

Unity Was Main Theme At Session

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THIS sprawling township of tin-sheet and bamboo-thatched hutments began emptying itself to-night with the end of the 66th session of the Indian National Congress after it had adopted four resolutions described by the top leadership as of "momentous significance."

The departing delegates carried with them the message of national unity. Mr. Nehru made several public speeches during the past week at Sardarnagar. The theme of each of them was the need to forge national unity and build a "modernised society."

Tame Affair

On such occasions as he referred to the international situation, he sounded a note of anxiety. Events in Laos and the Congo were alarming and contained the seeds of a global conflagration. The world was poised on the brink of a major war. This was no time for Indians to indulge in personal, regional and communal animosities.

Attendance at the open session was disappointing and the session itself proved a tame affair. One missed the slogans that used to reverberate through Congress pandals in the past. Though it was claimed that about 100,000 tickets had been sold, attendance was so thin that the venue of the open session was shifted to the smaller pandal where the Subjects Committee had met. The huge enclosure, built to accommodate about 100,000 people lay desolate today.

Though simplicity was the keynote of all arrangements made for the session, expenditure on it was high. An estimated Rs. 20 lakhs were spent on laying the township. The weather, unfortunately, was unkind to the visitors in the first few days of the week but, towards the week-end, the cold lost its sting. The delegates' camps provided inadequate protection against the cold, and curiously enough, though a special cottage had been built for the Prime Minister to stay within Sardarnagar, Mr. Nehru spent the entire week in the Neelambaug Palace.

The session passed six resolutions—two of them on foreign affairs. The most important resolution, from the organisational point of view, was on national integration, which gave a call to Congressmen to continue to play "a historical role" in forging national unity and ridding the society of communalism and casteism. The resolution on the Sino-Indian