A VERY ABRUPT END.

THE DELHI WAR.

SUPPLY COLUMN GOES ASTRAY.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

DELHI, January 18.

The manoeuvres have to-day taken us back with a vengence to the problems that mobility involves "Give me rice," said the Duke of Wellington when he was a Colonel in India and I can both get an army and take it where I want to." An army marches on its belly is the modern way of expressing the same maxim. And last night . . . but that is looking at the last page of the story. First let us take things in their natural order. The Blue Force under General Thomson, it will be remembered started with its back to a bridge over the Jumna with orders to defend it from Thursday till reinforcements arrived on Saturday. The Khaki force of more than twice the strength, under General Deverell, were started off early Thursday morning from a point twenty-four miles from the bridge with orders within the same time to get it and cut the railway a few miles on the other side of the river. Blue had mostly cavalry, armoured cars and mobile guns. Khaki had mostly infantry and guns.

The Khaki force had across its direct line of advance three ridges affording Blue good defensive positions The first ridge at a distance of twelve miles. Khaki captured with one brigade. Last night he got three brigades, the 17th which had fought the proceeding day's battle, and the 18th and 19th over that first ridge, and slept them at convenient places between it and ridge B. This morning the Khaki General's orders, as shown to the umpires and the officers looking after the legislators, the press and distinguished visitors generally were for the 17th and 19th brigades to assault ridge B and advance to line on flat country beyond it, fairly well wooded and covered with crops facing Blue's final defensive position.

18TH BRIGADE MISSING.

What is Deverell doing with his 18th Brigade asked everyone watching the day's proceedings from points of vantage on the Blue side of ridge B. where most of the excitement was expected to develop. Nobody knew. Anyhow, the 17th and 19th brigades attacked. Blue had very cleverly organised ridge "B" but his cavalry and a small body of infantry after holding it long enough and strongly enough to force Khaki into a set piece attack to win it, suddenly vacated the greater part of it before the attack was pressed home.

The Khaki troops charged into empty positions and their casualty list accounted for twenty per cent. of their strength. The Blue infantry got away with next to no loss, and fell back on ridge C. Blue cavalry cleared out with fine skill and small loss and disappeared. It was nearly one o'clock when the two Khaki brigades began to descend over ridge B, and it was more than an hour later when they reached the final objective mentioned in their morning's orders. That was a line facing Blue's third ridge, but with its centre slightly to the left of Blue's centre, and with its right a mile and a half from Blue and its left about two miles from Blue.

Blue claimed that Khaki suffered heavily in advancing so far because the whole of the open country from the second to the final ridge was commanded by Blue guns, and without Khaki knowing it. Blue had an advanced observation post which directed their fire throughout the morning. The Blue armoured cars had also been active. What next? was the question. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and his entourage of generals watching from a viewpoint before the Blue line calculated possible answers. The legislators near the same spot left the cinema front to guess them.

EMPTY STOMACHS.

Suddenly "Why look at those troops over there: They must be the 18th," exclaimed someone with field classes. Sure enough there was a column of troops marching into view over nodge B, and they were indeed the 18th Brigade, following almost in the tracks of the 19th. Now what on earth . . . ? Well, the secret came out later after most of the spectators had gone away. The 18th got into their position all right last night and called for supper. None came. They called all through the night—still none came. And when they should have been on the march very early this morning their tummies were still very empty. Their supply column had somehow gone astray. It arrived sometime after daylight today, and the brigade after getting from it what they needed moved off about noon.

When the 17th and 19th brigades reached the line before Blue's very strongly prepared third position about two o'clock the 18th ought after many hours of hard marching to have been descending on the back of Blue's left flank and rolling it up. So General Deverell's scheme for the 18th, about which he was so secret went away. As it was, he had his other two brigades lying ready to attack Ridge C and he now pushed them on to it with the 18th on their right flank instead of doing a turning movement. The result up to the time of writing this evening is unknown.

The Khaki cavalry are reported to be moving round far away on the Khaki left. The Blue cavalry are somewhere out of sight, ready for anything. Ridge C was very strongly organised, and held by fresh infantry. The Devons and the 2-13 Frontier Force regiment.

How did that supply column go astray? There is as yet no answer. But it was composed of country carts and all that sort of thing and one remembers that General Thomson was a most brilliant officer in the Great War and in North Persia worked like a magician.

Just as I finish writing my telephone has rang and I learn that "the war has finished."

TIRED TROOPS.

LATER

The reason why the war abruptly ended to-night was as follows:—The Khaki Commander ordered a general attack on the Blues. He outflanked the Blue's right with infantry and cavalry and launched an outflanking movement round Blue's left. The director of manoeuvres saw that the rides must be captured but that this would have led to the evening and must result in complete confusion. So that the Khaki Commander could not organise a fresh movement again Blue's last ditch position within the time allowed to-morrow morning. The Khaki troops were already very tired and must march twenty back to their cantonments and camps to-morrow. The Director, therefore, stopped operations and declared the manoeuvres at an end.

INSECTS IN INDIA.

DISCUSSION AT SCIENCE CONGRESS.

BENARES, January 15.

At a joint meeting of the sections of the Agriculture, Zoology, botany and medical research of the Indian Congress to-day, an interesting discussion took place on the subject of insects and their relation to disease in men, animals and plants. Lt.-Col. F. P. Mackie of the Parel Laboratory, President of the Medical Research Section, initiated the discussion on the subject on which he based his presidential address before the section on the opening day. Mr. F. S. Finlow, Director of Agriculture in Bengal, Mr. Edwards of Muktear Laboratory and others participated in the discussion from the standpoints of agriculturist, veterinary expert and medical research worker.

During the discussion the president read a paper contributed by Lt.-Col. Christophers, Major H. E. Short and Mr. P. F. Barraud (members of Kala Azaar Commission recently appointed by Government). Dr. Napier of the Tropical School of Medicine, Calcutta, who participated in the discussion, mentioned results obtained by researches in Calcutta about the spread of Kala Azaar by sandflies and said though cows encouraged sandflies, investigations showed that people sleeping in houses having cowsheds were less infected by sandflies than those inhabiting houses where there were no cowsheds.—Associated Press.

MAHARAJA "AT HOME."

BENARES, January 15.

At a meeting of the general committee of the Indian Science Congress to-day it was decided to hold the next session of the Congress at Bombay on January 4, 1926 under the presidency of Dr. A. Howard of Indore. This afternoon the Maharaja of Benares was at Home to the members of the Indian Science Congress at Mandeswar House when a large gathering of local citizens and guests were present.

PHOTO CHEMISTRY.

BENARES, January 15.

Prof. J. C. Ghosh, Dean of the Faculty of Science of the Dacca University in his address as President of the Chemistry section of the Indian Science Congress spoke on the recent developments in photo chemistry—a subject intimately associated with carbon deoxide assimilation and the growth of plants. Dr. Ghosh suggested how the theory of photo chemical reaction of Einsteen can be extended to explain numerous investigations on this subject and showed how experiments carried out in his laboratory justified extension of the theory. Professor Bhatnagar, J. N. Mookerji and Dhar were among contributors of papers.

In the Physics and Mathematics section of the Congress Mr. E. P. Matcalfe of the Central College, Bangalore, presided Several interesting papers were read, one of these being by Mr. Satyendra Roy who put forward a novel view regarding the earths electric field which was provocative of lively and interesting discussion. In the Medical Research section the study of indigenous drugs which has been newly established at Bombay Bacteriological Laboratory formed the subject matter of papers. Col. Mackee, Resident, pointed out in this connection that they had now two fully equipped pharmacological laboratories, one in Calcutta and one at Bombay. The claim of indigenous drugs in India, he said, would get the attention they deserve.—Associated Press.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SECTION.

BENARES, January 16.

In the anthropological section in which Prof P. C. Mahalanobis presided, several papers were read by delegates from Mysore, Bengal and Madras. Prof Mahalanobis in his presidential address on race mixture in Bengal showed that the problem of caste resemblance was much more complex than the previous workers assumed. He suggested that each caste in India had duel sets of affinities one with other low castes of certain social status and a second with castes of other provinces of the same social status.

He considered the Anglo-Indian question and discussed the racial position of the Anglo-Indian group with reference to Indian castes and tribes. Prof Mahalanobis announced at the sectional meeting the formation of a Sub-Committee consisting of himself as chairman and Mr. D. N. Mazoomdar, secretary, Rao Bahadur Anantha Krishna Iyer and Rai Bahadur Surat Chandra Roy with powers to coopt to frame a set of standard conventions for the guidance of the authropometeric observer and workers in India.—Associated Press.

SECUNDERABAD MILITARY.

DEPARTURE OF THE ROYAL SCOTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDERABAD, January 14.

Lieut.-Colonel H. P. Burn, Commanding the 1st Bn. the Gordon Highlanders has been appointed President of the Secunderabad Cantonment Committee, vice Lieut.-Col. J. H. Mackenzie, Commanding 1st Bn. the Royal Scots relieved.

Lieut.-Colonel Burn has been also appointed President of the Standing Barrack Committee, vice Lt.-Col. J. H. Mackenzie, relieved.

The Garrison Athletic Sports Meeting (British units) will be held on January 28 and the Garrison Boxing Tournament takes place on February 5, 6 and 7.

The 1st Bn. the Royal Scots first party left on the 13th and the second party are leaving to-morrow. This Regiment has been in the station since 1922 and have taken a prominent place in sport of all kinds and have also entertained the station to concerts, dances etc. They will leave for Aden shortly and from there the Battalion will go Home, it is expected next year.

The Gordon Highlanders received a warm welcome on the 13th. They occupy Gough Barracks just vacated by the Royal Scots.

There is to be a general holiday on the 26th instant, it being the anniversary of H. E. H. the Nizam's Birthday. Parades are to be held in honour of the occasions and H. E. H. the Nizam will open the annual Exhibition at Hyderabad in the afternoon, and the new mosque which has been now completed in the Public Gardens will be opened for public worship.

AKALI ARRESTS.

AMRITSAR, January 15.

Bhai Lalsingh, editor of the *Babar Sher* a Gurmukhi daily newspaper of Amritsar, has been arrested under Section 124A I.P.C., (sedition). Bhai Wasasingh, Secretary of the Akali Jatha and Bhai Jhandasingh have been arrested in Montgomery under Section 17 (1) Criminal Law Amendment Act on a charge of participating in certain Akali activities and assisting the Akali Jathas that had been declared unlawful by the Government.—Associated Press.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT AMRITSAR.

HEAVY DAMAGE DONE.

AMRITSAR, January 15.

A disastrous fire broke out last night in the shop of Messrs. Gurdialsingh Ritpalsingh, stationers and sundry goods dealers in Katra Hamabalsingh. Goods to the value of over Rs. 50,000 were destroyed in addition to the building which belonged to another gentleman. As it was before midnight, huge crowds assembled to assist in putting down the fire, which is reported to have been caused by the fusing of an electric wire. Municipal aid did not arrive in time and the engines could not be worked satisfactorily but the local Seva Samiti which has a big machinery of its own rendered some useful aid, some of the volunteers hazarding their lives in scaling the walls. The wire was controlled in about an hour but everything had been consumed in the meanwhile. —Associated Press.

THE INDIAN PEASANTRY.

HOW CONDITIONS COULD BE IMPROVED.

CALCUTTA, January 15.

Presiding at a crowded meeting at the Y. M. C. A. Hall to-day, Mr. Oswald Mosey delivered a lengthy speech, and said that whatever divergence of opinion concerning the Indian question might arise, all were agreed that the real and vital life of India was to be found in the villages and in the agricultural community. They had to consider how the depressed condition of the peasantry could be improved. For that purpose there were many suggestions, some novel and some ancient. Most of these suggestions advanced plans such as the development of cottage industries, charka, etc., which provided means whereby the peasant could augment his resources by doing some extra work. The subject of the present inquiry was how the peasant could retain a larger proportion of the fruits of his work than he did at present. It was evident that if the peasant enjoyed anything like the full fruits of his present labour, he would enjoy a much higher standard of life without doing any extra work which has been suggested from many quarters. He did not say this in any attempt to disparage the excellent development of cottage industries but rather to define the scope of their present enquiry. Many disabilities had been experienced in England too and there were still great handicaps to the development of the British race despite the long attention which their Parliament had devoted to the topic.

BENGAL LAW SYSTEM.

He could not speak in detail upon the methods to overcome the difficulties of the land system in Bengal which appeared to-day from the Permanent Settlement Act. He was only concerned with suggesting that immense economic problems would present themselves to the Indian people upon attainment of their swaraj When Ireland obtained her swaraj, economic problems immediately arose which cut across the existing political alignment and created new party divisions, new economic issues and a strong labour party which aroused the masses to a realisation of their economic condition.

He ventured to prophesy that some movements would immediately arise upon the attainment of Indian swaraj. Such economic problems were among the principal objects of his visit to India. He had found in India a strong body of advanced opinion which viewed such problems from the same angle as they were regarded by his own party at home. He believed and he hoped that the day would come when his party might stretch its hand in fellowship and fraternity to India invested with responsible Government. On that day the two peoples working side by side would do much to uplift the depressed condition of the toiling masses, not only of their own countries but of the whole world.

Mr. K. C. Roy Chowdhury delivered a lecture on "Peasant Proprietorship in India", and the meeting dispersed. —Associated Press.

LONG DISTANCE FLYING.

R. A. F. TRAINING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, January 16.

Four Royal Air Force machines, flying in formation about 2,000 feet up, passed over Allahabad en route to Calcutta at 9-45 a.m. this morning. These machines belong to a flight of six D. H. 9A aeroplanes from Risalpur carrying out training in long-distance flying. They belong to the 27th and 60th squadrons. The machines refuelled at Amballa and Cawnpore and left the latter place this morning and are due at Patna this afternoon and at Calcutta, where they will land on the maidan, probably to-morrow. The return journey it is expected will be made four days later by the same route except that the machines will refuel at Agra instead of Cawnpore. So far only four of the six machines have passed Allahabad.

COLLISION ON N.-W. RAILWAY.

ONE KILLED: SIX INJURED.

GORAKHPUR, January 15.

A serious collision took place on the North Western Railway, early this morning between a down passenger train and a goods train, standing at Dhigara station, resulting in six passengers and a driver being injured. One of the two passengers who was seriously injured subsequently died.—Associated Press.

NEW KABUL MUSEUM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, January 15.

Under the auspices of the Education Ministry, a Museum has been opened at Kabul by the Amir. The Superintendent of the Museum, who was decorated on the occasion, had taken, says *The Pioneer*, three years to form the collection which is said to contain many relics of ancient times and of considerable historic interest including coins and weapons of war dug up in the course of excavations in Afghanistan. The Amir has presented the Museum with three carpets bearing the images of Kings of Persia. Other gifts include the sword of Mahomed Nadir Khan Afshar of Persia.

AMRITSAR ELECTIONS

AMRITSAR, January 15.

As previously arranged the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbhandak Committee met the Sikh candidates standing for the forthcoming Municipal elections. After protracted discussion it was decided to leave the candidates free to contest their seats provided the candidates signed an understanding. The S. G. P. C. would not support any candidate but would oppose those who declined to give any such undertaking. —Associated Press.

CONSTITUTION FOR INDIA.

MRS. BESANT'S PLEA

SCHEME MUST BE DRAWN UP BY PEOPLE.

CALCUTTA, January 15.

Mrs. Annie Besant delivered an interesting address on "Swaraj Constitution" at the Albert Hall to-day, Sir Devaprasad Sarbadhikari presiding. There was a large attendance. Mrs. Besant after giving a brief history of the movement which brought about the declaration of August 1917 and the visit of Mr. Montagu to India and his tour with Lord Chelmsford which gave birth to their report on which the Reform Bill of 1919 was based, said that the Bill was in many ways unsatisfactory. Congress said, "We had better work it" while others thought that it was better to leave that Bill alone. The only point with which she was concerned was that it was a partial measure. It did not try to establish self-government in India; it was only a step in that direction and it was made at Westminster and not in India. She was asked whether India would ever be satisfied with any scheme that England made over there. Her answer was "No", India must make her own constitution. She had a long history behind her of thousands of years and she will never be satisfied with a scheme drawn by a western nation and passed without consultation with her in a western Parliament.

Continuing, Mrs. Besant said "After coming back to India, I started the idea of trying to draw Indians together to consult over the reforms that they desire, to form a constitution for themselves and then to present it to Parliament to be passed by Parliament and not changed by it—to be passed as a statute of the realm. It is such a draft that I have here to-night; it is the result of three years of work."

NO PIECEMEAL LEGISLATION.

After dealing with the part that two conferences of the National Convention played in drawing up the draft bill, Mrs. Besant said that at the first conference they outlined schemes which were the essentials, not of a partial measure but of a measure so complete that India should never again want to go to Westminster for anything concerning her internal affairs. They thought that they had enough of piecemeal legislation. They did not want any more "steps" which never seemed to come nearer to the goal. They said to themselves "Let us have a bill, a Home Rule Bill, which will give India complete dominion status so that she shall be on an equality with the other Dominions and an equal partner in the Great Federation of Free Nations which include Great Britain and the Dominions." The draft bill, she said, would be shortly sent to all the important papers, both English and Vernacular, and to all associations in India, asking for comments and criticisms, so that if any one wanted to bring in an amendment, he could send it to the Secretary or write to the papers. They wanted to start a controversy over points which might be thought to be not good.

Proceeding, Dr. Besant said that "They called the bill the "Commonwealth of India Bill". It was a good name and they had justified the claim that India should make her own constitution by a study of Indian history and the use of Indian materials. It is a thoughtful and carefully worded-out bill. You must remember that it will never pass through the Imperial Parliament unless it has India as a whole behind it."

Concluding, she made a fervent appeal for unity among all sections of the people so that India might show a solid front, and said "I pray to the high Gods that you may be inspired to do it; you were once the freest and the most spiritual of nations and you will give back to the West that which she had lost during the last few centuries and you will do it, I am sure" (Applause.)—Associated Press.

SIR FRANK SLY.

FAREWELL ENTERTAINMENT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NAGPUR, January 16.

This evening, His Excellency Sir Frank Sly was entertained at a garden party by Mr M. E. R. Malak, a leading Mahomedan citizen of Nagpur at Mahdibagh in the very heart of the town. This proved to be a really popular party. Representatives of all the communities were present, the Mahomedan element predominating. The grounds of the bungalow were decorated among the attractions of the entertainment was a drill display by the boys of the Mahdibagh School, a small exhibition of children's handiwork and other fancy articles, fire works and a theatrical performance by the Mahdibagh.

His Excellency appeared pleased to find one more opportunity of meeting his friends and freely mixed with the guests. Conspicuous among those present were the Hon. Sir Gangadhar Rao Chitnavis, Sir M. B. Dadabhoy, Sir B. K. Bose, Mr. S. M. Chitnavis, Sir Moropant Joshi, Sir Harisingh Gour Sir Bisveshwar Daga, Raja Lachman Rao Bhonsle, Mr. C. A. Clarke Mr. S. C. Gowan, Mr Irwin, Mr G. P. Dick, Mr. Baker, Mr. Prideaux Mr. Raughton, Mr. J. P. Pradhan, Mr. Sorabji B. Mehta, Mr. S. L. Lloyd, Mr. J. E. Bilimoria, Prof Akbar Hussain, Khan Bahadur Vali Mahomed Mr. J. K. Cama, Mr. A. H. Bilimoria, Mr. Mohsin Hussein and Mr. Gular Faroque.

Later on His Excellency was the guest of Sir Maneckji and Lady Dadabhoy at dinner. To-morrow His Excellency leaves Nagpur for Chanda.

PLAGUE IN DHULIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DHULIA, January 15.

Since last week, plague has made its appearance in Dhulia city and four fatal cases have occurred. One of the victims was Mr. Shidore of the Dhulia Bar, who succumbed to the disease after few day's illness. It is rumoured that rats are dying in some parts of the town. An innoculation campaign is being carried on and so far about 500 persons have got themselves innoculated. The Dhulia Municipality is taking measures to combat the disease and has applied to Government for additional powers to take more vigorous steps.

The West Khandesh District Political Conference is to be held at Shirpur on 31st January and 1st February.

Lala Lajpatrai has left for Rawalpindi in connection with the Hindu Muslim settlement at Kohat.

A meeting of the Punjab Congress Committee will be held at Lahore on January 18 to consider the future Congress programme of work in the Punjab. The Swarajists have been specially invited to attend this meeting.

THROUGH INDIAN EYES.

LEADERS OF THE BLIND.

A Moslem critic of the Khilafat Committee writes in the "Bombay Samachar": "The deputation of three sent to Hejaz is nothing more than a mean attempt to fool the Mussalmans once more. This attempt is being made in order to regain temporary popularity, and this popularity is needed only for this that the Moslems may become blind and again pay contributions. But these adventurous persons should know that now nobody will listen to them. Their cruel waste of the people's money has not remained hidden from any one. The "audited" accounts of 59 lakhs rendered by these men are also known to the public. . . Now the only decent thing Maulana Shaukat Ali can do is to make 'hijrat' from his adopted 'home,' Bombay. . . These Khilafatists have led the Musalmans into such darkness that they do not know which way they should take, or into which pit they should fall headlong. . . But (these men) do not care at all whether the Musalmans prosper or perish."

A NEW HIJRAT.

The writer severely criticises the part played by the Khilafatists and Mr. Mahomed Ali at the Bombay sessions of the Moslem League, and particularly the latter's resolution on the Kohat tragedy, and writes: "Musalmans will see that this party which is misleading them has sworn by the head of Ibn Saud not to speak the truth. . . Now these people are going to Kohat to waste the money of Musalmans. . . Maulana Mahomed Ali has realised the situation and has taken up his old profession. Khilafatist barristers and vakils have again begun to practise. The well-wishers of the Musalmans who used to run up to Bombay frequently so long as they got the money for their tickets from the Khilafat funds,—they, too, have stopped their comings and goings, and the Musalmans of Bombay have heaved a sigh of relief. If Maulana Shaukat Ali also will now be so gracious as to make 'hijrat' from this ungrateful city, the Musalmans will be thankful to him. If the Maulana himself will give up his obstinacy and think, he will see that the Musalmans now know what sympathy these their benefactors have for them."

NEXT-WORLD FUND.

The merciless critic proceeds: "These benefactors have made the bandobast of 'Chutney-roti', bandobast of schools and orphanages and Wakfs, bandobast of the Hajis and the Khilafat, of the Sherif and Ibn Saud, of Kohat and Mecca and Medina, of Kemal Pasha and Sultan Abdul Mejid, of Charkha, yarn and cotton—in short they have made bandobast of all things, from the heavens down to the nether regions. Thus there remains nothing pertaining to Moslems in this world of which bandobast has not been made. Now if the Musalmans want bandobast to be made about doomsday also, then these Khilafatists, like those who rush in where angels fear to tread, will come forward to arrange for that too. Only, the Musalmans must know that they in their turn will have to make bandobast for an adequate fund for the purpose." The writer calculates that at least a four-fold propaganda will be necessary for this bandobast in Heaven, and hence a fund four times the Khilafat Fund will have to be raised by the Musalmans if they want their ultimate future to be secured.

RECRIMINATIONS.

Commenting on the Amritsar Khilafat Conference the "Sindhu Samachar" writes: "Our Hindu political leaders have upto now been putting the blame of the Hindu-Moslem discord either on the Government or, at the most, on Moslem Gundas. In their opinion, the Moslem political leaders are entirely free from this blame; nay, they also think that these Moslem leaders have no religious prejudices. . . But the eyes of these Hindu leaders are now being opened on seeing the actual state of affairs." Here the paper refers to the "Milap" newspaper's story of Mr. Mahomed Ali and the Hindu girl Jagatiya, and to the zealous efforts of Mr. Zafar Ali Khan —corroborated by the "Zamindar"— to get Agakhani Hindus in the Hazara district absorbed among the Musalmans, and proceeds: "Maulana Zafar Ali Khan said in his speech as President of the Conference. . . that the Hindus were divided into two factions, one which trusted the Musalmans and the other which distrusted them, and which was dreaming of Afghan invasions."

MAULANA AND PUNDIT.

The paper says that the Maulana made bitter allegations against the Pandit of disturbing the peace at Rawalpindi and against the Pandit's Sangathan mission, and adds: "In reply the Mahatma (who was present) said: 'The President has thrown a bomb in our midst. He has glorified me, but he has complained against others. I see a great danger in this. My heart cannot believe that Malaviyaji is an enemy of the Musalmans. But what can you gain by casting aspersions on him? You cannot get your work done by doing so. I want to tell you that Malaviyaji has greater influence with the Hindus than I have. As for me, the people say that I have turned Musalman, and this I have read even in Gujarati papers. Therefore you cannot achieve your object by complaining against him." Despite this warning incident the "Unionist" "Wahdat" castigates Lala Lajpat Rai for views expressed by him on the Kohat and Hindu-Moslem questions in his Madras tour. What has given special offence to the "Wahdat" is the Lalaji's frank declaration that India, when it gets Swaraj, must not be dominated by any power, whether European or Asiatic (that is Moslem).

BRITISH AND NATIVE RAJ.

The "Hindusthan" challenges Mr. Gandhi's reading of the situation in Kathiawad, in his address at the Bhavnagar Conference, as being incomplete and partial. "No doubt," says the paper, "there is misrule in British India as well as in Native States. Still, what a difference there is between the proportion of it in both! What Kathiawadi is ignorant of this difference? Ask any trader or agriculturist living in any State, from the best to the worst, whether he would like to live in British territory or in Native State territory; the reply will immediately be in favour of British India. Why do the rich and prominent men of even Rajkot and Wadhwan leave State territory to go and live in the British limits of the Agency? . . . Mr. Gandhi has made a great blunder in ignoring at the outset the difference, as great as between the Poles, between the misrule under British and Native Raj, and in declaring both to be almost equal; and hence his entire reasoning is vitiated and one-sided.

AT THE EXCELSIOR.

ANOTHER CHANGE OF REVUE.

In the chatty programme notes in which she described last night's revue at the Excelsior, Miss Lee White told the audience that "if you will just compose yourselves into a nice friendly attitude of mind I can definitely promise you a seductive, colourful evening of song and laughter, with a novelty here and there, dances that will please you, and every once in a while something that is 'different.'"

Miss White fulfilled her promise. The new revue, "Back Again," soon placed the audience into that "nice, friendly attitude" that she asked for, and it certainly was a seductive, colourful evening, with novelties which livened the interest whenever it seemed likely to slacken, and with dances which certainly pleased. Once again last night the staging and the dressing were a triumph of artistry—there was to be found the seductive colouring. Miss White herself wore some dazzling gowns—wore them as only Lee White can wear them, too. And those "peaches" of hers wore sometimes the daintiest of fragments, sometimes just a little more, but whatever they wore they looked just what they were meant to look—"Peaches" in full bloom.

As for the novelties—everything was novel to most, and what was not was almost equally acceptable. Best of all was that hilarious classroom scene with which the first act was wound up; in it little Billie Lockwood charmed her audience with her songs —not so much by her singing as by her pleasant personality and her wonderful vivacity. Clay Smith, Gus McNaughton, Ernest Sefton were at their best—their best is a first class best—and Miss Lee White herself gained much applause; the more the audience gets to know Miss White and her ways the better they like her. And once more Mae Baird danced her way into the hearts of the audience with the aid of her dancing partner, Archie Thompson; Bombay has not seen a more graceful dancer for a very long time.

There were bathing scenes, Persian scenes and Greek scenes. Everything was so kaleidoscopic that the audience last night could have carried away but jumbled impressions of what they saw and heard, which is probably the inevitable result of a revue production, but there was one scrap of worldly wisdom which may have stuck in the memories of some—"A man may tell his wife he has ceased to love her but a gentleman never will."

Not even a woman could tell Miss White that she has ceased to love her revues. "Back Again" is well named. There were many at the Excelsior last night who will be back again to see it to-night or to-morrow.

TRIBES AT WAR.

FRONTIER FAMILY QUARRELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, January 15.

The irritable and quarrelsome tribes which dwell on either side of the Kohat pass road must be a source of considerable anxiety to officials in the North-West Frontier Province. According to reliable accounts, says *The Pioneer*, the various sub-sections are continually fighting among themselves, or, as has frequently happened of late, some particular section suddenly starts its own private family war.

The Bosti Khel section for example have been indulging in family fighting for the last six weeks, and now that they have decided to cease hostilities for the moment the Zarghun Khel have started quarrelling among themselves. In fact the Christmas festivities in the pass appear to have been confined chiefly to rifle practice for the latest news states that some of the Bulaki Khel are now expressing their strong disapproval of the Gadia Khel section in the usual way.

These petty quarrels may have their lighter side and the various sections certainly appear anxious to avoid causing irritation to Government or inconvenience to travellers. Yet each fresh outbreak must contain the possible spark of a general conflagration among the Kohat pass Afridis, and it is not surprising therefore that the Government of the North-West Frontier Province usually fails to notice the humour of any of these family wars.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DELHI, January 15.

The following military appointments have been approved:—

Captain L. E. Dennys, 4th Battalion 12th Frontier Force Regiment (Sikhs) to be General Staff Officer 2nd grade, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters vice Major D. G. Sanderman, 5th Battalion 12th Frontier Force Regiment (Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides) vacated.

Captain F. G. Harvey, Army Educational Corps to be Instructor, Army School of Education (India) Belgaum vice Captain T. H. L. Stebbing, Army Educational Corps, vacated.

1st Madras Pioneers, 10th Battalion: Captain F. J. Bairsto, Company Officer, 1st Battalion (King George's Own) is attached in the same capacity vice Major F. O. N. Burne relieved.

Captain E. H. Carkest James, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, General Staff Officer, 2nd grade, General Staff Branch Army Headquarters is granted combined leave for 8 months.

DELHI, January 16.

The following military appointment have been approved:—

Captain A. Furley, Gloucestershire Regiment to be Adjutant and Quarter Master Small Arms School, Pachmarhi.

15th Punjab Regiment 3rd Battalion Major H. T. C. Ivens, Second-in-Command 2nd Battalion is transferred in the same capacity to fill an existing vacancy.

16th Punjab Regiment, 2nd Battalion Captain: R. A. Graham, Company Officer to be Company Commander but to remain in his present appointment vice Major W. MacDonald transferred 190th Battalion.

Major W. MacDonald, Company Commander 2nd Battalion to be Second-in-Command to fill an existing vacancy.—Associated Press.

BUDGET INTRODUCTION.

DELHI, January 16.

A change has been introduced in the Legislative rules providing that nothing contained in the rules shall be deemed to prevent the presentation of the Budget to each Chamber in two or more parts, and when such a presentation takes place each part shall be dealt with in accordance with the foregoing rules as if it were the Budget.—Associated Press.

A SWARAJIST DEFEAT.

PUNJAB COUNCIL.

MOSLEM PRESIDENT ELECTED.

LAHORE, January 16.

The Punjab Legislative Council met to-day at the Council Chamber at 2 p.m. Mr. Casson, the outgoing President, was in the chair and there was almost a full attendance of members. The visitors' gallery was packed. There was an air of excitement and bustle in the chamber owing to the election of the first non-official president. After the Council had passed a resolution of sympathy and condolence on the death of one of their colleagues, Sardar Sangat Singh, it proceeded to elect a new president. Before the actual voting took place, Mr. Labh Singh rose to a point of order saying that as the nomination of Sheikh Abdul Qadir, one of the two candidates for presidentship, was proposed and seconded by the Ministers of Government, it was against the established usage of parliamentary procedure and he asked the President whether the nomination paper of the candidate was valid.

The President said that it was no doubt against parliamentary procedure and was not usual practice in the House of Commons for the members occupying Ministerial positions to propose or second candidates for presidentship. But there was nothing in the rules of the Punjab Council or Standing Orders which could make the nomination paper invalid. He therefore declared the nomination paper valid.

Sir John Maynard announced that official members would not vote in the election of the president. The ballot papers were then distributed to the members and the voting resulted in favour of Khan Bahadur Sheikh Abdul Qadir who received 41 votes against Gokal Chand Narang, leader of the Swaraj Party, who scored 32 votes. The President then declared Sheikh Abdul Qadir elected amidst applause. The newly elected president of the Council then proceeded to pay a tribute on behalf of the Council to Mr. Casson, the retiring president.—Associated Press.

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS COMMITTEE.

KHADDAR CAMPAIGN.

At the monthly meeting of the Bombay Provincial Congress on Thursday afternoon at which Mrs. Sarojini Naidu presided. The suggestion of Mr. N. N. Menon for starting co-operative spinning and weaving societies was considered.

Mr. Parbidri suggested the formation of a committee to propose specific recommendations at an early date for the Congress khaddar franchise. A committee consisting of the Secretaries, Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, the secretaries of the Khadi Board and the secretaries of the Khadi Sub Committees of different ward committees was appointed to report on the subject. A letter from the Depressed Classes Mission asking for help for conducting their school and library at Clarke Road was considered. The secretary said that the Council of the Committee had recommended a grant of Rs 250 a year to the association but he proposed a grant of Rs. 250 in addition to that. Mr. C. K. Narayenswami seconded the proposition.

Mr. Kher moved an amendment that in addition to the annual grant of Rs. 250 recommended by the Council a further sum of Rs 25 per month for one year should be given to the association. Mr. Patel the secretary, accepted the suggestion for an increase and the amendment of Mr. Kher seconded by Mr. N. Swami was passed as a substantive proposition. The meeting then dissolved.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mrs. and Miss Palmer arrived at Government House on Friday.

Mrs. and Miss Tennant lunched at Government House on Friday.

Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal visited the Governor of Bombay and Lady Wilson on Friday.

Sir Felix Schuster, El Marquis de Narros, El Duque de Santo Mauro; Lt: Colonel Nawabzada Hamidullah Khan of Bhopal, Lt: Colonel Amir Ahmed, Captain Mumtaz Ali Khan and Miss Schuster dined at Government House on Friday.

His Highness the Maharajah of Benares will next month tour the Bombay Presidency, specially Kathiawar and Gujarat, visiting the ruling chiefs of Junagad and Choranigarh and the Gaikwar of Baroda and also the sacred shrine of Dwarka.

Sir Warden Chilcott, Mr. Paul Cravath, Mr. Harrison Williams and Captain A. D. G. S. Batty arrived at Viceregal Lodge on Thursday to stay.

The Governor of Madras with Viscountess Goschen and personal staff left on Thursday night by special train on a tour to the Ganjam district.

Sir Montague Barlow left Madras on Thursday for Hyderabad.

Major-General H. C. Tytler, Commanding Burma Independent District, arrived in Rangoon on Thursday morning from Maymyo.

The Governor of Bombay and Lady Wilson gave a Dance at Government House on Thursday.

The Chancellor of the Delhi University has nominated the Hon. Mr. E. R. Abbot, Chief Commissioner of Delhi, to be a member of the Executive Council of the University.

His excellency Sir Frank Sly. gave a dinner on Thursday night at Government House, C. P. to which the following ladies and gentlemen were invited: Sir Maneckjee and Lady Dadabhoy, Mr. W. T. W. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Prideaux, Mr. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, Col. Pollard Lowsley, Mr. and Mrs. Dyer, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Mathias, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Baker, Mr. Beckett, Col. and Mrs. Black, Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. Dick, Mr. and Mrs. Gowan, Mr. and Mrs. Chitnavis, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Stokes, Mr. and Mrs. Wills, Mr. and Mrs. Roughton, Mr. and Mrs. Plymen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Porter, Mr. Shah and Captain Webb. Sir Moropant Joshi joined the company after dinner.

The Governor of Bengal arrived at Jessore, on Thursday.

Sir Henry Wheeler, Governor of Bihar and Orissa, held a Police Parade on the Bankipur Parade ground and presented medals and sanads.

Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught-arrived at Delhi, from Agra on Thursday evening and are staying as the guests of the Viceroy.

The King has awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross to Squadron-Leader A. J. Capel, R.A.F., for service in Waziristan.

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