

to Macao, ran into a storm and damaged their plane in a forced landing, the message said, and both were injured slightly. The Air Ministry plans to send a new plane in which the flyers will continue to Macao.

Melbourne, May 8th.—(Reuters) The recent announcement of the British Government's opposition to imperial preference was immediately reflected in the proceeding of the Australian Federation Parliament, when its sitting was resumed yesterday. Notice of motion was given to the effect, that, in view of the failure of the Imperial Government to ratify, or give legislative expression to the decisions of the Imperial Economic Conference with regard to preferential trade within the Empire, while at the same time entering into, or negotiating trade agreement with foreign countries, notably, Russia, the British preferential tariff duties, under which British manufacturers are given an advantage over foreign competitors of approximately 18,000,000 pounds annually in Australia, should be abolished. Further, the notice of motion asks that the Govt. should enter into negotiations with Canada, or other countries desirous of making reciprocal arrangements with Australia.

London, May 8th.—The Ulster situation, which for long has been a thorny point in the side of the Government and which during the last two weeks have threatened to develop into a crisis, occupies the centre of the stage in politics, with the announcement made by the Premier of Northern Ireland that his government finds it impossible to accede to the request of the Imperial Government to appoint a commissioner to the Boundary Commission. The attitude of the Labour Government on the Ulster question is fully expressed in an editorial appearing this morning in the Daily Herald, which says: "The English people are weary of the truculent claims of Ulster patriots, who claim that they can make and break laws at will. Ulster opposes the most patient statesmanship and the most conciliatory attitude of those who would try to find a way out of the present impasse, with the same obstinate stupidity. The men of Ulster have been so petted and pampered by the Tories, that they still refuse to contribute that small amount of vision, that small amount of reason and that small amount of decency which would achieve the settlement of the boundary question". It is scarcely likely that the Labour Government will advise the King to request the Governor General of Ulster, his representative in the Northern provinces, to name a commissioner. In this connection, it is pointed out that, before taking any action, the Governor General, Duke of Abercorn, must of necessity consult his ministers and that these ministers would certainly advise against the no-

mination of anyone, thus leaving the situation in the same position that it was before. The Labour Government does not seem as yet to have formulated a definite policy on the Ulster question, relying on the solution of the problem, one way or another, as a result of discussion and conference.

Berlin, May 8th.—A strike and lockout in the Ruhr was effective practically throughout the entire industrial basin, according to reports received here today, and threatens to endanger prospects of a reparations settlement if it continued. Practically all mines were idle today despatches said. Although the initiative was taken by the operators, who locked out thousands of men who declined to accept an eight hour day for underground. Communist miners immediately countered by declaring a general strike in the Ruhr. Their funds are short and their resistance to pressure by the industrialists weakened accordingly. Some Germans profess to see Russian influence in the Communists harking back to the incident at the Trade Delegation headquarters in Berlin, when a Russian prisoner was taken by the police. There are also reports that many miners are becoming ugly. Miners in Silesia and Saxony are reported considering sympathetic strikes.

London, May 8th.—The consent of Great Britain to the appointment of Professor Timothy A. Smiddy, as the first Irish Free State Minister to Washington, has not yet been given, according to competent officials here, and the appointment is still under consideration. At the same time it is admitted that the appointment of Professor Smiddy is probable, as it is pointed out that Great Britain not having raised objections to Canadian Minister to Washington, is not likely to object to the appointment of an Irish Minister.

Dublin, May 8th.—Professor Timothy A. Smiddy, whose appointment as Minister to represent the Irish Free State in Washington is considered pretty certain, is already in Washington. Necessary diplomatic formalities in connection with such an appointment take time. He has been mentioned prominently for some time past for this office. Prof. Smiddy was head of the Economic Department at the University College, Cork, and was one of the Govt's. experts on the commission on trade policy, which reported against protection. His activities in Washington will be mainly concerned with trade.

New York, May 8th.—A steady tone developed in the raw sugar market today, spot prices advanced 18 to the basis of 5.90 for Cuban, duty paid. A moderate inquiry was reported for refined sugar at unchanged prices, which ranged from 7.40 for fine granulated.

London, May 8th.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer today received an industrial group of members of Parliament,

mostly Conservatives, who presented their case against the repeal of the duties. The Chancellor reserved his reply for Tuesday, but there was every indication that his stand was inflexible. The deputation left his office seemingly convinced that he would not budge from his determination to abolish the duties on August 1st.

Moscow, May 8th.—The Director of the State Textile Trust, the largest Govt. textile syndicate in Russia were sentenced to death yesterday after a trial lasting a week, on charge of corruption, exploiting a state organization in their own interests, plotting with others to combat state capitalism in favour of private enterprise and giving information secretly to former owners of textile factories who are now abroad. Thirteen other convicted officials, all ex-directors of large and prominent pre-war textile factories, were sentenced to various terms ranging from two to ten years of strict isolation and confiscation of all their property.

Washington, May 8th.—Establishment of a world court at the Hague, to which the United States would adhere, was proposed today in a resolution introduced by Senator Lodge, Massachusetts, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. For the purpose of creating the new tribunal the President would be "respectfully requested to propose the calling of the third Hague conference." The resolution embodied a complete plan for the proposed court. It would be composed of 16 judges, four of them deputies who would be elected by an electoral commission.

NEW YORK, May 8th.
Flour, (hard winter clears \$4.50.
" hard winter straights \$5.00
Meal, Kildried per 100 pounds \$2.20
New Season's Pork per barrel \$37.00
Heavy Mess Pork per 100 lbs. \$25.00
Sugar—Crystals maximum per 100 lbs. \$5.78
" Molasses Sugar 89 maximum 4.87.
Cotton, Middling, Upland, at Liverpool per lb. 17 50-100d.
Exchange, New York and London, 60 days' sight \$4.34 3/4
Exchange New York and London, sight \$4.26 1/2

LONDON, May 8th.
Sugar, Demerara Crystals, nominal per cwt 55s. 0d.—59s. 0d.
" Muscavado nominal per cwt. 48s. 0d.—51s. 0d.
" White Java's cif United Kingdom 29s. 6d.
Demerara Rum per gal. nominal.
Trinidad Cocoa, good middling red per cwt. 56s. 0d.—57s. 0d.
Cotton, good medium West Indian Sea Island at Liverpool, per lb. 25d. nominal.
Bank of England Rate of Discount per 4s.
Consols 57 1/2.
Three per cent Rentes in Paris Frs. 53.60