Armenian Girls in America

The girls pictured here are representative of the people which the Turkish government has endeavored to blot out of existence. Sixteen-year-old Nazeli Mouradian comes from the school in Sivas which was destroyed. She is all alone in the world.

Twig Mirakian from the girls' school in Erzerum hopes to become a teacher and go back to Armenia to help the remainder of her people. She is the only survivor of a family of twelve.

Keep Their Native Art Alive

Hundreds of thousands of dollars are needed to keep alive the starving refugees in Bible lands and distribution is made without expense. Charles R. Crane, 70 Fifth Avenue, is General Treasurer of the American Committee for Armenian and Syriac Relief.

Aigule Kalsayan came from Ardeas after the massacre in 1915. A young brother and sister were among those deported by the Turks about a year ago. She is ready for college if the way will open.

A LESSON IN ARMEAN NEEDLEPOINT

By Nouvart Tashjian

Fig. 1

Fig. 3

Fig. 2

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

Fig. 7

These edges are suitable for handkerchiefs, underwears, and doilies, according to the size of thread used.

O NE of the laces which is most popular now because of its simplicity, beauty, and durability, is the commonly known Armenian needlepoint lace. One of its striking characteristics is its firmness in spite of the wonderful web-like delicacy; it is practically indestructible, and even when cut the double knots prevent its unraveling.

Materials: The materials required are a sewing needle and sewing thread Nos. 30 to 40. When the lace is worked into a finish as a foundation, a pointed needle is used, but for working succeeding rows a needle with a round point is preferable. For practice, work on a piece of tape or folded cloth.

Hold the material between your left thumb and index finger. Hold the needle between your right thumb and index finger, needle pointing outside, away from you, as shown in Fig. 1. The first row of knots is worked from right to left, as shown in the detail, Fig. 1, and the edging, Fig. 2.

Secure the thread in the material. To make the Armenian Knot, put the needle, point upward, partly through the edge of material (see Fig. 1), the needle being under the working thread. Take the thread near the eye of the needle, pass it under needle to left, then over needle to right, and pull needle through, drawing the thread up close to the edge of the material, thus completing the knot. Pay attention to the regular spacing of each loop, making them all alike.

The second row of knotting is worked from left to right, as shown in the detail, Fig. 2, and the process is the same as in the first row, except that the needle is put up under the looped thread of the preceding row. Fig. 2 shows the knot in process before thread is drawn up.

The size of the knots vary according to thread used or size desired. For practice work it is best to use medium-weight thread, but for fine edgings one may use Nos. 100 or 200. Practice making these loops until you can make them even and in perfect triangular shape. The beauty of this lace depends mainly in making each loop as perfect and even as it can be made.

When you wish to start with new thread, make a tight knot over the last knot, and later cut the ends close to the knot.