

east of Samsun, but did not cause much damage.

London, July 27th. A meeting of all the available members of the Irish republican "Cabinet" today gave further prolonged discussion to the British Govt's proposals relative to an Irish settlement, but apparently reached no decision. A communication from De Valera is reported to have reached the prime minister, probably seeking further elucidation of some doubtful points in the proposals. Another significant incident of the day was the postponement by General Smuts of his departure for South Africa until August 5th, which was taken to imply the belief that his services as mediator may again be needed. Even more interesting however was the speech of Lord Birkenhead, Lord High Chancellor, in the House of Lords, intimating that the Govt. anticipated that the negotiations may last for weeks, and inviting Parliament and the country to have patience with the difficulties De Valera and his colleagues may be experiencing in Dublin. He reproved rebellious unionist in the coalition who denounced the Govt's policy as shameful and humiliating. The Lord Chancellor probably had these Unionists in mind when he added, that, in the event of an Irish settlement being reached and Parliament refusing to accept, the Govt. would consider going to the country for its approval. Like Mr. Chamberlain in the House of Commons yesterday, Lord Birkenhead took an optimistic view of the negotiations. There is a growing belief in Dublin that De Valera was waiting for the release of the remainder of the members of the Daileiran before taking a decisive step.

Havana, July 27th.—Provisions for reducing the production of sugar and for sending a commercial mission in Washington to secure a revision of the reciprocity treaty between the United States and Cuba, are included among the nine measures, constituting an urgent legislative programme drafted yesterday by congressional leaders and President Zayas. These measures, which this administration hopes will normalize Cuban financial and agricultural condition, are to be discussed in detail today by the President and a parliamentary commission entrusted with the task of forming an executive programme for the present special session of Congress, and it is expected that they will be submitted to the legislature on Friday. Other provisions of the urgent programme seek to establish legislation for a crop-lien law to aid sugar-planters, for revision and reduction 1921-22 budget, for the abolition of bonuses to public services, for a tariff reform commission for an interior loan to meet the existing Govt. deficit, for a loan of fifty million dollars to aid the sugar industry and for reduction of rents. The tariff commission of the Chamber of Deputies in a report sub-

mitted yesterday, advocated a policy of frank protection for national industries.

NEW YORK, July 28th. 1921.

Flour, Blended Clears St. Lawrence Brand pr. brl. \$9.00.

Meal, Kilndried per 100 lbs \$1.95

New Season's Pork per brl. \$37.00

Heavy Mess Pork per bbl. \$24.00

Sugar---Crystals maximum per 100 lbs. \$4.61

Molasses Sugar 89° test, no quotation.

Cotton, Middling Upland, at Liverpool per lb. 7 89-100d.

Exchange, New York and London, 60 days' sight \$3.54

Exchange New York and London, sight \$3 57½

LONDON, July 28th 1921.

Sugar, Demerara Crystals, per cwt. 45s. —51s

Muscavado per cwt. 37s. 0 -46s. 0.

German Beet 88° f.o.b. no sales

White Java sugar cif United Kingdom 27s. June shipments.

Demerara Rum, per gal. nominal.

Trinidad Cocoa, Good Middling Red nominal per cwt 56s. 58s. nominal.

Cotto good Medium West Indian Sea Island per lb. 26d. nominal.

Bank of England rate of Discount per cent. 5½.

Consols 48½.

Three per cent rents in Paris Fcs. 56.50.

3 Ships Vanish Mysteriously

Officials Seek Trace of Vessels Which Disappeared In Calm Sea.

Washington, D., C. June 20th.—Shades of Captain Kidd, the Flying Dutchman and all the evil omens of the dee have descended upon Washington with the mysterious disappearance of three ships with their crews, and the wreck of another vessel, with its crew, reported to have been captured by pirates.

That portion of the Atlantic seaboard off Cape Hatteras takes rank with the Spanish Main in the tales of missing ships which have come to the attention of the Department of Commerce and which are now under investigation by the State Department and the Department of Justice.

Pirates, red flags, stolen treasure and even the sea-going parrot figure in the mystery which begins with the tale of the Carol Deering.

This vessel, a five masted schooner, was found recently dashing herself to pieces at the Diamond Shoals off North Carolina. Her crew had abandoned the ship, but all her sails were as though halted abruptly in the midst of a voyage.

Some time afterward a bottle was picked up on a North Carolina beach, the bottle containing a message signed by one of the crew and declaring that all hands had been seized by another vessel.

Secretary Hoove announced to-night

that the Bureau of Navigation in his department was attempting to trace three coasting vessels which had disappeared in calm seas and clear weather within the past two months.

Details are meagre, but it has been suggested officially that at least one of the crews from the missing ships mutinied and turned pirates. In this event, it is believed that they may have captured the crew of the Coral Deering, and with the three vessels in charge set sail for foreign ports.

One of the missing boats, the Hewitt, was a 5,000-ton steamer sailing from Sabine, Texas, for Boston with a cargo of sulphur and a crew of forty-one men. The last time she wirelessly her position she was 229 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras.

Since the Hewitt's disappearance, another vessel, out of New Orleans with a cotton cargo for a New England port, was heard from last off Cape Hatteras. This was a month ago. No word has been received from her since.

The third mystery is that of a freighter which cleared from Norfolk with a wheat cargo. She was heard from last off the Virginia Capes.

PARROT LEFT ON BOARD

The Commerce Department solicited the aid of the Justice Department operatives to trace the origin of the missing crews. In the case of the sailor who had signed the bottle message, his signature was verified.

Officials of all departments have had difficulty in obtaining accurate information, and nothing has been found of the missing boats or men, nor has there been any success in finding a clue to the pirates.

A parrot, chattering the language of the sailor, was the only sign of life aboard the Carol Deering.—*Sparks, July 23rd.*

"Which is the most delicate of the senses"? asked the teacher.

"The touch" said young Jones. "How's that"? asked the teacher, and young Jones explained, "Well, when you sit on a pin, you can't see it, but its there".

A Jewish merchant who marked his goods by small black dots each representing a dollar, left his son in charge of his business to take a stroll for it had been a dull day. Returning to his store he missed a pair of corduroy pants which were hung at the door and marked previously with four small black dots. "Vere is de pants my boy" he asked of his son "Sold it sir".

"And vere is the money?"

"In the drawer."

A peep at the drawer revealed nine dollars to his surprise; then looking at the tag which was usually clipped off at the sale, he raised his eyes to heaven and said "Got bless the flies".