

In refutation of the President's assertion that British rule in India is a "colossal success," the letter declares that, on the contrary, it is a despotism worse than that of Russia, and in support of its declaration it submits authorities and says in part that—

the people of India have no voice whatever in the management of their own affairs. The small number of Indians on government councils are, with rare exceptions, appointed by the government. Their functions are merely advisory. They have no power in the management of Indian affairs. Not a tax can be changed, not a rupee of the people's own money appropriated for any purpose, however urgent, without the consent of British officials. Even the new "reforms" proposed by Lord Morley will effect no essential change. Lord Morley himself declares: "If it could be said that this chapter of reforms led directly or necessarily up to a parliamentary system for India, I, for one, would have nothing to do with it." Even freedom of speech and of assembly are permitted only under the severest limitations and the most galling espionage, and freedom of the press has been taken away. Fully one hundred editors are serving terms of from three to ten years in prison, many of them without trial, in not a few cases without even having been informed of the nature of their offense. The crime almost invariably charged is "sedition." In India the mere discussion of reforms is punished by open or secret imprisonment. There is no Indian home that is not liable at any hour of the day or night to be forcibly entered and searched at the instigation of spying police. There is no Indian gentleman, however high his standing or unimpeachable his character, who may not at any moment be arrested and hurried away to an unknown prison. Nine such arrests and incarcerations took place recently in a single week. Even distinguished Englishmen visiting India have their mail tampered with and are shadowed by the police if they are so much as suspected of any sympathy with the Indian people. All telegraphic and other news from India is closely censored in the English interest. What is learned by the world is for the most part only the English view. But one in Mr. Roosevelt's position should have adequately informed himself before undertaking to speak on a subject affecting the interests of some three hundred millions of people. Adequate information is available. The English Labor party is taking up the wrongs of India, determined that they shall no longer be ignored. Distinguished and able Englishmen, many of them members of Parliament who have also had long service in India, are, in increasing numbers, espousing the cause of India, resolved that the truth shall be known.

Sir Henry Cotton, M. P., is quoted: "Indian administration as carried on to-day is a system of pure absolutism from the Viceroy downwards, as autocratic as that of the Czar of Russia." The idea that the Indian people have any real share in the government of their own country, he pronounces "absolutely illusory." The letter insists that to assert, as President Roosevelt did, that In-

dia is incapable of governing herself, is to fly in the face of history:

India governed herself for thousands of years. In the history of India, we find empires as illustrious and well ordered as any in Europe. The same objections were made by the supporters of Lord North's government regarding the American colonies—that "if left to their own direction they would speedily fall into mutual strife, anarchy and ruin." In like manner when Japan began her modern career it was generally predicted that she could not carry on a government under modern conditions. At the time England first entered India, three hundred years ago, the old Mogul Empire was breaking up, new political and military adjustments were forming and the country was in a state of unusual turmoil, which gave the English their opportunity. But this was a temporary condition, and would have passed as similar periods in other countries have passed. For two thousand years India has been far more peaceful than Europe. There is no record of Indian wars worse than the Thirty Years War in Germany, and none that compare at all in loss of life with the wars of Napoleon; neither does Indian history show anything that in anarchy and violence equals the reign of terror in France." As to disturbances between Hindus and Mohammedans, these have lived side by side without conflict for hundreds of years at a time, under both Hindu and Mohammedan rulers, and there has at no time been any greater hostility between them than between Roman Catholics and Protestants in Europe.

The letter goes on to flatly contradict President Roosevelt's claim that England does not draw a penny from India for English purposes:

Englishmen in India often speak of themselves as birds of passage. Edmund Burke called them "birds of passage and of prey." Avenues through which tribute is drained are (1) rich pensions received by retired English officials; (2) salaries of English officials in India, the highest paid in the world; (3) business profits sent to England by Englishmen in India—Englishmen who are charged with having deliberately destroyed Indian enterprises for the purpose of supplanting them; (4) large remittances to England by the Indian government for military stores, equipment and arms used in India "partly for purposes of defense against possible foes, but much more to hold the Indian people themselves surely in subjection;" (5) interest on English investments made in India "most of them not desired by India or for her benefit"—merely "forms of exploitation." The annual tribute thus paid by India to England is rated at from \$125,000,000 to \$150,000,000. According to her ability to pay India is taxed by her foreign rulers more than twice as heavily as England and more heavily than any country in the world. The tax on salt alone has reached 2,000 per cent of its cost price. The terrible famines in India are not caused by any lack of food, but by an abject poverty brought about by British rule.

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British "Suffragette" Movement.

Another march upon Parliament was made by "suffragettes" (p. 207) on the 24th. A procession

from Caxton Hall, the headquarters, was broken up by the police almost as soon as it started. A second was formed, but this also was broken up. Several arrests were made, among them being Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Constance Lytton, (sister of Lord Lytton and daughter of a former viceroy of India), Miss Stratford Dugdale (daughter of Commander Dugdale and cousin of the Honorable William R. W. Peel, who was elected on the 23d in a by-election as member of the House of Commons for Taunton), Miss Daisy Solomon (daughter of the former Premier of Cape Colony), and Mrs. Catherine Elizabeth Corbett (an aristocratic supporter of the suffragette movement). Upon being arraigned on the 25th, the prisoners refused to give security for future good behavior and were sentenced to imprisonment for one month each, except Mrs. Lawrence, who was sentenced to two months because she had been previously convicted of a similar offense in connection with the "suffragette" movement.

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In the scholarly address which Ethel M. Arnold gave on the 27th in the music hall of the Fine Arts Building at Chicago on "The Progress of Woman in Europe," she spoke at first rather as a student of the feminist movement in the varying phases which it has taken on in the principal countries of Western Europe; but when she came down to Great Britain and today, it was evident that her interest was very far from being academic and that woman suffrage has in her as ardent and sincere an advocate as the anti-suffragists can claim in her distinguished sister, Mrs. Humphrey Ward. She expressed herself as feeling that one result of the enfranchisement of British women must be the general raising of the whole status of women, both mental and moral, and the more harmonious working together of the two halves of the human race. Industrially, she said, that the British working woman is in urgent need of the ballot, for until women have a definite political value their industrial organizations must be more or less neglected both by labor politicians and labor experts. Miss Arnold cited Elizabeth Robins in personal testimony as well as for the picture of the militant movement she has enshrined in *The Convert*. "Have you seen the militant workers?" she asked. "Have you been to their headquarters?" "Then go," she added, with a sort of suppressed fierceness: "they work in blinkers, but a cause whose advocates give up time, money, freedom, health if necessary, does not depend for ultimate success on the wisdom or unwisdom of its followers." Although thus acknowledging the services of Mrs. Pankhurst and the Women's Social and Political Union, Miss Arnold herself belongs to the more conservative branch of the movement whose educational work

for forty years is regarded as having prepared the way for the rapid advance of the last three years.

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Woman Suffrage Movement in the United States.

Over 1,000 representative women from 26 counties of the State of New York appeared before the judiciary committees of both houses of the legislature at Albany on the 24th in behalf of an amendment striking the word "male" from the suffrage clause of the State Constitution. They were opposed by representatives of the anti-equal-suffrage movement. A mass meeting was held by the suffragists in the evening.

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Bills submitting to referendum in the State of Washington the question of woman suffrage, were signed by the Governor of that State on the 25th. The referendum is set for the November election of 1910.

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A woman suffrage joint resolution has just been passed by both houses of the South Dakota legislature. The resolution provides for a Constitutional amendment allowing equal suffrage and is to be voted upon by the people at the next State election.

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In Kansas on the 24th a woman suffrage bill was defeated in the lower house of the legislature by a vote of 57 to 59.

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Meetings under Socialist auspices in behalf of equal suffrage were held simultaneously on the 28th, in accordance with prearranged plans, in New York, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Chicago.

NEWS NOTES

—The 37th ballot for Senator in the Illinois legislature on the 25th (p. 133) gave Senator Hopkins only 61 votes.

—Further indictments for "fake" labor strikes have been found against Martin B. ("Skinny") Madden (p. 209) and his associates at Chicago.

—"Lucky" Baldwin died on his California ranch, Santa Anita, on the 1st, of pneumonia, at the age of 81. He is reputed to have been worth \$25,000,000.

—Dr. William D. Crum, the Negro whom President Roosevelt appointed collector of customs at Charleston, S. C., resigned the office on the 1st, to take effect on the 4th.

—The Standard Oil rebate case (p. 40) has been resumed at Chicago, this time before Judge Anderson instead of Judge Landis. Judge Anderson has already decided incidentally that he will limit the prosecution to 36 offenses. This would reduce the