

short interval a second burst of firing occurred. This is supposed to have been a reply by Collins and his friends.

Dublin, April 17th.—In his speech at Naas, County Kildare, yesterday, Michael Collins charged the opponents of the Provisional Free State Govt. with setting barriers against the onward march of the nation. He declared that Eamon De Valera, had adopted "methods of anarchy" because the people of Ireland were not willing to allow him to decide the treaty question for them. Mr. De Valera regarded this attitude of the people as an unforgiveable sin and for it they were to be deprived of their rights to choose a Government.

Belfast, April 17th.—Gunmen entered the home of ex soldier named Collins at Ramolton, County Donegal, Saturday night, took him outside and shot at and seriously wounded him.

Porto Praya, Cape Verde Island, April 17th.—The Portuguese airplane which is attempting a flight from Portugal to Brazil, arrived here at six o'clock this evening from St. Vincent.

Riga, April 17th.—A conspiracy among Russian Monarchists in Central and Eastern Europe to kill Nikolai Lenine, if he dares to step outside Russia, is said by secret service men here to have had more or less of a bearing on the fact that Lenine has not started for Genoa to attend the Economic Conference.

New York, April 17th.—The raw sugar market was steady early today. There were sales of 4,800 bags of Cuba's in port at 25/16, equal to 3.92 centrifugal. April shipments of Cuba's were quoted at 4-04 and May at 4.11. The raw sugar futures market, after showing declines of 1 to 2 points under scattered liquidation, rallied on covering and trade buying at midday prices were unchanged. A better inquiry was reported from refined sugar. Quotations ranged from 5.25 to 5.50 for fine granulated. There were no transactions in refined futures.

Lafayette, Ind., April 17th.—Ten persons are known to have been killed and at least a hundred are reported seriously injured in a tornado at Hedrick and Sloan, Ind., some 12 miles west of Williamsport. Much property damage was also done.

London, April 17th.—A great fire and a massacre of Christians at Batoum, on the Black Sea coast of Asia Minor, were in progress nine days ago when the Italian steamer "Barbarita" left there, the steamers officers reported on her arrival at Patras, Greece, says an Athens despatch to the Times on Sunday. Turkish Nationalists and Bashi Bazuks headed by Turkish officers, surrounded the Greek quarters and set it ablaze, shooting all who attempted to escape, the officers declared. When the steamer sailed the large Greek church at Batoum was ablaze, and thousands of Greek women and children rushing to the water front seeking refuge on steamers. The "Barbarita"

sent a wireless message to a United States warship in the neighbourhood, urging her to hasten to the scene.

London, April 17th.—Mr. Lloyd George questioned the right concerning rumours that the conference was on the verge of breaking up, is quoted by the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company as saying, "You always hear rumours wherever there is a conference. Personally, I am optimistic". Regarding reports that the French are preparing to withdraw, he said, "No, no, they are not going home. The Allied attitude", Mr. Lloyd George added, "had not been definitely decided upon it and it would be necessary to continue the discussion tomorrow".

Genoa, April 17th.—The British, French, and Belgian delegates have prepared a resolution for presentation to the conference declaring that the system of international transports should be determined not by political considerations but by commercial and technical conditions. Article 1 of the resolution says assistance should be given countries not possessing the resources necessary to restoration of their transport systems. Articles 2, 3 and 4 emphasize the desirability of the ratification and application of decisions of the Barcelona and Portorosa Conventions of 1921 and also of the other conventions which have dealt with railway traffic. Article 5 says the problems and difficulties, upon which an accord was reached at Portorosa, equally affect other European states and it is desirable, that those states should hold an international conference of experts without delay to examine their problems of transport. The Portorosa Convention was made by states, which succeeded the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Genoa, April 17th.—The Russo-German treaty, signed on Sunday at Rapallo by Geo Tchitcherin and Dr. Walter Rathenau, contains the following provisions. Art. 1 (A) The German and Russian Govts. have agreed to settle war time questions on the following basis. The German Govt. and the Soviet Republic reciprocally renounce reimbursement of war expenses, as well as reimbursement of war damages, and also damages by their subjects in the war territories, because of military measures, including requisitions carried out in the enemy's country. Likewise, the two contracting parties renounce reimbursement of civil damages caused by the so-called exceptional laws or coercive measures of state authorities. All legal relations concerning questions of public or private law, resulting from the state of war, including the question of merchant ships acquired by either side during the war, shall be settled on a basis of reciprocity. (C) Germany and Russia mutually renounce the payment of expenses caused by prisoners of war, in the same way as the Reich renounces repayment of

expenses caused by the internment of soldiers of the Russian army. The Russian Govt. renounces payment of the sum Germany has derived from the sale of Russian army material transported into Germany. Art 2. Germany renounces all claims resulting from the enforcement of the laws and measures of the Soviet Republic as they have affected German nationals or their private rights, or the rights of the German Reich itself, as well as claims resulting from measures taken by the Soviet Republic or its authorities in any other way, against the subjects of the German Reich or their private rights provided the Soviet Govt. shall not satisfy similar claims made by any third state. Art. 3. Consular and diplomatic relations between the Reich and the Federal Republic of Soviets shall be resumed immediately. The admission of consuls of both countries shall be arranged by special agreement. Art. 4. Both Governments agree further that the rights of the Nationals of either of the two parties on the others territory as well as the regulation of commercial relations, shall be based on the most favoured national principles. This principle does not include the rights and facilities granted by the Soviet Govt to another Soviet state, or to any state that formerly formed part of the Russian Empire. Art 5. The two Govts undertake to give each other mutual assistance for the alleviation of their economic difficulties in the most benevolent spirit. In the event of a general settlement of this question on an international basis they undertake to have a preliminary exchange of views. The German Govt declared itself ready to facilitate, as far as possible, the conclusion of contracts between private enterprises in the two countries. Art 6. Clause 1. Para B, and Art 4 of this agreement, shall come into force after ratification of this document. The other clause will come into force immediately.

Porto Praya, Cape Verde Islands, April 18th.—The Portuguese transatlantic aviators, Captain Coutinho and Sacadura, left at five fifty this morning for St Paul Rocks, on the third and probably most dangerous leg of their flight from Lisbon to Rio Janeiro. Their route lay over 900 miles of water devoid of markers or guideships, and they expected to reach the rocks in mid Atlantic in from ten to twelve hours flying.

Wanganui N Z, April 18th.—James Paddon, Australian oarsman, won the worlds professional sculling championship on the famous Wanganui river course today, defeating Robert Hadfield, also of Australia Paddon finished nine lengths in the lead.

London, April 18th.—The Independent Labour party unanimously passed a resolution at its conference at Nottingham yesterday, emphatically opposing a liberal-labour alliance, either inside or outside of the Commons.