

likely to receive the approval of the entire ministry. On the other hand there are still persistent rumours that the Cabinet is not altogether harmonious, although definite expressions to this effect are not obtainable. Staunch Unionists are reported to be increasingly nervous respecting the progress of Irish affairs and it is known that about 40 of them met privately yesterday to discuss their position. As they lacked inside knowledge respecting the negotiations however, they refrained from reaching any decision as to the action they would take.

London, July 20th.—Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd George gave their first garden party at Downing Street yesterday, to which the whole House of Commons and the wives of the members were invited. Partly as a consequence of this hospitality the Government suffered a defeat in the House of Commons yesterday on the proposal to exempt cooperative societies from paying a cooperation tax, which was carried against the Government 137 to 135. Many of the Government supporters had not returned from the garden party, while the opposition mustered a strong force and raised cries of "resign" when the figures were announced. Mr. Austen Chamberlain however announced that business would proceed.

Paris, July 20th.—The reparations commission today issued an official statement announcing that the German Govt. has just paid to it thirtyone million marks in European currency on account of the three months notes given in the latter part of May, in settlement of the one billion gold marks due before June 1st.

London, July 20th.—Japan's invitation to the Prince of Wales to visit Japan at the conclusion of his Indian tour has not yet been officially accepted. It is understood, however, that the King approves of the visit and that the Prince will go to Japan in March, or April, 1922.

Tokio, July 20th.—A semi-official statement, issued today, says Japan is prepared to give all prominence in the conference to the questions of the open door and equal opportunity in China so as to place China in a fair way to the attainment of an independent National status. The statement emphasizes the necessity of cooperation by the powers in aiding China in the recovery of her rights and interests. The Chinese Foreign Minister had an exchange of views with Viscount Uchida, the Japanese Foreign Minister, regarding the situation as concerns China.

London, July 20th.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Ambassador, denies that there is any question of opposition on the part of Japan to Mr. Harding's proposal for a conference at Washington, which, on the contrary, he said was welcomed. Japan was quite ready to discuss with other Powers the question of

mutual interest, including the limitation of armaments, on which the Japanese Govt. had already expressed willingness to negotiate. Japan however desired to know beforehand what subjects were to be discussed. "Otherwise", the Ambassador, "we may embark upon a never ending discussion. The suggestion that naturally arises is whether we are again to bring up matters which the Treaty of Versailles has already dealt with. It is clear that such matters as Shantung, Yap and New Guinea, if raised, would result in a general conference on points that are already accomplished facts. Expressing my personal views, I believe that a practical solution of all the questions involved is possible without interfering with matters of principle that have already been decided upon."

New York, July 20th.—The raw sugar market was steady and unchanged early today. The market for refined was unchanged at 5.20 to 5.90 for fine granulated.

London, July 20th.—It was stated in authoritative quarters today that suggestions have been made for United States intervention in the Upper Silesian trouble, which it is feared will threaten open hostilities.

Mexico City, July 20th.—The Amatlan oil fields are on fire with drilling towers falling like chaff and the workmen fleeing, according to reports received here, describing "the greatest catastrophe in the history of oil fields. The cause of the fire is not known. The financial loss cannot be estimated, say the advices, which add that the conflagration dwells into insignificance the Pordo Del Llano disaster. Columns of fire hundreds of feet high are covering the entire field, it is declared, and efforts to suppress the blaze are said to be considered hopeless. It is also feared that there will be some loss of life, as the fire spread so quickly from lot number 162 where it started, other wells in the vicinity exploding. The Amatlan oilfields is one of the richest in the state of Vera Cruz. Amatlan, in the state of Vera Cruz, is in the West central part of that state about 55 miles Southwest of the city of Vera Cruz.

London, July 20th.—The Cabinet sat for two hours and a half this evening, considering the Irish plans, after which Mr. Lloyd George went to Buckingham Palace and laid before the King, whose interest in an Irish settlement is the keenest, the proposals for submission to Mr. Eamon De Valera, at tomorrow's conference. The Prime Minister presided at the Cabinet Council, which was held in the same House of Commons, and outlined for the benefit of those ministers who had not been closely concerned in the Irish negotiations the history of recent events and new offer to Ireland, and which is described as being drawn on generous lines. It is understood that the financial arrangements in

the new offer have given considerable trouble to the Ministers, eventually, after consultation with Sir Robert Horne and the treasury officials the various provisions were agreed to. It is also understood that the general lines of the Premier's offer have the approval of Mr. Austen Chamberlain, the Govt. leader in the House of Commons, Sir Robert Horne, Sir Laming Worthington-Evans and other Ministers, and that probably with some modifications the entire cabinet will assent to the proposals, which will be reduced to writing for presentation to Mr. De Valera. Whether Mr. Lloyd George has succeeded in overcoming the reluctance of Sir James Craig to join in a tripartite conference is not known, but an announcement that Sir James is coming to London again, probably next week, is considered a favourable omen. In any case no hint of a breakdown in the negotiations is apparent. These however, may be more protracted than has been generally expected. General Smuts is holding himself in readiness if needed. Mr. De Valera gave a reception tonight, which was attended by members and executives of the various organizations in Great Britain.

Smyrna, July 21st.—King Constantine left for the front last night. He was accompanied by his staff of officers and will command the attack on Eski Shehr. Reports received here of the battle around Kutaia say that more than 15,000 Turkish prisoners were taken by the Victorious Greek forces, as well as 166 guns and 2,000 camels. The Greek soldiers charged wearing the pictures of King Constantine on their caps.

NEW YORK, July 21st. 1921.

Flour, Blended Clears St. Lawrence Brand pr. brl. \$9.00.
Meal, Kilndried per 100 lbs \$1.95
New Season's Pork per brl. \$37.00
Heavy Mess Pork per bbl. \$24.00
Sugar---Crystals maximum per 100 lbs. \$4.50
Molasses Sugar 89° test, no quotation.
Cotton, Middling Upland, at Liverpool per lb. 8 20-100d.
Exchange, New York and London, 60 days' sight \$3.55½
Exchange New York and London, sight \$3.57½

LONDON, July 21st 1921.

Sugar, Demerara Crystals, per cwt. 43s. —50s
Muscavado per cwt. 36s. 6—45s. 6.
German Beet 88° f.o.b. no sales
White Java sugar cif United Kingdom 21s. June shipments.
Demerara Rum, per gal. nominal.
Trinidad Cocoa, Good Middling Red nominal per cwt 56s. 58s. nominal.
Cotton, good Medium West Indian Sea Island per lb. 28d. nominal.
Bank of England rate of Discount per cent. 5½.
Consols 48½.
Three per cent rents in Paris Fcs. 56.50.