

INDIA'S CONSTITUTION SIGNED FINAL SESSION OF ASSEMBLY FIRST PRESIDENT CONGRATULATED

From Our Special Representative

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24.—India's Constituent Assembly, which first met over three years ago to frame the new Constitution, ceased to function in that capacity this afternoon. On Jan. 26, the House automatically becomes the provisional Parliament of the Indian Republic.

A LONG ceremony of signing the Constitution, which occupied nearly two hours, highlighted the proceedings.

Loud and continued cheering followed the announcement of the uncontested election of Dr Rajendra Prasad as the first President of the Indian Republic.

The Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, walking up to the microphone, welcomed Dr Prasad as the head of the Republic and as "our leader," and pledged his "loyalty and fealty" to the Republic.

Document Weighs Over 40 Lbs

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24.—India's Constitution, which was signed today by Constituent Assembly members, weighs over 40 lbs. Printed in English on vellum parchment, the document contains 289 pages for the articles and schedules, and is expected to be indelible for over 100 years.

MALAN "LEADING S. AFRICA ON TO ROCKS"

Smuts's Censure Motion

LONDON, Jan. 24.—In Capetown today, a motion of no-confidence in Dr Malan's Government was introduced in the South African Parliament by General Smuts, says the BBC.

The Opposition leader said the Government failed last year to carry out its policy of racial segregation and could not do so this year. Dr Malan: "You will have more of it this year."

General Smuts said that Government members had admitted that they could not go on with the Bill to remove Africans from the voters' roll owing to differences among themselves.

The Government's economic policy had led to a loss of confidence in South Africa overseas and caused rising prices at home. The Government was leading the country on to the rocks.

20 E.B.R. TRAINS CANCELLED

DACCAL, Jan. 24.—The Traffic Manager of the EBR notified today that as a result of the stoppage of coal supplies by India, it had been necessary to cancel immediately about 20 trains, including the North Bengal Express, Dacca Passenger and Goulundo-Sealdah Passenger.

Steamer companies have also announced curtailment of several services with effect from Jan. 23 "in view of the reduction of through passenger services and in order to conserve coal."—PTI.

Other Pakistan news on page 8.)

UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

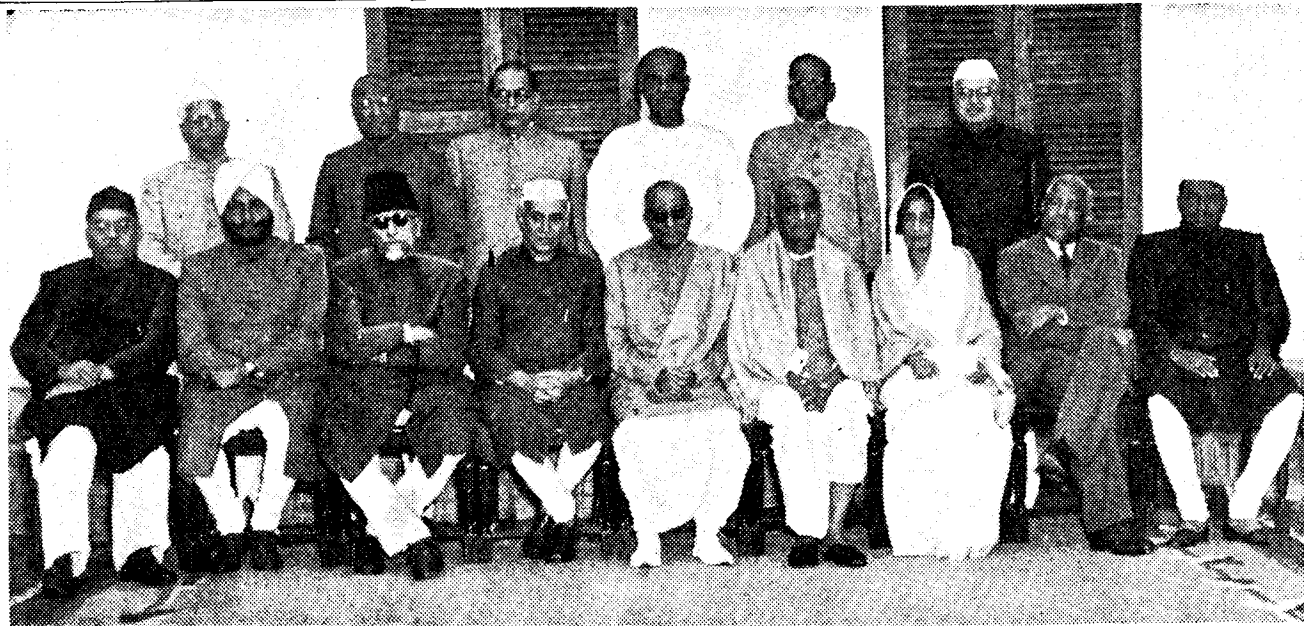
NEW DELHI, Jan. 23.—From Jan. 26 the Federal Public Service Commission will be known as the Union Public Service Commission as provided in the Constitution, says a Press Note from the Commission.—PTI.

RESUMPTION OF BERLIN AIRLIFT HINTED AT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—A resumption of the Berlin airlift is always "in the back of our minds," Mr. John McCloy, U.S. High Commissioner, told reporters here last night.

Mr. McCloy, who is visiting Washington, referred to Russian tactics to obstruct road traffic between Berlin and the Western zone was "arm-twisting procedure." He said: "I do not know what is in the Russians' mind. It is an enigma."—PTI-Reuters.

FAREWELL PARTY TO C.R.



This group photograph of Mr. Rajagopalachari with Government of India Ministers was taken at a farewell party held in his honour on Jan. 22. From left to right sitting: Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai (Communications); Sardar Baldev Singh (Defence); Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Education); Pandit Nehru (Prime Minister); H. E. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari (Deputy Prime Minister); Rajkumar Amrit Kaur (Health); Dr. John Mathai (Finance); Mr. Jagjivan Ram (Labour); Standing: Mr. N. V. Gadgil (Works, Mines and Power); Mr. K. C. Neogy (Commerce); Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Law); Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Industry and Supply); Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar (Railway and Transport) and Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram (Food and Agriculture).

BANQUET IN HONOUR OF C.R. BY NEHRU

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24.—The Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, gave a banquet tonight in honour of the Governor-General, Mr. Rajagopalachari, who will lay down his office in another two days.

The guests included members of the Diplomatic Corps, Cabinet Ministers and high officials of the Government of India.

After the banquet the Prime Minister held a reception at Government House. The guests included the President of the United States of India, Dr. Soekarno, and his wife, chief of the foreign missions in Delhi, the Congress President, Dr. Sitaramaya, and members of Parliament.

CONSERVATIVE ELECTION MANIFESTO

Full Employment To Be First Aim

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The British Conservative (Opposition) Party today made its supreme bid to recapture control of Britain's destinies with an election manifesto naming full employment as "No. 1 priority" if the party wins a five years' term of power.

The 22-page manifesto, called "This is the Road," pinpointed also as chief aims slashed taxes, an end to nationalization, homes for all, a fair field for enterprise, and tightening of Britain's bonds with the Commonwealth, the USA and Europe.

The manifesto proposed to sweep away many Socialist industrial councils and to ease the tax burden by "axing" Government expenditure.

Calling for an Imperial Conference to consider the problem of strengthening Empire resources to close the dollar gap, the manifesto held that such a conference would try to reach a permanent settlement of the debts owed by Commonwealth nations to one another, and especially the war-time debts incurred by Britain "for defending India and Egypt."

Empire and Commonwealth governments should consider the need for a common advisory defence council and combined staffs to work together for standardization of equipment and training.

The idea of a permanent Empire and Commonwealth civil liaison staff was put forward in addition.

Conservatives, the manifesto declared, sought to work "in fraternal association with America to help, by all means, all countries in Europe, Asia or elsewhere" to resist the aggression of Communism by open attack or secret penetration.

Pledging "active support" to all measures for Empire and Commonwealth welfare, they said: "We will do all in our power to develop new relations in the Commonwealth with India, Pakistan and Ceylon."

Conservatives also stood for closer European unity.—PTI-Reuters.

REPLACEMENT OF DOLLAR IMPORTS INDO-BRITISH TALKS IN DELHI ON FRIDAY

From Our Special Representative

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24.—The possibility of meeting India's requirements of 1.3m barrels of fuel (furnace) oil with supplies from sterling areas is likely to figure prominently in the discussions at the meeting of the Indo-British Joint Consultative Committee in New Delhi on Friday.

India recently decided, at the instance of the British Government, and in line with the policy agreed to at the last London Conference of Commonwealth Finance Ministers, to stop from this month imports of fuel oil from America and other dollar areas. Her imports of such oil amounted to 1.3m barrels a year.

The meeting will also discuss the scope of replacing India's other dollar imports, such as machinery, medicines and lubricants, by supplies from sterling countries with the object of conserving, as far as possible, dollar resources of the sterling bloc.

The Committee, which meets twice a year to review among other things, the working of the Indo-British Sterling Agreement, will not concern itself, at its Delhi meeting, with the financial aspects of the agreement as these are stated to have been considered by the economic wing of the Commonwealth Conference at Colombo.

At these consultative discussions, Britain will be represented by Mr. M. Fleet of the Treasury and Mr. G. Bowen of the Board of Trade, and India by Mr. K. G. Ambedkar, Secretary, Economic Affairs Department, and Mr. Keith Roy, Deputy Secretary, Finance Ministry, Government of India. Officers of the Commerce, Industry and Supply and Food Ministries will be present.

Sir Henry Wilson Smith, Secretary to the British Treasury, broke his home-ward journey from Colombo in Delhi on Friday when he discussed with India's Finance Minister, Dr. Mathai, and the Secretaries of the Commerce, Food and Agriculture Ministries, Indo-British trade and financial problems.

AUSTRIAN PEACE TREATY TALKS POSTPONED

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The four Foreign Ministers' Deputies drafting an Austrian peace treaty today agreed to adjourn till Feb. 15.

Mr. Samuel Reber, U.S. representative, said this should give "ample time" for completion of direct negotiations between Austria and Russia regarding Austrian payment for Russian civil supplies and services.

This morning's session was the 249th of the series.

The Russian delegate maintained that further progress was impossible until the Austrian payments were agreed to.—PTI-Reuters.

PROPOSALS ON RIGHTS OF MINORITIES

LAKE SUCCESS, Jan. 24.—A group of U.N. experts who have been studying discriminatory problems has recommended that the U.N. take steps to give added protection to minority groups.

By a vote of nine to none, the sub-commission on the prevention of discrimination suggested that the future covenant on human rights include a new article guaranteeing to minority groups the rights to enjoy their culture, practise their religion and speak their native language.

The sub-commission also recommended that the General Assembly seek means to ensure to minorities the rights to use their native language before the courts and to teach it in State-supported schools until the human rights covenant comes into force.

Both must come up for review before the subsidiary organs' parent body the Commission on Human Rights, which meets here in March.—PTI-Reuters.

AFRICAN RAILWAY CRASH

DAR-ES-SALAAM, Jan. 24.—Eleven people were killed and many injured when a train left the line and crashed down a steep incline here today. All the dead were Africans.—PTI-Reuters.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES

Sixteen persons suspected to be suffering from cholera were taken to hospital from different parts of Calcutta yesterday against 15 on Monday.

Twelve smallpox cases were admitted to hospital yesterday against 11 the day before.

[See also Page 3]

Airborne Units Retake Bandoeng Westerling's Army Withdraws

BANDOENG, Jan. 24.—Commando units of the Indonesian Army, flown from Djakarta and Sourabaya, re-occupied Bandoeng early today, Westerling's troops having withdrawn, says PTI-Reuters. They took over the command posts abandoned by the Indonesians who fled when Westerling's forces seized the city yesterday.

DUTCH troops had controlled the city between Westerling's arrival last night and the arrival of the airborne units this morning. Westerling's army is believed to be in the mountains north-west of Bandoeng.

A Dutch Army spokesman said about 50 Dutch commandos and paratroopers who had deserted to Westerling had returned to duty and had been flown to Djakarta for disciplinary action.

About 100 Indonesian Army men who deserted some weeks ago also reported to the authorities of Pasundan State, of which Bandoeng is the capital.

Col. S. Matupano, Chief of Staff of the Indonesian Armed Forces, said in Djakarta today that the occupation of Bandoeng yesterday was really a mutiny by the large number of Dutch forces stationed there.

He said that the Indonesian authorities had warned the Dutch authorities of the possibility of an outbreak and that the rebels had passed Dutch positions.

An official statement by the Indonesian Government said that among Westerling's army were 300 Dutchmen who deserted recently and that, as a result of Dutch reassurances of security, the Indonesian Army had moved out of Bandoeng, leaving Dutch troops to maintain order.

Officials have arrested two Dutchmen and another eight men in a round-up of suspects.

WESTERLING'S CHALLENGE

Observers said that Westerling showed the effectiveness of his military organization, but it was difficult to see what he achieved politically. They suggested that he might have wanted to show the Government of Indonesia what they could expect from him. He might also have intended to infiltrate into Djakarta and might have made the attack to draw Indonesian Government troops out of the city.

(Continued on page 5 col 6.)

DARBHANGA'S SUIT DISMISSED

PATNA, Jan. 24.—At the Patna High Court today, Shearer and Pas, JJ., dismissed the suit of the Maharajahadhiraj of Darbhanga challenging the validity of the Bihar Abolition of Zamindaris Act. It was held that in view of the repeal of the Act, the Maharajahadhiraj of Darbhanga had no cause of action to proceed with the suit.—UPI.

W. GERMANY TO CO-OPERATE WITH ALLIES

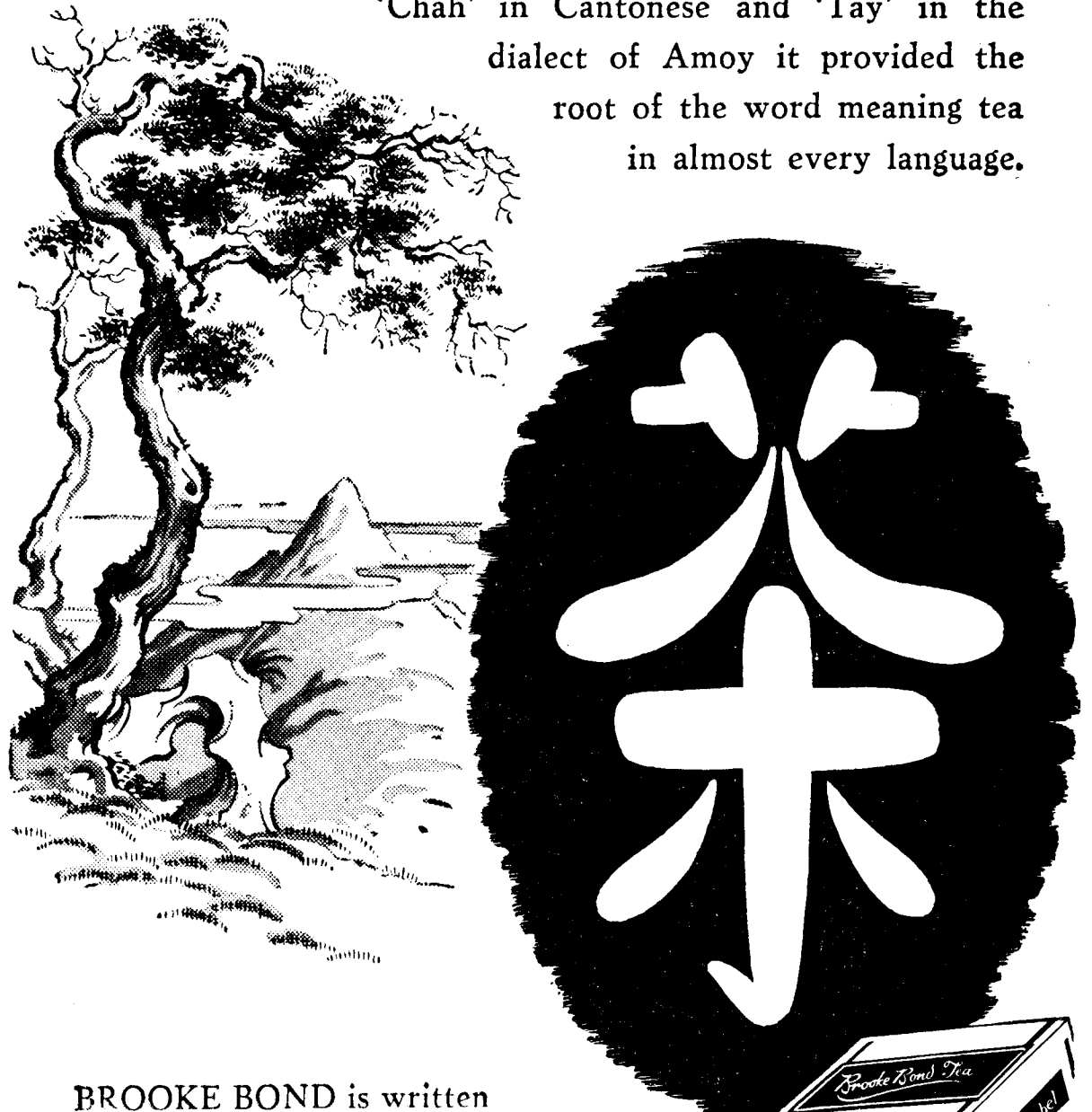
LONDON, Jan. 24.—An official statement issued in Bonn says that the Federal German Government decided today to continue its policy of co-operation with the Allies, the establishment of friendly relations with France and support for the idea of a Western European Union, says the BBC.

The decision was taken after an unofficial statement on the future of Saar territory.

The statement says that, in the interest of Franco-German defence, action will have to be taken against any dangerous tendency. The German people must learn that their own future is identical with the future of Europe.

(See also page 8.)

The word TEA, like the plant itself, came from China. Pronounced 'Chah' in Cantonese and 'Tay' in the dialect of Amoy it provided the root of the word meaning tea in almost every language.



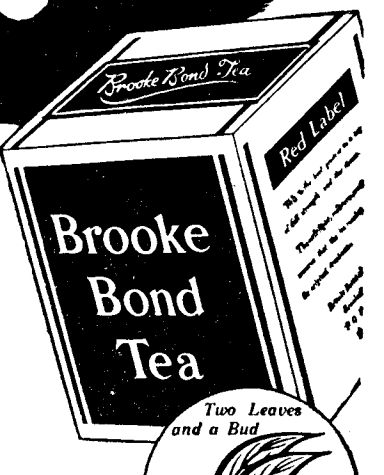
BROOKE BOND is written

بروکے بوند or بروکے بوند

and in many other scripts, but

always means unchanging quality,

fine flavour and garden freshness.



Brooke Bond Tea

