

INDIA WILL TAKE CARE OF HER CHILDREN ABROAD

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

KUALA LUMPUR, March 23.

A gathering of over 6,000 people of all nationalities—gaudily dressed elite and straggledly dressed; poor, high officials and humble workmen, khadi-clad proud Indian National Army men and greed-clad enthusiastic Indian Army soldiers, ruling imperialists and ruled nationalists—all stood up in reverence to welcome Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru at the Race Course here yesterday evening. Colourfully clad Indian women who were present in large numbers looked up at the threatening sky praying that rain would not spoil the occasion and their clothes. Among the audiences was also a detachment of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment in smart Jodhpurs.

"JAI HIND" REND THE SKIES

On arrival Pandit Nehru performed the flag-hoisting ceremony to the singing of the National Anthem, at the end of which a two minutes' silence was observed in memory of the fallen dead in the cause of Indian Independence. He then inspected a guard of honour provided by the INA.

Ascending the tri-colour rostrum Panditji stood up on the table to give "darshan" to the people, and was greeted with a deafening "Jai Hind" that rent the skies. Visibly moved, he acknowledged their overwhelming reception and said that he felt gratified by their great affection, but was equally embarrass-

sed because he was conscious of his inability to do anything for them. "What can I do to meet the challenge that they offer me? I doubt my capacity—not only mine but also everybody's—in the face of such vast affection."

ASIA NOW AWAKE

Describing the decline of Asia and the rise of Europe, he explained how a progressive revitalisation had, however, now commenced in Asia, and the centre of activities and conflict was shifting to Asia and America.

Pandit Nehru spoke in Hindustani for three quarters of an hour.

Dealing with the local strike, he appealed to the officials to take a human view of the matter, to his countrymen to see that no Indian starved, and to labour to give up the habit of complaining and shouting. "It is undignified," he said.

INDIA'S LIMITATIONS

Pointing out that India could not render much help till she was free, he said, "My pockets are empty. I bring no food or clothes for you, who are hungry and naked. As long as there is a single Indian in the wide world, our long arm will go to protect him, nourish him and sustain him."

Finally he announced that all purses presented to him during the tour would go to help Indian destitutes and orphans and the INA who were in need of help.

Shooting Of INA Men In Rangoon

AN EXPLANATION

Detenus Anxious To Return To India

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

RANGOON March 23

Regarding the recent report about a shooting incident in the Central Jail, Rangoon, it is learnt that though some detenus were fired at no casualties had occurred. A British officer in charge of the Gurkha guard was surrounded by a large number of men making representations. Mistaking it for an assault on the officer, a Gurkha sentry opened fire. The officer was removed and no further incidents have been reported. The jail is now being managed by Indian officers with tact and understanding.

About 500 men from the India National Army detained in the Central Jail, Rangoon, are leaving for India by the S.S. 'Jaladurga' on Sunday. It is understood that the rest would be leaving as more ships arrive.

PLIGHT OF INA DETENUS

The position of the rest of the detenus here needs sympathy. Mostly former civilians, they find their comrades in the INA drawn from the Indian Army have been sent back to India earlier and released; while they still do not know their own fate. A dim uncertain future, continued detention within the walls of the jail and a longing to see the mother country after over seven long years—some had left India in their childhood and some have yet to go there for the first time to see the country for which their blood was shed—have had a pathetic effect both on their mind and bodies. Their emotions are perturbed easily, and require delicate handling.

Learning that Pandit Nehru was not visiting them, some expressed disappointment, with tears on usually cheerful faces. Whenever an opportunity arises, they channel their emotions into one roaring cry of 'Jai Hind' which resounds from the high walls of the jail.

A VARIETY SHOW

Since the announcement that they would soon be moving to India, their hearts have lighted up; and on March 17, assisted by local Indian school-girls, they presented a variety show, depicting scenes in tableaux illustrative of the spirit and urge behind the slogans "Chal Delhi" and 'Jai Hind'. Among the senior British and Indian Officers present was Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, Indian Representative to the Government of Burma.

WE ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO CLAIM OUR RIGHTS

NEHRU'S MESSAGE TO INDIANS IN MALAYA

TOUCHING SCENES DURING TOUR

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

IPOH, March 24.

"We have confidence in us. We are not going to shout or complain. We have strength enough to claim our freedom," this was the message Pandit Nehru carried to Indians in Malaya, who thronged every route through which he passed during his journey to Ipoh.

Leaving Kuala Lumpur last morning on the second part of his tour, Pandit Nehru was received with great welcome all the 180 miles to Ipoh. The popular enthusiasm is increasing day after day and larger number of labourers and poorer classes are halting the Congress leader on the way to garland him. Panditji was often visibly moved by

'En route' Panditji was greeted by Kuomani soldiers from the Indian Army and at Telukanson, a soldier, garlanded him. At the same place he requested his audience to observe one minute's silence in memory of all who died for the cause of freedom in Asia, Europe, China and elsewhere.

TO SEE THE POOR

Explaining the object of his tour, Pandit Nehru said that he had not come to Malaya to see the riches of Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Penang, but to see the poor, the starving and the naked. With great pride, he said that the future India, the Free India, would not send her sons abroad as coolies in dishonour, to suffer, to starve, and to die as they did in the Bangkok railway tragedy.

Delineating the supreme confidence now prevalent in India, Pandit Nehru said "We have confidence in us, in India and in her people. We are not going to shout and complain. We are strong enough to claim our freedom, and to work out our problems. I do not represent any Government or any authority, but the will of 400 million Indians."

Seeing the large number of Indian Army soldiers, he said that he was happy to see the Kuomanis from his part of the country, and explained how the wall erected between the people and the army by the British had been broken down.



"Not shouting, no complaints."

the affection shown to him by poor men & women most of whom worship him and expect him to resolve all their difficulties. Every one of these occasions stressed India's inability to help her people abroad and to a man who asked Panditji to help him to get back to India, he said "It was after great difficulty that I myself managed to come here."

Pandit Nehru is as much revered by the common man and woman as Gandhiji is, and his views and arguments are understood by them. It would appear that the poor look to him for deliverance and they are aware of his solicitude for them.

EVOLUTION & CHANGE

Arriving at Ipoh by dusk, Pandit Nehru addressed a gathering of over thirty thousand, a part of which mobbed him. Two little Eurasian girls, who were prevented by volunteers from getting near him, were ordered to be brought to him and they sat close to Pandit Nehru. Speaking about India, Pandit Nehru said that in the present political and economic structure, India was not able to solve her problems. "Problems grow, and ultimately they grow so big, that they liquidate the existing economic and political structure. The whole social and psychological aspect for man is changing."

Pandit Nehru mentioned the great vitality seen today in India. Finally he paid a tribute to the Chinese people for their sufferings during the long war, and recapitulated his

prophecy made nine years ago, "Nothing can happen that will defeat the Chinese people." While entering Ipoh, the British Signal Section Guard presented arms to Pandit Nehru.

THOUGH INDIA STARVES SHE WALKS UPRIGHT

Nehru Addresses Large Meetings In Malaya

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

PENANG, March 25.

Leaving Ipoh early yesterday morning, Pandit Nehru arrived here late in the afternoon, after addressing three large meetings en route and stopping several times to meet poor Tamil labourers who showered flowers on him and closed round him.

An outstanding feature of this tour has been his great sympathy and love for the poor and an equal reciprocal affection for him from the people. The saga of the Burma-Siam Railway tragedy is always at the back of his mind, and every time he mentions it he is very moved, and points out the sad fact that proper relief was not given to them by the Indians in Malaya. Pandit Nehru now hopes to utilise the fairly large Indian Immigration Fund, raised in 1941 by the Government of Malaya, and render relief to destitutes.

Since the morning Pandit Nehru was accompanied by Brigadier J. N. Choudhuri, Chief of Staff, Malaya Command, who is the youngest Indian Brigadier in the Indian Army. Military co-operation continues to a great degree, evidently under orders from the Viceroy and Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten. Local reports that Indian servicemen were ordered not to see Pandit Nehru are unfounded. It is reliably learnt that no such restrictions have been placed on Indian soldiers, and in fact Indian officers have been told officially that they may attend his meetings. A large number of them have been attending meetings and rushing to greet Panditji. British troops also attend his meetings, and show courtesy to him. Commanders receive him and military police, both Indian and British, escort him inside towns.

MILITARY FACILITIES

The British military authorities are extending facilities to him, and the people feel surprised to see Panditji travelling in an Army car flying the Tricolour, and when they see him on friendly terms with Army officers and men, and not only with the personnel of the INA. They understand all these signs as indicating British acknowledgement of Pandit Nehru and India's right to freedom. On account of this circumstantial evidence, the common folk here fully comprehend Panditji's message that India should now prepare for the complex and difficult tasks she has to face immediately after attaining freedom.

RAISING LEVEL OF HUMAN BEINGS

At Sungai-Sipur, Pandit Nehru addressed over 2,000 people. After explaining the purpose of his visit he gave them a survey of world events with particular emphasis on India. The next big meeting was at Kuala Kangsar, where a crowd of 3,000 cheered and welcomed him with great enthusiasm. He explained how geography compels nations in Asia, including Australia and New Zealand, to cooperate with one another.

He also emphasised that raising the level of human beings in this part of the world was more important than freedom. "It is not enough to change the few at the top, but it is essential to change the millions at the bottom. We have to think in terms of raising the human level everywhere: we have to raise the level from below. The vast gap between the few at the top and the millions at the bottom disturbs the equilibrium, and it can be maintained only by putting up those at the bottom."

On his way to Taiping, Pandit Nehru stopped his car to see Tamil women labourers whose very looks indicated dire poverty and who were overjoyed to receive bananas distributed by him personally. A little urchin grabbed two, noticing which Pandit Nehru chided the boy, and he returned one.

At Taiping Pandit Nehru explained that freedom was only a means for uplifting the 400 millions in India, and appealed to all Indians in Malaya to help the local Indian workers and labourers in railways and elsewhere.

GREAT RECEPTIONS

At Dato Kramat in Penang yesterday evening, a very large and orderly crowd numbering tens of thousands and 20 different organisations welcomed with one ovation the Indian leader. Mr. Saravanmuthu welcomed him on behalf of the Indian community after he had unfurled a large Tri-colour amidst singing of the National Anthem. Amongst the audience were Indians from all parts of India, apart from Chinese, Malays, Indonesians, British Eurasians, Khaki-clad INA men, whiterobed Jhansi regiment and Indian soldiers. The whole audience listened with rapt attention to his fervent one-hour address delivered both in Hindustani and English.

He declared: "What will happen in future I cannot tell. But this I can say that as long as I have strength I shall strive for India's freedom." He said that attaining Swaraj was not an easy task, but the tasks following that attainment were still more difficult and mere enthusiasm was not enough.

"JAI HIND" WHEN INDIA IS FREE

Pandit Nehru also told the audience that the real day to say "Jai Hind" would come when India became free. Other peoples of the world fought with weapons, but the Congress in India had fought many years without arms and with only faith, courage and patience as weapons. Violence always brings evil results, he said, while the methods of the Congress had resulted in driving out fear from the minds of the people of India to a great extent,

and though there were still hungry and naked people in India Indians walked erect today and were no longer afraid.

Regarding the INA, Pandit Nehru said that he disagreed with certain actions of the INA and agreed with others, "but whenever an Indian stands up for freedom and fights for it, that man is my friend. But remember that whereas your INA here fought with weapons, in India the circumstances are different, and there we do not fight with arms. I you are to take part in that battle for India's freedom, you must do so according to the principles of the Congress which we have applied successfully so long, because if one half of the country goes one way and the other goes a different, the result is chaos."

THE CORRECT METHOD

Stressing the great need to maintain an objective attitude in future, and not be carried away by emotion in the heat of the moment, he said, "Let me remind you that on the fateful day four years ago just after my leader Mahatma Gandhi and several others including myself were arrested. Mahatma Gandhi said: 'Though the eyes of the world are blood-shot, we must keep our vision clear.'" Other nations, Panditji said, believed in deliberately evoking hatred and did so in practice, but the Congress had done everything in its power to arouse no hatred, for it believed that if we used wrong methods, we would never reach the goal of Independence.

Earlier, he was received by a vast crowd of people at Mitchell Pier when he arrived by launch across the stream from the mainland. On alighting he inspected a guard of honour provided by the INA and Jhansi girls.

Today Pandit Nehru returns to the mainland to conclude the tour, and will leave for India by air tomorrow morning, reaching India the same night.

LEADER OF THE MASSES OF ASIA

Chinese, Malays, Indonesians And Ceylonese Honour Nehru

(Free Press of India)

PENANG, March 26.

PANDIT NEHRU was received with great ovation when he visited Kedah. Men, women and children of all communities, including a very large number of Muslims greeted him with thunderous cries of "Jai Hind" and hailed him as the Leader of the Masses of Asia and the hope of India.

Speaking in English, Pandit Nehru thanked the people of Malaya for the warm welcome extended to him.

On the last day of his tour, Pandit Nehru crossed over from Penang to the mainland yesterday morning to visit Kedah, halting on the way to talk to a few Indian troops and shake hands with all of them. One Muslim soldier, after shaking hands touched his heart with the hand according to Muslim tradition. Another soldier requested that he should not forget them, to which he replied, 'How can one afford to forget?'

BE SELF-RELIANT

At Sungei Patani he was received by a large crowd of thousands from all communities, including Indian Muslims, with 'Jai Hind' greetings. He addressed them in Hindustani and English for ten minutes.

Pandit Nehru advised workers of Central Kedah to be more self-reliant and not to depend upon Government help "since it is not our Government."

It has been noticed that general conditions of Indians in this part of Malaya are much worse than elsewhere, and hence there were more spontaneous receptions to Pandit Nehru here.

One Tamil woman, on being asked by the Free Press of India representative why they were all so overjoyed, declared "He is the hope of India, and he is the only hope of the poor everywhere. The poor suffering workers and labourers not knowing the way out of their difficulties feel that Pandit Nehru is the only man who can render them relief. Pandit Nehru's growing popularity with the working classes of Asia may be inferred from the fact that all over Malaya, Indian, Chinese, Malay, Indonesian and Ceylonese working classes have taken prominent part in the reception accorded to him, not to mention Chinese Communists who are overenthusiased by his visit. Perhaps this may be the foundation for his leadership of all the masses of Asia.

VISIT TO FOREST CAMP

Motoring to Jhitra (Chitra) near the border of Siam, where in a rubber forest camp destitutes from the construction of the Burma-Siam Railway are being cared for by the British military authorities, Pandit Nehru spent nearly three quarters of an hour in the camp to study conditions. Lt. Col. G. W. Somerville, who is in charge of the camp, received Panditji and showed him round. After visiting lying cases and the kitchen, Pandit Nehru was taken to the school for little children where he was greeted with a "Jai Hind." While listening to Tamil national songs sung by the children Panditji put a garland round the neck of a little girl who was much pleased.

At present the strength of the camp is 465, including 42 orphans and 126 decrepits. Pandit Nehru was most anxious to visit destitutes from the Burma-Siam Railway since the commencement of his tour. Those who can do work like basket-weaving, mat-making, or tobacco-rolling are paid wages; those who are unable to work receive allowances. The camp includes Chinese, Malay and Javanese destitutes.

CONSTRUCTIVE RELIEF

Of the 12,526 Indians so far received in the camp, 12,292 have been discharged leaving only 234 Indians in the camp at present. Most of these chose to return to the estates, while some went to Singapore for repatriation to India. A British Red Cross woman worker said she was glad to serve these destitutes. She told that the decrepits learnt with great interest all cottage industries, and only those who are fit to earn their living are sent out of the camp, the completely incapacitated remaining behind. Pandit Nehru was happy that relief was being given and in the visitors' book mentioned the bright looks of the children: "People seem to appreciate what is being done for them. I am glad to find cottage industries work being taught here. I have always thought that relief should be of a constructive and productive type. This serves both body and spirit.

DISCIPLINED CROWDS

At Alor Star he was received by I.N.A. and Jhansi Regiment personnel, including two nurses of the I.N.A. A large disciplined crowd cheered him as he ascended the rostrum raised between two big guns.

Earlier Pandit Nehru met the Sultan of Kedah and had a pleasant conversation for a short while. It will be remembered that the Sultan was recently reported to have been compelled to give his signature to the British proposal for the Union of Malaya. Back on the way, little Tamil children standing across the road stopped his car to garland him. At several other places on the road Pandit Nehru was forced to stop to receive flowers and garlands.

TREMENDOUS OVATION

Nearly 8,000 men and women gave him a tremendous ovation in the evening at Butterworth, and a welcome address on behalf of all

the people of the province of Wellesley was presented to him. Speaking in Hindustani, Nehru appealed to every Indian abroad to remember his noble and great motherland and to see that nothing is done by him derogatory to the reputation of his motherland.

Referring to the situation in South Africa he said, "Free India will not attack anyone but will protect and secure that no Indian is ill-treated in any part of the world." He then explained to the audience, which included a large number of Indian soldiers, the type of Swaraj India was aspiring to.

THIRST FOR FREEDOM

Thanking in English all the people of Malaya for extending to him this welcome, Panditji said, "I take it that you took me to be the symbol of that great urge for freedom all over Asia."

Describing the progress of Indian nationalism he said, "India's bondage has resulted in colonisation all over Asia. The weakness of India was responsible for it, the weak deserve no sympathy. The static and unchanging must go to the wall in a world of change. We see something more or less in the form of elemental phenomena in India today. All of them in India are in motion. Where there is life and vitality, there is progress."

Speaking about the ability of the Asiatic countries, Pandit Nehru pointed out that given the opportunity and training, the human material in the Asiatic countries could rise to equal heights as elsewhere."

HAVE FIRM FAITH IN NON-VIOLENCE

Explaining non-violence, he said, "WE DO NOT WANT TO ATTAIN OUR GOAL THROUGH MUD, BUT WITH OUR BACKS STRAIGHT, LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE CHARACTER OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE. I WANT YOU INDIANS, AND COMRADES AND FRIENDS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO, TO STICK TO THE STRAIGHT PATH AND NOT TO RESORT TO A CROOKED PATH. In war one sees fine examples of courage, and in war a nation rises to a certain height. War also breeds hatred, deception and falsehood. Out of hatred all kinds of strange animals arise which are difficult to control."

Nehru Leaves For India

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru left Penang—and Malaya—by a Dakota aircraft at noon today for Calcutta via Rangoon.

In a farewell message Pandit Nehru announced the formation of an Indian Relief Committee in Malaya with himself as Chairman from funds received by him in the shape of purses presented during his week's tour of Malaya. Everywhere in Malaya, Pandit Nehru said, he had found a new spirit of steel even though that spirit was "clad in rags".

Earlier Pandit Nehru had told the Penang General Labour Union that he was "shocked by workers' conditions in Malaya."

Pandit Nehru proposed that the Relief Committee should look after Indian workers and former "Indian National Army" personnel.

INDIA THE PIVOT

Visiting Alor Star, capital of the North Malayan Kedah State, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru today inspected a detachment of the "Indian National Army" and Rani of Jhansi Regiment.

In the course of an address he said: "India is a powerful factor in Asia. Whoever controls India has power and influence over Asia; whoever helps India helps Asia. India has been the base for subjugation of Asia. India has been closely watched by countries like Egypt, Palestine, Iraq and Persia. A free India is going to wake up these countries. For example Indonesia will be automatically free when India is free."

Pandit Nehru lunched with the Sultan of Kedah and then left for Penang from where he will return to India by air.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who visited Penang today to meet Indonesian representatives, told them that he would try to visit Indonesia as soon as possible. He hoped his visit would have fruitful results, as he felt the keenest appreciation of the Indonesian people.

Speaking about the part Indians overseas could play in future India, Pandit Nehru said, "We want trained men for free India. A day will come when it will not be enough to shout slogans, but to work for India."

TOUR CONCLUDED

Pandit Nehru is leaving today (Tuesday) morning for India and has bid farewell to all people of Malaya. Mr. Huthoo Singh is staying a week more to tie up matters and funds for the relief of Indians in Malaya.

PANDIT NEHRU'S FAREWELL TO MALAYA

People Resent Removal Of INA Men Prior To Visit

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

PENANG, March 27.

CONCLUDING his seven-day tour of Singapore and Malaya, during which he covered more than 860 miles by road and addressed over 25 big meetings, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru left by air for India yesterday. Leading Indians saw him off at the aerodrome as his R.A.F. Dakota took off from Butterworth Airport. It was an affectionate farewell, and even as the plane was taking off, Pandit Nehru was waving his hand through the port-hole. Obviously pleased with his visit, he looked very happy.

Pandit Nehru has set up a Central Relief Committee for Indian destitutes from the Siam-Burma Railway tragedy and for INA personnel, and has also established a trust for its funds. It is understood that Panditji has addressed a request to Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten to investigate as to what happened to the funds held by a similar relief organisation at the time of the Japanese surrender, and if the British military authorities were in possession of the funds, to hand them over to the Central Relief Committee. Pandit Nehru has also written to him thanking him for the facilities and courtesy extended during the tour by the British military authorities.

REMOVAL OF INA MEN RESENTED

Though Indians are generally pleased with the military co-operation in the reception to Pandit Nehru, yet they allege that INA prisoners were purposely removed prior to his visit from camps at Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. The military authorities explain that the movement of INA prisoners had nothing to do with his visit, and they had been moved to the ports for embarkation to India.

As seen all over Malaya, no harm would have come if they had been retained in the camps and if Pandit Nehru had met them. But, now, all of them, mostly ex-Indian Army soldiers, are bound to resent the attitude of the authorities and nurture ill-feeling. It would have been wiser in keeping with the larger policy of official co-operation, if the authorities had given the opportunity to the INA prisoners to meet the Congress leader. At Kuala Lumpur, the scheduled visit of Pandit Nehru to the INA camp was cancelled after his arrival when it was discovered that the camp had moved. During the last week there has been considerable display of INA uniform, parades etc.

It will be interesting to watch if the military cordiality continues. It is at least likely to last as long as the Cabinet discussions in India continue.

It has been a strenuous tour for

Panditji, but never seemed exhausted. Rising before sunrise for his daily exercise of "Shirshasana", he used to sit up beyond midnight in conferences and meeting organisations, and most of his time was taken up for organising relief.

Three Azad Hind Men Released

Sequel To Nehru- Mountbatten Understanding

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, March 30.

Consequent upon the declaration of policy not to try cases of collaboration with the enemy and as a result of the meeting between Pandit Nehru and Admiral Mountbatten, three prominent Indians were released from Pearl Hill Jail in Singapore at 10-30 a.m. today. They are Major Abid Hasan of the INA, Mr. A.M. Sahay, Minister for man-power in the Azad Hind Government, and Mr. J.A. Thivy, Minister and Secretary of the Cabinet. All of them looked cheerful and Major Hasan and Mr. Sahey were dressed in the INA uniform.

At the gates of the jail they were received by Mr. Chidambaram, ex-President of the Singapore Branch of the Indian Independence League, Mr. Maganlal ex-Treasurer of the League, Mrs. Goho and Mrs. Thivy, with greetings of 'Jai Hind.'

It will be remembered that Major Hasan came from Germany with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, and was for some time on his personal staff till he was sent to the front with the First INA Division.

Mr. Sahay came from Japan, where for a long time he represented the Indian National Congress.

With these three were also released Mr. Chandran formerly of the INA who was arrested by the British military while sending cables to Pandit Nehru and others about the blowing up of the INA Memorial here by the British.

F. P. - J. 1 - 8 - 1946
**Relief For Indians
Overseas**

**GOVERNMENT TO SPEND
RS. 10 LAKHS YEARLY**

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, July 31.

Mr. Chettur, representative of the Government of India, who returned to Singapore a few days ago after visiting the British and Dutch occupied areas of Java, Sumatra and Bali to study the conditions of Indian nationals there, said at a press conference here today that large sections of Indian population, particularly in Sumatra desired to be repatriated to their homes. He also pointed out the great difficulty of Indians in returning home, as they were not allowed by the Dutch authorities to take with them more than 250 guilders individually and 500 per family.

Mr. Chettur mentioned that the Indian community was well organised in Batavia and Sourabaya and to a lesser extent in Medan. He also said that he had cordial talks with Dr. Sjahrir and other Indonesian leaders in Sumatra, but was not willing to disclose further details. Mr. Chettur is making a confidential report to the Government of India.

RELIEF TO INDIANS

Revealing the Government of India's decision to spend Rs. 10 lakhs per year for relief to Indians, he said he proposed to spend Rs. 5 lakhs during the first six months, one lakh of which will go for direct relief, while the major portion of the balance would be spent for purchasing textiles for destitutes and the needy.

Affirming the question if he was intervening in the Naval Base strike, Mr. Chettur said that perhaps one labour adviser to the Representative of India will prove more useful than an information officer, particularly in view of the fact that the majority of the Indian population in Malaya are labourers and are frequently getting involved in strikes."

Indian labourers' living conditions were abnormal. Well-intended cloth relief has not reached all of them yet, and so some of them were still half-naked. Most of them were longing to return home for a while but were unable owing to limited passages.

Their emotions are all nighly strung, as a result of the Azad Hind activities. Exchanging rifles for rubber tapping knives, they joined Netaji's army, hoping to liberate India, but now while their officers who have always been officers both on the British and the INA sides and who have never been of the down-trodden classes, receive garlands and tributes—these common men who will always remain the backbone to any mass movement are not cared for and have to cry hoarsely for every small help they need.

Local circles are surprised why there is no labour adviser to Represent India who has had previous experience of Indian Labour.

Deputy Registrar Resigns

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, July 31.

The biggest sensation in Singapore today was the resignation after 15 years' service of Mr. C.F.J. Ess, Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court on grounds of alleged "colour bar and discrimination." Thrice before Mr. Ess, who is an Eurasian Barrister, has acted as Registrar and is reported to have declared that unless the Government does away with discrimination in services, the phrases Self-Government, self-determination and greater share of administration of the country are meaningless.

**Malayan Labour Union
Recognised**

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, July 31.

The Central Committee of the Pan-Malayan Labour Union of all Nationalities have received information from the General Secretary of World Federation of Trade Unions in Paris that the local Union has been officially recognised by the Executive Committee of the World Federal Union at Moscow.

F.P.J. 26-7-46
**INDIAN DOCTORS
RETURNING**

**3 MONTHS OF MERCY
MISSION TO MALAYA**

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, July 25.

After three months of service to more than 100,000 people of Malaya of all nationalities, during which nearly 30 tons of medical stores were expended, the Indian Congress medical mission will officially conclude its mercy mission in Malaya today.

In appreciation of their work, the people of Singapore are giving a party tonight in honour of the Indian doctors.

Dr. Cholkar, leader of the mission, and Dr. Desai, one of the members, will be visiting Siam, Australia and New Zealand, to study the working of cultural, educational, and especially medical, institutions in those countries. They may also visit Indonesia if facilities are made available to them. The other members expect to sail for India on August 4.

An outstanding feature of the work of the mission was that no racial considerations weighed with it; men of all nationalities, including British and Eurasians, took advantage freely of the relief afforded by them. In North Malaya 60 per cent of its patients were Malays, while in the South most of them were

Malaria, hookworm and anaemia are common diseases in these areas. The Mission also treated an abnormal number—compared to India—of lung cases and yaws in all forms among children and adults alike.

The mission found a new medical relief. In Kotabahru, 800 enthusiastic Malays were inoculated in the streets against cholera by Dr. Cholkar himself. Several cases of motor accidents and about 50 cases of midwifery were also dealt with by the Indian doctors.

In an exclusive interview to the Free Press of India, Dr. Cholkar stated: "The mission's work has been appreciated by all, from the Sultan to the peasant, from the Governor to the 'coolie'. Our Mission has worked throughout the length and breadth of the country, except for a neglected area on the east coast where there was difficulty of access.

"We go back from this green land with the full satisfaction of having done our duty and with the sincere appreciation of the Malayan people irrespective of nationality."

Generally speaking, the Indian population of Malaya feel their prestige enhanced in the eyes of the Malays by the visit of the Congress Mission, which has shown to the world that India is fully alive to the distress of her children abroad.

THE NEW AWAKENING AMONG MALAYAN INDIANS

NEHRU'S PARTING MESSAGE

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

PENANG, April 2.

IN his parting message of goodwill to the "green and pleasant land," Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who has just returned to India after completing an exhausting week's tour of Malaya, has praised the high standard of morale displayed by Indian workers there, in spite of their intolerably low level of existence.

"Many, indeed have died but those who have survived have hardened and developed something of steel in them," he has said therein. "Everywhere in Malaya I found this new spirit, even though that spirit was clad in rags and had to face lack of food and lack of everything else."

Expressing gratification at the unity of Indians and other nationals in Malaya who have "pulled together as well as pulled along with other peoples of Malaya," he has appealed to all inhabitants of Malaya to continue that same co-operation in the great tasks ahead and make Malaya a symbol of such co-operation between the different peoples.

The message says:

"During these seven days I have been in Malaya something has been done and much has been left undone. My friends here and I tried to compress several weeks' work within a week. This can only be done with strict limitations, and the result is that I feel a little dissatisfied at the fact of not having done all that I should have done. Incessant touring and meetings left me little leisure for meeting individuals and doing other kinds of work which was very necessary.

"However, I must not blame circumstances, and am very glad that I came here, and I hope that my visit has not been without some achievement. It has certainly brought me again nearer to Malaya and its people, my own countrymen, Malays, Chinese, Indonesians, Eurasians, Ceylonese and others who inhabit this pleasant and fertile land.

CO-OPERATION

"My appeal to all has been that they should co-operate together in the great tasks ahead and make Malaya a symbol of such co-operation between the different peoples. From what I saw, there is sufficient basis for this co-operation all over this country.

"So far as the Indians are concerned, they have to look after themselves, and more especially after their weaker brethren and sisters. There are plenty of these—far too many and far too distressed. There are large numbers of workers living at an exceedingly low level of existence.

"It is a high credit to them, that in spite of these difficulties and burdens, they still keep up their spirit. Indeed nothing has surprised me more during this visit than the vast gap between the actual condition of the Indian workers, especially the rubber estate workers, and the great improvement in their moral stamina.

"Even the poorest Indian worker has developed a certain pride and dignity which it is most heartening to see. The past years of suffering and privation have borne heavily upon him. Many, indeed, have died, but those who have survived have hardened and developed something of steel in them.

NEW SPIRIT

"Everywhere in Malaya I found this new spirit, even though that spirit was clad in rags and had to face lack of food and lack of everything else. So, while there has been a loss, there has been a gain also;

we cannot get back our loss, but we can preserve that gain and improve upon it. This new spiritual quality adds a precious asset to our people. Let them guard it zealously.

"I have suggested, in consultation with friends here, the formation of an Indian Relief Committee, which will deal with the ex-INA personnel and Indian workers or others who stand in need of help. I have appointed a small Committee for the purpose, but this Committee is still incomplete and I shall add to it later after further information, because I want to keep an intimate touch with this relief work here as well as with the condition of Indians in Malaya.

"I have presumed to nominate myself as Chairman of this Committee. I shall not be able to participate in this work much, as I shall be in India, and the burden will fall on others, but I hope to keep in touch. I trust that all Indians will co-operate in this work, which is really a form of self-help and self-reliance, which always raises the status of the community. Inevitably, the existing relief organisations and Indian associations will often be the channels of this relief, and other like work.

ORGANISE INDIANS

"I feel also that it is necessary to reorganise the Indians here so that they may have a central organisation to voice their sentiments. The old organisations may be working here and there, but in many cases they must be stale after this long inter-regnum. The existing organisations should be utilised wherever possible as primary bodies out of which the central organisation is built up.

"The old Central Indian Association has not functioned for many years; it may be revived if this is feasible, but if this is done, it will be necessary to give it a wider democratic basis and change its rules somewhat. Such an Indian organisation will of course not work in any spirit of rivalry or hostility to the other peoples of Malaya, for the very basis of its work must necessarily be that of co-operation with others.

GREETINGS TO ALL

"To the ex-INA personnel, to the Members of the old Indian Independence League, to Indian workers and all Indians generally, I send my greetings. I am confident that they will always remember the honour of their nation and keep it bright and untarnished. They have all pulled together as well as pulled along with other peoples of Malaya.

"To the Malays, Chinese, Indonesians, Eurasians and Ceylonese here, I also send my greetings and good wishes, and my gratitude for all the courtesy they have shown me and the assistance they have given. They have helped me greatly in going through the heavy programme that I had undertaken, and it has left in my mind a pleasant memory of my visit to Malaya.

"Though I may be far from Malaya, I shall often think of its green and pleasant land and its friendly, hospitable and affectionate people, and so good-bye for the present.—Jai Hind."

Rly. Workers' Strike In Malaya Ends

COMPROMISE REACHED

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, April 2

Nearly 10,000 Indian railway workers who have been on strike since February resumed work today after a compromise arrived at with the authorities regarding their demands.

Since Pandit Nehru's talks with the British Military Administration, Mr. Huthee Singh has been negotiating on behalf of the workers. Travelling yesterday from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore accompanied by leaders of the strike, Mr. Huthee Singh 'en route' has been instructing all workers to resume work.

The workers demand in view of the increased cost of living, a 30 per cent increase in wages of the lowest paid worker and equal treatment with monthly-paid employees.

Prior to the strike, workers were receiving two weeks' pay as rehabilitation grant, whereas monthly-paid employees were receiving pay for three months. In the middle of March, the BMA agreed, pending enquiry into the cost of living, to give the lowest paid worker 20 per cent increase in wages and semi-skilled workers receiving a flat rate of 20 cents.

It appears that the agent of the Indian Government also intervened at this stage and represented to the authorities the need for workers receiving increased wages owing to the high cost of living. But the authorities held the opinion that more money in the hands of workers would disturb internal economy and raise price of articles at the time when they are trying to bring them down. Moreover, so far they are unable to estimate the cost of living index owing to jumpy prices and the non-availability of goods.

Government has now agreed to give ten per cent increase over the increase already given, making 32 per cent increase altogether, but only the ten per cent increase will be in blocked accounts. The increase amounts to nine cents per worker. As for rehabilitation grant, those with one year's service receive four weeks' extra grant, those with five years' service receive six weeks extra and those with ten years' service receive ten weeks' extra. Only grant up to four weeks is to be given in cash and the rest to be kept in blocked account. Also, Government reserve the right to review the present increase in wages at the end of three months.

NEEDY MALAYAN INDIANS SOON TO GET SOME RELIEF

Central Committee Preparing Plans

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, April 4.

As half-naked Indian women, labourers and destitutes of Malaya await the 100 bales of cotton cloth from India, the Indian Central Relief Committee here, formed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru helped by Mr. Huthee Singh, is forging head with the preparation of schemes for relief which will be of two kinds. Productive and constructive relief which will be the main feature, while doles will be resorted to only in cases of the most needy.

Temporary relief is to be given to those in distress and to destitutes, and those needing permanent relief will be given training and absorbed in constructive work like large-scale farming or cottage industries.

The relief is expected to reach about 7,000 ex-INA personnel and some thousands of labourers.

The Committee also propose to start industrial co-operatives like cane-work and basket-work. The funds will also be used to repatriate needy cases to India. Cloth, which will remain the major need for some time, will mostly be sent from India.

The temporary Committee of 15, constituted by Pandit Nehru with himself as Chairman and Mr. Ragnavan as Vice-Chairman, is also the trustee of the relief fund. All purses presented to him during the tour—the total value of which amounted to 90,000 dollars (about three lakhs of rupees)—Panditji gave away to the fund.

Besides this, the vast property belonging to the Indian Independence League and specifically stipulated for the purposes of relief to Indians in Malaya, is lying idle with the Custodian of Enemy Property.

Large quantities of drugs, medicines, medical equipment, food-

stuffs, cars and cash worth millions of British Malay dollars, apart from Japanese and every foreign currency, and large amounts of solid gold and various ornaments and jewels, have been taken over by the British military since the Japanese surrender.

ARE THEY TO GET IT BACK?

It is for India and her Government to press strongly for the release of these large assets, since the mitigation of the sufferings of Indians in Malaya is certainly Indian responsibility, and what objection can any Government have for funds allotted for relief being used for that purpose?

The first meeting of the Indian Relief Committee, held recently at Kuala Lumpur, decided to set up a secretariat and prepare detailed schemes on farming, co-operatives, etc.

UNITED AGAIN

For some time since the Japanese surrender, Indian unity and organisation, built so well during the days of the Independence League, has been showing disruptive tendencies.

Pandit Nehru's visit has provided a certain amount of the badly needed tonic. Their backs have been straightened again, and their suppressed emotions have found expression.

The fissiparous tendencies brought about by the sudden surrender, had been to a certain extent heightened by external elements, since returned from India, unaware of the travail of the local population.

But Pandit Nehru's visit proved a panacea to most of the psychological ills of the Indians in Malaya, and it is heartening to note signs of a revival of public life among the Indian community.

F.P.J. 6-12-1946
**Opposition To Malayan
Proposals Growing**

**NEGOTIATIONS WITH
SULTANS RESENTED**

(FREE PRESS OF INDIA)

SINGAPORE, Dec. 5.

Growing opposition to the Malayan constitutional proposals, and especially to the manner in which the Governor-General of Malaya carried on secret negotiations with the Malaya feudal Sultans, has become evident, with more and more of Malaya's important political bodies expressing dissatisfaction over the matter.

Close on the heels of the Malay Nationalist Party, which was the first to voice opposition to the procedure, comes now the Pan-Malayan Union, which, claiming to speak for the whole of the Malayan working class movement, has in a statement expressing concern for the future constitution of Malaya, declared that "the fate of the workers must no longer be left at the mercy or dictation of others."

COLONISATION MOVE

Referring to the unilateral negotiations with the Malay Sultans, which in its opinion is likely to breed future racial dissensions, the Union discerns in the present move of the Government a deliberate attempt to "colonise Malaya despite their high-sounding promises of preparing the Malaysians for self-government."

One association representing a former anti-Japanese army has declared in a statement that the proposal for self-government is "mere empty talk", and demanded special voice for itself, in view of its past role, in the ordering of the future constitutional structure for the country. The statement of this association adds: "We strongly oppose the restriction of nationality and the property and language qualifications."

BRITISH INTERESTS SERVED

A spokesman of the Malayan Communist Party expressed the view that behind the proposals there was a desire to safeguard British capitalists. He stressed the need for holding a joint conference of representatives of all communities in Malaya to discuss the whole problem.

It is understood, meanwhile, that the Indian Congress in Malaya is taking the lead in convening such a conference.