

India's Constitution

To The Editor, "The Times of India"

Sir,—When the Constituent Assembly is reviewing some of its earlier decisions, in a mood of second thoughts, the question of evolving for India a Federal or Unitary type of Constitution should not be taken as closed, but must be considered *de novo* in the light of the events of past two years. When the Constituent Assembly was first mooted and Interim government installed, the Muslim majority areas were to be included in India and the Federal concept was evolved mainly to retain them. With the separation of these areas, the *raison d'être* for a loose federation goes away. On the contrary, the Federal ideal will encourage fissiparous provincial tendencies while a Unitary constitution will take away much of the glamour and argument for linguistic provinces. In the economic field also, the need for centralized economy has often been pointed out by you in matters of Food, Labour and Banking Legislation and in the field of Taxation. Should not the Consenbly, therefore, evolve a Unitary form of government for India and spare many complications and troubles for the future? It is obvious that the desire in India today is for "union" as well as for "unity" and this sentiment should be fully taken advantage of for strengthening the country. At least the Constitution-makers should keep only one list of Provincial subjects, the Residue to reside in the Centre, and follow in general the South African Constitution.

KARSANDAS THAKKER.

Bombay, June 8.

Alibag District Court

To The Editor, "The Times of India"

Sir,—It is not quite clear as to who are to be benefited by the haste displayed by Government in the immediate establishment of a District Court at Alibag. No public or statutory body has been consulted and it is doubtful whether the district representatives in the legislature were at all taken into confidence before Government took the decision. Panwel, Karjat, Khalapur and Uran are very anxious to remain attached to Thana as before and the Talukas on the Bombay-Goa Road would prefer Thana to Alibag with the present conditions of transport. Now, however, that the Court is not likely to be shifted to Alibag for some days, it may as well be allowed to function at Thana during the whole of the monsoon during which time a better and more democratic method may be adopted by the Government to ascertain the opinion of the district as a whole, before this unproductive and expensive change is imposed on a district crying for more water and better roads.

V. M. KANEKAR.

Pen, June 8.