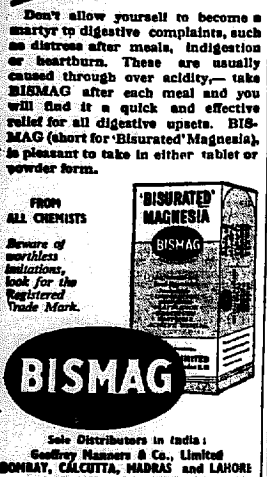




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**PETTAH MEETING INCIDENTS**  
Dewan Criticised

TRIVANDRUM, July 14: Mr. Petta Thambi Pillai, President of the Travancore State Congress, in a statement made at the meeting of the Congress meeting held yesterday evening at Petta, said: "That Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar is prepared to go any length to suppress a public opinion against his decision to let Travancore out of the Constituent Assembly and the Indian Union as to continue autonomy as long as possible was demonstrated on July 13."

Mr. Pillai says that the meeting was peaceful and was attended by more than 5,000 people and was "wanton" and without the least provocation or justification the police fired a brutal "lathi" charge and followed it up by using tear-gas and indiscriminate shooting."

"The audience," he added, "dispersed in panic. While they were dispersing, the police opened fire and the firing continued for a considerable time. The police had blocked roads on all sides and the terror-stricken people could only escape through a narrow lane. Many received bullet wounds."

Mr. Pillai alleged that the attack on the people was "previously planned, deliberate and wanton."—A.S.

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# Expediting Work On India's New Constitution

## FULL ASSEMBLY SESSION OPENS IN DELHI

NEW DELHI, July 14. The Constituent Assembly, meeting for the fourth and probably the last time before it converts itself into the Dominion Parliament of the Union of India, today adopted the further report of the Order of Business Committee, presented by Mr. K. M. Munshi, with the amendment moved by Mr. K. Santhanam.

The report reiterates the Committee's previous recommendation that the Assembly complete its work by the end of October and proposes that the Assembly authorise the President to summon a session some time in October preferably in the early part of the month, for the purpose of considering the draft of the constitution.

The report also suggests that the Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and the administration of Tribal and Excluded Areas complete their work in August and that recommendations made by them be incorporated by the draftsmen in his Bill notwithstanding any decisions which will by then have been taken on them by the Assembly.

Any changes which are subsequently considered necessary could be incorporated in the draft Bill by suitable amendments.

The effect of Mr. Santhanam's amendment would be that the general principles to be adopted in drafting the constitution in relation to minorities would be approved by the House before they are incorporated in the draft.

The Constituent Assembly began its session at 10 a.m. today in an atmosphere of cordiality and good cheer. Muslim League members attended in full strength, besides representatives from the Indian States.

Members started arriving half an hour before the session began, and Congress, League and States representatives fraternised with one another.

Haji Ishaq Seth, from Madras, was the first to be called upon to sign the register. Before he proceeded to the table, Mr. Desha-bandhu Gupta raised a point of order to whether Mr. Ishaq Seth still subscribed to the two-nation theory, and if so, whether he could take his seat. It was only fair, said Mr. Gupta, that in view of the fact that partition had taken place, any member who subscribed to the two-nation theory should not be permitted to sign the register.

**OBJECTION OVERRULED**

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the President, held that there was no point of order raised and that any member who subscribed to the two-nation theory could take his seat, and could not be prevented from doing so.

The Muslim League members were cheered as they signed the register.

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was greeted with loud cheers as Mr. T. T. K. Iyengar, the Secretary, called upon him to sign the register. Dr. Ambedkar had been elected to the House from Bengal, but after the partition he ceased to be a member and was re-elected to the Assembly from Bombay.

The total strength of the Assembly today was 235 members, the new members—80 in number—were trooping in, one after another, signing the register and shaking hands with the President.

**STATES REPRESENTATIVES**

These included 37 representatives from the Indian States, including Mysore, Gwalior, Kota, Alwar, Patiala, Cochin, Behar, Sikkim, Tripura, the Manipur and Khasi States, Rampur and Benares, the Rajputana States, the Western India and Gujarat States, the Deccan States, the Eastern States, Baroda and the Residuary States. Baroda sent a new representative to take the place of the member who was burnt to death in a railway accident while on his way to attend the last session of the Assembly. Udaipur and Jaipur each sent an additional representative to the Assembly to fill up their quotas.

Out of the 28 Muslim League members from the Indian Union area, 23 took their seats today.

Among the new members who signed the register today were those newly elected from West Bengal and the East Punjab as the result of the acceptance of the June 3 plan.

Prominent among the Muslim League members were Chaudhry Khalique-uz-Zaman, leader of the Muslim League group in the Constituent Assembly, Begum Aizaz Rasul, deputy leader (the only Muslim woman in the Assembly), Mr. Ismail Chundrigar and Mr. Mohammad Ismail Khan.

Prominent among the States representatives were Sir A. B. Mudgal from Mysore, Mr. M. S. Aney from the Deccan States, and the Prime Minister of Gwalior, Mr. M. A. Srinivasan.

Sardar Baldev Singh, Defence Member in the Interim Government, also took his seat.

**MUSLIM LEAGUERS' CO-OPERATION**  
Mr. Munshi's Plea

Referring to the presence in the House for the first time of representatives of the Muslim League, Mr. Munshi said he had no doubt that they had come there as loyal and co-operative citizens and that they would fully co-operate in the speedy drawing up of the constitution of the Union, in which they would get an honoured place as a minority.

Mr. Munshi also appealed for the co-operation of the princes and referred to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's recent statement in the Constituent Assembly, stressing the need for speed in framing the constitution. Mr. Munshi said that things were moving so fast that they could not go on at the pace at which they had intended to go before. By August 15, they would be free to discuss the Dominion. They wanted to terminate that stage as early as possible and have a constitution of their own which would give them the necessary strength. They must not forget the fact that the Dominion constitution had no place for States. As for the defects in the constitution that might creep in on account of the high pressure at which they were working there was no occasion for amending the constitution much more easily in the first three years and that would meet the wishes of the House so far as necessary amendments were concerned.

Mr. K. Santhanam, moving his amendment, said "If they are first incorporated in the draft constitution, we shall find ourselves very greatly handicapped in changing them."

Mr. Nazir-ud-Din Ahmad (Muslim League) referred to Mr. Munshi's remarks on the participation of Muslim League members in the work of the House and said, "I should have thought that there would be no doubt that we have come here as loyal and law-abiding citizens of India. We have come here to take part in the deliberations and help frame the constitution as quickly as we can."

He submitted that some time should be given to enable them to study the previous debates and their relevant papers.

Mr. Dhulekar supporting the amendment, said that the House should have a revision of some of its previous resolutions.

Haji Ishaq Seth, supporting the amendment, said that copies of the reports should be made available to members as early as possible to enable them to study them.

Mr. Anantayyanam Iyengar disagreed with Mr. Munshi's remarks and said that an advocate of "Akhbar Hindustan" could now support the division of India. He did not like all that had happened but he reconciled himself to the position.

Maulvi Aziz Ahmad disagreed with Mr. Munshi's remarks and supported the amendment.

The minority rights should be discussed by the House before it was incorporated in the constitution, he said. Mr. S. H. Prater, Mr. Jaijai Singh, Mr. Mohd Sarfar and Mr. B. P. P. supported the amendment.

Fauzdar Nether Intervening in the debate, pointed out that there was no need for any debate because the House was considering a time table for the next few months and if it was not possible to adhere to the schedule it could be altered. He pointed out the fact that Mr. Munshi should have referred to subjects

**HOUSING PLANS FOR PAKISTAN**

**Mr. Jinnah's Future Residence**

From Our Staff Correspondent

KARACHI, July 14: The Governor-General of Pakistan will take up his residence at Government House in Karachi and the Governor of Sindh will move to Old Government House, it is learnt from official quarters today. The Governor Sir Francis Mudie, who is now holidaying at Zinat, will be back here on July 25 and there will be a number of things to make the necessary adjustments before August 15.

There was a prolonged conference this morning at the Premier's chamber between the Sindh Minister and those in charge of housing arrangements in Karachi. The proposed requisitioning of a dozen palatial buildings at present occupied by the heads of some big commercial firms—European, Parsi and Hindu. These are required to be handed over to the Government of Sindh for use as Pakistan Federal Ministers who, according to local League circles, would number between eight and ten. Fifty other houses are being requisitioned to house the families of foreign ambassadors and key officials of the Central Government. Faced with the unenviable and embarrassing task of creating within three months a capital of the new State, where nearly 2,000 souls will have to live in the next 30 days or so, Mr. N. A. Faruqi, Chairman of the Housing Commission, Collector of Karachi, is the busiest man here today. Some of his actions have obviously been taken in haste. The Sindh Minister, who is required to reside in a private citizens' house, but territorial and limited houses readily available in Karachi are being explored to meet the situation. The alleged overcrowding on municipal land in the city has made the city rather untenable, but fortunately so far there has been calm.

It is proposed to pitch about 7,000 tents supplied by the military and the house the clerical staff of the Pakistan Secretariat.

Sindh Government servants will have a holiday on July 25, when their offices are shifted to Napier Barracks.

**SOLIDARITY AMONG ANGLO-INDIANS**  
Mr. Leadon's Call

NEW DELHI, July 14: "I feel that too much emphasis has been laid on politics by Anglo-Indian leaders," said Mr. B. Leadon, President of the Anglo-Indian Association, at a meeting of the Anglo-Indian Progressive Group at the Constitution Club, New Delhi. Other members of the committee, Mr. Frank Anthony, Mr. E. H. Prater, M.L.A., Bombay, and Mr. Patel, M.L.A., Bengal, were present.

"Some of our leaders," continued Mr. Leadon, "I regret to say, have been so engrossed in the game of politics that the 'community' internal problems have been neglected."

Mr. Leadon emphasised that the way to achieve unity and solidarity in the Anglo-Indian community was to bring about an all-India federation of all existing Anglo-Indian organisations. The fact that the All-India Association after an existence of a quarter of a century, could at the most include within its membership less than 5 per cent of the total community, was a cause of deep concern to him. He fervently appealed to the Anglo-Indian Association to come into the fold of the community and contribute, with their influence and strength, to the unity of the whole community.

Mr. Leadon concluded: "Over-emphasis on politics by a small community like ours is not only imprudent, but encourages political adventurers and job-hunters to exploit it. It will be the duty of the Progressive Group to educate our people to be loyal, law-abiding and responsible citizens of the country, and not to engage in a race politically ambitious self-seekers."

Mr. Leadon was unanimously elected President of the Anglo-Indian Progressive Group.—A.P.I.

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