

was mortally wounded. This has brought the war to our very doors.

Feb. 6th

This is the 18th day of the siege of Marash, and this morning we had a joyful surprise. An aeroplane flew over the city and dropped several messages. Unfortunately the wind was very high and carried the ~~xxxxxx~~ messages into the Turkish part of the city, but we know now that help is near and that we are not forgotten. More victims for the operating ~~xxxxx~~table and more graves for the cemetery. This afternoon we had another glimpse of an aeroplane and the French headquarters sent up signals so that they might know where to land if they wished. Everybody is elated to think that communication with the outside world had again been established. We had an answer from the Mutassarif to-day in reply to our letter which accompanied the communication sent by the Turkish officials. He regretted that he could do nothing without consulting the Commander of the forces but appreciated our interest and thanked us for our kind offer of mediation. I hope help will come before all the Armenians have to pay the awful price of this needless war.

Feb. 7th

At last re-enforcements are in sight and are already fighting their way into the city. The guns in the plain are shelling the hills over which the scouts expect to reach the barracks. We heard to-day that all the girls in the rescue home have been killed. There were about eighty of them. To add to the horror of the crime, the Turks this afternoon set fire to the building, and we had the gruesome necessity to witness the scene without being able to lift a hand to save them. The First church also is on fire.

Feb. 8th.

The French troops are in the valley, and their guns are shelling the hills but it may be some days yet before they can encircle the city and close in on the enemy. The wounded continue to come and new deaths take place daily. This afternoon we spent with the French general and his staff in the upper story of the college building watching the battle in the plain and the attempt of the French relieving troops to make connection with the soldiers in the barracks. This they did later in the day. In the evening we had a Thanksgiving service in the college.

Feb. 9th.

Gen. Querette informed us to-day that he has received ~~xxxxx~~orders to evacuate the city at midnight of the ninth. This news has caused alarm all through the compound. Everybody is terribly excited. Women and children are crazed with fear. We have urged him to stay their departure as the Turks are on the point of surrender. He said his orders were imperative but he would try to secure a delay of 24 hours. If they evacuate the city, we are not sure what treatment we will receive at the hands of the Turks. We shall remain however, at our posts of duty to do what we can to shield the Armenians and protect American interests. We hope for the best but many fear the worst. Our hope is in God. We trust Him where we cannot trace Him and believe that in some Divine way our lives will be spared, but if not, God be with you all until we meet again. "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

Feb. 10th.

The French General in response to our earnest entreaty has granted a delay of 24 hours before leaving the city. We are hoping to bring about an understanding with the Turks that will prevent further massacres. The French took most of their wounded out of the city last night, but left 20 in the emergency hospital. The Armenians in the compounds are frantic and desperate. They are determined to leave the city with the French

aspathic fear massacre if they remain. The scenes are indescribably ~~pathetic~~ ~~pathetic~~ and tragic.. Our greatest concern is for Miss Buckley in Bethshalom orphanage. We have not heard from her during the siege. We trust she is safe. We fear the Armenians in other compounds have not been notified of the French withdrawal. We have been fitting out the refugees for the journey giving them food and clothes to the extent of our supplies. Many of the older boys and girls will leave with the exiles. Dr. and Mrs. Wilson will remain, Dr. Elliott, Miss Schultz, Mrs. Powers and Miss Dougherty will leave with the troops. I have decided to stay, but as two or three thousand are going out like sheep without a shepherd, Dr. Wilson thinks I had better go to take charge of them and find them food and shelter at their destination. It is a long hard trip of nearly 75 miles through mountain and plain and I fear many of them will not be equal to it. It is winter and God help them if the weather should be severe. We are trying to arrange peace terms and if the French forces would remain only a few more days in the city, I believe the Turks would lick their hands in abject surrender. We have just had an interview with Dr. Mustapha the leader of the Turkish forces, and he has agreed to call the notables of the city together to-morrow for the purpose of considering terms of surrender? But the fact is he is unaware of the positive withdrawal of the French troops to-night. The troops and refugee left the city between the hours of six and nine. The French General and his staff left about 10:30. I accompanied them. It was bitterly cold. The city was in flames. Guns were booming from the hills covering our retreat. After three or four hours we arrived at the camp on the plain., and two o'clock on Wednesday morning the long column moved from the plain on to its three days' journey to Islahie.

Feb. 11th.

As the column moved away from the city, it was ablaze with splendor. The great barracks just evacuated by the French was on fire, silhouetted against the sky. Through the long moonlight night the column marched, and until noon. When we reached the village of Euloglow we rested for the remainder of the day.

Feb. 12th.

At six A.M. the column started on its long march to Bell Hounar. The weather was severely cold and many of the weak ones dropped by the wayside to freeze or to starve to death. At noon the column rested for two hours, and reached Bell Hounar at five P.M. Turkish villages were burnt by the soldiers after the column had passed through. There were very meagre accommodations in the village and multitudes were encamped in the open to suffer seriously from hunger and exposure.

Feb. 13(Friday)

During the night a snow storm raged and at six o'clock the column prepared to move forward while it was yet dark. The snowstorm increased in violence during the early morning hours to a blizzard and continued through the long dreary march. From 12 to 18 hours the civilians plodded their way through the snow drifts. All along the line the weak and infirm dropped from sheer exhaustion. It is estimated that before the column reached Islahie more than a thousand refugees had perished in the snow, besides many of the soldiers. It was the tragic ending of a tragic exodus.

Feb. 14th.

We did our best to care for the poor refugees in Islahie. Many died after reaching their destination. No accommodations were available in the village, and very little food. I interviewed the Turkish governor and the French commandant, and secured their co-operation in doing something for the refugees. A bakery was secured to furnish bread and a mill to grind flour. I left with the French wounded on the evening train for Adana to confer with Dr. Dodd of the A.C.R.N.E., and Dr. Chambers of the American

Mission to see what could be done to help these unfortunates in their distress. Milk and blankets were dispatched immediately and further supplies prepared to meet the urgent necessity of the situation. All the American forces in the city have put themselves to the service of these stranded Armenians. It is hoped that eventually they will be brought to Adana where the pastors of the city are preparing to receive them and house them in their churches and other institutions in the city. I am now trying to return to my station at Aintab by way of Beirut and Aleppo. Dr Chambers, who is on his way to Constantinople to plead the cause of the Armenians before the representatives of the Entente Powers, will carry this message with him as a record of the events that transpire in Marash during these crucial weeks."



WORK COUNCIL

ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION



"WITH THE COLORS"

119, Rue de Lille, Paris.

12th April, 1918. 1917

Mr. R. P. Travis,  
Company D,  
502nd Engineers,  
A.E.F., France.

My dear Mr. Travis,

The Marquis de Ségur was so much interested in his correspondence with you and I felt so happy about it. Now, alas, it has come to an end, for the saddest of all reasons. After an illness of about six weeks my poor friend, who, as I think I told you, was very delicate, died on Sunday morning. I know that, although you had never seen him, you will regret this sad news. He was the very last of his name, - a long line of great men who have distinguished themselves in many ways and helped to write some of the glorious pages of France. Lafayette, as you know, was one of his ancestors.

I am going to propose to you another correspondent as French brother - the Corporal Besson, Attaché au Cabinet du Ministre de l'Armement, 74 Avenue des Champs-Élysées. He is a clever Frenchman who speaks English and has lived both in England and in New York.

I am writing to him at the same time to tell him that he may expect to hear from you. You can write to him in English or in French, or both as you will.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Believe me,  
Sincerely yours,

*B. LeRoux*

AMERICAN COMMISSION  
TO NEGOTIATE PEACE

Hotel de Crillon,  
Paris, May 13th, 1919.

Sgt. Ray P. Travis, A.S.C.,  
Elysee Palace Hotel,  
Paris.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 10th instant.  
I regret very much to say that the application blanks and pamphlets regarding the diplomatic examination mentioned in the newspapers have not yet reached me from Washington but that I am expecting to receive them within a few days. Meanwhile, I enclose to you herewith a statement which shows the nature of the examination. If, after reading this, you think it is worth your while to take the examination I shall, upon receipt of advice from you, take pleasure in sending to you copies of the blank and pamphlet when received.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*R. P. Smith*

a Sheikh Effendi, and destroy enough lives and property to subdue these  
ribs for all time!!

April 17th.-- I was aroused this morning by the cannonading from the guns  
of the new troops who arrived yesterday. This is certainly sweet music! The  
Machine guns in several sections broke loose and continued intermittently  
until noon. During the morning a courier came in and reported that the col-  
umn coming from Kilis would reach Aintab about one o'clock. We had an early  
luncheon so as not to miss anything that it was possible to see from  
our sand-bagged windows. The first welcome sight to meet our eyes was two  
armored cars--the first to enter here since the British left. Immediately  
behind them came a troop of cavalry followed by infantry and artillery (the  
battery being composed of six of the famous 75's) besides the trucks and  
native wagons bringing supplies for the soldiers and for the Armenians.  
They met with no opposition on the road although the troops who came yes-  
terday from the east met with a stiff resistance. One officer told me he  
never went through a heavier rifle fire during the Great War than they met  
with outside Aintab after coming from Hadja Koyoun yesterday. No sooner  
had the new Kilis column taken up positions than they began pouring shal-  
lows into the city, despite the fact that the Mutassarif had sent a pre-  
test to the Colonel this morning against the bombardment!!! We understand  
that the French will send an ultimatum to the Turks to-morrow morning and  
if it is not complied with a general bombardment will take place. The  
Sheikh Effendi has been reported to be on his way to Aleppo to raise a  
force of 1,500 Arab tribes to assist the Turks. The Armenians advanced  
their positions again to-day and captured the house of a hodja (priest).  
It was found to contain 600 bushels of wheat, about 300 bushels of corn  
and barley, besides 15 kantars (five tons) of figs, raisins, and pekmez  
(grape molasses). These things will augment the fast dwindling food supply  
of the Christians.

April 18th.-- The sun rose this morning in a cloudless sky and over a city  
whose Christian population was never more light-hearted and happy, but,  
alas, as noon approached rumor came that the Kilis column would evacuate  
on Tuesday leaving the city in a state of siege, and it had become noised  
abroad that five of the American personnel were leaving with it. The fact  
that these same Americans had been waiting weeks to get out to civil-  
ization since their contracts expired, had no effect upon the Armenians  
who thought the Americans scented danger with the withdrawal of any of  
the troops. The Americans held a meeting this afternoon to determine what  
demands should be made upon the French for protection to ourselves and  
our charges, and what persons should be sent out with the troops. An ACRNE  
nurse and I shall remain here with five members of the American Mission  
who are also assisting in ACRNE work. During our meeting the welcome whir-  
of a motor was heard, and looking out we saw a French aeroplane about to  
descend. Troops and the armored cars soon took up their positions and the  
aviator landed--the first time in about one month. He brought new orders  
that entirely changed the plans. The Kilis forces will remain and a general  
bombardment of the city will take place to-morrow. This was very  
welcome news to all Christians. General de la Motte will arrive by aero-  
plane early to-morrow before the firing begins. To-night the Armenians are  
happy again knowing that the column will remain and that the Americans  
will consequently have to remain longer. We expect a veritable "exodus"  
of Armenians, however, when they do go. Who can blame them?

-- This has been another quiet day as far as things military  
ed. In this respect it has been rather disappointing after what  
yesterday. About eight o'clock the aeroplane came bearing the  
and one hour later word came that part of the Kilis column  
to-night for Kilis and Katma to bring supplies of food and  
The five Americans decided to go with them and everything  
little of excitement to get the packing done on time. All the  
our institutions and in the city were grieved to see the  
leave they think that in this they can see trouble ahead for

but, early this morning succeeded  
in putting out the fire. About three  
o'clock, the AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION company  
left again for Kabis & Dr. Merrill,  
President of the Central Turkey College,  
Aintab, who has been in this land  
about 25 years, went with them upon  
a farewell in America. Col. Flyn-  
nante - Marie, the former commandant  
also left much to the delight of  
all. His successor was a much

different types of men, and we  
are all working for an improve-  
ment in the policy. We sent the  
Turks ~~messengers~~ to-day, telling  
them to be ~~careful~~ after what had  
happened yesterday. They should  
know that ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> ~~one~~ <sup>one</sup> would  
be the last to speak. About 10  
o'clock when ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> funeral of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup>  
young man wounded ~~now~~ <sup>now</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup>  
mission house was being held in  
the garden, ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> aeroplane came  
bringing mail for the American  
colony. We are now making plans  
to ~~evacuate~~ <sup>evacuate</sup> all ~~mission~~ <sup>mission</sup> institutions  
to perhaps the Lebanon Mts. in Syria.

This will not only assure the orphans, etc. safety, but by going we can turn over ~~our~~ large stock of food to the Armenians thus ~~making~~ augmenting their supplies for the Christian population by 15 to 20 days and all our transportation can be used to bring them supplies from Aleppo.

the Americans to use their influence  
with the Americans to join the Indians  
against the French, and to advise the  
French to evacuate before to numerous  
mormons, their letter to the French  
was an ultimatum demanding  
their immediate withdrawal. The  
French refused to answer them; the  
Americans addressed them, saying, "We  
the Indians say that you are not  
recognizing the reality of the  
situation and are to be  
only taken up arms to defend them  
seller against these men; the  
Americans also addressed them  
to the Indians saying that the  
French were here to land and the  
will of the allies and that we  
are not in a position to advise.  
About five o'clock to night the  
French began bombarding the  
hills, but the storming down came  
about a half hour later when

mission houses. Fortunately Miss  
Barker, Miss Foreman, and Miss Freese,  
(ladies of the mission) had gone to the  
college so were not in the house.  
Two Armenian young men were in  
the attic, and were wounded - one  
of them very badly; ~~He died this~~  
~~morning~~. Several Armenians were  
brought in wounded by the flying  
shrapnel. The French let loose  
with their 75's as soon as they  
had the range and long before  
they had pumped the 108th shell  
into the Turks their guns had been  
silenced. For about fifteen minutes  
though, things had looked pretty blue.  
When the first shell exploded my  
teachers took all our 800 boys into  
caves on our grounds.

April 30th -

Firing continued intermittently  
all last evening, and at 2 o'clock  
this morning it had reached its  
zenith. The Turks made many  
attempts to burn Christian property.

pretty stiff resistance. Several soldiers were killed and quite a number wounded when the Turks fell upon them with axes, rifles, and grenades. However, several hundred Turks were killed. The aeroplane came and took Capt. Voltat, the Colonel's adjutant, to Kiles. They returned about six o'clock and the plane will remain here to-night.

Tuesday - April 27th.

Last night Col. de Brénna and Col. Normand both withdrew their forces and went in the direction of Djéرابلس (Darchemish of the Bible) and Ousfa. They did nothing while here unless to make the Turks more restless. We are all rather down-hearted at the ~~present~~ new aspect of things, and expect the Turks will be more active than ever.

Wednesday - April 28th.

At the first Armenian positions to-day there has been much fighting. The Turks attempted five times to burn a house formerly occupied by our Industrial Department, but each

time it was put out by the Armenians who later burned about ten houses in the Turkish positions directly opposite them. The Armenians sent for kerosene; we had none, but I gave them plenty of gasoline to do the business.

Thursday April 29th -  
This morning I again visited the Armenian positions and saw the work they had done by

destroying the houses that menaced their positions. The Turks are burning, and yesterday had called to the Armenians, "The French have left you to us, we will finish you in six hours more." One Armenian replied "You don't know how to set fires. I am an expert. To-morrow we shall have burned our way to your market place." The report comes that the Mutassarrif made his escape four days ago. To-day a letter came from a nationalist leader who signed himself, "The Sword of God", asking

NEAR EAST RELIEF  
The American Committee for Relief in the Near East)  
SYRIA - ALEPPO DISTRICT

ALEPPO  
led. Rumor comes that an  
justice has been proposed  
fourand, of Beirut, and  
been accepted by Mustapha  
the Nationalist leader.  
quarters at Angora.  
another, of Kilis, will  
to-morrow to confer  
nationalists.

The general came as  
morning. The Turks  
ch to go to the Turkish  
rley with them. This the  
d to do and asked the  
to French headquarters.  
won the Mutassarif (Djela)  
Erfin Bey, the Mutassarif  
ce the trouble there,  
and now, the local  
ader wearing the  
officer of the Turkish  
at the entrance to the  
towns accompanied by <sup>ten</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>gendarmes</sup>  
ing the white flag. There  
the French and escorted

# NEAR EAST RELIEF

(Formerly The American Committee for Relief in the Near East)

SYRIA - ALEPPO DISTRICT

Telegraph and Cable Address: NEAREST

ALEPPO

officer, killed. Rumor comes that an ~~armistice~~ <sup>armistice</sup> has been proposed by General Gouraud, of Beirut, and that it has been accepted by Mustapha Kemal Pasha, the Nationalist leader, who has headquarters at Angora. General de Lamotte, of Kilis, will return again to-morrow to confer with local Nationalists.

May 29th—The general came as scheduled this morning. The Turks asked the French to go to the Turkish quarter to parley with them. This the French refused to do and asked the Turks to come to French headquarters. Shortly after noon the Mutassarif (Djela) (Ali Bey) and Erfin Bey, the Mutassarif of Malash since the trouble there, but formerly, and now, the local Nationalist leader wearing the uniform of an officer of the Turkish army, arrived at the entrance to the Armenian position accompanied by <sup>ten</sup> ~~an~~ <sup>men</sup> carrying the white flag. There they were met by the French and escorted

to French headquarters. The conference lasted all the afternoon, — the party returning just before dark. The Colonel's adjutant accompanied the party to the Armenian lines and was to go across a strip of neutral territory toward the Turkish lines when the party was greeted by a fusillade of bullets from the Turkish trenches. The adjutant beat a hasty retreat and he reported the Mutassarif and party as being rather nervous. Firing upon the white flag even when carried by their own men is not —  
To-morrow we hope to hear particulars of parley.  
May 30th —

## NEAR EAST RELIEF

(Formerly The American Committee for Relief in the Near East)

SYRIA - ALEPPO DISTRICT

Telegraph and Cable Address: NEAREST

seen the crowds gathering <sup>ALEPPO</sup> for about four o'clock they began dropping shells. Five were thrown, but only two exploded. No damage was done with the exception of a wagon being slightly damaged by one that did not explode. The French answered immediately with three batteries, and they certainly pumped the shells to the Turks. We evacuated 650 orphans, 200 rescued women, and the French took approximately 4000 Armenians. There were many pitiful sights, and in a way it was like the Turkish deportation of the Armenians (known the world over) during the war.

May 26th - ~~But~~ Shortly after six o'clock this morning the aeroplane came and landed. The Observer reported the column as having arrived at Quloumash. Everything has been quiet along the road, and they are evidently meeting with no opposition. The Turks fired several shells this afternoon which fell ~~wide~~ short of the mark. In retaliation the French fired a barrage

into a Turkish village about two miles away.

May 27th - Before seven o'clock this morning two aeroplanes, ~~had landed~~ one bearing General de la Mothe, of Kilis, had landed. He visited at an early hour the American Hospital. At one o'clock Dr. Shepard and I had a conference with him regarding the evacuation of the Armenians. They want 3000 or 4000 more to go with the next convoy besides all the boys in the orphanage. The General reported the convoy as two hours out of Kilis this morning. Apparently all had gone well with them.

May 28th - The Turks bombarded the French positions again this afternoon. They were evidently using shrapnel shell and most of them burst in air. The French returned a fierce bombardment last night about two hours and directed against the village bombarded on two successive days before. We learned to-day that the rear guard of the column that arrived in Kilis yesterday morning was attacked by Turkish cavalry when ~~two hours~~  $1\frac{1}{2}$  kilometres out from Kilis and a French captain, a medical

## NEAR EAST RELIEF

(Formerly The American Committee for Relief in the Near East)

SYRIA - ALEPPO DISTRICT

Telegraph and Cable Address: NEAR EAST

At three o'clock the French took the hills south of city ALEPPO. There had been very heavy cannonading early this morning, and about noon the French located moving objects in the hills east of the city. They immediately began shelling the ridge, and about one hour later were chagrined to find it was the advance guard of their column. The two officers in charge certainly informed the artillerymen in no uncertain language how they felt about it. No one was wounded, but one of the horses was slightly wounded in the leg. The main part of the column is at a small village about six miles out waiting for the coming of night to enter the city.

May 24th - Early this morning the French arrived. The night was dark and coming over the mountains they lost their way and wandered about all night. Dr. Lambert, and two others of our Aleppo personnel were with them. They reported stiff fighting at Ouloumashere, where they left the main road and came over the old caravan route, thinking the main highway from there too well fortified by the Turks. It was very difficult to get our native wagons over

the mountain road, and ~~these~~<sup>two</sup> wagons had to be left just outside the city. Some Armenians and the French went out to get them about noon. A stiff fight was going on and the Turks had gotten away with three wagons, containing two boxes of ammunition for the Armenians. Besides food we were bringing for the general population. This afternoon the French bombarded the hills to the west, east, and south, with three batteries of artillery, and then turned them ~~all~~ upon the Moslem quarter bombarding the government buildings and ~~and~~ the open market place.

~~May 25th~~ - Notice came to us this afternoon that the column would leave to-morrow night so that we might be prepared to evacuate our institutions. Some problem!!

May 25th - The French to-day repeated the bombardment of yesterday only that the shells thrown into the city were directed to three large khans, the headquarters of the Nationalist soldiers. Shortly afternoon large crowds began to gather near the French headquarters in response to their request that 5,000 or 6,000 persons be evacuated. The Turks in the hills had evidently

May 14th - Things remained unusually quiet ~~to-day~~ until four French aeroplanes arrived about six o'clock to-night. The ~~French~~ Turks began firing their cannon as soon as the planes appeared in sight. One shell dropped near the French headquarters, one near the American College, and three on the aviation field. None of the planes were able to land, but they dropped a number of grenades on the Turkish trenches and a Turkish house. The Turks have been digging two more mines, The Armenians have also been digging and succeeded in sinking a hole into one of them foiling the Turkish plot. The other one they hope to destroy before the Turks can touch the mine off. The Armenians are unable to do any mining because of lack of powder.

May 15th - Another aeroplane came early this morning. It dropped no bombs and no messages. They seem to be keeping a close watch over the road where the ~~telates~~ are entrenching themselves. There has been very little activity to-day.

May 16th - The day has been very quiet. A number of Armenians shot.

makers have volunteered their services to make "genizians" - a kind of low shoe for my 800 orphan boys. I shall furnish all materials and they will do the work as their contribution to the orphanage. To-morrow the work will begin in earnest.

May 17th - Last evening was a rather noisy one. The Armenians burned three Turkish shops and the fire spread to a small mosque which was destroyed by flames. I suppose this will not cause the Turks to feel any better. A letter came to the Armenians from a Turk who styles himself "Iron-stone". In it he twice refers to the peaceful relations between Armenians and Turks for the past 600 years. They are more mild in their requests for the Armenians to join with them against the French saying that "Unless you do our good and yours will surely starve". The French also read a letter whose contents we haven't learned.

AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

couldn't hold, and about four  
 o'clock this morning they touched off  
 a mine they had placed under the  
 street near an Armenian position.  
 The Armenians had heard them  
 digging and in a measure were  
 prepared for it. No military damage  
 was done. ~~At the~~ Fierce fighting continued  
 all night, ~~and~~ A French soldier, who  
 was handling bombs, noticed that the  
 pin had fallen out of one & shouted to  
 four comrades and an officer to  
 get out. They had ~~not~~ sooner gotten  
 out of harm's way when the bomb  
 exploded blowing off the soldier's  
 right hand, and blowing out both  
 eyes and otherwise wounding him.  
 He died this morning in our  
 hospital. To-day we had further  
 information contained in the  
 French message last evening. The  
 two Colonels who left here with  
 columns bound for Ourfa met a  
 Moslem force of some 4000 regular  
 and irregulars on the plain between

Djerablous (the Caraceniak of the Bible) and Ourfa. The Moslems had five cannon and a number of machine guns. The French inflicted heavy losses upon them taking two cannon and several machine guns. Among the Moslem dead were found three regular Turkish officers and a Turkish notable from Ourfa. We understand this is a punitive expedition and it was left to Colonel Debième to decide whether to leave a garrison in Ourfa after the Turks there have been sufficiently chastised. We learned further from the Armenian who carries ~~between~~ messages between Moslem and Christian quarters that more than one thousand wounded Moslems had been brought to Aintab since this battle of the eight, and that they were still coming. Two Armenian doctors (the Turks have practically none) were brought, — one from Ourfa and one from Biredjik to care for their wounded. The French have given  $5\frac{1}{2}$  tons of flour to the Arm<sup>y</sup> to help in their feeding problems.

last night during a heavy storm. There  
were thirty-five ready to make the  
escape, but when your had passed  
out the guards got wise to it. They  
brought various reports of the  
condition of affairs in the Turkish  
quarter — to the effect that a state  
of bolshewism exists. The French  
bombed a Turkish gun position  
in the hills and scattered the  
Turks in all directions.

May 12th — Things remained quiet all  
day long until about 6 o'clock when an  
aeroplane came. It was rather high and  
although it could not land it flew above  
the city and over the hills for about  
one hour. During this time they dropped  
several grenades and were fired upon  
continually ~~for~~<sup>by</sup> the Turks. Late this  
evening news came to us that the French  
received a message to the effect that the  
Convoy had met with stiff resistance  
on the road and had returned to Kibi  
without loss. They also said it would  
be ten days before it made another

attempt, This is a hard blow to both Armenians and Americans as we have very little food left. Many of the people in the city are growing weak from lack of food, and in our own institutions the need of food and green food is being felt. I dread the effect this news will have upon the Armenians when it is made known to them to-morrow. This morning I spoke to about 1000 men in a mosque near the Turkish lines that was taken by the Armenians in the early days. I told them of our plans for taking away the orphans and the advantage to be gained by our being able to turn our whole stock of wheat over to the civilians in the city. ~~They seem~~ I also told them of the assurance given by the French general in Kilis that the French would not evacuate Aintab.

May 13th - Last night was an eventful one! About midnight the Turks burnt a mill they found they

May 10th - The expected convoy did not arrive, although heavy artillery fire was heard in the distances early this morning. It is believed that still more ~~tchets~~ have gone out since last night to oppose the French on the roads, and unless their strength is very great the French are sure to have a hard time. The Turks threw several shells upon around the college and within the college compound. None of them did any damage whatever. The aeroplane came but, as usual, was unable to land. It is expected the convoy may come about midnight.

May 11th - Last night there was intermittent shooting, but no general attack. The few Turks left in the city had to do something to keep up appearances. The convoy did not arrive last night and heavy cannonading was heard on the Kili's road ~~the~~ until nine o'clock this morning. The aeroplane came again after that. We are hoping the convoy may arrive to-night, but fear they may have had a very hard time. Few Armenians escaped from the Turkish prison

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May 7th - An Armenian woman was shot and mortally wounded this morning by a man after a sharp altercation over the boundary between their properties. The Turkish cannon began operations about ten o'clock this morning. Those who counted said thirty were fired, but not more than half exploded. One fell in an Armenian house wounding seven persons more or less seriously; another fell over a cave where 100 of my boys were staying; one in the court yard of the YMCA; and several in the vicinity of the Second Church, now the Armenian arsenal. An aeroplane came about 6 o'clock to-night and although it could not land orders and letters were dropped for the French. We received a letter from Dr. Lambert, our Aleppo Director, saying he had made arrangements for the evacuation of our institutions to Beirut. This

This is good news, and I am  
sure nobody will lose any time  
in getting ready to leave.  
May 8th -

AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

protect the place against <sup>Tekes</sup>, they  
also stated that <sup>Kedud</sup> Ali and the  
"Sword of Allah" were not recognized by  
them as official leaders, and that  
the government could not be responsible  
for anything done by them. <sup>Aeroplane came</sup>  
<sup>and dropped money</sup>  
<sup>outside compound</sup> Col. <sup>Spence</sup> gold poured to man who would  
bring

May 5th - Another letter was sent to the  
Armenians by the Turks, this time telling  
them how they had lived together in  
brotherly accord for the past 600 years.  
Their tactics seem to have changed, but  
to the Armenians it is only adding  
insult to injury. About 2 o'clock in  
the afternoon a <sup>Turkish</sup> shell burst in  
front of a building about 100 yards  
from my room and occupied by  
French soldiers. We hustled all our  
people into their caves and as  
one class of my boys was going a  
shell burst just below the hospital  
in the orphanage compound and  
only a few yards from the boys.  
Their teacher was very close to the  
shell but when he heard it coming  
he threw himself on the ground  
and escaped uninjured. We picked  
up pieces of shrapnel just outside my

room. Two other shells fell in the city, but only two persons were wounded and only slightly. There are rumors that the cobway is on the way from Kilis. This may have been started by the fact that the aeroplane came again this morning although it could not land.

May 6th - Last evening was very quiet, but when I went to the lower part of the city to pay workers in the Industrial Dept. the Turks let loose with their cannons. Five shells were thrown, but no material damage was done: not all exploded, and those that did were not entirely "successful".

A Senegalese soldier shot his sergeant in the leg last night when he had been reprimanded by the sergeant for his failure to do a certain thing. This morning the offender tried to escape ~~but~~ and was shot by a sentinel ~~by a sentinel~~ with a rifle grenade. One leg was broken in four places.

May 3rd - Last night two messages came to the Americans, two to the French, and two to the Armenians, from the Turks, and signed by Kuludj (black) Ali, and "Sword of God", whose identity is unknown. Our letters demanded the evacuation by the French of Mardin Hill (our property), and the American College, saying they recognized them as benevolent institutions, but unless they were evacuated they would bombard. Of the Armenians they asked the surrender of all arms and the taking down of the French flags in their quarter hoisting the Turkish ones instead, and to the French they said "Unless you evacuate by early fore-noon we shall begin against you a war of the most savage kind". This seemed some threat after what they did to the wounded yesterday. The Americans answered by saying the American government and the allies knew what had been done and the Turks would get their answer from them rather than from us. The Armenians replied, as did we, to the mutasarrif saying they had received these messages from persons whom they did not recognize and wished to know what relation they bore to the government. They also quoted from the speech of the Sultan under date of April 5th in which he said the Nationalists were a menace to the future well-being of Turkey and asked that the leaders be punished. The Armenians then requested permission to send a communication to the Sultan telling him of their plight and in case the local government disclaimed any responsibility in the affair. The French sent no reply to their letter. This was the first time the Armenians received a lengthy letter and reply to our demand of their

~~of today.~~ They claimed that Mardin Hill was  
guarded only by Turkish gendarmes and that  
~~they had never taken it.~~ About eight  
o'clock in the evening a fierce attack  
began on all sides. At the college the  
Turks came down through a ravine to  
within 100 yards of the wall. A sharp  
encounter ensued in which the French  
used plenty of rifle and hand grenades. The  
French sent up a star shell which showed  
up the surrounding hills to perfection. There  
was very little firing from any quarter after  
that.

May 4th - There has been very little  
disturbance to-day. The French fired several  
shells behind a building near the hills.  
Turkish cannon have not been active  
and there do not appear to be many  
riflemen in the hills. The general opinion  
is that they have gone out on the road  
to meet the French convoy that may  
be on the way from Kilis. With the  
cannon they now possess I fear it may  
go hard with the convoy unless they  
are well protected by a strong artillery  
unit. This morning the Americans  
received a rather lengthy reply to our  
answer of their letter. It was signed by  
the Vice-Mutassarif and refuted the state-  
ment we made that the house on Mardin  
Hill had been taken by them and they  
passed into the hands of the French. They  
claim that they sent gendarmes there to