

Kohat, a town in the Punjab, found his wife dead, with her throat cut, while his 15-year old daughter had disappeared. The girl is believed to have been abducted by Afridi raiders after they had committed the murder. Troops have scoured the countryside, but in vain. Two officers, Major Anderson and Major Orr, were shot dead a few days ago in the same neighbourhood by unknown assailants.

London, April 15th.—Ten thousand British emigrants are to sail for Victoria, Australia, within five years, according to an agreement under the Empire settlement act, which was signed here yesterday. A comprehensive scheme of emigration has been drafted which will cost 3,000,000 pounds to carry through and the Australian commonwealth Government has undertaken to borrow money on the behalf of Victoria. A novel feature of the scheme is that each immigrant is expected to possess 300 pounds on landing in Victoria. This stipulation is expected to have the effect of attracting a better class of settlers than might otherwise be the case.

London, April 15th.—Every bench magistrate in Norfolk this week will be hearing summonses against striking farm hands for intimidation and hindrances. The strikers, including several women, are alleged to have inflicted bodily chastisement on non-union workers. After the abortive conferences of last week a feeling is growing that the strike may fizzle out, for between the strikers and the farmers in certain districts there is a tendency to make individual agreements. Even the strikers are disposed to confess their difficulty in maintaining solidarity in the dispute which has spread over dozens of scattered villages, where relations between the farmers and the workers is so much more direct and personal than where hundreds are employed in a factory. Some workers have already returned under police protection, and with further assistance from the police the farmers are prepared to await the return gradually of regular help. The big farmers, it is expected, are ready to hold on, hoping the dispute will exert further pressure on the Government, which has already promised relief in local taxation.

Washington, April 15th.—A decision was reached by President Harding and members of the United States Shipping Board, at a two hour Conference yesterday, to proceed at once to the consolidation of the Board's foreign trade lines and then offer these lines and ships for sale under authorization of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, conditional on a suitable guarantee of maintained service. The programme decided on further provides that if the Government finds itself unable to sell these ships and lines without "unjustifiable sacrifice", the policy then will be to proceed to direct Government operation. The discussions yesterday, which resulted from the failure of

Congress to pass the Administration Shipping Bill, were said to have developed that both the President and the majority of the Shipping Board membership were strongly opposed to Government operation and explained that such a course would be entered upon only as a last resort.

London, April 15th.—The Prime Minister has no intentions whatever of resigning, according to a statement issued from No. 10 Downing Street. This constituted the Government's reply to a statement in several of the Sunday newspapers, which the Government could not allow to pass unchallenged. This official denial, however, it is generally agreed in political circles, does not affect the situation, that Mr. Bonar Law's retention of office depends upon his health. The fate of the Ministry probably depends largely on the nature of the budget statement Mr. Stanley Baldwin will present. A popular budget would be a great asset to the Government.

Paris, April 16th.—One of the most moving ceremonies which Paris has seen since the Great War occurred here today, when the new "halls in honour of the Allied armies" at the Invalides, were formally thrown open. No discourse marked the ceremony dedication. It was only a silent tribute to the memory of the dead. President Millerand on his arrival reviewed the guard of honour and then greeted the members of the diplomatic corps. Then, followed by a numerous company of diplomatic and military attaches, the President passed through the commemorative halls, including those devoted to the British Empire, the United States, Portugal, Belgium, Japan, Italy, Roumania and Jugo-Slavia.

Essen, April 16th.—The new penalties imposed on the German coal mine directors of the Ruhr, because of their failure to pay the 40 per cent coal tax to the French and Belgians, threaten to cause serious industrial complications in occupied territory. These penalties, if enforced, it is asserted by the Germans, would virtually close all the industrial and municipal works in the entire Ruhr district because of the lack of fuel.

Berlin, April 16th.—A huge coalition of major German industries, to be the largest in European economic history, is being organized here today by Hugo Stinnes and his associates. Arrangements already have been made by Stinnes and the Berliner Handels Gesellschaft for the merger of the Stinnes, Furstenburg, Ottowolff and Goldschmidt interests. The new trust will undertake further efficiency in the development of the Upper Silesian coal iron and steel regions and other groups are expected to be drawn in as soon as the plan is further developed.

London, April 16th.—In his budget statement today the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the corpora-

tion tax would be reduced by one half and the income tax reduced from five shillings to four shillings and six pence in the pound. There will be no reduction in the sugar tax, the Chancellor declared, but he hoped that the condition of the world markets would permit such reduction at an early date. A reduction was announced in the duty on beer, so as to allow a cut of a penny per pint in the retail price.

Dublin, April 16th.—De Valera, Dan Breen and P. J. Rumlidge are still at large. Austin Stack, when captured by the Free State authorities, according to official information today, was trying to make his way through the Free State lines. A document found on Stack requested the "President of the Republic to order an immediate cessation of hostilities". It was in Stack's own handwriting and ready for signature by all members of their regular executive committee. Had the document been completed it would have put De Valera in a position of having to call off hostilities and the fact that Stack, when arrested, had not secured the signatures to the document, may defer for the present a complete cessation of fighting. The end, however, is now believed to be only a question of time.

Glasgow, April 16th.—Scotland and England played a drawn soccer match at Hampden Park on Saturday, the final score being 2 all. At half time the score was 2 to 1 in favour of England.

London, April 16th.—Great Britain will interpose no objection to the Turkish ratification of concessions to a United States development company, except in the event of their conflicting with privileges already granted to British subjects, the House of Commons was informed tonight by Mr. Ronald McNeill, spokesman of the Foreign Office. Definite information concerning the precise nature of the concession is still lacking at the Foreign Office, he said, and the subject has not been discussed between the French and British Governments.

Boston April 16th.—The State Commission on necessities of life, reporting to the legislature today on a special investigation of the sugar situation, said there was no shortage at present, or prospective, and the recent advances were due largely to a speculation, mostly on the New York sugar exchange. The activities of the Exchange were declared to be purely speculative and it was asserted that the Exchange played an important part in the recent thimblering of sugar prices.

Dublin, April 16th.—It is officially announced that two very important captures have been made in the Cork district. The men seized by the troops are Frank Barrett, a member of the Irregular Executive and Commander of the Irregular Western Divisions, and Sean Gaynor, a prominent leader.