

Vicious Fighting Breaks Out Again In Northern Greece

ONE-THIRD OF ARMY ENGAGED IN BATTLE WITH GUERRILLAS

ATHENS, December 4. VIOIOUS fighting has again broken out in the Mount Parnon district of Peloponnesus, according to press reports today, which listed "more than a score" of gendarmes killed in an attack by 200 guerrillas.

The fighting took place at a place near Palehori, about 45 miles north-east of Sparta. The guerrillas attacked with machine guns, grenades and mortars after occupying all the mountain passes to the village.

Forty gendarmes resisted for six hours, but they had to admit defeat after all their ammunition had exhausted.

About one-third of the Greek army of 80,000 soldiers is fighting the guerrillas in Northern Greece, and the remainder are being trained under the auspices of a British military mission, according to foreign military observers.

Officers of the mission, who complain that this guerrilla battle is "disrupting schooling", are reported to be arming the Greeks for the maintenance of a fully-mechanised field force of three divisions, according to a well-informed source. Athens press dispatches said 38 guerrillas were reported to have been

ADMINISTRATION OF BOMBAY Government Inquiry Committee

Suggestions from responsible bodies or persons are invited by the Secretary of the recently appointed committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta to recommend means of providing an efficient and economical administrative machinery for the province of Bombay, says the Director of Publicity, Bombay.

The Administrative Inquiry Committee consists of Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta (Chairman), Principal D. G. Karve, Mr. S. B. Tayabji, Sir Ivon Taunton and Mr. J. Santos (Secretary). The Committee held its first meeting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday at the Council Hall. The meeting was inaugurated by Mr. Vaidkuntal Mehta, Finance Minister, Government of Bombay who in a brief speech explained the intention of the Government in appointing the Committee.

TERMS OF REFERENCE The terms of reference of this Committee are: to recommend, with special reference to the reconstruction and development plans of the Government, the means providing an efficient and economical administrative machinery, and with that object (a) to examine generally the growth of expenditure, temporary and permanent, on administrative machinery, since 1928-29; (b) to inquire into the working of such machinery; (c) to consider methods of curtailment of expenditure and of increase of efficiency; (d) where measures of curtailment of expenditure involve retrenchment of staff, to examine whether and how the surplus staff may be absorbed in the requirements of the reconstruction and development plans; (e) to consider methods of recruitment of additional staff; and (f) where the field of recruitment is unduly limited by reasons of lack of facilities for training, to consider measures for the expansion of these facilities.

The details revision of permanent pay-scales will be a matter for separate consideration by the Government, but the Committee is not precluded from suggesting the broad principles of the such revision. Questions of policy will be the concern of the Government; but it will be open to the Committee to indicate the economies which might be effected if particular policies were abandoned or modified or certain other policies adopted.

Any responsible bodies or persons who wish to offer definite suggestions are invited to send them by January 10, 1947 to the Secretary of the Administrative Inquiry Committee, C/o. Finance Department, Secretariat. All such communications should be clearly marked. "For Administrative Inquiry Committee."

LATE NEWS

FRENCH PREMIERSHIP PARIS, December 4: The candidature of M. Maurice Thorez for the Premiership of the new French Government was defeated in the National Assembly today. M. Thorez is the Secretary-General of the French Communist Party.—Reuter.

AHMEDABAD CURFEW RELAXED AHMEDABAD, December 4: An amicable settlement has been reached today between local Muslim leaders and the Collector of Ahmedabad, as a result of which tagias will be permitted to move about tonight in the vicinity of their "imamwadas" between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. The 37-hour curfew has also been relaxed.

RECEPTION TO MR. NEHRU LONDON, December 4: Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru received an overwhelming welcome from more than 2,000 Indian at Kingsway Hall tonight, when a reception was held in his honour by the India League. Pandit Nehru said: "I have come to believe that there can be no true solution of the Indian problem unless firstly it is left completely and entirely to ourselves and secondly unless it embraces all economic as well as political problems."—Reuter.

UNITED MINE-WORKERS WASHINGTON, December 4: The United States Government have asked the Federal Court to fine the United Mine-workers of America, of which Mr. John Lewis is the President, \$500,000 dollars. The Government Counsel told the court that the imprisonment of Mr. Lewis would "accomplish nothing."—Reuter.

RUSSIA & DISARMAMENT PLAN NEW YORK, December 4: Opening the debate on disarmament in the Political and Security Committee of the U.N. Assembly today, M. Molotov said that Russia was prepared to accept the U.S. disarmament plan, subject to certain amendments.—Reuter.



Key Industries To Be Nationalised

SARDAR PATEL ON CENTRE'S AIM

A reference to the intention of the Government of India to nationalise all the key industries in the country was made by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Home Member in the Interim Government, speaking before a representative gathering of business men of Bombay on Wednesday. He added that, if the interests of labour were better looked after by employers, there would be no reason for nationalising other industries as well.

Sardar Patel was addressing the Indian Merchants' Chamber at a tea party given in his honour at the Taj Mahal Hotel. He warned the mercantile community against resorting to black market methods and said that stern measures against offenders would be taken.

Unnecessary strikes harmed trade and commerce and, unless merchants identified themselves with labour and treated labour problems with greater sympathy, there was the danger of Communist influence predominating.

"STRUGGLE FOR SWARAJ" Reviewing the political situation in the country, the Home Member said that since the Muslim League was not committed to a policy of non-violence, they should have thought twice before resorting to "Direct Action". The Home Member did not dream of another fight with the British but did not rule out the possibility of another "struggle for swaraj".

Referring to the disturbances in the country, Sardar Patel said that the present Government was composed of people's representatives, who did not think it right to use force, with the help of military and police, to restore order. Military aid could be resorted to only in case of foreign aggression, he added.

Sardar Patel declared that neither the Hindus nor the Muslims were benefited by the present disturbances in the country. Bombay had reputation for cosmopolitan traditions which should be maintained at any cost. He exhorted the business community to co-operate with Government in their efforts to stop the disorders. His message to them was, "Let us all resolve that we shall restore peace at once and act accordingly."

VIEW ON LONDON TALKS

Sardar Patel characterised the conference between the British Prime Minister, the Viceroy and the Indian leaders at London, "as an attempt to placate world opinion". If there was anything to be done it was in India, and not in London. He reaffirmed that the Constituent Assembly, would meet in India on December 9 at all costs.

Mr. Rattilal Gandhi, Vice-President of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, welcomed the Home Member. Among those present were the Prime Minister of Bombay, Mr. B. G. Kher, and the Ministers of the Bombay Government, the Sheriff of Bombay, Mr. A. A. Jassani, the President of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, Mr. S. K. Patil, Sir Purnanand Thakurdas, Sir Manilal Nanavati, Sir Cowasji Wadia, Sir E. V. Ramjeejeebhoy, Sir Chunilal B. Mehta, Sir Rahimtoola Chinyo, Sir Rustom Masani, Sir Behram Karanjia, Sir Francis Low, Sir Fazal Rahimtoola, Mr. G. D. Birla, Mr. B. K. Patel, Municipal Commissioner, Mr. Walchand Hirachand, Mr. Huseinibhoy Laljee and other prominent business men of the city.

MR. ATTLEE'S REPORTED APPEAL TO MUSLIMS

Political Unity In India

(Continued from page 1).

the key meeting being possibly that of the Prime Minister with Mr. Jinnah and Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan.

A series of individual meetings between the British Ministers and Indian leaders having been completed by tonight, the idea of a Round Table Conference of all parties naturally arises as the next step. At the moment official quarters are unable to announce that this Round Table Conference has been convened for tomorrow, as the situation is moving so fast that it may change in the matter of hours.

Tomorrow's time-table so far is a flexible one. The Prime Minister early in the morning will consult the Viceroy and his colleagues in order to assess the position and fix a programme. The Indian leaders are lunching with the King tomorrow at Buckingham Palace.

GREAT PUBLIC INTEREST

The present crucial discussions are regarded by informed quarters as of almost incalculable importance in relation to the immediate developments in India and the course of world affairs. Public interest has been reinforced by the sympathetic and understanding appeal made yesterday by Mr. Dean Acheson on behalf of the United States Government. This appeal, according to British official quarters was entirely unprompted and unsolicited by His Majesty's Government.

Yesterday's and today's talks between Mr. Attlee, his colleagues and the Indian leaders have, it is understood, covered fully and frankly their respective points of view and have now reached the stage for a statement on the possibilities of accommodation and compromise. The British Government, in the light of their pledges to the Indian people, necessarily stand in the position not of arbitrators but of mediators. The foundation of a lasting solution, they contend, must still be a voluntary agreement between the major parties.

This would seem to be the Government's conception of the only way in which complete transfer of power from British to Indian hands can be effected in the minimum time with pride and satisfaction to both countries.

Sudan For Sudanese



Sayed Sir Abdul Rahman El Mahdi Pasha, the Sudanese leader, who arrived in London and interviewed the Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, on November 28. He has been demanding that Sudan should be controlled by the Sudanese.

Bumper Harvest In Madras

MORE RICE RATION

MADRAS, December 3: One hundred thousand tons of foodgrains have been procured by the Government of Madras during the three weeks ended November 21, following the harvesting of short-term crops in the Province.

Revealing this at a press conference today, the Food Secretary to the Government of Madras said that the food situation in the Province had consequently improved to some extent and Government had, therefore, decided to increase the present rice portion of the ration from eight ounces to ten ounces from December 15. The balance of two ounces of the total adult ration of twelve ounces, will be made good by wheat and maize to be issued in alternative weeks.

The Food Secretary added that Government had at present six weeks' buffer stock of foodgrains. The Government of Madras have accepted the recommendations of the Government of India that there should be no increase in the prices of foodgrains during 1946-47, it is officially stated today.—A.P.I.

Labour For Malaya

Mr. J. V. Thivy, President of the Malaya Indian Congress, addressing a press conference in Bombay on Wednesday, urged that the Government of India should legislate to speed the emigration of Indian labour to Malaya.

Mr. Thivy said that labour conditions in Malaya were so bad and the cost of living proportionately so high that it was inadvisable for Indian labourers to work there and be exploited by plantation owners.

COMPENSATION TO RIOT VICTIMS

Concern Of Provincial Governments

LONDON, December 3: The question of compensating victims of communal rioting in India was one for the Provincial Governments concerned, and no compensation was, therefore, being paid by the Government of India, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Under-Secretary of State for India, told Sir Waldron Smithers (Cons.), in the House of Commons today.

Sir Waldron had asked for how many of the relatives of the dead and injured was compensation being paid by the Government of India, and on what basis, and to what amount, and how many in these two categories were British and how many Indian.

Mr. Henderson added: "I understand that the Provincial Governments are actively engaged in relief and rehabilitation measures in which they are receiving assistance from the Central Government."

"No Europeans have been killed in the communal disturbances since July last. I have no exact information as to the number of Europeans injured, but it may safely be assumed to have been very small indeed."—Reuter.

SUMMONS AGAINST "STATESMAN"

Riot News Publication

CALCUTTA, December 4: The Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta, Mr. W. J. Palmer, today issued a summons against Mr. Ian Stephens, editor of the Statesman, and Mr. Amulya Dhona Bose, printer and publisher of the paper, on a charge under Section 9 (3) of the Bengal Special Powers Ordinance No. VI of 1946 for alleged contravention of the provisions of that Ordinance.

The charge related to the publication in the Statesman, dated October 27, of a news item headed "Nose Chopped off" and another item headed "22 killed in the city yesterday" on October 29 and photographs "showing arson in Calcutta, where a furniture store was gutted by fire and also a bazaar in Haimchar in Tipperah district."

The summons is returnable on December 19. Mr. Stephens left for Australia and New Zealand last week on post-war leave.—A.P.I.

POLICE FIRE ON BOMBAY CROWD

Acid-throwing Incidents

"Two cases of stabbing occurred in the Aghpada and Byculla areas respectively on Wednesday evening," says the Director of Publicity, Bombay. A bid was thrown at a relief lorry in the Byculla area as a result of which 25 persons received burns. Another relief lorry was stoned in Lower Parel. Five persons have been arrested in this connection.

Five other incidents of stone-throwing and acid-throwing have been reported from the areas of Malabar Hill, Parel, and Nagpada at night. In Malabar Hill, the police fired two rounds to disperse a crowd.

The police fired six rounds on Tuesday night to disperse riotous crowds in the Malabar Hill area and two to stop a stone-throwing incident in the Parel area. No one was injured.

"KNIFE IN PROCESS OF DISINTEGRATION"

Sentence Reduced

A knife which was in the process of disintegration was kept in a glass case, observed the Chief Justice Sir Leonard Stoop, sitting with Mr. Justice Lokur on the appellate bench of the Bombay High Court, on Wednesday, while disposing of a revision application preferred by Nagoo Hirra, an agriculturist of Vile Parle, who had been sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment by the Presidency Magistrate, Andheri, on a charge of contravening the order of the Commissioner of Police, banning the carrying of lethal weapons.

Nagoo was arrested by the police on October 24 last at Kuria Road, while he was leading his employer's cattle from Chhapur to Vile Parle. He had a stick and a knife. In the lower court, the accused had explained the purpose for which he was carrying the stick and the knife, which was loose from the blade.

Passing orders, Their Lordships observed that the knife was an old one, and its blade was loose from the handle and as such it could hardly be used for stabbing. As regards the stick, which though it was 4 feet in length, was not stout and such a stick was usually carried by those who drove bullocks.

Their Lordships, therefore, reduced the sentence from four months to the period the appellant had already undergone.

RIOT CASES

Lingama Laxam, who is suspected to be concerned in several cases of acid and stone-throwing in Bombay, was arrested by the Nagpada police on Tuesday. He was remanded in custody by Mr. J. M. Barot, Presidency Magistrate, at the Esplanade Court on Wednesday.

Karaga Sethi, a hotel worker and one of his colleagues were arrested by the Byculla police following a stabbings incident in front of their hotel, at Babula Tank Road. A pedestrian informed the police that the assailant had come out of the hotel. The suspects were released on bail.

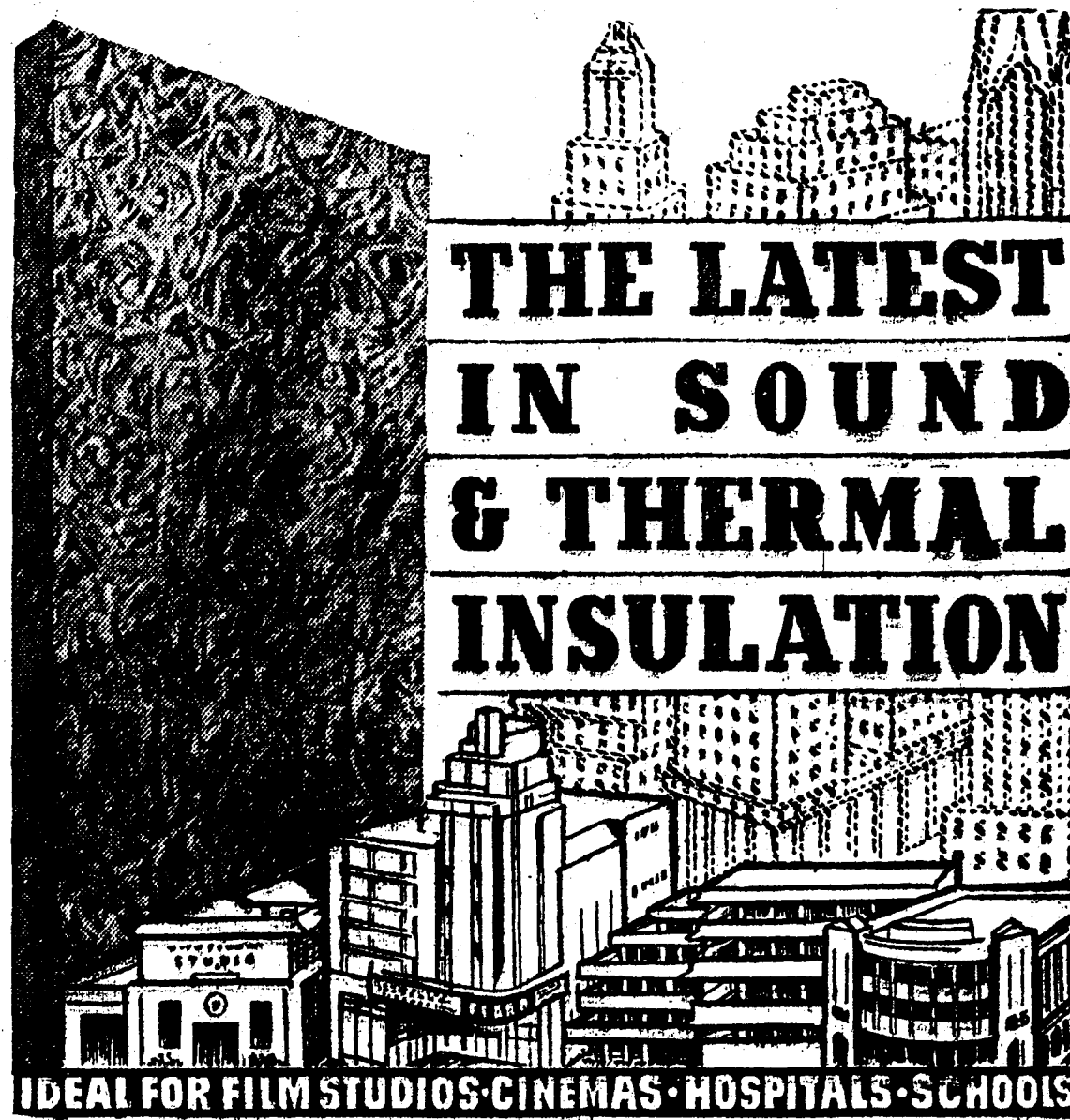
Achhut Rama Mungekar (31), stated to be a newspaper agent, was sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 200, in default further three months' R.I. by Mr. K. J. Khambata, Presidency Magistrate, at the Girgaum Police Court, Bombay, on Wednesday, for being a member of an unlawful assembly, rioting, abetment, and for causing grievous hurt to Devchand and two other persons, all employees of the Janna Bhoomi Press.

Ahmedabad Explosions

AHMEDABAD, December 4: Two cases of acid-throwing and an explosion of a crude bomb occurred in the city today, injuring in all seven persons.

Five persons were injured in an explosion last night in the Darlapur area. The District Magistrate has imposed a collective fine of Rs. 10,000 on the inhabitants in the Kolapur area, where one person was killed yesterday in an explosion.—A.P.I.

The Government of Bombay have extended for a further period of one month from December 5, 1946, its order banning processions and meetings within the municipal limits of Ankleshwar, in the Broach District.



Architects' and builders' dream: are realised by Acoste, the new sound insulation material. Featherlight but strong: proof against noise, heat, damp and fire: ready for 1951 uses.

Acosto

Write for details & specifications to: Fibrocrete Mfg. Co., c/o Sunderdas Saw Mills, Reay Road, BOMBAY 10. Phone: 42051.

Interested in British Textiles?

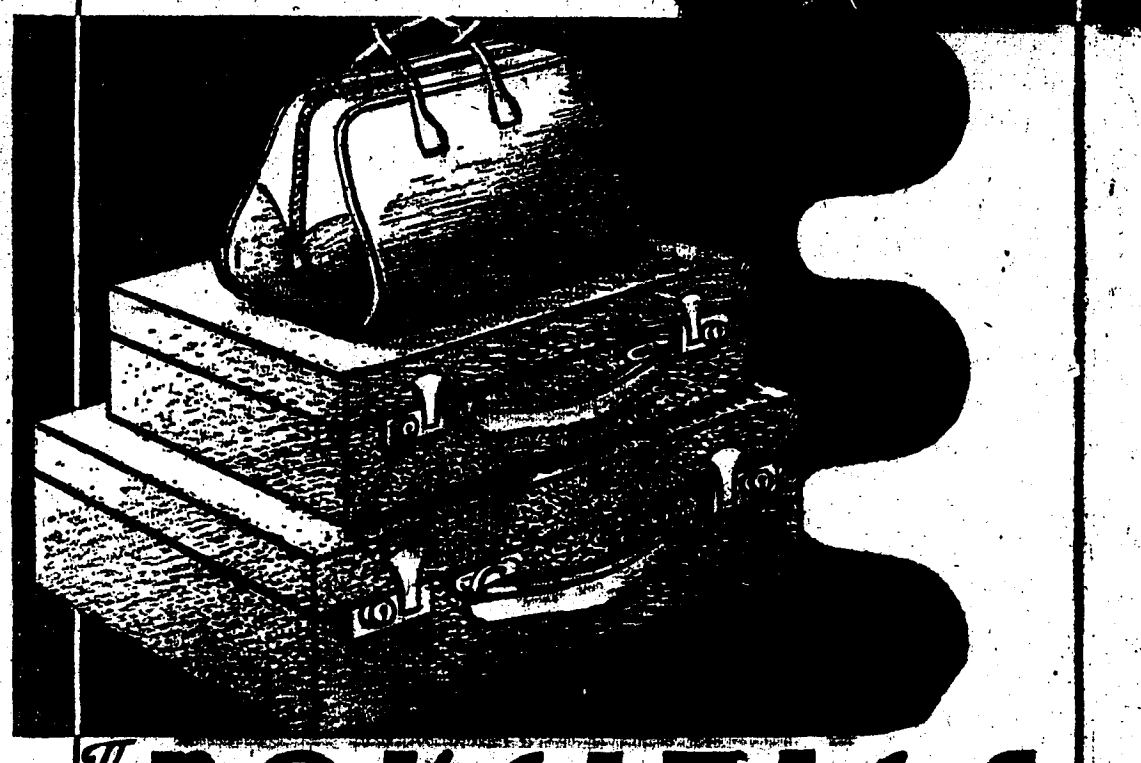
Bring yourself up-to-date with the latest developments in British Textiles, brought to you from the heart of the industry by such well-known publications as:

Women's Wear News Textile Bulletin Men and His Clothes Fur Weekly News Women's Wear Buyer's Guide

Send for Free Specimen Copy and Subscription Form from The CENTURY PRESS Ltd., 79, GREAT TITCHFIELD STREET, LONDON, W.1, ENGLAND.

Latest Arrivals

Excellent material and fine finish make these smart accessories leaders in leathercraft. We offer an attractive variety of Suit Cases, Hand Bags, Jewel Cases, Zip Bags, Dressing Cases, Shaving Sets, Writing Cases, Note Cases, Cigarette Cases, Tobacco Pouches, etc.



The NOVELTIES

Hughes Road, BOMBAY. Phone: 41445. Scindia House, NEW DELHI.

MY, IT'S AWFUL HOT!



"Stop your kidding, Mrs. Baa-Baa. You know the mercury has nearly frozen in the thermometer and all the world is shivering. You're feeling nice and comfy because you've got loads of wool on you." Take a tip from Mother Nature and get yourself a warm woollen garment, too. At the Cawnpore Mills Depot there are some really smart pullovers, cardigans, scarfs, socks, undersuits, suitings and blankets, all made of the purest and softest wool. Come and get them now—there's no use buying them when the season is half way through.

Cawnpore MILLS DEPOT

ESTD. 1895 CHURCHGATE ST. FORT, BOMBAY.