WEATHER IN SOUTH INDIA

Sunday December 15 Last quarter

PHASES OF THE MOON

MADRAS Dec. 14.
Daily Weather Report for Madras Presi-

were above normal
Forecast valid until the evening of Deember 15: Fairly wide-spread rain in the
mastel regions of Tamilnad with showers
t a few stations in the interior of Tamilad and in extreme South Andhradesa and
louth Kerala.

Keraia. Forecast: Occasional showers, be-more frequent towards morning hours.
Weather news for farmers: Moderate to weather heavy rain in Tanjore. Chingleput and Ramnad and light to moderate rain in Trichingoly. Chitton, North Arcot South recommopoly. Unitioor, North Arcot South Arcot and Madura districts and in Cochin and Travancore. Low night temperatures

d Travancore.

Nilgiris.

Outlook for next three days: Rains will nitinue along and near the Coromandel sat in the next two days and may desease later.

METTUR WATER LEVEL Reservoir full on Dec. 13.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1946. THE COMMONS DEBATE From the enormous quantity of canting humbug that the House of implementing the Assembly's work canting humbug that the House of implementing the Assembly's work Commons was regaled with for two whole nights one or two simple of safeguards in the Constitution of safeguards in the Constitution on December 21 or 23 to meet again on January 20 for a further ten-day session. The opening of the Central Assembly The opening of the Central Assembly The opening of the Central Assembly Alexander, speaking for the Government, stand out. Mr. Churchill, who was in one of his most daninterfering with the work of the session will take up the appointment of
Constituent Assembly at any stage. The Steering Committee and the Advihis best to get the Government Mr. Alexander has explicitly stated rights etc. hamstring the Constituent Assem- that such a question as whether the bly which it helped to set up. Depressed Classes should or should He made the most of a sentence in not be treated as a separate politi-Mr. Attlee's statement of Decem- cal entity is "a matter for the Conber 11 which was completely at stituent Assembly" and the Govvariance with the considered policy ernment did not consider it desirof the Cabinet Mission outlined in able or in the interests of the Detheir statement of May 16. In his pressed Classes that they should speech opening the Commons de-lattempt to influence the Assembly bate Sir Stafford Cripps had offer- in any manner." If the Constituent ed an elucidation of this particular Assembly can, in the British Govsentence which, though it made it ernment's opinion, be relied upon clear enough that Mr. Churchill to do the just thing by the Depresshad no ground for his premature ed Classes and other minorities, can ent Assembly should address itself, Babu jubilation over the prospect of re- it not be trusted to lay down its own versal of the Government's policy, procedure as to how the voting in still left the position wrapped up in the Sections should be taken? Mr. a fog of doubt. Sir Stafford, Alexander has vigorously repudireferring to Mr. Attlee's state- ated Earl Winterton's suggestion ment, that if a Constitution was that the rupture between the Conevolved to which a section of the population was not a consenting party the British Government would not help to impose it on "unwilling parts of the country," and it was "perhaps a statement of the obvious—that if the Muslim League could not be persuaded to come into the Constituent Assembly will be remembered in a major communities cannot be brought about or to reverse the brought about or to reverse the the section of the country. This constituent Assembly will be remembered with those others which have met to firme the constitutions of other free nations. We have to live as part of the world and not in isolation. The underlying theme of the resolution added that India should, however, remain one with full, sovereignty. There were amendments to the resolution asking for a post-ponement of its consideration until such time as the Muslim League came into the Assembly. He said that he too was one of the country had been given autonomy and the resolution asking for a post-ponement of its consideration until such time as the Muslim League came into the Assembly. He said that he too was one of the country. This constituent Assembly will be remembered with those others which have met to firme the constitutions of other free nations. We have to live as part of the world and not in isolation. Mr. Tandon continued, was equality. The given autonomy and the resolution added that India should, however, remain one with full, sovereignty. There were amendments to the resolution asking for a post-ponement of its consideration until such time as the Muslim League came into the Assembly will be remembered with those others which have met to firme the constitutions of other free nations. We have to live as part of the world and not in isolation. Mr. Tandon continued, was equality. The different units of the resolution asking for a post-ponement of its consideration until such time as the Muslim League came into the Assembly will be remembered with those of the constitutions of other free nations. firmly convinced that his Governing as a suitable occasion. There was no certainty as to when the bound by the results. And he went on to remark that "that position had always been realised by the Congress who had repeatedly said that they could not coerce unwilling areas to accept the new Constitution." What Sir Stafford, and Mr. Attlee before him, discreetly ignored was the fact that the Congress did not limit its refusal to coerce to the case of Muslims alone. It made it perfectly plain that thoughtful survey of the position of the congress. It is a ment of the constitution of the congress did not limit its refusal to coerce to the case of Muslims alone. It made it perfectly plain that they could not be held to be ment's action in setting up the Interior in the Interior Countries and its set on the Interior Constitution. White he was opposed to any postpone ment of consideration of the resolution, care should be taken and in fact had been taken, to do nothing that would hurt the Muslim League The resolution had stated that residuary powers should vest in the provinces. He personally was opposed to this in view of recent disturbances in Bengal and other areas, but not would not raise any objection for two reasons, first of all in order not to offend the League and secondly because the Statement of May 18 which was the foundation of the Constituent Assembly could not disperse merely after. There was no certainty as to when the Interior Committee In that case, there would not disperse merely after. While he was opposed to any postpone ment of consideration of the consideration of the consideration of the consideration of the consideration o alone. It made it perfectly plain that it would be no less averse to coerce any non-Muslim minority for the purpose of giving Muslims an area for rule where they would have a majority. If that is the sense in which Mr. Attlee's statement of December 11 is to be understood, it can hardly be regarded as a charter for Pakistan, as the Muslim League and its British friends have persistently tried to make out. The position would be that, while the British Government, judg-league and have no objection to implementing the Constitution framed by major wyatt." All he said by way of caution was thoughtful survey of the position of the Provinces.

Opposing the amendments that sought to add to or substitute certain passages in the text of the resolution. Mr. Tandon said that the resolution has been drawn up in terms as comprehensive as possible without making it too detailed or cumbersoine. The substitution of "working people" for "people" made the resolution narrower for it was meant to apply to all the people and not to any particular section of them. Referring to the latest speech of Sir Statford Cripps. Mr. Tandon was sorry to say that though Sir Stafford professed to help India his real aim was to erect road blocks in the way of the Assembly. "Sir Stafford Cripps Mr. Tandon was sorry to say that though Sir Stafford professed to help India his real aim was to erect road blocks in the way of the Assembly. "Sir Stafford Provinces.

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Referring to the latest speech of Sir Stafford professed to help India his real aim was to erect road blocks in the way of the Assembl menting the Constitution framed by carried on expeditiously with this the Constituent Assembly for those end in view. If that is correct, how parts of the country which the can it fail to see that its attempt to Muslims do not regard as "their impose a particular procedure on own", the Muslims would hardly be the Assembly must have conseable to frame any Constitution they quences which not only the British pleased for their "parts of the coun-Government but all men of goodtry". For, if they did so and the will must deplore? Mr. Churchill resulting Constitution was unaccept- and his friends have done all the able to the communal minorities in mischief they are capable of by trythose areas, the latter would in ing to mislead the minorities, inwoke the intervention of the British cluding the Muslim League, into Government and that Government thinking that the British Tories would be bound to tell the Muslims would stand by them if they that it could not ask Parliament to were to oppose a constitutional impose on the non-Muslim minori- settlement in India. The British ties a Government which they did Government, by taking up a not want. No doubt Mr. Churchill weak and vacillating attitude, could and his henchmen do not want the only confirm obstructive elements most of which Party members. Government to take up this atti- in this wrong impression. It should tude. Hence the persistence with realise that its best chance of which they importuned Mr. Alex- serving Britain as well as India ander to say that a Constituent As- is to tell the Muslim League sembly from which the League and other minorities that they stood out would have no validity. If should not try to shirk the res-

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER settled by a reversion to the policy which Britain pursued with disastrous results under Mr. Churchill's guidance. He was emphatic that a way should be found by which Britain could hand over power and the Constituent Assembly offered the only way. The League, he suggested, would be putting itself in the wrong by non-co-operating in the task of Constitution-making but would not be able to prevent it. "I repeat," said Mr. Alexander, "the dency and Mysore:
North-East Monsoon is strengthening along the Coromandel Coast where showers have occurred at a few stations. Madras reporting 1.0" Weather has been dry else-where in the region. Night temperatures where above normal.

The strengthening of Development of the Muslim League abstained from going there, how can you prewere above normal. scheme for elections for the Convent a duly elected Assembly from going on to do its business?"

Even the assumption, altogether Even the assumption, altogether Court. Subsequently other ideas gained unwarranted though it is, that the ground, but now again the earlier view Muslim League by simply refusing has reasserted itself and it is believed to take part in the Constituent As- that the Federal Court will be shortly to take part in the Constituent Assembly could bring ConstitutionState Paper with regard to grouping making to a dead stop did not content the Tories. Mr. R. A. Butler wanted the Government to say that diately after Pandit Nehru's resolution similar non-co-operation by other minorities—and he obviously had the Scheduled Castes in mindwould have the same result. To this Mr. Alexander replied,

"I think we have provided the broad heads of what we thought would make a good constitution if agreed to by a Constituent Assembly pro-perly elected. Apart from that we are going on with the policy of the Indian people making the constitu-tion for India. I do not think it would be right to take the line suggested (by Mr. Butler) except to make it perfectly clear that we re gard adequate protection for minori ties as essential and that position will have to be taken into account when we come to our final recom-

In other words, except for making sure, when the time for formally Castes, the British Government Budget session fixed for that date agrees it would not be warranted in prohably

that were accepted, the only two ponsibility which is properly

the continuance of British rule- part in the Assembly, to come to a which would be vastly to their lik- friendly understanding with the

ing-or Pakistan. But Mr. Alexan- majority. If they do this they may

der would not give them any com- be sure they will not find the latter

fort. He made it pretty plain that in a grudging or uncompromising

the Indian problem could not be mood.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

READJUSTMENT IN CONGRESS PLANS

REFERENCE TO FEDERAL COURT POSSIBLE YET

NEW DELHI, Dec. 14. Some readjustment of Congress plans is understood to have been made as a result of a review of the first week's work of the Constituent Assembly and an examination of its programme for the week that lies ahead before the

plenary session adjourns either on De-Immediately after the British Cabinet's interpretation of December 6 was issued, influential Congress circles instinctively reacted in favour of referring the question of grouping to the Federal The necessary motion in this respect may be made in the Constituent As-

on Declaration of Objectives is disposed Opinion in favour of such a course became strong before Mr. Jinnah's state-ment in London was known to Congress leaders and the rank and file. The League leader's strong opposition is unlike ly to induce any change in the Congress

sembly some time next week imme

plan. Nor is Congress opinion de-terred by the possibility that the Fede-ral Court may decline to give a ruling Besides the motion on this subject, and consideration of the Procedure Com mittee's report, the Constituent Assem bly will probably have before it nex veck a resolution for the appointmen of a Negotiating Committee correspond ing to the States Negotiating Commit

Pandit Nehru's resolution is now as sured of speedy disposal after the deci sion not to move the amendments table by Congress members and some of the Congress nominees. It is likely, however Jayakar will press his substitute resolution, but it appears to have little chance of acceptance.

be postponed by ten days. The Constituent Assembly in its second

It is also regarded as likely that All-India Congress Committee will summoned to meet during the third w of January to consider the situation which is expected to crystallife by then, particularly with reference to the Muslim League attitude.

MR. PURUSHOTTAM DAS TANDON'S APPEAL

NEW DELHI, Dec. 13. In the Constituent Assembly to-day seconding Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's resolution defining the objectives which the future Constitution of India should Purushottam Das said:

rurushottam Das said:

"To-day's session of the Constituent Assembly is a historical occasion. Such a meeting has been convened after much stringgle and sacrifice on our part. It brings to our mind the assemblies held in ancient times in India under Asoka when the pandits met to discuss important affairs of the country. This Constituent Assembly will be assembled. Asoka when the pandits met to discuss important affairs of the country. This Constituent Assembly will be remembered

wedded till now and which go to make a nation."

Mr. Tandon had hoped that with the coming of the Labour Party into power, the British Government would reverse its previous policy of divide and rule, but he was disappointed to see that some of the recent statements aimed only at creating a breach among the people of India.

Dr. Hajendra Prasad President said that forty smendments had been received and that the time for the amendments was now passed. He then adjourned the House till 3 p.m. on Monday.

CONGRESS PARTY NOT TO MOVE AMENDMENTS

NEW DELHI, Det. 14. At a meeting of the members of the Congress bloc in the Constituent Assembly to-day, it is understood, it was decided not to move any amendments to the resolution on the declaration of to move any amendments objectives which was moved by Pandit

Jawaharlel Nehru yesterday.

Some 40 amendments had been tabled, most of which were that by Congress

possible alternatives would be either theirs but should strive, by taking

FREE INDIA'S ROLE BURMESE LEADER'S HOPES

"WILL BE A SOURCE OF STRENGTH TO ASIA"

CALCUTTA, Dec. 14. "I am confident that under the Vice-Presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru, India will get her Independence very soon said U Saw, former Premier of Burna and at present a member of the Burma Government, in an interview to the As-sociated Press of India in Calcutta to-

day.
U Saw, who has arrived in Calcutta from Rangoon for eye treatment, said: "An Independent India as a United Nation will be a source of strength to Asia strategically, politically and economically. The people of Burma earnestly wish to see India a free country before long." Once India was free, the Burmese leader went on, she would undoubtedly be able to solve her internal problems And once India had solved her problem she would undoubtedly be one of the great Powers of the world. "We, the people of Burma, are looking forward to see not only our own country free, but also a Free and United India, so that the two together with China can protect

The outlook of the Burmese people, U and their attitude towards foreign countries, particularly towards India and China, was very friendly. India and Burma had been fighting for their free-dom for a long time. "I firmly believe that the time is not far off for both countries to achieve their object. We are on the eve of of attaining our goal," U Saw

U Saw expressed regret that he unable to see Pandit Jawaharlai Nehru when the latter was on his way to Malaya a few months ago. He said he wished to meet Pandit Nehru in Calcutta, but as he was at present in the hands of his doctors, he did not know whether he

would be able to do so.

U Saw enquired how far Mahatma
Gandhi's Srirampur camp was from Calcutta and said: "Oh, how I would like the the said: "Oh, how I would have to fly there to pay my respects to Mahat-ma Gandhi."

PANDIT NEHRU TO CONSULT GANDHIJI

MEETING IN COMILLA ON TUESDAY

SRIRAMPUR (Noakhali), Dec. 13. Mahatma Gandhi will proceed to Co-milla, headquarters of Tipperah District, on December 17 to meet Fandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

It is learnt that Pandit Nehru will arrive in Comilla the same day specially to discuss important matters with Gan-

A special messenger came here from Comilla bringing a message from Pandit Nehru from Delhi. It is learnt that Mr. iehru enquired if it would be possible for Gandhiji and himself to meet at Comilla on the 17th for an hour's consul-tation. Gandhiji agreed and the messener left immediately for Comilla.—A.P.I.
Our Calcutta correspondent wires

from Ramganj under date Dec. 14:
What attitude should the Congress
adopt towards the sectional meetings
of the Constituent Assembly in view of the fresh interpretation put on the Cabinet Mission's proposals by the British Government will be considered at the forthcoming meeting between 'Gandhiji and Pandit Nehru at Comilla. Gandhiji will leave Srirampur on the 16th morning and is expected to stay at Comilla

for two or three days.

The Secretary of State's speech in the Lords was read out to Gandhiji, who listened closely but refrained from com-

CONGRESS PARLIAMENTARY SUB-COMMITTEE

NEW DELHI, Dec. 14.
The Congress Working Committee
held a two-hour session this morning.
A new Parliamentary Sub-Committee was appointed with the following mem-bene: Acharya J. B. Kripalani, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Mr. Shankar Rao Deo (who will be the Secretary of the Sub-Com-

mittee). The Working Committee is again meeting at 6-30 p.m. to-day at the residence of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.—

TRADE COMMISSIONER IN AUSTRALIA

NEW DELHI, Dec. 13. Mr. A. D. Azhar of the Commonwealth Relations Department has been appoint ed Trade Commissioner to Australia in the place of Mr. R. R. Saxena.—U.P.I.

Gandhi that Assam would refuse to fol low any verdict of the Federal Court on the issue. Maulana Tavabulla had also sough

Mahatma Gandhi's help at "this hour of Assam's peril."

ASSAM AND BENGAL MEMBERS MEET

NEW DELHI, Dec. 13. A meeting of non-Muslim members of the Constituent Assembly from Assam and Bengal was held this evening at the Constitution House, when the attitude of Assam to the Grouping plan was discussd but no decision was taken as Mr Sarat Chandra Bose could not attend the meeting owing to illness.—U.P.I.

"CONSTITUTION CLUB" OPENED

OPENED

NEW DELHI, Dec. 14.

Pandit Jawaharlai Nehru opened this svening "The Constitution Club" meant mainly for the use of the members of the Constitutent Assembly and others.

Pandit Nehru said that the Club would be managed by the Indian Council of World Affairs and that a House Committee had been appointed to frame rules and regulations of the Club, The membership of the Club would be open also to the members of the Central Legislature, and the Indian Council of World Affairs was arranging classes for the teaching of foreign languages such as Russian, Japanese and Chinese. The Club would also provide a meeting place for the members of the Constituent Assembly and the representatives of foreign Governments who are in Delhi or who may visit India in the near future.—A.P.I.

FREEDOM OF WORSHIP FOR CHRISTIANS URGED

Some 40 amendments had been tabled, most of which were that by Congress Party members.

Dr. M. R. Jayakar, who has tabled a substitute resolution asking for post-ponement of the consideration of the resolution, was not present at to-day's meeting and no decision was taken about his motion.

ASSAM'S CALL TO GANDHIJI

GAUHATI, Dec. 14.

"I am watching," says Mahatma Gandhi in a telegram from Srirampur, in reply to one sent by Maulana A. Tayabulla, President of the Assam Provincial Congress Committee.

In his telegram, Maulana Tayabulla had reiterated Assam's protest against the Grouping clause in the Cabinet Mission's plan and had intimated Mahatma

CHRISTIANS URGED

MADRAS Dec. 14.

A resolution on fundamental rights of Christians, drawn up and passed by the Vepery-Egmore group of the Catholic University Students' Union has been addressed to the Interim Government and to the Premier of madras. The rights claimed fall under three heads: freedom of worship family rights and community rights. The resolution states that members of the community should not be prevented from building churches where there are a sufficient number of Christians and that they should be allowed to run their own schools and be helped from public funds. It says that the binding nature of the marriage contract must be recognised, that adequate representation should not be given to the community in the Legislatures and Services that backward class concession should not be denied to a child on the score of belonging the community should be done without the approval of the majority of the community's representatives.

MUSLIM LEAGUES **POLICY**

MR. JINNAH EXPLAINS

CRITICISM OF CABINET MISSION'S WORK

LONDON, Dec. 13 Mr. M. A. Jinnah addressed his fol-

lowers in Great Britain in London to-night in the same crowded Kingsway Hall that was the scene a week ago of Pandit Jawaharlal Nchru's triumphal

Pandit Jawaharial Nchru's triumphal reception.

Plpes of the great organ in the Hall were bannered with silken-flagged slogans—green crescent flags of the Muslim League. The main slogan was "the Muslim League. The main slogan was "the Muslim League. Azam Jinnah and Mr. Llaqat Ali Khan," Over the balcony was draped another slogan "Sixty million untouchables of India are a blot on the civilised world. The Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy betrayed them and the Muslims to appease the Fascist Congress". This was a slogan from the Coventry branch of the League.

**Leaguers from all over Britain crowded the hall—the headquarters of London's Methodist Church—to hear their leader. Outside the hall, stamping their feet to keep out the cold of a foggy December nigh, were squads of uniformed and plain-clothed police. British Press photographers filled the front row of the hall. As. Mr. Jinnah entered the hall shouts of "Pakistan Zinda-bad" were

bad," and "Quald e-Azam Zindabad" were

entered the hall shouts of "Pakistan Zindabad" and "Quaid.e.Azam Zindabad" were raised.

The meeting opened with a recitation from the Koran by Ali Basha of the East London Mosque, Mr. Ali M. Khan, President of the Mustim League of Great Britain, presided.

Behind Mr. Jinnah sat branch Presidents and officials of the League in Britain. Nearly all wore western clothes but a few were turbaned or wore Jinnah caps. Sitting with Mr. Jinnah were Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan. Secretary of the Musiim League, and Mr. M.A.H. Ispahani Mr. Jinnah speke s'owly and haltingly at first. His opening sentences were difficult to hear as the microphone was not working properly.

Mr. Jinnah said: "I am glad that I have been given this opportunity of glving you facts about India. It is a long story. It seems, during the few days we have been here now I notice from your Press that the British people were asleep during the last seven or eight months while the Labour Government was handling the problem of India New I see there is a change."

Mr. Jinnah reviewed the work of the Cabinet Mission and repeated the charge that the Congress had not in fact accented the long-term scheme. They accented it on their own terms with reservations and with their own interpretation of one of the most fundamental and basic points—known as the Grouping clause. "To our disappointment, the Cabinet Mission took an attitude which, to say the least, was most amazing. What did they do? They accepted what I would have characterised as non-acceptable and they passed out to the world and actually mis'ed the British Pariiament that the Congress had accepted the long-term scheme."

BETRAYAL OF MUSLIM LEAGUE

Turning to the negotiations over the composition of the Interim Government and the Congress' rejection of the Viceroy's proposals of June 16 Mr. Jinnah said: They (the Congress) rejected it on June 5. On the same day we accepted it. Then there was another amazing fact. I have not yet been able to understand exactly what there was another amazing fact. I have not yet been able to understand exactly what was the influence which made the Cabinet Delegation not only scrap it on grounds which in my judgment—and I think it is the judgment of many impartial men—was nothing hut a perversion of the true meaning of the construction of Para 8. They said: Now we shall begin afresh. Then we complained that this was most unjust and unfair. We added. In that case postpone the long-term plan. The Cabinet Mission said. 'No' the preparations had gone too far ahead and they must proceed. That was an interpretation revolting and repugnant to commonsense. On that construction the Congress had accepted the long-term and rejected the short-term repugnant to commonsense. On that construction the Congress had accepted the long-term and rejected the short-term plan. Their attitude was 'We must scrap the thing and begin afrech.' It was a betraval of the Muslim League and the Mussalmans—befrayel number one. Then what did we find? It was postponed for a month. Preparations for the Constituent Assembly, however were to go ahead. Naturally, we profested We issued sclements. I do not know whether they reached you here or not, but we made our decision clearly. "About the end of July a proposal was sent for the Interim Government—a fresh one. I do not want to worry you about the details of it but it was a fundamentally and entirely different one. It was a land-slide as far as the Muslim League was concerned—a going down a descent and such that we were unable to accept. In the meantime we were making it clear that the Congress had not scepted the long-term scheme but ours was a voice in the wilderness. On July 13 your Parliament met and on the fifor of the House of Commons a version was given to you which was ha'f-true and misleading. It concealed the true state of affairs, but nothing happened.

ATTACK ON CONGRESS

"We had to consider this very serious position with which we were faced. We called a meeting of the Council of the All-India Muslim League and met on July 28. called a meeting of the country of the AniIndia Muslim League and met on July 29.

In the meantime pronouncements of Corgress leaders were made known and Pandit
Jawaharial Nehru's was the worst of the
lot. They said: 'We are going to the sovereign Constituent Assembly. We will decide
what we think proper.' As to the scope of
the proposed Union, it was confined only
to three matters. They were Foreign
Affairs. Defence and Communications,
but Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru made
it clear that it was for the Constituent Assembly to take any decision
they liked. We had no alternative except
to withdraw our assent that we had given
on June 6 But we said that later on we
were willing to consider a change in the
formula of the Indian Government and our
assent to the proposal embedded in the
Strianset of Julie 18 which were the final assent to the proposal embedded in the Statement of June 16, which were the final proposals of the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy. We came to the conclusion that there was no room for reason, intelligence of fairplay."

there was no room for reason, intelligence or fairplay."

Throwing wide his arms in a characteristic gesture of despair, Mr. Jinnah said: "I am sorry to say that your Delegation has throughout at every critical stage really worked under the mortal fear of incurring the displeasure of the Congress, Why?" He answered his own question by adding, "Because the Congress at every critical stage now, as then has the fundamental policy that they would resort to mass civil disobedisence at any moment they thought necessary. We have made concessions. We have given up a lot for these reasons.

"And believe me I am telling the truth. We think an amicable and peaceful settlement is far better even if we have to sacrifice something substantial for it." This statement was greeted with Idud applause. Mr. Jinnah continued: "We thought that we would make our sacrifice on the altar for achieving freedom for all of us. Let me tell you the Congress has been adamant. It has not budged an inch (cries of 'shame'). Unfortunately e for our country and our people they are going headlong on a mad career." (There was an interruption when someone shouted "Hear, hear").

THE PAKISTAN DEMAND

"They (Congress) are responsible for obstructing the freedoms of the people of India", Mr. Jinnah said: "What is it we want? What are our utmost demands? The answer is Pakistan." (There were shouts of "Zindabad" from the audience).

Mr. Jinnah went on to explain what he meant by Pakistan. "What is Pakistan?" he said, "What is so terrible about it? How is it going to harm the Hindus or prejudice them? In the north-west and north-east zones of India, which are our homeland and where we are in a majority of 70 per cent against Caste Hindus, we say we want a separate State of our own, There we can live according to our own notions of life. The differences between Hindus and Muslims are so fundamental that there is nothing that matters in life upon which we agree It is well known to any student of history that our heroes, our culture, our ing that matters in fire upon which we agree It is well known to any student of history that our heroes, our culture, our language, our music, our architecture, our jurisprudence, our social life are absolutely different and distinct. We are told that India has been one for a long time. I tell you that the so-called one India is British made. It was made by the sword it can only be held by the sword, as it has been held. Do not be misled by anyone saying that India is one and why, therefore, should in not continue to be one. Pakistan presupposes that Hindustan should also be a free State. What would the Hindus lose? Look at the map. They would have three-quarters of India. They would have the best parts They would have a population of nearly 200 000 000 Pakistan is certainly not the best part of India. We should have a population of 100,000,000 all Musims. What is the objection to these proposals of ours? We there there there is the objection to these proposals of ours? We should be free. Let me say these are big States How many States are there in

(Continued on page 9)

GROUPING PLAN BRITISH STATEMENT MUST BE ACCEPTED

JINNAH'S CONDITION FOR ENTERING ASSEMBLY

LONDON, Dec. 14. Mr. Jinnah indicated to-day that if ie Congress unequivocally accepted Congress unequivocally the British Government interpretation of the Grouping clauses in the Cabinet Mission's constitutional proposals for India, he would certainly have to call his Council, cables Fraser Wighton, Reuter's Political Correspondent.

Mr. Jinnah added that he could not,

the Muslim League, agreed with Mr. Winston Churchill's predictions that things would get worse in India "if things would get worse in India II Britain did not act boldly and frankly and answered the question whether he were once a Congressman by retoring. "Once I belonged to the preparatory school".

Cate his point of view with the present situation. "At the outset, let me say that the importance of a strong Central Government for the whole of India (including the Indian States) and the inexpediency or rather the positive harmfulness, of the greation of one positive harmfulness, of the greation of one strength of the positive harmfulness.

two-day India debate in the House of Commons this week, Mr. Jinnah re-plied: "My impression of the debate tremendous mess that already has been made and, I think, Parliament is in a better position now with regard to some of the facts than they were during all previous months.'

Asked if the League's, goal was com-plete independence, he replied: "What do you think we are fighting for? The ian-certainly."

Another questioner asked Mr. Jinnah who was accompanied at the conference by his colleague Mr. Liagat Ali Khan—to give his reaction to the paragraph in the India statement of the British Government on December 6 to the effect that it did not contemplate forc ing upon the minorities any constitu-

scheme, "It is not a justiciable issue," he said. "I tell you I will trust no court to decide on a point like this."

anticipate a decision of the Muslim Lea-gue Council.

Jinnah thanked the questioner for the second point "It is all very well to talk in this loese way on the position of the Constituent Assembly," he said,

"In the perilous position that the Muslims will be," observed Mr. Jinnah, "we don't want any outside interference in the sense that somebody should tinker with us but there must be some provision within the scheme itself which vent a brute majority taking the bit in its mouth and running away. But to treat it as a sovereign Constituent Assembly taking decision after decision and then presenting the poor Muslim minority, the British Government and the world with a fait accompli—there is the

"Does that mean that the Muslim minority wants to continue a veto on progress?" asked the questioner.

"That is often said but it is absurd," answered Mr. Jinnah. "Unless the majority of the progress of the progress of the progress of the progress."

rity of one nation can take what deci sions it likes, the moment you do not agree you are exercising your veto and you are intransigent. In that case the majority is to grind down the minority completely and the minority has no re-

Mr. Jinnah asked his audience if it had ever known anywhere in the world of a constitution that worked fully without being framed with willing assent of major elements lived in the land. "Even the machinery will not work unless it has the goodwill. co-operation and honest desire of the

people."
When people said that the Muslims were When people said that the Muslims were placing a veto on the advance of the majority, he asked: "What majority do you mean? If you mean the Hindus", said Mr. Jinnah. "we wish them Godspeed. Go ahead—establish your Hindustan, frame your constitution for the Hindus. Leave us alone and we shall frame a constitution for Pakistan".

SEPARATE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY

Asked if he were advocating a separate Constituent Assembly for Paleistan, Mr. Jinnah said that he had always done so.

Mr. Jinnah opened his press conference by a long statement which covered much of the ground contained in his speech at the Kingsway Hall meeting last night and observed that the Muslim League time and again had been let down in the course of negotiations with the Cabinet Mission and the British Government, Referring to the Congress and the Muslim League participation in the present provisional government, he said that the Congress had made its intentions clear—that whatever the constitution they were going to act as a Cabinet with joint and collective responsibility and a responsibility only to the Legislature where they have an overwhelming majority and to no outside authority "When we say we cannot allow that" declared Mr. Jinnah, "we are criticised as the King's party and agents of British Imperialism".

Mr. Jinnah added that while the question of the framing of the future constitution steps the said the Interim Governtion of the framing of the future constitu-tion was still unsettled, the Interim Govern-ment "would go sheed with measures which will torped complete'y our demend for Pa-kistan and separation". Mr. Jinnah made a point that the Government statement of De. cember 6, suggested that if the Indian poli-tical parties intended to refer the chief

PANDIT NEHRU'S RESOLUTION

DISCUSSION NOW

PREMATURE

SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR URGES POSTPONEMENT

NEW DELHI, Dec. 14.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar in a statement issued to-day says:
"Feeling as I do that the resolution which has been sponsored in the Consti-tuent Assembly by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and which is now under discussion is premature and is likely to retard inof course, say whether his Council specimature and is likely to retard interest of facilitating that process of would decide to enter the Constituent Assembly at Delhi.

Mr. Jinnah, whose main pronouncements were contained in answer to questions at a Press Conference here to cay, reaffirmed Pakistan as the state of of events that are shaping themselves, not primarily as the administrator of an Indian State, but as one who is freeing himself from that position so as to advo-cate his point of view with regard to the

> positive harmfulness, of the greation of one or more. Pakistans are undentable, it cannot be doubted that India is entitled to choose any form of Government that she prefers and also that the Indian States should join the Government of future India as willing partners, their peoples having a vital and formative share in the governance of the States. At the same time, it is felt by many that the system of monarchy, under proper safeguards, is not foreign to the genius of the people and is worth preserving where it exists and not foreign to the genius of the people and s worth preserving where it exists and s able to function satisfactorily wherens and t Jawaharlal Nehru has asserted that may present concern, nowever, is not to enter into any controversy on such a fond. My desite is to point out the irreparable and grave consequences that would flow from the determination to go forward with the discussion of and voting upon the proposal now on the table before the Indian States have an opportunity to that their States have an opportunity to state their case in the Constituent Assembly.

NEED FOR CONSULTING STATES

effect that it did not contemplate forcing upon the minorities any constitution in the framing of which they were unrepresented.

Replying, Mr. Jinnah said: "Suppose the Federal Court decides against the interpretation of His Majesty's Government, what will His Majesty's Government, has made it abrolutely clear, even if there had been any previous doubts on this subject, that during the transfer has made in the forest the British Government could not, and would not, in any circumstances, transfer Paramounite to the Muslim League could never accept it."

REFERENCE TO FEDERAL COURT

A questioner suggested that there was a feeling in London that the Muslim League was not prepared to submit the principal question separating the parties to the Federal Court, Mr. Jinnah replied, "If you ask me why we always have been averse to being a party to reference to the Federal Court on this court is been any previous doubts on this subject, that during the transfer downling and the states and the forest Government? In that case the Muslim League was not prepared to submit the principal question separating the parties to the Federal Court on this may not be subject. The constituent Assembly to the prevent and obligations that are now comprised in whet is termed Paramounitely will rever to the States, in the Constituent Assembly. The constituent Assembly and the Negotiating Committee would settle outstanding matters with the representatives of British India. The proposition now re-asserted by States, in their Drevent set lumb and obligations that are now comprised in whet is termed Paramounitely will rever to the States in the Constituent Assembly. The constituent Assembly to the Constituent Assembly to the Interim Government. The Constituent Assembly to the Interim Covernment of the Interim Gov

scheme. "It is not a justiciable issue," he said. "I tell you I will trust no court to decide on a point like this."

One Pressman put a dual question. If the Congress accepted the proposals laid down by the British Government, he asked, would the Muslim League be willing to take part in the Constituent Assembly and in that case would it be willing to agree with the Congress that the Assembly was a sovereign and autonomous body not subject to outside interference?

Mr. Jinnah answered the first part by saying that if the Congress unequivocally accepted His Majesty's Government's interpretation of December 6, certainly he would have to call his Council. He indicated that he could not anticipate a decision of the Muslim League be the formation of the objectives of the Constituent Assembly they have a right to be consulted especially accepted His Majesty's Government's interpretation of December 6, certainly he would have to call his Council. He indicated that he could not anticipate a decision of the Muslim League be with the constituent assembly the consulted capacitally accepted his Majesty's Government's interpretation of December 6, certainly he would have to call his Council. He indicated that he could not anticipate a decision of the Muslim League be with the findicated that he could not anticipate a decision of the Muslim League be with finding the Council. He indicated that he could not anticipate a decision of the Muslim League be with finding the Council to hinder the co-operation of the Indian States in constitution-making if the Muslim League be with said segment it sending to hinder the co-operation of the Constituent Assembly if the Muslim League be with said segment it have to be reckoned with as an important part in the Constituent Assembly in the formulation of the Nuture body politic. In the formulation of the

REPRESENTATION FOR STATES

Mr. Jinnah thanked the questioner for the second point "It is all very well to talk in this loese way on the position of the Constituent Assembly," he said, going on to tell his audience that the Congress with 292 supporters—there might be a few less—in the Assembly, certainly had a "brute majority."

"Whereas the Muslim number is 79," Mr. Jinnah said adding: "That is what people understand when they talk of democracy. As between the Hindus and the Muslims there is no such thing as democracy. It is a majority of one nation that can overrule the unanimous decision of any other nation because they are 79 and the Congress are 292."
"In the course of his speech Pandit Jawa-harla Nehru has stated that 'it is possible that the word Republic may displease rulers of Indian States, but I want to make it clear that personally I do not believe in the monarchical system anywhere. This language is hardly that of conciliation or negotiation nor will it conduce to harmonlous pourpaiers to take it as beyond controversy that a system of Government based on a removable executive or modelled on the system of Responsible Government in the Entitle word Responsible Government based on a removable executive or modelled on the system of Responsible one. There seems to be no particular benefit to be derived by a reference to monarchical figureheads at the stage of preliminary negotiation that the problem of the scheme. The further assumption has been made that in the Constituent Assembly its only the representatives of the peoples of the scheme. the scheme. The further assumption has been made that in the Constituent Assembly it is only the representatives of the peoples of the States and not the rulers or their representatives that have a right to take part. The argument is that Brirish India will talk with the Princes in matters appertaining to them but the representatives of the States, who would join the Constituent Assembly must be the representatives of the ocople. I wonder if it has been forgotten that only a very few of the States have at present any appropriate legislative or remesentative machinery at their discosal. Some of the larger States have already stated that representatives of the people of the States chosen from the existing legislative bodies would form part of the delegations of the respective States; but as a matter of practical politics the Constituent Assembly must realise that under present conditions the States cannot but be represented in some cases at least by the rulers or their duly accredited advisers.

"The procedure contemplated in the Cabinet Mission's proposal postulated a free and full discussion of all natters of difference and did not and could not have foreseen that one party should be able to lay down the law for another. To say, as Pandit Jawa-

and did not and could not have foreseen that one party should be able to lay down the law for another. To say, as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru explains, that his resolution lays down certain fundamentals, which are not confroversial, is to beg the question. Further to say that if anybody challenges this statement the challenge will be accepted is to provoke a conflict when there need be none.

none.
"There is a great deal of force; in the argu-"There is a great deat of force; in the argument that if India is to be an independent and sovereign State it cannot but partake of the nature of a Republic. But so to argue is one thing It is quite another to insist on a series of propositions which are by no means, beyond controversy and then proceed to say that these propositions are self-evident and that if they are challenged the challenge will be put aside. This is not to make the way smooth for the discussions contemplated by the proposals of the Cabinet Mission which the Congress, as the dominant political party in the country had avowedly accepted in toto until the issue of the latest statement of the British Cabinet.
"In view of such considerations, is it too

met. "In view of such considerations, is it too much to ask that the Constituent Assembly will stay its hands and not pass any resolution on this vital matter until after the discussions with the Indian States have taken place?"—A.P.I.

RUSSIANS CELEBRATE TAGORE DAY

LONDON, Dec 14.

A large commemoration meeting to honour the late Rabindranath Tagere was held in Leningrad recently, the Russian Embassy publication, Soviet News, reported yesterday.—A.P.A.

points at issue to the Federal Court "It will then be reasonable that meetings of the Sections-of the Constituent Assembly should be postponed until decisions of the Federal Court are known".

Mr. Jinnah said that he did not know

Mr. Jinnah said that he did not know whether the Congress would consider it reasonable to postpone the meeting of the Sections of the Constituent Assembly until the decision of the Federal Court was known. "So we are now hung up", he observed.—Reuter.