

Northern Persia and occupy Teheran, which would probably mean the establishment of Bolshevik rule in Persia. The taking of this town permits the Reds not only to control a large part of the important Krasnovodsk-Merry railway, but gives them free access to the Caspian Sea. There seems little that prevents them from gaining control of the Caspian Sea from a more or less ineffective volunteer fleet. Once in possession of this sea there remains only a small British force and poorly organized Persian forces. Baku, with important oil supplies, on the western coast of the Caspian, seems likely to fall also into Bolshevik hands.

Buenos Aires, Jan. 8th.—The French steamer *Malte* from Havre and Vigo, with passengers and cargo for Rio de Janeiro and this port arrived yesterday with 5 passengers dead, 7 dangerously ill, and a large number of others suffering from an attack of influenza which broke out in a violent form a few days ago. The ship's doctor reported he had daily attended fifty patients since the disease was first reported, and that the epidemic continued to spread to other passengers.

Rome, Jan. 6th.—The "Corriere D'Italia" says that a memorandum, not in the form of an ultimatum, but a very grave document coming from the allied nations to a bound nation has been delivered to the Foreign Minister Signor Scialoja by the Allies. The memorandum has, for its object, the closing of the period for negotiations and the opening of a new one, and recalls to the new Italian negotiators, that the Pact of London does not exist any more, having been destroyed gradually by the former Italian negotiators, also that the former Italian delegates renounce the Italian rights to Dalmatia with the exception of Oenzara with the Hinterland of ten kilometres, renounced the annexation of Fiume, renounced part of Istria, and also substituted an Italian protectorate over Albania for an Italian mandate there, restricting Italian territorial aspirations to Avlona with the Hinterland of fifteen kilometres. The memorandum tries to show that with these facts the Pact of London lost all value, and thus the new negotiations must not refer to the Pact of London. Signor Scialoja first, and Premier Nitti afterwards, hastened to maintain that the Pact of London still exists for any period of honour in its entirety, both in the spirit and in the letter. To avoid further misunderstanding of this sort, Premier Nitti insisted that hereafter minutes be taken of all negotiations. This however, shows optimism regarding the result of the London and Paris negotiations are unfounded.

Mexico City, Jan. 8th.—Reports from the towns and villages in the area devastated by the earthquake shocks last Saturday night brings the death list to an appalling figure. While no adequate es-

timate of the damage done can be obtained in the extraordinary conditions prevailing. Beginning with the reports from industrial villages giving a score or so of deaths, the total loss of life now reported is about 2,000 with every prospect that the figure will increase, if indeed the exact number of dead be ever established.

London, Jan. 8th.—The members of the Ironmongers Union, who have been on strike for a wage increase, since September 20th, have rejected a compromise offer of their employers by a vote of 16,718 to 9,631.

London, Jan. 7th.—Odessa, the chief Black Sea Port of Russia, will not be given to the advancing Bolsheviks, it is indicated in a Central News despatch from Odessa today. The message says General Schilling is hurrying defensive preparations there. No panic has been caused by the prospect of active hostilities in Odessa.

The Hague, Jan. 7th.—The President of the Second Chamber announced today that a Bill proposing the entrance of Holland into the League of Nations will be introduced at an early date.

Paris, January 8th.—The exchange of ratifications of the Peace Treaty will take place on Saturday, January 10th. The Supreme Council today initialled this date for the ceremony and decided that it should be held in the Foreign Office here.

Pittsburg, Philadelphia, Jan. 8th.—The strike in the steel mills and furnaces called on September 22nd, and which at its inception involved 367,000 men was officially called off here tonight by the National Committee after an all-day meeting.

Washington, Jan. 7th.—The Senate and the House Conferees working on the Esch and Cumming Railway Bills agreed upon \$300,000,000 as the amount of a revolving fund which carries will be permitted to borrow to tide themselves over the period immediately following their return to private operations. The Cumming Bill passed by the Senate, fixed the amount at \$250,000,000. At the session today, the conferees covered much ground and are ready to take up the real big question, over which a sharp fight is expected. These are the guarantee to return to the roads rate making and the labour section with its anti-strike provision.

New York, Jan. 7th.—20,000,000 men, women, and children have died in Russia from famine and disease during the last three years, according to statements on the present conditions of the Empire which were made today by Princess Cantusone Poransky, great grand-daughter of Mr. Ulvsees Grant, in an appeal on behalf of the American Central Committee for Russian Relief. The tremendous death toll mentioned by the Princess is exclusive, she stated, of the 5,000,000

men who had laid down their lives on the Russian front, fighting for the Allies.

Washington, Jan. 3rd.—The British pound will be counted at \$3.85 in American money, by the War Department, in making the January disbursement, it was announced today. The franc will be stabilized for the month at 11 to the dollar and the Italian Lire at 13.

Dublin, Jan. 7th.—An order of the Joint Strike Committee forbidding members of the Trades Unions to handle patrol because of the Government's order requiring all motor car drivers to obtain permits, has met with a response from all transport workers, railwaymen, dockers and members of the Transport Workers Union. As a result of this, the small amount of motor traffic remaining after the promulgation of the motor permits order has ceased in labour circles. It is declared that Ireland is drifting towards an industrial crisis of the first magnitude.

London, Jan. 7th.—The Cabinet, this week, will decide the size of Great Britain's future army, says the "Daily Mail". Military heads believe, according to the "Daily Mail", that the minimum, compatible with the national fealty and to bring about the fulfilment of the obligations of the Peace Treaty will total 300,000. This compared with an army of 237,000 before the war, is the factor governing the decision of finance, the newspaper says, pointing out that before the war, the upkeep of the army totalled about £29,000,000 yearly. It estimates that the army in the future, even with radical economy and only partial reorganization, will cost about £70,000,000 annually.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9th 1920.
Flour, Blended Clear St. Lawrence Brand
pr. brl. \$12.25
Meal, Kilndried per 100 lbs \$3.85
New Season's Pork per brl. \$45.00
Heavy Mess Pork per bbl. \$44.00
Sugar---Crystals (Confirmed by Brokers)
per 100 lbs. \$7.28.
Molasses 89° test pr 100 lbs. no quotation
Cotton, Middling Upland, at Liverpool per
lb. 29 36-100d.
Exchange, New York and London, 60
days' sight \$3.72
Exchange New York and London, sight
\$3.74½

LONDON, Dec. 9th 1919.
Sugar-Demerara Crystals duty paid price,
fixed by the Royal Commission per cwt
66s. 0d. -100s. 0d.
Muscovado, 89° basis, floating terms in
bond, Ditto duty paid. 63s. 6d. 75s. 0d.
German Beet 88° f.o.b. no further sales
during the war
White Java sugar cif U. Kingdom cif
without engagement. 8 50.
White Java Sugar, cif United King-
dom if arrives before 27th December 85/
Demerara Rum, per gal. nominal.
Trinidad Cocoa, Good Middling Red per
cwt 128s. 0d. 130s. 0d.
Cotto Medium Fine Sea Island, at Liv-
erpool nominal per lb.