

Europe, built upon due regard for Great Britain's economic rights and necessities. We are paying our debts. We fought and sacrificed: Yet we are suffering more than the countries we defended and rescued. The limits have been reached, to the price that Great Britain can afford to pay. There are glimmerings of hope from the American participation in the reparation question. American co-operation is not merely welcome, it is essential". During the speech Mr. Clynes gave further inklings of Labour's intentions. Referring to the dominion trade, he said Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who as head of the Parliamentary Labour Party is the prospective Prime Minister, had given assurances that so far as pledges had been made they would be carried out, and the house would be given full opportunity to decide on a number of important issues raised. Mr. Clynes own view was the dominion trade showed substantial opportunities and prospects for improvement. He also emphasized the necessity of developing the European markets and of immigration, he said, "we must seriously consider the problem of voluntary transference of population on agreed terms for mutual benefit. I am satisfied that if these agreed terms can be reached, it will be better for labour in this country". To stimulate the dominion trade without altering Great Britain's fiscal policy, he declared, offered avenues which ought to be explored by conferences on broader non-party lines than had taken place previously.

Chrisumania, Jan. 17th.—Airplanes are carrying supplies to fifty ships that are now wedged in the ice in the Cattegat and off the Danish Coast. The aircraft dropped sacks of food and other stores near the imprisoned vessels.

London, Jan. 17th.—Mr. Asquith, in summarizing the position of himself and the Liberal Party, contended that the Labourites were the natural inheritors of the power when the Baldwin Government was defeated, and that it was the duty of every patriotic man or woman to do his or her best, without sacrificing principles or honour, to facilitate Labour's task. In a house constituted like the present Commons, it was wrong to talk of the imminent danger of a Socialist regime. The Labourites possessed no free license to do as they like. They were not their own masters, but like the other parties in the House were limited by Parliamentary conditions. Mr. Asquith was emphatic in pointing out that the Liberal Party was deeply and sincerely pledged to give no countenance to Socialistic experiments. Sir William Joynson-Hicks, President of the Ministry of Health, who followed Mr. Asquith, made a most effective onslaught against the Liberals for helping the Labourites into power. He was emphatic in declaring that there had been no official overtures from the Conservative Party to the Liberals for any fusion

against Labour. After generally defending the policy of the Baldwin Government, he proceeded to read from a number of addresses made by prominent Liberal candidates in the recent elections, statements denouncing the Labourites Socialist programme as disastrous for the country. Then pointing to the benches where Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George and other Liberal leaders sat, he exclaimed, "What are you going to do about it, are you going to put into power the very party whose programme you thus denounced?" This evoked hoisterous cheers from the Conservative benches. Sir William then rapped out "I'm ashamed of the Socialist Party for taking office only by the help of men holding such views of their policy". He predicted that while the Liberals would do Labour no good by their action, they would effectually prevent the Liberals from taking office for another hundred years. The Conservatives were so delighted with Sir William's performance that as the members trooped out for the tea interval many of them made a point of stopping to shake his hand and congratulate him on his brilliant effort. As the evening progressed, the debate became exceedingly lively. Mr. Mosley, an Independent, who is the son-in-law of Marquis Curzon, and has been reported as likely to take office in the Labour Government, made a slashing attack on the Government, charging the Ministers with having lavished money on wildcat scheme all around the World and with having economized on health, education and social reform to pay for these adventures of remitting taxation on the rich and squeezing the poor, of pursuing "a foreign policy of drift, followed by drivel and sanctimonious sermons." Viscount Curzon (Captain Francis R. Curzon) followed with an equally violent attack on the Labour Party, which he accused of sheltering Communism. Both speeches evoked strong exclamations. That not all the Liberals are satisfied with the prospect of assisting Labour into office was seen when Major General Seely argued that the real question was not whether the Socialist Party should accede to power, but whether the present government, committed to a protectionist policy, retained the confidence of the House. He advocated calling a conference of the leaders of the three parties together with a high judicial representative to examine and report on the best means of securing a stable government. It is known that some few Liberals will refuse to support the Clynes amendment, but the general belief is that the amendment will be carried by a majority of about 70. Mr. Frank Hodges, Secretary of the Miners Union, devoted himself in his maiden speech solely to an exposition of the Trade Union side of labour policy and better organization of the nations

productive capacity. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of York listened to the debate. Large portions of Mr. Clynes indictment passed without a single labour cheer. The party gave the first sign of life when aroused to general cheers by Clynes references to the Dominions. He emphasized the necessity of not neglecting European markets, but said when the best possible had been done with Great Britain's nearer neighbours, he agreed that some sense of special duty remained in relation to the Dominions, and he thought there were substantial opportunities. The question for the House was, however, how could Great Britain stimulate dominion trade without imposing additional taxes and without upsetting the foundations of her own fiscal system. Enquiry must be made as to whether there were any alternatives. He believed there were. They had been told by Premier Bruce of Australia, if not by another, that improved trade relations with the Dominions did not necessarily involve departure from Great Britain's fiscal system. We might find that transport facilities and improvements is one line of policy we could pursue, and perhaps there might be great and substantial encouragement to our dominion fellow-workers in revealing by inquiry, or other means, the facts as to where went the enormous difference between what the dominion producer of food got for his labour and what the consumer here paid for it. Such avenues of exploration ought to receive purely non-party and disinterested attention." Mr. Lloyd George expressed delight with Mr. Clynes's speech about Empire development and emigration. The Imperial Conference had made it perfectly clear that whatever schemes of financial cooperation were offered to the Dominions, it might be that the latter could not act thereon unless they saw the way for markets in Great Britain. Sir Philip Lloyd-Greem, President of the Board of Trade, asked what would be the effect of rejecting the preference proposed at the recent conference or the far greater preferences at present given Great Britain by the Dominions. He pointed out that in 1922 the value of the rebates of duty by the Dominion to Great Britain exceeded 11,500,000 pounds. General Smuts and Mr. Bruce had warned Great Britain in most proper terms of commercial advances made by other Governments, which they hitherto refused. He commended the conference proposals on the double ground of good business and common sentiment. The debate was wound up by Sir Phillip Lord-Greem, who, alluding to the dangers of the Socialist programme of the Labourites, expressed the belief that in the succeeding division an increasing number of Liberals would refuse to enter action under the Red Flag, or sail under the Jolly Roger of the Labour Party.