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No. _____.

____th February, 1927

"confidential"

Sir:

I have the honour to again refer to your No. 5. of the 13th ultime and to state that Dr. Bhagat Singh Thind spoke at the Detroit City Club as per invitation paper attached yesterday the 14th instant on the subject of "British Rule in India" and I herewith give a rough idea of the statements he made during the speech:-

"I want you to lay aside all prejudice from your thoughts about India so we can understand the situation. We Indians know that the British people did not come to civilize us. They were there first as traders organizing themselves into the East India Corporation. India was in a transition period at the time and the British said to the two opposing sides 'What will you give us?' It reminds me of the fable of the two cats who wish a piece of cheese divided between them. A monkey came along and offered to assist. He divided the cheese, placing each piece in a scale. One side was heavier, he bit off a part of that until the monkey had all the cheese and the two cats stood gazing at one another.

The _____ want to be free. Why, I have not found a single Indian who does not want to be ruled by his own people. There is no doubt about it. They differ a bit about the form of government, but not as to who shall do the ruling.

India has had 165 years under their rule. In the Punjab only 72 years. During all the time they have tried to ruin the industrial life of India. You have heard of the ignorance of India, of 78% not being able to read or write. This is an example of the effect of British rule. You hear them boast all the time that they are in India to civilize us. Remember there was civilization in India at a time when the westerners were savages _____ the bark of trees. One by one the industries of India have been killed. We had formerly a wonderful textile industry, a leather industry, a _____ industry. They have all been killed. Imagine the result in your country if all your industries were ruined - imagine the poverty.

poverty of the people, the unrest - the distress. Your people would have to go back to the soil and would die by the millions.

It is a fact that Indian raw material is shipped to Lancashire in England, manufactured, and sent back to India where the goods are sold for less than Indian goods manufactured in their own country!

Human nature has never evolved willingly. They do not only want to be free, they must be free. The same thing applied everywhere in Europe. The walls of the countries will have to break up and all Europe unite to compete with American Business.

At the time when the British entered India one of their leaders said 'We have lost America by our blunders, let us not lose India'. One method has been to keep the people in ignorance. India wants schools for children. The effort has been crushed, the reason being given that the expense was too great, that there were no funds, etc. This _____ of the revenues is used for military purposes. What is the economic status of India? The lowest in the world under British rule. If they are going to keep us down all the time they may break us but we will break them to smithereens, too. An Englishman is more looked down upon than any other westerner.

An American sits down and talks with the world, with Chinese and Japanese but an Englishman assumes the attitude that when God spoke, he spoke to the Englishman.

China is ready to strike for the sake of the Orient. They want to deal justly with America. I am a man without a country for the United States has taken away my citizenship. But it is better to be a man without a country than a citizen of an enslaved country.

An Indian is a Caucasian but is he allowed to go to _____, to Australia, to New Zealand?

India gave 1,500,000 men for military _____ the World War and Indian soldiers _____ all fields of warfare. Indian soldiers _____ to fight the battles of the _____ spoke into the _____ doesn't kill your _____.

_____ the British are serving

_____ their own words every time they _____ anything for India. The recent movement giving a _____ body of Indians is merely a toy. They _____ ten years the plan will be revised and _____ that India needs will be given. But _____ to be the judge of what India needs? _____, of course. India wants _____. She wants to control her own affairs. British rule is absolutely _____. Mr. Gandhi always believed that the British would give India _____ after the war

but he has been disillusioned. I am not a radical; I do not believe in killing. I have lots of English friends. I am not an English hater - I only hate injustice.

Seventy-five per cent of the people would be satisfied if India would be given the same status as Canada or Australia. They say Canada for Canadians, Australia for Australians - why not India for Indians?

As to Civil Service in India, it isn't civil neither is it service. It is a graft and I am going to show you by the official figures. I have here the book "The Political Future of India" by Lasput Rei. America, the richest country in the world pays its president \$75,000 per year while the Viceroy of India, the poorest country in the world, is paid \$84,000 besides many _____ and allowances. Cabinet officers and members of Congress in the United States are paid from \$5000 to \$_____ while the council in India is paid \$25,000 each and all this money comes from India, also the expense of the India House in London. It comes from the _____ payer who has to pay a land tax of 30%. Of this _____ is spent for military purposes. India wants to put a heavy tariff on all foreign goods so as to foster her own industries.

If England is sincere and really wants to help India she can stay there provided she does not oppress the people. All the Orient resents her _____. The British are there for economic _____ and if we can hit her pocket book she will _____ where she doesn't otherwise. The _____ is all wrong. If they would _____ might be our friends. Is the average Englishman better than the average Hind____? Why _____ because of _____?

[LAST PARAGRAPH ON THIS PAGE - 3 - ILLEGIBLE]

I do not agree with the movement of all English speaking people. This _____ will be defeated. What we want is justice to all people whatever their _____. Anything else will go down sooner or later, it is just a matter of time. As to how all the people of India feel about these things, you know you can pick out a single grain of _____ and tell whether or not the quantity is _____, so I am only one but I am speaking for all my people.

From the sale of my books I am accumulating money for the education of Indian students in this country and American students in India that both may benefit. The _____ of ideas of scientific knowledge for spiritual knowledge is needed. To obtain spiritual knowledge means _____.

The speaker quoted from England's _____ to India by Lajput Rei and Sir Wm. Digby's "_____ British India".

2. The morning papers have not yet published the speech but I feel that a lot of publicity will be given to his statements especially by the Hearst paper, the Detroit Daily Times, and I would

especially request that I be given instructions as to the attitude which I should adopt to combat the above mentioned statements.

3. At present I have been unsuccessful in locating the whereabouts of Syud Hussein although I have quietly approached the Chief of Detectives in this city, who happens to be a Scotsman, on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

ARTHUR _____

ACTING BRITISH CONSUL

No. 12.

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1927

W. J. C. Committee
Detroit, Michigan
12th February, 1927.

"Confidential"

Sir,

I have the honour to again refer to your No. 5. of the 15th ultimo and to state that Dr. Bhagat Singh Thind spoke at the Detroit City Club as per invitation paper attached yesterday the 14th instant on the subject of "British Rule in India" and I herewith give a rough idea of the statements he made during the speech:-

"I want you to lay aside all prejudice from your thoughts about India so as you understand the situation. We Indians know that the British people did not come to civilize us. They were there first as traders organizing themselves into the East India Corporation. India was in a transition period at the time and the British said to the two opposing sides 'What will you give us?' It reminds me of the fable of the two cats who with a piece of cheese divided between them. A monkey came along and offered to assist. He divided the cheese, placing each piece in a scale. One side was heavier, he bit off a part; the other piece was heavier, he bit off a part of that until the monkey had all the cheese and the two cats stood gazing at one another.

The Hindoos want to be free. Why, I have not found a single Indian who does not want to be ruled by his own people. There is no doubt about it. They differ a bit about the form of government, but not as to who shall do the ruling.

India has had 165 years under their rule. In the Punjab only 72 years. During all the time they have tried to ruin the industrial life of India. You have heard of the ignorance of India, of 700 not being able to read or write. This is an example of the effect of British rule. You hear them boast all the time that they are in India to civilize us. Remember there was civilization in India at a time when the Europeans were savages wearing the hair of apes. During the time the industries of India have been killed. We had formerly a wonderful textile industry, a leather industry, a sugar industry. They have all been killed. Imagine the result in your country if all your industries were ruined - imagine the poverty.

W. J. C. Committee
Detroit, Michigan
12th February, 1927.

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It is a fact that Indian raw material is shipped to Lancashire in England, manufactured, and sent back to India where the goods are sold for less than Indian goods manufactured in their own country!

Indian nature has never evolved willingly. They do not only want to be free, they must be free. The same thing applied everywhere in Europe. The walls of the countries will have to break up and all Europe unite to compete with American business.

At the time when the British entered India one of their leaders said 'We have lost America by our blunders, let us not lose India'. One method has been to keep the people in ignorance. India wants schools for children. The effort has been crushed, the reason being given that the expense was too great, that there were no funds, etc. This same 10% of the revenue is used for military purposes. What is the economic status of India? The lowest in the world under British rule. If they are going to keep us down all the time they may break us but we will break them to smithereens, too. An Englishman is more looked down upon than any other national.

An American sits down and talks with the world, with Chinese and Japanese but an Englishman assumes the attitude that when God spoke, he spoke to an Englishman.

China is ready to strike for the sake of the Orient. They want to deal justly with America. I am a man without a country for the United States has taken away my citizenship. But it is better to be a man without a country than a citizen of an enslaved country.

An Indian is a Caucasian but is he allowed to go to Spain, to Australia, to New Zealand?

India gave 1,500,000 men for military service during the World War and Indian soldiers are serving in all fields of warfare. Indian soldiers are not permitted to fight the battles of the world. They are thought 'there a spike into the back of your neck and it doesn't kill your neck, the spike will be Indian.'

They are very generous the British are serving

... 2 ...
... their own ends every time they do anything for India. The recent movement giving a legislative body of Indians is merely a toy. They say every ten years the plan will be revised and something more that India needs will be given. But who is going to be the judge of what India needs? Why, British Britain, of course. India wants some thing more. She wants to control her own affairs. British rule is undoubtedly evil. Mr. Gandhi always believed that the British would give India Dominion Status after the war but he has been disappointed. I am not a radical; I do not believe in killing. I have lots of English friends. I am not an English hater - I only hate injustice.

Ninety-five per cent of the people would be satisfied if India could be given the same status as Canada or Australia. They say Canada for Canadians, Australia for Australians - why not India for Indians?

As to Civil Service in India, it isn't civil neither is it service. It is a graft and I am going to show you by the official figures. I have here the book "The Political Future of India" by Laxmi Bai. America, the richest country in the world pays its president \$75,000 per year while the Viceroy of India, the poorest country in the world, is paid \$34,000 besides many emoluments and allowances. Cabinet officers and members of Congress in the United States are paid from \$5000 to \$18,000 while the council in India is paid \$28,000 each and all their money comes from India, also the expense of the India House in London. It comes from the poor tax which the man has to pay a land tax of 50%. Of this 50% is spent for military purposes. India wants to put a heavy tariff on all foreign goods so as to foster her own industries.

If England is sincere and really wants to help India she can stay there provided she does not oppress the people. All the Orient resents her present position. The British are there for economic interests and if we can hit her pocket book she will leave everything where she doesn't otherwise. The common idea about is all wrong. If they could help India they might be our friends. Is the average Englishman better than the average Hindoo? Why discriminate because of color?

A labor party might give India the same status as the Dominions. To suppose that were American imperialism so that England could benefit and that all British speaking nations, that is South Africa, ...
2-45-34

I do not agree with the movement of all English speaking people. This scheme will be defeated. What we want is justice to all people whatever their color. Anything else will go down sooner or later, it is just a matter of time. As to how all the people of India feel about these things, you know you can pick out a single grain of rice and tell whether or not the quantity is cooked, so I am only one but I am speaking for all my people.

From the sale of my books I am accumulating money for the education of Indian students. In this country and American students in India that both may benefit. The exchange of ideas of scientific knowledge for spiritual knowledge is needed. To obtain spiritual knowledge means unselfishness and development.

The speaker quoted from England's visit to India by Lord Rail and Sir Wm. Digby's "Prosperous British India".

2. The morning papers have not yet published the speech but I feel that a lot of publicity will be given to his statements especially by the Hurst paper, The Detroit Daily Times, and I would specially request that I be given instructions as to the attitude which I should adopt to combat the above mentioned statements.

3. At present I have been unsuccessful in locating the whereabouts of Byrd Russin although I have quietly approached the Chief of Detectives in this city, who happens to be a Scotchman, on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

ARTHUR JAMES

ASTING BRITISH CONSUL

NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

HERALD-TRIBUNE

NEW YORK SUN

INDIA CALLED PIVOT OF WORLD'S PEACE

Manifesto Signed by 12 American Liberals Says the Issue Rests With Britain.

FILE BY BAYONETS SCORED

Reaction to Plan for Liberty Will Test London's Sincerity, Group Led by Dewey Asserts.

The peace of the world depends upon the manner in which Great Britain receives the movement for Indian independence through non-violent aggression voted by the Indian National Congress last month, typified of the foremost liberals in the United States included in a manifesto to the American public issued yesterday. Heading the list of signers were the names of Professor John Dewey of Columbia University, Oswald Garrison Villard and Norman Thomas. If Great Britain attempts to repress the new Indian movement with force, "passions will be unloosed the end of which no man can see," the manifesto says. "Not only a chain of wars may conceivably follow upon violent revolt and violent repression, involving not two but many nations and making mockery of all our efforts after peace."

From the viewpoint of the people of the world, the position Great Britain takes in regard to India will indicate whether the London Naval Arms Conference represents a sincere effort for international cooperation or merely an attempt to stabilize the position of strong powers and preserve their imperialism, the manifesto says. Great Britain cannot justify military measures in India on the ground

that the country is not a subject of international law, as the obstacles to such a move depend upon agreement by the signers of the manifesto.

"We Americans," it declares, "are without direct power or direct responsibility in the matter. But in our little world we cannot look unmoved upon this crisis. We have not only a right but a duty to put the indispensable power of public opinion behind an urgent plea to the Indian people to persist in the non-violent path, in which they have chosen to find mankind led to the British Government, but to demand in its real and capacity as the power of peace by agreement and good-will."

Move Called Unique.

In another place the manifesto says: "It is a new thing in history when a people 350,000,000 strong strive for internal unity and freedom from the yoke of foreign rule by non-violent methods under the leadership of a saint. It is an encouraging thing that at this juncture the Indian nationalist movement does not follow the usual methods of the past, but a Labor government which has given proof of its desire for peace and its opposition to imperialism."

Also encouraging, says the manifesto, is the recent statement of Mahatma Gandhi that he would urge abandonment of the policy of civil disobedience involved in the present movement if the Government would make certain economic and social reforms. The manifesto was issued through the India Independence League of America, recently formed to foster the movement for Indian independence through non-violent aggression.

In addition to Dewey, Villard and Thomas, the signers include John Haynes Holmes, J. T. Sunderland, Robert Morris Lovett, William Floyd, Roger Baldwin, Dewey Allen, Charles F. Plummer, E. W. Husbach and Louise Adams Floyd. Copies of the statement were sent to the British and American Governments.

Granting India Self Rule Held Step to World Peace

Feb. 10, 1930

Congress and Parliament to Get Manifesto of League Here

The India Independence League of America, established for the purpose of securing Indian national movement, yesterday issued a manifesto which officials said they intended to "as appeal to Congress and Parliament to get the India-British dispute settled by giving peace on both sides to the India-British dispute."

"The India Independence League of America," the manifesto said, "is not a party to the India-British dispute, but rather to gain by the sense of gratitude and friendship between the two peoples, the American people, as well as the Indian people, the world will have a new precedent and new encouragement in its quest for peace and good will."

The appeal, T. H. K. Roscoe, director of the organization, said, would be dispatched to Congress, Parliament and the government of India, and would be signed by John Dewey, Oswald Garrison Villard, Norman Thomas, John Haynes Holmes, J. T. Sunderland, Robert Morris Lovett, William Floyd, Roger Baldwin, Dewey Allen, Charles F. Plummer, E. W. Husbach, of the University of Chicago, William Floyd, editor of the Arbitrator, Robert Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union, Dewey Allen, editor of the World Tomorrow, Dr. Charles F. Plummer, former editor of the New York American, R. W. Husbach, of the Village Press, and Louise Adams Floyd, former president of the Civil Club.

URGENT HINDU FREEDOM

Feb. 10, 1930

India League Sends Peace Manifesto to Congress, Parliament

A manifesto, issued by the India Independence League of America and signed by John Dewey, Oswald Garrison Villard, Norman Thomas and John Haynes Holmes among others, will be dispatched to Congress, Parliament and the Government of India.

The manifesto is intended, according to officials, as an appeal to the American people to strengthen the movement for world peace by urging peace

INDIA SELF-RULE

PLEA ISSUED HERE

Feb. 10, 1930

Well-Known Liberals Sign

Appeal for Public Aid

The India Independence League of America, with offices at 18 Park Row, issued an appeal for self rule in India today declaring: "Rarely have people stood at the crossroads with false opportunity to decide their direction. The old way of violent revolt or violent repression leads to war, to the perpetration of hate and the encouragement of despair. Gandhi and the Indians who stand with him offer the world a new revolution not only in the end but in the method."

The help of the American public is asked. "The peaceful methods of Gandhi are old, and the statement made that 'Great Britain should be made to lose prestige and trade by refusing aid, not by refusing aid by the means of gratitude and friendship but act will kindle.' 'Let this moment pass, let violence break out, let Britain answer forces by force, and passions will be unloosed the end of which no man can see,' the appeal said."

(It is signed by John Dewey, professor at Columbia University; Oswald Garrison Villard, editor of The Nation; Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President in 1928; the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, pastor of the Community Church; Dr. J. T. Sunderland, author of "India in Bondage"; Robert Morris Lovett, professor of the University of Chicago; William Floyd, editor of The Arbitrator; Robert Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union; Dewey Allen, editor of The World Tomorrow; Dr. Charles F. Plummer, former editor of the New York American; R. W. Husbach, of the Village Press; and Louise Adams Floyd, ex-president of the Civil Club.)

THE WORLD:

AMERICAN APPEAL FOR PEACE IN INDIA

Feb. 10, 1930

Petition Urges: Ropes Mac-

Donald Not to Use Force in

Handling the Situation

An appeal to Americans to encourage the movement of non-violent agitation in India, carrying the signatures of twelve prominent Americans, including Prof. John Dewey, Oswald Garrison Villard, Norman Thomas and John Haynes Holmes, was issued yesterday by T. H. K. Roscoe, director of the India Independence League of America, No. 18 Park Row, New York. "The situation in India is fraught with the gravest possibilities, according to the statement, and disaster, perhaps bloodshed, can be averted if world opinion would support the efforts of Mahatma Gandhi, who is keeping his people from becoming violent in their struggle for independence. The Americans who signed this

BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE

An Editorial Article in the issue of Feb. 10, 1930

India as 'Pivot of Peace'

We may suppose that the Rev. Dr. John Thomas Sunderland knows India fairly well. He spent two years there studying religions especially and has written several thoughtful volumes on conditions in Hindustan. That Dr. John Dewey is a real philosopher, capable of taking an unbiased view of any problem, most of us will not think of denying. That academic conceptions more or less influence the mental attitude of the Rev. Norman Thomas, Oswald Garrison Villard, the Rev. John Haynes Holmes and Roger Baldwin is commonly believed. These men are the best known of the twelve thinkers who after a manifesto to America insisting on self-government for India. They see a new thing in history, when a people, 350,000,000 strong, strive for internal unity and freedom from the yoke of foreign rule, "under the leadership of a saint," and they add:

If Great Britain attempts to repress the new Indian movement with force, not only a chain of wars may conceivably follow upon violent revolt and violent repression, making a mockery of all our efforts after peace.

And commencing it is. World peace cannot be established with the Moslem nations and Hindus left out. If Gandhi succeeds and he has partially succeeded in bringing the Mohammedans and the Hindus together, India links up with the other Moslem contacts of the British Empire, and there is no more important link.

THE WORLD: TUESDAY

CONGRESS OF INDIA ORGANIZES REVOLT

Feb. 18, 1930

Executive Empowers Gandhi and Aids to Proceed

CALLS ON ALL CITIZENRY

Non-Violent Opposition Seen as

Test of Strength

By Gandhi's Personal Nerve

President of Indian National Congress

Declares: 'We intend to see the world

the way we want it, and we will not

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