

Constantinople Celebrates Passing of Sultan's Power.

Blare of Trumpets and Flare of Flames Mark End of Old Regime After Six Centuries of Misrule and Awful Cruelty -- Turkish Nationalists Will Elect New Caliph -- Country May Become a Republic -- Treaties Nullified.

For once more in the throes of a political upheaval, the Turkish Nationalist Government (the Ankara Assembly) in session has declared itself supreme and has assumed all prerogative of the Sultanate, therefore virtually wiping away all power of the Sultan.

All treaties and covenants concluded since March, 1920, by the Sultan are null and void, the Ankara Assembly declares, and to itself reserves the right to make all future treaties or to declare war.

The old Ottoman Empire, founded by Osman in 1299, has collapsed, as a result of the Ankara assembly's action, and today in Constantinople the Turks are celebrating wildly the fall of the New National Turkish Government.

Soldiers and civilians alike, the blare of trumpets and bands to the flare of flaming torches carried through the streets of ancient Constantinople, have joined in the general rejoicing over the fall of the Sultanate.

In America and in Europe the overthrowing of the Ottoman empire is regarded as a step by the New Turkish Republic in a land that for more than six centuries a single dynasty of the Turkish royalty had reigned supreme.

In the future, according to the resolution of the Turkish Nationalist Government, the only Caliph in Turkey will be elected periodically, the law of royal succession to the throne is abolished.

Humorists of the present upheaval have been emanating from Turkey for many weeks. Late in September, it was reported that there were indications of the Sultan's intent to abdicate from the throne. Many members of the Sultan's entourage, beset and claimed by fear, were reported to have fled the palace.

RELUCTANT TO RELINQUISH POWER.

Several days later it was reported by a correspondent at Constantinople that Mohammed VI, the present Sultan, who has reigned since the death of his father, Sultan Mehmed V, had been reluctant to abdicate from the throne.

The report of his abdication was said to be the Sultan's, however, in a letter to an intimate friend, he had continued to discharge his duties to the end, he declared.

When the Nationalists enter Constantinople I shall have something to say to them. I have what I have believed was for the interest of my country and my people. I have made mistakes but I am a human. Because of the mistakes I have been kept a prisoner in Constantinople. Therefore how can I be responsible for the adversity of my people?

While the Ankara resolutions virtually make of Turkey a republic, the government will not be changed materially, it is understood. The overthrow of the Sultanate is epoch-

making, however, and is of great historical importance. The Ankara Assembly, of course, is the virtile child of the young Turk movement, and the assembly is declaring openly for a Caliphate that the Young Turks have long aimed at but never have achieved.

PEOPLE DO NOT RULE.

The Turkish people despite the overthrow of the Sultanate and the declaration for a periodical election of a Caliph, are not in power. Virtually sole power of rule now is said to be vested in Mustafa Kemal.

Caliph will be selected by the Ankara Assembly and the question of political power will drop up here perhaps, and party leaders will come in to being with all the dictatorial powers of party leaders everywhere.

But to-day Constantinople is a riot and a bedlam of celebration over the downfall of the Sultanate, a celebration as colorful and as whole-hearted perhaps as any which has taken place in the old city since 1453 when Mohammed II set up the Ottoman capital in Constantinople.

Since the reign of Mohammed II nearly 30 Sultans have ruled over Turkey from the palace in Constantinople, an absolute theocratic monarchy. Successions have been vested in the eldest male member of the House of Osman, and the form of government has been inspired by the teachings of the Koran. The Sultan has been supreme in all his orders and decrees, so long as these did not conflict with the Koran.

RECOGNITION FOR TURKEY.

In the form of government just overthrown, the Sultan has been assisted in his rule by the Grand Vizier, his appointee and advisor, who in turn is advised by a cabinet of ten members.

Under the new government, it is stated by the Nationalists, that government will be invested in the nation, which presumably means the people.

It is a question whether the Nationalist Government now in Turkey will be recognized by the United States and other leading powers of the world. The various rulers and governments that have come into being in Russia and a number of other European countries have not been recognized by the United States.

For years, however, the Turks under their Sultans have been frowned upon by Christian nations because of the alleged cruelties practiced on Christians and foreigners as a whole.

It is not a remote possibility that a government in the form of a republic in Turkey will be welcomed with open arms by the world powers.

RECORD OF CRUELTY.

Bloodthirstiness, has marked the reign of practically every Turkish Sultan from the beginning of the Turkish nation up to the present time. Mohammed II, who captured Constantinople in 1453 and made it the seat of government, is described as

history exposes to the execration of one of the most peridious rulers that posterity. A great conqueror, he was a ruthless one and a man with many vices.

During his reign of 30 years, besides the capture of Constantinople, he conquered two empires, 12 kingdoms and 800 towns. Greece fell under the Turkish yoke during the reign of Mohammed II.

Sultan, Bajazet II, who followed Mohammed and who reigned for 31 years, was responsible for war raids in which unspeakable atrocities were committed against the Venetians and Hungarians. These provoked retaliation by the Christians.

But although Mohammed and Bajazet were cruel rulers, Selim I, who followed, outdid both in bloodthirstiness of a systematic nature. He proposed to massacre all Christians in his realm, but in this project he was sternly opposed by one of the great leaders of the time.

THE MAGNIFICENT ONE.

His son, Suleiman, the magnificent, followed and reigned for 46 years, from 1520 to 1566. Although Suleiman was regarded as the "Magnificent" however, his reign was also marked by much cruel bloodshed and the Turks drew to themselves the designation "terror of the world." The Christian nations even suspended their own quarrels with each other and banded together in an Allied war upon the Turk.

Following the death of Suleiman the power of Turkey began to decline. Its succeeding rulers degenerated in succession, not retaining even the military courage of their predecessors.

Selim II, son of Suleiman, engaged in a conflict with Russia which then brought into being an antagonism between these two nations that exists to the present time. Eight years was the life of Selim's rule.

The reign of Murad III, who, following Selim II, in 1574, began with the Sultans murdering his own five brothers, an unspeakable crime. His rule was marked by debauchery and intemperance in all things.

Although Murad III was a cruel Sultan, his successor, Mohammed III, went even further into butchery to carry out his own ends. This ruler had 19 brothers and a son strangled in his presence. But a few days after he had murdered his eldest son, a public favorite, this killing Sultan was himself carried off by the plague in 1603.

THE BOY RULER.

Following the 14 year reign of Achmet I, and his death in 1617, Mustafa II, who had been imprisoned for some time, ascended the throne. He lasted only four months, however, and he was again placed in prison and was succeeded by Achmet II, a boy 14 years old.

Achmet, although a youth, had inherited the cruel blood of his forefathers, and put many prisoners to death for drinking wine. He himself was placed in the prison tower after a time and Mustafa was again released and again placed on the throne.

Mustafa was sent back to his cell as a punishment. In all this time Turkey was in the throes of revolution, dissolution and anarchy.

Murad IV, was only 13 when he was made Sultan in 1623. He soon gave evidence, however, of an unspeakable cruel nature, and a tyrannical disposition. All manner of disturbances marked his reign. The treasury of Turkey was empty, the people were starving, the soldiers mutilated and murdered the grand vizier, insurrections broke out and disasters occurred.

Murad, after causing the slaughter of thousands of persons, drank himself to death.

IBRAHIM ASSASSINATED.

He was succeeded by his brother, Ibrahim, who continued the reign of debauchery and bloodshed. Wholesale executions were ordered and carried out by him and with his sanction. After a reign of nine years he was strangled by an assassin.

The rule of child Sultans was not over. Mohammed IV, who took the throne in 1648, was only 7 years old at the time he was declared head of the Turk. Lacking a head the Turkish nation was in a state of confusion. Within a few years six viziers were either disposed of by being killed or strangled. The nation was in a continual state of warfare and the Sultan's troops, defeated and chastened, finally turned against him and dragged him from the throne.

He was thrown into the same prison from which his brother was released in 1687 and was made Sultan of Turkey under the name of Suleiman II.

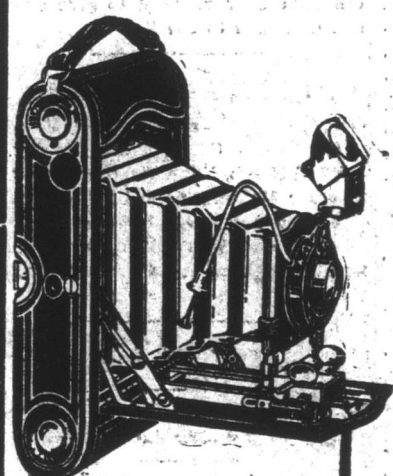
PESTILENCE IN TURKEY.

The butchery went on unchecked, and the grand vizier was murdered. Then the women of his harem were killed and their mutilated bodies dragged through the streets. Suleiman's regime lasted only four years and he was succeeded by his brother, Achmet III, described as "an imbecile and incapable wack." For four years under Achmet, pestilence held sway in Turkey until the Sultan himself finally died, to be succeeded by Mustafa II.

Mustafa opened war against the "unholy Christians," but his army came to grief and in one combat Mus-

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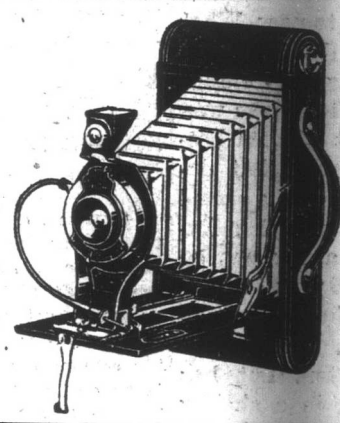
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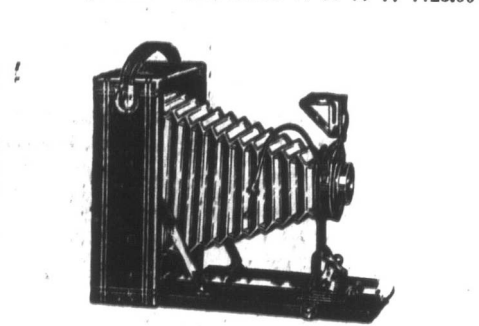
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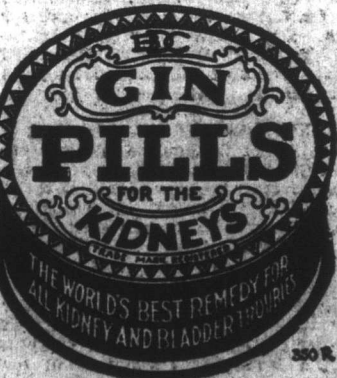
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