giving notice to the General-Secretariat of the League. The notice will take effect six months from the date of its despatch.

Statement on India by DEAN ACHESON, Acting U. S. Secretary of State, December 3, 1946.

The United States awaits with deep concern the outcome of the current talks in London between the Indian political leaders and the British Government. I feel most strongly that it will be in the interest of India, as well as that of all the whole world, for its leaders to grasp this opportunity to establish a stable and peaceful India.

The crux of the internal problem now confronting India appears to arise from differences of opinion between the two principal parties as to the conditions under which provinces can elect to join or remain out of sub-federations in northwest and northeast India. I am confident that if the Indian leaders show the magnanimous spirit the occasion demands, they can go forward together on the basis of the clear provisions on this point contained in the constitutional plan proposed by the British Cabinet Mission last spring to forge an Indian federal union in which all elements of the population have ample scope to achieve their legitimate political and economic aspirations.

The United States has long taken a sympathetic interest in the progressive realization of India's political destiny. It has welcomed the forward-looking spirit behind the comprehensive programs of industrial and agricultural advancement recently formulated in that country. Lastly, by our recent establishment of full diplomatic relations with the interim government of India, we have expressed in tangible form our confidence in the ability of the Indian leaders to make the vital decisions that lie immediately ahead with full awareness that their actions at this moment in history may directly affect world peace and prosperity for generations to come.

Statement of the British Government on India given at the close of talks between British Ministers and Indian leaders in London, December 6, 1946.

The conversations held by his Majesty's Government with Pandit Nehru, Mr. Jinnah, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, and Sardar Baldev Singh came to an end this evening, as Pandit Nehru and Sardar Baldev Singh are returning to India tomorrow morning.

The object of the conversations has been to obtain the participation and co-operation of all parties in the Constituent Assembly. It was not expected that any final settlement could be arrived at since the Indian representatives must consult their colleagues before any final decision is reached.

The main difficulty that has arisen has been over the interpretation of paragraphs 19 (v) and 19 (viii) of the Cabinet mission's statement of May 16 relating to the meetings in sections, which run as follows:

Paragraph 19 (v): "These sections shall proceed to settle provincial constitutions for the Provinces included in each section, and shall also decide whether any group constitution shall be set up for those Provinces and if so with what provincial subjects the group should deal. Provinces should have power to opt out of groups in accordance with the provisions of sub-clause (viii) below."

Paragraph 19 (viii): "As soon as the new constitutional arrangements have come into operation it shall be open to any Province to elect to come out of any group in which it has been placed. Such a decision shall be taken by the legislature of the Province after the first General Election under the new constitution."

The Cabinet mission have throughout maintained the view that the decisions of the sections should, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, be taken by simple majority vote of the representatives in the sections. This view has been accepted by the Muslim League but the Congress have put forward a different view. They have asserted that the true meaning of the statement, read as a whole, is that the provinces have a right to decide both as to grouping and as to their own constitutions.

His Majesty's Government have had legal