

INDIA'S NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATED AT CAUX

From Our Own Correspondent

THE Danish Foreign Minister, Mr. Ole Bjoern Kraft; the Minister of Refugee Affairs in the West German Government, Dr. Hans Lukaschek, and the Begum Liaquat Ali Khan of Pakistan, joined Dr. Frank Buchman in the ceremony honouring India's National Day at the Moral Re-Armament World Assembly.

Among the Indian group present were Mr. C. T. Venugopal, Deputy General Manager of the Indian Western Railway; Mr. H. N. Trivedi, President of the Cement Workers' Federation of India, and Lady Sinha of Calcutta. Mr. Abu Saeed Enver, President of the West Pakistan Federation of Labour, spoke for the Pakistan delegation.

"To me India spells Gandhi," said Dr. Frank Buchman. "Gandhi was the father of his nation and of the whole world. He was a man whose life had no boundaries."

He recalled his long friendship with Gandhi, which started when he first met him in 1915, and was renewed on many occasions not only in the cities of India, but also in London. "Gandhiji carried India on his heart and that is the true leader of a nation," said Dr. Buchman. "I am so glad that this is Gandhiji's day, for he loved Moral Re-Armament."

Speaking of the needs of India at this time Dr. Buchman continued, "What the people in India are hungry for is work. Stomachs must be filled with food and the people also need an ideology that satisfies. When India has this it will be a new India."

At the flag-raising ceremony outside Mountain House, Mr. Ole Bjoern Kraft, the Danish Foreign Minister, said, "I, like all of us, wish to greet India today. All present here wish India and the Indian people not only happiness but strength to carry on the responsibility of freedom. May India be able to lead Asia into a new future."

"Caux has provided us from India and Pakistan with a great opportunity to meet," said Mr. Abu Saeed Enver. He referred to the joint India and Pakistan group attending the Assembly as "the first delegation of its kind." "So far as my countrymen here are concerned," he said, "we have decided to live the way Caux has shown us, the way of love and peace."

More than a thousand delegates, many in national costumes, joined the Indians at the flag-raising. Lady Sinha of Cal-

cutta unfurled the flag of India. As it broke on the masthead it released a shower of petals in India's national colours. "Here at Caux I have seen lived out the kind of freedom Gandhi wanted us to have," said Lady Sinha. The international chorus led the singing of the "Jana Gana Mana," India's National Anthem.

Noticeable amongst the crowd were the Japanese delegates headed by Mr. Jan Mural of Tokyo, Chief of the Cabinet Research Agency. Today is also the eighth anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended the Pacific war.

Dr. Hans Lukaschek, Minister of Refugee Affairs for Western Germany, wished the Indian representatives "the very best for the freedom of their country." "Freedom," he said, "can only be realised on the basis of moral principles."

The representative of the Greek Government at the Assembly, Mr. George Kalligas of Athens, said, "Greece has fought for liberty and freedom for years. We understand India's feelings. May you give true freedom to other nations as well."

The Indian delegation thronged the platform in the great hall of Mountain House at this morning's session; Students, industrialists, labour leaders and representatives of the old princely families of India, together pledged themselves to continue the fight for independence by fighting for a new India and a new world on the basis of Moral Re-Armament.

Mr. C. T. Venugopal said, "Millions died in the fight for our independence. Today through MRA we are discovering something to unite us in a new fight."

Mr. S. P. Pandey, Secretary, Democratic Students' Union, Delhi University, said, "Gandhi taught us a new conception of purity, but I thought that only saints could live it. Moral Re-Armament has shown me that purity is meant to be practiced in ordinary life." Mr. Kamal Goenka of Calcutta University, said, "On this day my decision is to take this answer not only to the 50,000 students of my university, but to the hundreds of millions who need an idea as well as food."

Thanking the representatives of Pakistan and other nations who had taken part in the ceremony, B. M. Thapar, industrialist from Calcutta, said, "May India and Pakistan and all nations be blessed with men, women and children of character whose lives are given to bring their nations under God's control."