

WITH SONGS AND CHIMES FROM BELLS

# Constituent Body Will Usher In Independence Day

DELHI, Saturday.

THE Constituent Assembly is expected to commence its historic session on the midnight of August 14 with recitals of Tagore's selected pieces from Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani, an accomplished singer and a member of the House.

Special arrangements are being made at midnight, 12 chimes which will reverberate and echo through the Council chamber. The House will observe a two-minute silence in honour of those who died in the cause of Indian liberty and will then adjourn.

The finale of the midnight session will be another song which will, in all probability, be Bankim Chatterji's "Vande Mataram", which has already attained a vogue as the National Anthem. The Constituent Assembly, however, has yet to adopt a National Anthem.

**NEW PLEDGE.** The Constituent Assembly, when it meets at midnight on August 14, is expected to adopt two resolutions, one prescribing an oath or affirmation for the members and the other authorising the leader of the House, Pandit Nehru to the Indian Dominion to Lord Mountbatten. The latter resolution is merely formal and ratifies the action taken by the Congress Leaders.

It will be recalled that, at present, no pledge is taken by the members and they can take their seats merely by signing the register either in the House or in the President's chamber. It is understood that it has now been decided to prescribe a pledge of loyalty to the country and the draft will be finalised at tomorrow's meeting of the Steering Committee.

The House will adjourn at midnight and Pandit Nehru will leave for the Viceroy's house, where, formally offering the Governor-Generalship, he will also submit the personnel of his Cabinet.

The following morning, after the swearing-in ceremony at Government House, the Ministers headed by Pandit Nehru, will drive in procession to the Council Hall. They will be followed by members of the diplomatic corps, the Supreme Commander, the C-in-C, Rulers of Indian States and other distinguished guests invited to Government House. Shortly before 10 a.m. the Governor-General, accompanied by Lady Mountbatten, will drive in State to the Council Hall. At the eastern porch of the Council House, detachments of the Indian Navy and Air Force will present a guard of honour and the Governor-General and Lady Mountbatten will be received by the President of the Constituent Assembly, Dr. Rajendra Prasad. They will be conducted to the Constituent Assembly through the corridor adjoining the Council of State, and the Governor-General will enter the House through the President's entrance. Three throne chairs will be placed on the dais, for the Governor-General, Lady Mountbatten and Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

**NO CELEBRATION ON AUGUST 15**  
**Mahasabha To Hold Protest Meetings**  
NEW DELHI, Saturday. The Working Committee of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha had a three-hour session here this morning. The Committee is understood to have discussed mainly the Mahasabha's attitude towards the Independence Day celebrations on August 15. According to the decision taken by the Committee, the Hindu Mahasabha will not join the celebrations and will, instead, hold public meetings to protest against the division of the country.

Representatives of the U. P. Provincial Hindu Mahasabha accompanied the Working Committee with the state of affairs in their Province. The Working Committee will meet on Sunday morning again when it is expected to take a final decision on the subject of the direct action movement in Bihar and U.P.—A.P.I.

**HOMAGE TO AUGUST MARTYRS**  
NEW DELHI, Saturday. While unfurling the National Flag in connection with the inauguration of "Independence Week" on the eve of the transfer of power on August 15, Dr. Rajendra Prasad recalled August 8 of 1942, and said: "The last war of independence was declared on August 8 five years ago and the fruits of independence were achieved six days hence. On this auspicious day, we should remember to pay tributes to those who suffered and sacrificed and those who fell fighting in cause of our country's independence."—U.P.I.

**FLAG HOISTING**  
The Governor-General will address the House and the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, will reply. As soon as the speeches are over, at a signal from the secretary of the Assembly, the Indian National Flag will be hoisted on the dome of the Council Library where the House meets. A salute of 31 guns will be fired and the Governor-General will One difficulty which faces the Constituent Assembly secretariat is the problem of accommodating the guests. There are hardly 240 seats and applicants are over a dozen times that number and more telegrams are pouring in.—A.P.I.

**ROUND-UP OF Germans In China**  
SHANGHAI, Saturday. The Chinese authorities today staged a new round-up of Germans here as the Chinese Foreign Office published a list of "Nazis and Nazi sympathisers" and those of "Nazi leaguers."

Similar round-ups were reported to have been carried out at several other large Chinese cities.—Reuter.

**STOP PRESS**

**POLICE DUEL WITH MOB IN CALCUTTA**  
CALCUTTA, Saturday. Two armed constables were killed and six other persons, including another armed constable, were injured in today's disturbances in Calcutta up to 5 p.m. These figures have not yet been officially confirmed.

It is stated that some hoodlums, taking shelter in an abandoned house in the northern suburbs, fired several rounds at a nearby bazaar, and set fire to some of the huts. When the police arrived there was an exchange of fire between the hoodlums and the police. The latter fired and about two dozen bombs with aluminium shells and a large number of spent cartridges were recovered. Twenty-five persons were taken into custody in this connection.

In an incident in Bowbazar Police Station area, a private car was halting and by armed picket, when one of its occupants opened fire, hitting a constable. The latter succumbed to his injury almost immediately. The car could not be traced.

His Excellency the Governor visited the Belleganga and Chitpur areas on Saturday afternoon, says an official communiqué. He was accompanied by the Area Commander, Major-General R. P. L. Ranking. In Belleganga a battalion of British troops is operating in aid of the civil power. In Chitpur police patrols have been considerably strengthened in view of occurrences in that area during the past few days.

In both areas instructions have been given that the most stringent steps are to be taken to prevent disturbances and to arrest and bring to justice all, regardless of community, who participate in breaches of the public peace.—A.P.I.

## PALACE GARDEN PARTY



Mr. H. C. D. Irwin, a member of the Burma Shell Company in Bombay, and his wife, daughter of Mr. B. C. Dutt, Accountant General in Bombay arriving at Buckingham Palace for a Royal Garden Party.

## Post-War Plans Of Provinces CENTRE TO CUT GRANTS

SURAT, August 9.

The Government of India have informed the provinces that, owing to the changed conditions in the country, they should not expect as much help as was originally promised for their development plans.

Disclosing this to the Surat Chamber of Commerce, yesterday, Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Post-war Reconstruction, Bombay, said this would not in any way affect Bombay's development plans. For the Rs. 90-crore plan for Bombay Province, the Centre had promised only Rs. 17½ crores, the Provincial Government would float a loan for financing schemes like electric grid which are self-supporting.—A. P. I.

## AUNG SAN'S ASSASSINS Six Identified

Rangoon, Saturday: The Burma Government announced today that six men were picked out as an identification parade as the actual killers of Aung San, Vice-Chairman of the Governor's Executive Council, and other members of the Burmese Cabinet in Rangoon on July 19.

The official statement said that the six were among those arrested with U Saw and other members of the Myochit Party at U Saw's house the same day the killings took place. The names of the six were not disclosed.—A.P.A.

## BRITISH CONCERN OVER U. S. BAN ON FILMS

LONDON, Saturday. Leading figures of the British motion picture renting and exhibiting world were in constant conference today to discuss the prospects of overcoming the American ban on film shipments to Britain.

Mr. J. Arthur Rank, Britain's biggest cinema magnate, controlling nearly 600 British theatres and many production concerns, was the sole exception to the chorus of disapproval of the British action, which came from the trade side.

"I am continuing my plans for British films and my actions are not influenced one way or the other by the United States ban," he said. Mr. Rank added that he thought it would be better if British film chiefs "talked less and used their brains more." The situation might develop further, he thought, but he could not foresee the next moves.

**EXHIBITORS' FEAR**  
Representative exhibitors and distributors expressed the fear that the American ban would lead to wholesale closing down of cinema theatres in Britain. Others saw the end of double feature programmes, with the further prospect that programmes would be changed weekly instead of twice weekly, as is now the general rule.

Sir Alexander Korda was quoted as saying: "We will be unable to keep Britain going on British films alone. The British industry cannot expand its output sufficiently to fill the gap."

Mr. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Universal Pictures Corporation, declared in London today that the British Government's action imperilled the whole structure of international trade.

In trenchant language he told a press conference that it was the act of a State of smaller stature than Great Britain. "This unwarranted discrimination," he said, "will send a shudder through every man and woman engaged in the making and distribution of American films, which will turn to bitter resentment and may have serious repercussions on Anglo-American friendship."

"How would you in Britain feel," he demanded, "if the U. S. confiscated your property in America?"—Reuter.

## "Think You Are Citizens Of India"

MR. GANDHI'S CALL TO PEOPLE

PATNA, Saturday.

Mr. Gandhi addressed his prayer meeting in the premises of Patna University yesterday evening. He told his audience that he was a citizen of the whole of India and that if every citizen thought likewise the division of the country would mean nothing.

Mr. Gandhi himself, Mr. Gandhi said, although he was a citizen of Hindustan had gone to Pakistan to serve the people there. Mr. Jinnah had also said, Mr. Gandhi recalled, that there was no longer any ground between the communities to quarrel.

Mr. Gandhi said he was rightly asked before he went to Nonkhal to tarry in Calcutta and pour a pot of water over the raging fire that was burning in Calcutta. He would love to give his life if thereby he could contribute to the quenching of mob-fury. He would never subscribe to the theory that the doings in Calcutta were the result of goondalams. He held that the crude, open goondalams was a reflection of the subtle goondalams, they were harbouring within.

Hence, it was the duty of Government to hold themselves responsible for the acts of the goondas so called. He hoped Calcutta would not present the disgraceful spectacle of hot goondalams when they were entering upon full responsibility.

**Arrival In Calcutta**

Calcutta: Mr. Gandhi and party arrived here from Patna at 7-15 a.m. today by the Delhi Express which was running one hour and 45 minutes behind schedule. He was accompanied by Miss Manu Gandhi and Mrs. A. V. Gandhi.

Mr. Gandhi is staying at the Sodapore Ashram, eight miles from the city, which is his usual headquarters in Calcutta.

Mr. Gandhi called on H. B. the Governor of Bengal, Sir Frederick Burrows, at Government House this afternoon. The meeting which lasted nearly an hour commenced at 3-50 p.m. Mr. Gandhi was accompanied by Dr. P. C. Ghosh, Chief Minister of West Bengal.—A.P.I.

## CABINET SPLIT IN BRITAIN?

LONDON, August 9.

The approach of Britain's Socialist Government to the solution of its grave economic problems was reported yesterday to have split the Cabinet as well as the Socialist majority of Parliament on which the Government must rely to retain office.

The inner struggles of the Labour Party seemed complicated by the bitter opposition of Conservatives, under the leadership of Mr. Churchill, who yesterday accused the Government of "seeking a blank cheque for totalitarianism."

The Cabinet division reportedly hinged on the prospects for the nationalisation of the steel industry.

There have been recurrent recent rumours, in both political and financial circles, that the Government might abandon that project—scheduled for the next session of Parliament beginning in October—in favour of a lesser plan for Government participation in the ownership of the industry.

Several London morning papers said the Health Minister, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, one of the most ardent Socialists in the Cabinet, had threatened to resign unless the nationalisation of steel was carried through.—A.P.A.

## ROUND-THE-WORLD FLIGHT

Capt. Odum In Calcutta

CALCUTTA, August 9.

Capt. William P. Odum, flying the "Reynolds Bombshell" in his second attempt to set up a solo round-the-world speed record landed at Dum Dum airport, Calcutta, at 11-35 a.m. (I.S.T.).

After a halt of 98 minutes he took off at 1-13 p.m. (I.S.T.).

His next halt will be Shanghai or Tokyo, the choice between the two depending mainly on weather conditions. He took 3 hours 35 minutes to cover the Karachi-Calcutta leg. When he touched down at Dum Dum, Capt. Odum had covered over half the distance of the 19,600 miles round-the-world span in 42 hours 12 minutes. He hopes to halve Wiley Post's record of 180 hours set up in 1933.

## BRITAIN MAY RATION CIGARETTES

"Daily Telegraph" and "Sunday News of India" Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, August 9.

THE British Government are considering invoking the wartime emergency measure of rationing of cigarettes by controlling distributors, according to authoritative reports reaching here from Britain.

This has caused some surprise in view of the fact that Mr. Clement Attlee has carefully refrained from mentioning tobacco specifically in his speech in the House of Commons.

I learn from reliable sources that, in light of the new information, specialists of the United States Government estimate that exports of tobacco from the United States to Britain will drop by fifty per cent this year below the shipments in 1946. It is understood here that there will also be smaller allocation of leaf tobacco to Britain, which will mean inevitably that supplies will be insufficient to meet even the present reduced demand.

Consumption of tobacco in Britain is already below the figure for 1946

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