HEAD OF SECURITY COUNCIL

Unanimous Election of Polish Statesmen

LONDON, Nov. 28 (APA).—Delegates of 47 countries yesterday unanimously selected a Polish statesman to head a committee of the United Nations which will lay the basic machinery for preserving international peace.

On the motion of Soviet Russia, the Polish Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Zygmund Modzewski, was given the chairmanship of the Security Council Committee. Mr. G. Heaton Nicholls, High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa in London, was elected Vice-Chairman.

M. A. Gromyko, the Soviet Ambassador to the United States, proposed that Poland should be given the chairmanship of the Committee assigned to forge the machinery under which the eleven-man Security Council would serve to maintain the peace and security of the world.

"The merits of Poland in the war are known to the whole world," M. Gromyko declared in proposing M. Modzelwski. "The selection of a Polish citizen to this post would represent the recognition of such merits and the efforts contributed by Poland to the victory which we won against the common enemy."

M. Gromyko described Modzewski as "an outstanding and able statesman."

The British delegate, Mr. Philip Noel Baker, in seconding the nomination, declared: "Nothing could be more suitable than to have a Polish citizen preside over this committee, which has been given the problem of armaments and halting aggression."

The Committee, headed by Modzelwski, will act on recommendations of the Executive Committee and prepare the agenda for the first meeting of the Security Council, when it is created after the first General Assembly meeting in January.

The Security Council is the body that will dominate the world organisation. It will be made up of the Big five Powers—Russia, Britain, France, China and the United States—plus six other nations to be elected for two-year terms. Their representatives will meet continually at the seat of the organisation.

The Security Council's main purpose will be to enforce peace. It will have the power to act against would-be aggressors with the combined might of the United Nations, when and if necessary.

VETO POWER

At the most important single word in the Council is "Veto". The "Big Five" have veto power to an extraordinary degree. The veto, one of the most fought issues of the San Francisco Conference, has again developed into a factor in the current meetings. The delegate from India to the United Nations Preparatory Commission, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, was yesterday unanimously elected Chairman of the Social and Economic Council Committee.

Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, who won fame at San Francisco for his work in directing the work of the Social and Economic Committee, was elected by Yugoslavia's Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Stoyan Gavrilovitch.

The Yugoslav statesman said: "The spirit Sir Ramaswami displayed at San Francisco will guide us to carry out our arduous task to a successful conclusion."

Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar's nomination was proposed by Dr. Pedro Lopez, leader of the Philippine delegation, who said: "In this atomic era the East cannot live without the West."

He declared that the election of Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar would be a step in world co-operation. He said Sir Ramaswami's work in the Social and Economic Council sessions was "a great contribution to our task."

INDIA'S PART

Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, in accepting the chairmanship, declared: "India will play her humble part in the war effort in the proper interpretations of economic tasks, and she will work towards the well-being of mankind in that spirit we come to a conclusion, and to that spirit we shall be carried out."

He entered the election of Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, who won fame at San Francisco for his work as the Chairman of the Social and Economic Committee.

THE COMMON MAN



Munshi Ram and his family)

The day of the common man has dawned. No less a person than the Prime Minister of England, Mr. Clement Attlee, hoisted the flag of the common man at the recent Washington conference, when he declared that His Majesty's Government was devising a policy to improve the lot of the common man. Statements like this kindle hopes for better days in the extinguished hearts of millions of the genus common man in this country.

Being one of them myself, I took a day off this Sunday from attending meetings of different parties and meeting 'party whips' and set out to meet the common man and ascertain his views. I pedalled my way to a colony of "Bagarias"—a community which supplies mixed (men and women) labour for the construction of buildings and roads.

I was rather fortunate to meet a humble family of nine composed of Munshi Ram (father), Savitri (mother) and seven children (five boys and two girls). The youngest was barely six months old and the eldest was 11 years of age. The couple was married in 1933 about 12 years back.

The woman surrounded by the children was doing the cooking, while the father sat in the centre smoking a "huqqa." The hut in which the family lived was hardly 12 feet by 15 feet and one wondered how such a big family could live in so small a space.

I made some paper toys for the children and narrated some stories to them and I noticed that the indifference of the family towards me had disappeared and that they were favourably inclined to talk and discuss things with me. We talked on various subjects, the weather, the income of the family, their expenditure, rationing and control, scarcity of cloth, etc., etc., and both the husband and wife took a keen interest in the talk. But when I asked them about their politics, the woman, cutting her husband short burst forth: "We have to earn our living and feed nine mouths. We leave the Congress, League and Sabha alone."

The father nodded his head and said: "Quite so, I wish the politicians would concentrate mainly on improving the lot of the millions of poor starving people, rather than pretend to work for the masses, when all they do is to line their own pockets and add to their riches. Politics to us means nothing—our main problem is bread for the hungry family."

CONGRESS NOMINEES IN PUNJAB ELECTIONS

Central Parliamentary Board to Decide in Calcutta

The tug-of-war between the two groups in the Punjab Congress ended in a draw when the Provincial Congress Election Board closed its deliberations abruptly on Monday without coming to an agreed decision regarding nominees for certain constituencies.

In these constituencies—particularly University, Labour and Commerce—the rival groups have been trying their utmost to press the claims of their own candidates.

The Election Board consists of two members each from the two groups and Maulana Daud Ghaznavi, President, Punjab Provincial Congress.

The two groups are respectively under the leadership of Dr. Gopi Chand Bhargava and Lala Kidar Nath Sehgal. In fact, the latter group has emerged from the erstwhile Dr. Satya Pal group.

Although the Election Board was scheduled to meet for one week, the Party bosses on the Board stuck to their guns through that period and—what is more—the President declined to cast his casting vote.

Now it transpires that the Provincial Board has relinquished authority in favour of the Central Parliamentary [illegible] Maulana Daud

EARTHQUAKE IN AUSTRALIA

Severest Recorded Since 1909

SYDNEY, Nov. 28.—The greatest earthquake ever recorded by the Riverview Observatory occurred at 2-11 a.m. local time to-day. It is considered to be the severest since 1909, and worse of the original quake are still being recorded at 1 p.m.

An earthquake of great severity was reported by the seismologist, Mr. J. Shaw of West Bromwich, Birmingham, at about 2-26 (G.M.T.) last night. The centre of the shock was nearly 4,000 miles away and waves appeared to arrive from the East, in which case the location of the earthquake would probably be Northern India or West China. Three and a half hours after the shock, Mr. Shaw reported that the earth was still vibrating considerably.

An earthquake shock of great intensity was recorded by the seismographs at the Colaba Observatory, Bombay, at 3-29 a.m. to-day.

The earthquake tremors continued for a long time and even at 7-30 a.m. the seismographs at the Colaba Observatory recorded tremors.

According to the Colaba Observatory, the epicentre of the earthquake must have been about 250 miles north of Bombay, but the records have not been correctly made and, therefore, the Colaba Observatory authorities are not in a position to clearly indicate the exact location of the earthquake. They are, however in a position to say that the earthquake was a very severe one and, in their view, it might have occurred in the sea as otherwise by now reports of serious shocks must have been received from other seismographs located in the country.

A report from Karachi says that there was an earthquake shock at about 3-30 this morning. Tables and furniture in buildings began to shake. Lamps and fans began to swing. The tremor lasted half a minute, according to the Karachi Meteorological Department's report.

The shock was particularly felt on the southern and western parts of Karachi city, while on the residential side few could realise that there was a tremor.

There was no seismographs at the local meteorological office to record the epicentre or the intensity of the quake. No damage or casualty is reported.

KARACHI CLOCKS STOP

The giant clocks in the Karachi Municipal Corporation and at other places stopped at 3-25 a.m.

The shock appears to have run from north to south. According to local meteorological officials, the intensity of the shock must have been much greater in South Baluchistan and Las Bela. The exact location of the epicentre could not be determined by the local observatory due to the absence of instruments.

A report from Las Bela says that a violent shock was experienced throughout the State. There is, however, no indication of the extent of damage or casualties.

It is reported from Bajigaur (Baluchistan) that earthquake shocks of moderate intensity were felt there and it lasted for three minutes.

The Government of Sind has so far received no reports from the districts about the earthquake. The telegraph and telephone communications in Sind and Baluchistan appear to be working normally.

There was no sign of panic among the citizens of Karachi, but a few people are reported to have run out of their houses. Some of them are said to have been rudely awakened by being thrown out of their beds.

It is recalled that the great Quetta earthquake occurred almost at the same hour nine years ago in the month of September.

The seismograph at the Delhi Observatory recorded an earthquake shock of great intensity roughly about 1,000 miles west of Delhi at 3-29 a.m. to-day.

The exact location has not yet been determined. Though reports of an earthquake shock were received from certain parts of Western India no shock was felt in Lahore.—Reuter and A.P.I.

U. S. AWARD FOR MARSHAL

Letters to the Editor

"ANGLO-INDIAN AFFAIRS"

(To the Editor, C. and M. Gazette)

Sir,—Some years ago you were good enough to publish a few of my letters under the above heading and the general view which I expressed at that time was that the Anglo-Indians and their standard of living, at first, drew forth some sympathy and caused comments, including one that then president (provincial) stated that he had not been affected in any way, but later, the secretary of the same, but later, the secretary announced the committee's resignation to right the mistakes complained of.

Since then, I have no reason to believe otherwise, but I have no reason to believe that the President or his Executive Committee has taken any really businesslike step to straighten the affairs of the community and from what I have seen and heard, and also, read, it seems pretty obvious that the present President and his committee do not enjoy the respect and confidence of a vast number of Anglo-Indians.

Mr. Manuel certainly voiced my thoughts and, I dare say, those of most thoughtful and self-respecting Anglo-Indians when he demanded an explanation from Mr. E. Few regarding his recent intention to seek re-election as the "Eurasian" candidate.

An analysis of Mr. G. M. Pendlebury's letter also indicates dissatisfaction and an element of resentment at Mr. Few's apparent highhandedness.

And what a tame, lame and wholly unsatisfactory reply the latter (Mr. Few) gives to the demand for an explanation. Has he no sense of responsibility? Does he not realise that when he was elected to leadership, leadership was expected of him? How does he reconcile that with his attitude of servile cringing and cowering before the big parties instead of fearlessly championing our rights no matter how powerful the adversary, and boldly pursuing a vigorous policy consistent with our pride, prestige and tradition?

The attitude adopted by him in tacking himself to the tail of the strongest party in the House, irrespective of its aims and policy, is, to say the least, inconsistent with our aims, ideals and prestige, and by his open admission he stands self-convicted of incompetence for virile leadership; self-accused of bankruptcy of policy and self-condemned as a puirile follower, a "Yes-Man" to the Unionist party "Lion."

C. M. SMITH.

Amritsar.

ECONOMIC PROBLEM OF ANGLO-INDIANS

(To the Editor, C. and M. Gazette)

Sir,—Why all the controversy about the Anglo-Indian sitting member and his opponent? Do politics really interest Anglo-Indians? I do not think so. It is not their political situation which needs serious re-adjustment, but it is the economic aspect of their future which should cause them anxiety. Mr. Fenhearow, in his letter, published in your edition of November 24, mentions a new leader with a dynamic personality. Frankly, I haven't even heard of one as yet. If he is referring to Mr. Gibbon, the gentleman contesting the Anglo-Indian seat in the Punjab Assembly, I can only say that if he is fortunate enough to be successful in the election to an isolated seat of 1 out of the 175 seats, he will need an absolute one if he is going to be able to achieve anything of any value to the community. As far as I am able to judge Mr. Gibbon is not personally unpopular and even though he has a bone of contention, as much as a member of the Anglo-Indian community has, he will not been able to do anything of real importance as a party, as the remaining 174 seats are to be contested. The seats had no brains, even if 124 of them look for an ism which is rather leave the political economic or social battle for aspirants to leader and which was only allotted as a matter of "Mehrabani" by the Anglo-Indian seat that it will make no difference to anyone except themselves whatever wins, so, why worry about it?

Since the publication of my letter under the heading "Electoral Rolls" which was so kindly published in your edition of November 1, I have been asked by several Anglo-Indians to take up the cudgels once again on behalf of the community.

One of their grouses is that the A.-I and D.E. Association has too many members who are not bona fide A.-I. or D.E., and their request to me has been for me to do my best to sort out the sheep from the goats. Everyone knows that this is a stupendous proposition, and I am afraid it is beyond my capabilities, but I am certain that there is better material outside the Association than there is in it. It, therefore, becomes obvious that if anything is to be done it must be done by making a fresh start with a clean slate. It also becomes obvious that this can only be done if genuine Anglo-Indians and Domiciled Europeans will unite and select a suitable leader.

I may point out here that this is exactly what I asked them to do, through the columns of your esteemed paper in 1937, but the response was so poor, two ladies in Peshawar, one lady in Sabathu and one gentleman in Simla being the only ones that corresponded with me in reply to my appeal, that I had to abandon the idea as hopeless. It is now rather late to make a fresh start, but it is better late then never so with your kind assistance I once again appeal to the community to get busy in their own interests. It is going to be hopeless once again, if everyone is going to sit on the fence, and Mr. Brown waits for Mr. Green, etc. As will be seen from the bottom of this letter I am a resident of Lahore, and there are quite enough of the communists in Lahore to make a start; others will join later if we prove ourselves worthy of support. With this object in view I now offer my wholehearted assistance to anyone who may require it, my only conditions being that prospective co-workers must be genuine and awake, and will not expect to have the services of a wet nurse, as I am certainly not prepared to work in that capacity.

I can assure all friends that if the conditions in the above sentence are carried out there will be no difficulty in getting a suitable leader as a good many will volunteer to lead a good following, but if a wet nurse is required he, or she, will require to be well paid for his, or her, services, and the results will not justify the money spent, and, personally,

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