

Sunday 2.1.27.

Baba Stops Writing.

As already arranged Baba has left the use of pen and writing completely from this morning! As in the beginning of the observance of silence much confusion and awkwardness is felt all round. The mandali ~~had~~ ^{was} by now well used up to Baba's mode of expression through writings but ~~the~~ its stoppage has once again made them feel Sri's Silence very acutely. Baba is strictly carrying out the self-imposed restriction, and expressing himself only through ~~signs~~ signs and gestures or at the most through pointing alphabets. As for the rest of it, the day was passed happily. In the afternoon Rustonji brought his new Hudson car in which Sri and some mandali members had a short but fine spin for some miles. Cricket was played in the evening, and games of draught at night after supper. Vishnuo was caught napping before the time appointed for going to sleep, and hence Baba ordered all to perform His Arti every night at nine o'clock before going to bed from this evening. Baba did

not take any food today and retired in his Ghopdi for the night.

Monday

3rd Jan '27.

It was a very unpleasant day. The trouble began with the advent of Bar-Soap from Poona early this morning. The fellow began to behave very meanly and indecently. He said he had come to take Rs 5000/- from Baba under ~~my~~ Babajan's order and authority!

What a cheek! He actually began to bother Baba directly upon his arrival with the unreasonable demand.

Shri heard him out very patiently and tried to bring him to reason politely. Baba conveyed to him that He was Himself short of funds at present, that He would give him double the amount asked for at the expiary of Babajan and also tried at great lengths in many other ways to bring him round. But the mean chap insisted upon his vulgar demand. Shri was so patient with him that He even~~t~~ went to the lengths of clasping His august hands before that buffalo of a Bar-Soap in order to make him go back to Poona and remain there near Babajan, yet in spite of ~~it~~ all the rhyme and reasoning that Baba had with him for nearly three hours, without even taking a drop of a drink, Bar-Soap remained stuck at his disgraceful attitude! Even a black-mailer would have been kicked out ~~so~~ by an ordinary man of the world under such circumstances but without being the least under any kind of obligation, Shri was indeed displaying His super-human power of forbearance in trying to humour with Bar-Soap and his insolence. So long

most of the mandali did not know Bar-Soap's mission as Baba had been kind enough to afford him such a long time in a private interview. However when he showed no signs of coming to his senses, Baba called all the mandali together ~~before~~ and informed them with the situation. Merely the repetition, of ~~the~~ what was transpiring during the interview made some of the mandali get excited. Some suggested that he - Bar-Soap be turned out with force. Another thought that it was a fit case for the Police and so^{on}. Probably there were many who, but for Baba and His orders, wanted to choke the very life out of him. A letter was written to Rustomji to arrange for the removal of Bar-Soap as soon as possible. Baba who had been sitting all the time in the verandah got up and walked towards the Halls inside. Bar-Soap also tried to follow Him. Shri signed him not to follow but when the mandali saw that Bar-Soap went to the length of breaking Baba's orders, they waited no more, and ~~intervened~~ stopped Bar-Soap following Baba with force. There was a slight scuffle but the foolish looking Bar-Soap proved wise enough not to argue more with so many of the mandali who had surrounded him by now and looked dangerous. He beat a retreat and lay down under a tree by the roadside. The mandali again had a talk with Baba and ~~the~~ various suggestions to get rid of him were made, including the one, that he should be left alone where ~~he~~ he was under the tree and none should speak with him. During this latter discussion, through a mistake on the part of the orderlies in letting the pen and slates lying about Shri's seat, Baba 'forgot' His vow for the time being and wrote out some words on the slate! Baba remained remarkably

cool and collected in face of such trying provocation from Bar-Soap, while now find that the orderlies forgot to remove away the slates as already ordered, Baba looked very greatly annoyed and excited so much so that He walked away towards the Ghopdi and remained there all alone for the rest of the day. The usual Orderlies were all dismissed for the time being and Bhwie remained ^{as} the only attendant about Shri.

In the beginning of the Silence it was expected that Baba ~~would~~ might let slip a chance utterance but up to now Shree has succeeded in observing the most speech like silence without ever uttering a single ejaculation. ~~Paul the ~~total~~ avoidance of the pen has already ~~been~~~~ Paul the vow of not using the pen has not proved as complete as the former. Already within two days a slip has been recorded.

The rest of the day was passed in routine. Baba called one or two from the mandali separately and 'talked' with them through gestures for some time.

In the solitary stay under the tree, in the heat, winds, and dust of a bright afternoon, without being even looked to by the rest of the mandali, Bar-Soap evidently came to some senses. He greatly changed his attitude and declared his willingness to go away to Poona and also sent word to Shri to help him in his ~~immediate~~ immediate difficulties. Baba granted his request and caused 100/- to be paid to him on the condition that ~~Bar-Soap~~ he should no longer to consider to have any connection with Baba hereafter.

The nuisance was at least removed in the evening ~~and~~ ^{when} Barsoap left for Poona by the five o'clock train.

After the Arti at 9 P.M. the mandali retired for the night.

Tuesday

4th Jan '27.

A meeting was held this afternoon, when all were reminded of their promise, in view of the scene caused by Barsoof yesterday, to expect nothing from Baba, particularly in money-matters. That all should stay here without any hopes of material and even spiritual gain save that of getting food and being provided with the immediate necessities of life. It was a different thing, Shri added if He gave anything, material or spiritual, to anyone amongst them of His own accord but none should ask of Him anything. Similarly when ~~She~~^{He} would begin to speak was not known 'said' Baba perhaps it might be tomorrow or it may be after two years! Save for this meeting the day ended amidst the usual routine.