

regime had brought Great Britain's prestige abroad to the lowest level. Referring to France, he said, "While France was in the Ruhr she lent money to Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Jugo-Slavia while we were paying our obligations to America a situation was created in Central Europe which necessitated expenditure in our defence. France can point to her devastated fields, but I can point to the devastated homes in Britain and the misery and ruin of unemployment". Mr. Chamberlain said he imagined that the Labour Party would find it impossible to enforce a rigid principle of abolishing all food taxes, but would have to adopt itself to circumstances. He put it up to the Labour Party that if they could be satisfied that if the British preference proposals, even though they include the imposition of new duties on certain articles, were expedient on other grounds, they might well agree to depart from their principles and rearrange the food duties to enable the preference to be imposed. In twenty, thirty, or fifty years of time some of the Dominions might equal, or be even greater than the old country in population and wealth and the turn given to their thoughts and policies today would persist all through those years. When a generation or two hence they were among the greatest nations, the action taken by the Government today might determine what value they were going to be to the people of Great Britain. (cheers). Mr. McNamara, Minister of Labour, heartily congratulated Mr. Clynes on his reference to Empire Settlement, as plucky beyond praise. Before the war, he said, more than sixteen million people in the United Kingdom were classified as wage earners, today they were seventeen million. The development of home resources would not settle the Labour problem. They must develop along the lines suggested by Mr. Clynes. Three hundred thousand young fellows, he concluded, were walking the streets wanting work. They should be given an opportunity to make good. In connection with Mr. Winston Churchill's letter published yesterday, forecasting disaster if the Labour Party was permitted to take office, it is noteworthy that a Parliamentary Industrial Group is submitting an amendment that as an overwhelming majority of the House of Commons membership was returned definitely pledged against Socialism, it would be a violation of the expressed will of the electorate to place in power a Government which manifestly cannot, on its own declared policy, effectively carry on the administration.

London, Jan. 19th.—Although the leaders of the Parliamentary Labour Party are keeping in the background, the more radical measures, which their party from time to time has advocated, some of these will come before the House of Commons soon in the form of private bills. Some of the Labourite

members have exceptional luck in the balloting for the privilege of introducing, and according to the Daily Telegraph, bills for the nationalization of the mines and railways will be presented before long. Also Labour contemplates initiating a law for the franchisement of women at the same age as men instead of at thirty years, as is now the case. Another bill for which Labour will stand sponsor, says the newspaper, is one proposing Home Rule for Scotland. In as much as private measures are not supported by the Government, they depend for success upon the support their promoters are able to win for them from the other members. It is obvious that in the present composition of the House of Commons the private members bills have little chance of success.

London, Jan. 19th.—The famous Krupp Company of Germany is to take over Spain's oldest engineering works La-Maquinista Terrista Y Maritima established in 1855, and also the Cardena Dockyard, both in Barcelona, Spain, according to a despatch to the "Daily Mail" from Barcelona. The Germans are to supply the technical staff and Spanish banks will subscribe the capital necessary for extensions of the plants. The Krupps will immediately place large orders for work which cannot be undertaken in Germany under the provisions of the treaty of Versailles. They will build steamers for German and South American lines and locomotives for the Spanish railways. The despatch adds that the agreement has been favourably received in Barcelona where its inauguration will relieve the unemployment brought about by the closing down of their work there.

London, Jan. 19th.—The Soviet Delegation, which is proceeding to Canada to begin negotiations with the Ottawa Government, looking towards the resumption of trade relations with Russia, reached London this morning. They will sail next Friday and they have hopes of signing contracts for agricultural machinery, railway equipment and other industrial productions during their visit. If the contracts are completed it should result in a big boom of Canadian trade. Full guarantee of payment for all such contracts has already been arranged by the Soviet Government.

Trinidad, Jan. 19th.—The following Delegates leave here this afternoon in S. S. "Coronado" for Jamaica to attend the West Indian Agricultural Conference. Sir Francis Watts, K. C. M. G. Principal of Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, and Commissioner of Agriculture for the W. I., Sir A. E. Shipley, G. B. E., LL D. F. R. S., Chairman Imperial Dept. of Agriculture, C. Moody Stuart, Chairman Finance Committee, H. A. Ballou, Professor of Entomology, S. S. Ashby, Professor of Mycology, Dr. Harland, Professor of Botany, Dr. Neve, Assistant Director Imperial Bureau of Entomology,

R. G. W. Barnwell, M. A., British Empire Sugar Research Committee, A. F. Aspinall, C. M. G. B. A., E. A. Depass, W. I. Committee etc. etc. The "Coronado" will arrive at Jamaica about the 28th inst. and the conference will be presided over by Sir Francis Watts.

Washington, Jan. 20th.—The prime purpose of the Shenandoah's proposed Polar flight, the Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Denby, told the House Naval Committee on Saturday, is exploration in the Arctic regions with a view to annexing land in that area to the United States. "The mere fact that there is an unemployed area of 1,000,000 square miles adjacent to the United States," said Secretary Denby, "constitutes a constant challenge to the United States. We cannot permit that vast territory to fall into the hands of another power. If we don't make the flight this Summer, the entire Arctic region will be photographed and mapped by another power within a year". Secretary Denby said that the expedition would cost approximately \$183,000. All members of the Shenandoah's crew, he added, are eager for the adventure, which, he said, would entail no particular hardships or danger. No structural or navigation weakness was revealed, the committee was told during the runaway flight of the Shenandoah on Wednesday night. The Secretary said the big dirigible would follow a zigzag course over northern Alaska to get data on that region, but would not attempt to pass over the North Pole to Spitzbergen unless the weather conditions are favourable. If she reaches Spitzbergen, he said, she will visit Great Britain on her way back to the United States, and later, may attempt a flight around the world.

Westminster, Jan. 20th.—The cruiser Omaha and a half dozen destroyers have been ordered from Panama waters to Vera Cruz. It is assumed, that, in ordering the ships to Vera Cruz, the United States Government acted through a desire to give every protection possible to United States citizens or their interests where fighting is in progress. It was pointed out that the gathering of United States ships at Vera Cruz would constitute a naval demonstration that might convince De la Huerta's leaders that the United States Government did not intend to permit interference with U. S. commercial shipping at Tampico or other Mexican ports.

New York, Jan. 19th.—No fresh business was reported in the local raw sugar market on Saturday. The undertone remained steady, with buyers at last paid prices of 6.52, duty paid for Cubas but holders asking 6.85.

Athens, Jan. 19th.—It is officially announced that negotiations have been started for the arrangement of a commercial agreement between Greece and Soviet Russia.