

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

	SUN	MOON
Tuesday 26	5 57 18 24	14 38 1 17
Wednesday 27	5 58 18 23	15 28 2 7
Thursday 28	5 58 18 23	16 15 2 27
Friday 29	5 58 18 22	17 1 3 50
Saturday 30	5 58 18 21	17 44 4 41
Sunday 31	5 58 18 21	18 24 5 31

PHASES OF THE MOON

Wednesday August 27 Apogee 21 30

WEATHER IN SOUTH INDIA

MADRAS, Aug. 25. The following is the daily weather report for Madras Presidency and Mysore for Monday, August 25:

The Bay depression crossed the coast near Chandelai in the early hours of this morning and lay at 06-00 hours near Sambalpur. Rain has fallen at many stations in the region outside Tamil Nad, where a few showers have occurred. The chief amounts are: Mangalore 2.4", Kurnool 1.5" and Cuddalore 1.2".

Forecast valid until the evening of August 26: Fairly wide-spread rain will occur in North Kerala, South Kanara, Rayachoti, Coorg and Mysore. Showers will occur at a number of stations in South Kerala, and at some stations in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nad.

Local forecast: Occasional showers. Weather news for farmers: Light rain in Trichy and Kistna. Wet spell for two to three days in Mysore, Kadur, Hassan and Shimoga. Occasional strong winds in Trichy. Clear, timely rain in Trivandrum. Outlook for next three days: Decrease of rain generally in the region outside the West Coast in the first two days. Increase of rain in South Kerala in the second half of the period.



TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1947.

The Frontier

HYDERABAD

NAWAB FAZL NAWAZ JUNG BAHADUR's address to the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly as its new President contains propositions which are out of tune with the realities of the situation in His Exalted Highness's Dominions. Few will take exception to his insistence on the need to find a solution to the huge economic issues which face the Government. The standard of living of the common man in Hyderabad, which the President desires should be improved, is deplorably low; large masses of people stand condemned to a state of semi-barbarous existence. His Exalted Highness's Government in recent years have directed their attention to the economic improvement of the State with results which, from a certain point of view, have been gratifying. The wealth of the Dominions has greatly increased as reflected by the revenues. But it would be incorrect to claim that this has in any satisfactory measure percolated to the masses.

Nawab Fazl Nawaz Jung Bahadur declares that "Hyderabad having attained political sovereignty, the political problem has been settled." How far this is from facts it must be obvious to any careful observer of the course of events in the Dominions in recent months. The new President's statement that "if they were as successful in tackling the economic issues as they had been in solving the political problem, the future of Hyderabad would be more glorious than in the past" must sound odd to most people outside the State and, without doubt, to the majority of the citizens of Hyderabad. For, the fact is inescapable that the "reforms" on which the Legislative Assembly is based cannot be justified or even understood on the basis of any known political system of to-day. It may be recalled that Sir Mirza Ismail was hard put to it to defend the measure. Indeed, his address justifying it, some felt, was more perfunctory and none too hearty. "To people accustomed to think in a particular way and to look to the stereotyped pattern of democracy," he said, "it may appear disappointing, even meaningless. But to those who are accustomed to make a realistic approach to things, the scheme is full of significance." The then Prime Minister indeed justified it on the ground that the people got what they deserved. "The Legislative Assembly Act," he observed, "is as large a measure as the social and educational conditions in the Dominions at the moment are ready to permit." It was based, in his view, on "the hard realities of life in these Dominions." "When the equilibrium of our national life is restored," he concluded, "it will be time enough to reconsider the constitutional machinery."

Nawab Fazl Nawaz Jung Bahadur is not prepared to concede even as much. He holds that a constitution based on the so-called Hindu-Muslim parity, which means that political power should be evenly divided between the two communities irrespective of the fact that one community constitutes an absurdly small minority compared with the other, is the one which the acme of political wisdom, here or elsewhere, can devise. Out of the 76 elected members, no less than 39 are Muslims returned by constituencies which are based on "interests." Is it any wonder that the majority

parties have resolutely refused to acquiesce in it? These reforms are opposed to the wishes even of the sovereign. "The identity of interests between the Ruler and the ruled," ran a passage in His Exalted Highness's message to the first session of the new Assembly, "and the responsiveness of the ruling power to the popular will are of the essence of good government. These have been my guiding principles throughout the 35 years during which I have guided the destinies of the State." The people of Hyderabad demand nothing more than that these principles, publicly laid down by the sovereign on a great occasion, may be put into practice by the Government and not treated as though they were meant for consumption outside the State. They demand that "the equilibrium of national life" should be tilted so as to do justice to the majority, the masses, and to give effect to the Ruler's "guiding principles." It is to be hoped that in the critical days through which the Dominions are passing, His Exalted Highness's advisers will, instead of resorting to repression and suppression of public opinion and unjustified coercion of the people, pay some little regard to the Ruler's great and "guiding principles."

REFERRING to our editorial comments on August 13 on the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the N.W. Frontier Province a Muslim correspondent points out that "top-ranking leaders have accepted the recent solution of the political deadlock and are bound by its conditions". Newspapers, the correspondent adds, have to play their part and concludes with the expression of a hope that "THE HINDU will revise its policy towards Frontier politics". We must confess that we are unable to see in what direction we are expected to "revise" our policy in this matter. If the correspondent implies that, now that the Province has become part of Pakistan, its affairs should cease to be of interest to newspapers in the Indian Union we cannot agree to the proposition. The welfare and prosperity of every part of the country is a matter of interest to every Indian, be he a citizen of the Indian Union or of Pakistan; the orderly progress of the Frontier Province is of particular concern to all of us, if only because of the former's strategic importance to the defence of the sub-continent. While, therefore, we should not wish to say anything which would make the task of the friendly Pakistan Government difficult we would be failing in our duty if we did not point out the defects in policies which might be expected to produce undesirable consequences. For instance, a fairly long period of peace and rapid economic reconstruction in the Frontier Province are an urgent necessity. Always a poor and undeveloped Province, its treasury had been depleted by the prohibitive price which had to be paid for maintaining law and order in the face of a determined campaign of so-called civil disobedience. And just when the Khan Sahib Ministry was making plans for reconstruction side by side with the introduction of rigid economies in the top-heavy administrative machine, it has been "dismissed" and replaced by one formed by the leader of the minority party. The constitutional propriety of this move is open to doubt. And if, as is reported, the Governor took this unprecedented step under instructions from the Central Government of Pakistan, the more is the pity; it does not augur well for the development of the young State on sound constitutional principles and conventions. It is certainly not calculated to reassure the federalising units that their internal autonomy would be free from gratuitous interference from the Centre. But, quite apart from the constitutional aspect—which some might regard as merely technical—one cannot but deplore the step from a purely political point of view. It fails to take account of the facts of the situation. It is true that the new Premier, Khan Abdul Qayum Khan has defined the policy of his Government as being "the greatest good of the greatest number," but is this to be achieved by simply brushing aside the Khan Brothers—as though they did not represent a large and influential section (to put it at its lowest) of the Pathans? The Premier himself admits that he has no majority in the Legislature, which alone would entitle anybody to form the Ministry. He explains it away, however, by questioning the representative character of the Assembly, though he conveniently forgets that all the recent major decisions on the constitutional changes (including those which have placed him where he is to-day) have been taken in other Provincial Legislatures of the same vintage. A general election would no doubt put everything to the test, but there may be something

to be said for not holding one at this juncture; the peace that is so urgent a need might be jeopardised by an election campaign in which feelings are likely to run high. But that is no reason why an attempt should not be made to secure the co-operation of the Khan Brothers and the Red Shirts in a joint effort to put the Province on its feet so that it could keep in step with the rest of the country in the march of progress. If ever a province needed the work of all men of goodwill it is the Frontier Province to-day. The Khan Brothers have given plenty of evidence of their love of that Province and its people. One may be sure they will not let personal prestige stand in the way of fruitful and honourable co-operation with anybody in furtherance of the interests not only of the Frontier Province but also of India as a whole.

BOUNDARY AWARD FOR BENGAL

SUB-COMMITTEE TO STUDY ISSUES

MOVE FOR MODIFICATION BY AGREEMENT

NEW DELHI, Aug. 24. The United Press learns that a Sub-Committee appointed by the Indian Dominion Cabinet to examine the issues arising out of the Radcliffe Award and the boundaries of East and West Bengal consists of Pandit Nehru, Sardar Patel, Sardar Baldev Singh, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. Shyamaprasad Mookherjee and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

This Sub-Committee will meet on August 26 and 28. After the Sub-Committee comes to some definite conclusion, it is understood that an attempt will be made to bring together the accredited representatives of the two Dominions of India and Pakistan with a view to exchanging views on the possibility of changing the Radcliffe Award on a mutually agreed basis.

W. BENGAL DEPUTATION AT DELHI

Representatives of the New Bengal Association including its President, Dr. S. K. Ganguli, and Messrs. S. N. Bhattacharya and Bijoyratna Majumdar have arrived here to wait in a deputation on the Ministers of the Indian Dominion Government, with a view to securing a revision of the Radcliffe Award in so far as it relates particularly to the Chittagong Hill Tracts and the Khulna district and also large contiguous non-Muslim majority tracts such as the sub-division of Gopalganj and the north-western Bakarganj.

These representatives interviewed today Sardar Patel, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. Ambedkar and Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee.—U.P.I.

RECONSTITUTION OF W. BENGAL URGED

CALCUTTA, Aug. 25. Presiding over a public meeting last evening in Howrah, Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose demanded the formation of provinces on a linguistic basis, release of remaining political prisoners, temporary suspension of Government officials who had been responsible for a reign of terror in the country pending enquiry and action in regard to them, and the recall of Mr. C. Rajagopalachari from the Governorship of West Bengal.

Referring to the first demand, Mr. Bose said that due to the partition of Bengal, only one-third of it was now in the West Bengal province. The districts of Singhbhum, Manbhum, Santal Parganas, Purulia and portions of Bhagalpur should be included in West Bengal on the ground of linguistic affinity.

PAN-AMERICAN DEFENCE

U. S.—ARGENTINE DIFFERENCES

PETROPOLIS (Brazil), Aug. 25. A major difference of opinion between the Argentine and the United States was brought into the open at last night's session of the Pan-American Defence Conference which is now meeting here. The spokesman for the Argentine delegation, Senor Ascar Larrosa, in the most strongly-worded speech yet heard from the Argentine delegates explained that they could not ask the Argentine Congress to ratify the treaty which the conference is discussing, if a clear distinction was not made in it between aggression which broke out on the American continent itself and an attack by an outside Power.

Senor Larrosa insisted that aggression committed by one American nation on another must be handled differently from an outside aggression.

He attacked the United States position which would treat all aggression as subject to immediate collective intervention by American States.

The Argentine, he said, wanted intervention only after a Conference of all American Foreign Ministers, and an acknowledgment of the right of each country to organise individually defence against other American countries.

He protested against a Conference communique issued last night implying Argentine agreement with the American view.

WEST BENGAL CABINET

CALCUTTA, Aug. 25. Following the return of the West Bengal Premier Minister, Dr. P. C. Ghosh from Delhi to-day, after consultations with the Congress High Command, there is speculation in political circles as to possible changes in the West Bengal Cabinet.

A reshuffling of the Cabinet is regarded as likely shortly. It is stated that three of the present Ministers may resign and that new Ministers will be appointed, making the strength of the Ministry nine.

It is learnt that the scales of salaries for the members of the West Bengal Ministry will be as follows: The Chief Minister to draw Rs. 1,000 plus Rs. 250 as house allowance and Rs. 250 as car allowance. The other Ministers to draw Rs. 750 as salary plus Rs. 250 as car allowance.

MRS. ASAF ALI LEAVES FOR U. K.

NEW DELHI, Aug. 25. Mrs. Asaf Ali left for the United Kingdom to-day where she will meet Mr. Asaf Ali, India's Ambassador in the United States, who is coming to London en route to India.

Mrs. Asaf Ali is expected here on August 30 and will stay for two weeks.

It is understood Mr. Asaf Ali has been summoned for consultations.—A.P.I.

SITUATION IN THE PUNJAB

DEFENCE COUNCIL'S DECISIONS

MEASURES TO DEAL WITH REFUGEES

WORK OF BOUNDARY FORCE

NEW DELHI, Aug. 25. The Joint Defence Council met to-day at Government House under the Chairmanship of Lord Mountbatten and considered the Punjab situation.

Pandit Nehru and Sardar Baldev Singh, who had just returned from a visit to the Punjab, were present as the representatives of the Government of India. Mr. Chundrigar and Mr. Zahid Hussain were present as the representatives of the Government of Pakistan. Field-Marshal Auchinleck and Major-General Rees (Commander of the Punjab Boundary Force) were also present.

According to a Press communique, Pandit Nehru and Sardar Baldev Singh gave accounts of their visits to the Punjab. Major-General Rees explained the position from the military point of view. It was agreed that, whereas the situation has improved recently in the cities of Lahore and Amritsar, it remains bad in other districts.

It was made clear that the Punjab Boundary Force is in no way responsible for any aspects of civil administration (in connection with which certain criticisms have from time to time been directed against it). On the other hand, note was taken of the fact that the Punjab Boundary Force has continually given all assistance in its power to the Civil Governments in these matters—for example, in the provision of communications between East and West Punjab.

It was agreed that the area covered by the Punjab Boundary Force should be reduced as rapidly as practicable by the successive retrocession of areas in which it is no longer considered essential to have a joint force. This will be done in accordance with the procedure explained in the communique issued as a result of the meeting of Prime Ministers held at Ambala on August 17.

It was agreed that the refugee problem has reached vast proportions. Pandit Nehru and Mr. Chundrigar explained the measures which the Governments of East and West Punjab are taking included arrangements for the protection and feeding of refugees of all communities in camps in their areas. Further measures to deal with this problem were decided on at the meeting. It was also agreed that persons who have been the property of refugees will not be recognised by either Government, who will continue to recognise the rightful owners.

It was decided that arrangements should be made for representatives of both Dominions and Provincial Governments to visit both East and West Punjab. When a representative of one side visits the other side, he will when possible be accompanied by a representative of the latter.

SIR C. TRIVEDI VISITS AMRITSAR

AMRITSAR, Aug. 25. Sir Chandulal Trivedi, Governor, Dr. Gopichand Bhargava, Premier, and Sardar Swaran Singh, Home Minister of the East Punjab, arrived here this afternoon by plane.

The Governor addressed a meeting of magistrates and police officials and flew back to Jullundur in the evening. The Premier and Home Minister stayed back. They will be touring the border districts of Gurdaspur and Ferozepore.

MR. JINNAH MAY VISIT PUNJAB

KARACHI, Aug. 25. Qaid-e-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah is likely to visit the Punjab shortly, it is reliably learnt.

Premier Liaqat Ali Khan, who is in constant communication with the Indian Union Government, about the situation in the Punjab, will also visit Lahore in a day or two.

SIR F. MUDIE'S VISIT

LAHORE, Aug. 25. The Governor of the Punjab, Sir Francis Mudie, paid a one-day visit to Montgomery on August 23, to study at first-hand the situation prevailing there.

While murder is on the decrease in the City and District of Lahore, the authorities are confronted with another serious crime widespread looting in broad daylight.

Mr. Zaffarul Ehsan, Deputy Commissioner of Lahore, told the Associated Press of India that, short of shooting them down, the police give no quarter to looters. The police had arrested a large number of these offenders.

MR. GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN'S REVIEW

Mr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan, giving his impressions of the situation in East and West Punjab, said: "When I started from Karachi I was aware that the communal situation in the Eastern Punjab was serious. On reaching Lahore, I find that it is very grave. Very numbers of refugees have already reached here and new victims are pouring in, bringing with them shocking tales of organised looting, arson and slaughter. I regret I have to say that the solemn promises so recently made by one community have been deliberately broken and lawlessness has been allowed to go unchecked. As a direct consequence of this, stray reprisals in the Western Punjab are reported from one or two places, a feeling of resentment in the West is rising fast and unless the situation in the East is immediately brought under control, the administrative machinery of Western Punjab, which has been put to the utmost strain, may find it impossible to repel the surging wrath of their people. There is a very serious danger that the administrative control of the community soon become ineffective as it has been for the last one week in the East. I, therefore, appeal to all people to be peaceful and to help us in restoring order and security in the Punjab."

BOMBS RECOVERED FROM RY. COMPARTMENT

SAHARANPUR, Aug. 25. Five live bombs and five live cartridges were recovered by the police from a compartment of Dehra Dun Express at Saharanpur railway station. The police arrested two youngmen of Jullundur, who were travelling in another compartment of the train.

MR. MANGALDAS PAKWASA

BOMBAY, Aug. 25. The Governor of the Central Provinces, Mr. Mangaldas Pakwasa, arrived in Bombay this afternoon by air on a private visit. He was accompanied at the aerodrome by Captain Methuen, A.D.C. to the Governor of Bombay.—A.P.I.

MR. BALDEV SINGH'S NARROW ESCAPE

FIRED UPON BY MISTAKE

INCIDENT IN EAST PUNJAB

AMRITSAR, Aug. 25. Sardar Baldev Singh, Minister for Defence, who was touring the disturbed areas of Amritsar District along the Indian border yesterday, accompanied by Brigadiers Thorat and Thimayya and a military escort, had a narrow escape from death, when East Punjab additional police opened fire on the party mistaking them for communal raiders.

The members of the party saved themselves by falling flat on the ground. The incident occurred near Pulkajari village, twenty miles from Amritsar.

Sardar Baldev Singh returned to Delhi to-day.—A.P.I.

NEW CONSTITUTION FOR BURMA

SIR B. N. RAU STUDYING DRAFT

RANGOON, Aug. 25. Sir B. N. Rau, Constitutional Adviser to the Government of India who is at present in Rangoon at the invitation of the Burmese Government, was understood to-day to be going through Burma's draft constitution before it is set forth in a Bill to be presented to the Constituent Assembly on September 15.

Sir B. N. Rau to-day paid homage to the remains of the late U. Aung San and his fellow-Ministers who were assassinated.

Sir B. N. Rau was expected to stay in Rangoon about a fortnight.

LORD LISTOWEL TO VISIT BURMA

LONDON, Aug. 25. Lord Listowel, Secretary for Burma, will leave for Rangoon on Wednesday on the invitation of the Government of Burma.

Lord Listowel will leave Poole (Dorset) on Wednesday, and will be accompanied by Mr. R. M. J. Harris, his Private Secretary, and Sir Gilbert Lathwaite, Deputy Under-Secretary of the Burma Office.

On his way, Lord Listowel is expected to stay a few hours at Karachi on Saturday evening and an hour at Calcutta on Sunday afternoon for refuelling. He is due in Rangoon later on Sunday.

Lord Listowel is replacing Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, who had to decline an invitation to Burma because of the British economic crisis.—Reuter.

PAKISTAN'S FOOD COMMITMENTS

MR. GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN'S WARNING

LAHORE, Aug. 25. Mr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan, Food Member of the Pakistan Government, in an interview to the Associated Press of India said: "The yield of the next crop is likely to be much below the normal. Besides, procurement is likely to be seriously handicapped by the prevailing panic, uncertain transport and want of coal. If the present situation does not improve, I fear that Pakistan may find it difficult to fulfil its commitments to export any foodgrains in future."

RICE TO EAST BENGAL

KARACHI, Aug. 25. The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Health, Government of Pakistan, have allotted 7,000 tons of rice to East Bengal from Sind. Loading of the steamer, which will leave Karachi harbour by the end of this month, is in full swing. This is a special allotment which has been arranged to relieve the distress caused by floods at Chittagong.

A ship-load, consisting of about 7,000 tons of wheat, has already been sent from Karachi to East Bengal a week ago.—A.P.I.

COALITION MINISTRIES IN PROVINCES

MOVE FOR CONGRESS-LEAGUE AGREEMENT

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

KARACHI, Aug. 24. The appeal recently made by the Sind Governor and his Premier to the minorities in Sind to join their Cabinet is being pursued further, a high Government source revealed to-day. India's High Commissioner, Mr. Sri Prakasa, during his week's stay in Karachi, stated publicly that if a coalition were issued to the Congress for joining the Ministry, Congressmen should not lose such an opportunity. The Leader of the Congress Party in the Pakistan Constituent Assembly, Mr. Kiran Shankar Roy, had also expressed similar opinion.

High Muslim League circles taking advantage of such trend of opinion amongst Congressmen are stated to be seeking to use the good offices of these two Congressmen in order informally to contact the Congress High Command so as to come to an understanding with regard to a Congress-League coalition, everywhere. The small Ministries now functioning in all Pakistan Provinces is the first concrete evidence of the League's anxiety to give minorities suitable representation in the administration, declared this source.

PANDIT NEHRU RETURNS TO DELHI

NEW DELHI, Aug. 25. The Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, returned to-day to Delhi after his brief visit to the disturbed areas of East Punjab. Shortly after his return, he attended a meeting of the Joint Defence Council.

PASSENGER TRAINS CANCELLED

KARACHI, Aug. 25. A Press Note issued by the Divisional Superintendent, North-Western Railway, Karachi, to-day said that due to coal shortage, some passenger trains would be cancelled for a few days to-night 25/26th night.—A.P.I.

DR. S. P. MOOKHERJEE

NEW DELHI, Aug. 24. Dr. Shyamaprasad Mookherjee, Member for Industries and Supplies in the Indian Dominion Cabinet, will leave for Calcutta on 29th by plane. This will be his first official visit to Calcutta after assumption of office. He will stay in Calcutta for three or four days.—U.P.I.

AMBASSADOR FOR NEPAL

NEW DELHI, Aug. 25. Sardar Surjit Singh Majithia has been appointed as Ambassador for India in Nepal, according to a Press communique. The Ambassadorial design was held at the aerodrome by Captain Methuen, A.D.C. to the Governor of Kathmandu to take up his post.—A.P.I.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO SPEED UP WORK

SESSION MAY COME TO AN END BY AUGUST 31

SYMPATHY FOR RIOT VICTIMS EXPRESSED

Urging the Members to speed up the work of the Constituent Assembly, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the President, hoped the work of the session would conclude by the end of the month.

The Assembly observed a one-minute silence, all members standing, to mark its sympathy with the sufferers in the riots. Thereafter it resumed discussion on the report of the Union Powers Committee.

PROGRAMME OF SESSION

NEW DELHI, Aug. 25. Announcing the programme for the current session of the Constituent Assembly, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President, to-day expressed the hope that the work of the session would conclude by August 31 at the latest. He proposed that, if necessary the House should also sit in the afternoon and on Saturday and Sunday next and hold a night session.

The President said: "We should try to complete the consideration of the report of the Union Powers Committee as soon as possible. The progress we have so far made has been very slow. I propose to set apart to-day and to-morrow for the consideration of the Union Powers Committee's report and take up from Wednesday the reports of the Advisory Committee relating to Minorities and Fundamental Rights. These two will occupy us on Wednesday and Thursday and I propose to reserve Friday next for consideration of the report of the Committee which we appointed the other day to suggest to us what steps should be taken with regard to the constitution-making and legislative functions of this House."

"I hope we shall be able to end the work of this session by August 31 at the latest. If necessary, I propose that we should sit also in the afternoon and on Saturday and Sunday next and hold a night session. We have so many other things to do that it is not possible to prolong discussion beyond the end of this month."

"I am proposing to interrupt the consideration of the Union Powers list by interposing the reports of the Advisory Committee because the drafting will depend very much upon the instruction which this Assembly gives with regard to those subjects covered by the reports of the Advisory Committee, but so far as the list itself is concerned, much drafting is not required. Whether the Assembly accepts a few subjects or turns them down, it would be easy enough to incorporate that in the draft when it ultimately comes before us. Therefore, I am anxious that that part of the work of this Assembly should be finished, which is essential for drafting purposes as soon as possible. For that purpose, a drafting committee will also have to be appointed which shall be done on the last day of the session."

MEMBERS OBSERVE ONE MINUTE'S SILENCE

NEW DELHI, Aug. 25. The Constituent Assembly to-day observed one-minute silence, all members standing, to mark its sympathy for the sufferers in the riots that were still stalking certain parts of the country.

Before the House proceeded to take up the business on the agenda, Mr. Alghur Shastri referred to the riots in the Western Punjab and said: "The House should adjourn for fifteen minutes as a mark of protest at the continuance of disturbances and sympathy for the sufferers."

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, instead, suggested that the members should stand up in silence in their seats to express their deep sympathy with the sufferers. There could be no difference of opinion that the heart of every patriot in the country was sick of these happenings. The Government was doing everything in its power to put an end to these happenings. The Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had, in fact, gone to East Punjab and had not yet returned.

The President was cheered when he announced that the late Sir Prabhashankar Pattani had bequeathed a portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, drawn by a distinguished artist of England, Mr. Birla, and it had been presented to the House by his son, who was a member of the House. "Members will surely appreciate the gift and would like to have the portrait put up in a suitable place in the Assembly Hall. For that purpose we may require a little time one of these days." Provisionally he suggested that it could be done on Friday next in the afternoon.

GIFT OF GANDHIJI'S PORTRAIT

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FEDERAL LIST OF SUBJECTS

DEBATE ON UNION POWERS COMMITTEE REPORT

Resuming discussion on the Union Powers Committee report, the Constituent Assembly to-day voted in favour of retaining a number of items on the Federal List without debate. These included Foreign Affairs, Diplomatic and Trade Representation, Atomic Energy, etc.

The House held over the provision vesting in the Centre powers for the administration of canionments, after Mr. N. Gopalaswami Iyengar had pointed out that this clause required further scrutiny.

Mr. R. K. Sidhwa drew attention to the very great disparity in the treatment which military personnel living in the cantonments and the civil population living beside them got from the administration. The latter, he pointed out, were not entitled to any of the civic amenities which the former enjoyed.

There was a brief debate on the clause relating to arms, fire-arms, ammunition and explosives. Mr. Naziruddin Ahmed moved an amendment seeking deletion of the item and said this should be included in the provincial list. The amendment was negatived and the original provision retained after Mr. Gopalaswami Iyengar had said that it was very necessary for the Centre to have these powers. Even the acceding Indian States had agreed to this, he pointed out.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

The item in the list referring to participation in international conferences, associations and other bodies led to an debate in which a number of re-

presentatives from the States took part. The clause also empowers the Central Government to implement the decisions of these conferences.

Sir V. T. Krishnamachari and Mr. Naziruddin Ahmed moved two amendments—more or less similar in character—with a view to making the consent of the units of the Federation a prerequisite for the implementing of such decisions.

Sir V. T. Krishnamachari said his proposal was not a decision relating to provincial subjects were taken, the consent of the provinces concerned should be obtained before they were implemented.

Mr. K. M. Munshi opposed the amendment and said that unless Indian representatives who went to international conferences had the assurance that the decisions arrived at would be implemented, they would be in an unenviable position. They could not at the end of the conference get up and say: "Very well, we shall go back and ask our units whether they would implement the decision." If, of the units, disagreed, the decisions would not be implemented. India's representatives abroad would, if this position was accepted, command no respect.

Pandit Hridaynath Kunzru, Mr. B. L. Mitter, and