

there is a majority against the bill they will let it go to a vote and beat it.

Paris, Dec. 1st.—Absolute independence for Turkey will be the motto of Soviet Russia's delegation, at the Near East conference in Lausanne, M. Tchitcherin, the Russian Foreign Minister, declared before leaving Paris for Lausanne today. "The Bosphorus and Dardanelles must be opened to all the merchantile fleets of the world", M. Tchitcherin said.

Lodon, Dec. 1st.—The Irish Bills were passed by the committee in the House of Lords today, the constitution bill unamended and the consequential propositions bill with two minor amendments which had been accepted by the Govt. It has been expected that the bill becomes law this week but the Peers are proceeding very leisurely and the third reading of the measures will not be taken until Monday. This final reading and Royal sanction, however, will be mere formalities which could occupy only a single sitting by the two Houses. The only noteworthy incident of today's debate was a characteristic denunciation of the bill by Lord Curzon, former Unionist leader, who described the constitution bill as a horrible legacy inherited by the Govt. Lord Curzon declared the real reason, why no alteration was allowed in the bill that England had been beaten to her knees and driven out of Ireland, that she never since had been able to stand up against the powers of organized anarchy and murder in Ireland.

Washington, Dec. 1st.—Virtually all basic industries in the United States are showing increased productive activity, according to a Federal Reserve Board Review of business and trade conditions. A generally improved situation in the United States business world was reported. The administration believes that the achievements of the United States delegates at the Lausanne Near East peace conference "will surpass the imagination", it was made known at the White House today in connection with a statement on behalf of President Harding that confidential reports showed so far everything is "going along fine and most acceptable".

London, Dec. 1st.—The volcano of Stromboli on the island of that name, off the coast of Sicily, is in violent eruption, says a despatch to the Central News from Rome today. The volcano began its violent activities Wednesday. Heavy explosions and earthshocks occurred, breaking all the windows on the island, the whole surface of which was littered with ashes, while lava from the crater flowed down into the sea. Broken pieces of rock were hurled a thousand yards upwards. The sky all around the vicinity of the island is clouded with smoke from the eruption.

New York, Dec. 1st.—The Majestic, the world's largest steamship, also became the world's fastest liner today, according to the White Star Line, when she completed her trip to Cherbourg

breakwater in five days, six hours thirteen minutes, breaking the former record held by the Mauretania of five days eight hours ten minutes.

Newburn, N. C., Dec. 1st.—Approximately 2,500 persons, most of them negroes were made homeless, about 200 residences, two churches, two warehouses and several small stores were destroyed and the loss is estimated at 1,000,000 caused by fire, which late today swept twenty blocks in the negro section of Newburn. The flames gained great headway before a high wind at the start because the local fire department was engaged on the opposite side of the town fighting a fire at the Roper Lumber Company's saw mill where \$300,000 damage was estimated to have been done. The wind tonight had diminished and firemen expressed the opinion that they had the fire under control, though several dwellings still were burning.

Terrebonne, La., Dec. 1st.—Four hundred are homeless and over seventy five houses were destroyed when the entire lower part of this town was burned out by fire last night. No lives are known to be lost. The whole business quarter in the centre and lower part of the town, practically all the stores, the town hall, the post office, and the provincial bank building, fell a prey to the flames, which were fanned by a gale varying from 40 to 60 miles an hour. The loss is estimated approximately at \$500,000.

Rome, Dec. 2nd.—A serious Greek counter revolutionary outbreak has occurred in Patras and Missolonghi on the Gulf of Patras in Western Greece and on the island of Corfu, where the British flag is reported to have been raised as the result of indignation over the Greek executions, says a message received here from Athens today.

Paris, Dec. 2nd.—The bankers of Paris decided to strike yesterday in protest against the action of the Prefect of the Seine fixing the price of bread at one franc ten centimes per kilogram. Announcement of the price was made in a decree published yesterday afternoon. During the war bread was sold for one franc per kilogram. The City administration is mobilizing all the bakers in Paris to make bread and will distribute it to citizens today in front of the City Halls of the twenty wards of the City of Paris.

Tokio, Dec. 2nd.—The Foreign Office announces the signing yesterday of an agreement between China and Japan concerning Shantung. The transfer of all Japanese interests in the province of Shantung will take place at noon December 5th, when all the Japanese troops will be evacuated. Some matters, however, will be left for settlement after the evacuation.

Panama, Dec. 2nd.—All previous records for the number of ships passing through the Panama Canal in one month, as well as for tolls collected, were broken

in November. Reports show that 312 vessels used the waterway. The tolls amounted to 91,264,441.

Dublin, Dec. 2nd.—National troops engaged a party of irregulars at Leixrip, Kildare County, yesterday, capturing 22 of them besides arms and ammunition. There were a few casualties on both sides. The irregulars apparently were marching on to Dublin. All the chief approaches to the City were patrolled yesterday by National troops, part of the plan to prevent any sudden Republican blow before the Free State was legally established.

London, Nov. 30th.—Prince George has been appointed to the battleship Queen Elizabeth as midshipman.

London, Nov. 30th.—Rudyard Kipling has recovered sufficiently from his recent operation to leave the nursing home.

London, Dec. 3rd.—The Prince of Wales, who has recovered from injuries received in the hunting field, again fell from his horse yesterday, while negotiating a difficult double jump during the Oxford University's and the Billington Club's point to point steeple chase near Oxford. The Prince was not injured, but did not remount. He returned to the starting point by motor car.

Moscow, Dec. 3rd.—At the opening of the disarmament conference here yesterday Maxim Litvinoff, Russian assistant commissar of Foreign Affairs definitely proposed a reduction of the Red Army to 200,000 men. He made this conditional, however, on a corresponding reduction in the standing armies of the States on Russia's western boundaries.

Paris, Dec. 3rd.—The bread strike, which began yesterday, has collapsed. The master bakers informed the Minister of Agriculture today that the baking of bread would be resumed tomorrow. The striking of the bakers had lasted twenty-five hours. Its collapse is attributed to the energetic attitude taken by the Govt. which had indicated its intention to use army bakers to meet the crisis.

London, Dec. 3rd.—The Daily Mail's Sydney correspondent says that Mr. Hughes, the Premier, was mobbed and stabbed with a hat pin at a turbulent election meeting at Melbourne. The police rescued him from the angry crowds. The Premier is continuing his election tour, although badly shaken.

New York, Dec. 3rd.—The Cunard liner Lusitania, sunk by a German submarine in 1915 off the Irish coast, carried neither guns, troops nor explosives, but did carry 5,400 cases of ammunition, the official report of the vessel's cargo made public by Mr. Malone, collector of the port at that time, shows, according to a copy-righted story in the New York World. The cases of ammunition were carried by special permission, under ruling of the Department of Commerce, in force since 1911.