

thousand. The number of marriages is also increasing.

Paris, Dec. 31st.—(Delayed). Associated Press. The exchange of ratifications of the Treaty of Versailles will take place on January 6th at the Quai D'Orsay, Baron Von Lersner, head of the German Delegation, and M. Paul Dutasta, Secretary of the Peace Conference, having settled all points in connection with the signature, except that in relation to naval material. It is expected that shortly the Germans will sign the protocol, and at the same time the Allies will hand a letter to them agreeing to reduce their demands to 400,000 tons in the total of available tonnage, which was over estimated, or Germany will be menaced economically. In any case, after the signature, the Allies will get 24,000 tons of material, and the balance based on the reports of experts, who are now checking up the figures of Danzig, Hamburg and Bremen. Mr. Lloyd George will be present at the ceremony, which will be carried out without display. Diplomatic relations with Germany will be resumed the following day, when a French Charge D'Affaires will go to Berlin, and French consuls will resume their posts. Allied troops will proceed on January 12th to the territories in which plebiscites are to be held.

Rome Dec. 31st.—(Delayed). Poland has her entire army marshalled along the Russian frontier as a barrier against the western squad of Bolshevism. At an interview with Cardinal Kirkowski, Archbishop of Warsaw, which is printed in the "Corriere D'Italia," the Cardinal said that the Polish detachments were too weak to withstand the pressure from the East, which may last from twenty to twenty-five years. Bolshevism, he declared, is not understood even by Socialists. To identify Bolshevism as Maximalism, is a great mistake. Maximalism is a positive programme of Government, aiming to secure the maximum claims of the proletariat. Bolshevism instead, has no positive aim, its programme being merely a negative one, namely, to destroy everything. Bolshevism is the brutal blindness of ignorance.

St. Johns, N.F., Dec. 31st.—(Delayed). 3 men were on the rocks at the entrance to St. Mary's Bay, at midnight, they are the only survivors of a crew of twenty-nine, who were all frostbitten from long exposure on the bridge, which was the only portion of the vessel remaining above water. The rescued men are the second mate and two firemen. They were taken to Trepassy Bay by the rescue steamer which was sent out from that harbour to the scene early today.

London, Jan. 1st.—The New Year's Day Honour List contains many awards by the King for the war services. An Earldom was conferred on Viscount Middleton, former Secretary of State for India, known for his stand against peace with Germany until the Germans had

made reparation for vandalism in France. Sir George Riddel, who had charge of the British Press interests at the Peace Conference, Sir Bertrand Dawson, physician extraordinary to King George and Sir Albert Stanley were made Barons. Mr. Frederik Guest, Treasurer of the King's Household, was made a Privy Councillor. Among those created Baronets was Mr. Hugh Cunliffe Owen, Vice Chairman of the British American Tobacco Company.

Dorpat, Jan. 1st.—Bolshevik Russia is willing to make great concessions, to the big powers in the interest of peace, but will not hold out the olive branch to General Denekine, according to M. Kloespeke, Secretary of the Soviet Delegation, conferring with Estonian delegates here.

London, Jan. 2nd.—Great Britain faces a year in 1920 of unprecedented trade if the nation can escape further labour troubles and clear away transportation congestion, says a statement here today, by the American Chamber of Commerce which summed up conditions at the end of the year 1919. The Chamber of Commerce says it expects an early settlement of the strike of moulders, which for fourteen weeks has been slowly strangling the productivity of shipyards, railways, workshops, motor factories and engineering establishments.

Madanakacei India, January 2nd.—The fiercest fighting ever experienced on the Indian frontier, has been in progress during the last three days, in which time the British casualties have been heavier than those in the entire campaign in the Tish district in 1897, while the hill tribesmen suffered as never before. The Mansuds displayed the utmost determination in opposing the operations of the expeditionary force, resisting in the most stubborn manner, the British attempts to advance. The British column consequently was compelled to remain encamped in the Palesina plain. An unnamed bugler boy of the Thirty-Fourth Native Pioneers, showed notable heroism in the course of the hand to hand fighting. Left with only a few comrades, he seized a pick axe and fought the tribesmen till they retired, when he returned to camp laden with trophies.

New York, Jan. 2nd. Viscount Jellicoe began a week and visit New York today as a part of his post war tour of the world. He is the guest of Mr. Schwad, Chairman of the Board of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation.

London, Jan. 1st.—The train service between Basra and Bagdad, Asiatic Turkey, will be resumed at an early date, it was announced today.

London, Jan. 2nd.—Today Sir Hamar Greenwood, Overseas Minister of Trade, outlined the schemes in hand for pushing British industries, especially by means of the British industries fair which is to be held next month. "British manufactures, while suffering from a variety of troubles arising through the

war, are overwhelmed with home market orders," he said "the time will come however, when some of the demands will have been filled, and then they must be ready to maintain and improve their position in the foreign markets. Whatever may have been the attitude of British diplomatists, commercial attaches and consuls before, their paramount duty now is the furtherance of British trade. The German trader was always a better advertiser than the British, but we hope that the British industries fair, will be a blow at the fetish of German cheapness. Buyers from all over the world went to the Leipzig Fair, and German Government commercial bodies gave them the time of their lives. German manufactures used to book orders at the Fair, and got enough to keep themselves going for twelve months ahead. We have had British Industries Fairs for four years and some firms have booked no outside orders since they became exhibitors. This coming fair will be held in the Crystal Palace. Thirty two thousand invitations have been issued to the foreign buyers and nearly 40,000 pamphlets have been printed in seven different languages. Only wholesale buyers are admitted, the fair being closed to the general public. Preceding fairs have never cost the tax payers one cent. Added Sir Hamar who proceeded to describe another forthcoming venture, a trade exhibition to tour the dominions. This to consist of 500 exhibits which would remain perhaps six weeks in each big centre. There is some difficulty about booking orders, scores of firms should be represented on the exhibition on tour by one agent. Similar travelling exhibitions are mooted for the Far East, South America and even another exhibition consisting of some of the British luxuries to entice the United States buyers. "I am in favour of a friendly commercial invasion of the American republic", added Sir Hamar.

Mexico City, Jan. 4th.—(Associated Press). Scores of people have been killed in a violent earthquake which occurred in many parts of Mexico last night. The centre of the disturbance is believed to have been near the volcano of Orizaba, incomplete press reports indicated that the state of Veracruz suffered more than any other section, although seismic disturbances were felt throughout the entire republic. Advices from Orizaba say 30 dead already have been accounted for, in the village of San Juan Coscomatepec, where many houses were destroyed. There are unconfirmed reports of a similar catastrophe in the village of Huatusco. At Jalapa, further north, 50 victims have been counted, including numerous dead. Lack of communication with the other small towns and villages in that theatre of the disturbance makes even approximate estimate of casualties impossible. The earthquake caused great alarm in the large cities.