

St. Sophia Totters While Nations Discuss Question of Restoration

By STERLING HEILIG.

PARIS, Oct. 1, 1919.
ST. SOPHIA is tottering. If she has not fallen, she is ready to fall while the nations discuss—or put off discussing—who shall have care of her, the glorious basilica of Justinian "of beauty and holiness, an earthly heaven, the abode of angels."

And, since 1453, a Turkish mosque. In May, 1919, the representatives of Episcopal, Presbyterian, Congregational, Friend and Baptist churches in various American cities petitioned the Peace Conference for the restoration of St. Sophia as a Christian place of worship.

Already the Established Church of England had been joined by the Free Churches of all England in similar petitions.

Both the Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox Churches of Christendom are equally at one with all the others on the one essential point—the giving back of the unique basilica to Christian worship, for which it was built A. D. 532, and for which it was used uninterruptedly into the 1,000 years, until the Turks burst into Constantinople with fire and sword and slaying, and Sultan Mahomet II. rode his horse beneath its incomparable dome.

Mr. Wilson's Aid Asked.

In the same month of May, 1919, at a meeting in Philadelphia, the Rev. William H. Roberts, a personal friend of President Wilson, being in the chair, the united Episcopal, Presbyterian, Congregational, Friend and Baptist churches called a special resolution to Mr. Wilson calling personal attention to these petitions, and further declaring that "the right of the Turk to sovereignty over Eastern Christendom has gone forever, centuries of miracle having culminated in massacre and atrocities that apall the conscience of Christian people."

Then the cabled resolution of the churches went on to endorse the memorandum presented by M. Venizelos as a conservative and moderate expression of Greek claims, and to beg (in harmony with similar petitions of the Established and Free churches of England) for the restoration of St. Sophia to the Greek Orthodox Church, from which it was looted by the Turks in 1453.

Since these petitions much has happened.

We are told (by the Islamic Information Bureau) that Turkey is "the most powerful Power in the world." We are told that words used by Lloyd George in 1918 were accepted by the Majles of the British Empire (India, Egypt, etc.) as England's solemn promise that "she was not fighting to deprive Turkey of its capital or of the rich and renowned lands of Asia Minor and Thrace"; and that the feeling of "all Asia" on this subject is so intense that if that promise is broken "there will be no more love and loyalty for England in the East."

Gen. Harbord's Report Awaited.

Meanwhile, as the despairing hope of Armenia—let us say the lives of Armenian men, the safety of Armenian women, the shipping trade of Russia to the Mediterranean, the prosperity and hygiene of the Near East and the trembling honor of the West are wrapped up in the American army's commission to Constantinople, the report of Major-Gen. Harbord, its noble chief, and the way in which this report shall be received by the S. P. U. (Senate and people of the United States of America).

Meanwhile, St. Sophia threatens to collapse structurally.

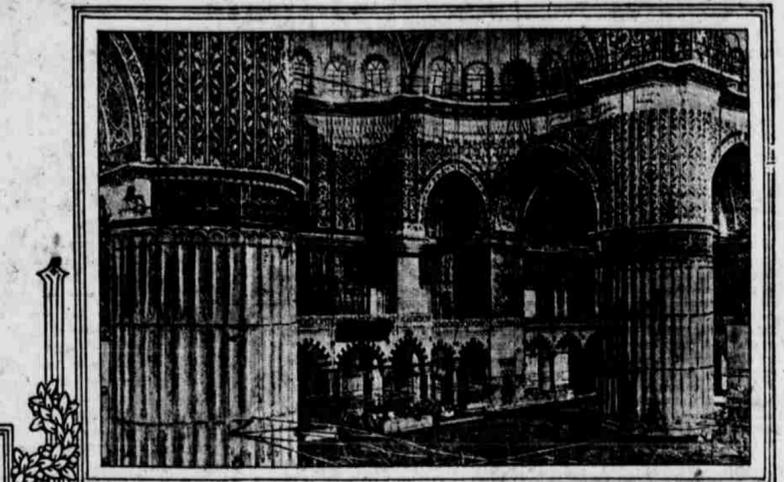
Simply that, without exaggeration.

This is handing out no propaganda; simply a combination of circumstances, quite unexpected, makes it possible for me to publish by mail details of the astonishing fact which will be published by cable shortly before you read these lines. St. Sophia threatens to sink in a formless mass, like the Tower of San Marco at Venice, which collapsed in one day, if you remember, a few years before the war.

The danger has been dragging on for years, but only now its acceleration, suddenly revealed in the further settlement of a subterranean pier, has set them buzzing among themselves around the Hotel Crillon.

How I wish that I might give the name of my informant; but I have promised. All are fearful of making a public utterance, even the very great. It is not President Wilson. This I can prove without betraying.

Many Churches Join in Petitions for Saving Glorious Basilica of Justinian and Giving It Back to Christian Worship for Which It Was Built 1,400 Years Ago



INTERIOR OF ST SOPHIA.

I think, any of the confidential, friendly offhand and personal answers to questions which he gave to newspaper correspondents by word of mouth in collective receptions at Paris. It was the farewell gathering, just before he sailed. The gist of many a more specific answer than this one was published by cable, without reproach. Toward the end, I asked him: "What about St. Sophia, Mr. President?" And he answered textually: "Really, I hadn't thought about it!" Now, we know, of course, that he had thought about it. In a diplomatic sense, the answer was courteous and perfect. It shows the ticklishness.

At the Hotel Crillon, these days, nobody may be quoted. All seem to be awaiting, breathless, for the report of Major-Gen. Harbord. The looming tragedy of St. Sophia, the unique historical basilica of the Eternal Wisdom; I say, the looming smash is of the very essence of Turkish cynicism and incompetency.

This is not propaganda; it is the Encyclopedia Britannica. Take the American revision, vol. 8, page 306 (ninth edition), under "Constantinople: Outline Modern City," and you will read of the basilica of St. Sophia: "A pretty complete restoration was effected in 1847-49 by Fossati, who found that the weight of the dome was too great for the supporting walls, threatening the whole with destruction."

So, you see, the Turk was warned by their own architect as long ago as 1849. They stupidly let things slide.

In 1914 the Byzantine Society, sent Sir Thomas Jackson to make a survey. Sir Thomas, at the time, was president of the Royal Society of British Architects.

The condition of St. Sophia had been growing steadily more alarming. Even a moderate earthquake, it was claimed in technical circles, might bring down the western hemisphere.

Architect's Report Sensational.

Sir Thomas took other prominent architects with him. After prolonged examinations they reported that time and Turkish neglect had indeed continued their disintegrating work—in a word, the structural condition of St. Sophia was now extremely precarious, owing to the settlement of two of the

massive piers carrying the enormous dome and roof.

The report made a sensation at the time.

Then came the war.

St. Sophia is 1,400 years old, and it is no criticism of Justinian's architects that something should give beneath the marvelous dome. Anthemius of Tralles and Isidorus of Miletus knew their business. To render the dome as light as possible it was constructed of pumice stone and Rhodian brick. They employed 10,000 workmen, under 100 master builders; and when St. Sophia was completed it had cost the imperial treasury, in spite of free marble and much volunteer and military labor, well above \$5,000,000, say, \$20,000,000 of to-day's purchasing power. Now, see. Fifty years after its completion the dome was shaken by a very considerable earthquake (and repaired by Isidore, the grandson of one of the original architects. Grandson and grandpapa's work held, believe me! It was the year A. D. 550).

Skip 700 years. The glorious city of gold and marble continued to blaze with light in a dark world. Constantinople, capital of the Eastern Roman Empire, sole reliquary of art, luxury and learning, had itself become the empire—practically all territories had been lost, outside its marble palaces and gilded spires preserved the triple walls. The dark world was leagued.

Crusaders Kneel in St.

Eight Crusades had started for the Holy Land; and of each one that got to Constantinople en route the great chiefs had knelt in solemn pomp beneath this dome—Godefroy de Bouillon, Conrad of Germany, Richard the Lion Hearted, Baldwin of Flanders, the Knights Templars.

After it all, in the year 1317, the Greek Emperor Andronicus the Elder prudently and scientifically fortified St. Sophia with two new buttresses, called pyramids. A slight earthquake had caused his architects uneasiness.

Thirty years later the eastern hemisphere suddenly gave way, and the lions, the altars and the sanctuary were crushed by the falling ruin. "The mischief was solidly repaired," says the proud epistle of Emanuel Chrysothoras to John Palaeologus II. "The

rubbish was cleared by the incessant labor of every rank and age; and their riches and industry were again consecrated by the Greeks to the most venerable and stately temple of the East, of beauty and holiness, an earthly heaven, the abode of angels, and of God himself!"

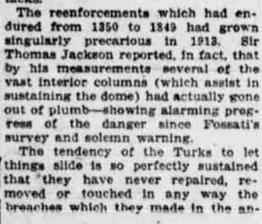
Turks Looted the Place.

Now we are getting down to brass tacks.

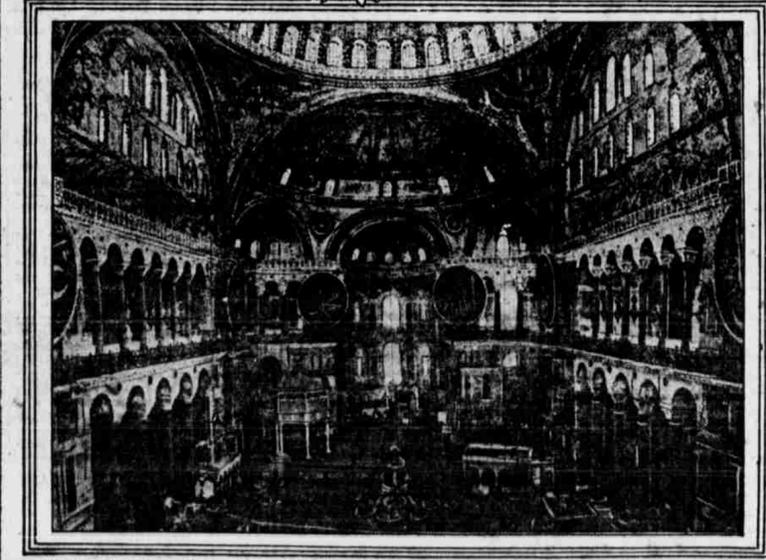
The reinforcements which had endured from 1350 to 1849 had grown singularly precarious in 1913. Sir Thomas Jackson reported, in fact, that by his measurements several of the vast interior columns (which assist in sustaining the dome) had actually gone out of plumb—showing alarming progress of the danger since Fossati's survey and solemn warning.

The tendency of the Turks to let things slide is so perfectly sustained that they have never repaired, removed or touched in any way the breaches which they made in the an-

ST SOPHIA AS A MOSQUE



ONE OF THE ENTRANCES TO THE MOSQUE ST SOPHIA



PRICELESS MOSAICS. THE SERAPHIM ARE SEEN FAINTLY APPEARING THROUGH THE TURKISH WHITENESS, GUARDING THE ALTAR.

ONE OF THE ENTRANCES TO THE MOSQUE ST SOPHIA

the slower witted males. The masculine mind is hopelessly incapable of comprehending feminine psychology. Yet juries are constantly required to pass upon the credibility, the motives, the partiality of women who testify as parties or as witnesses. Indeed it is by no means infrequent that all the evidence in a case comes from women exclusively.

Is it not self-evident that a sprinkling of women in the jury box would be helpful in searching out the truth from the bewildering array of contradictions with which the testimony in the average case bristles?

I recall one tried before me not long ago in which I expressed to the jury my regret that they could not have the views and advice of a few women jurors in their deliberations, and the jury by their nods of approval showed plainly that they agreed with me.

"In that case a woman was plaintiff and her only witness was a woman friend of hers. They had gone into a restaurant during a shopping tour for a cup of coffee, and the allegation was that the waitress spilled a cup of the steaming fluid on the plaintiff, scalding her quite seriously and extensively.

"For the defendant, a corporation, only women witnesses appeared, the employees of the establishment, who flatly contradicted the version of the occurrence given by the plaintiff and her friend. Perhaps the twelve good men and true found the real facts as the basis for their verdict, but I should have been much better satisfied had it been a verdict reflecting the views of a few intelligent women also.

"Practically there seems to me to be no insuperable objections to women's serving as jurors. As proposed in a bill introduced in the Legislature last winter, all that is necessary is to make all women liable for jury duty the same as men, but granting exemption to women whenever it is claimed on the ground of sex. Under such a law only those women who are willing to serve and who can do so without prejudice to their health or domestic obligations would be called.

"There are many such women who are eminently fitted and conspicuously qualified for this service. Their inclusion in the body of jurors would elevate the tone and standard of jurists generally both in character and competence.

Look Women Up Over Night!

"As to the locking up of juries over night, that is almost never done in civil cases. A few hours of deliberation results usually in a verdict or a disagreement. Perhaps it would not be a bad idea to exclude for the time being service in the criminal courts

lique walls when they entered in 1453! You can still see their stone cannon balls imbedded in the ruins. What they did do was to loot the marble casings.

And now, since 1913, the settling of St. Sophia has gone to an extreme point. "The danger is," says my informant, "that all this delay in the Turkish settlement may so delay the necessary repairs that catastrophe may overtake them. If the blessed thing collapses, it will not matter very much whether it is Turkish or Christian. Winchester Cathedral in England has had 150,000 pounds spent on it recently for similar works, but at Winchester there was lack of good, strong, sub-soil, which is less the case at Constantinople. You might mention the experience we had with the Tower of San Marco."

Our One Link With Rome.

"Think," he said, "if it should come down! Apart from religion, history and architecture, there would be nothing left of the priceless mosaics which the Turks have covered with their whitewash—and which the world has been waiting to see again since 1453! The Seraphim, you know, appear faintly beneath the dome, guarding the altar."

"Take note," he added, "that the Church of St. Demetrius, at Salonica, was absolutely ruined by the fire of 1917. It, too, was of the time of Justinian, the one great church comparable with St. Sophia—which originally had no wood, except the doors, in its construction, as a safeguard against fire. I do not know what the Turks may have added. It makes St. Sophia the more priceless."

Could anything render St. Sophia more priceless?

It is absolutely our one living link with the antique Greek and Roman world, by the innumerable grand hands of what historic personages! I say "living link," because even during the 400 years that it has been a Turkish mosque (a short and negligible period), the worship of God has never ceased in it, however imperfect, since the great Justinian prostrated himself in hope and dread, and Theodora meditated darkly in its clear religious light.

Eternal Youth and Progress of Science

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cess on functioning beyond the normal age then a certain degree of infantilism results with backwardness of growth and mentality and perhaps even a reversion to the other sex in many characteristics.

A thymus gland that does not atrophy as the child advances in years conditions a state of deficient evolution in growth especially of the connective tissues. Thus, such an individual shows the chubby appearance of the child in his adolescence, soft supple skin, lack of hair on the face if a boy, inability to perform fatiguing work, and frequently a concomitant enlargement of many of the other glands. The resistance to disease is reduced, blood clotting is delayed, the bones remain soft and are easily bent.

That knockknees, bowlegs and other bony deformities are readily produced. The mentality is on a par with the physique, childish and backward.

The Old-Young Type.

A thymus that ceases to act too early in evolution shows in an affected child a precocious body growth in that its muscles and bones, without apparent increase in size, give the appearance of age; the muscles are small and barely cover the bony frame, work, which is less pliable and more brittle than the normal, resulting in fractures at slight traumatism. The child has a precocious mentality also—old-young in type, wise with its elders and knowing. These distinctions seem clear out and easily recognizable, and yet we rarely get them so

theoretically distinct, for various compensations in the other glands tend to minimize or even to cause the disappearance of these abnormalities.

Later in life, after both the thymus and pineal glands should have atrophied, the organism is under the control of the thyroid, the pituitary and adrenal glands, and the sex glands develop their potency. The combined action of these enables the individual not only to survive and procreate, but to stimulate and energize him in the struggle for existence. By their power the necessary chemicals are produced and delivered at the necessary critical times to support him and to stimulate his nervous system for the various shocks to be encountered in the fray. Here, above all, the rule of the survival of the fittest finds full play.

The adrenals maintain the tone of the blood vessels and blood pressure at a necessary elastic level; the thyroid assists in the burning up of the tissues to a state which admits of easy removal—this oxidation helping to maintain body temperature among other things; the pituitary controls the growth of the adolescent and acts also as a stimulator of the sex glands.

Finally Lead to Death.

When any of these glands varies in its activity to a point which would be harmful to the full harmonious action of the group, then the others more or less compensate for this disturbance, and if successful in this, no external manifestation may be witnessed, but when this is unsuccessful, then various signs become apparent. Then, as a result, we get the different conditions

of life which all of us sooner or later reach and which finally lead to death. It is these conditions that are presumably cured—according to the lay interpretation of the results of single experiments, which are exploited far and wide. And it is because they presumably ward off or postpone the inevitable end that the so-called "cures" based upon such interpretations are greedily taken up by the public. These uncompensated conditions vary from high blood pressures to mental and bodily deterioration. There are a host of them.

The criticism to be made of the interpretation of some very good physiological work is that all experiments based upon the internal glands is individualistic. The same experiment (if such could be actually performed on two individuals, which is impossible) would not produce in every case the same result, for the reason that the degree of their compensation in different subjects.

One would suppose that the removal of an enlarged thyroid gland (goitre) would be followed in every individual by the same results. That is not so.

Therefore, when one human being is made to feel youthful by a transplantation of one of the glands of an animal, for instance, within him (as indicated by Voronoff), it does not necessarily follow that others will derive the same benefit. Such operation might even be baneful. It requires the widest experience to give judgment in such cases—and even such judgment in the present state of our knowledge is apt to be faulty.

The Value of Women as Jurors

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preventing changes later if these are found desirable.

"In this county the various sections of the law governing grand jurors and special jurors provide that a person disqualified or entitled to exemption is not qualified for selection upon either list. Now, the object of such provision is to keep off these lists men entitled to exemption, because if placed on them they could, if they saw fit, claim their exemptions at any time, thus getting out of serving as grand or special jurors if the particular matter before a grand or special jury was not to their liking. Such disqualification would have the benefit of the quick and keen intellect of women and of their proverbially correct intuition in the solution of the baffling questions of fact with which juries are continuously called upon to wrestle.

"Women understand men much better than men understand women. It goes without saying that women understand their own sex better than do

the act by which after a woman elected to serve her right to exemption would be waived for the jury year. Maybe this might be attacked on the ground that it applied to women only; that they not extend it to cover all cases? It would be an excellent change.

"And then, under this system what women will come forward? Will it be the women who so strongly preached suffrage for women? Will it be the business women? Or will it be the qualified woman who didn't advocate the suffrage but now votes because it is a civic duty? I know there are enough intelligent, self-confident women who have the time to make it fifty-fifty with the men on the jury panel, but will they volunteer? I have found in my experience of thirty-six years in this office that jury service in this great business centre is often considered a most annoying and expensive civic duty by many men, yet they perform this service when called upon to do so. This community should appreciate and thank the vast

army of men who in serving as jurors—in New York county last year there were over 20,000 of them—often sacrifice both their business and their time to their own injury. This could hardly be said of the women under an elective law. Still they will have an opportunity to shame those men who avoid jury duty and to win the appreciation of the community.

Justice Ford is anxious to have the law changed and permit women to serve. He said:

Call on Feminine Psychology.

"Ever since I have been on the bench I have looked forward hopefully to the time when our courts would have the benefit of the quick and keen intellect of women and of their proverbially correct intuition in the solution of the baffling questions of fact with which juries are continuously called upon to wrestle.

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until it is seen how the experiment works out in practice, and how Judges, lawyers, litigants and the women themselves like the innovation. My own prediction is that it would prove a great success and would quickly be extended to all the courts.

"I am strongly of opinion and have been for many years that not only should women vote but that every public office to which they aspire should be thrown open to them and that they should be permitted to perform any public or private service for which they are fitted and willing to undertake.

"I hate to think that there are still American men—and women too—who oppose this view. Abroad America is called the paradise of women. It is undoubtedly true that they are held in higher respect here than in any other country. Yet we have a long way to go before the goal of complete justice to women is reached.

"It is perhaps too much to expect that the prejudices inbred in the male human through subjugation of the female throughout the ages can be cast off in a day or a year or indeed a score of years. But they are dropping away one by one and with ever increasing rapidity in our progress toward the higher civilization."

Views of a Woman Lawyer.

"The addition of women to the jury lists would, in my opinion, be a great advantage in the administration of justice. My work in New York city has shown me how much women represent a large percentage of the litigants who come before the courts. Particularly in this true in the civil courts. In their cases and in other cases which do not involve them the addition of women to the trial juries would mean the addition of a different and in many instances a more expert point of view on the facts involved.

"Trial by jury originally came about in order that the point of view of the neighborhood might be heard on the subject in question. It has been retained in our judicial system largely because it is believed to represent the general common sense of the plain man. The varying points of view of the ordinary citizen upon the facts of the case have always been considered essential in our judicial system. It seems, therefore, only logical that if the somewhat different point of view of the woman citizen should be added to that of the man a more liberal and more balanced judgment would result. Here, as in every thing else in life, the viewpoint of women is of value, supplementing that of men on subjects the decision of which must affect whole neighborhoods or classes of people."