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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

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Week ending Tuesday, April 27, 1909.

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### The "Young Turks" Take Constantinople and Depose Abdul Hamid II.

The Second and Third Army Corps of the Turkish army, under the leadership of the Young Turks, or the party of Union and Progress, representing the Constitutional movement, as reported last week (p. 395), arrived before the gates of Constantinople on the 19th. The remnant of the garrison of the city—the First Army Corps—depleted by desertions, and unsupported by their officers, many of whom indeed had been murdered by their own men in the fanatical rioting which marked the first outbreaks against the Constitutional movement, made hasty preparations to resist the entry of the approaching forces. Dispatches of the 22d stated that the Fourth Army Corps at Erzeroun, Asia Minor, had also pronounced in favor of the Sultan and against the Constitutional party. The advance of the Constitutional army into Constantinople began in the afternoon of the 23d, when the Sultan was away from the Yildiz Kiosk in attendance upon a religious ceremony. Light fighting marked the appropriation of momentarily empty barracks by the advancing troops. Fierce combats in the streets and from one defended house to another, followed on the 24th, and by evening the Constitutional forces were in complete control of the city with the exception of the Yildiz Kiosk, the Sultan's fortified palace. Time was given the Sultan for capitulation as the Young Turks desired no unnecessary bloodshed. Among the assertions to inspire confidence, made in advance by the Constitutional commander-in-chief, Mahmoud Scheffet Pasha, was that he was bringing policemen with him. That the character of the invading army, which included large forces of volunteers, some of whom came in cabs to take part in the fighting, and the presence of the "policemen," produced a new kind of battle is evident from these statements in the Associated Press dispatches:

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the attack upon the city was the great number of people of all nationalities, including many Europeans, who thronged the streets immediately outside of the zone of the firing. Everybody showed that confidence had been inspired by the discipline, valor and friendly cour-

tesy of the invading troops, particularly the gendarmes of Saloniki.

At noon the battle ceased, and precautionary measures were immediately taken by those upon whom victory had rested to insure the safety of the residents. No disorders of any kind occurred during the afternoon and no looting was permitted. General satisfaction seemed to be felt at the swift change from uncertainty to constitutional order.

The Yildiz Kiosk garrison surrendered on the 25th. Martial law was immediately proclaimed in Constantinople by the victorious leaders. Placards were posted about the city requesting the people to continue their business, open their shops, on which the shutters were still up, and avoid accepting as true, and repeating, rumors prejudicial to tranquillity of mind. The posters advised the populace to keep within doors from one hour after sunset until sunrise, but permission would be given by the officers of the watch for passing through the streets on necessary business after nightfall. With the surrender of the Yildiz Kiosk the Sultan fell into the hands of the Young Turks. At dawn on the 27th Abdul Hamid II was formally deposed by a decree of the National Assembly, following the decision of the Sheik-ul-Islam, the religious head of Mohammedanism after the Sultan, that the Sultan was incapable of ruling in accordance with the will of the people. Abdul Hamid's brother, Mehemmed Reschad Effendi, who has been by Turkish law the heir-apparent, and who had been kept a prisoner in his own palace during all the thirty-three years of Abdul Hamid's reign, was proclaimed Sultan under the title of Mehmed V.

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In the meantime the fires of religious fanaticism kindled by the reactionary movement which started the revolt of the 13th (p. 395), under the leadership of the Mohammedan League, have spread far and wide in Asiatic Turkey and in Macedonia, where Armenians and other Christian citizens of the Ottoman Empire have been massacred and their homes destroyed. In some cases whole villages have been entirely wiped out. Foreign missionaries, among whom Americans are conspicuous, are in the greatest danger, and some have undoubtedly lost their lives. The number of persons massacred is very variously estimated, as news is very uncertain, but it is even put as high as over 30,000. The Young Turks began organizing an army of 10,000 volunteers on the 21st, to suppress the massacring, and indeed it was the diversion of attention to these horrors that delayed the entry of their army into Constantinople. The religious movement is working on subtle lines, and may be difficult to control. It is said that the Mohammedan League cannot be located. It is a secret society, which has sprung up since July to fight the battles of faith and to repel heresies, and it is busy undermining the loyalty of the troops which

are affiliated with the Constitutionalists. Even as the Constitutional army drew near Constantinople, numerous agents of the Mohammedan League, ardent young men, theological students and junior members of the clergy, penetrated the lines, pointing out to the men that it was their duty to God and Allah to rid themselves of their officers. The navy also has suffered from this religious propaganda. The Committee of Liberal Union, with which the Mohammedan League is allied, does not announce such fanatical principles. They favor religious freedom, though insisting that as the Mohammedans are numerically more powerful in the Empire than the Christians, they should have a larger control of affairs. While the Young Turks, on the other hand, have declared in their proclamations that they seek absolute equality for all the religious elements of the Empire.

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#### Russian Troops Enter Persia.

The Nationalists of Persia who represent the constitutional idea in that awakening country (p. 63), as already reported, are in a long fight with the Shah. For nine months their headquarters have been at Tabriz in the northwest, where, under the leadership of Satar Khan, they have withstood attack, but suffered continual besiegement. Lack of provisions has produced a critical situation. The foreign consulates continue to receive supplies from without, and are therefore threatened with pillage by the starving mobs. On the ground that the foreign residents require protection the Powers are acquiescing in Russian intervention. A Russian expedition under General Snarsky left the Russian frontier on the 24th for the besieged city.

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#### The Tariff in Congress.

The struggle in the Republican party between the Aldrich high protectionists and the western tariff revisionists, began in the Senate on the 21st in the course of the debate on the tariff bill (p. 393), the revolt in favor of tariff revision downward being led by Senator Cummins of Iowa in a speech in explanation of his introduction of an amendment providing for an income tax. He spoke, however, as a protectionist. Answering a question, he declared that he believed absolutely in the principle of the protection of the American markets against any and all other people on the earth, and wished to go before the country as a protectionist at all times. "If I am to be judged by the standard of that aggregation of selfishness and slander known as the Protective Tariff League," he said, "I am unsound on the tariff. But if I am to be judged by the standard of the Republican platform and of the attitude of McKinley, Garfield, and Blaine, I am as good a Republican on the tariff as can be found." The income tax amend-

ment which Senator Cummins submitted is of a graduated type. It provides for a tax of 2 per cent on incomes between \$5,000 and \$10,000, rising to 2½ per cent up to \$20,000, 3 per cent up to \$40,000, 3½ per cent up to \$60,000, 4 per cent up to \$80,000, 5 per cent up to \$100,000, and 6 per cent on all incomes exceeding that sum. It does not propose to tax corporations, because Senator Cummins regards them as mere instrumentalities for individual profit, the result of taxing a corporation as a whole being frequently to tax the small holder of stock, whereas the purpose of his amendment is to exempt all incomes below \$5,000 annually.

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#### Destructive Storm at Cleveland.

The city of Cleveland, Ohio, suffered great loss from a sudden and most violent wind and rain storm of brief duration at noon on the 21st. Houses, great bridges, many-storied factories and large churches were in part or entirely demolished. Lightning added to the destruction. It all came in the ten minutes from 12:30 to 12:40, at just the time when the school children were out of the school buildings, a fact which undoubtedly decreased the fatalities, as fourteen school buildings were shattered in roof, walls, cornice or windows. Thirty churches suffered greatly. St. Stanislaus' Roman Catholic Church, which cost when built a few years ago, \$150,000, was demolished. The total property loss has been put at \$2,000,000. Eight persons lost their lives.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—The price of May wheat (p. 393), fell on the 24th to \$1.18.

—George Leavens Lilley, Governor of Connecticut, died at the executive mansion in Hartford on the 21st.

—Earthquakes (p. 205) in Portugal (p. 14) on the 23rd caused much destruction of property and some loss of life.

—Mrs. Matthew T. Scott of Illinois was elected president-general of the Daughters of the American Revolution (p. 396), on the 23rd, at Washington.

—Peter F. Collier, founder and chief owner of Collier's Weekly, died suddenly in the club house of the Riding Club, New York City, at the age of 59.

—Resolutions demanding that hides be put on the free list in the pending tariff bill (p. 393), were adopted at Chicago on the 24th, at a meeting of representatives of the leather industries.

—The fourth executive meeting of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance (p. 395) opened in St. James' Hall, London, on the 26th. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of the United States, presided.

—Concessions regarding access to their private set of books (p. 394), have been made by the Chicago