

London, Dec. 11th.—The London Conference on German Reparations, generally described as the critical conference, ended today only in agreement on another conference. The next link in the long chain of the Allies' struggles to get together, will be forged at Paris on January 2nd. There will be a fortnight therefore left for the Allies to agree upon some programme. The moratorium granted the Germans expires January 15th, and the next payment, on account of reparations which Germany protests she is unable to meet, will be due on that date. Another futile round table session of the diplomats would seem to mean only fulfilment of the French politicians' desire for independent action which British opinion believes would spell calamity for the tottering edifice of European prosperity and sow the seeds for a future great war. The agreement to disagree temporarily, the diplomats assert, will be decided in three days, embracing four meetings of the Allied Premiers. The rock on which harmony foundered, was the British refusal formally to countenance the French project for partial occupation of the Rhur and the taking charge of important German industries. The cabinet met this afternoon and registered its refusal to cooperate with France in such measures. Premier Mussolini's proposals for a settlement were treated courteously, as was due the head of a powerful nation, but were not taken seriously as a panacea for the German sick man of Europe. The German note was rejected unanimously, with the general comment that it meant merely sparing to gain time. The Government submitted no general plan to solve the deadlock. It practically offered to cancel France's debt to Great Britain as an inducement for scaling down the amount of the monetary demand upon Germany. The French, Italian and Belgian Premiers with their staff and experts, will embark for home tomorrow morning. This conference resembles its predecessors in that the conferees insist it has not been a failure, that its dissolution cannot be described as a deadlock and in general that there is a better understanding among them than before they met. Certainly this attitude pictures their hopes, if not the realities. However steadfastly she may stand aloof and protest her detachment from these European debates, the United States cannot prevent her name from being involved and the possibilities of her participation being made the subject of speculation. Continental politicians contend that reparations and the adjustment of war debts cannot be separated and that the United States cannot avoid becoming a party to the solution of these problems. It was stated in an authoritative quarter that the chief hope of bringing the British and French together during the period of adjournment to which the conference now seems

doomed lies with the United States. It was stated by this authority that Great Britain will probably ask the United States Government if it is willing to cancel the French debt to the United States. The suggestion was made informally last evening to a certain important American now in London, and it probably will be presented directly to Mr. Hughes, the United States Secretary of State in the course of the present week.

Paris, Dec. 11th.—Some disappointment is apparent in French official circles over the adjournment of the London Conference without the Premiers reaching even a basis of agreement, but comfort is found in the friendliness of all parties to the negotiations and the definite fixing of a later meeting. The general situation, it is felt, justifies hope for a future agreement. The newspapers generally frankly recognize that the main difficulty between the London Conference and its predecessors, lies in the polite atmosphere of Mr. Bonar Law's meeting, as contrasted with the Lloyd George sessions, at which France recently had her feelings hurt, if nothing more. All comments, however, are devoted largely to the unanimous rejection by the conference of the German note, which saves them pronouncing the conference a failure.

London, Dec. 11th.—Mr. Bonar Law who has remained a sphinx through the three days conference between the Allied Ministers, while the others gave out the news and views regarding the proceedings, is not expected to speak until he appears in the House of Commons on Thursday to speak on the Foreign Policy in general, but British official circles do not express optimistic views regarding the breakdown of the conference. After Mr. Bonar Law's speech on Thursday the floor will be taken by Mr. Lloyd George.

London, Dec. 12th.—The belief that Great Britain intends to sound the United States Government's willingness to take some such action in reference to Allied debts by the possible cancellation of the French debts, is assured by the Daily Telegraph's diplomatic expert. The French delegation to the adjourned Premier's Conference was represented last night as holding that the British might approach the United States before January 2nd meeting of the Premiers to ascertain whether the United States would be willing to consider either cancellation of the French debt, or participation in a conference for the consideration of such a step.

Rome, Dec. 12th.—Corrado Gini, professor of Statistics in the University of Padua, to whom was entrusted an inquiry as to whether Germany can pay reparations, how much and in what form, has decided the first question in the affirmative. Professor Gini makes several proposals concerning the systems for the liquidation of the debt. One of his principal suggestions is compulsory service for

reparations, similar to the military service in Germany before the war. This compulsory service would embrace all youths of 20 years of age for one or two years. Such youths would serve either in reconstructing devastated regions, or in creditor nations where they might be used at the expense of the German Government.

Shanghai, Dec. 12th.—Fourteen Russian ships carrying refugees from Vladivostok are now in the harbour here, five arriving today. All are short of fuel and food and the authorities will not permit the passengers to land although charitable organizations are planning measures to relieve the immediate needs of the homeless Russians. Of the original fleet of fifteen vessels comprising the Russian Asiatic Navy, one is missing and it is feared it may have been lost. On the ships now here are more than 500 officers and men of the former White Guards with their families, which include 200 wives and daughters. There are also 370 orphan boys, former cadets at the Military School in Vladivostok. With strict economy, it is said, the supplies aboard the ships will be sufficient to support life until the first of January. Finances and clothing however are lacking.

Philadelphia, Dec. 12th.—Mr. John Wannamaker died at his home here at 9 o'clock this morning. The world famous Merchant and former Postmaster General passed away at his home 2032 Wall-Street. He had been confined to his residence since early in November with a heavy cold contracted at his country estate at Jankintown near here. He was 84 years old.

New York, Dec. 9th.—Freight rates between New York and Porto Rico have been reduced 60 percent from the levels prevailing several months ago, competition has been usually keen in the last few weeks. Nine lines are bidding for traffic that remains at a low volume. It was reported today that the New York and Porto Rico Line is to add several vessels to its fruit service. Company officials refused to discuss the report that it is their intention to start a service from the Pacific to Porto Rico. This report probably arose, one official said, because his company has named a Western Agent to select freight for transshipment at New Orleans or New York to the island.

Valetta Malta, Dec. 12th.—Mr. Mason Mitchell of New York, the United States Consul on this island, was shot and wounded at noon today near Baracca. His assailant escaped, but pursuit was immediately taken up. Mr. Mitchell was taken to a physician for treatment.

London, Dec. 12th.—Sugar in stock on the 9th inst. 121,000 tons. Last year 39,000 tons.