NO UNILATERAL MOVES ON PALESTINE BY U. S.

Truman–Bevin Agreement Reported

LONDON, December 11.

INFORMAL talks on Palestine between the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, and the United States Secretary of State, Mr. James F. Byrnes, have resulted in the United States agreeing to integrate the American approach to the Holy Land question with that of Great Britain, an authoritative source said today.

In practice, this would mean that America would no longer make any unilateral statements or moves on the Palestine question without first consulting Britain, the source said.

This does not mean, however, that the American Government has changed its basic policy on Palestine, the source said, but would involve only consultation with the British when new issues or developments arose.

Mr. Bevin, by assuring President Truman and Mr. Byrnes that any Jewish proposals placed before the Palestine Conference would receive the fullest consideration by Britain, secured United States' backing for the London talks.

Mr. Byrnes' announcement last week that American observers would be present if the Jews attended the talks when they are resumed in January, was one of the first results of the Bevin-Byrnes talks, the informant said. He added that the Palestine Conference was likely to resume during the third week of January.

NO NEW PROPOSALS

Mr. Bevin is bringing no new proposals for a Palestine settlement back from New York with him, the source said, adding that it was, however, likely that he would return with the knowledge that the American Government was fully behind the so-called "Goldman Plan," which urges the creation of a Jewish State in a partitioned Palestine.

Despite past United States insistence on "immediate and substantial" increases in Jewish immigration into Palestine, no immediate change in Britain's immigration policy would be effected until, at least, the conference reached some kind of agreement on the Holy Land's future, the source said.

He added that Britain, although insistent that the Morrison Plan for provincial autonomy should remain on the conference agenda, was not committed to the plan.

President Truman and Mr. Byrnes had raised no objection to its remaining on the agenda, he said.—A.P.A.

Zionist Congress Chief

BASLE, December 10: Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of the World Zionist Organisation, was today elected President of the Zionist Congress.

Zionist Revisionist (extremist) delegates voted against Dr. Weizmann, explaining that they opposed his policy of "appeasement" of Britain.

Palestine's two active Jewish terrorist organisations—Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Gang—have agreed that there shall be no violence during the meeting of the World Zionist Congress, which opened at Basle, Switzerland, today and continues till the new year, according to usually reliable sources in Tel-Aviv.—Reuter.

22 Dead In Plane Crash

TOKIO, December 11: Seventeen passengers and five members of the crew were killed, it is now known, in the U. S. Army plane crash yesterday near the Japanese port of Osaka. One civilian survived the crash and is now in a hospital.—Reuter.

LATE NEWS

NEW YORK COTTON

NEW YORK, December 11: New York cotton closing March 31.75.

INDIAN GOLD FOR GREECE

KARACHI, December 11: Two consignments of sovereigns valued at Rs. 1,70,00,000 were sent from India by air to Athens during the weekend, it is learnt here.

Another consignment of gold is likely to be despatched to the same destination.—A.P.I.

MR. ROCKEFELLER'S GIFT TO U.N.

NEW YORK, December 11: Mr. John D. Rockefeller, United States multi-millionaire, has offered a gift of 8,500,000 dollars to the United Nations to buy land in the centre of New York city for a permanent headquarters site for the organisation. The Headquarters Committee of the United Nations set up a sub-committee to consider Mr. Rockefeller's offer.—Reuter.

PLANE CRASH NEAR HAIFA

JERUSALEM, December 11: Two of the Egyptian crew and passengers were killed when a Misr Airliner (Egyptian) aircraft flying to Cairo from Baghdad crashed three miles east of Haifa last night, it was learned here today.—Reuter.

TROOPS CENSUS

NEW YORK, December 11: Britain, Russia and the United States agreed in principle to a suggestion by the United Nations President, M. Paul-Henri Spaak to link up the question of troops census with general disarmament in the disarmament drafting subcommittee today, it is learned authoritatively.

It was agreed that the present resolution on troops should be dropped.—Reuter.

PARTIES OPPOSED TO GROUPING

NEW DELHI, December 11: Representative Hindu, and Sikh members from the Punjab, Assam and N.-W. F. Province, who have strongly opposed the grouping proposals of the State Paper and have been agitated over the latest interpretation of these proposals, have set up a committee to make an intensive study of them and to discuss them as occasion offers with Congress leaders in order to decide upon the attitude they should adopt.—A. P. I.

SIGNING OF PEACE TREATIES

NEW YORK, December 11: The Council of Foreign Ministers today agreed that peace treaties with Italy, Finland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania would be signed in Pris on February 10.—Reuter.

NANKING DRIVE IN MANCHURIA

Move To Outflank Harbin Imminent

NANKING, December 11.

A new outflanking thrust by the Chinese Government forces to cut off Communist troops in Harbin, one of the last Communist-held bases in Manchuria, is believed to be imminent.

Unconfirmed press reports from Mukden today saying that Nationalists have recaptured Changling, 68 miles north-west of Changchun, were interpreted here as a "curtain raising" on such a development.

A division of Government troops was reported to be making a three-fronted movement towards Harbin.

Chinese Communist authorities were reported today to have refused to permit Mr. Edmund Clubb, United

An outflanking movement by Government troops to cut off Communist forces in Harbin is said to be imminent

States Consul-General in Harbin, to take up his post there and have requested the Danish authorities to close their Consul-General's office in Harbin.

Mr. Wang Pingnan, Communist representative, told the American Embassy in Nanking, that the reason was that Harbin was a military zone, adding that "in peacetime the answer might have been different."

Asked if the decision had been influenced by the charge which the Communists have made that the United States was helping the Government party to prosecute the civil war, Mr. Wang replied, "That is not what the answer said."—Reuter.

Defence Of Muslims In U. P.

LEAGUE EXECUTIVE'S PLANS

From Our Own Correspondent

LUCKNOW, December 10: After three days' deliberations the U. P. Muslim League Working Committee is believed to have evolved, today, a comprehensive scheme for the defence of U. P. Muslims. A new organisation to be known as Zonal Committee is to be set up. It will be directly responsible to the Working Committee of the Provincial League. The Zonal Committee will consist of about 10 members, one of whom will be in charge of the provincial headquarters, while others will be responsible for the organisation of various zones into which the province will be divided. The Zonal Committee is to chalk out its own programme for the defence of Muslims, organisation of Muslim National Guards in every city and district, co-ordination of the League's various activities and consolidation of Muslim populations in various localities. The Committee will have full powers over local League branches.

LEAGUE EXPECTS MAJORITY

Sind Assembly Elections

KARACHI, December 10: As the result of Monday's polling, Muslim League circles expect to capture 27 out of 37 seats.

It is stated that there was a neck-to-neck race between Mr. G. M. Syed and Kazi Mohammed, the League candidate.

Opposition in the new Assembly, therefore, is likely to consist of 20 Hindus and four other Muslims, including Haji Maula Baksh.

MR. NEHRU TO MEET MR. GANDHI

Flying Visit To Bengal

CALCUTTA, December 11: Inquiries made at the headquarters of the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee today indicate the possibility of Pandit Nehru paying a flying visit to Mr. Gandhi at Srirampur, in the Noakhali district, when he arrives in Calcutta next week to address the annual meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

Need To Promote Labour Welfare

SIR W. GARRETT'S PLEA & WARNING

A plea to Indian industrialists to learn from the mistakes England committed during the industrial revolution was made by Sir Wilfred Garrett, Britain's Chief Inspector of Factories during the war years, addressing the Rotary Club of Bombay on Tuesday, Rotarian President Merwanji Patel presiding.

Sir Wilfred, who is at present in India to look into the question of improving her factories, said that India's industrial population had increased in number since 1945. There was an exodus of people from the villages to the towns. "Any nation that transfers the country-bred people to towns without making adequate provision for housing and food will be taking a dreadful responsibility. We did it in England, we have slums in all the industrial centres, and we are suffering for it even now as we had suffered during the last 150 years".

CONDITIONS IN ENGLAND

He referred to the increasing importance the question of "handling people in industries" was receiving in England. The value of the man in the world of work was being realised. In the early stages of the industrial revolution, machines received much care and attention from their owners, but not the men who operated them. There was a shortage of labour in England now and they had at last learnt that man was, after all, the most beautiful "machine" that ever existed. The task of organising labour in factories was becoming easier on account of that realisation

Sir Wilfred thought that such a view had not gained ground in India. Unless humanitarian conditions were provided for workers, their efficiency would be impaired and industries would lose millions every year. "Spending money on amenities for workers is not waste of money. It is efficiency that pays" Sir Wilfred asserted.

Speaking of labour organisation in Britain, Sir Wilfred said that their work was easier now as trade unions and masters' associations "had come of age".

Rotarian Habib Rahimtoola proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Wilfred Garrett.

BIHAR EXODUS SUICIDAL

Government Warning

PATNA, December 10: The Government of Bihar in a *communique* note with regret that wild and baseless rumours are responsible for the recent movement of a number of Muslim families from Bihar to Bengal. Such thoughtless exodus of Muslims leaving their hearth and home, in some cases after disposing of their property, is bound to affect their interests very adversely.

It is, therefore, the duty of the Provincial Government to bring to the notice of the Muslims of Bihar the great inherent dangers of this sucidal policy under the influence of panicky rumours propagated by irresponsible mischief-mongers.

Not only are military and police protection provided for the present but the Government have decided to continue them as long as these may be necessary for giving a sense of security to the people concerned.

Besides this, the Government have placed funds at the disposal of district officers for financing the resettlement of affected people in their villages for repairs and rebuilding of their damaged houses and for enabling them to restart in life.

An ordinance has been passed providing for harvesting of their crops under supervision of Government agencies.

16 ARRESTED IN BOMBAY

Stabbing Incidents

"Four stabbing incidents in Parel, Dongri, Pydhoni and Dadar respectively were reported today," says a mid-night 'communique' issued by the Director of Publicity, Bombay, on Wednesday. "Fifteen arrests were made in connection with the knife attacks in Dongri and Pydhoni areas. A minor case of stone-throwing in the Princess Street sector and damage by fire to part of a small factory in Kurla were also reported.

"A knife-attack in the Parel area and an acid-throwing incident in the Pydhoni area were reported since Wednesday morning," said an earlier *communique*.

"Two arrests have been made in connection with the knife-attack. Ten persons have been arrested in connection with the stone-throwing incident in Byculla on Tuesday night.

Surplus Rice From Burma & Siam

750,000 TONS EXPECTED

SINGAPORE, December 11: About 750,000 tons more of rice is expected to be available from the rice-producing countries of South-East Asia during 1947, Mr. Charles Empson, Lord Killearn's Economic Councillor, said at the monthly food conference here of South-East Asia liaison officers.

Mr. Empson said: "Though the immediate danger period for food supplies seems to be past we must not forget that so far the estimated availabilities of rice for 1947 from the exporting countries of Burma, Siam and French Indo-China are only about 1,750,000 tons compared with 6,000,000 tons before the war."

FALL IN COTTON ACREAGE

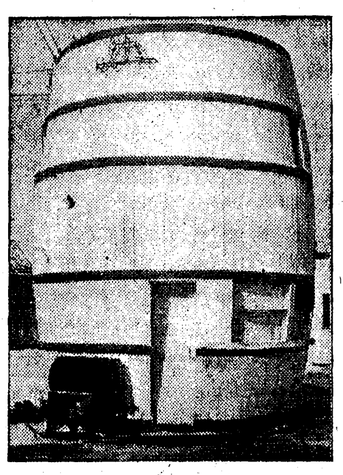
All-India Forecast

A fall of two per cent. in the cotton acreage has been officially forecast for the current year. The first all-India cotton forecast, issued on Wednesday, placed the acreage under cotton in the 1946-47 season at 9,531,000 acres.

The forecast relates generally to conditions up to the period ended July or the beginning of August. The table below shows the present estimate of the area, classified according to the recognised trade descriptions of cotton:—

Bengals 1,364,000; Americans 2,787,000; Oomras, 3,188,000 and others 2,192,000; total 9,531,000.

BARREL HOME



Unable to find a home for his family, an American located this former beverage stand near Devil's Lake, and settled in the 20-foot high barrel. A stand has been built on the first floor and a combination living room-bed room-kitchen makes up the family's home on the 14-foot-diameter second floor.

"DEBATE MAY NOT BE HELPFUL"

Lord Samuel's View

(*Continued from page* 1).

in resolving this difficulty. Consequently, the Constituent Assembly which was summoned to meet in India last Monday is holding its preliminary session without representation of the Muslim League.

"In the statement which the Government issued at the conclusion of the conversations, we have said that we have had legal advice which confirms that the statement of May 16 means what the Cabinet Mission have always said was their intention, namely that voting in sections should be by a majority vote. This is the view, which is accepted by the Muslim League and on the basis of which they originally accepted the Cabinet Mission's proposals.

"From their point of view, this is an essential element in the plan because if the agreement of all provinces within a section is required to the framing of a group constitution, it is probable that the opposition of some of the smaller provinces will prevent group constitutions being framed.

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

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

PEACEFUL TRANSFER

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

"But it must be remembered that representatives who came to London were not in a position to commit their parties and that the issues stir deep and passionate feelings. Time must be given for the parties, after full debate, to decide their attitude. It may also be that the subject will come under consideration by the Federal Court. In these circumstances, Government feel that a general debate on Indian affairs at the present time would be inopportune and might destroy the prospect of settlement.

"I am sure, I am speaking for all parties in this House in making an appeal to all communities in India to co-operate in framing a constitution which, because it is based on consent, will be welcomed by all and worked in a co-operative spirit".

Viscount Cranborne, Leader of the Opposition, said: "It is no good disguising from ourselves the extremely serious situation that has arisen and that the plan advanced for the constitutional future for India to consolidate the two main Indian communities has not succeeded.

"DELICATE SITUATION"

Lord Cranborne said that whether it was a hitch or something in the nature of a break-down was a matter of opinion on which everybody might hold his views. He thought it would be wiser for them not to make any comment today. The situation was clearly delicate and Lord Pethick-Lawrence's statement would require careful consideration

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

Viscount Samuel, on behalf of the Liberal Party, said that Lord Pethick-Lawrence's statement brought "our information up to the present date".

He added: "But I differ from Lord Cranborne as to the desirability of an early debate in this House on Indian affairs. We have considered the matter and have decided not to join in pressing the Government to allocate time for this. A debate may not be helpful."

The matter then terminated.—Reuter.

DECLARATION OF OBJECTIVES

Resolution Before Constituent Body

NEW DELHI, December 11.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru will at tomorrow's session of the Constituent Assembly move the resolution on the declaration of objectives prepared as a result of discussion at meetings of Congress members yesterday and today.

The final draft says:

"Wherein this Constituent Assembly declares its firm and solemn resolve to proclaim India as an independent sovereign Republic and to draw up for her future governance a constitution the territories that now comprise British India, the territories that now form the Indian States, and such other parts of India as are outside British India and the States as well as such other territories as are willing to be constituted into the independent sovereign India shall be a Union of them all and

"Wherein the said territories, whether with their present boundaries or with such others as may be determined by the Constituent Assembly and thereafter according to the law of the constitution, shall possess and retain the status of autonomous units, together with residuary powers, and exercise all powers and functions of Government and administration, save and except such powers, and functions as are vested in or assigned to the Union, or as are inherent or implied in the Union or resulting therefrom; and

"Wherein all power and authority of the sovereign independent India, its constituent parts and organs of Government, are derived from the people; and

"Wherein shall be guaranteed and secured to all the people of India justice, social, economic and political; equality of status, or opportunity, and before the law; freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association and action, subject to law and public morality; and

"Wherein adequate safeguards shall be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes; and

"Wherein shall be maintained the integrity of the territory of the Republic and its sovereign rights on land, sea and air according to justice and the law of civilised nations, and this ancient land attain its rightful and honoured place in the world and make its full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind."—A.P.I.

League's Attitude

From Our Own Correspondent

LAHORE, December 10: Addressing a press conference here, Mr. Ghazanfar Ali Khan, Health Member in the Interim Government, said he was not sure that the latest statement by His Majesty's Government would enable the Muslim League to change its mind.

If the Congress, he continued, had accepted the Cabinet Mission's plan without any mental reservation and refrained from quibbling about the content of that document, the two major communities would today be working hand in hand, and the inaugural meeting of Constituent Assembly could have been saved from becoming the greatest farce. "Even now it is not too late if only, instead of ridiculing and vilifying Mr. Jinnah, the Congress earnestly settles down to a parley with him, for he alone can deliver the goods."

Viceroy's Return

LONDON, December 11: The Viceroy, Lord Wavell, who has been in regular contact with India Secretary, Lord Pethick-Lawrence, is expected to leave London for New Delhi by air at the end of this week.

Mr. Jinnah and Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan, Muslim League leaders, will fly back to Karachi on Sunday. Mr. Jinnah will go to Bombay after a few days in Karachi, and later will return to New Delhi for the session of the Legislative Assembly beginning on January 20.—A. P. A.

The Rest Of The News

IRAQI MISSION AT 'PINDI

The Iraqi Military Mission arrived in Rawalpindi on Monday after their rapid tour of the Frontier Province, during which they visited Miranshah, North Waziristan and Abbottabad.

* * *

Six persons were injured when the police made a "lathi" charge on Monday afternoon on the workers of the Sayni Glass Factory near Madras.

* * *

Almost knee-deep in rising water in the under-sea seam of Lowca No. 10 pit in Cumberland (U. S.), where an explosion occurred, respirator-clad rescuers found the body of one victim and battled on to clear 300 yards of debris which has buried or trapped 14 other miners. It was feared that there was little hope for the men.

BOMBAY AWARD

Major J. R. Pereira, I.A.M.C., who has been awarded the M.C., will be paid a cash reward of Rs. 7,500 by the Government of Bombay.

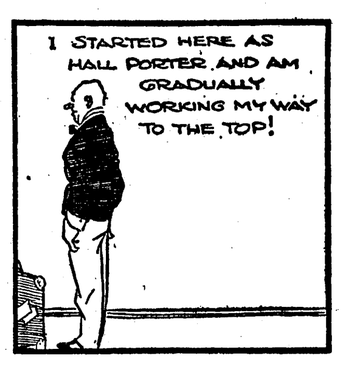
* * *

Seven persons, arrested by the Bombay police on a charge of looting a shop at Sandhurst Road, were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment ranging form six months to 18 months, by Mr. J. M. Barot, Presidency Magistrate, Esplanade Police Court, on Wednesday.

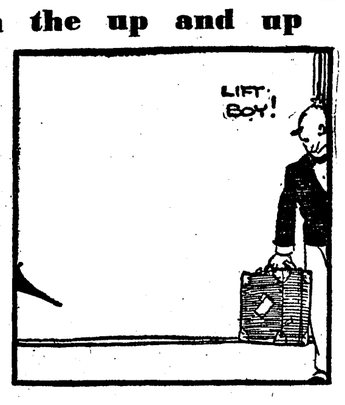
* * *

At a meeting of the Mysore State Congress Working Committee at Bangalore, on Sunday, Mr. K. S. Kumaran's report on the labour trouble in Kolar Gold Fields was considered and a committee consisting of Messrs. K. C. Reddy, K. R. Madhavarau and K. S. Kumaran was appointed to make a fuller inquiry into the recent labour disturbances at the Kolar fields.

POP



On the up and up



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