STATES AND INTEGRITY OF INDIAN UNION

Sardar Panikkar On Accession

NEW DELHI, August 1.

The States of India which number over 560 were at no time during the period of British rule constitutionally integrated with India," declared Sardar K. M. Panikkar, Prime Minister of Bikaner, in a broadcast last night.

Technically they were foreign areas, governed by their Rulers who had received guarantees of protection, and were in treaty relations with the Crown.

Sardar Panikkar said:

The actual unity of India, which was effective enough in practice, was achieved through the operation of Paramountcy; in effect it was like a garland of stones of varying size and value which was held together by the authority of the Crown compendiously known as Paramountcy. With the lapse of Paramountcy, the States will technically fall apart. This was what is meant by the oft-repeated phrase that the States resume their independence on the date when the Crown withdraws its authority from India.

The implications of this doctrine of independence are many and extensive. If one looks at the map of India, it will be seen that, apart from the Gangetic Valley, the area that is known as British India is interspersed with the territories of Indian Rulers.

In fact after the accession of the Pakistan provinces the area under the Indian States is practically equal in area to that of British India. They lie athwart the main lines of communications.

Sardar Panikkar

If one travels from Muttra to Ahmedabad, there is hardly any territory of British India between these two great cities. If the States were to become independent, and the administrative unity which was so scrupulously built up during the last 100 years were to break up, neither the Dominion nor the States would be in a position to function properly. Clearly some action had to be taken in order to preserve the unity and integrity of the Indian Union.

STANDSTILL PACTS

A method had, therefore, to be improvised, and in consultation with representatives of the States, it was decided that the best method of dealing with this problem was to have standstill arrangements regarding existing economic and administrative agreements, and also a limited accession to the Dominion on the basis of the 1935 Act for the three subjects of defence, foreign affairs and communications.

What "standstill agreements" means is that where there are existing arrangements between the Central or Provincial Governments and the States, these are continued undisturbed till new agreements are negotiated to take their place.

What the accession of the States means is that the Dominion of British India, which comes into existence on August 15, in respect of the subjects included in the category of defence, foreign affairs and communications becomes a union of both British India and the States.

A constitutional relationship which never existed before is established between the States and the Dominion in a limited but important sphere. It is intended that these two arrangements should be given effect to at this critical time as the Dominion comes into existence so that there is no hiatus between the establishment of a Dominion and the creation of a Union.

Many were toying with the idea that it would be possible for the States, whatever their geographical position, to join either of the Dominions, Pakistan or India, or have relations with both. A moment's consideration would show the dangers inherent in these propositions.

DANGERS OVERCOME

If it were open to a State surrounded on all sides by India to join Pakistan or have political relations with it and vice versa, then the independence of both Pakistan and India would have been seriously affected. As the Viceroy very right emphasised at this meeting with the Princes, "the compelling facts of geography" limit the discretion of most States in the matters of accession. Now, both the dangers have been overcome.

The States, it is fair to conclude, will accede to the Dominion. The patriotism and vision of the leading Princes of India at this juncture are matters which have earned them our gratitude. We shall now start on the new voyage of independence with our country integrated, and with the Princes and people united in their desire to work for the common good of their great motherland.—A.P.I.

BASTAR MAHARAJA FOR DELHI

Talks With Mr. Patel

From Our Staff Correspondent

NAGPUR, August 1: Maharaja Pravir Chandra Bhanj Deo Bahadur, the newly-installed Ruler of Bastar, the 12th largest State in India, arrived here this morning from his State and left the same day for Delhi to meet Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who is in charge of the States Department of the Government of India.

Interviewed by me at the Mount Hotel, where he stayed for a few hours, the Maharaja told me that he was going to Delhi primarily in connection with certain affairs between his State and Hyderabad State. The Political Department, he said, had attempted to give the Nizam a 99 year mining lease in Bastar territory which, however, was prevented by the intervention of the Government of India. He was now going to meet Sardar Patel to straighten out things.

His present Home Minister, Mr. Jafri, who was at the head of the minority administration before the Maharaja took over the reins of Government had become unpopular because of his biassed attitude towards a section of the people of Bastar and also his being "the league" wallah. Hyderabad, Mr. Jafri would shortly be leaving the Bastar State service.

Soon after his return from Delhi, the Maharaja proposed to reconstitute his Council of Ministers, and Mr. Raghuraj, who had been Dewan of various States in the Eastern States group, would be his new Dewan. Mr. Raghuraj, who has been elected to the Indian Constituent Assembly, is already in Delhi.

RAIL COMMUNICATION

The Maharaja added that during his visit to Delhi he may raise the question of opening rail communication with his State which is now almost inaccessible except for a motor road. The extension of communication would greatly help the development of his State in various ways. There were vast mineral resources and great tracts of forest land which waited to be tapped for industrial and other developments.

The Maharaja, who recently attained the age of 18, was invested with ruling powers in the presence of other Rulers of the Eastern group in Calcutta on July 10, and formally took over the reins of Government on July 16. These ceremonies were shorn of all the usual pomp.

With regard to Rajnandgaon another State in the Eastern States group, the Maharaja of Bastar told me that the Rani, who is the mother of the heir to the "Gadi," has been made Regent till the young Maharaja comes of age.

Thakur Manbahal Singh, District Superintendent of Police, Bastar, is accompanying the Maharaja to Delhi, where they will be staying for a week.

Gilgit Restoration

NEW DELHI, August 1: With effect from August 1 the Gilgit sub-division will be restored to the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir, says a notification by the Political Department published in a *Gazette Extraordinary* today.—A.P.I.

About 150 undesirable Germans are to be repatriated from China in the next few days aboard a special American repatriation ship, it was learned in Shanghai on Thursday.

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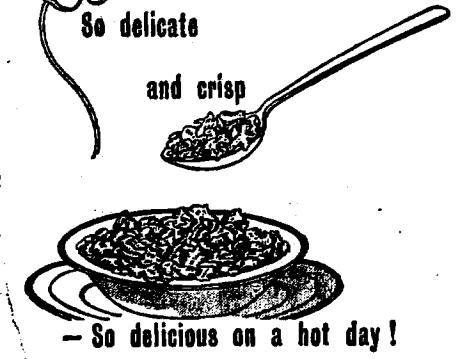
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Hindu Sabha Begins Direct Action

LEADERS ARRESTED IN U. P.

LUCKNOW, August 1: The U.P. Hindu Sabha direct action movement against the U.P. Government began this morning in Lucknow when a batch of 20 Hindu Sabha volunteers shouting Hindu Mahasabha and anti-Congress slogans courted arrest. They attempted to hoist the Hindu Mahasabha flag in Amirudduliah Park and were taken into custody.

By midnight the police had arrested 28 leaders and workers, including some of the absconding members of the "Council of Action," bringing the total number of arrests so far in connection with the direct action movement to 70.

Hindu Sabha leaders and workers of other districts are also being rounded up, according to reports received here.

Mahant Digvijainath, first dictator of the direct action movement, who has been evading arrest since the round-up of members of the Council of Action and prominent Hindu Sabha workers started last night, was taken into custody at 11-30 a.m. today in the Amirudduliah Park, when he was attempting to hoist the Hindu Mahasabha flag there.

The U. P. Government have promulgated an Ordinance amending the United Provinces Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947.

The negotiations between the Government and Mahasabha leaders regarding the 10 demands of the Mahasabha broke down last night.

MAHASABHA DEMANDS

The demands of the U. P. Hindu Mahasabha among others are (1) proportion of Muslims in all Government Departments, specially the Police Department should be fixed on population basis. (2) Hindus alone should be recruited in the armed police and the proposed home guard organisation in order to bring the ratio to the proper figure, (3) Hindi should be made the court language in the courts, police and other Government departments.

(4) The Arms Act should be suitably amended so that all members of the Legislative Assembly may keep guns. (5) The post of Home Minister be given to a Hindu member of the Ministry (6) The U. P. Government must take immediate steps to make adequate arrangements for the Frontier and Punjab refugees. (7) The ban on Government servants taking part in the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh should be lifted forthwith.

Bihar Mahasabha's Action

PATNA, July 31: Mr. Sita Ram Khemka, first dictator of the council of action of the Bihar Provincial Hindu Mahasabha, has postponed the launching of direct action against the Government of Bihar till August 9 at the request of Mr. Krishna Ballabh Sahay, Revenue Minister. Announcing this decision Mr. Khemka says that when the Provincial Government have expressed their anxiety to settle matters through a responsible member of the cabinet it would be wholly improper and unjust to precipitate matters.—A.P.I.

"JOIN UNION" DAY

Hyderabad Plans For August 15

From Our Own Correspondent.

HYDERABAD (Dn.), July 31: A call to the people to observe August 15 as "Join India Union Day" was made today by Swami Ramanand Tirth, President of the Hyderabad State Congress.

The programme to be observed on the day will include a peaceful *hartal*. Flag hoisting ceremonies and public meetings are to be held without giving previous intimation to authorities.

As a protest against the arrest of Pandit Narenderji, a prominent member of the State Congress, and three workers of the Arya Samaj under the Defence of Hyderabad Rules, A large number of Hindu students from the Osmania University College and other educational institutions in the city walked out of their classes, this morning and went in a procession through the Sultan Bazaar, where they were stopped by the police and dispersed.

Ittihadul Muslimeen held a mass prayer meeting in the Darushafa locality in the afternoon following a call by the Direct Action Committee. Prayers were offered that Hyderabad should not join the Indian Union but remain independent.

Assurance To People

From Our Own Correspondent.

HYDERABAD (Dn.), July 31: It has come to the notice of the Government that some persons are leaving or intend to leave their homes owing to some fear that their life and property will be insecure, says a *communique* issued by the Nizam's Government today. The Government are trying to trace the sources of these rumours and meanwhile they assure all the peace-loving citizens, irrespective of any caste or creed, that adequate arrangements for guarding their life and property exist. The Government intend to adopt stern measures against those who attempt to disturb the public peace. They, therefore, hope that every subject of the Nizam will carry on his avocations in an atmosphere of amity and goodwill.

Assam Elections

SHILLONG, July 31: Election to the existing Constituent Assembly by Group "A" members of Assam will take place at 2 p.m. on August 8 in the Assembly Chamber, it is learned here.

August 7, is the last day for submission of nominations. Scrutiny and nomination will be on the same day.—A.P.I.

MOVE FOR NEW PARTY

Non-Congressmen Meet In Poona

From Our Staff Correspondent

POONA, August 1: A call to non-Congress political parties in the country to close up their ranks to offer effective and responsible opposition to the party in power was given by Mr. J. C. Kumar, Chairman, Reception Committee of the three-day conference of political parties in Maharashtra, not affiliated to the Congress, which opened at Tilak Smarak Mandir, Poona, today. He advocated a two-party parliamentary system of Government for India with a strong opposition functioning as a corrective to the party in power. Mr. R. M. Deshmukh, Maharashtrian leader of Berar, presided.

Mr. Kelkar heartily congratulated the Congress party on the sacrifices it had made to achieve freedom and paid a tribute to men and women of all parties who had contributed to the struggle for freedom. But he feared that in the complex and revolutionary political changes brought about by the partition Plan, the new India might not be able to retain her freedom for long, unless the people succeeded in establishing good Government. Such a thing was possible only if the party in power changed its outlook and began to take note of public opinion expressed and organised outside its own ambit. For the present the Congress party was busy distributing the fruits of power amongst its own followers. Even men like Mr. Gandhi had uttered warnings that the immediate task before the country was to secure the elimination of disorders, nepotism, corruption and inefficiency, rampant in the country today.

Mr. Kelkar said they could establish democracy in the country only if on the one hand the party in power learnt to respect public opinion outside its own ranks, and the other effective parliamentary opposition could be organised and kept functioning. He suggested that in the day to day administration of the Province the Congress Ministry should seek the advice of advisory committees composed of men from non-Congress ranks.

Mr. Deshmukh, in his presidential address, said democracy could function best only if there was effective opposition. At present the Congress seemed to be the only dominant party having a hold over the public and it would naturally try to establish that hold. The other political parties were not well organised. It was necessary, therefore, that if a party emerged out of the conference, it should necessarily be a strong one, but if the Congress divided into right and left wings quite early, then there was no necessity of a new party, because the other political elements could join hands with the opposition. He feared the need for speedy militarisation, so that the new India could retain her hard won freedom.

TRIBUTE TO TILAK

"Created Urge For Freedom"

Homage to the late Lokamanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, whose dream of independence for India is to be realised in a few days, was paid by the public of Bombay on Friday in observance of his 27th death anniversary, when his statue at Chowpatty where his remains were cremated was garlanded by 30 public organisations. Mr. S. K. Patil, President of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, presided.

Processions from various parts of the city converged on Chowpatty sands at 6 a.m. Unfurling the national flag before the gathering, Mr. Patil said it was the urge for freedom created by Lokmanya Tilak that developed into the gigantic movement launched by the Congress to win independence without bloodshed under the leadership of Mr. Gandhi.

Mr. Tilak's Sacrifices

Glowing tributes to the sacrifices made by the late Mr. B. G. Tilak, in the cause of the country, were paid at a public meeting organised by the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee on Friday.

Mr. S. K. Patil, who presided, appealed to the youth of the country to pledge their lives for safeguarding the freedom of the country. It was to achieve that freedom, he said, Mr. Tilak devoted his entire life.

Mr. G. D. Vartak, Minister for Local Self-Government, said a few people still went about telling that India had not yet achieved freedom and that no freedom could be won without a battle. Any one who expressed that view after the Independence Day, he added, would be guilty of "disloyalty" to the country.

Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise said the funds for erecting a statue at Chowpatty largely came from the poorer classes and that showed the high esteem in which Mr. Tilak was held by the common man in the country.

Mr. M. Y. Nurie said even today the nationalist Muslims believed that India should be united. But the choice placed before the Congress was division of the country into two parts or continued slavery. The Congress was forced by the circumstances to choose the former, he added.

Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas recalled his association with Mr. Tilak as an intimate friend.

Meeting At Parel

The Bombay Provincial Hindu Sabha held a public meeting at the Kamgar Maidan, Parel, on Thursday evening. Mr. K. R. Dhamdhare, Working President of the Sabha, who presided, referred to Mr. Tilak as a valiant fighter in the cause of India's freedom. He earned the respect of his countrymen by his sacrifices and selfless devotion to his motherland, added the President.

New Socialist Party For India

AIMS EXPLAINED

CALCUTTA, August 1: Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose has announced today the formation of the Socialist Republican Party.

The party stands for the complete independence of India, free from British or any other foreign influence and control, the ending of autocratic rule in Indian States, the setting up of Socialist republics on the basis of linguistic groups and the establishment in this country of a union of Socialist Republics. It accepts unconditionally the ideology of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose and considers the completion of his unfulfilled task as the main aim of its political, social and economic activities.

Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose.

The party believes that a divided India will be economically backward and politically powerless. It will, therefore, seek to eliminate British influence, power and interests from India and will resist any attempt at partnership or alliance between British imperial interests and Indian reactionary forces.

The party considers that complete liberty, sovereignty and freedom of development should be guaranteed to linguistic groups in India and that there should be no interference from the Union Government in that respect.

Other principles of the party include: Land in a free and liberated India must belong to the actual tillers of the soil. The party stands for the abolition of landlordism in any shape or form and complete repudiation of rural debts.

Socialist industrialisation on the basis of electrification of the entire country must be the first and paramount aim of the Union Government and the Governments of the constituent republics.

SOCIALISTS' ROLE IN FREE INDIA

Independent Party?

If the Congress did not move towards Socialist plans and policies within the next few months, the Socialists "would have to function independently of the Congress," declared Mr. Jai Prakash Narain, General Secretary of the Socialist Party, in a statement

The Socialist leader also controverted the "recent kite-flying in the press" and said there could be no question of the Socialists accepting ministerial responsibility, until they are backed in the legislature by a majority of their persuasion".

Mr. Jai Prakash said: "After August 15, the Congress will not be able to retain for long its national multi-class character. It must move in one or the other direction. The Socialists have a place in the Congress, in the coming months, only if it moves, and moves speedily, towards Socialist plans and policies. This change in the objectives will be real only when drastic changes are made in the organisation itself."

He added: "The Congress, as constituted today, is unequal to the Socialist tasks of tomorrow If the Congress fails to refashion its fabric in response to changed circumstances, the Socialists will have to function independently of it. The choice of these alternatives cannot be deferred for more than a few months."

"In a free and democratic India," Mr. Jai Prakash said, "the Socialist Party must be controlled by the organised working class. Organic and intimate relationship will have to develop between the trade unions and the Socialist Party. A closer integration must be achieved between the various strands of the Socialist movement, such as trade unions, *kisan sabhas*, co-operatives and the political party. Such an integration precludes the association of Socialist trade unions with non-Socialist bodies, like the A.-I.T.U.C. and the I.-N.T.U.C."

KASHMIR PLANS FOR MR. GANDHI

Premier's Message

RAWALPINDI, August 1: Mr. Gandhi and party left early this morning for Srinagar.

SRINAGAR: Mr. Gandhi will be formally received by a representative of the Kashmir Government and Kashmir National Conference workers on the State border at Kohala, about 140 miles from Srinagar.

The Prime Minister has sent a letter to Mr. Gandhi welcoming him to Kashmir and expressing his desire to call on Mr. Gandhi in Srinagar. The Prime Minister has placed two State cars and two of his secretaries at his disposal.

The District Magistrate of Kashmir and senior police officials will accompany Mr. Gandhi from Kohala to Srinagar.

A reception committee has been formed under the Presidentship of Begum Abdulla, who is in charge of all arrangements.—A.P.I.

Amritsar Incident

From Our Own Correspondent.

AMRITSAR, July 31: With his ears shut with his own fingers, Mr. Gandhi, while on his way to Kashmir this morning by the Frontier Mail which reached here about 15 minutes late at about 8 a.m., was greeted with black flag demonstration by over 1,000 Hindu youths of Amritsar. There were loud shouts of "Mahatma Gandhi go back" "Congress Murdabad".

WORLD PACIFISTS

Mr. Gandhi's Reported Promise

BASLE, July 31: Mr. Gandhi was reported here today to have promised the War Resisters Conference at Basle to set apart a week in 1949 for a conference with Indian and other pacifists from all over the world. The conference would be attended by about 60 representatives of pacifist organisations.

The Conference here was addressed by the Indian delegate, Mr. Samar Sen, who said he believed that "in a new era about to begin in Indo-British relations will be marked by a degree of co-operation and goodwill never witnessed before."

The conference decided to issue a statement calling for universal abolition of conscription, and also to circulate to each of its sections a memorandum of advice on "alternative service."—Reuter

Madras Civilian Officers

MADRAS, July 31: Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Reddiar, Premier of Madras, told a press conference here today that in regard to civilian officers in the service of the Secretary of State the Government of Madras had decided to keep in service only junior officers, who were willing to serve and had a fairly long record of service Government would terminate the services of officers with less than a year's service to their credit to facilitate permanent arrangements, he said.—A.P.I.

ANGLO-INDIAN EXODUS

First Batch Sailing On Sunday

Six hundred and thirty Anglo-Indians—the first batch to leave the country with the avowed intention of settling down abroad will board the MANGONA in Bombay on Sunday en route to Sydney. Most of those, are from Calcutta, Madras and the Central Provinces.

The number of Anglo-Indians who have registered their names for passage to Australia, so far, is reported to be more 4,000.

The first Royal Australian Navy vessel to arrive in Bombay, the MANGONA (10,855 tons) has been specially chartered by the Australian Government to carry back Australian nationals from India. Besides 70 Australian civilians, mostly traders, 22 Maltese, five Europeans, 21 Poles and nine New Zealanders are sailing by the MANGONA.

A large number of Anglo-Indians were seen at the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank at Churchgate Street on Friday changing Indian currency to Australian pounds. Some of them said that they did not intend to return to India, but would not say why they were leaving the country.

It is not known how many Anglo-Indians would go by the next few sailings to Australia, which are, however, not many. Apart from the MANGONA, the MULTAN and the CHITRANA are the only two vessels carrying passengers to Australia during the next five weeks.

Many Anglo-Indian families are eagerly awaiting passage to the United Kingdom, it is reliably learned. The exodus is expected to begin with the departure of H. T. FAMAGUSTA in the second week of August. The H. T. STRATHMORE which is due to sail from Bombay about August 21, is likely to take a large number of Anglo-Indians. Inquiries in shipping circles failed to indicate the exact number of Anglo-Indians desirous of proceeding to the United Kingdom, but it is believed to run into hundreds.

Limited Immigration

RANGOON, July 31: Australia is prepared to accept for permanent residence a "limited number" of Anglo-Burmans and Anglo-Indians from Burma, an official Government announcement issued here today said. Application forms for the use of prospective immigrants have been sent to the Burma Government.—Reuter.

ACHARYA KRIPALANI

10-Day Tour Of Sind Planned

KARACHI, August 1: To study the situation in Sind, Acharya Kripalani, the Congress President, accompanied by Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani, is expected to arrive here from New Delhi by air tomorrow. He will be in the province for about 10 days. He will go on tour from Sunday, halting at each of the following places for a day: Dadu, Larkana, Jacobabad, Sukkur, Kotri, Rohri, Hyderabad, and Mirpurkhas. He will return to Karachi on August 10 and leave for New Delhi the following day.

INDIA'S U.N. VICTORY INEFFECTUAL

Dr. Sundaram's View

"The consolidation of our national resources and the development of sanctions behind our foreign policy must precede any irrevocable plunge into the vortex of international strife," said Dr. Lanka Sundaram, Adviser to the Government of India, U.N. addressing a meeting of the progressive Group in Bombay on Friday.

"If our foreign policy," said, "is not backed by an advanced industrialised economy and adequate armed forces, we shall be compelled to choose between conflicting groups of world powers and ideologies."

Asserting that experience had shown that the magnificent victory won by India in the U. N. on the South African Indian question had proved ineffectual, Dr. Sundaram said that even the formation of a strong and united Asian and African "bloc" would not lead us far unless it was backed up by the organised might of all the non-White peoples of the world.

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DRAFT ADAPTATION OF 1935 ACT

Many Sections To Be Deleted

NEW DELHI, August 1: The draft adaptation of the Government of India Act, 1935, in its application to the Dominion of India, is ready and has been circulated among the political leaders. It is reliably learned.

The main features of the draft, it is understood, are that as many as 103 out of the total of 321 sections in the Act will disappear from the Statute Book on the appointed day, August 15. Besides, numerous sub-sections of the various provisions of the Act have been deleted and a good number of new provisions incorporated. The First and Second Schedules of the Act have been omitted and the Third Schedule, which prescribes the salary and allowances of the Governor-General and Governors is now "under consideration."

References to the Emperor of India have been taken out from the Fourth Schedule which deals with the form of oaths or affirmations prescribed for members of legislature and high judicial functionaries.

Thus the 1935 Act, the result of five years of prodigious labour, is now to be changed beyond recognition.

The adaptations have been made in accordance with Section 9 of the Indian Independence Act under which the Governor-General is empowered to modify the Government of India Act, 1935, in order to bring the provisions of the Indian Independence Act into effective operation.

Several of the 103 sections which will disappear on August 15 relate to matters opposed by nationalist India for decades. Among the clauses that will go are those relating to the Crown's relationship with Indian States; special responsibilities of the Governor-General for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity, safeguarding the interests of the minorities, etc. Superintendence of the Secretary of State is being abolished along with the India Office. The much-disputed commercial safeguards clauses also disappear.

Powers of the Governor-General requiring Governors to discharge certain functions as his agents are deleted from the Act and similarly the Governors will have no special powers. The word "Federation" will be substituted by "Dominion" and Federal laws become Dominion laws.

OTHER CHANGES

Besides these, more than 200 changes have been effected. A substitute section for Section 18 of the Act, which deals with the constitution of the Federal Legislature, is to be inserted. "The powers of the Dominion legislature under this Act shall," the draft adaptation says, "until other provision is made by or in accordance with a law made by the Constituent Assembly, be exercisable by that Assembly, and accordingly reference in this Act to the Dominion legislature shall be construed as references to the Constituent Assembly."

A substitute to Section 30 of the Act of 1935, regarding pending bills, says that a bill pending in the Dominion legislature shall not lapse by reason of the prorogation of the legislatures.

The power of the Governor-General to promulgate Ordinances in cases of emergency is being retained in a modified form.—A.P.I.

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