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# "NO DESIRE TO ALTER MISSION'S PLAN"

## British Premier's Assurance

NEW DELHI, November 30.

The following is the text of the correspondence between Mr. Attlee, the Viceroy and Pandit Nehru re. the Mission's plan:

Pandit Nehru's letter to the Viceroy dated New Delhi November 28:

Dear Lord Wavell.—With reference to our conversation today, in the course of which you conveyed H.M.G.'s invitation to some of us to visit London, this week. I have consulted my colleagues and we have given careful thought to the proposal. I need hardly say that we are grateful to H.M.G. for their invitation, but we feel we cannot at this stage go to London. We would be agreeable to consultations with the representatives of the British Government in India.

It would appear that the proposal involves a reopening and a reconsideration of the various decisions arrived at since the visit of the British Cabinet Delegation to India. The Muslim League accepted places in the Government on the very clear understanding that they also accepted the long-term proposals contained in the Cabinet Mission's statement of May 16. Indeed they could not join the Government otherwise. But now the League have announced very definitely that they will not participate in the Constituent Assembly. We attach as you are aware, great importance to the holding of the meeting of the Constituent Assembly on the date fixed, namely, December 9. The invitation to us to go to London appears to us to reopen the whole problem which was settled to a large extent by the Cabinet Mission's statement and the formation of the Interim Government. Any impression in the public mind that these decisions are reopened would, in our opinion, be fatal.

**CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY**

It was because we felt that it was necessary in the public interest to emphasise that problems have been finally settled that we insisted on the holding of the Constituent Assembly on the date fixed for it. Even this date, it must be remembered, was given months after the election of the members. Any further postponement in the present context would, in all probability, result in the abandonment of the plan and create a feeling of uncertainty all round which is not only undesirable but actually, at the present juncture, would encourage various forms of violent propaganda.

It is difficult enough at this stage for us to leave the country even for a short while. We have also to prepare for the Constituent Assembly meeting, which will take place in less than two weeks. If any useful purpose would have been served by our going out now, we should have done so in spite of these difficulties. We are convinced, however, that our leaving India now would mean that the Cabinet Mission's plan is going to be abandoned or substantially varied and that we are parties to it. It would mean giving in to the League's intransigence and incitement to violence and this would have disastrous consequences.

The first thing to be certain about is that plans agreed to will be implemented and that there will be a continuity about policy. There has been suspicion enough. Any addition to it will wreck the whole scheme and make it difficult to replace it by another. We feel, therefore, that we cannot, at this stage, proceed to London, but we would welcome, whenever necessary, consultations with the representatives of the British Government in India. A brief visit now on our part to England cannot bear fruit. It is likely to have a contrary result. We, therefore, regret we are unable to accept H.M.G.'s invitation conveyed to us through you. I trust you will convey the contents of this letter to H.M.G.—Yours Sincerely, Jawaharlal Nehru.

**MR. ATTLEE'S ASSURANCE**

The following cablegram (dated November 27) was received by the Viceroy from the Secretary of State:

Please convey the following to Jawaharlal Nehru from the Prime Minister: "I very much hope that you will agree to come to London since it is not possible at the present time for me or my colleagues who have already been absent for more than three months on Indian affairs this year to go to India. The object of our talks would be to try and ensure a successful meeting of the Constituent Assembly on December 9. There is no intention of abandoning either the decision of the Assembly to meet or the plan put forward by the Cabinet Delegation."

"It is our desire to see that this is implemented in full, and not any desire to abandon or alter it, that has prompted us to ask you and your colleagues to come to London."

"All the three members of the Cabinet Delegation individually and collectively have asked me to urge upon you the supreme importance of this opportunity of our meeting and discussing the situation before any further untoward actions take place in India."

"We ask you to help in this way to make rapid and smooth progress towards the goal of Indian freedom, an objective which we share wholeheartedly with the people of India."

**PANDIT NEHRU'S REPLY**

On November 28 the Viceroy sent the Secretary of State the following cablegram:

Please convey the following message to the Prime Minister from Pandit Nehru:

"I am grateful to you for your message and appreciate your desire to ensure a successful meeting of the Constituent Assembly on December 9 and onwards. We are all anxious that the Constituent Assembly should meet on the date fixed and should proceed harmoniously to fulfil its task and we shall do our utmost to this end and in co-operation with others. We have repeatedly stated, we accept the Cabinet Delegation's plan in its entirety. In regard to certain interpretations we made our position perfectly clear to the Delegation and we have proceeded accordingly since then. We have further stated that, in the event of different interpretations, the matter should be referred to the Federal Court and we shall abide by the Court's decision. It appears from the statements made on behalf of the British Government in Parliament yesterday that the only point to be considered is this interpretation. In regard to this our position is quite clear and we are completely committed to it. We are unable to change it and have no authority to do so. Hence our visiting

# BRITISH CABINET TALKS ON INDIA

## Mr. Attlee To Outline Plans Today

LONDON, December 1.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, and members of the British Cabinet Mission to India will give the Cabinet tomorrow an outline of the plans for the Indian constitutional talks with the leaders who will arrive here a few hours later.

The leaders are likely to start work in earnest on Tuesday morning and plans are laid round the fact that the delegation must start back for India by Saturday at the latest to ensure that the party is in time for the opening of the Constituent Assembly on December 9.

Reuters is informed authoritatively that Mr. Attlee has decided to place himself at the disposal of the conference for a certain time each day. Those taking part in the talks will be, besides the Premier and the three members of the Cabinet Mission, occasionally other senior Cabinet Ministers with special interest in India. Mr. Attlee has spent the last two days clearing his programme in order to be available to the delegation.

The Indian leaders are expected to meet the full British Cabinet at a Government dinner, probably at Downing Street, on Tuesday.

**LONDON PROGRAMME**

Pandit Nehru and his entourage are to stay at the Dorchester Hotel, in Park Lane, where Sardar Baldev Singh will also have his headquarters, while Mr. Jinnah and his colleagues will be staying at Claridge's Hotel in Mayfair.

Mr. Jinnah and Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan will meet the Secretary of State for India, Lord Pethick-Lawrence at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 3, and the Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, at 2-30 p.m. on the same day.

The leaders will meet the members of the Parliamentary Delegation to India in the House of Commons at a dinner on Wednesday evening.

Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan is likely during his stay in London to take the opportunity to open preliminary discussions with the British Government's Treasury experts regarding the settlement of India's blocked sterling balances, it is reliably learnt.

Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, it is understood, has made preparations for such discussions and has carried with him documents connected with the subject.

**MR. GHAZANFAR ALI'S REITERATION**

**Direct Action Policy**

KARACHI, December 1: The hope that the forthcoming talks in London between the political leaders an amicable way would be found for an honourable settlement between the Congress and the Muslim League was expressed by Mr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan, Member for Health in the Interim Government, addressing a largely attended public meeting here.

Mr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan said that about six days ago the political situation was very disappointing and disheartening, but after all sense had dawned upon His Majesty's Government and they realised that to allow the Congress a long rope in calling the Constituent Assembly would create a situation which would be uncontrollable.

If the demand of the Muslims for Pakistan was not acceded to, he declared, the alternative for the Muslims was dangerous and terrible. It would be the reply to the speeches delivered at the Meerut session of the Congress where reference was made to the "blood balance-sheet" and to the fact that the "sword will be met with the sword."

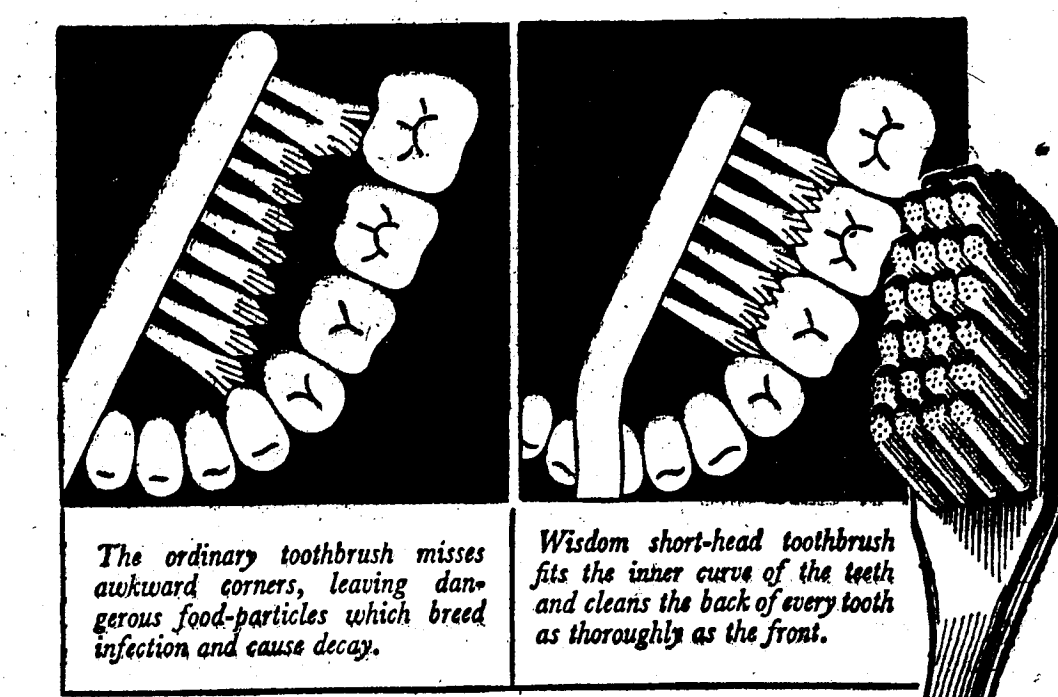
The speaker further said that Muslims were not for violence, because their leader had ordered that the Muslims should remain patient.

The speaker reiterated that the Muslim League had joined the Interim Government for direct action from within. Direct action was only a means and not the goal. Direct action was for achieving Pakistan and the Muslim League members in the Government or outside would always work to achieve the cherished goal.

Warning the Congress he said that it should not rejoice over a momentary success. The Muslims were alive and kicking and they would never allow themselves to go under.—A.P.I.

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# "NO PAKISTAN AT ANY TIME"

## Dr. Khare On League Leader's Demand

NAGPUR, November 30: "It is high time now that Mr. Jinnah is definitely and emphatically told that there never will be any Pakistan under any circumstances," says Dr. N. B. Khare, in a statement.

Dr. Khare says: "In his latest statement, Mr. Jinnah wants Pakistan here and now, or two Constituent Assemblies. He says that as soon as Pakistan is conceded, the respective minorities in each area will peacefully settle down as minorities and the problem will be finally solved. If Muslims in Hindu majority areas can settle down as minorities as soon as Pakistan is conceded, what prevents Muslims in the whole of India from settling down as a minority which in fact they are?"

"But Mr. Jinnah says if Pakistan is not conceded the situation in the country will continue as it is today. He thus wants to cow down his opponents with a veiled threat."

"It is high time now that he is definitely and emphatically told that there never will be any Pakistan under any circumstances."

"Division of the country into Hindustan and Pakistan will never solve the problem because Pakistanees want to convert the whole of India into Pakistan as is evidenced by a recent statement of Mr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan, a Muslim League member in the Interim Government, wherein he has invited all Hindus to embrace Islam voluntarily."—A.P.I.

# "SCHEDULED CASTES IGNORED"

## Mr. Rajbhoj's Warning

CALCUTTA, December 1: "The British Government has committed a grave error in not inviting scheduled caste representatives, such as Dr. Ambedkar or Mr. Sivaraj to the London Conference," said Mr. P. N. Rajbhoj, General Secretary of the All-India Scheduled Castes Federation, here today.

"If an attempt is made to ignore the Scheduled Castes and to go ahead without securing their cooperation, there may be civil war between the Hindus and the Scheduled Castes," declared Mr. Rajbhoj. We have launched once our non-violent struggle. We may be compelled to change our methods."

Rajbhoj added: "We shall make common cause with any party that recognises and supports our legitimate demands."—A.P.I.

**LINKING FRONTIER WITH RUSSIA**

**Post-War Road Plan**

PESHAWAR, November 28: A scheme to link up the Frontier Province directly with Russia and China by extending the Khagan Valley Road was disclosed by Dr. Khan Sahib, Premier of the N.W. F. P., in a talk broadcast from Peshawar, concerning the Frontier roads and other public works schemes as envisaged in the five-year plan for the post-war development of the Province.

Dr. Khan Sahib said certain roads classified as national highways would be maintained at the expense of the Government of India through the agency of the Provincial Public Works Department. Apart from this, the scheme included an extensive programme of new roads throughout the Province, including a third of which fell under the category of village roads.—A.P.I.

# INSTRUCTION IN MOTHER-TONGUE

## Mr. V. Patel's Advice

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NAGPUR, November 30: One of the largest gatherings ever seen in Nagpur filled the Convocation Hall today when Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel delivered the Convocation address.

His Excellency the Chancellor, Sir P. C. Bourne, in introducing the Sardar, remarked that the fact that he had come down to deliver the address showed the great interest he took in education. Lady Bourne was among those present.

The Sardar delivered his address in Hindustani.

Sardar Patel, in his address, (the A.P.I. adds) stressed the importance of the mother-tongue as the medium of instruction and the need for more technical training.

"When instruction is imparted from the highest class to the lowest in Indian languages," he said, "you will see that there is a great saving of students' time and the students will be more comprehensive and they will enter life with their mental faculties fully developed."

"Introduction of Indian languages in our schools and colleges does not mean that we do not want to learn or provide facilities for the teaching of foreign languages," he continued. "No country in the world can live in isolation. Every country has to maintain contact with the rest of the world. For this, a knowledge of foreign languages is necessary. But every national of a country does not come in contact with outsiders. Only a few come in touch with foreigners, and they should learn foreign languages."

**PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE**

"Another thing which has pleased me very much is that imparting of book learning is not the sole aim of your university. It has tried to provide instruction in technical and theoretical knowledge in subjects which could be useful in workshops and factories directly after leaving college and university."

After giving a review of the political events since 1945 Sardar Patel said: "The biggest problem facing the country is how to solve the communal problem. The League is bent on a division of India even at the cost of bloodshed. Others are opposed to the division of India under any circumstances and will not be intimidated by the League's tactics."

"You have to face this situation as soon as you enter life. India is about to be free. No-one can deprive us of our freedom. We must all be prepared to shoulder our new responsibilities. You have to finish what we have left unfinished."

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