

## SAYS ARMENIA IS LAID WASTE.

**Dr. Dwight Cables Oscar S. Straus  
Urging a Non-Partisan Commission.**

A cablegram confirming the worst fears regarding the extent of the Armenian massacres by Turkish mobs and soldiers was received yesterday by Oscar Straus, ex-United States Minister to Turkey, from the Rev. Dr. Henry O. Dwight, head of the Bible House Mission in Constantinople.

Dr. Dwight makes an appeal for the formation of a strong non-partisan relief commission to give aid to the distressed Armenians. The country, he declares, has been laid waste and 250,000 persons are destitute.

Mr. Straus knows Dr. Wright as a man of

the best judgment, and is convinced he would not state facts he was not thoroughly assured of. Mr. Straus is satisfied there should be co-operation on the part of the committees formed for the relief of the Armenians.

Dr. Dwight, in his cablegram, says:

"Armenia laid waste; quarter million souls destitute; details through Central News; instant action can save thousands. Will you start humanitarian work, forming strong, non-partisan relief commission, independent of missionaries?"

"Dr. Dwight is one of the leading missionaries of the American Board in Turkey," Mr. Straus said, in relation to this cablegram. "He has been there for the past twenty years. He is a man of excellent judgment, very conservative in his statements, and he can be thoroughly relied upon. Dr. Dwight would not cable this way if he were not thoroughly assured of the facts. There evidently must have occurred some terrible conflicts between the Turkish troops and the Armenians, with the deplorable results indicated in the cable. There should be co-operation on the part of the various committees which have already been formed for this purpose, and I propose to put myself at once in communication with John S. Kennedy, William A. Booth, and Spencer Trask."

John S. Kennedy, when seen, said he heartily indorsed Mr. Straus's statements concerning Dr. Dwight, and believed there must be need for prompt action. If he found that the existing committees could not proceed fast enough in the matter, he would ask President Orr of the Chamber of Commerce to call a meeting of that body for consideration of the subject.

Spencer Trask is the Treasurer of the Armenian Relief Fund Committee, formed some time ago. The office is at 27 Pine Street, where contributions to the relief fund should be sent, in care of Mr. Trask. Mr. Trask is at present in Saratoga, and an expression of his opinion regarding Dr. Dwight's urgent cablegram could not be obtained last night.