

GOVT. ACCEPT PACT

ANNOUNCEMENT IN LEGISLATURE

CONFERENCE OF LEADERS

DR. AMBEDKAR'S TRIBUTE TO GANDHIJI

(Associated Press of India.)

Simla, Sept. 26.

Mr. H. G. Haig announced in the Assembly and Sir Frank Noyce announced in the Council of State, amidst loud cheers, the acceptance by the British Government of the Poona Settlement, to the extent it affects the Communal Award. The other matters would receive due consideration at the proper time.

GANDHIJI'S APPEAL TO SOUTH INDIA

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari wires to us from Poona, under today's date:—

From his bed in Yerawada prison on the sixth day of his fast, Mahatmaji has issued the following appeal, signing the paper with his own hand in Tamil and in English:

"It has been a matter of increasing joy, day by day, to find great ancient temples being opened to the so-called 'Untouchables' and thus becoming purified. This one fact, among many others, has been a great sustaining force during these days of agony of body, mind and soul. But the joy about the opening of the temples has not been unmixt with sorrow, that the South, where my work on a larger scale amongst 'Untouchables' began, though in South Africa, has not been as prompt and generous in throwing open the gates of the temples to outcasts. Speaking as a Hindu, striving to find and to live upto the very essence of it, I say, without the slightest hesitation, that God will be installed in the idols of the temples, only if they are thrown open unreservedly to outcasts. To-day, with human outcasts, God Himself is an outcaste."

(Signed.) M. K. Gandhi.

Yerawada Mandir.
25th September, 1932.

GANDHIJI'S MESSAGE TO BRITAIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, Sept. 26.
Miss Wilkinson, and Mr. Krishna Menon of the India League Delegation had two interviews with Mahatma Gandhi. During their second interview on Sunday morning Mahatmaji dictated the following message to the Delegation for the people of Britain.

"Everyday of the fast seems to me conclusive evidence of the hand of God in it. Even I with my boundless faith in God and His mercy was not prepared for this great wave of awakening against 'Untouchability'. That some of the great temples should have spontaneously admitted the 'Untouchables' is to me a modern miracle. They have only now admitted God. Hitherto the images which the custodians, in their pride, thought had God within them were Godless. The Cabinet decision was to me a timely warning from God that I was asleep when He was knocking at the door and waking me up."

EARLIER MESSAGES

SATISFACTION IN LONDON

PROMPT GOVERNMENT ACTION URGED

(From Our Own Correspondent)

LONDON, Sept. 25.

The Poona Agreement is heartily welcomed by many friends in London, who have followed with growing anxiety the course of Gandhi's fast. The opinion is strongly held that the Government should immediately withdraw the Communal Award so far as it affects the Depressed Classes and accept the compromise in accordance with the undertaking implied in Mr. MacDonald's letter to Mr. Gandhi of September 8th.

Sir Samuel Hoare is for ascertaining the opinions of the Government of India and local Governments, but it is being urged on the Premier that there is no time for the customary official circumspection if the impending tragedy is to be averted. The general expectation is that Mr. MacDonald will override the objections and accept the only arrangement which can relieve the present crisis thereby facilitating all-round appeasement. The Indian Conciliation Group is continuing ceaseless efforts to induce prompt action.

Mr. Andrews is particularly excited every morning in that direction.

DOWNING STREET STATEMENT

(REUTERS' AGENCY.)

LONDON, Sept. 25.

The following statement was issued from 10, Downing Street, at 10.20 p.m.

"The Prime Minister left this afternoon for Chequers after consultation with Sir Samuel Hoare and Lord Lothian. The Prime Minister and Sir Samuel Hoare have been in close consultation in London regarding the answer to be given to the communities concerned in the Poona Agreement. Every effort has been made, and is in mind, to avoid delay."

There has been great activity in Government circles to-day. Both the Premier and Sir Samuel Hoare were very busy. The latter arrived at the India Office early and immediately entered into consultation with the Premier in Downing Street. They were in communication with Government of India, and being in possession of the full text of the Agreement, which had been transmitted to the British Government, they were able to make good progress.

It is pointed out that the agreement is of the nature invited by the Government in the communal decision and that there may be no need for it to be held up until September 28 for consideration by the Cabinet, as, broadly, it does not involve a departure from the principle of the Communal Award. It must, however, be tested regarding practicability and whether it really meets the requirements of the communities concerned, as also whether it commits the Government to any thing outside the range of the Communal Award.

Following a cable from the India League Delegation urging immediate further representations with a view to ending Mr. Gandhi's fast Mr. C. F. Andrews is interviewing a number of prominent persons concerned this evening.

ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IN LONDON AND SIMLA

(REUTERS' AGENCY.)

LONDON, Sept. 25.

The Premier and Sir Samuel Hoare have arrived in London. It is learnt that the Poona Agreement is under active consideration by all concerned both in London and Simla, but no decision has yet been reached.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

SIMLA, Sept. 25.

It is understood that the British Government's attitude towards the Poona Agreement will be made known by simultaneous statements here and in London to-morrow. Political circles expect Mr. Gandhi to break his fast to-morrow afternoon.

GANDHIJI ON THE PACT

CASTE-HINDUS' DUTY

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

POONA, Sept. 25.

Mr. Gandhi to-day gave his second Press interview, since he entered on his fast. The setting was sadly different from the one in which, five days ago, the Mahatma explained his grim resolve to fight 'Untouchability'. The partial success which he acknowledged having achieved yesterday obviously delighted and comforted him, but his wasted form, showing through a fine khadi wrap, lying in the shade of the mango tree in the sunny yard of the prison, was not expressive of elation.

Mr. Gandhi greeted the pressmen with a wan smile and, in a voice scarcely audible even in the deep reverent hush that reigned, asked jokingly, "What do you think of my roof?" The pressmen drew their chairs as close as possible to the cot and put their questions in a whisper. Mr. Gandhi wearily closed his eyes for a space and seemed to gather his straying thoughts, while his pale thin hand gently and listlessly massaged his forehead. By the exercise of an iron will, which had sustained for the last five days, he began to express himself painfully, pausing after each word.

Those in attendance on him said that the Mahatma had a good night and was much better this morning than yesterday. His daily programme so far has been carried on as regularly as ever. More than a dozen doctors, official and unofficial, have already examined him.

Practically all the leaders here have left for Bombay, from where Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya is expected to return to Poona this evening to await the Premier's reply which it is anticipated will arrive before to-morrow.

Mr. Gandhi in his interview stated:— "If the Premier accepts the settlement in toto, I would be bound to break the fast. The settlement, as far as the political part of it is concerned, merely removes the tremendous obstacle that the Cabinet's decision has put in the way of reforms. Whilst, if the Premier accepts in toto the settlement, I would be bound to break the fast, the real struggle for me only begins. As a matter of fact, if the Cabinet had published the correspondence in time, I would have been in honour bound to insist on the due fulfilment of the duty that lies on the so-called Caste-Hindus. I should be guilty of a betrayal of trust, if I did not ensure that. But as they had no notice worth the name of my intention to fast, I could not expect them all of a sudden to revolutionise Hindu thought. They must, therefore, have breathing time for work, and so I have told fellow-workers that if this fast is broken in virtue of the Cabinet's satisfactory answer, it would be put in suspension. But sure as fate, it will be taken up again if the part to be performed by the Caste-Hindus is not well played during the

coming months. The tremendous awakening that has taken place in the country during the five days fills me with the hope that orthodoxy will surpass itself and rid Hinduism of the cancer of 'Untouchability' which is eating into its vitals."

Questioned about the future, Mr. Gandhi said: "I suppose the future plan is in the hands of the Government."

MR. ANDREWS' CABLE TO GANDHIJI

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

POONA, Sept. 25.

"The Rev. C. F. Andrews in a cable to Mr. Gandhi says: "Thank God, agreement has been reached. Doing everything possible here. My dearest love." Mr. Gandhi has replied as follows: "The wonderful manifestation throughout India is a modern miracle. The Poet has been a tower of strength. Deep love, all friends. At perfect peace. No conditional acceptance of the settlement will warrant my breaking the fast."

MR. POLAK'S CABLE TO INDIAN LEADERS

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

POONA, Sept. 25.

Mr. Birla, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Mr. M. R. Jayakar have received a cable from Mr. Polak and Rev. Andrews, which reads as follows:— "The Premier received terms of agreement. Understand authoritatively, he is doing utmost to expedite."

VICEROY'S COUNCIL MEETS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, Sept. 25.

There were two prolonged meetings of the Viceroy's Council to-day. The terms of the Agreement arrived at in Poona, have been fully cabled to the Secretary of State and the Premier. Things are moving so fast, because of the anxiety caused about Gandhi's health, that Whitehall's attitude towards the Agreement will be known to the Government of India by to-morrow morning.

GANDHIJI'S CONDITION

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

POONA, Sept. 25.

Dr. D. D. Gilder, M.D. (London), and Dr. Purshotam T. Patel, M.D. (London), M.R.C.P., who examined Mr. Gandhi this morning in jail have issued the following statement:—

"We, with the jail medical authorities examined Mahatmaji this morning. He has had a good night and is keeping cheerful. His weight to-day is 93½ lbs., which means a loss of 2½ lbs. in the last forty-eight hours. The blood pressure and the general condition are the same."

POONA, Sept. 25.

(Later) Dr. Patel and Dr. Gilder, who examined him in the evening, said that they had nothing to add to the morning's report. Friends who remained with him during the better part of the day however think that Mr. Gandhi's weakness is more noticeable. Low moans frequently escape him. He had to be assisted into a stretcher from the bed and back from the stretcher to the bed. He had to make an obvious effort to turn the charkhata. He also needed assistance in repairing the broken yarn, but his mind has scarcely lost its keenness. His questions to a local massage expert, who attended on him to-day, on the curative value of his art were minutely detailed and persistent. The quantity of his salt was reduced to-day.

A feeling of disappointment is evident among Gandhi's friends who expected that the Premier's reply would be received to-day. The report that the British Cabinet is meeting on Wednesday, has deepened the disappointment, but care has been taken to keep back the report from Mr. Gandhi.

POONA, Sept. 26.

According to friends who saw Mr. Gandhi this morning, he did not have as good a sleep last night, as he used to have during the previous nights.

Mr. Devidas Gandhi, who saw him this morning, said that the Government's decision on the Poona Agreement should be known in a few hours if Gandhi's health was not to be permanently damaged.

Doctors Gilder and Patel again examined Mr. Gandhi this morning. Lt.-Col. Doyle, Inspector-General of Prisons, paid a visit to the jail this morning, and remained inside the prison for over two hours.

MR. RAJAGOPALACHARI'S STATEMENT

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

POONA, Sept. 26.

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, who arrived in Poona this morning from Bombay, saw Mr. Gandhi, and thereafter issued the following statement:— "Gandhi was seen by me this morning. In body, he is by the grace of Almighty, as well as could be expected to be. In mind he is full of joy. If the British Government fails to act promptly suspending all forms and the worst should happen, even then the joy of our settlement of our own affairs in the last moments of his life, is a matter for supreme satisfaction to us."

"I do not put a sinister construction on the circulation of the agreement among the Provincial Governments, and the reported suggestion that the opinion of the leaders of the Caste-Hindus may be sought. I put the best construction, namely, that the Premier wished to lose no time to take a procedure that would be necessary, as Gandhi has insisted on absolute totality of the Government's acceptance before he could break his fast. I don't think the Premier, in the meanwhile, is not taking the minimum steps needed for saving Gandhi's life."

MRS. MOTILAL MEETS GANDHIJI

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

POONA, Sept. 25.

The emotional scene when Mrs. Motilal Nehru paid a visit, was the only strain on Mr. Gandhi to-day, which otherwise was a quiet day, comparatively free of interviews. Mrs. Nehru burst into tears at the sight of the prostrate figure. Mr. Gandhi himself concealed his emotion, took her hand in his, and made her sit on his cot, and comforted her. His weekly period of silence commenced at 1 p.m.

MR. KELKAR'S CABLE TO PREMIER

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

NEW DELHI, Sept. 25.

The following cablegram has been sent to the Premier by Mr. N. C. Kelkar, President of the Hindu Maha Sabha session:—

"In view of the settlement made by the Depressed Classes with Mahatma Gandhi, the Hindu Maha Sabha annual session assembled in Delhi, urges modification of the Communal Award accordingly, and the immediate announcement of the same so that Mr. Gandhi may be enabled to break his fast. His condition is already causing anxiety."

MR. RAJAGOPALACHARI'S APPEAL

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

BOMBAY, Sept. 25.

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, who has returned from Poona, has issued the following appeal:—

"This is the sixth day of Mr. Gandhi's fast. We do not know how long it may yet have to go on, notwithstanding the acceptance of the agreements by all the parties concerned and the universal satisfaction over it throughout the country. I have appealed for prayers throughout the country on the 26th. I feel again that everywhere leaders of all the communities concerned should convene meetings on the 27th, and confirm the Poona Agreement and communicate the same by telegram to the Government of India, so that no doubt may remain, that there is even one single dissentient voice among the so-called higher or the so-called lower Hindu castes."

"Not a minute should be lost as the danger line in Mahatma's health, is reported by the doctors to be not very far off, though the doctors and others who know the Mahatma can say that he is doing as well as he can possibly be during the fast on the sixth day, taking into account his present age and health."

"If before the 27th the Premier enables the fast to be broken the meeting on the 27th will be of thanksgiving to the Almighty."

CONFERENCE OF LEADERS

PACT APPROVED

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

BOMBAY, Sept. 25.

The Hindu Leaders' Conference re-assembled, this afternoon, under the presidency of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, and unanimously ratified the Poona Agreement.

Among those present were Dr. Ambedkar, Dr. Solanki, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jayakar, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, Sir Chunilal Mehta, Sir Lalubhai Samaldas, Mr. G. K. Deodhar, Pandit Kunzru, Mr. T. Prakasam and Mr. M. C. Rajah.

The Conference further resolved to appoint an influential committee, the personnel of which was left to be selected by the President of the Conference, to raise twenty-five lakhs of rupees for the purpose of carrying out a country-wide propaganda for the eradication of the evil of Untouchability in all shape or form in the country.

TEXT OF RESOLUTION

The following is the full text of the resolutions:—

(1) This Conference confirms the Poona Agreement arrived at between the leaders of the Caste-Hindus and Depressed Classes on the 24th September, and trusts that the British Government will withdraw its decision creating separate electorates within the Hindu community, and accept the agreement in full.

The Conference urges that immediate action should be taken by the Government so as to enable Mr. Gandhi to break his fast within the terms of his vow, and before it becomes too late.

The Conference appeals to all leaders of the communities concerned to realise the implication of the agreement and of this resolution, and make the earliest endeavours to fulfil them.

(2) This Conference resolves that henceforth no one shall be regarded as 'Untouchable' by reason of his birth, and that those who have been so regarded hitherto will have the same rights as other Hindus with regard to the use of public wells, roads, schools and other public institutions. These rights shall have statutory recognition at the first opportunity, and shall be one of the earliest Acts of the Swaraj Parliament, if it shall not have received recognition before that time.

PANDIT MALAVIYA

Pandit Malaviya, who presided over the Conference, expressed supreme thankfulness that the very difficult question had been solved. All the participants in the negotiations had shown excellent spirit. Panditji then explained at length the implications of the agreement and urged those present not to rest content with it, but to ceaselessly work to carry the message to every nook and corner of India, so that not only 'untouchability' would disappear

but the very word 'untouchable' would become a thing of the forgotten past. Pandit Malaviya announced the decision to raise twelve lakhs for a fund. He hoped that this part of the work would be finished in three months, not to the detriment of the Hindu religion but to its greater glory.

SIR TEJ BAHADUR SAPRU

Sir Tej Bahadur paid a high tribute to Pt. Malaviya, Panditji's orthodoxy, purity, integrity and his overwhelming part in the conclusion of the present agreement gave the lie direct to those who said that orthodox Hindus were unwilling to move with the times. He also said that it would not be fairplay to question the representative capacity of Dr. Ambedkar and Rao Bahadur Srinivasan at this stage, the more so since they had represented their community at the R. T. C. He concluded that the best elements of Hindu orthodoxy and most of the representative leaders of the Depressed Classes had accepted the agreement.

DR. AMBEDKAR

Addressing the Conference Dr. Ambedkar in his first public utterance after the Poona Agreement, said:—

"A few days back, no man was placed in a greater dilemma than I. I had to make a choice between two difficult alternatives. There was the life of the greatest man in India to be saved. There was also before me the problem of trying to safeguard the interest of my community. I am happy to be able to say that it has become, through the co-operation of all, to find a solution to save the life of the Mahatma and at the same time, to protect the interest of the Depressed Classes in future."

"I think that in all these negotiations a large part of the credit must go to Mahatma Gandhi himself. I must confess I was surprised, very immensely surprised, when I met him to find that there was so much in common between the Mahatma and myself. (Cheers). In fact, any disputes, whenever they were carried to him—and Sir Tej Bahadur has told you that the disputes that were carried to him were of a crucial character—I was surprised to see that the man who held such divergent views from me at the R. T. C., came immediately to my rescue, and not to the rescue of the other side. I am very grateful to the Mahatma for having extricated me from the very difficult situation. My only regret is, why did not the Mahatma take this attitude at the R.T.C.? If he had shown the same consideration to my point of view, it would not have been necessary for him to go through his ordeal."

"However these are things of the past. I am glad I am here now to support this resolution. Since the question has been raised in the newspapers, whether this agreement will have the support of the whole Depressed Classes community, I should like to make it clear that so far as I am concerned and as far as the party which stands with me is concerned (and I am sure I am speaking for other friends who are present here), that we will stand by the agreement. Let there be no doubt about this. Our only concern is this, whether the Hindu community will abide by it (voices: "Oh, yes, we will"). We feel the Hindu community unfortunately is not an integral whole, but, if I may say so, a federation of small communities. I hope and trust Hindus, on their side, will look upon this document as sacrosanct and work it in an honourable spirit."

"I am very much obliged to all friends who took part in negotiations, but I should like to make particular mention of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Mr. C. Rajagopalachari. Without Sir Tej Bahadur probably it would have been difficult to carry through many of the points. I must confess as a result of my experience of him during the last two years at the R. T. C., that if there is any man in India who is above all communal prejudices, it is Sir Tej Bahadur. His sense of fairness and justice always is a relief to all minorities, who are seeking some safeguards in the new constitution. I must also mention Mr. Rajagopalachari. He came to our rescue when we were almost at the breaking point. Had it not been for his ingenuity, probably the agreement would not have come into being. I must also thank Pandit Malaviya for the courtesy and forbearance which he showed in the hot exchanges of words and acrimonious debates, that went on during all these negotiations."

"The change that has been brought about in the Communal Award has been brought about by the insistence of the view that separate electorates are injurious to national interests. I must confess, I remain unconvinced by that argument. I can quite understand that for majority representation, separate electorates are harmful. I don't believe joint-electorates are going to be the final solution for the problem of absorbing the Depressed Classes in the Hindu community. Any electoral arrangement, I believe, cannot be a solution of the larger social problem. It requires something more than the political arrangement that we are making to-day. I hope that it would be possible for you to go beyond this political arrangement, and devise ways and means whereby it would be possible for the Depressed Classes not only to be part and parcel of the Hindu community but also to occupy an honourable position of equality of status in the community."

"For long, the Depressed Classes were an ignorant lot, not imbued with a sense of self-respect and it was possible for them to accept the social status that was given to them by the Hindu community. But as they get

education they will begin to smart under these social laws, and there is a great danger of their seceding from the Hindu society. I beg of you to bear it in mind. I hope you will do the needful in these matters."

The resolution was passed unanimously.

The Conference authorised Pandit Malaviya as the President of the Conference to decide the personnel of the Sub-Committee to be appointed for raising funds as proposed by Pt. Malaviya for doing propaganda throughout the country against 'untouchability'.

The Conference terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the President.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, Sept. 26.

Pandit Malaviya, in his speech at the Conference referring to 'Untouchability', said: "The removal of this great blot on our religion, will not only do no harm to our religion, but our religion will shine in greater glory, because of its true catholicity. You cannot expect the Mahatma to be born twice within a century to undertake another vow of self-immolation."

Sir T. B. Sapru observed: "In the case of many of us, I hope I am not giving any offence, Nationalism is a mere figure of speech, but to the Mahatma it is his life-breath."

Mr. Rajagopalachari observed that the conversion of Dr. Ambedkar was the greatest experiment in the Mahatma's satyagraha.

LEADERS INTERVIEWED

(ASSOCIATED PRESS OF INDIA.)

BOMBAY, Sept. 25.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. M. R. Jayakar, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and Mr. M. C. Rajah returned to Bombay from Poona this morning. They alighted from the train wreathed in smiles and gladly conversed with pressmen on the Poona settlement.

Mr. Jayakar said "Although I am pleased with what has happened in Poona, I realise that it is the beginning of the process which must be pushed on if the Hindu society is to be regenerated and the nation built up."

Sir Tej Bahadur said, "In my opinion the agreement at Poona should open a new chapter in the life of Hindu Society. I will strongly maintain that if we want to have really genuine self-government, we must show that we are prepared to do justice to those to whom we have denied it for centuries past. Though we may have been late in solving it, it is something that we have taken even at this stage a decisive step."

Mr. Rajah declared that Mr. Gandhi was most anxious to heal up the schism existing at present in the Depressed Classes themselves and between Caste-Hindus and the Depressed Classes. He added that he (Mr. Rajah) was quite satisfied with the settlement arrived at in Poona.

RT. HON. SASTRI'S WIRE TO GANDHIJI

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

COIMBATORE, Sept. 25.

The Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri has sent the following telegram to-day to Mahatma Gandhi: "Million homes rejoice and bless your superb service performed in your superb style. I confess I trembled in doubt, but the result vindicates and establishes your indisputably the foremost 'Untouchable' and 'Unapproachable.'"

CABLE TO PREMIER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

COIMBATORE, Sept. 24.

The following cable has been sent to-day by the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri to the Prime Minister, London: "Please forgive if under unprecedented necessity, I venture the suggestion. Considering Mahatma Gandhi's enfeebled and delicate condition, even the slightest delay in enabling the breaking of his fast involves serious risk. I earnestly appeal to you to overlook formalities to the utmost possible extent and communicate your acceptance of the recent Yerawala understandings in substitution of corresponding portions of your Communal Award. India in mortal anxiety will bless you for the prompt relief."

BRITISH PRESS COMMENTS

'NEWS CHRONICLE'

(REUTERS' SPECIAL SERVICE.)

LONDON, Sept. 26.

The beginning of the end of the caste system is seen by 'The News Chronicle' in the Poona Agreement. The paper says that, behind the impressive drama of the struggle to save Gandhi's life is another not less startling, of which the theme is the future direction of the whole life and destiny of India. What matters in the very ingenious Poona scheme is that it is a creation of Indians themselves. The Hindus and the 'Untouchables', for better or worse, have devised their own plan for their future political relations. But the Conference seems to have gone much further than the elaboration of an electoral scheme for the Untouchables. It has passed a series of resolutions, which, if carried out, will end Untouchability as India has known it for centuries. It will be a mistake to suppose that, by the mere passing of the resolutions, one of the oldest and deepest divisions in Indian life is going automatically to disappear. The forces of tradition and prejudice will not vanish in a night as this new blast of trumpet, but it is a most significant sound. It probably really is the beginning of the end, far distant as that end may be, of the Indian Caste System.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 7)

MADRAS HINDUS'
SUPPORT

The following manifesto is being circulated and largely signed in Madras:—

We have read the terms of the Agreement arrived at by the leaders acting on behalf of the Depressed Classes and the rest of the Hindu community regarding the representation of the Depressed Classes in the Legislatures and certain other matters affecting their welfare. We desire to say that we cordially endorse this Pact and feel certain that the Hindu community in this Presidency and in other parts of this country will accept it. We request His Majesty's Government immediately to implement it. The necessity for saving Mahatma Gandhi's life makes it imperative that the Premier should announce his decision to this intent forthwith.

The following ladies and gentlemen have already signed:—

Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar; Dr. P. Subbarayan; Mrs. Radhabhai Subbarayan; T. V. Kalrasundaram, Mudalliar, President, Madras Central Labour Board; V. V. Srinivasa Iyengar; Dr. Venkanna Devar; K. Ramanathan Chettiar, Advocate; (Nattukottai Chettiar); P. Chandra Reddy, Advocate; N. Somasundaram Pillai, Advocate, Ramnad; R. Sundaralinga Nadar, Advocate; A. Venkatasubba Mudalliar, Advocate and trustee of Kapaliswarar temple, Mylapore; Rao Bahadur A. Krishnaswami Aiyar; K. Balasubramanian Aiyar; Dewan Bahadur A. V. Ramalinga Aiyar, retired Chief Engineer; K. S. Krishnaswami Iyengar, Advocate; V. Ramadoss Parthasarathy, President, Hindu Maha Sabha, Madras; C. I. E.; K. V. Krishnaswami Aiyar, Advocate; Manavala Chowdhri, Advocate; M. Bhaktavatsala Mudalliar; Gauti Lakshmanappa, Advocate; Pappu Somasundaram, Advocate; K. Rajah Aiyar, Advocate; C. Rajam; Rao Bahadur K. Krishnamachari, retired District Judge; V. V. Giri, Bar-at-Law; B. Shiva Rao; M. Subbaraya Aiyar, Advocate; Dr. M. S. Krishnamurthi Aiyar, Government pensioner; E. Vinayaka Rao, Advocate, Secretary Liberal Federation, Madras branch; A. S. Krishna Row, Advocate, Nellore; Balakrishna Patro, B. A., B. L., of Ganjam; C. Somasundaram Chettiar, Advocate, (Nattukottai Chettiar); M. Ramachandra Rao; A. Ranganatha Mudalliar; C. R. Parthasarathi Iyengar; The Ram of Munagala; Dr. S. Muthulakshmi Reddy; Lady Aladi Krishnaswami Aiyar; Lady Sivaswami Aiyar; S. Rangana yaki Ammal (Mrs. S. Srinivasa Iyengar); K. Champaka Ammal (Mrs. K. Bashyam); Alamelu Ammal (Mrs. K. S. Jayarama Aiyar); Mrs. Ammu Swaminathan; Sree Janammal; V. Pattammal (Mrs. Venkatesa Iyengar); G. Ranganayaki (Mrs. K. Gopalan); S. Komalammal (Mrs. K. Sreenivasan); Mangalammal (Mrs. Sitaraman); Kannammal (Mrs. C. Rajam); Krishna Bai Nimkar; S. Ambujammal; M. Chattopadhyaya; A. Sarajini Rajan; Mrs. M. Baktavatsalam; Mrs. M. Venkatarajamajulu; V. K. Seshammal; C. T. Rukmani; C. T. Doraimmal; D. R. Dinshaw.

A MODERN MIRACLE

Mr. H. K. Hales, M. P., writes from Calcutta:—

Civilization at the present moment is witnessing the greatest miracle that has ever happened to the human race. The barriers which for centuries have separated the Hindu race have, at the dictates of one single determined man, vanished in a night, yea in the twinkling of an eye. What Governments have failed utterly to do, one member of the community has accomplished.

India has been shaken to her foundations by the recent declaration from Poona and the country staggered at the news. At the threatened sacrifice the wonderful miracle has been wrought. The gates of the temples are thrown open wide to all Hindu worshippers, caste is abolished and all men of the Hindu faith are now admitted freely to worship at the hitherto forbidden shrines.

But there is a greater miracle yet to be accomplished before India can stand before the world as a united nation fit and responsible to undertake the great task of the governing of her millions. The ageing trouble between the Hindus and Moslems must be removed. Is a further sacrifice necessary before this desired result can be brought about? Shall it be said that Maulana Shaukat Ali on the one hand and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya on the other must announce a second death fast to bring about this result? Surely this task should not be beyond fulfilment.

Let a Conference be called without a moment's delay at which the leaders of both communities shall freely and fearlessly thrash out the difficulties which now exist and, with a solemn vow not to separate until a settlement has been made, bring about this second greater miracle so near accomplishment if India's sons will do their part in the service of their country. Shall it be said that in this 20th century when mankind has wrested from nature her jealously guarded secrets which for thousands and thousands of years have defied discovery, when the wonders of aviation, wireless and television have been discovered and placed at the service of humanity, that yet two races of mankind cannot live in harmony and in peace with its neighbour. Men of India, arise, seize the golden opportunities which lie within your grasp and show to the world that India has at last awakened and is alive to the possibilities of her own inherent greatness and shall resume her former glories of the past and stand before the world an honoured and united nation ready for the great task of Government which she now urgently demands.

The time for action has come, it needs but the magic touch. Who will take the lead?

"TEMPLE ENTRY IS HAZARDOUS AT THIS STAGE"

Rao Sahab M. C. Madurai Pillai, President of the Madras Adi-Dravida Mahajana Central Sabha, writes on the agreement arrived at in Poona between the leaders of the Depressed Classes including Dr. Ambedkar, Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajan and Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan, and the Hindu community regarding the representation of the Depressed Classes in the Legislatures:—

I am glad to find that a settlement has been reached between the leaders of the Depressed Classes and the rest of the Hindu community over the vexed question of representation of the Depressed Classes in the Legislatures and that they have signed the agreement. I hope and trust the same will give satisfaction to every section of the community and that the Premier and the Secretary of State for India will also accept it and take immediate steps to modify the award which created a passionate revolt of heart and conscience in Mahatma Gandhi and led him "to fast unto death." I also hope and trust that the momentous settlement would be a real and abiding one and that every genuine endeavour would be made by both the parties to give effect to the agreement both in spirit and letter. I appeal also to the caste Hindu leaders in Madras. I mean particularly the orthodox section, to give up their hostile attitude against the Depressed Classes in social matters and remove the many old familiar sins of commission and omission ere long for, after achieving unity on a political issue if social tyranny and oppression still existed, such a unity will not be worth a day's purchase and it will be little short of sailing under false colours. There must be a full and generous recognition by the caste Hindus of the fact that "all ye are brethren" and that the Depressed Classes should no longer be treated as mere scum. A golden opportunity has now been given to the Caste Hindus to make the Depressed Classes feel that the days of persecution are over and that a new life of joy and peace has been given to them. Otherwise, it would be an anomaly to talk of political unity on one hand and to employ subtle methods of social tyranny on the other.

The Depressed Classes of Madras have a hundred difficulties which need immediate eradication. Briefly told, the Depressed Classes should have access to all public places including restaurants and hotels; schools and colleges, run either by the Government or by private agencies. They should be permitted to draw water from all public tanks and wells.

The settlement reached at does not cover these matters and I wonder if the leaders of the Madras Depressed Classes ever made any attempt to press forward these points on the other leaders and if they did not, I must only say that they will be untrue to the cause of the Depressed Classes and false to their professions.

One word about temple-entry. Some of my fellowmen think that temple-entry is the only panacea for all social evils. I do not agree with them. Temple-entry is not the fundamental issue. This question is fraught with many risks and dangers and the Depressed Classes cannot at this stage engage themselves in that hazardous task. The experiment at this juncture will be too much in advance of times and may bring about further suffering to the Depressed Classes. Festina lente is the golden rule and the Depressed Classes should proceed slowly and step by step.

W. GODAVARI ADI-ANDHRA
CONFERENCESEPARATE ELECTORATES
CONDEMNED

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

ELLORE, Sep. 24.

A representative Conference of the Adi-Andhras of this district was held day before yesterday at Maruteru under the presidency of Mr. K. Venkatarayya, a leading member of the community. Messrs. N. Devendrudu ex-M.L.C., K. Gangayya, A. Suryanarayana and a number of Adi-Andhras attended the meeting besides Messrs. D. Narayana Raju, M. Bapineedu, T. Kutumba Sastri, P. V. R., Somayajulu, K. Gopala Rao, M. Jaganna Sastri and others.

A resolution supporting joint electorates and condemning the separate electorates for the depressed classes as detrimental to the solidarity of the Hindu community and harmful to the country was passed nem con.

It was resolved to hold the seventh session of the Andhra Provincial Adi-Andhra Conference at Ellore on the 1st October next at Ellore and to request Mr. K. Shunmugam to preside over the Conference. A Reception Committee consisting of fifteen members was formed with power to coopt more members and Messrs. N. Devendrudu as Chairman, N. Venkayya and A. Suryanarayana as Secretaries of the Committee.

A PUBLIC MEETING

After the Conference was over a public meeting was held in the evening under the presidency of Mr. R. Gangayya of Ellore where speeches were made by Messrs. D. Narayana Raju, Bapineedu, Kutumba Sastri, K. Gopala Rao on Mahatma's fast, and removal of untouchability and a resolution supporting joint electorates, was passed unanimously.

It is reported that some caste-Hindu leaders dined with Adi-Andhras in an Adi-Andhra house on the same day at the same place as a first step in the eradication of untouchability.

IN ELLORE

AN INTERCASTE DINNER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

ELLORE, Sept. 25.

In pursuance of Mahatma's announcement that nobody should fast in sympathy with him, Mr. Vadlapatta Gangaraju, who had been fasting along with Mahatma Gandhi, broke his fast yesterday by participating in an intercaste-dinner given in Pedapadu village in which Adi-Andhras and Caste-Hindus dined together.

FAST IN CANNANORE JAIL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

CANNANORE, Sep. 24.

The following five political prisoners in the Cannanore Central Jail have gone on fast since the 20th instant in sympathy with Mahatma Gandhi and have resolved to fast until Gandhi breaks his fast—Messrs. G. T. S. Anetha alias Bellary Kotrappa of Bangalore City; Siddharammappa Gangappa of Harikoon in Belgaum District; Yoddalapudi Venkatasubbiah of Kamapalayam; Venkatagiri (N. Coorg); Chiruvalla Venkatakrishnayya of Venkatagiri town; and

V. R. Thammayya of Virarajendrapet,
Coorg.

Besides these five, two other political prisoners, Messrs. P. V. R. Gupta and Nandura Venkateswara Rao, both of Beawda, are fasting since Tuesday last and will, it is stated, continue their fast till they can hold out.

CALICUT MUNICIPALITY'S
RESOLUTION

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

CALICUT, Sep. 23.

A meeting of the Calicut Municipal Council was held on the evening of 23rd instant at the Municipal Hall, Mr. M. Karunakaran, Chairman, presiding. After the newly elected members, Messrs. B. I. Thomas and M. K. Krishnan Nair, took the oath, Mr. M. Padmanabhan Nair moved the following resolution: "That the Council records its deep sense of sorrow in the fast already commenced by Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Kelappan and appeals both to the people and the authorities concerned to bring in immediately such circumstances as would make them discontinue the fast." Mr. P. C. Achuthan seconded the resolution. Mr. H. Taveira opposed the resolution saying that the Council had nothing to do with the fast. Mr. Mahomed Abdur Rahuman, in supporting the resolution, expressed regret at Mr. Taveira's opposition and said that every human being should sympathise with the laudable object of Gandhi's and Mr. Kelappan's fast. The resolution was put to vote and carried. Mr. Taveira alone dissenting. Mr. F. Ferrelly, an European member, was among those who voted for the resolution.

With reference to the Government memorandum requesting to send the views of the Council in regard to the re-introduction of tolls at municipal limits, the Council resolved on the motion of Mr. E. Narayanan Nair, that it was in favour of reverting to the old system of tolls on motor as well as non-motor vehicles.

MR. K. KOTI REDDI

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

CUDDAPAH, Sep. 26.

Interviewed by me regarding the Poona settlement Mr. Koti Reddy said: Apart from the merits of the settlement arrived at between the leaders of Caste-Hindus and the Depressed Classes, the life of Mahatmaji is saved. I hope the decision will be unanimously accepted by all Hindus. Despite difference of opinions on the question of primary election, differences of opinion should cease. The Depressed Classes have a guarantee for more seats in the legislature vouchsafed to them than in the Premier's Award. The Government should accept the Poona settlement and enable Gandhi to break fast.

DR. GANGADHARA SIVA

Dr. Gangadhara Siva is satisfied with the Poona settlement and is glad more seats have been given to the Depressed Classes. The Government should enable Mahatmaji to break his fast by accepting the settlement.

CHURCH SERVICE IN
JALARPET

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT)

JALARPET, Sep. 25.

Rev. T. P. Gopalaswami, who had been fasting for the last five days in sympathy with Mahatma Gandhi, ended it with a little liquid food this morning without any harm to his body or mind. He feels a great spiritual strength has come into his heart at the end of his fast. There was a solemn service this morning in the local S. I. U. Church at which he spoke on the moral and spiritual significance of Gandhi's fast.

IN GUNTUR

PUBLIC MEETING

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

GUNTUR, Sept. 24.

To mobilise public opinion in favour of removing untouchability, in all its ramifications, a public meeting was held in the Svaraj maidan last evening presided over by Mr. Rayasam Venkatasivudu, formerly Principal of the Nellore College. The President briefly surveyed the recent political events that led up to Gandhi's fast and emphasised the supreme need of the hour to work near and sent for the great cause for which Mahatmaji was laying down his life.

Mr. U. Lakshminarayana who had up till then fasted for three days referred to the vicissitudes which 'Varnashrama Dharma' had undergone from the time of the Upanishads and in particular to the work of the great social reformers and savants of humanity like Sri Ramanuja and Chenna Haza, who broke the walls of caste prejudices, superstition and ignorance and demonstrated to the world their unbounded love for the untouchables. Gandhi, the speaker said, had come down in this age to destroy evil in the Hindu society and maintain Dharma and it behoved them all to follow his illustrious lead.

Mr. M. V. Narasimhachari speaking next referred to the work being done by them at Guntur in the cause of the untouchables and his determination to carry on the work unceasingly. The meeting then terminated.

GUNTUR, Sept. 24.

Barrister Unnava Lakshminarayana and Kunu Gopalakrishnayya, who commenced fasting along with Gandhi from the 20th instant have broken their fast yesterday in obedience to the mandate of Gandhi against sympathetic fasting.

ARRESTED PERSONS RELEASED

Dr. A. S. Chalapathi Rao, Amanchalla Gopal Rao, G. V. Punayya Sastri and Galib Sahib, who were arrested under Section 67 of the consolidated Ordinance in connection with the hartal at Guntur on the 20th instant, have been released to-day on their furnishing personal recognisance bonds besides security, to appear before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate on the 30th instant.

IN BANGALORE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

BANGALORE, Sep. 25.

The students of Bangalore mustered strong in their thousands last night at the Gandhi Sagar, as per Pandit Malaviya's appeal to send cable to the Premier to change his Communal Award and enable Gandhi to break his fast. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Mysore State South League and Mr. K. T. Bashyam presided on the occasion.

Messrs. Dharmadev Vidyavachaspati, Appanna Setur, L. S. Aiyar, S. K. Venkataraman and several others spoke on the occasion, appealing to all parties to unite and remove the blot of 'untouch-