

2530

SWATANTRA PARTY

Organising Committee of Greater Bombay

A meeting of the Organising Committee was held on Friday, 8th January, 1960 at 6 p.m. in the Party office.

PRESENT:

Mr. M. R. Masani (in the Chair).
Sir H. P. Mody.
Mr. K. M. Munshi.
Col. L. Sawhny.
Mr. V. Paranjoti.
Mr. B. K. Mistry.
Mr. P. H. Mody.
Mr. M. K. Tata.
Mr. F. K. Karaka.
Mr. R. Khatau.
Mrs. R. Mehta.
Mrs. P. Wagle.
Mr. G. P. Huthoesing.
Mr. R. V. Murthy.
Mrs. C. F. Lynn.
Mr. M. N. Mehta (Executive Secretary).

An apology for absence was received from Mr. N. A. Palkhivala.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

The Chairman welcomed the three new members, Mrs. Wagle, Mrs. Mehta and Mr. Khatau.

It was agreed that the Republic Day Celebration should take the form of a symposium on the 'Integrity and Sanctity of the Constitution of India'. The names of Sir B. Rama Rau, Mr. K. M. Munshi, Mr. N. A. Palkhivala and Mr. S. D. Vimadalal were suggested as speakers. Mr. Murarji Vaidya would take the Chair. The Symposium would be preceded by a flag-hoisting ceremony and followed by a lunch at Rs.2/- per head for Party members.

SWATANTRA SERVICE CENTRE:

The report of the first month's activities was presented by Mrs. Wagle. Hours of working were altered to 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. An advertisement publicising the activities of the Centre should now be issued in the Press.

CONVENORS' REPORTS:

PUBLICITY:

Mr. Mody reported that work was proceeding on the publication of the series of pamphlets as planned. It was agreed that this publicity section should from now on be attached to the Central Office, and the Chairman said he would discuss this further with Mr. P. Mody to work out details.

WARD ORGANISATION: Mr. B. K. Mistry reported on the meetings held. He asked for more 'Question and Answers' meetings, and felt attendance might be improved if individual notices could be sent with the help of an Addressograph. It was agreed that an Adrema machine should be purchased and the Executive Secretary was asked to settle particulars of model and cost in consultation with the Honorary Treasurer.

The Receipt and Payment A/c. from 1/6/59 to 30/11/59 prepared by the Honorary Treasurer was recorded. The Bank Balance on 30/11/59 was Rs.32,659-56nP. It was noted that about Rs.50,000/- had already been contributed to the Central Party.

The Executive Secretary's report on the activities of the Citizens' Committee in connection with the BEST Strike was considered. The Committee took note of what was done, and sanctioned the expenditure incurred, which was estimated at around Rs.1,000/-. It was agreed that in future an urgent meeting of the Organising Committee should be called in such circumstances. Action in an emergency should be taken only after consultation with the Chairman and in his absence, members of the Organising Committee.

The Chairman stressed the salient points in the Reports of the Central Organising Committee and General Council Meeting at Hyderabad which had been circulated, viz. the decisions taken on Foreign Policy, on Finance - Bombay's annual contribution has been raised to five lakhs - and on the formation of a Public Advice Committee.

Mr. Murthy suggested the calling of a Press Conference to be addressed by Mr. Masani on his return from Madras, and agreed to make the necessary arrangements.

Mr. Masani's request to be relieved of the Chairmanship on his election as General Secretary of the Party was accepted as inevitable in the circumstances. He would, however, continue to be a member of the Bombay Organising Committee. Sir H. P. Mody moved a resolution accepting Mr. Masani's resignation, while placing on record appreciation of his valuable services, and proposing that the Vice-Chairman Mr. Murarji Vaidya, be invited to be Chairman. This was seconded by Mr. K. M. Munshi and carried unanimously.

In view of the forthcoming Convention at Patna, it was felt that all efforts should be concentrated on the increasing of membership, so as to reach a target of at least 5,000 by the 15th of February, 1960.

CO-OPTIONS: The names of Mr. Khinji Cheda and Mr. Nolan L. Contractor were suggested for co-option and approved.
