

## More About Burjore.

The much awaited letter from Abdulla with the promised details about Burjore came today. At three o'clock in the afternoon a meeting of the selected members from the mandali was called together to hear it and to decide what to do with the boy. It now transpired that he was lately employed at Messrs Ardeshir's, Mineral water works at Poona. Out of sympathy for a poor homeless boy the employees ~~were~~ had been good enough

to provide him with board and lodging and clothes plus a decent pay of Rs25/- in cash. For sometime Burjor too worked hard and pleased his masters so well that they placed him in sole charge of one of their retail shops in the city. But here he went wrong. One day without informing his kind and good employees the boy ~~was~~ not only ran away but also took away with him 35/- rupees from the cash in the shop! So, Abdulla wrote, that when he approached the employees he found them very angry with the boy and firm in their decision to teach him a good lesson. Besides the theft the boy was so inconsiderate as to take away the keys of the shop with him and thus the shop had to remain closed for a day!

After some discussions the mandali agreed with Baba that at the most the boy was "silly and a fool and not "Dangerous" as referred to in the telegram and perhaps may improve if given a chance here. Otherwise had he been really <sup>cunning</sup> ~~clever~~ with criminal tendencies he would have decamped with a larger sum or smartly pinched away small sums from the daily cash which was in his sole charge gradually instead of losing such a comfortable and respectable service and risk police pursuit for the sake of 35/- rupees only. And so it was decided to let Burjor remain here, But all the same Baba sent for him, and then threatened him outright with Police custody unless he made a clean breast of all his past actions. This time the boy gave out a clean confession of his guilt in full details, which quite agreed with the contents of Abdulla's letter and thus showed that he no longer tried to hide

anything from Baba, although he did so very hesitatingly and amidst profuse tears and sobs. At the end of his confession Burjor made a pathetic appeal to Baba to save him and keep him in His shelter. As was already decided, Shri conveyed him a pardon and the permission to stay on here but warned him through signs never to think of any mischief here even while dreaming "You may manage to avoid the detection of a crime elsewhere, you may succeed in running away from any other place but this won't do here. I will fish you out even if you hide yourself in the very depths of the earth, there is no place that my eyes cannot reach. Not only that but if you do anything wrong here you will instantly become a cripple (sē vā vā vā)" was one of the remarks that Shri conveyed to Burjore during the discussion. Further by way of an example the case of Bal was repeated before him by one of the mandali under ~~the~~ Baba's order.

### Disobedience To Baba Is Dangerous!

It transpired, that recently, in spite of Baba's advice to the contrary, Bal insisted upon leaving the mandali and began to learn motor-driving and repairing at Rustonji's garage. But within a few days he had to admit that it is very dangerous to go against Baba's wishes. It so happened that only the other day Bal slipped down from the top of a water tank and fell down on a sharp piece of tin sheet in such a way that one of his

hands received a deep cut as it got sandwiched between his whole body and the sharp edges of the tin sheet. But for Adli's timely first aid, the bleeding ~~was~~ was so great that it would have proved fatal for Bab! "At the end of this narration Shri again conveyed to Burjore to be of good behaviour here, and that if he obeyed Him properly he will be provided with every comfort and will have a bright future if not he will be doomed.

Then when the boy went away, Shri passed a remark in joke to the mandali, that it appears from the eyes of the boy that either he will prove an excellent addition in the mandali or become a criminal of the worst kind, he will go to the extremes.

### The Steady Rock, In The Dashing Sea!

This evening Shri provided a fresh example of his really being the steady rock in the dashing sea of Inaya all round. Shireen Banoo, Mrs. Romaji, Kasaji and a few others picked up a serious quarrell amongst themselves in the "Post Office" premises, where all of them are putting up, as soon as Babu went there after finishing up Burjore's case. It was all like a great cyclone! No sooner that they started quarrelling ~~they~~ there was a frantic and very loud exchange of bad names and ~~at~~ wild abusing! Before any attempt ~~be made~~ to stop their mad display of bad temper could even be thought of they all seemed to be on the point of actual violence. Screams and shouts, threats and shrieks freely rent the air in a chorus of wild abuse

One talked of going into the well, the other actually struggled with a big stone with a view to some violence and so on. And what did Baba do in all this tumult and storm?

Shri kept on playing with Pilamai's little son quite as unconcerned as if he were out for a walk in a calm and cool garden!

It was only when the first frenzy of excitement went out of the fighters of itself through exhaustion that Shri intervened and in no time brought about peace and tranquility in his usual tactful way satisfying all parties to a certain degree.

### Distinguished Visitors.

After supper when all were seated about Baba listening the "Seaton-Blake" story which Ramjoo was repeating as usual, some visitors were announced. Shri allowed them in. One of them was Mr. .... Deputy Collector of the District, who comes to see Baba off and on, while <sup>his</sup> ~~the~~ three other companions were <sup>some of</sup> the prominent citizens of Pandharpur.

Of these three, two were Hindoos and the third was an old Bohri gentleman who also happened to be the President of the Pandharpur Municipality. The cordiality and civility with which the latter greeted and talked with Baba showed as to how he managed to hold the position of the Presidentship of the municipality of a place where Hindoos predominated in population to a very large extent. For the time being the story-telling

was stopped and Shri freely 'talked' with the visitors through the usual signs. They seemed much delighted with the visit and spoke in no uncertain terms their appreciation of the Meher-Abraham Institute when all the details of the scheme ~~was~~<sup>were</sup> explained to them.

### The Sat-Purush At Pandharpur.

Before going away, the visitors very eagerly enquired of Baba if there was a living Saint at Pandharpur at present "Yes there is one Sat-Purush there" conveyed Baba. The visitors thereupon began guessing at the identity of this holy man of their city, suggested some names and personalities and seemed keen upon seeing Him. But besides 'telling' them that their guesses were so far incorrect Baba did not disclose the identity of the Saint save for this hint "He goes about in torn rags and appears to be as unconscious of his body and surroundings as a Mujzool or Paramhansa" and also added that if they continued to be keen and devoted they will surely come ~~across~~ across the Saint one day. "Keep on searching" was Shri's final advice to the visitors who then went away with impressive memories.

After the visitors had left, Shri signed at Ranjos to continue the story, which was finished by about ten o'clock and then all were ordered to ~~bed~~ bed.