

decide to carry the question of concessions before the conference.

London, April 22nd.—A despatch from Paris to the Times states that France is disposed to accept a reduction of the German debt, provided it be understood in an inter-allied agreement that the debt of France be cancelled, otherwise, according to the correspondent, who claims to have his information from a good source, France will adhere to the figure of 132 milliards of gold marks. It is thought in France that the greatest obstacle in reaching such an agreement is American opinion, but it is apparently believed that this reduction would bring about an arrangement with Great Britain and the United States.

London, April 22nd.—The visit of the King and Queen to Italy next month will be the occasion for brilliant receptions, the Italians intending to surpass everything that has hitherto been done during the visits of foreign sovereigns.

London April 23rd.—The anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare and the tricentenary of the publication of his works, are being celebrated at Stratford-on-Avon and other places in Great Britain in various ways.

Paris, April 22nd.—M. Poincare, speaking at Verdun, in the Meuse, before thousands of persons assembled for the unveiling of a war memorial, re-affirmed that the essential conditions for rapprochement between France and Germany, are now, as always, reparations and guarantees. He drew a parallel between the serious and successful effort by France to pay the indemnity for the liberation of her territory after 1871 and the apathy, refusal and obstinacy of Germany regarding her payments after 1918. Germany, he said, seeks to efface the memory of her crimes not by repentance, but by falsehoods. It is not only, he added, because we should place our interests foremost in our thoughts, but because without guarantees for our independence and without reconstruction, the restoration of Europe and the maintenance of peace are not possible.

Cairo, April 23rd.—The new Egyptian constitution, which has been signed by King Fuad, declares that Egypt is a free and independent sovereign state. The succession to the throne will be hereditary in the family of Mohammed Ali, the official religion will be Islamic and the official language Arabic. One of the chief articles of the constitutional stipulates for elementary and obligatory education for both sexes, which will be given free in public schools. The document says that the present constitution is applicable to the Kingdom of Egypt, but that this stipulation does not effect in any way the rights of Egypt to the Sudan. It declares that all power emanates from the nation and that the executive power shall be exercised by the King, with the Senate and the Chamber, but the King and the Chamber alone

shall have the right of imposing and increasing taxes. The King may return bills to Parliament for fresh examination, but if then approved by a two-thirds majority of each assembly, they will become law.

London, April 23rd.—Mr. Bonar Law's health apparently has greatly improved in the last few days. Speaking at dinner of the Junior Imperial League last night, Lord Curzon said: "The Prime Minister yesterday told me that the loss of his voice was rapidly disappearing; that his health is stronger than when he took office and that he has not the slightest intention of resigning".

Paris, April 23rd.—The sending of General Weygand to Syria, coupled with the French Government's protest against the Turkish concessions to the Chester syndicate, is widely commented on today by the Government and the opposition papers, as a sign of serious differences between France and Turkey. The fact that Turkey has voted five million Turkish pounds in support of her army, together with the mobilization of Turkish troops on the Syrian front, is cited to show that Turkey is not willing to meet the issues raised by France, such as the Chester concessions.

London, April 23rd.—The Dublin correspondent of the Sunday Times says he is informed that De Valera arrived in Dublin early last week and that the Republican leader is seeking an opportunity to proceed to the United States.

Lausanne, April 23rd.—Prior to the resumption of the Near East Conference with Turkey, the adjustment of the Allied front was the object of a preliminary meeting of the leaders of the great powers this morning. The spokesman of the Allies said there was an impression among them that the Turks would seek to take advantage of fancied differences in the ranks of the Allies and would endeavour to profit by the desire of Great Britain, France and Italy to obtain a permanent peace in the Near East at whatever cost.

Paris, April 23rd.—According to official figures, 5,200 tons of coal and 9,740 tons of coke were shipped to France and Belgium on the twentieth instant from the Ruhr district by the French.

Jersey City, April 23rd.—In the opinion of most of the newspapermen present, Floyd Johnson outpointed Fred Fulton in a twelve round fight here last night, which ended without a decision. The object of the bout was to decide which of the contestants is to meet Jess Willard in a bout on May 12th, and the winner of the latter bout will be in position to challenge Jack Dempsey for the heavyweight championship of the world.

Berlin, April 23rd.—A meeting of the cabinet was held today to study the official text of the speech by Lord Curzon in the House of Lords on the question of reparations. Some days are necessary

for the ministers to consult the leaders of the party and the principal industrialists, and it will then be decided if a definite offer should be submitted to the Entente and also if this offer should be made in the Reichstag, in the form of a reply by Chancellor Cuno to Lord Curzon, or by a collective note to the signatories of the treaty of Versailles.

Berlin, April 23rd.—Herr Stresemann, leader of the people's party, speaking at a public meeting said the speech of Lord Curzon had created a new political situation which the German Government would appreciate at its just value. Lord Curzon's remarks relative to the regulation of the question of reparations, he declared, form a serious basis for the continuation of inter-allied discussions and he added that an agreement could be reached with Germany relative to the reparations by her, always, however, subject to the Rhine remaining German and there should be no misunderstanding regarding this.

Rome, April 23rd.—Premier Mussolini, President of the Council, accepted the resignation of the ministers belonging to the popular or Catholic party.

London, April 23rd.—The Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies states that the imports of wines into the Bahamas in 1922 reached a value of 27,260 pounds, against 8,675 pounds in 1918, and that the value of the spirits imported during the same year was one million pounds, against 6,370 pounds in 1918.

Berlin, April 23rd.—The Government has sent a note of protest to the French, British and Belgian Governments against the expulsion of Prince Von Hatzfeldt, German commissioner, from the occupied territory.

NEW YORK, April 24th.
Flour, (Blended Clears, St. Lawrence Brand) duty paid pr. brl. \$5.10
Meal, Kilndried per 100 pounds \$2.15.
New Season's Pork per barrel \$37.00.
Heavy Mess Pork per brl. \$27.
Sugar—Crystals maximum per 100 lbs. \$8.28.

Mcclases Sugar 89 no quotation.
Cotton, Middling, Upland, at Liverpool per lb. 15 30 100
Exchange, New York and London, 60 days' sight \$4.62½
Exchange New York and London, sight \$4.64½

LONDON, April 24th.
Sugar, Demerara Crystals, per cwt 48s. 0d.—61s. 0d.
" Muscavado per cwt. 49s. 0d.—51s. 0d.
" White Java's cif United Kingdom May and June sellers 33s. 6d.
Demerara Rum per gal. nominal.
Trinidad Cocoa, good middling red per cwt. 54s. 0d.—56s. 0d.
Cotton, good medium West Indian Sea Island at Liverpool, per lb. 23d.
Bank of England Rate of Discount per cent 3.
Consols 59½.
Three per cent. Rentes in Paris Fcs. 56.55.