

sibility of war with Great Britain. Such a conflict would be the end of civilization". Under present conditions it would be the height of folly for the United States to be the first to disarm, Mr. Weeks declared. World-wide disarmament must come as the result of an international agreement and must be done simultaneously, he said. Prudence would not permit our disarmament while others hold weapons in their hands.

New York, June 9th.—The raw sugar market was weak today and prices declined $\frac{1}{4}$ c. below the last quotation, or at the lowest level recorded in over four years. There were sales of 7,400 bags Costarico's in port equal to 4.25 duty paid. Raw sugar futures were weak, reflecting on the power ruling of the spot market and prices were 16 points net lower under selling trade interest and commission houses. No change occurred in refined sugar. The demand was light and buyers were inclined to hold off, owing to the unsettled feeling in the spot market. Prices ranged from 6.25 to 6.30 for fine granulated. Refined futures were ten points lower at midday. Trading was confined to the September position.

London, June 8th.—The Government is rapidly shedding its financial responsibilities in pursuance of the policy of retrenchment. Most surprising is the repeal of the agricultural bill, which was passed only last December and put into operation January last. It guaranteed minimum prices to the farmer for his produce and was estimated to entail a subsidy amounting to from £20,000,000 to £30,000,000 yearly. These guaranteed prices will terminate with the next harvest. In the House of Commons tonight the Government introduced a bill reducing unemployment doles from 20 to 15 shillings weekly for men and from 16 to 13 shillings weekly for women and at the same time increasing the contributions from both employees. Mr. MacNamara, Minister of Labour, introduced the Bill, explained that owing to the enormous increase in unemployment through the coal strike, this insurance scheme had become insolvent, the Government paying £3,000,000 weekly and receiving only 350,000 pounds.

Paris, June 9th.—The peace treaty with Hungary which was signed June 4th 1920 in the Trianon Palace at Versailles and is known as the Treaty of Trianon, was ratified yesterday by the Chamber of Deputies. The vote on ratification was 470 in favour to 74 against.

Oppeln, June 9th.—Five thousand Polish insurgents have been driven out of the city of Rosenberg northeast of this city by British forces and last night the Poles were reported to be retreating in a southeasterly direction and at that time many had passed the city of Lublinitz about 10 miles from Rosenberg. The Poles made a show of resistance

when the British soldiers entered the city dropping a few poorly aimed shells behind them and there was a scattering patter of rifle shots from the Polish positions. The Poles then picked up their machine guns which had been set up in a road and fled. When the British marched further into the city they found a Polish Commander with 300 men. The commander was directed to leave the city within an hour and to evacuate the district before Wednesday night. The Pole said this was impossible and he was warned that every insurgent found in Rosenberg at the expiration of an hour would be held for examination. A search of the city in the evening showed that all the insurgents had departed on time. The people of Rosenberg gave the British an ovation, girls trying to kiss the soldiers and old women weeping as the British marched through the streets. There was no attempt on the part of the British to disarm the Poles, a British colonel saying "we are trying to avoid a civil war and are attempting to re-establish authority without bloodshed. The British advance into Rosenberg was made so rapidly that the Poles made virtually no attempt to carry out their threat to burn and plunder the city. Shortly after the British occupied the town, small detachments of French soldiers appeared and some of these stood guard last night with the British.

London, June 9th.—King Peter of Serbia is seriously ill according to a despatch to the "Daily Mail" from Belgrade. The despatch adds that Prince Alexander the regent has been urged by the Ministerial Council to return home from France where he is on a visit.

Paris, June 9th.—Dr. Mayer, the German Ambassador here, called at the Foreign Office this morning and presented the excuses of the German Govt. for an attack upon the French troops in Silesia yesterday by the forces of General Von Hofer, head of the German defence forces in the district. Dr. Mayer said the attack was an error, the French having been mistaken for Polish insurgents.

San Salvador, June 9th.—A terrific storm in the region about San Miguel one of the most conspicuous volcanoes of San Salvador has just come to an end after creating much havoc. A flood descending from the volcanoes destroyed 12 villages and 54 houses in the town of El-transito. In Sanjorge the Sanrafael Square was transformed into a lake and houses and trees were carried great distances by the flood. All the crops in the district were destroyed but no lives were lost.

London, June 8th.—Mr Austen Chamberlain the Govt. spokesman stated in the House of Commons this afternoon that the question of arranging the Anglo French alliance even without possible participation by the United States was now under discussion. Recently the

French newspapers have been discussing the question of a closer alliance between France and Great Britain and it was indicated that the United States Govt. would be sounded as to its attitude toward such an alliance.

Paris, June 9th.—In presenting France's programme of naval construction for the next three years deputy Paul Denise, reporter for the navy commission, advocated in the Chamber of Deputies today the virtual abandonment of the building of battle-ships and battle cruisers and intensification of construction of submarines torpedoboats destroyers and airplane carrying ships.

ISLANDS THAT WE DO NOT WANT

(Philadelphia Inquirer)

Senator Reed has an idea that England and France might be willing to part with their West India islands as a partial payment of their obligations to the United States. He has introduced a resolution suggesting that the President make inquiries.

There are two or three things to be said about this scheme. First, England could not be induced to sell her holdings; second, France would not consent to dispose of her possessions. There would be no incentive, since the amounts that we would pay—if we were going to buy—would not have an appreciable effect in debt reduction. Besides, there is the element of sentiment.

And there is something else. The United States has no use for the islands. Jamaica would be a loss commercially to us. Trinidad we could do nothing with. We would have a race problem on our hands there and wherever we went. Barbados might be perhaps worth while. There is an air of prosperity about the Barbados lacking elsewhere. And for that reason, if for nothing else, England would hold on to them and their sugar, coffee and cotton. The French possessions would be dead wood on our hands.

Rum is a staple in many of the West Indies. It was in the Virgin Islands until we took them over. The Virgins are now virtually defunct. We are paying there—at high cost annually—for a coaling station and a naval base as an outpost of the Panama Canal. Porto Rico is the king of the bunch, leaving Cuba aside, and that is ours. With Porto Rico, the Virgins and the great naval depot at Guantanamo, Cuba, we have about everything we need.

Buy a job lot of West India Islands? Forget it Senator. Why hunt for trouble? And we would have it in plenty when we tried to enforce prohibition upon lands teeming with blacks and had knocked the head out of the profitable rum barrel.—*Porto Rico Progress, May 27th.*