

reasonable ground for the supposition that the attitude of the Greeks is not as disagreeable to one or more of them as the vigorous protests make it appear. It is hard to understand why Europe has not before this enforced its demands on the Greeks, if the desire to do so had been earnest. It is almost incredible that the Greek government would have refused to obey the dictum of the powers, had there not been some intimation that non-compliance would not result in disastrous consequences. The very blockade of Crete looks like a farce in view of the fact that the commander of the Greek army of occupation was given ample time to supply himself with provisions before the ports were closed, and that even since then vessels have been allowed to land their contents before the very eyes of the admirals.

At present only those initiated in the most secretly guarded mysteries of diplomacy can form a correct idea of the Turkish situation. But it would cause no surprise if it finally should turn out that the Greeks are acting the part of the cat's paw in the hot game. Russia is said to have guaranteed the integrity of the Turkish empire, in consideration of a couple of strategic points, but the integrity would be maintained, perhaps, even if the capital of the empire were removed from Constantinople to Jerusalem.

SHOULD FIX IT NOW.

A NEWS correspondent, J. F. M., writing from a town in Cache county, which we will not name for the prudential reason that designing persons might readily take advantage of the condition complained of and allowed to go on neglected, tells of a mixture in land titles, and asks whether we have known of a similar case and can suggest a remedy for the trouble which exists. There is no quarrel or actual dispute in the case, but the foundation is good for both in the near future, unless the parties now interested, and who are well acquainted with affairs, fix them up before other and less well informed persons become concerned. With the exception of the remarkable neglect shown, we have known of a number of similar cases in the State that have been arranged amicably. In some instances it has required a friendly lawsuit to quiet title, but in this particular case it would not seem to be necessary. The end desired could be attained by the parties in interest uniting in a representation of the circumstances to the mayor and city council, who could not refuse, on the basis of equity, to grant the relief desired by issuing properly drawn documents. If there should be a refusal, upon the case as stated a suit could be maintained compelling the issue; but no reputable public official who can act without this, as the mayor and council can, would refuse to do so upon the circumstances as related by our correspondent. Upon the issue of proper papers by the public officials, the parties receiving the same should make a formal transfer of the documents containing the wrongful descriptions. But there should be no further delay in this business, if the parties would avoid trouble. It would

be a comparatively insignificant amount of cost to each for all to engage a careful and responsible attorney to arrange the whole business satisfactorily and securely, if the parties deemed such employment necessary.

PALESTINE AS A STATE.

A notable feature of the present time is the increasing agitation for the return of the Hebrew race to the country of their fathers. Not farther back than fifty years ago one who believed in the literal gathering of the Jews to Palestine was looked upon as a religious enthusiast by conservative theologians who admitted that they could not see anything but a spiritual union of the scattered people, but gradually the movement towards the land of promise has taken form and obtained considerable popularity, particularly among the Jewish element with pronounced religious tendencies.

Recently a Jewish lawyer in Austria, Dr. Theodore Herzl, has published a pamphlet in which he sets forth his ideas as to how the establishment of a Jewish state in the Holy Land might take place. The publication has attracted widespread attention, the author being recognized as eminent authority, and his ideas, although the subject of criticism, are generally regarded as practical.

At the outset Dr. Herzl announces that the gathering of the Hebrews to Palestine must not be thought of unless the country can be turned over to them as their property, for the reason that history shows that wherever the Jews go in large bodies they excite the jealousy of the people, and an anti-Semitic agitation follows. To obtain possession of the country he proposes the formation of two distinct organizations. The society of Jews, the first of these, is to have charge of the "moral" propaganda. It is to consist of the best and noblest representatives of Judaism, and its mission is to come to an understanding with the European governments and obtain the proper authority for the carrying out of the project. Having obtained the necessary authorization, it would commence the negotiations for the purchase of land in Palestine sufficient for the establishment of the state. This society would guarantee the payment of the indebtedness resting on the country, undertake to develop its resources, build roads and otherwise secure the welfare of the new state.

The second organization to be known as the Jewish company is to act under the directions of the society and form Jewish laborers, willing to emigrate, into suitable companies and take them to the place of destination. Here they would commence to build cities, plant forests and build roads. They would have a chance to earn their homes but be properly supported by the company until able to provide for themselves. The author's idea is that the beginning of work will at once create a market, at least for the necessities of life for the support of the colonies; and gradually it will be possible to bring into the state the representatives of the artisan and trade and business callings, and gradually, by the side of

the labor managed by the company, free and independent labor will find its place.

It is further contemplated that the migration to the new state is to take place gradually, in groups of families, circles of special friends, or even whole congregations. Everywhere in the old homes subordinate societies are to be established in the interest of the project. The immense sums of money that would be needed to realize this plan the Jewish society, as a stock association, would secure through subscriptions among the people at large, as the Jewish banking circles would probably not lend their help. The whole scheme is to be a popular propaganda. It is expected that the name Palestine and the seven-hour day for work will win for the project many friends. The form of government in the new state is to be an aristocratic republic, in which every citizen can live in accordance with his own belief or unbelief.

Such is in a hasty outline Dr. Herzl's scheme. It is valuable as showing that, in the opinion of competent men, there is no immovable obstacle to the establishment of a new state in Palestine. Some time the European powers will be called upon to decide what they will do with that country to save it from the ruins of the Turkish empire, and it is not impossible that they will gladly consent to the Jews occupying it, as the best way out of the difficulty of deciding the ownership. It is in the interest of all to make it neutral ground on which all can meet in devotion to the Prince of peace.

THE DECREASING BIRTHRATE.

A recent issue of the Medical Times, referring to the decreasing birth-rate in Europe and America, makes the following comment:

In 1880, the birthrate per 1,000 in the United States was 30.95, while in 1890 it was only 26.68, a decrease of 4.27 per 1,000 in population in ten years. The decrease was greatest in Massachusetts, 11.67, next in Virginia, 8.76, and even in New York it was 1.76. It is a question if this decrease in the birthrate is an evil after all. Horticulturists do not think that a tree loaded with fruit gives as fine results as when the culture and the strength of the tree is centered in a smaller amount. In the latter, the fruit is larger, richer in flavor, and more valuable than in the former. So long as the nation is increasing year by year in population, we need have no fear of a near extinction, even if the families are smaller than half-century ago. Parents who bring into the world more children than they can properly care for are by no means to be commended. Quality is much more to be commended than quantity.

Considering the fact that the reason for a decrease in the birthrate is more thoroughly understood by the medical profession than by any other to be a murderous sacrifice of innocents to lust and fashion, the foregoing argument in its favor is a terrible reflection on a profession wherein so many members lend themselves to the work of pre-natal butchery; and this defense of the practice evidences a coldbloodedness that is startling to the moral sense. Fortunately the suggestion that in