

26th Sept '26.

There were considerable discussions and debates amongst the Mandali today on the question of doing away with the class-distinction in the matter of drinking water, that is instead of maintaining separate water pots and the consequent arrangements necessary for that, all should ~~be~~ be made to drink from only one pot. The opinion on the question was found to be keenly divided in the Mandali.

Hearing that steps were going to be taken to do away with the caste and class distinction in the matter of drinking water many boys in the school began to prepare to return to their homes as they could not put up with that "freedom". At least a regular meeting was called together by Baba when he asked both the parties to fight out their arguments before Him. Quite a heated debate followed and when the votes were taken, there were exactly 28 votes on each side that is the

opinion in favour of "no-change" and "pro-change" was equally divided amongst the Mandali.

Baba gave in his "casting vote" in favour of the no-changers after conveying the following:-

" Those who want to force the poor helpless low caste people to go against their particular sentiments, why do they only insist upon the drink question? Let us all be put on one and the same level not only in the matter of drinking water but also food, dress and religion. All should eat at one place and do away with the question of touchability and ~~untouchability~~ untouchability completely. All to put on gunny cloth long robes of the same kind and pattern (3/401) and all should do away with the external symbols of their respective religions, that is the Parsis should take away their Sudra + Kushti, the Hindoos to do away with the jainis and similarly the mohammedans also must shave off their beards etc. And so if improvement is to be made it should be done completely.

Otherwise it is like taking undue advantage of ~~the~~ ^{the} helplessness of those poor people who have thrown themselves on our mercy!

Hence leave up the 'experiment' at this stage and let everything go on as usual without any new change. The work of uniting all people into one will be done at the proper time by Powers which are beyond ~~that~~ the humans. Such a change cannot be brought round merely through human efforts!"

Besides this "storm" today there was a tea party

with ⁱⁿ "Mehsoo" sweets and a cricket match.

When all were about Baba in the open maidan in the evening interesting discussions were held amongst themselves with an occasional explanatory remark from Baba, on different subjects, the prominent amongst it being Ghandhi and politics.

27th ^{Sept} ~~Aug~~ 1926.

It was raining heavily almost through-out the day. The Mundali played an outdoor game in the Sai-Darbar. Baba gave some explanations in the night on "Kharaji Pira and Sadguru". He also found out a mistake on the part of the school authorities in connection with the ~~the~~ school register and severely took to task the faulty party and warned all the rest to be remain very particular of even minor orders and stray instructions.

29th Sept 1926.

A Hindoo gentleman whose son had been lost and could not be traced came to Shree for advise in the matter with printed hand bills giving the description of the lost child. But obviously to test Baba he made the mistake of ~~just~~ abruptly asking Baba as to where his boy was and when it would be met with instead of soliciting the blessings in his trouble. Baba promptly told him that he will meet his son tomorrow and told him to go to Sholapur for the

for the purpose, but hardly had he gone back a few paces that ~~he~~ he was recalled and questioned as to what he thought Baba to be. "If you take me for a saint why ask questions and if you think I am an astrologer where is the fee?" The visitor was greatly abashed with the above ^{written} question from Baba and admitted his mistake. Baba then advised him to go to Kedgarn to Shri Terayan Maharej and also look up there the Christian Missionary School and promised him that his son will be restored to him soon.

In the evening the three boys who had been dismissed from the school and forbidden not to enter the Meherabad boundaries were caught red handed trespassing about the school premises. However instead of being punished or handed over to the Police for the trespass Baba was kind enough to pardon them completely and on the contrary at the insistent suggestions put forward by Patel & Rustonji to give the boys a further chance of re-entry in the school Baba allowed them to do so on the condition that they were not to keep any connection with the village Mehars including their own relations. At first the boys accepted the term and even the following day was fixed for them to come and join the school but before allowing them to go away Baba again finally asked them if they were prepared to act up to their promises faithfully to the last when the boys began to falter and stammer. Baba remarked to those who were advocating their re-entry that what he had done at first i.e. dismissed was quite right in the cases of these boys and that they would never come round. At night when all were sitting out about Baba ~~out~~ near the "Petromax lamp" all

were given tasty food as Parasad and then very interesting discourses were held about the past happenings about Baba for a long time.

Baba's visit to Kashi in company with Anandaraj was the chief topic. His visit to Jagannath where none but Brahmins are allowed was also narrated. It transpired that Baba went there with Anandaraj in a disguise where Anandaraj himself asked all the Brahmins to bow low over Baba's feet - telling them that He - Baba - was Visheshwar!