

DESTRUCTION OF SMYRNA.

120,000 VICTIMS.

FIRE, MASSACRE, AND PILLAGE.

REFUGEES' PLIGHT.

The fire that is raging in Smyrna has practically destroyed the town, which had already been given over to pillage and massacre. Our Special Correspondent at Athens quotes the estimate of a member of the American Relief Committee that the numbers of victims totalled 120,000 up to Thursday morning. The refugees still remaining in the town are huddled on the quay.

Among the victims is at least one British subject, an Irish doctor.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

ATHENS, SEPT. 15.

Smyrna has virtually ceased to exist. The whole town, with the exception of the Turkish quarter and a few houses near Kassamba railway station, has been gutted. The fire is still raging. It is impossible to estimate at present the numbers massacred, but I have the express authority of Mr. John Manola, of the American Relief Committee, to state that, in his opinion, the victims numbered at least 120,000 up to yesterday morning.

The above is a bald summary of the awful tragedy, the extent whereof was only properly realized this morning when the American ship *Yanina* arrived at the Piræus with 1,800 refugees, mainly Greeks and Armenians. The vessel left Smyrna at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and the American captain declares that his last vision of the town was a mass of flames, while the cries and screams of the terrified Christians, crowding the quay only a few yards from the burning buildings were audible when the ship was upwards of a mile away. The waters of the harbour were full of the dead bodies of persons drowned or shot by the Turks while trying to reach the ships, and some of the corpses were horribly mangled by the propellers.

The quayside was still thronged with dense crowds of all classes awaiting a chance to escape. In the interior of the city explosions were still occurring, and it is presumed incendiary bombs were used by the Turks.

ATHENS, SEPT. 14.

The fire now raging in the European quarter of Smyrna has assumed such proportions that it is feared it will be impossible to extinguish it, but late last evening the Turkish quarter was still untouched. The fire is not confined to Smyrna alone, but embraces also the suburbs Burnabat and Buja, the former of which is mainly inhabited by British subjects.

A trustworthy eyewitness, who returned this morning in an American destroyer, declares that the Turkish regular troops preserved discipline for two days after the occupation, but subsequently were turned loose promiscuously into the Greek and Armenian business quarters, which they thoroughly looted. Although undoubtedly many were massacred and beaten, the stories of tens of thousands of victims are fortunately exaggerated, and Sir Harry Lamb, the British Consul-General, who was reported to have been murdered, went on board a British warship yesterday evening. In any case the British casualties are believed to be very few.

A stream of refugees is still leaving Smyrna, and my informant describes the quay last night as packed with dense crowds herded together inside a cordon of Turkish regulars, while searchlights of foreign warships in the harbour played upon them. Their plight is the more serious owing to the destruction by fire of a quantity of flour and other supplies intended for the refugees. My informant expressed the opinion that Allied warships did not always display the maximum effort expected of them to aid the Christians. He personally was convinced after a conversation with Mustapha Kemal Pasha that the threat to occupy Constantinople must be taken in all seriousness.

ENTENTE POWERS AGREED.

STRAITS TO BE DEFENDED.

The Cabinet at a protracted meeting yesterday considered the situation in the Near East.

We understand that there is complete agreement between the British, French, and Italian Governments with regard to the maintenance of the neutrality of the whole of the demilitarized zone under the Treaty of Sévres and that a joint intimation is to be sent by the three Governments to Mustapha Kemal on the subject. This step is to be taken pending a more permanent arrangement, which the British Government suggests should be the subject of a conference.

The Allied Powers are preparing to send reinforcements to the neutral zone in case there should be any imminence of an attack by the Kemalists forces, and the Fleets are being instructed that no Turkish troops are to be allowed to cross from the Asiatic Coast to Europe. Neither are the Fleets to permit transports to be collected for the purpose of transferring a Turkish Army to Europe.

KEMAL'S DEMANDS.

PROMPT BRITISH ACTION NEEDED.

(From Our Correspondent in the Near East.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, SEPT. 14.

Mustapha Kemal Pasha, whose victory has made him the unchallenged dictator of Anatolia, undoubtedly intends to demand the letter of the national pact from the Entente Powers.

As regards the Dardanelles he will almost certainly demand evacuation of this region by the Entente Powers, and will in return offer to leave it unfortified, provided the Powers permit Turkey to maintain such fortifications in the Marmara region as are necessary to protect Constantinople against surprise attack. He will probably demand the cession of Mosul, and the early evacuation of Constantinople, which the Powers had already agreed to evacuate on the conclusion of peace.

As regards Greece he certainly will ask for an indemnity, and probably demand the surrender of the Greek Fleet. He will demand that a peace conference be held at Smyrna, on the ostensible ground that he cannot leave Anatolia, but in reality because his presence in Anatolia, where he has full military powers, would enable him rapidly to move troops against the Asiatic neutral zones as a demonstration if the Turkish claims were resisted and for action if the conference terminated unsuccessfully.

In a speech delivered at Angora, Rauf Bey, the Prime Minister, informed his audience that he hoped they would soon celebrate the recapture of Smyrna, and a little later the recapture of Constantinople and Adrianople.

In face of this and similar warnings the British Government appears to have decided to send one battalion for the present to Turkey. It does not appear to be realized in London that the time for speeches and attempts at bargaining is almost past. If we mean to defend solemnly British interests such as the freedom of the Straits, we must be prepared to take the necessary military precautions. The mere dispatch of ships to Turkish waters by itself is useless, except to cover evacuation.

Even assuming that France supports us, as she may up to a point, we cannot expect her to bear the brunt of the defence of the Straits and the neutral zones, and the longer British statesmen wait Miescher-like for something to turn up to their advantage, while they omit to take the defensive steps which the situation demands, the more they will dispose our Allies, whose interests, like our own, demand an early settlement of the Near Eastern troubles, the more they will encourage the extremists in Angora and Moscow, the more they will jeopardize our ludicrously insufficient forces and our very great interests in Turkey.

Field-Marshal Lord Plumer arrived here this morning.

WARSHIPS AT CHANAK.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

DARDANELLES, SEPT. 15.

The town of Chanak is being put in a state of defence in case of Kemal attack, and a squadron of British war-

FRENCH REPLY TO BRITISH NOTE.

ACCORD ON STRAITS QUESTION.

DURABLE PEACE DESIRED.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, SEPT. 15.

The reply of the French Government to the communication submitted by the British Foreign Office to the Quai d'Orsay on the Near East problem was handed to Lord Hardinge, the British Ambassador in Paris, last night for transmission to London.

Its tenor, as foreshadowed in yesterday's message, discloses the complete accord of the French Government with the British and Italians in the measures immediately called for by the success of the Turkish Army in Asia Minor. The French Government unreservedly endorses the British proposal for guaranteeing the freedom of the Straits and the maintenance of the neutral zone.

Instructions have, in fact, been sent to General Pellé, the French High Commissioner in Constantinople, to join with his British and Italian colleagues in warning the Angora Government of the consequences of attempting to violate the neutral zone. The French High Commissioner will, however, make it clear that in the French view this decision in no way prejudices the ultimate conditions of peace.

The attitude assumed by France towards the question raised in the British communication is, therefore, perfectly clear; and the hope is expressed in official circles that the French reply will be welcomed in London in the same spirit of cordiality with which it has been written. It is the French official view that, assuming that the definitive terms of peace are reserved for subsequent discussion, the Turks will realize the wisdom of refraining from forcing any action against the Allies which might modify dangerously the aspect of the Near East problem.

A "FAIT ACCOMPLI."

It is believed to be highly improbable that the Government of Angora will compromise by unwise action the advantages which they may expect to obtain from their military success in Asia Minor. The Turkish victory must, say the French, be accepted as a *fait accompli* which profoundly modifies the situation in the Near East, but, since it has long been anticipated in French official quarters, it is not in itself likely very materially to alter the French policy in regard to a general settlement in the Near East.

As I intimated yesterday, France sincerely desires a settlement that will guarantee a durable peace, and to arrive at an understanding on which such a peace may be founded. France is still willing to meet her Allies in conference at Venice or elsewhere. But such a conference must not be convoked precipitately. The problem of the Near East is extremely complex, and before its solution is attempted the Allies must be certain that they are in accord on the attitude to be assumed towards Turkey and Greece in the immediate future.

The conditions precedent to such a conference are, it is urged, the conclusion of an armistice and the guaranteeing of the freedom of the Straits. This will give the Allies adequate time for reflection. It appears to the French official mind that Great Britain is inclined to consider the question of Constantinople, the Straits, and Thrace independently of the question of Asia Minor. That is a conception which is scarcely likely to be shared by the Quai d'Orsay, since it is held to be impossible to ignore the political significance of the forcible evacuation of Anatolia by Greece, an event which materially changes the nature of the problem which confronted the Allies when the memorandum of March 26 was drafted.

FATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE

The question of Constantinople, it is pointed out, was settled by the decision taken on March 26 by the Foreign Ministers of France, Great Britain, and Italy. In the peace terms sent to Athens, Constantinople, and Angora at that period the three Powers reaffirmed their intention to restore Constantinople to the full authority of the Government of the Sultan after the ratification of the treaty of peace, and France is still disposed to adhere to that decision. She will, however, insist upon the maintenance of the freedom of the Straits, in conformity with the agreement of March 26, by an International Commission upon which Turkey will be represented.

In Thence it is thought that the claims of the victorious Turks will come into serious conflict with the British policy. The problem of Thrace is, nevertheless,

GLIDING FLIGHT.

PUBLIC INTEREST ROUSED.

WARNING TO THE UNSKILLED.

(By Our Aeronautical Correspondent.)

The keen interest which has been aroused in gliding in this country is amply reflected in the great number of inquiries relating to the design and construction of gliders which aircraft firms are receiving. These inquiries may be divided into two classes—those from the flight enthusiast, who has experience and technical knowledge of aviation and aircraft, and those from the amateur, who erroneously imagines that anyone possessed of a pair of well-made wings can glide and soar with the assistance of them.

While it is all to the good of aviation that public interest in every branch of it should be aroused, and when aroused sustained, it is also very undesirable that there should be wholly un instructed attempts to glide by numbers of people without air knowledge. The impressive success of the German students may have suggested that soaring and gliding are aerial evolutions whereof the secrets are quickly learned. The truth is the exact opposite. The German successes followed a period of intense and patient study. It is probably more difficult to control a glider with real success than to pilot a power-aeroplane. An orgy of gliding by the unskilled could result only in a crop of serious accidents, which would seriously retard the progress of gliding in this country and hamper the advance of civil aviation.

Among the inquiries that the aircraft firms are receiving are many from airmen who, largely for reasons of expense, have not been able to continue flying, but whose interest in all forms of it has not diminished, and, whereas the purchase of a motor-driven aeroplane is beyond the means of most of them, to buy a glider for a hundred pounds or less is within the means of many.

One of the firms that has arranged to build gliders to the specification of clients is the Central Aircraft Company, of Kilburn, to which reference was made in *The Times* yesterday. This firm has itself designed a glider and begun the construction of it, but outside orders have lately been so numerous that the completion of the machine has been delayed. Another indication of the extent of public interest in gliding is the fact that some of the gliding clubs of bygone years are being revived. One of these is the Polytechnic Gliding Society, which was founded some twenty years ago, and was organized in connexion with the aeronautical side of the Polytechnic Engineering School. Mr. B. G. Wood, who was an instructor in aviation at the Polytechnic at that time, covered one thousand feet on a "Wright" glider. He reached a height of forty feet, and stayed in the air one minute.

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The organizers of the *Flight* glider competition report that 80 per cent. of the designs submitted so far are for monoplane gliders. This competition is for designs only, and is being very well supported. It represents a serious attempt to secure a workmanlike and serviceable glider. Competitors are required to supply, among other particulars, stress calculations, a curve of gliding angles, and various aerodynamical estimates, so that only those with real flying knowledge need compete. The judges are Mr. Handley Page and Mr. Fawcett.

GERMAN SHIPPING ACTIVITIES.

AGREEMENT WITH U.S. LINES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

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IRELAND PARLI

A GOOD

REBELS ST

(FROM OUR OWN

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Certainly it, be manner of its bus week the Provisi been a vast impro Dail. The Ministr grip of the House; been easy; speech short and usually t in the House have tics of the Govern there has been a te among young Parl its laid in matters which must wait u questions have b absence of any Re Labour Party of Thomas Johnson, the official Opposi with some of the G actions, but has ab obstruction. The I much to say about t situation, and difficu in the coming deba peated assurance tl verdict of the pe guarantee that the will not be exten

In all the decis Government had notably so when it strike of postal wor the Labour member sistance on the nee Mr. Mulcahy's p policy have been e Parliament, the p people of all classes address itself to its the important acce which comes fro in taking measures and to safeguard thi ng as the authen people's will.

BALLINA R

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General Eoin O' command of the op West of Ireland, ha Commissioner of th

Dublin experien heavy firing. At a were made on sev the centre of the fired at the Welling The din of machi was alarming, but died away.

The body of Dr. nephew of Robert patriot, which had New York, where buried in Glasnevin Requiem Mass in t attended by Pres several members of representatives of tl Lord Mayor, busin of the learned pro

NIGHT OF DUN

(FROM OUR O

For over six hou the incessant firing machine-guns mad Dundalk. Many of terrorized, and to a electric lights were darkness throughout night. It was afte the Republicans b power station. A n the building arnee immediately had t shut off. Several left without light, but many, where patients are under t

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THE FATE OF SMYRNA.

ARCHBISHOP SHOT.

(From Our Correspondent in the Near East.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, SEPT. 15.

Whatever was the cause of the Smyrna fire, the results are catastrophic. The greater part of the town has been destroyed and thousands of inhabitants and refugees are believed to have perished, while property valued at many millions has been wiped out.

There were ghastly scenes on the quays, where thousands of refugees were huddled at the water's edge, under a rain of sparks and cinders. The Turks failed to get the fire under, in spite of the employment of large numbers of troops, but they are not reported to have shown any sympathy with incendiaries or looters, whether Turk or non-Turk, who were shot at sight. The firebrands who are reported to have entered Smyrna before the fire may have caused it.

Looting certainly took place in the Armenian quarter prior to the outbreak. The richest support of Turkey has thus perished. Years must elapse before its trade recovers, and British merchants and residents have been among the greatest sufferers.

It is reported here that the Orthodox Archbishop of Smyrna, Met. Chrysostomos, has been tried by summary Court-martial and shot, and that the leading local Greek journalist M. Lascaris, has been murdered.

14 AMERICANS MISSING.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Admiral Bristol, the American High Commissioner in Turkey, reports that fourteen nationalized Americans are missing in Smyrna.—*Reuter.*

With reference to the above report, Reuter's Agency is informed that these are probably the fourteen members of the American International College, which comprises the bulk of the American population in Smyrna. They were staying at Paradise, the college compound, some three miles out of Smyrna. According to a telegram from Smyrna, dated the 12th, several of the teachers at the college had already fled.

this region by the Entente Powers, and will in return offer to leave it unfortified, provided the Powers permit Turkey to maintain such fortifications in the Marmara region as are necessary to protect Constantinople against surprise attack. He will probably demand the cession of Mosul, and the early evacuation of Constantinople, which the Powers had already agreed to evacuate on the conclusion of peace.

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In face of this and similar warnings the British Government appears to have decided to send one battalion for the present to Turkey. It does not appear to be realized in London that the time for speeches and attempts at bargaining is already past. If we mean to defend genuinely British interests such as the freedom of the Straits, we must be prepared to take the necessary military precautions. The mere dispatch of ships to Turkish waters by itself is useless, except to cover evacuation.

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WARSHIPS AT CHANAK.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

DARDANELLES, SEPT. 15.

The town of Chanak is being put in a state of defence in case of Kemalist attack, and a squadron of British warships is now lying in the harbour. A detachment of Italian troops has been landed and a detachment of French are landing on the 16th.

AGED IRISH DOCTOR'S DEATH.

BRITISH HOUSES PLUNDERED. (From Our Special Correspondent.)

DARDANELLES, SEPT. 15.

The British battleship Iron Duke, which arrived here to-day from Smyrna, reports that the greater part of the town was destroyed by fire yesterday. The burning was preceded by wholesale pillage and murder, and at least one British subject, Dr. Murphy, an Irish octogenarian physician, was killed.

Most of the British subjects, including the Consul-General, had left in warships some days ago for Cyprus and Malta. Their houses were subsequently plundered. French and Italian subjects had all remained in Smyrna until the fire.

The plight of two hundred thousand Greek fugitives who fled to Smyrna before the Kemalist army is pitiable. All the bakeries, shops, and stores have been destroyed.

REFUGEES AT MALTA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MALTA, SEPT. 15.

Four hundred refugees arrived here by the hospital-ship Maine at 7 o'clock this morning and disembarked in the quarantine harbour. The destitute, who are very numerous, are accommodated at the Lazzaretto, and the others will be allowed out after disinfection. Another lot of about 450 refugees is expected on Monday.

MALTA, Sept. 15.—Among the refugees who have arrived here are Lady Lamb, wife of the British Consul-General in Smyrna, and Miss Lamb.

News has reached here that the steamer Bavarian, with 750 British refugees, including many Maltese, left Smyrna for Malta yesterday, and the steamer Antioch, with two hundred British and Cypriot refugees, left Smyrna for Cyprus on the 14th.—*Reuter.*

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As I intimated yesterday, France sincerely desires a settlement that will guarantee a durable peace, and to arrive at an understanding on which such a peace may be founded. France is still willing to meet her Allies in conference at Venice or elsewhere. But such a conference must not be evoked precipitously. The problem of the Near East is extremely complex, and before its solution is attempted the Allies must be certain that they are in accord on the attitude to be assumed towards Turkey and Greece in the immediate future.

The conditions precedent to such a conference are, it is urged, the conclusion of an armistice and the guaranteeing of the freedom of the Straits. This will give the Allies adequate time for reflection. It appears to the French official mind that Great Britain is inclined to consider the question of Constantinople, the Straits, and Thrace independently of the question of Asia Minor. That is a conception which is scarcely likely to be shared by the Quai d'Orsay, since it is held to be impossible to ignore the political significance of the forced evacuation of Anatolia by Greece, an event which materially changes the nature of the problem which confronted the Allies when the memorandum of March 26 was drafted.

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In Thrace it is thought that the claims of the victorious Turks will come into serious conflict with the British policy. The problem of Thrace is, nevertheless, regarded by the Quai d'Orsay as susceptible of satisfactory solution. French opinion attaches little importance to alarmist rumours from the Balkans, of which no confirmation from French diplomatic sources has been received at the Quai d'Orsay. It is regarded as natural that the Balkan Powers are watching with the closest interest the development of events, but it is considered highly improbable that Rumania and Yugo-Slavia contemplate serious action, and the reported concentration of Bulgarian troops on the frontiers of Thrace is formally denied. It is noticed with interest that M. Nimitz, the Serbian Minister for Foreign Affairs, arrived in Paris this morning.

FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS

French solicitude for Turkish susceptibilities manifests itself in curious ways. In the measures contemplated to strengthen the French forces in Constantinople it is explained that this precaution is taken against Greece, and not against the Turks in Asia Minor. The Finance Commission had before them yesterday a demand for new credits for the sending of reinforcements 3,000 strong to Constantinople, the first detachment of a contingent not to exceed twenty thousand men in 1923.

M. Macinot, the Minister of War, has addressed a letter to the Commission explaining that the credits asked for are solely for troops of occupation destined to defend Constantinople against Greece. This measure, he says, is not directed against the Turks, because, by the terms of agreement of March last, the Allies have already recognized Constantinople as the capital of Turkey, provided that the Turks respect the neutral zone of the Straits.

The French official view is that France is not in a state of war either with the Government of Constantinople or the Government of Angora, inasmuch as an armistice has been signed with the Government of Constantinople, and the Government of Angora came into being after the armistice was signed. Moreover, the French Government is fully persuaded that the Angora Government has no intention of provoking incidents, which might seriously menace Constantinople or the freedom of the Straits.

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Some details of the agreement in the course of negotiation between the North German Lloyd and the United States lines closely allied to the American Shipping Board are published here. The period of the contract is to be ten years. The United States lines reserve the right to terminate the contract at short notice should the Shipping Board dispose of the vessels on its hands to private persons. On the other hand, the North German Lloyd is to be empowered to terminate the contract only after two years' notice.

The remaining clauses are more in the nature of mutual rights. The North German Lloyd is to place its entire organization for passenger and freight traffic at the disposal of the United States lines, but concede the latter the right to open agencies in Germany. The North German Lloyd can do the same in America. In return for the use of the North German Lloyd's organization the American lines agree to ship cargoes in German ports by the North German Lloyd only. The Westward freights are to be fixed by the North German Lloyd, and, in so far as is deemed advisable, alternative dates of sailing are to be followed by the two lines.

The *Börsen Zeitung* states that the board of the North German Lloyd has already agreed to the present draft agreement. On the American side the ratification of the Shipping Board is necessary. This, however, is deemed to be a matter of form when once the United States lines have agreed. The agreement is greeted with welcome in Germany, in spite of the fact that the United States lines are said to be better situated in regard to the profits.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA SERVICE.

It is announced that the Hamburg-Amerika Line will re-open their Atlantic passenger traffic next spring with two liners of 20,000 tons each, named the Albert Ballin and the Deutschland. They will call at Southampton outward and at Plymouth homeward.

A MARRIAGE AT SIMLA.

The Viceroys of India and Lady Reading (the latter of whom had lent the bride a veil of old lace) and Lord Rawlinson, Commander-in-Chief in India, were present at the marriage at Simla on Monday of Major Otto Lund, D.S.O., A.D.C. to the Commander-in-Chief, and Miss Peggy Harrison. An account of the wedding appears on p. 11.

policy have been of Parliament, the people of all classes, address itself to its the important areas which comes from in taking measures and to safeguard the ing as the authentic people's will.

BALLINA IR

For the moment he its chief consider in the South have large bands, but th and formidable thr of the Province of M "The town of Ball was captured by I ago, has, like Kenn National troops. I away on the approx

General Eoin O'D command of the op West of Ireland, has Commissioner of the Dublin experien heavy firing. At were made on sev the centre of the fired at the Wellingt The din of machir was alarming, but i died away.

The body of Dr. A nephew of Robert patriot, which had New York, where I buried in Glasnevin Requiem Mass in tl attended by Pres several members of tl Lord Mayor, busine of the learned prof

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B

For over six hou the incessant firing machine-guns made Dundalk. Many of terrorized, and to electric lights were midnight, and the darkness throughout night. It was afte the Republicans ha power station. A n the building armed immediately had th shut off. Several l left without light. Infantry, where patients are under t

The Republicans remained in possession until 7 o'clock this the Free State troc several points unde At 12.30 a patrol passing through Ch being hurled at the was mortally wound turned the fire, but known. By this mo had disappeared, le troops in possession

UNDER MA

The Court of Kin holding that a state justified martial law military under the ment, yesterday refu a writ of *habeas*. Sean Beumann an White, two prison Barracks, who had National troops w without being chary Adjutant-General C opposing the applic disorders prevailing that Beumann was suspicion of associ foreps, but the fae suspicion was famu public interest be c

FALL IN COS

TWO POINT DR TO CHEAP

The cost of livin two points. The *Gazette* states that average level of rd commodities taken statistics prepared l (cluding food, rent, and miscellaneous ite cent, above that of pared with 81 per ce decline in the percen to a further fall in t

The index figur beginning of this ye fallen, except in du caused a rise from 80

