daughter and myself to the bath and there showed us many other women and girls who had accepted Islam. Between there and the fields, the hill-sides were dotted with corpses."