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BOMBAY: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1946.

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R. T. C. TALKS ON INDIA END

Meeting Lasts One Hour Ten Minutes

STATEMENT TO BE MADE IN PARLIAMENT

LONDON, December 6.

"NO BOYCOTT WILL

BE TOLERATED"

Government's Assurance

To Muslims

An assurance that Govern-

ment would see to it that no

threats of a boycott of Muslim

business men were carried out,

was given by Mr. I. I. Chundri-

gar. Commerce Member in the

Interim Government, in Bombay

disclosed, were considering the

question of sending trade dele-

gations with a view to expand-

(Details on page 5).

THE CONSTITUENT

ASSEMBLY

All Set For First

Meeting

NEW DELHI, Dec. 6.

The inaugural meeting of the

Constituent Assembly will begin

From 8-30 p.m. the same day, All-

India Radio, Delhi, will give a com-

posite sound picture of the proceed-

ings during the day. This docu-

mentary programme will include re-

cordings of an eye-witness descrip-

tion of the proceedings, beginning

at 11 a.m., leading up to the elec-

tion of the President and including

extracts from the presidential ad-

dress. It will cover all the high-

lights and include available vivid

The Constituent Assembly Cham-

Central Legislature—is now ready several places on the north-

for the meeting. Members will sit | west line of the M. and S. M.

ber-originally the library of the

massed in semi-circular rows facing

the presidential dais. The desks are

placed on sloping green-carpeted

Press representatives and visitors

have seats in galleries, some 30

The life-size paintings of past

PAPERS MISLAID

It is gathered that a number of

Congress members of and Congress

nominees to the Constituent Assembly

will meet tomorrow evening at "Con-

stitution House", which is the main

vinces will have an opportunity of

meeting and making or renewing one

The Congress Experts' Committee

on the Constituent Assembly adjourned

sine die today after four hours' deli-

berations. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Acharya Kripa-

lani, Sir N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar, Mr. K. M. Munshi, Mr. K. Santanam

and Mr. Krishna Kripalani attended

With reference to the London report

that Sir John Colville would represent

Lord Wavell at the opening of the

Constituent Assembly, it is learnt from

that His Excellency the Viceroy

never intended to take any part in the opening of the Assembly.—A.P.I.

Dr. Ambedkar To Attend

POONA, December 6: Dr. B. R. Am-

pedkar will attend the Constituent As-

sembly under protest, according to Mr.

Mr. Rajbhoj stated that the Federa-

provinces of India, but Dr. Ambedkar

the meeting.

brackets

sound effects.

the walls.

at 11 a.m. on Monday.

ing India's export trade.

Government, Mr. Chundrigar

on Friday.

THE Indian leaders met in conference tonight with the Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, and members of the Cabinet Mission at No. 10, Downing Street.

The conference, which began at 6 p.m. G.M.T. (11-30 dates. p.m. I.S.T.), ended at 7-10 p.m. G.M.T. (12-40 a.m. I.S.T. on Saturday). It lasted exactly an hour and ten minutes.

The Muslim League leader, Mr. Jinnah, was the first to emerge from the meeting. He told reporters: "If you want a statement, go to Parliament." He was followed almost immediately by Pandit Nehru, who replied to reporters: "What do you expect so quickly?"

The Viceroy, Lord Wavell, Mr. A. V. Alexander and Sir Stafford Cripps all left the meeting place 20 minutes after the Indian leaders. It was later learned that a statement would be issued "some time tonight."

The conference came as a climax to a day of strenuous activity, aimed at saving the constitutional talks from col-

The impelling factor in the negotiations was the fact that Pandit Nehru has to leave with Sardar Baldey Sinch by air tomorrow morning to Delhi in order to be in India for the opening of the Constituent Assembly on Monday.

Today's sequence of events concerning the Indian constitutional talks was:

A morning meeting between the Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, and members of the Cabinet Mission and the

Vicerov at No. 10, Downing Street: An India Office meeting in the morning between the Muslim League President, Mr. Jinnah, Mr. Liagat Ali Khan and the members of the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy, and

An afternoon meeting between Pandit Nehru and the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy.

While the development, even at this late hour, said an earlier message, has raised some hope informed sources warn against too high a significance being set upon the Round Table Conference, which, it is pointed out, has desperately short time in which to accomplish eny vital work.

At the same time, the general tendency is to hail the development as welcome evidence of the statesmanship being displayed on all hands and of the sincerity of all the parties involved for accommodation in every way pos-

The Constituent Assembly, while it starts in Delhi next week, in the first instance, will concern itself only with the preliminary business creating its various instruments. committees, procedure and so forth.

TIME UNTIL SPRING

After a brief period, possibly ten days or so, it will adjourn and there will be a gap until the spring, during which the foundation, which it is possible may be laid at tonight's fateful meeting, might be built upon.

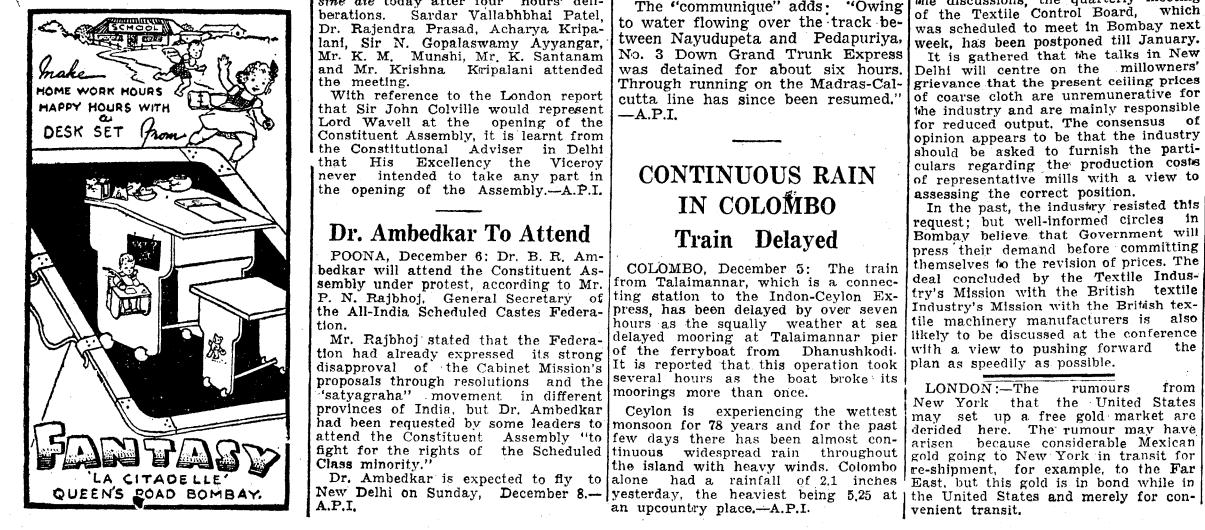
Political quarters are certain terraces. Each desk can be electrithat Mr. Attlee, who has followed cally warmed. The Chamber is the Indian situation with very spe- lighted by a constellation of domed cial concern, will re-emphasise to lamps, hanging from the 70-foot the leaders the gravity of the dead- ceiling and from lock and make a further determined effort to bring opposed political standpoints closer.

It is pointed out that even after feet above the floor of the Chamber. the departure of Pandit Nehru an opportunity might present itself for Vicerovs have been removed from further conversations between Bri- the frames in which they had fortish representatives and Mr. Jinnah. merly been fixed on the panelled who has let it be known that he is not leaving London for a day or two.

Another thought suggested in political quarters tonight is that the members of the Assembly have mis-Round Table Conference—failing major success-might possibly be they are required to present on the able to get as far as some arrange- opening day. The Assembly Secrement to hold further exploratory con- tariat has to make an appropriate versations in Delhi, following the pre- change in procedure to help them. liminary meeting of the Constituent

Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, Pandit Nehru's personal representative said residence for members. It is intendhe intends to return to New York ed to be an informal social gathering, today to rejoin the Indian delegation at which members from different proto the United Nations meeting.

Mr. J. J. Singh, the India League another's acquaintance. Acharya Krileader in the United States, who also palani, the Congress President, is likeflew to London for the talks, intends | ly to give a brief address on the work to return immediately.—Reuter. on which they will enter on Monday.



PERSIAN CABINET RESIGNATIONS

Ministers To Stand For Elections

TEHERAN, December 6.

Three members of M. Ghavam-es-Sultaneh's Cabinet have resigned, according to reports in reliable quarters today.

They are M. Mohamed Vali Farman Farmaijan, Minister of Propaganda, M. Mussavi Zadeh, Minister of Justice, and M. Ezaz Nipkey, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs. Two Under-Secretaries are also reported to have resigned.

The resignations were in accordance with the Persian constitution which does not permit members of the Government to take an active part in elections or to stand as candi-

In some quarters it was believed that the five men who have resigned will be candidates of M. Ghavam's new Democrat Party at tomorrow's elections.—Reuter.

Tabriz Report Denied

TEHERAN, December 5' A Permilitary spokesman todenied Tabriz Radio rethat the Central Government troops had crossed the Azerbaijan border and that fighting had broken out.

He said that Government forces were still on the Azerbaijan border, "in excellent discipline" and with modern weapons and would not fight without orders which so far had not been given.

He added, however, that according to reports just received there was a 10-minute clash yesterday when Zolfagharin tribesmen, "known as loyal to the Central Government," attacked Azerbaijan nationalist troops near the border of Azerbaijan and Khamsin

Jafar Pishevari, the Azerbaijan Premier tonight said over Radio Tabriz: "The Persian army has again launched an attack on an unprecedented scale with tanks and grenades in the locality of Tazeka. We repelled the attack and there were heavy casualties on both sides."-Reuter.

Moscow: Latest developments in the tense Iranian situation received considerable attention in Moscow newspapers today. A long dispatch from Tabriz quoted a statement from the President of the Azerbaijan Provincial Council warning the Iranian Premier democratic movement."-A. P. A.

Breaches have occurred at

Railway, necessitating the hold-

ing up of both the Up and Down

The north-east railway track on

the M. and S. M. system is unsafe

for train movements on account of

heavy rains, according to the railway

the Chief Commercial Manager of

the M. and S. M. Railway states:

broad gauge line of the M. and S.

is held up at Mamandaru and can-

Bombay-Madras Mail, which is at

Nandalur, is being taken back to

Guntakal and the passengers are be-

ing sent to their destinations by

"It is anticipated that through

running will not be resumed for a

"In the meanwhile booking of pass-

"Further breaches have occurred

engers, luggage, etc., via the affect-

interrupt traffic for some days,"

to water flowing over the track be-

tween Nayudupeta and Pedapuriya,

No. 3 Down Grand Trunk Express

was detained for about six hours.

cutta line has since been resumed."

CONTINUOUS RAIN

IN COLOMBO

Train Delayed

COLOMBO, December 5: The train

from Talaimannar, which is a connec-

hours as the squally weather at sea

Ceylon is experiencing the wettest

Dr. Ambedkar is expected to fly to alone had a rainfall of 2.1 inches East, but this gold is in bond while in

delayed mooring at Talaimannar pier

disapproval of the Cabinet Mission's It is reported that this operation took plan as speedily as possible.

an upcountry place.—A.P.I.

Through running on the Madras-Cal-

ed section has been stopped."

says another "communique".

the metre gauge routes.

few days.

-A.P.I.

P. N. Rajbhoj, General Secretary of ting station to the Indon-Ceylon Ex-

the All-India Scheduled Castes Federa- press, has been delayed by over seven

tion had already expressed its strong of the ferryboat from Dhanushkodi.

proposals through resolutions and the several hours as the boat broke its

had been requested by some leaders to monsoon for 78 years and for the past

attend the Constituent Assembly "to few days there has been almost con-

fight for the rights of the Scheduled tinuous widespread rain throughout

'satyagraha" movement in different moorings more than once.

dalur. No. 5 Madras Bombay Mail homes.

on either side of the station. No. 6 - Reuter.

Madras-Bombay Mails.

authorities.

Bombay-Madras Rail Traffic

Dislocated

THROUGH RUNNING MAY TAKE

DAYS: MANY BREACHES

SERIOUS dislocation of railway traffic between Madras and

to the heavy rainfall in South India during the last few days.

Bombay is reported today on the M. and S. M. Railway owing

A "communique" issued today by an 80-mile stretch of the coast from

M. Railway, breaches have occurred and at Rimini, where water was

in several places on the north-west seven feet deep in the streets, people

line between Renigunta and Nan- had to be evacuated from their

I not be moved as there are breaches used to take food to isolated farms.

on the metre gauge line of the M. Industries and Supplies, and will

and S. M. Railway between Pakala attended, among others, by Mr. Dharma

and Kalahasti which are likely to Vira, Textile Commissioner, and Mr.

The "communique" adds: "Owing the discussions, the quarterly meeting

"Owing to heavy rains over the storm which began yesterday.

U. S. ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION



The MOUNT OLYMPUS, the flag ship of the U.S. Expedition to the Antarctic, which sailed on December 2, under the command of the veteran polar explorer, Rear Admiral Byrd (inset).

NO SUBSIDY FOR MILLETS

Decision Of Bombay Government

POONA, December 6.

The payment of subsidy by the Bombay Government tocember 1.

Revealing this at a press confe. constituency. rence. Mr. V. T. Dehejia, the Collector of Poona, stated that the prices of millets were being revised and economic rates would come into force soon.

A supply officer said that the prices of jowar, bajri, maize and barley were likely to go up as a result of the Government's decision. Inquiries show that in the Poona Mr. Naraindas Bechar. district alone the Government had that "dispatch of troops to Azerbai- May to October, 1946. In November has been reduced jan means a declaration of war on the the Government suffered a further by two. loss of Rs. 2,00,000.—A.P.I.

MADRAS, December 6.

STORM HAVOC IN

ITALY

80-Mile Stretch Of

Coast Affected

Italian towns and villages along

Chioggia, near Venice, to Rimini

were flooded today after a violent

Houses collapsed at many places

Boats manned by firemen were

FUTURE OF CLOTH

PRICES

Decision At Delhi

mittee of the Textile Control Board con-

Hon. Dr. John Matthai, Member for

Krishnaraj M. D. Thackersey, Chairman

of the Textile Control Board. Pending

of the Textile Control Board, which

week, has been postponed till January.

assessing the correct position.

Bombay believe that Government will

themselves to the revision of prices. The

deal concluded by the Textile Indus-

try's Mission with the British textile

Industry's Mission with the British tex-

tile machinery manufacturers is also

likely to be discussed at the conference

with a view to pushing forward the

New York that the United States

may set up a free gold market are

arisen because considerable Mexican

gold going to New York in transit for

LONDON:-The

venient transit.

the island with heavy winds. Colombo re-shipment, for example, to the Far

grievance that the present ceiling prices | Sind.

Delhi will centre on the millowners' certain allowances to the Governor of

ference will be presided over by

ROME, December 6

SIND PREMIER **RETURNED**

Two Congress Hindus Defeated

From Our Own Correspondent KARACHI, December 6.

The Sind Premier, Mr. Ghu wards the prices of millets has lam Hussain Hidayatullah, was stopped with effect from De- elected today to the Sind Assembly from the Landholders'

> ency, hitherto held by a Hindu, was secured by Haji Maula Baksh Somro, (Nationalist Muslim), defeating Mukhi Gobindram. The Congress lost yet another supporter in the legislature by the election today of Kazi Mujtaba (Muslim League

The other seat for the constitu-

and Communist nominee) defeating Both these elections were fought

to pay a sum of Rs. 21.66,000 as bitterly and the League has secured subsidy over the consumption of one additional member for its As-1,500,000 to 1,600,000 maunds of sembly Party while the Congress millets during the five months from Hindu strength

> The overwhelming victory of the Sind Premier, in a mixed constituency especially in the face of the odds against him this time, bears eloquent testimony more to his personal popularity than any sympathy from Hindu voters for policy League

and programme. Mr. Ghulam Hus- Mr. G. H. Hidayasain secured 2.055 votes, Haji

Maula Baksh 1.647 and Mukhi Gobindram 1,502.

LEAGUE DEMONSTRATION Leaguers demonstrated in front

of the Revenue Commissioner's office, where votes were counted, urging Haji Maula Baksh to join the Muslim League, but the latter left the premises under police escort. Mr. Naraindas Bechar lost his seat because of his divided loyalty to the Congress and labour. It was a neckto-neck fight as Kazi Mujtaba won by a margin of 600 votes, each scoring over 3,000.

The following were the results:-Kazi Mohamed Mujtaba 3,670; Mr. Naraindas Bechar 3,070; Votes invalidated 300.

These first results enhance the League's chances of forming a more stable Ministry than in the past. The general elections for the territorial constituencies in Sind will begin on Monday.

In the Landholders' constituency (the A.P.I. adds) there was a triangular fight and the Congress had set up a candidate to defeat the League nominee, Mr. Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, the Premier, but the Hindu zamindars in Lower Sind appear to have voted solidly for the Premier. The entire election programme is scheduled to be completed on Decem-The future of cloth prices will, it is ber 19 and a new Ministry is expected inderstood, be decided at a conference to be formed before Christmas. The party position at present stands as follows: Congress 13; Muslim Leaof the members of the Industry's Comvened by the Government of India at gue 6. Europeans 3; Nationalist Mus-New Delhi on December 20. The con- lim 1.

SIND GOVERNOR'S **ALLOWANCES**

Increase Sanctioned LONDON, December 6: The House was scheduled to meet in Bombay next of Commons today approved the India (Governors' Allowances and Privileges) It is gathered that the talks in New Order whose object is to increase

of coarse cloth are unremunerative for Mr. Arthur Henderson, Under-Secthe industry and are mainly responsible retary for India, explained that since for reduced output. The consensus of the allowance were originally fixed in opinion appears to be that the industry 1936 the Governor of Sind had had to should be asked to furnish the partimove his quarters from his bungalow culars regarding the production costs to the official Government House that of representative mills with a view to was completed in 1942. Another factor was the Governor's

In the past, the industry resisted this Military Secretary. Amounts had been request; but well-informed circles in very carefully scrutinised by the Viceroy who advised that he was satispress their demand before committing fied that they were necessary-Reuter.

On Other Pages

A Letter From London Bombay City's Finances Agreement on Peace Treaties Marshal Smuts on Ideologies General Strike in U.S. Scouts' Corner Commercial All-India Weather Broadcasting

Britain Cuts Many Passenger Train Services

BREAD & BACON RATIONS MAY BE REDUCED: U. S. STRIKE SEQUEL

LONDON, December 6.

I ESS than two days after the Government had announced compulsory five per cent. fuel consumption cuts for all industrial plants to conserve coal and power, British railways were today ordered to withdraw a number of passenger trains on local and main line services.

The aim is to free locomotives for the movement of coal and other vital freight.

The cuts take effect from Monday next and many of the trains withdrawn had been just restored after the war emergency.

While the Government were announcing this latest back to "austerity" move, London evening newspapers printed photographs showing long lines of railway engines "parked" in sidings at the Ministry of Supply depot in Kent.

Engines built for the War Department were said to be slowly rusting the locomotives are awaiting "dispo-

FOOD MINISTER'S WARNING The warning that Britain's bread

and bacon rations might have to be reduced was given in the House of Commons today by the Food Minister, Mr. John Strachey. The bread ration is 63 ounces bread or flour a week per person and the bacon ration three ounces.

Declaring that labour disputes in made as soon as possible. States, had already gravely impeded leave for America early in January. the flow of certain staple foodstuffs, Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Indian Mr. Strachey said that the stocks of Charge d'Affaires in Washington, is wheat in Britain were today a little expected to be in India before Mr. more than what they were this time Asaf Ali leaves.

soft coal industry was continued, it been actively associated with the would profoundly disturb American Indian Natieconomy, including the transporta- onal Congress tion system. Really the protracted for strike might in time affect the move- quarter of a ment of supplies in Canada.

"Thus we are faced with the possibility of developments in North America which may have the gravest in consequences for this country and with the variother countries, which must rely on North American supplies", the Minister declared. MORE WHEAT NEEDED

Mr. Strachey said that it was ne-

cessary for Britain to obtain actual delivery of additional supplies wheat during the next three or four months over and above those already of the Congress purchased. purchased. He had asked the United States

Government to sell Britain certain quantities of wheat and flour in the near future. If the Americans were unable to agree or circumstances developed which made it impossible for these quantities to be moved to American seaboards in the first few months of the new year it would almost certainly be necessary to decrease the bread ration.

The United States Government, said Mr. Strachey, were today making great efforts to ensure that the flow of grain for export would not be l impeded —Reuter.

India's Ambassador

MR. ASAF ALI APPOINTED

In U.S.

NEW DELHI, December 6. "His Majesty the King has approved the appointment of

the Hon. Mr. Asaf Ali as His away. The official explanation is that Majesty's Ambassador for India in the United States of America," says a communique.
Mr. Asaf Ali's is the first outstanding Ambassadorial appointment to be made by the Interim Government. Two remaining embassies to which the Interim Government

are understood to attach equal importance are one at Moscow and the other at Chungking. These appointments are expected to be America, particularly the United It is likely that Mr. Asaf Ali will

Mr. Asaf Ali, Member for Rail-

If the strike in the United States ways in the Interim Government, has

century has been jailed several times connection ous campaigns launched the Congress. He was a member of the Congress Working Committee until recently and

ry Board and also of the Mr. Asaf Ali Congress Assembly Party. Political circles consider that Mr.

Asaf Ali's place in the Government may be taken by Maulana Azad. Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan or Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose.—A.P.I.

Another Gold Bar Found

The Port Trust dredger, "Chelura", dug up another gold bar from the Victoria Dock basin, Bombay, on Friday. This brings the number of gold bars so far recovered to 10. The bars, numbering 14, were lost in the explosions at the docks in 1944.

towards ensuring that your gifts this coming season will be the loveliest you have ever given....

narotamdas



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