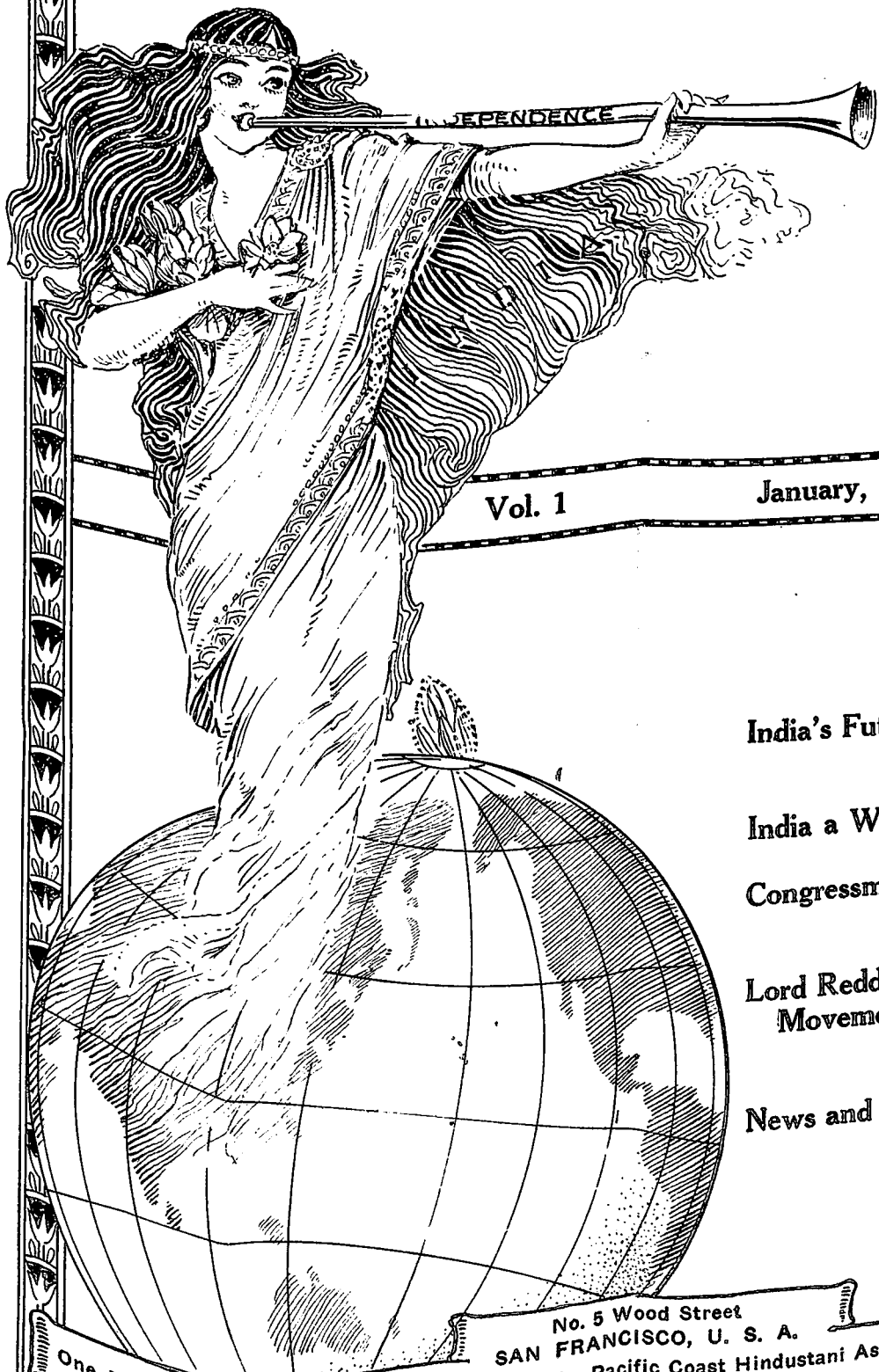


A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

# The UNITED STATES OF INDIA



*A Monthly Review of  
Political, Economic,  
Social and Intellectual  
Independence of India*

Vol. 1

January, 1924

No. 6

India's Future in World Politics

India a World Problem

Congressmen in Councils

Lord Redding to Crush Akali  
Movement

News and Notes

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# FACTS AND FIGURES

## FAMINES IN INDIA ARE OF MONEY NOT OF FOOD

IT is often claimed by ill-informed critics that India's "over-population" is the cause of her recurring famines. Nothing is further from truth than this. India is much less over-populated than many famine-free countries of the world. According to the latest issue of the Statesman's Year-Book, the density of population per square mile in Belgium is 652; in England and Wales 618; in Holland 542; in Germany 332; in Italy 326; and in India 223. These figures speak for themselves.

Are the Indian famines due to failure of rain? British apologists continuously harp on this favorite theme of theirs. Major Philip B. Phipson in the pages of the Imperial Asiatic Quarterly writes: "The water supply of India is ample for all requirements, it only requiring to be diverted from her rivers, stored up from her rainfall, and distributed over her fields, to secure such an abundance as shall leave no single human being wanting it."

The British government, however, is more interested in strategic railroads, armies, armaments, and fortifications than in saving human life in India by building adequate irrigation works for the insurance of crops all over the country.

Are famines in India then caused by lack of foodstuffs as is often understood by the victims of British propagandists. Let a few facts answer this question: India is one of the greatest food producing countries of the world. She produces one-third of the world's supply of rice and tea, and one-tenth of its wheat. In the production of maize, peas and pulse, she is surpassed by none. Always and invariably she produces more than she can consume herself. Even in her worst years of famine she has enough and to spare. When people die of starvation in thousands and millions, India is forced to export food to Great Britain. On the average she exports about \$100,000-000 worth of foodstuffs every year.

On the other hand, if Great Britain had to depend on her own food products she could only live for three months in the year. And yet, who hears the real famines in Great Britain now?

The real cause of India's famine is the abject poverty of the people. And this poverty is the direct outcome of England's ruthless destruction of India's industries, the rack-renting of her farms and abnormally high rate of taxation in proportion to the pitiable income of the people.

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"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make ye free"

# The United States of India

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SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., JANUARY, 1924

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## Editorial

### OUR CHRISTMAS PRAYER

O, Lord Christ, perhaps you know what Your favorite lambs are doing. Your Ten Commandments are not only being discarded, but some of Your lambs are doing opposite to what You commanded. Your churches are being used for the political propaganda. You said, O, Lord, "Thou shalt love thine enemy," but Your followers (in name only) are hating each other. You ordered, O, Lord, "If somebody takes away thy coat, give him thy cloak also," but You see now people who claim themselves to be the champions of Christianity, are robbing the poor and weak nations. O, Lord, are they doing what You wish them to do or are they acting against Your wish? If they are acting against Your will, have you not the power to mend their ways?—Amen.

### RELIGIOUS STRUGGLE IN INDIA

India, at present, is engaged in a religious struggle rather than in a political one. The leader of the Indian National Congress is a man of saintly character—Mahatma Gandhi. In fact, he is the only man in the world today who is trying to put into practice the teachings of Jesus Christ. And the British Government which calls itself Christian is acting like a non-Christian, and is crucifying the living Christ—Gandhi.

We appeal to the real Christian world on this Christmas occasion to use its moral force to compel the British Government either to become true Christian and release Gandhi or renounce its claim to Christianity.

It is the irony of fate, that India, which should have practiced the teaching of Lord Krishna, is practicing the teachings of Jesus Christ; and the British people, who profess to be Christians, and follow the Christian ideals more than anything else, are practicing the ideals of Lord Krishna!

### RELIGION AND POLITICS

Officially it is admitted in many countries that religion should remain separated from politics. But in reality, it never does so. Priests and preachers are generally in the pay of the ruling class. They cannot but play the tune they are paid to play.

More time is given to politics in churches than to sermons. The church that teaches religion exclusively, finds a very small congregation. People have lost their interest in superstitious religions. The preacher is up against holding his congregation. He has to put in some interesting topics to get enough people so as to obtain a collection big enough to make his living. Preachers have to live, they have to eat, they need clothes. In order to get these necessities of life they are compelled to have money. They preach for whoever pays them for their services.

In subject countries, like India, Ireland, and Egypt, the preachers are actually supported by the ruling class to do the bidding of their masters. In India the priests keep the people divided and keep them fighting among themselves, thus making it easy for the British to rule. In Ireland the Catholic Bishops have denounced the republicans. Some preachers preach the blessings of British rule in India in churches instead of the blessings of the Holy Bible. Missionaries go to India carrying a bottle of liquor under one arm and the Bible under the other. They work as scouts or pioneers for their masters.

Religion that should have been the source of good will among different races and nations has actually been made by the so-called missionaries and preachers a means to create hatred among men of different localities. Selfish missionaries, in order to serve their own end, will keep on doing this until the common people get wise to their game.

Some simple-minded, rich widows fall easy victims before the oily words of the missionaries, when they are told how greatly they will be rewarded for saving a few heathens. Thus funds are collected from such people and the missionaries go out into the Eastern Countries where they take it easy, and manufacture lots of false reports to justify their being there at all. They send back home stories of heroism, and tales of hardships they have to undergo, when they save the heathens. They have to show how savage the people are where they are working. Thus, they misrepresent the people of the country where they happen to be. If Western people hate the Orientals today, it is mostly due to the work of the missionaries.

Some big interests use the missionaries for propaganda work. They spread the poison of propaganda coating it sometimes with religion and sometimes with humanitarian ideals. Common people swallow these sugar-coated pills and do not know it until the poison begins to work.

Religion, as it is preached today, has proven to be a menace to the world peace. This is so because common people do not pay as much attention to religion as they pay to the everyday necessities of life. If they paid as much heed to religions as they pay to the material science, there would be less chance for their being doped by the cheap missionaries. The Western people have taken good care of their bodies but have left the souls at the mercy of preachers. It is high time now that the common people should take care of their souls as well as their bodies, and get wise, and do not let these missionaries sow seeds of hatred and discord among them, thereby hurting the cause of the world peace.

#### INDIA A WORLD PROBLEM

Humanity as a whole cannot be called healthy so long as one-fifth of its body (India) is suffer-

ing from the disease of slavery. Health of one part of a body is always interdependent upon the health of the other part. This is a hard fact which few people seem to realize. Most of the people seem to be under the impression that it is none of their business if England rules over the whole world so long as their own country is not ruled by her. Such people, who do not see very far from themselves, do not learn any lesson from history. They only open their eyes when danger knocks at their own door. They are surprised and find no time then to know the real cause of the catastrophe.

Ninety per cent of all the conflicts between the individuals and nations are due to economic reasons. For various reasons the common people are given to understand that the causes for the conflict are anything but economic. Color, race, blood, nor religion has anything to do with a war now-a-days. Blood may be thicker than water but it certainly is not more valuable than loot.

American Colonists had to shed blood to win their independence from their kins—the English ruling class, all because England would not let go willingly the economic advantages she derived from America. It was the economic interest—the British trade ruined by Germans—that caused the late war. English money lords prolonged the late war by supplying Germans with munitions and food for the sake of profit. They did not care even for the lives of their English men. The dollar is more dear to them than anything else.

Such being the case, how is it possible for a sane person to remain indifferent while one-fifth of humanity is being outraged by England in India? If it is a necessity for an individual to save a part of his body, then it is a necessity for the humane people to save humanity.

## False Notions About India Explained

### The Cause of Illiteracy, Superstition, Poverty, Family, Plague, and Uncleanliness in India

The cause of all the social, political, industrial, and intellectual evils from which India suffers can be stated in a single phrase—British rule. Now and then we hear people talking about India. They give facts but do not take the trouble of also giving the causes back of those facts. They say that India is extremely poor, that her people are filthy and superstitious. They always avoid the real issue.

### Why India Is the Poorest Country Today

India is the poorest country today simply because it is ruled by a foreign nation. In the words of an honest Englishman, India has been "bled white." That is why the people of India have become so poor that they cannot afford to buy a piece of soap to wash their clothes with. They fall an easy prey to sickness. Having no money to hire a doctor, they die unattended. Famine conditions are worse today than before the British rule began. Statistics compiled by Englishmen themselves prove this fact.

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The British government spends more than half of India's revenues for military purposes in order to safeguard the country for the British manufacturers. 633 million pounds are spent for such military purposes out of a total revenue of 1,283 millions. On the other hand, she spends only 10 million pounds on education for a country of 320 million people.

The people of India have started a few private institutions for education. The Government, even toward these, has neglected its duty. It has done its best to hamper these institutions from giving any education of a liberal nature. Whatever educational work the Government has engaged in has been conducted from the point of view of the British ruling class. We wager that the text books studied in American schools will be tabooed in the Indian schools. The Anglicized history of America, not the true American history, only will be available for the study of students in India.

Under such circumstances how could the Indian people be otherwise than what they actually are?

### How 75,000 English Soldiers Can Hold in Check 320 Millions

One man with plenty of ammunition and a machine gun located at a strategic point, can hold back a thousand unarmed men. In this fashion the English hold India today. With her powerful navy and world-wide propaganda, she is holding not India alone but practically the entire world as well.

### Superstition In India

Yes, the people of India may be superstitious, but what people are not? Everybody boasts of his own religion and despises that of others. A wise man would not spend his time finding fault with the faith of others but rather would develop the good point in his own. No religion is based on exact science. All religions are theories of life. One theory is just as good as another. It is hard to determine which is correct. It is modern science which has destroyed much of the superstition of the Occidentals. Through the neglect of the English rulers the Hindoos have not been educated in the field of modern sciences.

### The Caste System In India

Some critics claim that there are too many castes and creeds in India. They assert that if the British government should leave India to herself the Hindoos would at once fight among

themselves. This is fine logic! Suppose the members of a family fight among themselves, does this give any right to a neighbor to take possession of the house and plunder everything in it, and compel the whole family to work for him the remainder of their lives? If there are still people who believe that the British government runs its colonies for the good of the inhabitants, they should let that government take over their own country for a while and they will soon discover the true nature of British rule.

### Child Marriage In India

Marriage in India does not imply that the bridegroom and bride begin to live together from the day in which they are married. Most of those who talk about child marriage in that country do not understand the situation. The boys and girls involved in such child marriages do not live together until their childhood is over. There are instances even in this country of girls at thirteen having babies. There may be a larger number of such cases in India. The age at which marriage customarily occurs is set by religious custom usually at twenty-five for the man and eighteen for the girl.

Such child marriages as take place in India are the result of conditions which arose during the turbulent stage of Indian history when it was resorted to in order to protect the chastity of young girls against the assaults of invaders.

### The Burning of Widows In India

It was during the same turbulent epoch of Indian history that this practice came into effect. At that time it was not safe for a woman of a respectable family to live after her husband died. Their widows sacrificed themselves rather than face a certain disgrace.

Child marriages and the burning of widows at their husbands' funeral pyres are no longer practiced, even though the womanhood of India is far from safe under English rule. There are many instances where Indian women have been disgraced by Englishmen with impunity.

### Babies Thrown Into the Ganges

Mothers throwing their babies into the Ganges? What a horrible thing to do! And what an unnatural one! Sensational propaganda, but untrue! No mother on earth would do it if she could help it.

Family ties in India are stronger than in Amer-



ica where mothers have left babies on ferry boats, or deposited them even in garbage cans. We know they do not do such things as a mere matter of course. They do it out of sheer necessity, driven to it by poverty. So it is poverty in India which compels mothers at times to throw their babies into the Ganges, rather than to witness them die slowly but surely through starvation.

### Reflections

Yes, there are good things in India and bad things in India, too. She must not be judged too harshly. Liberty-loving peoples should help her win her freedom. Then all the evils that are now rampant through lack of modern scientific knowledge and through poverty will disappear. Then India will contribute her share to the improvement of humanity.

## India's Future in World Politics

OR

### "Continental Bloc" Against Britain vs. Isolation of France in World Politics

By PROF. TARAKNATH DAS, A. M.

Lecturer, Oriental History and Politics, Research University, Washington, D. C.; Author of "India in World Politics."

**W**HILE we are talking of world peace there are indications that another European war in the near future may disrupt the world. As the result of the last World War, the European balance of power has been completely upset, and today new war clouds are hanging over Europe. The whole European wrangle can be summed up by the phrase "Anglo-French Rivalry." The League of Nations, by the very nature of its constitution, is absolutely impotent to avert the impending crisis.

The Triple Entente is dead and gone and realignment of the powers in world politics is in progress. Because of conflicting interest between France and England, two dominant powers in Europe, each of them are looking for a new grouping of powers to protect their national and imperial interest. This has become more and more evident since the Washington conference. England is trying to secure Anglo-American understanding to be backed by Japanese and German aid against France. France is not sitting idle. The Observer (London), February 25, 1923, sums up the French policy as follows:

"What the Quai d'Orsay appears now to be making a bid for is the consolidation of the Franco-Belgian bloc, if not with an anti-British bias, at any rate to the complete exclusion and disregard of Britain."

The object of France is to strengthen her own position and avert the possible isolation of France in world politics. But in Britain the French attitude of having an independent foreign policy with complete disregard of Britain is regarded as

the French move for isolating Britain in world politics.

Great Britain, according to Lord Curzon's own statement, is at the zenith of her power and she wants world peace on the status quo basis and with all possible guarantees that her position in the world be not challenged. She has undertaken to safeguard her position by having American support, which is undoubtedly the greatest factor in world politics today. France finds herself in the most delicate position of German hostility, and also antipathy of Great Britain and America which might turn into hostility, so she is not only for a Franco-Belgian bloc, but looking toward other nations as possible allies. France is more interested in Russian support than any other support. The present situation in European politics can be well compared with what it was in the nineties of the last century when Germany was regarded as a menace to France and Anglo-French relations were decidedly unfriendly because of the Anglo-French conflict of interest in northern Africa, Asia Minor and also in South China. At that time Anglo-German relations were cordial. To offset this menace she made the dual alliance with Russia. But when she found that without the aid of British sea power she would not be able to gain her end, and also when she found that Britain was thinking about the menace of German sea power, then she changed her hostility to Britain by making all kinds of compromises. It was through French influence that Russia was won for the Triple Entente. Before the French attitude toward Britain changed which

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meant that France accepted British foreign policy as the guiding spirit, Britain was so friendly to Germany that there was every possibility of an Anglo-German-Japanese Alliance against a Franco-Russian Alliance. It is also well known to all who have carefully observed the American foreign policy of the latter part of the nineteenth century that America was in favor of an Anglo-Japanese Alliance against the Franco-Russian Alliance. Thus France feels that as Britain is today more pro-German, because Germany's navy and colonies are gone and Germany cannot challenge British supremacy, and also because Anglo-American relations are so friendly as to verge on an alliance, she must have some other alignment of powers to protect herself, and she is working for that.

The idea of a continental bloc against England is not a new idea. France under the leadership of Napoleon wanted to have a continental system and continental blockade against England because the Corsican fully realized that England achieved her supremacy in the continent by dividing the European nations and a continental concert would ruin England. But the French policy of a continental system failed because Napoleon's aspiration to dominate all Europe alienated all the support he first received against England. With the rise of Spain, Russia, Germany and Austria against Napoleon, Britain brought about the isolation of France and destroyed French power not only in Europe but all over the world. If France does not take all the care necessary for her own interest with the greatest farsightedness then there is every possibility of France being again isolated in world politics, to her ultimate ruin.

(Continued in Next Issue)

### ROB HIM FOR HIS GOOD

The following poem was written by Bertrand Shadwell. Although it was originally intended for some other nation, it fits completely with the nature of England when she goes on her "civilizing the world" enterprise. Mark Twain, when he read this poem, wrote to Bertrand Shadwell: "I thank you for the poem. It is what I would have written myself, but for the lack of the poetic faculty." Here it is:

If you see an island shore  
Which has not been grabbed before,  
Lying in the track of trade, as islands should,  
With the simple native quite  
Unprepared to make a fight,  
Oh, you just drop in and take it for his good.

Chorus:

Oh, you kindly stop and take it for his good,  
Not for love of money, be it understood,  
But you row yourself to the land,  
With a Bible in your hand,  
And you pray for him and rob him, for his good:  
If he hollers, then you shoot him—for his good.

There've been sad and bloody scenes  
Blotting out the Hindu rights  
Where we've slaughtered many millions for their good  
And, with bullet and with brand,  
Desolated all the land,  
But you know we did it only for their good.

Chorus (fortissimo, beginning with a howl):

Ow! just club your gun and kill him for his good;  
Don't waste a cartridge, give him steel or wood;  
When he's wounded and he's down,  
Brain him 'cause his skin is brown,  
But be careful that you do it for his good,  
"Take no prisoners" but kill them—for their good.

Yes, and still more far away,  
Down in China, let us say,  
Where the "Christian" robs the "heathen" for his good,  
You may burn and you may shoot,  
You may fill your sack with loot,  
But be sure you do it only for his good.

Chorus:

When you're looting Chinese Buddhas for their good,  
Picking opals from their eyeballs made of wood,  
Just repeat a little prayer,  
As you pry them out with care,  
To the purport that you do it for their good;  
Make your pocket-picking clearly understood.

Or this lesson I can shape  
To campaigning at the Cape,  
Where the Boer has been hunted for his good,  
He would welcome British rule  
If he weren't a blooming fool;  
Thus you see that it is only for his good.

Chorus (pianissimo):

So they've burnt burghers' houses for their good,  
As they poured kerosene upon the wood,  
I can prove them, if I list,  
Every man an altruist  
Making helpless women homeless—for their good;  
Leaving little children roofless—for their good.

Moral:

There's a moral to my song,  
But it won't detain you long,  
For I couldn't make it plainer if I would,  
If you dare commit a wrong  
On the weak because you're strong  
You may do it if you do it for his good.

You may rob him, if you do it for his good,  
You may kill him, if you do it for his good;  
You may forge and you may cheat;  
You have only to repeat  
This formula: "I do it for your good,"  
Crime is Christian when it's really understood.

--BERTRAND SHADWELL.

# PASS IT TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

## NEWS AND NOTES

### CONGRESSMEN IN COUNCILS

The Indian National Congress in its last session at Delhi passed a resolution to the effect that all those who care to go into councils could do so, and all others who find it against their conscience to go into councils should not oppose those who are going in.

Mahatma Gandhi was against going into councils, which he called a mere sham. After he was imprisoned, some important Congress leaders found it advisable to go into the councils in order to either mend them or end them. Upon this idea the Swaraj Party was formed 'within the Congress' as the leaders put it. The candidates for the councils have been nominated by the Swaraj Party for the coming elections.

In some places in India, elections have already taken place, in which the Congress candidates have scored sweeping victories over "loyal" men. Sir Surrendra Nath Benerjea, a noted loyalist, has been defeated by Dr. Roy. Dr. Roy received three times as many votes as his adversary.

We do not care if the Congress candidates are not able to accomplish anything in Councils. But the success of the Congress men in Councils will prove beyond doubt the attitude of the Indian public toward the British Government.

### LORD REEDING TO CRUSH AKALI MOVEMENT

Lord Reeding, Viceroy of India, in his speech said: "Congress and Khilafat activities have been suppressed completely. Only the Akali movement is to be destroyed." With this in view, the government of Lord Reeding has started wholesale arrests of the Akalis. All the members of the Sharomani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, a central organization of the Akalis, have been arrested. The mock trial is going on.

The Akalis are engaged in reforming their Gurdwara (places of worship) where corrupt preachers have violated the regulation of the religion; where the preachers have used the income of the Gurdwaras for their personal and immoral purposes. The Akalis wanted to remove such preachers; but the government would not let them do so; because these preachers, under the guise of religion, has helped the British government by means of sowing the seeds of discord between different religions, thus keeping the people divided, so that the English could rule over them easily. The government knows that when the Akalis will control their Gardwaras, they will

use their income for educational purposes. Educated people are rather hard to rule. The selfish preachers who squander the public funds over dancing girls, help the British by keeping the funds from being used for educational purposes.

Whoever helps the Akalis in this reform movement becomes the victim of the British wrath. Mahraja Nabha is one of such victims. The Gurdwara Reform Movement was started in 1920. During this time the Akalis have scored several victories over the government through passive resistance. The unjust dismissal of the Mahraja of Nabha by the government has intensified the struggle. The Mahraja is of the Sikh faith and an active supporter of the Akali movement. The Akalis hold that inasmuch as the Mahraja was deposed because he sympathized with the Gurdwara Reform Movement, it is the duty of the Akalis to see that he is treated justly by the government. To do him justice, he must be reinstated. To do this, the Akalis have launched passive resistance on a large scale.

The British Government, on the other hand, contends that the Akalis, under the garb of religion, are working for political independence. What a crime! So the struggle goes on. The Akalis must suffer without hitting back all the blows of the mighty empire.

The Akalis represent the cause of liberty for India. Other religious communities must help the Akalis against their common enemy.

### A QUEER WARNING

The Governor of Bengal in his speech warned the people against revolutionary activities. He says in part, that he cannot stop people from taking part in revolutionary movements but he will use all the forces at his command to crush the revolutionists who are gaining strength these days.

Beware! The Tsar of Russia could not suppress the revolution for liberty, and all the world knows what happened to him.

### PASS IT ON TO YOUR FRIEND

If you believe that India has a right to freedom, and you know that England is misrepresenting India to justify her robbery, then help us educate the people by distributing our literature. Read it yourself and then pass it to your neighbor. Real education helps.

To our patrons we wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.