

recognition and that the Government had decided to acquiesce.

Washington, Jan. 26th.—Japan replied today to the United States Government's note regarding the killing of naval Lieutenant Langdon at Vladivostok with the promise of a thorough investigation of the incident. The reply is said to be unsatisfactory to Washington in that it does not meet points raised in the United States communication. The United States Admiral who investigated the affair has reported that Langdon was blameless and was the subject of an unwarranted attack by a Japanese sentry.

Philadelphia, Jan. 28th.—An earth tremor and explosion of great violence caused alarm over a wide area in this vicinity early tonight. The shock was felt about 6.45 p. m., and enquiries poured into newspaper offices from all directions, many coming from points as far away as Trenton, N. J., all of those who made enquiries said that the houses were shaken, and the sensation was that of a violent explosion. After several hours investigation had failed to bring word of an explosion, it was concluded by officials at the electrical bureaus that an earth tremor was responsible for the commotion.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 26th.—A violent earthshock was felt early tonight in the vicinity of Riverside and Riverton, where many buildings were badly shaken. The shock lasted several seconds, and caused many of the residents of that section to flee from their homes in terror. The huge power plant of the public service corporation at Riverside was shaken, and employees, frightened officials of the corporation immediately got in touch with all power plants from Tullytown, Pa., to Carney's Point to learn if there had been an explosion but none was reported.

New York, Jan. 26th.—Raw sugar was weak early today. Cuba's were offered at 4½ cost and freight, equal to 5.27 for centrifugal, without finding buyers. Refined was at 7.50 for fine granulated, although the undertone was unsettled. Sugar futures were easier and prices at midday were 5 to 10 points lower under liquidation and selling by trade commission houses.

London, Jan. 27th.—The question of direct action by British Labor in connection with the unemployment situation was brought to the fore today at the National Conference of Labour Party and the Trade Union Congress here. Discussing the policy of labour towards unemployment Mr. Thomas, Secretary of the National Union of railwaymen, said that if the Govt. failed to accept the proposals of labour, the question of direct action would be discussed and a decision regarding it reached on February 23rd.

New York, Jan. 27th.—Business in raw sugars was not practically active today, the only sales recorded in the ear-

ly trading being 15,000 bags of Cuba's, affbat. at four cents, cost and freight equal to 5.01 for centrifugals. The weakness in raws unsettled refined, although prices were unchanged at 7.50 for granulated, with business light. Sugar futures were easier, and at midday prices were 15 to 19 points lower under selling by trade. Cuban interests.

London, Jan. 27th.—Several records are beaten by the figures in the registration general's provisional returns for 1920. Births per thousand of population in England and Wales were 25.44 and in London 26.3 deaths were 12.4 per thousand in England and Wales and the same in London. Infantile mortality per thousand was eighty in England and Wales and seventy five in London. The birth-rate for 1920 is the highest of the decade and the number of deaths rate is the lowest recorded since 1862 when the population was only 20 millions. The infant-mortality rate (under one year) is the lowest ever recorded.

Stockholm, Jan. 27th.—Both Houses of Parliament have ratified by large majorities amendments to the Swedish Constitution extending the Parliamentary vote to both men and women, irrespective of the restriction concerning the payment of taxes. Women will be eligible to sit in either Chamber. There will be a single election day throughout the country and henceforth the Riksdag will elect its own officials. Formerly it was the King's privilege to appoint the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Riksdag.

Tokio, Jan. 27th.—Japan will enter a protest against the construction with United States capital of large wireless station at Shanghai, with branches at Tien Tsin, Chifa and Harbin, says the newspaper Nichior of this city. This action will be based on the claim that the work would infringe upon concessions granted Japan authorizing this country to build wireless plants at points in the interior of China.

Berlin, Jan. 27th.—Russia has given large orders for manufactured goods to Germany, including an order for 30,000 ploughs.

Constantinople, Jan. 27th.—An Italian soldier who became involved in a quarrel in a cafe on Monday threw a hand grenade wounding three British soldiers. This was the latest of a series of disorders, which include the killing of a Japanese by a United States sailor and the stabbing to death of a United States sailor by an Italian.

Constantinople, Jan. 27th.—The Turkish Cabinet has accepted the Allies stipulations in regard to the control of the finances, and thereby 1,200,000 Turkish pounds have become available to the Govt.

London, Jan. 27th. The tide on unemployment is still flowing, the names of those without work registered at the Labour Exchange throughout the Kingdom, which were close to a million on January

21st, having increased by 60,000 in the course of the week just past. The figures are exclusive of those who are working on short time and it is known that large numbers are now registered at the Exchange.

New York, Jan. 27th.—The raw sugar market was still unsettled this morning but prices were unchanged at 3 7/8 for Cuba's, cost and freight.

FINANCING FOREIGN TRADE

The American Foreign Trade Finance Corporation, our latest financial venture in the interest of reviving foreign trade, will, if it succeeds in its purpose, accomplish wonders for American trade, especially in agricultural products.

It has long been evident that our foreign trade was certain to break down in the near future as conditions were developing. That eventuality has crept upon us apparently unsuspected by the great mass of people, even some of our financiers evidently closing their eyes to the perfectly obvious, and we have all been living in a fool's paradise, assuming that because there was plenty of money in circulation we were all getting rich together.

In the mean time, however, foreign exchange has been getting more and more impossible. The evidence is perfectly clear that not only foreign credit, but American as well, has been practically consumed already in taking care of the unprecedented export trade, which we have accepted as an evidence of prosperity and which in its breakdown has sent prices everywhere tumbling and made a stringency in the money market which is all but dangerous.

We have foolishly assumed that, when the exchange was in our favour in some rather unexplainable way we were enjoying a special advantage in the world of trade. We are waking up to find that the opposite is true that we are suffering some very decided disadvantages on this very account, and the time has at last come when the export trade must practically stop unless a system of credit can be arranged against which this trade may proceed without further affecting exchange.

It is, therefore, with very great delight that thinking farmers everywhere welcome the united effort of producers and of bankers in their endeavor to find a sound system of financing our export trade, and in such a way, we hope, as to turn the tide of exchange upward in favor of the so-called distressed people in Europe, who, after all, constitute our buying constituency and upon whose prosperity we depend for a safe market for our surplus margins.—*The Country Gentleman.*