PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION O F THE UNITED STATES OF INDIA. PART I. BY R.G.PRADHAN.

Principles of the Constitution of The United States of India

PART I

BY

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PREFACE.

I began to write this book before the meeting of the Round Table Conference in London, and finished this Part I before it adjourned. In view of the developments that have taken place at the Conference, I have thought it desirable to divide my book into two parts, and to publish this part without waiting for the completion of the second part.

In this part, I have dealt with three fundamental questions, viz: (i) the question of an All-India Federation (2) the question of defence and (3) the question of the minorities. With regard to the first question, I have expressed my utter disapproval of the scheme of an All-India Federation, as formulated by the Simon Commission. I have also expressed the view that, having regard to the system of government that prevails in Indian India and the relations between the Crown and the Indian States, the principle of federation as applied to the whole of India will conflict with that of responsible government. I see no reason to modify my attitude with regard to the particular scheme of an all-India Federation proposed by the Simon Commission. But I am prepared to reconsider my general position about the incompatability of an All-Indian Federation with responsible government, in the light of the views expressed in the report of the Federal Sub-Committee of the Conference, I have not yet been

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able to get a copy of that report, and until I get it and study it carefully, I do not wish to pronounce any judgment on the scheme as outlined by the Conference. It. is, however, a matter of satisfaction that, according to the scheme, the Federal Executive Government will be responsible to the Federal Legislature. How far the responsibility will be genuine and substantial can only be seen when the scheme is worked out in detail. It will be the duty of the British Indian delegates to the Round Table Conference to see to it that the essential characteristics and conditions of responsibility are fully maintained in the elaboration of the scheme; otherwise, the danger is that the attainment of the goal of responsible government and consequently of full Dominion Status may be retarded.

NASIK 16th, February 1931, }

R. G. PRADHAN

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