WEATHER IN SOUTH INDIA

MADRAS, Dec. 1i.

Daily weather report for Madras Presidency and Mysore: Isolated showers have occurred in Tamiinad, Cuddalore reporting 2.3 inches Very light showers have also been reported from here and there in the rest of the region. Night temperatures have generally been above normal in the eastern half of the region.

Forecast valid until the evening of December 12: Thundershowers at some stations in Tamilnad, Mysore and South Kerals. Isolated showers in South Andhra Districts

Local forecast: Occasional showers. ca) forecast: Occasional showers, eather news for farmers: Light show-in Trichinopoly, North Arcot, South t. Cochin, Travancors, Bangalore, Mysore, Mandya, Guotur Salemicts, Low night temperatures in Niland Vizagapatam.

METTUR WATER LEVEL Reservoir full on 10-12-'46.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1946.

GERMANY

THE Council of Foreign Ministers, meeting in New York, have agreed to discuss the Peace Treaty for Germany next March in Moscow. Such a treaty is long overdue for the greatest post-war problem in Europe is the future of Germany. Although the war is officially won and peace has "broken out" it is unfortunately true that peace will never be real and permanent so long as the relations between the Great Powers remain unstable and unco-ordinated. The focus of those relations lies in Berlin where America, Britain, Russia and France meet in the role of Occupying Powers. Each of these nations has a different attitude to Germany and in the four zones into which the country is divided, different political and economic policies are carried out. Mr. James Warburg, a former member of the Roosevelt Brains Trust, who visited the four zones found that the Russian zone was economically the best balanced services for whom the Secretary of State is responsible. cal and economic policies are of the four. Though the Russians did dismantle and remove some of the factories, the bulk of the indus- and constitutional ties between the trial plant was working at capacity and there was no unemployment. The Russians have broken up the big estates of the East into farms of 12 to 19 acres. Against this must the products of Germany are going have passed to popular ministers who are to the Soviet Union. While the not concerned with the theoretical over-riding powers of the British Parliament. Germans, as a result of Nazi propaganda, feared the Russians and now find them softer than they expected, they are ruled by an iron deal of industrial plant to their between Nazis and others since they believe all Germans to be "Boches". The result is that the Germans in the French zone are sullen and resentful. Unlike the French and Russian zones, the British and American areas are hard pressed for food. The output of coal from the Ruhr is_low and coal is needed for fertilisers. The British attitude is that of colonial rulers (who are inclined to think of the Germans as "natives") and because the Germans expected to get easier treatment from the British than from the Russians, they were somewhat disillusioned. Unemployment is serious in the U.S. zone which cannot be self-sufficient either in food or industry. The area has to subsist precariously on imports. The worst weakness of the Americans is the undisciplined behaviour of the troops who live luxuriously on

The economic clause of the Potsdam Agreement stipulated that Germany under occupation should be treated as a single economic unit. Obviously this should be implemented if Germany is to make any progress. But it is not easy to separate politics from economics. The Four Powers are severally anxious to retain their influence and their influence is consolidated by the political elements they favour-in the Russian area it is pro-Communist, in the west it is Conservative or mildly Socialist, A new factor in the situation has been introduced by an Anglo-American agreement to achieve economic unity as from January 1947. The food situation in Western Germany had been worsening from day to day and in Britain there was much of discontent that wheat should be sent to Germany which might have been Jatav presided. consumed at home. Mr. Bevin exjan members of the Constituent Asplained that the agreement is not sembly to safeguard the interests of the directed by antagonism towards any other Government and that France Harijan deputation to London, which and Russia were free to join if they will be leaving shortly to counteract the desired. That sounds fair enough bedkar." but two serious criticisms can be made of the new policy. The first is that from the economic point of ing all Harijan associations together.

black-marketing in the midst of

poverty and hunger.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER view, specially that of food, this limited fusion will not solve the problem and might instead be a fertile source of dissension between England and America, each of whom might be inclined to "pass the buck" to the other. The second is that the Russians are bound to feel that this is a fresh Anglo-American. move on the political chessboard to isolate them and "gang up" on Russia. The agreement, viewed from the angle of the relations between opposing blocs of Powers, is a confession of failure. Whatever the difficulties, it should have been possible to negotiate a general agreement with Russia and France which would have enabled the Potsdam Agreement to have been properly carried out. Instead Messrs. Bevin and Byrnes have closed their ranks and split Germany into even less reconcilable sections.

EXPANSION OF MILL **INDUSTRY**

CENTRE WILL NOT TOLERATE CHECKS

NEHRU MAY DISCUSS ISSUE WITH GANDHIJI

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW DELHI, Dec. 12.
The review of the Madras Govern ment's textile policy which commonly expected to take at this evening's meeting of at this evening's meeting of the Central Cabinet, seems to have been postponed to next week. The decision, however in favour of postponement need cause no uneasiness. It is possible that when Pandit Nehru meets Gandhiji carly next week, he may have an opportunity of raising the matter with him Nevertheless the main lines of the him. Nevertheless, the main lines of the Cabinet decision, according to reliable reports, seems to have been fixed by the Industries and Civil Supplies Depart-

It is realised that any interference in the allocation of spindles and looms already made by the Government of India would be highly improper. Future policy is another matter though even in this respect there is nothing to suggest that the Government of India will countenance positive measures to prevent fur-ther expansion of the textile mill industry in the Southern Presidency.

INDIA SECRETARY AND THE SERVICES

BRITISH OFFICER URGES ENDING OF CONTROL

is responsible.

General Steward writes: Responsible political circles in India realise that legal countries cannot be suddenly cut and that re-adjustments must first be made in India itself. But while the de jure position remains, the de facto position been revolutionised by the conve that the Governor-General will normally act on the advice of his 'Cabinet' and be set the fact that a good deal of will not interfere in the day-to-day ad-

causes much friction and put both the hand in the French zone. The Ministers and officers in an impossible French are not bound by the Potsmiers' Conference urged the British Government and removed a good dam Agreement and removed a good emment most strongly to terminate the own country. They do not hold elections. They make no distinction comed by British officers concerned. The question both Ministers and officers now sking is why the Secretary of State is so rejuctant to relinquish his control of these Services. Both suspect his motives. As for the future, the members of the

Services realise their careers are about to be cut short. It is to be hoped that Parliament will be informed of steps ing taken to ensure fair treatment to our fellow countrymen.—Globe.

U. P. CIVILIANS TO RETIRE

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 11.

It is said in reliable quarters that a
flew more British civilians have expressed their intention to retire from service after January 1, when the wartime ban on promature retirement of Government officers is going to be lifted. Notable among them is Mr. H. J. Frampton till recently Chief Secretary to the U. P. Government.-F.O.C.

STERLING BALANCES SETTLEMENT

TALKS LIKELY NEXT SPRING

LONDON, Dec. 10. No negotiations on the Indian sterling balances have taken place during the past week, it is learned in official circles

Reports from India that Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan, Secretary of the Ali-India Muslim League and Finance Minister in

HARLIAN DEPUTATION TO LONDON

AMBEDKAR'S PROPAGANDA TO BE COUNTERACTED

NEW DELHI, Dec. 10. Nationalist Harijan leaders and workers met here on Sunday at the instance of Mr. M. I. Yatri, President of the All-India Harijan League, Mr. Devidas

also formulated the line of action for the "anti-Congress propaganda by Dr. Am-

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

FELICITATIONS TO

SOVEREIGN STATUS OF ASSEMBLY STRESSED

RAJEN BABU

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.) NEW DELHI, Dec. 11. The Constituent Assembly this morning unanimously elected Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Food and Agriculture Member of the Interim Government, as its Permanent Chairman. There were no other contestants. After his election, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was conducted to the contestants. After his election, Dr. Ra-jendra Prasad was conducted to the Chairman's dais by Acharya Kripalani and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

ard Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, in an eloquent tribute to gentleness, patience and fair-mindedness of Dr. Rajendra Prasad expressed the hope that by his persuasive ability, the Assembly's per-manent Chairman would be able to bring the Muslim League into the

Sir N. Gopalaswami Iyengar expressed the country's pride in the choice of Dr. Rajendra Prasad as Chairman and said that the Constituent Assembly itself was honoured in being able to obtain such a scholar, patriot and humanitarian as its permanent Chairman. Turning his altention for a while to the position of the Constituent Assembly, Sin Gopalaswami asserted that any limitations on the Constituent Assembly's procedure were self-imposed inasmuch as its members had agreed to accept the as its members had agreed to accept the State Paper of May 16 but beyond that, the Constituent Assembly could not brook any outside interference whether such interference was by a judicial body or by any other. The Constituent Assembly was sovereign and it was free to amend, alter and interpret its procedure. The Chairman of the Assembly would have vast discretion to interpret procedure and he had every confidence that Dr. Rajendra. Prasad would zealously preserve the independence and sense of dure and he had every confidence that Dr. Rajendra Prasad would zealously preserve the independence and scnse of fairplay of the House. No outside exparte decision could be binding on this sovereign House, declared, Sir Gopalaswami, unless indeed the House itself voluntarily agreed to be a party to it. The House greeted with appreciative cheers Sir Gopalaswami's able exposition of the status of the Constituent Assembly.

Representatives of minority communi Representatives of minority communi-ties paying their tributes were all agreed on the excellence of the choice of the Chairman and expressed their complete confidence in the impartiality of Dr. Raiendra Prasad.

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu's tribute to the Chairman was one of the most moving heard in recent times to a living con-temporary and when she acknowledged

porary and when she acknowledged in eloquent language the Buddhalike wisdom, sweetness and gentleness of this great son of Bihar and of India, thunderous applause echoed her sentiments. "He is the symbol of our destiny to-day," she said, and if "as we all desire the Muslim League could be brought to participate and co-operate gladly in the task of this Assembly, then it will be due to his essential wisdom and sweet. in eloquent language the Buddhalike wi due to his essential wisdom and sweet

Then turning towards Dr. Ambed kar who had heartily joined the appla-use of the House, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu said, "I hope Dr. Ambedkar will also become an emphatic supporter of this Assembly and its work so that millions in this land who are depressed may be happy

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, after thanking the Assembly in Hindustani, in a brief and modest speech in English begged for co-operation from all sides of House in overcoming any limitations placed on the Assembly's task. He assured them all riding powers of the British Parliament.
Unfortunately, both at the Centre and in the Provinces these Ministers have to act through officers subject to the authority of the Secretary of State. This causes much friction and put both the

DETAILS OF PROCEEDINGS

The Associated Press of India adds: A simple ceremony preceded the installation of Dr. Prasad as permanent manent i Chairman, Chairman, The temporary Dr. Sinha, announced that two valid nomination papers so far received pro posed Dr. Rajendra Prasad's name, and said: "I hereby declare Dr. Rajendra Prasad duly elected permanent Chairman of this Assembly." (Loud cheers).

Dr. Sinha added: "My first duty as temporary Chairman is to request that Acharva Kripalani and Maulana Azad will do us the favour on behalf of the Constituent Assembly to approach the elected President to bring him on to the chair." (Cheers and laughter).

Maulana Azad walked up to Dr. Ra-jendra Prasad and gripped him by the right arm, while Acharya Kripalani stood by the left and the three went up to the dais, where Dr. Prasad sat on a chair by the side of the temporary Chairman Cries of "Inquilab Zindabad" and 'Jai Hind' rang out as he sat.

Speeches felicitating the new Chairman

TASK BEFORE ASSEMBLY

Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, in offering his congratulations to Dr. Rajendra Prasad, pointed out that the Constituent Assembly had met to frame a constitu-tion to effect the withdrawal of British control—political, economic and mili-tary—and establish a Free and Indepen-dent India. If successful, this transfer of authority would be the biggest and least bloody of all transfers in human history. Referring to Indo-British relations, Sir Sarvapalli said that the first Britisher to arrive in this country was a Jesuit missionary in 1579. He was followed by other merchants who came to trade but stayed to rule. In 1765, the authority was transferred to the East India Company. Later, it was gradually subordinated to and replaced by the authority of Parliament, and it had been continuing till now on the famous principle enunciated by Cecil Rhodes, a principle fundamental to

cent. Right through there had been protests against British rule. All these protests became canalised when the Indian Nabecame canalised when the indian wa-tional Congress was established. The Congress adopted mild methods till the advent of Mahatma Gandhi, when it be-came aggressive. In 1930, the Congress adopted the resolution for the Indepen-dence of India and we are now here to

imperialism-philanthropy plus five per

on them by foisting communal electorates, that they would be injecting poison into the body politic which could only be removed, if at all, at the cost of a civil war. "We know how those anticipations are getting realised to-day".

"The latest statement of H.M.G. on the Cabinet Plan indicated that it was not

easily (hear, hear). The playing of one faction against another was unworthy of a great people and would embitter the relations between this country and Great Britain. It was essential for them to understand that if an act was done, it must be with the utmost grace".

INDIA'S NEW CONSTITUTION

The Constitution the Assembly would be drawing up, Sir Sarvapalli urged, should embody the dreams and passions. the ideals and aspirations of all who belonged to this country. It must be pased on the consent of all and respect the right of all people belonging to this great land. "We have been kept apart; it is our duty now to find each other." Referring to the Muslim League's abs-tention from the Assembly, Sir Sarvapalli said: "We all deplore, as the speakers yesterday and the day before deplored, the abstention of the representatives of he Muslim League from this Constituent Assembly. We take it that it will only be temporary, for their co-operation is absolutely essential for the success of any constitution which we may draw up. Our nunger, our poverty, our disease, malnutrition, are common to all. Take the psychological ills from which we suffer. he loss of human dignity, the slavery of the shame of subjection. These are comnon to all-Hindus or Muslims, Princes or peasants. The chains may be of gold but they are still chains that matter Princes will have to realise that they are slaves in this country. (Hear, hear) Earth and heaven combined to make them belong to one country. It is essen-tial, therefore, for any constitution which is drawn up to make all the citizens realise that their basic privileges—educaional, social and economic—are afforded o them, that there will be cultural autonomy, that nobody is going to be sup-pressed. It is going to be a constitution which will be democratic in the true sense of the term, where political freedom will merge into economic freedom and equity and which will make every individual at the present tune and might feel that he should be proud to belong of a settlement, to this great land."

IDEAL OF COMPREHENSION AND CHARITY

"Apart from all this, a nation did not depend on identity of race, sentiment, or ancestry. It depended upon a persistent and continuous way of life that had come down to us. "Such a way of life belongs to the very soil of this land it is there, indigenous to this country such as the waters of the Ganges or the snows of the Himeia-yas. From the very roots of our civilisation, down from the Indus Valley to the present day, when we have representatives of that same great culture among Hindus and Muslims, we have stood for the ideal of comprehension and charity. This country never adopted inquisitorial methods. It never asked the Parsis or the Jews or the Christians or the Muslims who came and took shelter here to change their creeds and become a uniform Hindu humenity. Live and let live!—that has been the great spirit of this country. If we are true to that spirit if that ideal, which has dominated our cultural landscape for five to six thousand years, is adhered to by the elected representatives of that great culture. I have no doubt that the crisis with which we are faced to-day will be overcome as many other crises in the previous history of this land have been overcome."

They had betrayed and done wrong to millions of their own fellow-countrymen. The time had now come for them to make atonement for all their past guilts. It was not a question of justice or charity but a question of atonement. It was not an accident that this year, which constituted the six-tieth year of the Indian National Congress was also the year of the opening of the Constituent Assembly. "We have to remember with graitfude all those great souls who worked and suffered for the treedom of this country. For the dawn of this day, thousands died, more thousands suffered privation, imprisonment can device and built up this great edifice of the Indian National Congress. (Cheers) We have to remember them all."

Sit S. Radhakrishnan hoped that the spirit of amity, concord and harmony which had

machinery employed by the present Government of India did not detract from that sovereignty. (Heer, hear). The constitution of the Assembly derived its authority not from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that the proposals made therein had been accepted by the people of this country (hear, hear) Any ilmitation on the powers of the Assembly which were indicated in the Cabinet Musicion's statement "are thus self-imposed, imposed by ourselves on this Assembly and the document and its subsequent exposition by its authors have made it clear that this Assembly has got the constitution, of varying or adding to what is provided for in that document, not excluding even what are declared to be its fundamentals. The law of the constitution of ihis Assembly does not vest in any outside authority judicial or otherwise, the interpretation of any provision.

"In one single instance alone it required the Chairman should obtain the advice of the Edekal Court at the request of the majority of either of the major communities in the Assembly before he took a decision on the issue, "It follows, therefore, that the decision on all questions of interpretation of the law of the Constitution of this Assembly, itself may give. Reference to an outside authority for decision or advice in respect of other matters could be made only on authority given by a decision of this Assembly will be in the Chairman's hands, subject to such directions as this Assembly, itself may give. Reference to an outside authority for decision or advice in respect of other matters could be made only on authority given by a decision of this Assembly and no such decision would be binding on this Assembly unless it has agreed to abide by that advice. The ideal threefore, adumbrated in the recent statement of His Majesty's Government that either side is free to ask an outside authority to decide matters of interpretation and that the Assembly and no such decision for this Assembly. Would detract from its sovereign powers and

ation that (Cheers.)

"HIGHEST OFFICE"

dence of India and we are now here to give effect to that resolution.

The British were empirics from beginning to end. It was Lord Palmerston who said: "We have no eternal principles; we have only eternal interests." "When they take any particular line of activity", said Sir Sarvapalli, "you may take it that it is not a willing surrender of power or authority, but it is a response to the historic necessities of the case."

Continuing. Sir Sarvapalli said the British introduced the communal electorates in India with the intention of keeping the people apart. The higher mind of Britain advised local efficials that they would be betraying the irust imposed on them by foisting communal electorates, that they would be injecting poisen into the body politic which could only be removed, if at all, at the cost of a civil war, "We know how those anticipations are getting realised to-day".

"The latest statement of H.M.G. on the Cabinet Plan indicated that it was not necessary for him to commend Dr. Rajendra Prasad's unanimously elected." Mr. Anthony said 'is not only the highest office but qually onerous." He was sure Dr. Rajendra Prasad would hold the scales evenly between the different interests. The naturel power try like ours. differences of opinion must inevitably exist, but given a leader, said that it was not necessary for functional patients. The office to which the highest office him to commend Dr. Rajendra Prasad's unanimously elected." Mr. Anthony, the Anglo-nation of commend Dr. Rajendra Prasad's unanimously elected." Mr. Anthony said 'is not only the highest office him to commend Dr. Rajendra Prasad's unanimously elected." Mr. Anthony said 'is not only the highest office him to commend Dr. Rajendra Prasad's unanimously elected." Mr. Anthony said 'is not only the highest office him to commend Dr. Rajendra Prasad's unanimously elected." Mr. Anthony said 'is not only the highest office him to commend the said that it was not necessary for leader. Said that it was not necessary for leader. Said that it was not

(Continued on page 6)

GROUPING PLAN

CONTROVERSY OVER VOTING PROCEDURE

INDIA SECRETARY'S REVIEW

TORIES FORCE DEBATE IN

COMMONS LONDON, Dec. 11.

Mr. Winston Churchill created a sur-prise in the House of Commons to-day when he forced a debate on India.

The Government agreed to this taking place to-morrow (Thursday) and Fri-

Earlier the Prime Minister, Mr. Cle ment Attice, and the Secretary of State for India, Lord Pethick-Lawrence, stated that they felt that a general de-bate on Indian affairs at the present time would be inopportune and might destroy the prospects of a settlement. Mr. Churchill, however, pressing for an immediate debate said that matters in India were assuming so grave a shape that it was necessary for the nation to its attention concentrated upon

Mr. Churchill added that he made his request after grave reflection and Mr. Morrison said that in view of that, the Government did not feel that they could refuse a debate.

PETHICK-LAWRENCE ON LONDON TALKS

Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary State for India, told the House of Lords to-day that the British Government felt that a general debate on Indian affairs at the present time would be inoppor-tune and might destroy the prospects

Lord Pethick-Lawrence opened statement by saying, "The House will have seen that the conversations with Indian leaders which took place during last week have unfortunately ender without an agreement being achieved As the House knows, the Government issued a statement at the conclusion of the conversations but members will no doubt wish to have some account of the present situation.

will be remembered that on May 16 last, the Cabinet Mission made proposals which it was hoped would bridge the gap between the Hindu and Muslim points of view and enable Indians to frame their own constitution by the accepted democratic method of Constituent Assembly.

"In order to provide the most hopeful basis for co-operation in constitution-making, the Cabinet Mission found it necessary to recommend both the outline of the future constitution for India and the particular procedure by which details might be elaborated.

which details might be elaborated.

"The essence of their proposals was that, while there would be a Union of India limited to Foreign Affairs, Defence and Communications, there would be an opportunity by the adoption of a particular procedure in the Constituent Assembly for the provinces to form Groups for the administration of such subjects as it was stration of such subjects as it was decided should be dealt with in common. To prove this opportunity the Mission proposed that the Constituent Assembly, after a preliminary meeting warked and suffered for the freedom of this country. For the dawn of this day thousands died, more thousands suffered privation, imprisonment and exile it is their suffering that has centented and built of amity, concord and harmony which had come down to us from the image of Store for mining of the internation down to us from the image of Store for a debate. I start it is mention of the Assembly and it was sovereign powers of the Assembly and it was sovereign in every sense or the word. That its members had been brought together by the machinery employed by the present Government of India din not detect from the fact that its authors were three machinery employed by the present Government of India din not detect from the fact that its authors were three machinery employed by derived its authority on the fact that its authors were three machinery of the lack period of the Cohner of the Congress which the decisions of the Congress very sense of the word. That its members had been brought together by its members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authors were three members of H. M. G. but from the fact that its authority of the sum of the fact that its authority of the fact that the proposals made therein had been accepted by the people of this country to the sum of the fact that its authority of the fact that the fact that the fact that the fact that the fact t

the right to decide both as to Grouping and as to their own constitutions and that therefore decisions in the Sections cannot be by simple majority vote. The Congress, however, have stated that they are prepared to accept the ruiling of the Federal Courr as to the proper interpretation of the Cabinet Mission's Statement

"It was mainly in the hope of resolving the difference of view on this matter that the British Government invited the Indian representatives to come to London.

"We had very full and friendly discussions with indian representatives but I regret to say that up to the present, we have not succeeded in resolving this difficulty. Consequently, the Constituent Assembly which was summoned to meet in India last Monday is holding its preliminary session without representation of the Muslim Lengue.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION "In the statement which the Government issued at the conclusion of the conversations, we have said that we have had legal advice which confirms that the Statement of May 16 means what the Cabinet Mission have always said was their intention, namely that voting in Sections should be by a majority vote. This is the view, which is accepted by the Muslim League and on the basis of which they originally accepted the Cabinet Mission's proposals. From their point of view, this is an essential element in the plan because if the agreement of all provinces within a Section is required to the framing of a Group constitution, it is probable that the opposition of some of the smaller provinces will prevent Group constitutions being framed.

"The intention of the Cabinet Mission was that while an individual province might be outvoiced in a Section, its freedom would be safeguarded by the right to opt out of the Group after the constitution had been framed.

"His Majesty's Government feel that all "In the statement which the Government

Group after the constitution had been framed.

"Dis Majesty's Government feel that all parties of the Constituent Assembly should agree to work the Schema in the way intended by the Cabinet Mission, but if the Constituent Assembly desires that this fundamental point should be referred for a decision of the Federal Court, such a reference should be made at a very early date so that the decision can be known before the meetings of the Sections of the Constituent Assembly take place.

"It may seem to the honourable members that these differences as to matters of procedure are of small importance in relation to the paramount need for securing a constitution for India which has the widest possible measure of consent A peaceful transfer of power to an Indian Government freely set up by agreement among Indians is a matter of supreme trapportance, not only for India but for Asia and the world as a whole.

"But it must be remembered that representatives who came to London were not in a position to commit their parties and that the issues stir deep and passionate feelings."

a position to commit their parties and that the issues stir deep and passionate feelings. Time must be given for the parties, after full debate, to decide their stitinde. It may also be that the subject will come under consideration by the Federal Court. In these circumstances, Government feel that a general debate on Indian sifairs at the oresent time would be inapportune and might desiroy the prospect of settlement.

was clearly delicate and Lord Pethick-Lawrence's statement would require care-ful consideration.

"In these unhappy circumstances, which have arisen," added Lord Cranborne, "I do feel—and I think I speak for other noble Lords on this side of the House—here are Lords on this side of the House—here are extremely strong arguments for a debate before the flouse rises. Upto now we have not pressed him unduly on Indian affairs. We have exercised the greatest restraint because we realise what the situation was, I think it is evident there is much eluctidation of essential facts needed for the benefit of this flouse and the country also, for one of our main functions is to inform the country which its haddy in need of in-

romation.

Viscount Cranborne observed. "Those on the Opposition side of the House for whom I speak—I am sure I speak for all of them—will like to consider this matter of having a debate in the light of the statement the Government has made, as one does not want to come to a hasty decision. If we consider it our duty to discuss this question before the House rises if it is treated in a statesmanlike manner—and I am sure it will be so treated in this House—I am sure no harm would result."

Viscount Samuel, on behalf of the Liberal Party, said that Lord Pethick-Lawrence's statement brought "our information up to the present date. But I differ from Lord Cranborne as to the desirability of an early debate in this House on Indian affairs. We have considered the matter and have decided not to John in pressing the Government to allocate time for this purpose.

the country which is badly in need of in-

"The principal point referred to in the statement to day is itself of a somewhat legalistic character. It may indeed be referred to the Indian Rederel Court for a decision and I do not imagine that any of your Lordships would be able to express a confident opinion upon it. As to the principal situation, by joint consent the great matters under consideration have been referred for decision to the Indian Constituent Assembly. Although it is true that various hitches have arisen with 'respect to the contitution and procedure of that Assembly I do not think that speches in the British Parliament are l'kely great'y to help in its deliberations. We agree with the Government's view and doubt whether any useful public service would be rendered by a debate in this licuse precisely at this present juncture."

The matter then terminated.

CHURCHILL PRESSES FOR-DEBATE

Later the Prime Minister, Mr. Ciement Attlee, made an identical statement in the House of Commons.

Mr. Winston Churchill, speaking for the Opposition, then declared. "His Majesty's Opposition have shown over long months great forbearance and restraint in not raising a debate upon India. But I must give the Leader of the House notice that we feel that a debate must now take place. Matters are absuming a very grave aspect and it is that a debate must now take place. Matters are assuming a very grave aspect and it is necessary that the nation shall have its attention concentrated upon them and that the issues, which have to be decided, shall receive their due meed of public attention. "I ask that the pledge, which was given to us for a full two-day debate, should be made good before we separate for Christmas."

mas."

Mr. Clement Davies, Liberal Leader, said that if the negotiations fail, the consequences might be so appalling that one dreaded even to look at them. In these circumstances, while negotiations were still going on, it would be gravely inopportune to say one word now which might jeopardise their success. "I understand that the nesotiating parties who have been in this country have gone back to consult their people. Until they do that, I suggest that any reference to a debate might be postponed," Mr. Davies declared.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

Mr. Herbert Morrison, Leader of the House, said that Mr. Attlee had stated that in the circumstances the Government felt that a general debate on Indian affairs at the present time would be inopportune and might destroy the prospect of a settlement "We were hoping," he added, "in the light of that that Mr. Churchill would not time to present to press for a debate.

Friday".

Mr Churchill: "I certainly cannot complain of the manner in which the Leader of the House has made good on behalf of the Government, the undertaking he gave to

Mr. William Gallacher, the Communist nember, rose to put a further question but he noise was so great that he could not be

eard.
The matter then terminated.
Reuter's Political Correspondent writes:
Mr. Jinnah was present in the House to
ear the Prime Minister make his statetent, but Mr. Attlee who has a bad cold
ould scarcely be heard in the Visitor's
latteries. could sca Gallerics.

CONSERVATIVE PARTY OPINION

The Conservative decision to force a de-bate on India in the House of Commons to-morrow and on Friday was taken only 30 minutes before to-day's sitting began, ac-cording to authoritative Conservative sources. The deciding voice was that of Mr. Winston Churchill. One of his colleagues did Winston Churchill. One of his colleagues did not want the debate yet and two prominent members of the Conscrvative Party said this evening that the prospect of a debate at this juncture "depressed" them. While Mr. Courchill believes that the Conservative Party must now make a stand and clearly define its attitude on the India question, other Conservatives consider that the debate will not help the Conservative Party in Britain or ease the situation in India.

Mr. Churchill will open the debate for the Opposition and the former Governor of Bengal, Sir John Anderson, and the former Under-Secretary for India and

the Opposition and the former Governor of Bengal. Sir John Anderson, and the former Under-Secretary for India and Burma, Mr. R. A. Butler, will be the other chief speakers.

The question the whole House of Commons is asking is: "What will Mr. Churchill say"? Some Labour members said to night that they believed he would demand complete British evacuation of India with the hope that this will force Indian leaders to realise that they cannot at present run the country without British help.

It is not certain yet who the Government spokesman will be. The Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, has a bad cold and if he is not well enough to take part, the President of the Board of Trade, Sir Stafford Cripps, may open for the Government whose other leading speakers are likely to include the Minister for Defence, Mr. A. V. Alexander, and the Under-Secretary of State for India, Mr. Arthur Henderson.

PERPETUATION OF DEADLOCK BRITISH POLICY CONDEMNED

In a leading article denouncing the "imperialist oppression" in India, to-day's Communist Daily Worker says. "The Cabinet Mission pian for the benefit of Indians has turned out to be a piece of elaborate humbug. Troops are not to be withdrawn. Princes have been elevated to a pivotal position to the constitution and

circumstances, Government feel that a general debate on Indian affairs at the oresent time would be inepportune and might destroy the prospect of settlement.

APPEAL TO COMMUNITIES

"I am sure I am speaking for all parties in this House in making an appeal to all communities in india to co-operate in framing a constitution which, because it is based on consent, will be welcomed by all and worked in a co-operative spirit. Wiscount Cranborne, Leader of the Opposition, said: "It is no good disguising from ourselves the extremely serious situation that has arisen and that the plan advanced for the constitutional inture for India to consolidate the two main Indian communities has not succeeded."

Lord Cranborne said that whether it was a hitch on something in the nature of a breakdown was 6 matter of opinion of the breakdown was 6 matter of opinion o

MIGRATION OF **MUSLIMS**

BIHAR GOVT.'S WARNING

SUICIDAL TO FORSAKE HOMES

PATNA, Dec. 10. The Government of Bihar, in a com-nunique, note with regret that wild and baseless rumours are responsible for the recent movement of a number of Muslim families from Bihar to Bengal. leaving their hearth and home, in one case after disposing of their properties, is bound to affect their interests very

adversely. It is, therefore, the duty of the Provincial Government to bring to the no-tice of the Muslims of Bihar the inherent dangers of this suicidal policy inder the influence of panicky rumours propagated by irresponsible mischief-

It may not be out of place to point out that the Binaris who are going to Bengal will be exposed to unfavourable climatic conditions, of language, culture, ways of living and adverse economic factors and ultimately, their sufferings will know no bounds and their losses will be beyond repair.

It is the responsibility of the saner elements of society to appeal to those who have reached the refugee camps in Bengal as well as those who are enter-taining ideas of leaving Bihar under hopes which are likely to prove elusive that they should, in their calmer mo-ments, consider seriously whether this break with their past mode of living and severing of local ties and up-rooting themselves from the lands of their forefathers, are to their best in-terests, now that conditions have returned to normal throughout the Pro-vince. Not only are Police and Military protection provided for the present, but he Government have decided to continue them as long as these may be necessary for giving a sense of security to the people concerned. Besides the Government have placed funds at the disposal of district officers for financing the resettlement of affected people in their villages for repairs and rebuilding of their damaged houses and for enabling them to restart in life. Detailed instructions are being given on the subject to the district officers. An Ordinance has been passed providing for harvesting of their crops under the harvesting of their crops under supervision of Government agencies.

The Government have noted with satisfaction that in many areas already men of goodwill of both communities representing saner elements of society have risen to the occasion and are exerting their influence to their utmost in recreating the old atmosphere of good fellowship, harmony and which formed the normal feature of life in Bihar.

The return of their lands and homes of

those who have left already is all the more urgent in view of the fact that in these days of food crisis a deficit province like Bihar can hardly afford to allow a single plot of land to remain uncultivated, as this is bound to lead to the worsening of the food situation, which will have serious repercussions not only in Bihar but on other Provinces as well. It is, therefore, high time that people should come back and avail themselves of the facilities, afforded to them by the Government without any further loss of time and set about preparing their land for the next cultivat-

ADVICE TO REFUGEES

A communique issued by the Bihar Government says:—

A large number of refugees are reported still to occupy private establishments and other supplies for them are being made from the Government, which the Government have been meeting in full at their own cost. The Government, however feel that there is absolutely no justification for the continuance of the refugees in private camps and that it is best in the interests of the refugees themselves that they should move on to Government have been anxious to help as much as possible in improving sanita-A communique issued by the Bihar

Government have been anxious to help as much as possible in improving sanitation and providing other amenities in the private camps, but it must be realised that despite their best efforts it is not possible for them to look after the refugees encamped privately in the same way as in Government establishments, which are directly run and supervised by their officers. There is enough space available in the Government camps at Digna and Dinapore. More camps may also be opened if necessary. Government, therefore advise the refugees to move immediately if necessary. Government, therefore, advise the refugees to move immediately to the Government camps. If despite this advice private camps still continue to be run, the responsibility will be of those who persist in running them. The Government will issue ration for the refugees lodged there but they will accept no further responsibility and it will be the duty of the Managers of the camps to make the necessary arrangements and to find the scott thereof, including that of all supplies of roodstuffs and other requirements.

SECURITY DEMAND ON . URDU DAILY

PATNA, Dec. 10.

The Bihar Government have asked the publisher of the Sada-s-Am, an Urdu daily of Patna to deposit a security of Rs. 1,000 with the District Magistrate of Patna by December 25. The security has been demanded for the publication of a news item in its issue of November 17 about the arrest of a worker of a particular community in Peina.

PANDIT NEHRU TO VISIT BENARES UNIVERSITY

BENARES, Dec. 10 Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Babu Rajendra Prasad are arriving at Baratour aerodrome at mid-day on December 15. They will then motor to the Benarcs Hindu University, where Babu Rajendra Prasad will deliver his Convocation Address and Pandit Nehru will receive the Honorary Degree of D.Sc. Both the Ministers will leave for Calcuita next morning. A.P.I.

OPPOSITION TO GROUPING PLAN

NEW DELHI, Dec. 11. Representative Hindu and Sikh members from the Punjab, Assam and N. W. F. Province, who have strongly opposed the Grouping proposals of the State Paper and have been agitated over the latest interpretation of these proposals have set up a committee to make an intensive study of them and to discuss them as occasion offers with Congress leaders in order to decide upon the attitude they should adopt. These discussions which have been held dur-ing the last few days were continued

e-day. Sikh leaders, Sardar Pratap Singh, Sardar Ujjal Singh and Sardar Harnam Singh met Sardar Patel to-day and discussed with him questions relating to Sikh minority interests .- A.P.I.

COST OF ATOM BOMB BELFAST (Northern Ireland,

The United States could have "10,000 atomic bombs at 2,000,000 dollars each", Prof. C. H. Vrey of Chicago University, a scientist who worked on the deveopment of the bomb, said here to-day they could easily destroy all important nities of the world", he added Prof. Urey said that there was no real defence against the atomic bomb.-Reuter.