

# FEDERATION OF INDIAN STATES, GOAL OF PACT

Complete Independence Is Abandoned by Gandhi in Agreement.

BY WEBB MILLER, United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, March 6.—Agreement between Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin ending the Nationalist civil disobedience campaign in India, brought the nation to the threshold of a new era of political development—a federation of Indian states with Great Britain's vital interests in India safeguarded.

This conforms with the general lines of the conclusions of the Indian round table conference.

The fundamental significance of the agreement reached at New Delhi lies in the facts that Gandhi and the congress party abandoned complete independence for India as their present goal; they accepted an all-Indian federation as the next best goal; and they agreed to cooperate in forming a constitution on a federal basis.

The conclusion of the negotiations brings the congress party to its greatest power since the movement was founded forty-five years ago and permits Gandhi to wield an overwhelming influence in the forthcoming constitutional negotiations.

After normalcy is restored in India, efforts will begin to solve the complex problems of the construction of a new form of government for one-fifth of the inhabitants of the world.

The negotiations are expected to occupy many months. One of the most serious difficulties is the Hindu-Muslim problem, which the first round table conference failed to solve.

## REFERENDUM MEASURE IS PASSED IN SENATE

Bill Provides for State-Wide Vote on Public Questions.

Hopeful wets today pointed to a slightly moist victory in the Hoosier senate with the passage Thursday afternoon of the Perkins referendum measure by a vote of 27 to 17. The bill now goes to the house, probably too late for enactment.

The bill provides for a state-wide referendum on any public question upon petition signed by 10 per cent of the voters of the state. Local referendums would be held on petition of 25 per cent of the local voters.

Senator Chester A. Perkins (Dem., St. Joseph) declared he did not have any particular public question in mind. Earlier in the session, however, he sought approval of a resolution roundly scoring prohibition and urging congressional repeal.

## MARGARINE TAX KILLED

Measure Lacks Two Votes of Passage in Senate.

Senators defeated the oleomargarine tax bill Thursday afternoon by a vote of 24 noes to 20 ayes. A bill must have 26 favorable votes for passage. The farm bloc senators backed the bill, which would put a 3-cent tax on each pound of oleomargarine.

# Church Leaders Strongly Oppose Betting Measure

Divided report on the house parliamentary bill is expected to be made by the agriculture committee in the senate today.

The measure was bitterly denounced by Protestant churchmen at a public hearing after the senate session Thursday afternoon.

Representatives who back the bill in the house and Senator Frank G. Holman (Dem., Lake) appeared to advocate passage. At an executive meeting of the committee today it was expected that the majority would recommend indefinite postponement. The bill was passed in the house on a similar committee report.

## Club President Heard

Bert Morgan, president of the Irvington Republican Club, appeared as a layman to oppose the measure. Its advocacy was based largely on the possibility of revenue to the state.

"After all, there are things more important than revenues," Morgan told the committee. "I do not believe that this state is ready to go on record as approving gambling. That certainly would be a step backward."

"This bill will mean that foreign promoters will come in here and take money from our state."

## Church Leaders Opposed

Dr. E. N. Evans, the Rev. Linn A. Tripp and Mansur B. Oakes appeared as representatives of the Indianapolis Church Federation to oppose the bill. Dr. O. W. Fifer, superintendent of the Indianapolis district of the Methodist Episcopal church also talked against it.

"This is the old scheme that has long been obsolete in America of the state attempting to secure revenue from vice," Dr. Fifer declared. "We should not put our conscience up for sale. I don't like to see a good horse contaminated by gambling."

Representatives Delph L. McKesson (Dem., Marshall), Charles J. Allard (Dem., St. Joseph) and Jacob Weiss (Dem., Marion) advocated passage.

## TORTURED FOR YEARS

She Is Happy Now

For long, pain-tortured years, Mrs. J. O. Henderson of North Carolina had a sore on her ankle—no matter what treatment she tried or amount of money she spent—nothing helped her distressing condition.

Someone suggested Peterson's Ointment to her—she admits she was doubtful but she was so discouraged with this never-ceasing agony she was willing to try anything.

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—Advertisement.

# SHAME SUICIDE RITES THROGGED BY VILLAGERS

School Friends Carry Body Amid Police, Crowds of Sympathizers.

By United Press

COLLINGSWOOD, N. J., March 6.—The funeral of 16-year-old Benita Bischoff, who committed suicide after she learned her mother, Vivian Gordon, had been murdered in New York was held today in the Foster funeral parlors. Burial will be this afternoon in Arlington cemetery, upper Darby, Pa.

The streets in front of the funeral parlors were crowded with sympathetic neighbors. These same neighbors, whose curious stares in the last few days before the girl's suicide are believed to have contributed to her melancholy and heartache, were contrite today and many of them expressed the conviction that a more sympathetic attitude on their part might have averted the tragedy.

Only the immediate members of the Bischoff family were permitted to enter the funeral parlors. John E. C. Bischoff, the girl's father, stationed himself at the door to scrutinize all visitors and permit only relatives to enter. He was aided by motorcycle policemen, while state troopers patrolled the street in front of the funeral parlors and newspaper men were barred from the neighborhood.

A New York newspaper woman was reported to have been arrested following an attempt to enter the funeral parlors.

The girl's father said he had changed his mind about burying Benita's diary with her. His original intention was to place it in the casket with her and forever seal it from the gaze of the morbid and curious.

The funeral services here were conducted by the Rev. J. Smith Garrison, pastor of the Collingswood Methodist Episcopal church.

Three members of the Audubon Yellow Jackets, an amateur ice hockey team in which the dead girl was much interested, acted as pallbearers. Aiding them were three boy students of Audubon high school, where Benita attended.

# CORPORATE TAX VOTE NEAR IN STATE SENATE

Effort to Reduce Rate From 3 Per Cent to 1 Is Stifled.

Stifling an effort to reduce the rate in the corporate income tax bill from 3 to 1 per cent, the Indiana senate was ready this afternoon to give the measure final consideration.

Senator Earl Rowley (Rep., La Porte and Starke), moved early today to return the bill to second reading so that he might offer an amendment reducing the rate to 1 per cent. He previously had appended such an amendment, but the senate raised it to 1½ per cent and subsequently to 3, where it now stands.

"This bill hasn't a Chinaman's chance to pass the way it is," Rowley declared. "All of you realize it can't pass at 3 per cent. We all

want to do something for agriculture, but we must remember we must not cripple industry any further."

As Rowley's proposal was tabled, he protested: "I don't believe any one here wants any kind of an income tax."

The senate will go into a committee of the whole Saturday morning to consider the biennial appropriation bill, which has been held up because of time required for printing, since its house passage.

## SCHOOL BILL PASSED

Barrett Law Measure Also Approved by Senate.

Representative John F. White's bill to codify Indianapolis school laws and raise the levy from \$1.19 to \$1.28, awaits the Governor's signature today, having passed the senate late Thursday.

Senators also approved the house measure amending the Barrett law to permit payment of assessments before expiration of the ten-year period without payment of interest for the entire time.

# BRIDGE MURDER JURY FAILS TO REACH VERDICT

Members Learn Game After Deliberations Cease for Night.

By United Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 6.—The jury was deadlocked today in the trial of Mrs. Myrtle Bennett, charged with murdering her husband, John G. Bennett, after a quarrel over a bridge game.

The twelve men to whom the case was given last night resumed deliberations at 9 a. m. The morning wore on with no indications that a decision was near.

Mrs. Bennett and her chief defense attorney, former United States Senator James A. Reed, were in the courtroom early. Their worry was obvious as time passed with no prospects of a verdict.

Mrs. Bennett shuddered as she entered the room where for ten

days a crowd had watched the legal battle for her freedom. Today a handful of spectators waited for the verdict.

James H. White, deputy in charge of the jury, said the jurors learned to play bridge last night after they ceased their deliberations.

The shooting of Mrs. Bennett's husband followed a quarrel over a bridge game in which the wife raised a bid to four spades and Bennett went set.

## BOY TO GET \$21,500 FOR LOSS OF FOOT

Scout Refused Aid in San Francisco Street Car Wreck.

By United Press

SAN FRANCISCO, March 6.—Thirteen-year-old Tommy Watson of San Francisco, a brother of Mrs. Herbert Hoover, Jr., will receive \$21,500 for the loss of his left foot, suffered while playing a hero's role in a street car accident, according to an agreement of city officials today.

Tommy, a Boy Scout, was pinned in the wreckage when two municipal street cars collided in a tunnel. He refused aid until Motorman Arthur Anderson, whom he said needed help first, was extricated. Anderson later died.

The boy's foot was mangled and amputation was necessary.

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# TAXICABS in POLITICS!

Proposed General Ordinance No. 28, now before the Indianapolis Common Council, gives to the Board of Public Safety, approved by the Common Council, power to designate who may and who may not operate taxicabs and to fix the number of cabs each company may operate. Under this proposed ordinance the Board of Public Safety may say to one company, "you may operate 20 taxicabs"; to another, "you may operate 60 taxicabs"; to another, "you may operate 100 taxicabs," etc.

## The Passage of This Ordinance Would Make a Political Football of the Taxicab Business in Indianapolis

Each cab company would immediately have to enter politics, in an endeavor to have selected in the next city campaign a board of safety and city council favorable to its company.

For the members of the Board of Public Safety and Common Council, even though well intentioned, to have the responsibility of dictating the destinies of an industry doing an annual business of approximately \$1,000,000, and to designate fairly and justly which companies are to enjoy this business, and to what extent each company may or may not operate cabs, is a colossal and difficult (if not impossible) problem. The volume of business to be done by each taxicab company should be left to the public to determine by its patronage.

## United Cabs Do Not Object to Reasonable Taxicab Regulations, Under Which All Complying May Operate

United cabs do protest against discretionary and arbitrary powers being given governmental agencies whereby they may dictate who may and who may not operate taxicabs, as well as the number of taxicabs that may be operated by each company. Such authority might easily be vested into autocratic power, causing great financial loss to an unfavored taxicab company and at the same time bringing huge financial gain to a befriended company. To any one familiar with Indianapolis politics in days gone by, such a situation is readily seen to be fraught with much danger to those companies not having political influence.

We know that the citizens of Indianapolis are not demanding or even suggesting that any such governmental dictatorship be set up over the taxicab business.

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