

of naked, frozen bodies of men, women and children were stacked at every station, the correspondent quotes the officers as saying, and the Czechs took the engines from the hospital trains, leaving the sick to perish from cold and hunger.

London, March 8th.—Rear Admiral Grant, who commanded the Cunard Steamer "Carmania", which was converted into an auxiliary cruiser, when she engaged and sunk the German armed merchantmen, "Cap Trafalga" off the coast of South America on September 14th, 1914, died on Saturday.

London, March 9th. The freight rates on ocean shipping from England would be increased by at least fifty per cent by a movement now in progress, says the "Times" in order to meet the high cost of bunker coal here. Coal in the port of London this week will cost one hundred and fifteen shillings per ton, compared with fifteen shillings to eighteen shillings before the war. The newspaper says the coal can be secured by industrial plants in the United Kingdom for forty shillings per ton. So heavy is the cost of coal that some owners assert that they have to seriously consider the laying up of their ships.

Washington, March 9th.—Unless provision is made to maintain the proficiency of the present naval reserve by systematic training the United States Navy within a few weeks will be faced with the same lack of potential man power as when the country entered the war, Secretary Daniels today told the House Naval Affairs Committee.

London, March 8th.—Mr. Lloyd George announced in the House of Commons today that prompt measures had been taken by the French Government to send reinforcements to General Gouraud, Commander-in-Chief of the French forces in the East for the purpose of re-establishing his position and preventing further attacks on the Armenians, he also said that French ships had arrived at Mersina, in Asia Minor. Regarding Constantinople, the Premier said identical instructions for immediate drastic action had been despatched to the Allied representatives there, who were acting in complete accord. It would be inadvisable, he said, to disclose these instructions until a reply has been received.

London, March 9th.—Up to noon yesterday there were no fresh cases of influenza aboard H. M. S. "Renown".

Lucknow, India, March 9th.—The Council of All India Moslem League has adopted a resolution protesting against the outbreak of Christian bigotry in England in the campaign to take Constantinople from the Turks. It declares that insistence upon this will drive the Mohammedans to desperate actions.

London, March 9th.—The editor of the "Catholic Herald" whose trial on the

charge of inciting the murder of Viscount French and others in an article in his newspaper, was opened at the Old Bailey Court yesterday. The accused was found guilty today and was sentenced to six months imprisonment.

Indianapolis, March 9th.—The United Mine Workers of America will refuse to accept the findings of the Bituminous Coal Commission unless a substantial increase of wages and improved working conditions are provided, it was inferred in a statement issued today from the headquarters of the organization, the statement deals with the cost of living and says that the Govt. representations to labour last summer that costs would be reduced had not been fulfilled.

London, March 9th.—Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons tonight, in replying to questions regarding Russia, said that twelve officers and six other ranks of the British Mission had fallen in the hands of the Bolsheviks and that four officers had been shot. One thousand officers were in the army of the Black Sea, but it is not known how many are in Constantinople. It was stated that the Soviet Govt. had made peace offers to Japan, Roumania and the United States, but the British had not been consulted in the matter. The Home Secretary stated that a request from a Berlin newspaper to be allowed to send a correspondent to London was being considered, and it had been decided generally that newspaper representatives from former enemy countries if not undesirable, might be admitted to England under suitable conditions.

Washington, March 9th.—Rear Admiral Simms told the Senate Committee of Investigation of the navy's conduct of the war, that the failure of the Navy Department to act promptly on recommendations and to place the entire naval resources of the United States at the disposal of the Allies within six months after the United States entered the war, had prolonged the struggle for at least four months. He added that it also unnecessarily jeopardized the outcome, declaring that three thousand lives were lost and one hundred million dollars were spent every day of the war. The Admiral said that the conclusions from this statement were obvious.

London, March 9th.—Sugar in stock on the 6th inst. was 58,000 tons. Last year 164,000 tons.

Barbados, March 7th.—The sailing of H. M. S. "Renown" has been unavoidably delayed by an outbreak of influenza on board. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will sail at the earliest possible moment, but date of arrival at Barbados will be postponed probably by one week, possibly more.

Barbados, March 8th.—The Governor has received a reply to his telegram in which he submitted the programme for the Prince of Wales' visit. His Royal Highness has been graciously pleased

to approve of the programme should time permit. It cannot yet be definitely decided at what hour H. M. S. "Renown" will arrive on the 19th March. She will however require to leave by daylight on 20th so that the programme may require to be curtailed at the last moment.

MOORISH MARRIAGES.

Of all marriages, says Mrs. Alec Tweedie, in her book, "Women the World Over," a Moorish marriage is perhaps the strangest.

By the laws of the country a man may have four wives. If he is poor, he may not be able to afford more than one, or at most two; but if he is rich he acquires as many as he can manage to pay for and keep.

Until a girl is eight or nine years of age, she is allowed to run wild amongst boys and men; but when she reaches eleven she is considered grown-up, and is hidden away, twelve being the marriageable age for a woman in Morocco. During this short interlude she is fattened for the marriage market, for a Moorish girl's beauty is counted by pounds of fat.

When a girl has been sufficiently fattened, her father looks about him to find a nice young man possessed of the wherewithal to buy her for his wife. He calls upon the bridegroom's father, and the two elder men discuss the price, which is usually settled in cattle, land, or jewels, paid by the bridegroom to his would-be bride's father.

Everything formally arranged, the lady is carried to the young man's home in a sort of miniature howdah on the back of a mule, while all the male friends of both families let off Arab guns and dance and whoop for joy.

The bridal box is deposited in the home of the bridegroom, who hands over the money or kind, frequently two or three cows or sheep. He is paying for his bride, and the girl is finally left behind. Seated on a divan, her face thickly coated with paint, alone and heavily veiled, she waits to share her husband's life. When her lord and master enters the room and raises the veil, which she clutches with her dainty little henna-dyed fingers, ancient customs ordains that he should in politeness utter a cry of joy audible to the household listening outside. There is no religious ceremony.

Sometimes the bride and bridegroom never meet till this critical moment. But the girl is only a chattel, and counts for nothing more. Her mother-in-law takes her education in hand, and almost before the paint has left her cheeks and brows she becomes a sort of under-servant to her husband's parents, who teach her her duties and bring her up in the way she should go.—*Everyday Life*.