

THE INDIAN STATES' PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE.

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REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSIONS.

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PUBLISHED BY

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OF THE
SECOND SESSIONS.**

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THE INDIAN STATES' PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE

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Within Three years.

1. *Within Three years* :—Much water has passed through the Ganges since we submitted our Report of the first sessions of the Conference to the public in September 1928. The seemingly placid waters of the public life in India have passed through various turbulent channels within the short space of three years. The country has undergone a wonderful transformation, and the Indian States have shared in this upheaval. This Conference has tried its utmost to do its duty by the public in these momentous days. The readers will get an idea about this by a cursory glance at the proceedings of the Conference and Committees published elsewhere. It is with very great pleasure that we place the Report of the second sessions of the Conference before the public.

2. *Deputation to the Madras Congress* :—Immediately after the first sessions of this Conference was over on the 18th of December 1927, the Executive Committee started active work with a view to carry out the mandate of the Conference. It appointed a deputation of a few leading members of the Committee to go to the Madras session of the Congress, to interview the leaders of that great national body and lay before them the view-points of this Conference on the position of the people of the States in the polity of the country. The members thus deputed, including Mr. Marilal Kothari and Mr. B. S. Pathik, saw the Congress leaders and secured the acceptance at their hands of the desire of this Conference for an active support of the Congress in its fight for the rights of the States people. The Madras Congress, as a result of this effort for the first time in the history of the Congress passed a resolution endorsing our demand for responsible Government in States. The convention thus established has been faithfully observed, and the Congress, at its sessions both at Calcutta and Lahore, has reaffirmed its opinion perhaps with stronger accents. The moral support of this national and powerful body, thus secured, is a great asset and we should thank the workers of this Conference who have been instrumental in introducing this change.

3. *The Fantastic scheme of Sir Leslie Scott* :—The publication of a scheme of Government in India by Sir Leslie Scott, the famous Counsel

of the Princes employed at a fabulous fee, was the signal for a hot outburst of indignation and protest from all quarters. It clearly laid bare the design of certain schemers and dreamers both from the Princes' Chamber and from far across the seas to create a new Ulster in India and bolster up the claims of the Princes as an offset against the advancing tide of Indian Nationalism. This created a strong suspicion in the minds of the public of an unholy alliance between the spokesmen of the Princes and the British Imperialism for erecting unbridgable barriers on our way to Swaraj and perpetuating the conditions of slavery in the Indian states. The scheme was unreservedly condemned from all sane quarters. It was the good fortune of this Conference to take a lead in this matter and assist in the burial of this scheme.

4. *The Nehru Committee Report*:—The publication of the report of the Nehru Committee marked a very important stage in the development of Indian polity. The Report adopted the views of this Conference regarding the Crown Theory and recommended that the future Swaraj Government should undertake to carry out all the responsibilities towards the States that the present Government of India was discharging. It made out a powerful case to show that the theory of direct relations with the Crown was a myth. It kept the door open for further negotiations with the Princes by advocating a federation between the two parts of India on well-defined basis if the Princes were willing to join. It recognised some of the legitimate grievances of the Princes against the Political Department and provided for a Supreme Court for the adjudication of disputes between the States and the Government of India.

The Report was a masterly document. It did justice to the Princes where it was due. It opened up a true basis for further negotiations. But, the authors of the Report had counted without their hosts. The Princes refused to accept their invitation to further discuss this question at a Round Table Conference of all parties. They declared themselves unable to sit at the same table with their people. They were ashamed to do the very thing that their Paramount Power were not unwilling to do towards their subjects. They were not prepared to face the problem from its right perspective. They were out merely for self aggrandisement. They could move for the protection of their time-worn and obsolete treaty-rights. They were anxious to defend their rights and privileges and prerogatives. But, as regards the rights of their people, they were not prepared to bestow even one thought. Maintenance of their personal and dynastic rights, more revenues for themselves to be recklessly squandered away, perfect autonomy to deal with their

people in any way they choose to do, and willingness to participate in the burdens of administering the subjects of common concern to both Indias—these were the anxious thoughts of the Princes. As for the protection of the fundamental rights of their people, or any participation of their people in the governance of themselves, well, devil may take care of them!

The Conference adopted the solution recommended by the Nehru Report, and carried on a propaganda in its favour. All organisations of the people of the states in provinces and in individual states came forward to accord its welcome to the Report after the clear and unequivocal lead from the Conference. The country was in its favour. But, the Princes won't have it. They were neither prepared for discussing it. They rather came out with long winding speeches reminding the British Indian people that most of the territories belonging to the latter was sometime or other in possession of the forefathers of the former and that the Princes were prepared to defend their rights even at the point of a sword. The laudable efforts of the Indian leaders to find out a solution equitable to all parties were thus thwarted by the sabre-rattling of the Princes, and the proposed Round-Table Conference between the Princes and the Indian leaders never came about.

5. *The Butler Committee and its Sequel*:—The appointment of the States Enquiry Committee, presided over by Sir Harcourt Butler, by the Government afforded an opportunity to this Conference to prove its worth. The Conference took up the cudgals against the narrow terms of reference, the illiberal procedure and the unsatisfactory working of that committee. The agitation set up by this Conference had no effect upon the set policy of the Government but it served a useful purpose in showing up the pretensions of the authorities about fairplay. The refusal of the Committee to give a hearing to the people of the States, who were the most important parties to be affected by its findings and its persistence to continue working behind the purdah proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Butler Show was arranged not to investigate a complex problem with a view to its equitable solution, but it was rather intended as a sop to placate the Rajas and the Maharajas whose assistance the Government was most anxious to secure in the dark days looming ahead.

The conference deemed it its duty to tear the curtain off from this show and display to the public the real character of this Government move. It served to afford an opportunity to this Conference to prove

beyond doubt the arbitrary way in which the people of the States are being governed, as also the hollowness of the protection the people of the States are expected to enjoy from the Paramount Power. The creation of public opinion on these points by the continuous propaganda of this Conference has cleared the way for formulating a programme to suit the needs of the situation.

6. *Delegation to England* :—The [Butler Committee attracted an assemblage of the Princes to London. A regular campaign was organised in England by the Chamber of Princes for the perpetuation of their undiluted autocracy and for the mobilisation of British as well as world opinion in their favour. The British Press was flooded with praises of these Rajas and all efforts were being made to convince the gullible public that all was well in their territories. Fancy pictures and fairy tales about the Indian Rajas were the order of the day in the British and American Press under the inspiration of their hired agents. The Maharajas and their counsels came forward to talk of their sovereign rights and their relations with the Crown.

There being a very strong necessity to counteract this false propaganda and place real state of affairs before the British public, it was decided by the Conference to send a deputation of its representatives to England. D. B. Ramachandra Rao, the President of the Conference, was requested to undertake the journey in company of Prof. Abhyankar and Mr. Chudgar. The Deputation did very splendid work and silenced the panegyrist of the Princes.

The President of the Conference interviewed the Viceroy while in India to submit before him the people's point of view. In England, he succeeded, with the able assistance of his two colleagues, in reminding the leaders of the British Public opinion, as well as the British Press of the existence of the 70 million human beings living within the borders of the States. A great deal of interest was aroused in England in our problems and several leading publicists came forward to espouse our cause. Some members of British Parliament took very lively interest in the cause of the states people and there were interpellations in both Houses regarding the same. British journals discussed the questions from other points of view supplied by our leaders, and the British statesmen tried to understand the significance of the people's case. Sufficient interest was aroused by the propaganda work of the Deputationists to justify the decision of the conference to send them. The people of the states owe a deep debt of gratitude to the re-doubtable champions of our Cause and to

Mr. Amritlal Sheth, who managed to collect sufficient funds, inspite of all odds, for this purpose.

7. *Memorandum to the Butler Committee* :—The Conference was sure that neither the British Government nor the Princes were prepared to listen to the voice of reason so long as it was not backed up by some irresistible sanction behind it. Nevertheless, it decided to lay the case of the people of the states before the bar of world opinion. For this purpose, it empowered its representatives in England to prepare a memorandum setting forth the popular case. The delegates prepared a memorandum and submitted it to the public through the medium of the Butler Committee. This document was hailed from all quarters representing progressive thought. It aroused a great deal of sympathy for our cause in British circles. The document was a powerful plea, cogently and soberly put forward, for the recognition of the rights of the people. It received universal publicity and notice. The existence of a factor, no longer to be ignored, was thus brought to the notice of the world. The claim of the Princes to pose as the representatives of their people was exploded. The skelton in their cup-board was displayed to the world. An unanswerable case was made out for the recognition of the ultimate Sovereignty of the People. The shibboleths which the Princes very much liked to indulge in, evaporated under the glare of cold reason. The mission to England was justified.

8. *Work in England* :—Besides the work of the deputation, the Conference arranged for setting up a committee to carry on the work of educating the British Public opinion and to act as the agency of the Conference in Britain. Messrs. P. L. Chudgar and R. J. Udani were appointed for the purpose. They carried on their mission most successfully and enlisted the sympathy of a body of public opinion in England by means of leaflets, personal letters, interviews etc. and by supplying facts and figures as regards the character of the rule of some of the leading Princes. The facts were shocking enough, exposing the substance of the empty boasts of the Princes about the benevolence of their rule. The agency did very useful work and counteracted the unscrupulous propaganda of the Princes' hirelings.

9. *The All-Parties Convention* :—The Conference participated in the All-Parties' Convention held at Calcutta through its representatives. As many as eight delegates were present at the convention and accorded their whole-hearted support to the Nehru scheme,

10. *Propaganda at Congress Sessions* :—The leaders of the Conference have made it a point to exert themselves to influence the All-India Organisations to promise support to the Conference. The Indian National Congress as well as the National Liberal Federation have thus been moved to depart from their traditional policy of non-interference in the affairs of states. It has now become usual for these bodies to adopt resolutions at their annual sessions in support of our claim for the establishment of responsible government in states. The workers of the Conference took opportunity to carry on their propaganda in favour of its aims at the sessions of the Congress at Calcutta, Lahore and Karachi. This work has turned out to be very fruitful in securing the support of powerful national leaders for our Cause.

11. *The Policy of Repression in States* :—The release of dormant forces in states and their organisation through the establishment of political institutions gave a rude shock to the Princes who were dreaming of ancient days when their will was law and their decree was implicitly obeyed. They were not prepared to hear questioning murmurs rising from within their own borders. The stirrings in the hearts of their people were inexplicable to them. They had entirely cut themselves off from any living contact with the spirit of the Age, and so were surprised to find that a protest was emanating from the dumb oppressed. They could not understand their significance. They were not ready to comply to their impelling behests. They were in no mood to direct this protest and benefit thereby. They received this new spirit in the very way they ought not to have done.

12. *The Doings of the Jamsaheb* :—The famous Jamsaheb was nervous at a courageous request from one of his people to redress the popular grievances. He clapped the applicant in Jail. The Jamsaheb could not brook the popular demand. On pretext of an unconventional word having been used in the application for redress, he sent the applicant behind the prison-bars. There were no legal formalities for some time, as the will of the Jamsaheb had to prevail. The Conference took up the agitation for release, organised protest meetings and pressed the organs of public opinion in their service. He had to yield at last, and the offender of the royal susceptibilities was released. Public opinion had triumphed. The denial by the Jamsaheb of the existence of an oppressive system of monopolies in his State led to the appointment of an Enquiry into the matter by the Jamnagar Prajamandal under the Presidentship of Sjt. Jamnadas Mehta. A ban to its entry in the State limits was the sequel. The Report of the Committee is a most

damning document ever presented to the Jamsaheb. He has been completely answered by an array of facts and figures, and it has been abundantly proved that an oppressive system of giving monopolies in necessities of life exists in this so-called enlightened State. A black-flag demonstration was organised on the arrival of the Jamsaheb from England. The latter had practically to flee from the attentions of his flatterers in order to escape the popular demonstration against his administration.

The fierce glare of public criticism has unnerved the Jamsaheb and he has lost his head at the expression of fearless public opinion regarding his doings. He has satisfied his vindictiveness by arresting three of the most prominent public workers of his State for having dared to criticise his administration and sentencing them savagely for a term of seven years on the flimsiest and false evidence. The innocent three are still rotting in jail and the agitation against this enormity has as yet failed to prove effective. The brave trio is suffering for the popular cause and has become a beacon-light for all to follow in its foot-steps. The Jamsaheb will shortly be compelled to bend to the force of public opinion. The public opinion is bound to triumph.

13. *Repression in other states*:—The Jodhpur Durbar banned the holding of the Jodhpur State Political Conference and arrested the leaders. In order to put down political ambitions of the people, these devoted workers of Marwar were sentenced to ferocious terms of sentence. There was much persecution of those who wanted to protest against these repressive acts of the state. The Conference carried on an agitation against this, and exposed the terrorising activities of the Princes. The Jodhpur leaders were released simultaneously with the release of the Satyagrahis in British India.

Patiala, the leader of the Chamber of Princes, had kept in his jail several citizens for indefinite period of time for their alleged seditious activities. He had confiscated property worth lacs of rupees. Several persons were sentenced to six years imprisonment for the offence of celebrating the Independence Day on January 26 of the last year. The Conference assisted the Punjab Riyasati Praja Mandal in its agitation for the release of these prisoners. The efforts have become partly successful.

The head of the Wadhwan State Police lost his head and assaulted the leaders of the people in a peaceful public meeting. The local workers carried on an agitation and the state had to yield. The Conference joined in a protest against the misdoings of the Wadhwan Police.

14. *The Patiala Enquiry*:—Several citizens of the Patiala State had sent a memorial to the Government of India wherein they made certain specific charges against the ruler and his administration. The allegations were too serious to be allowed to pass unnoticed. The Conference drew the attention of the public by re-publishing the memorial in the form of a leaflet under the caption 'A cry from Patiala'. The leaflet was very widely distributed at the time of the second sessions of the Conference. It drew pointed attention of the responsible workers of the Conference to a crying need for an investigation into these charges. A Committee of Enquiry was appointed. Prof. Abhyankar and Mr. Amritlal Sheth headed by Sjt. Amritlal Thakkar of the Servants of India Society went to the Punjab to enquire on the spot.

The Committee invited the people to approach it with facts relating to the allegations. Thousands of people came to greet the Committee and lay their grievances before it. The Committee saw the extent of misrule prevalent in the state of the then Chancellor of the Princes Chamber. Out of the numerous complaints a few select ones were examined. Out of the numerous witnesses, several prominent ones were heard. The Committee went into the allegations contained in the memorial very carefully. After a great deal of anxious search for truth and a careful sifting of materials, the Committee with the assistance of Sjt. L. R. Tairsee, the Ex-President of the Indian Merchants Chamber and the President of the Cutch People's Conference, produced its monumental report.

15. *The Indictment of Patiala*:—The Report of the Committee, the now famous "Indictment of Patiala" was published by us with full responsibility. Very serious charges against the Durbar of Patiala were examined in it with judicial care. A prima facie case for a further investigation by the Paramount Power was made out therein. The Committee had challenged the Maharaja to clear his character in a judicial court of Law. The Report created a great sensation in the Country. People began to ask whether the report was dealing with present-day affairs or whether it contained pages from the history of some barbarism who ruled in the ages gone by. Public meetings, Public Press and Indian Publicists all combined to support the demand for legal proceedings against Patiala. Mr. Balvantray Mehta, one of the General Secretaries of the Conference, went personally to interview the Indian members of the Legislative Assembly at Delhi and moved them to take interest in this affair.

The Chamber of Princes was sitting in Delhi at the time, and it was a sight to see the motor-cars of the various Maharajas running to the office of Mr. Mehta to obtain a copy of the Report. The election of the Chancellor was imminent. There was a keen contest for the post. Patiala

went on his knees begging to be re-elected in view of this unexpected menace. His confreres on the Chamber accepted his plea and elected him again. Patiala was saved. Mr. Mehta went to the Punjab and requested the Punjab leaders to do their duty by the people of the Punjab states. Some of these assured Mr. Mehta that they had many more facts in their possession which went to prove that the Report of the Committee had not overdrawn the picture. Mr. Meghani carried on his propaganda in Bombay, saw various leaders and asked the people of that city to go to the help of their unfortunate brethren of States like Patiala. But for the intervention of the great Satyagraha movement soon after the publication of this Report, and the incarceration for long terms of imprisonment of most of the authorities of the Conference for taking their share in it the 'Indictment of Patiala' would have proved to be the beginning of a mighty protest against the autocracy and tyranny of the Princes' rule and might possibly have paved the way for launching a movement of some sort of direct action in states.

However, 'The Indictment of Patiala' had worked up the Public opinion to such an extent that the Maharaja, when he went to Bombay en route to England to attend the first Round Table Conference was greeted by the Youths of Bombay with a Black-flag demonstration. The Maharaja, in sheer fright, avoided the huge mass of demonstrators, who had assembled at the Mole to express their sense of deep indignation at all his ill-doings and oppressions, and took a steam-launch direct from the Apollo Bunder and caught the steamer on the high sea. The same fate befell the Maharaja of Alwar of the Nimoochana Massacre fame who was denounced in the severest terms by the Bombay public when he went to preside over a Bombay meeting arranged by some busibodies. The Maharaja had to leave the meeting under Police escort. This shows how the mentality of the public is fast changing and how the glamour of the Maharajas and the glitter of their diamonds hold no charm for the unsophisticated masses.

16. *The Fitz-Patrick Enquiry Farce*:—Patiala came out with a bluster that he was contemplating to take proceedings against the authors of the Report. The public waited to see how the chancellor was going to clear his character. The Committee was prepared to face a square trial. But it seemed that the bluster was empty and that Patiala was not anxious for a fair trial. After protracted consideration and cogitation, he came out with a letter requesting his 'Dear Lord Irvin' to appoint Mr. Fitz-Patrick to go into the allegations. He was not

prepared to face a trial in a British Court of Law, he did not ask for an impartial Commission of Enquiry, but he only pointed out a British political officer, with whom he was in direct political relations for a number of years and who was himself one of the parties concerned as the Agent of the Government in charge of the State at the time of some of the happenings narrated in the Report, as his choice to be an investigating officer. The amiable Viceroy agreed to this request of his friend. Mr. Fitz-Patrick was appointed to conduct the Enquiry all alone. There were protests from this Conference against this appointment, which went unheeded. The demand for the temporary removal of the political prisoners from Patiala Jail to some British Jail as they were important witnesses in this Enquiry was also refused. The Maharaja was allowed to remain free in his State while this Enquiry against him was being conducted and some of his own people were expected to approach the Committee to give evidence against him. The proceedings were conducted behind the Purdah and the people were debarred from any view of the proceedings.

Mr. Amritlal Sheth, who was the secretary of the Patiala Enquiry Committee, was released on parole from Sabarmati jail where he was undergoing a term of two years and a half as a Salt-Satyagrahi, to produce evidence before Mr. Fitz-Patrick. He tried his utmost to better the personnel and the procedure of the Enquiry, but failed. So, he decided to non-co-operate. He was present as a Visitor at some of the sittings of the Committee, and has exposed through a Press communication the method of the Enquiry. His objections have not been answered as yet to the satisfaction of the Public. The Report of Mr. Fitz-Patrick has not yet seen the light of the day, the Government resolution on the Report has also not been published, but the authorities have gone out of their way to publish a small extract from the resolution of the Government exonerating the Maharaja from the charges and containing baseless insinuations against some of the publicists and public bodies concerned with the agitation against the misrule in Patiala. The public have not accepted the decision of the Government and they are not going to be satisfied with the results of any hole-and-corner enquiry. Their belief in the popular Enquiry remains unshattered and shall continue to be so till some satisfactory procedure is adopted either by the Government or the Patiala Durbar, which they do not seem anxious to do.

17. *The Round-Table Conference*:—The Delhi manifesto published by the all-India leaders, including Mahatma Gandhi and Pundit Motilalji, welcomed the announcement of the Viceroy for a Round-Table Conference on certain conditions. This Conference requested the leaders at Delhi not to forget to press for direct representation of the People of the States at the Conference. The claim of the people to be represented at the Conference was at once challenged by the spokesmen of the Princes' Chamber as "the natural representatives of their people from times immemorial". The committee of the Conference replied to this insolent and untenable claim of the Princes. We continued to agitate for the recognition of the right of the people of the states to be directly represented by spokesmen of their own choice. We were going to press this claim upon the attention of the Congress, but the break-down of the negotiations between the Viceroy and the leaders on the eve of the Lahore Congress rendered it useless.

18. *Memorandum to the Congress* :—When, after a protracted and severe Satyagraha campaign, negotiations were resumed between the Viceroy and Gandhiji, the workers of this conference were mostly in Jail as Satyagrahi prisoners. Still, the Working Committee of this Conference put itself in touch with Mahatmaji and requested him not to agree to any truce before hearing it. Gandhiji asked for a statement of the claims of the Conference and invited its representatives to Delhi to put their case before him. Prof. Abhyankar, the General Secretary and Messrs. Kakalohai Kothari, the Provincial Secretary who was then in charge of the Central office, and Rangildas Kapadia, a member of the Working Committee, were deputed for the purpose. They submitted a written memorandum on behalf of the Conference to Gandhiji and the Working Committee of the Congress. They interviewed both Gandhiji and the other members of the Working Committee. They were assured by these leaders that their case will receive fullest attention and consideration at their hands.

On their release from Jail soon after the declaration of the Meesra Amritlal Sheth and Balvantray Mehta interviewed Gandhiji truce, at Ahmedabad to discuss with him implications of the truce with reference to the rights of the people of the States. Gandhiji assured them in the clearest terms that he was going to see that their rights were properly safe-guarded if he participated in the second Round-Table Conference.

At the time of the Karachi Congress, several prominent workers of the states waited in deputation on Mahatmaji. Protection of the rights

of the people was the theme discussed. Gandhiji again assured the deputation that in any further negotiations that he may participate in, the rights of the people of the States will be pressed by him. The deputation was satisfied with the results of the interviews.

19. *Forced Labour* :—The conditions of labour in Indian States are very deplorable. The rights of labour are non-existent or are never cared for. Forced or impressed labour is in existence. The workers and peasants are groaning under the oppressive Labour laws and the dehumanising system of forced labour. The Conference devoted its attention to the amelioration of these conditions. One of its General Secretaries, Mr. Balventray Mehta, prepared a memorandum on the conditions of forced labour in the States of Kathiawar, collected regulations about this pernicious system passed by the various Durbars, secured affidavits about the oppression due to this system from those who had suffered, procured copies of some of the obsolete factory laws that are prevailing in some of the best of States, and dispatched these materials to Sjt. B. Shivarao who was proceeding to Geneva to attend the International Labour Conference as a delegate from Indian labour. Sjt. Shivarao put this material to good use while at Geneva and has made this subject his own.

20. *Publications of the Conference* :—The Conference has aroused considerable interest in all quarters in the problems of States. When formerly hardly a few people would have been found to ask for literature dealing with the States, there are hundreds and thousands of people who are prepared to put themselves to expenses in order to know the better the conditions prevailing in States. Conference has stimulated the interest of the people not only in matters of topical interest, but there has been now an appreciable body of public who welcomes all productions dealing with the constitutional aspects of the problem.

Much fog about the so-called Treaty Rights of the Princes has been cleared by the publication of 'Treaties and Political Practice' by the Conference. It provides in a very short compass the nature and extent of treaty rights of some of the Princes who are never tired of pinning their faith in these 'sacred' documents. The theory of direct relations with the Crown has been reduced to powder by the able treatise on 'Direct Relations with the Crown' also published by the Conference. The fantastic scheme of Sir Leslie Scott comes in for a fair amount of criticism in another of one tract, viz., 'A Criticism of Sir Leslie-Scott's Scheme'. The general attitude of the Princes towards all problems of constitutional import has been analysed in 'Fears, Prejudices and Professions of the Indian Princes'.

The case of the people of the States has been elaborately put forward from all points of view by the able writer in the valuable volume the 'Memorandum of the Indian States' People'. The authoritative presentation of the people's case will be found in the valuable brochure 'The Memorandum presented to the Butler Committee'. It has received a very warm reception from all quarters.

Another publication of a distinctive character that has become very popular is 'Navanagar of Prince Ranjee', the first of a series of booklets in contemplation of the office, giving an inside view of the administration of the Jamsaheb of Navanagar. The book has been very highly spoken of by eminent publicists like Sir P. S. Shivaswami Iyer and Sjt. C. Y. Chintamani. The book is a searchlight on the dark corners of the State of Jamnagar. It has exposed the vaunted boasts of an enlightened administration of this pillar of the Chamber of Princes, and has evoked a lengthy reply from the secretaries of the Jamsaheb, which has fallen flat on the public because of its specious pleading and half-hearted admissions. The Conference has been able to collect an amount of materials regarding other States whose rulers have sought the lime-light by their constant pompous declarations about good Government and love of their subjects etc., and it hopes to supplement and utilise them for continuing this series. The other booklets will also be as attractive and startling as this one about the Jamsaheb.

One of the leading workers of this Conference, Mr. P. L. Chudgar of Rajkot, has laid the people of the States under a deep debt of obligation by writing a standard book on "Indian Princes under British Protection" which gives in a nutshell a comprehensive view of this complex problem. This book has been very well received both in the British and Indian Press. No scholar of Indian Constitution can afford to do without a study of this book. Prof. Abhyankar's "Problems of Indian States" is another book of this type. The Conference and its workers have thus provided the public with ample literature for a sound study of this important phase of Indian public life.

21. *Ceaseless Work for Publicity and Propaganda*:—The Bombay Central Office of the Conference has been alert in taking advantage of all occasions to propagate the views of the Conference. All its literature has been dispatched to the British, Indian and Foreign Press. It has also reached the leading publicists within India and England. As a leading Indian statesman humourously wrote to us the office of the Conference has some duty or another to point out to the

Indian leaders every now and then. Another public worker from British India accepted the Presidentship of a propagandist meeting held under the auspices of the Conference with the remark that the occasion will be valuable to him as giving him compulsory education in a matter of vital concern to the best interests of the country.

22. *Work of the Provincial Offices:—Provincial office for Rajputana and Punjab States, (Ajmer-Beawar):—*The Provincial Offices also took their share of the Conference work. The Rajputana office did very valuable work in the collection of authoritative information as regards the system of administration prevailing in the States of the leading members of the Chamber of Princes. Sjt. Ramanarayan Chaudhary and his co-workers devoted much of their valuable time for this purpose.

*Provincial Office for Western India States, (Ranpur Kathiawar):—*After the second annual sessions of the Conference, the Provincial Secretary's Office for Western India States Division, was transferred to Ranpur, with Mr. Kakalbhai Kothary as Secretary.

(1) At that time, (A. D. 1929) Mr. Poptal Chudgar, a member of the Indian States' People's Deputation, was in London and had started a regular office there and was carrying on publicity in various impressive ways in the interests of the States people. The Provincial Secretary was in constant touch with the London Office and regularly supplied ammunition of facts and figures necessary for such publicity. He was also in charge of organizing publicity in India of the London letters, London Cables and other important news received from London about the activities of our London Office. This publicity organized by the Provincial Office attained the desired end i. e. the Indian Press was made to take more and more interest in the problems of the people of the States, the Indian public opinion was better organised and States People made more vigilant.

(2) After the Punjab States' Enquiry Committee prepared its report and the Executive Committee of the Conference decided to publish it, this office was entrusted with its publication work. The Indictment of Patiala was out in February of 1930. Its sale, its publicity in the Indian Press and abroad, securing opinions of British Indian leaders on the 'Indictment' and their publicity all this work was carried on by this Office. There was a demand for Hindi, Urdu and Vernacular editions, and arrangements were being made for meeting this demand. But in April 1930 the whole country, including the leading workers of the Conference, plunged in the great national fight and this chapter, though

very important from the view-point of the people of the States, naturally slipped into back-ground. However, the institution of the Fitzpatrick Enquiry by the Government of India and its aftermath are matters of public knowledge.

(3) In the Christmas week of 1929, Mr. Kenworthy M. P. paid a visit to Kathiawad as a guest of H. H. The Jam Sahab of Nawanagar. For the holidaying of this Labour M. P., a big programme of duck-shooting in the Nal-lake was arranged by the Heir-Apperent of Limbdi. A good number of Kathiawad Princes and European Officers were invited to join Mr. Kenworthy and Jam Sahab in the shooting programme. For the convenience of the Royal Guests, miles and miles of new pucca roads necessary for the pleasant motor-drive of the Royal Guests were ordered to be constructed in a week by the Heir-Apperent. For this, from hundreds of villagers "Forced Labour" without any remuneration was exacted. Hundreds of poor villagers were made to work day and night without even getting a morsel of food from their Royal master. The muffled cry of protest of these Vethias reached the Provincial Secretary. An Enquiry Committee was appointed with Mr Jhaverchand Meghani as Chairman. The Committee toured in the tract around the Nal lake, examined two scores of villagers-victims of the "Forced Labour"; made other necessary enquiries on the spot at great personal risk; and prepared a report which was immediately published. The report created a great sensation throughout the Bombay Presidency. The exposures in the Report about the extravagance of the Prince, tyranny and autocracy of the rule and semi-barbarous condition of the villagers were startling. Mr. Meghani, the Chairman of the Enquiry Committee, personally interviewed Mr. Kenworthy at Limbdi and informed him of the results of his Committee's Enquiry hoping that the English Gentleman, who sat in the Parliament as the representative of labour would be startled to know all that. But interview proved useful only in that that we could know that his claims to represent labour in the Parliament were mere pretensions. These pretensions were thoroughly unmasked in the Indian and English Press, when after publication of the Meghani Committee's Report, the gallant Commander showed the audacity to defend the Limbdi Heir-Apperent, his host. Messrs. Meghani and Kakalbhai Kothary issued statements in reply to Mr. Kenworthy's with unchallengable facts at their back; and the Labour M. P. was silenced.

(5) At the time of the first sessions of the Bombay Presidency Youth Conference, at Ahmedabad, in December 1929, under the president-ship of Mrs. Kamaladevi Chatopadhyaya, the Provincial Secretary organized

a strong party from Kathiawad Youth-Leaguers under the leadership of Mr. Meghani with a view to get the question of the Indian States discussed in the Conference most thoroughly. That aim was fulfilled. The question of the Indian States became a live question. Autocratic rule of the Princes was exposed; necessary resolutions were passed and a promise by the youths of British India was made to those of the States that they shall march together towards India's goal of Complete Independence.

(6) During the great fight for freedom, most of the nationalist news-papers suspended publication under the obnoxious Press-Ordinance. The searchlight of the Indian Press and specially of the "Saurashtra" being inactive, though temporarily, the autocratic acts of tyranny in the states in many places became more frequent and barbaric and the Provincial Office had to organize publication of booklets, exposing tyrannies of the states with a view to afford relief to the States Subjects, which such publicity would give. The first booklet entitled "Police-Raj in Limbdi" was published, which was very warmly received by the public, so much so that the booklet ran into two editions in three days. The second booklet to expose the repression in Wadhwan Civil Station and Kathiawad Agency areas was under preparation when, the Provincial Secretary was arrested and that could not be published. However, in his absence, the work of publicity in the Press was carried on by Mr. Acharya and other friends who took over the charge of the Provincial Office.

(7) During the fight, many of the workers of the States, while returning from the jails were applied the "Foreigner's Act". Though the application of the "Foreigner's Act" was illegal, its flagrant misuse was most mischievous. The 'Foreigner's Act' as it is, only empowered the British Indian authority to see that the person, whom they apply the act, removed himself from the British Indian Territory; while British Indian Police, in practice, prescribed destination for such a person, kept him under custody and actually handed him over to the police of the State to which the deportee was thought to belong. In not a few cases, this would mean an opportunity for the State authorities to avenge upon the deportees, who were Indian States' People's workers, and whose activities were naturally an eyesore to the Princes. This Office, therefore published a statement, explaining the "Foreigner's Act" to stop the misuse thereof and carried on necessary press-propaganda.

(8) Provincial Office, through various ways, successfully endeavoured to popularize the aims and objects of the Indian States' People's Conference and its general activities. It can safely be said that the

Indian States' People's Conference has now good hold on the people on this side, who feel genuine interest in its activities and who show their active sympathy with its mission in all possible ways.

23. *United Body* :—Of the various Associations of the States' People, States' People's Conferences and Provincial States' People's Conferences, there is one in Madras which desired through two of its prominent delegates, Messrs Vaman Rao Naik and Raghavendra Rao Sharma, to amalgamate itself with this Conference. The Executive of this Conference, therefore, passed a resolution at their instance inviting the members of the Executive of the Madras body to be co-opted on itself and thereby form a combined Executive in May 1928. Thereafter, the South-Indian workers under the leadership of Mr. Satyamurty took part in the second sessions of our Conference and consented to serve on our Executive Committee. At present, Mr. Satyamurty with his other members from the States of South India represents that province on our Executive. So, the desire of the workers of the people of the States to create an All-India body working for the benefit of the people has been realised in the third sessions of this Conference, where all sections of the workers and all shades of opinion will be represented. It only remains for the Conference to pass a constitution for itself whereby it may be possible for the workers to affiliate subordinate Institutions, both Provincial organizations and States' People's Conferences, and enlist all who are interested in our activities as members of the Conference.

One word more, and we have done. The account of the work done by the Conference during its brief tenure of three years and a half is encouraging enough. Though much remains to be done, the little, that has been achieved before now in the difficult circumstances that faced us at the start, should stimulate us in our further efforts for the betterment of the conditions of our brethren of the States. To work for creating political consciousness amongst those that have lost it by a systematic deprivation of all sense of self-respect and manhood must be a real pleasure to those that are in the field. Our mission is nothing short of regaining the lost sense of manhood amongst those of us who are still under the benumbing sway of despotic Princes. We have to strive to bring recognition to millions of our unfortunate countrymen to the fact that it is the inherent right of the people themselves to determine the form and character of Government that is to rule over them. We have to assert before the World the sacred doctrine of the ultimate Sovereignty of the People. We have to explode the theory of 'Divine Right of Kings'. We have to wrest power from those that have misused it in depriving us of all our elementary rights of citizenship and deliver them to our masters,

the People. We have to reevaluate our sense of loyalty, allegiance, rights and responsibilities. We have, in short, to turn our attention to the reconstruction of society where merit and worth, not birth, will rule supreme, where the lowliest amongst us will have the opportunity to rise superior to his environments and aspire for the highest, where the distinctions between the rulers and the ruled, between high and low, will lose their present importance, and where the divinity in Man, not the Prince, will secure universal recognition.

This, then, is the task to which we are called to put our shoulders from the highest sense of duty and responsibility. Those of us, who are actuated by a compelling sense of duty, will not count the cost, but will march onward inspite of heavy odds with a grim determination to strive and succeed or be broken in the effort to succeed. We invite all sincere and devoted servants of the People to assist us in our task and take their rightful place in this great movement.

We submit this report of the work done by the Conference during the past three years and a half with full confidence that it will please our masters, the People, and that they will continue to cheer us up in our work and generously assist us in our efforts as they have hitherto done.

Ashoka Building,
Princess Street, Bombay,
9th June, 1931.

G. R. ABHYANKAR,
BALVANTRAY MEHTA,
MANISHANKER TRIVEDI,
GENERAL SECRETARIES.

THE INDIAN STATES' PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE.

Second Session—Bombay, May 25 and 26, 1929.

RESOLUTIONS.

I

This Conference records its sense of the great loss the country has sustained by the untimely death of the great patriot and hero, Lala Lajpat Rai who lived a life dedicated to the service of the country and it calls upon the people of the Indian states to make an adequate contribution to the All India Lajpat Rai Memorial Fund.

Put from the Chair.

(Carried unanimously, the audience standing in silence.)

II

This Conference expresses its strong condemnation of the method and manner in which the Indian States Committee conducted its proceedings. The Committee should have afforded to the people of the states the same facilities as it afforded to the princes for placing their views before it on the important questions referred to it for inquiry. The Conference is of opinion that the refusal of the questionnaire and the refusal to give a hearing to the representatives of the people and the fact that the inquiry was held *in camera* have made the report one-sided, unacceptable and valueless.

Proposed by Mr. D. L. Purohit (Baroda).

Seconded by Mr. G. G. Shimoga (Hyderabad).

(Carried unanimously)

III

(a) This Conference holds that the Indian States Committee, which was appointed to report upon the existing relations between the paramount power and the states, went beyond its terms of reference in expressing the opinion that if any government in the nature of a dominion government should be constituted in British India, the princes should not be transferred without their agreement to a relationship with a new government in British India responsible to the Indian legislature. The Conference is further of opinion that if it was competent to make such a recommendation, it should also have ascertained the wishes of the people of the Indian states as well as of British India.

(b) This Conference urges that for the speedy attainment of Swaraj for India as a whole, the Indian states should be brought into constitutional relations with British India and the people of the Indian states should be assigned a definite place and given an effective voice in all matters of common concern in any new constitution that may be devised for the whole of India.

Proposed by Mr. Raghavendra Rao Sharma (Hyderabad).

Seconded by Mr. B. Anantani (Cutch).

(Carried unanimously)

IV

(a) This Conference condemns the recommendation of the Butler Committee that the relations of the Indian states should be directly with the Crown through the Viceroy and not with the Government of India.

(b) In the opinion of this Conference, such a proposal to partition India into two separate halves with a divided allegiance will have a mischievous effect upon the progress of the country as a whole, and in particular, of the states. It will retard the advance of India to self-government, delay the establishment of responsible government in the states and indefinitely prolong irresponsible bureaucratic government in British India and autocratic rule in the states.

(c) The definite objective of all political efforts in India is the attainment at the earliest possible date, of self-government for India on the basis of a federal union of autonomous states and provinces, and in this point of view this Conference opposes all proposals of the Butler Committee which have a decidedly contrary tendency.

Proposed by Mr. Amritlal Sheth (Limbdi).

Seconded by Mr. S. Satyamurthi (Pudukotah).

„ Sardar Raghbir Singh (Patiala).

„ V. R. Naik (Hyderabad).

(Carried unanimously)

V

In furtherance of the united national demand for responsible government in the provinces as well as the states and for a federal government for the whole of India, this Conference invites the cooperation of the political organizations of British India and begs to offer its cooperation to them on a joint national Committee representative of both the states and the provinces.

This Conference authorizes its executive committee to appoint a special committee to cooperate with any committee or committees that may be set up in this behalf by the political organizations of British India, and to take all necessary action in the furtherance of the object.

Put from the Chair.

(Carried unanimously).

VI

This Conference is of opinion that the proposal of the Butler Committee to transfer the control over the affairs of the Indian states from the Governor-General-in-Council to the Viceroy is wholly detrimental to the best interest of the states, and further that the Viceroy and the Government of India, and that he should be in a position of detachment.

Proposed by Mr. G. R. Abhyankar (Sangli).

Seconded by Mr. A. V. Patwardhan (Jamkhandi).

(Carried unanimously.)

VII

This Conference urges that the proposals for the recruitment and training of political officers contained in para, 75 of the report of the Indian States Committee are wholly unacceptable. In the opinion of this Conference, the Political Department should contain a strong Indian element.

Put from the Chair.

(Carried unanimously.)

VIII

This Conference deeply regrets that elementary rights of citizenship such as the right of association and meeting, the right of free speech the right of free press and the right of free worship and security of person and property are generally denied to the people in the states, and record its emphatic opinion that these rights should be publicly acknowledged by the princes in a proclamation duly promulgated and further secured by suitable laws.

Proposed by Mr. Manishankar Trivedi (Bhavnagar).

Seconded by Mr. N. S. Ajit (Bharatpur).

„ Pendse (Janjira).

„ V. R. Naik (Hyderabad).

„ Kanhaiyalal Kalantri (Bikaner).

(Carried unanimously)

IX

This Conference urges the rulers of the states that :—

(a) representative institutions be established in their states on an elective basis in the sphere of local self-government and for the purpose of legislation, taxation and control of general administration ;

(b) the budgets of the states should be presented to and voted upon by legislative councils with a majority of elected members ;

(c) the amount of the privy purse of the ruling prince and his family should be fixed by the legislature and any excess over the fixed amount that may be asked for in any year should have to be voted by the legislature, and the fixed amount should be subject to revision every five years ;

(d) there should be an independent audit of the accounts of the states ;

(e) there should be an independent judiciary, judicial functions should be separated entirely from the executive, and the personal intervention of the princess in the administration of justice should cease absolutely, and

(f) recruitment and other matters relating to the public services of the states should be subject to definite laws and rules, and further in appointments to the public services preference should, as a rule, be given to the inhabitants of the states.

Proposed by Mr. G. B. Trivedi (Bhavnagar).

Seconded by Mr. J. T. Dravid (Indore).

Supported by Mr. Mavji Govindji (Cutch).

(Carried unanimously).

X

This Conference urges that the terms of reference to the Whitley Commission be widened so as to include an investigation into the conditions of labour in the Indian states.

Put from the Chair.

(Carried unanimously)

XI

(a) Whereas the system of compulsory labour which prevails in most Indian states is inhuman and barbarous, the Conference calls upon the Indian princes to abolish the same immediately.

(b) This Conference regrets that in some states customs and practices analogous to slavery still exist and strongly urges that they should be immediately abolished.

Proposed by Mr. B. G. Mehta (Bhavnagar).

Seconded by Mr. M. H. Mehta (Idar).

„ Bhikshu Brahmanand.

„ Shivdas Champsey (Cutch).

(Carried unanimously)

XII

This Conference declares its strong faith in self-reliant efforts as the most proper and effective means for the amelioration of the condition of the people and resolves that organizations be started in the states to do constructive work in the shape of cooperative societies, *khadi*, temperance, the uplift of the backward classes and the establishment of village Panchayats.

Proposed by Mr. A. V. Thakker (Bhavnagar).

Seconded by Mr. J. S. Shah.

(Carried unanimously)

XIII

This Conference views with great concern and strong disapproval the growing tendency of several princes to spend a considerable period of their time every year outside their states entailing heavy expenditure on their states and their people.

Proposed by Mr. D. Purohit (Baroda).

Seconded by Mr. Badridas Purohit.

Supported by Thakor Umed Singh (Sachin).

Mr. W. T. Halai (Cutch).

(Carried unanimously.)

XIV

In the opinion of this Conference there should be a thorough inquiry into the economic condition of the people in general and of the agriculturists in particular in every state and it should be conducted by small committees of one official and one independent non-official, and the report of every such inquiry should be published without delay for general information,

Put from the Chair

(Carried unanimously)

XV

This Conference expresses its opinion that the people of the Indian states are fully prepared to grant to the princes the same status, privileges and prerogatives as are possessed and enjoyed by the Crown in England, and authorizes the Working Committee to negotiate with representatives of the princes, if they so desire, to devise measures so as to make the governments of the states fully responsible to the people.

Proposed by Sardar Sardul Singh (Patiala).

Seconded by Mr. Jai Narayan Vyas (Jodhpur).

(Carried unanimously.)

XVI

This Conference calls upon every ruling prince in India to immediately introduce compulsory military training in the educational institutions of the states.

Proposed by Mr. J. T. Dravid (Indore).

Seconded by Mr. G. G. Shimoga (Hyderabad).

(Carried unanimously.)

XVII

(a) This Conference requests the Conferences in the various States and other political organizations to examine the Memorandum and the Scheme prepared by the South Indian States' People's Conference and its President and report their views thereon to the general secretaries before the close of 1929. The executive committee is requested to examine the Scheme in light of the opinions received and to report to the next session.

(b) The secretaries are requested to send a copy of this resolution to Mr. D. V. Gundapa, the General Secretary of the South Indian States, People's Conference.

Put from the Chair.

(Carried unanimously)

XVIII

(a) This Conference regrets that a policy of repression is being followed in certain states, both under ruling princes and under British administration, and expresses its sympathy with the victims of such policy.

(b) And with a view to facilitate the proper ventilation of the grievances of the people of the states, this Conference authorizes the

working committee to receive all complaints, representations, petitions and memorials, to give them due publicity after making necessary and possible inquiries, and to take necessary steps for the relief of the people.

Proposed by Mr. Narmadashankar Pandya.

Seconded by Mr. A. V. Thakkar (Bhavnagar).

Supported by Mr. Niranjana Sharma Ajit (Bharatpur).

„ Mr. Bagarhatta (Bikaner).

„ Mr. Jai Narayan Vyas (Jodhpur).

(Carried unanimously)

XIX

(a) This Conference resolves to appoint an executive committee of the seventy members named below with powers to co-opt thirty members, to carry out the resolutions of the Conference and generally to promote the objects of the Conference till the next session.

RAJPUTANA

1. B. S. Pathik, Udipur. 2. R. N. Chaudhary, Jaipur. 3. Niranjana Sharma Ajit, Bharatpur. 4. Jaynarayana Vyas, Jodhpur. 5. Kanahiyalal Kalantri, Bikaner. 6. Shobhalal Gupta, Udaipur. 7. Rishidutta Nagar, Bundi. 8. Anandray Surana, Jodhpur.

CENTRAL INDIA

9. Haribhau Upadhyay, Gwalior. 10. Kotwal, Indore. 11. J. T. Dravid, Indore. 12. T. D. Pustake, Ujjain. 13. Raghunath Prasad Parsai, Ujjain. 14. S. M. Londhey, Khandwa.

PUNJAB

15. Gwashal Kaul, Kashmere. 16. Labhooram Kalia, Kapurthala. 17. B. Jaswant Singh, Patiala. 18. Chaudhary Sherjung, Nahau. 19. Bhagwansing Langoiwala, Patiala. 20. Sardulsing Caveesher, Patiala.

GUJARAT

21. Manilal H. Mehta, Idar. 22. Amritlal L. Trivedi, Idar. 23. Chhotalal J. Sutaria, Baroda. 24. Rangildas M. Kapadia, Baroda. 25. Mrs. Sardagauri Mehta, Baroda. 26. Ochhavlal G. Modi, Balasinor. 27. Dayalal Purohit, Baroda. 28. Kakalbhai B. Vakil, Radhanpur. 29. H. R. Chandorikar, Baroda.

KATHIAWAD

30. A. V. Thakker, Bhavnagar. 31. B. G. Mehta, Bhavnagar. 32. Kakalbhai Kothari, Gondal. 33. Manilal Kothari, Limbdi. 34. Bhikhabhai

B. Kothari, Limbdi. 35. Durlabhji Umedchand, Limbdi. 36. Jagjivan Ujamsi, Limbdi. 37. Kanji Gordhandas, Rajkot.

CUTCH

38. Gulabshanker, Dholakia. 39. Moolraj Karsondas. 40. Shivdas Champai.

DECCAN

41. G. R. Abhyanker, Sangli. 42. Ashwanthrao Niak, Sangli. 43. A. V. Patvardhan, Jamkhandi. 44. Tammanna Chikodi, Jamkhandi. 45. Balkrishna Vithal, Miraj. 46. S. G. Vaze, Kolhapur. 47. D. V. Gokhale, Kolhapur. 48. Ganesh Bhasker Sane, Bhor. 49. S. C. Joshi, Janjira, 50. G. L. Page, Sangli.

SOUTHERN INDIA

51. D. V. Gundappa, Mysore. 52. S. Satyamurti, Pudukottah. 53. Raghavendrarao Sharma, Hyderabad. 54. V. R. Nayak, Hyderabad. 55. S. L. Silam, Hyderabad. 56. S. S. Persha, Hyderabad. 57. M. Hanmant-rao Pleader, Hyderabad. 58. R. M. Sudarsanam, Travancore. 59. A. B. Salem, Cochin. 60. K. T. Matthew, Cochin.

BOMBAY

61. G. B. Trivedi, Bhavnagar. 62. Hirachand V. Desai, Morvi. 63. Laxmichand Manekchand, Limbdi. 64. Mansukhlal Chhaganlal, Limbdi. 65. D. P. Pathak. 66. T. P. Mahuwakar, Bhavnagar. 67. L. R. Tairsee, Cutch. 68. Chatrabhuj Anandjee, Baroda. 69. N. J. Thakkar, Idar. 70. Motilal Purohit, Jamnagar.

(b) This Conference further empowers the executive committee to appoint a working committee of a dozen members to carry out such duties as may be allotted to it by the executive committee and the Conference.

(c) This Conference further resolves to form provincial committees of the Conference consisting of the members of the executive committee belonging to those provinces and an equal number of members co-opted by them from their provinces, with provincial secretaries elected by the executive committee as secretaries of these committees *ex-officio*.

Proposed by Mr. B. G. Mehta, (Bhavnagar).

Seconded by Mr. Manishanker Trivedi (Bhavnagar).

(Carried unanimously)

XX

This Conference appoints Messrs. G. R. Abhyankar, Balwantrao G. Mehta and Manishanker S. Trivedi as General Secretaries.

Put from the Chair.
(Carried unanimously)

C. Y. CHINTAMANI,
President,

THE SECOND INDIAN STATES PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE.

Bombay, May 26, 1929.

APPENDIX A.

FIRST SESSIONS (*continued from the first report*).

Executive Committee Meeting.

The sixth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian States People's Conference was held at Sardar Grahra on Friday the 14th December 1928, when Dewan Bahadur M. Ramchandra Rao presided. The following members were present :—

1. D. B. M. Ramchandra Rao 2. Amritlal D. Seth 3. Niranjan Sharma Ajit 4. Manilal H. Mehta 5. Mansukhlal Chhaganlal 6. Jagjiwan Ujamshi 7. Rangildas M. Kapadia 8. S. G. Vaze 9. Lakhmichand Maneckchand Doshi 10. Hirachand Vanechand Desai 11. A. V. Patvardhan 12. Manishaker Trivedi 13. K. L. Kalantri 14. Gulabrai Nemani and 15. Occhavlal C. Modi.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously :—

1. This Committee places on record its sense of incalculable loss sustained by the country by the sad demise of Lala Lajpatrai and wishes peace to his soul, and offers condolence to the family of Lalaji.

2. The Committee resolves to undertake the following three activities in the year 1929 funds permitting.

(a) To open a sort of an agency of the Conference in London ; Mr. Chudgar is appointed to organise and conduct the same while he is there. He should be provided with funds for the purpose not exceeding £200 for the whole year.

(b) To publish reviews of the administrations of some of the important states on the model of the Jamnagar booklet as also a small booklet containing the summary of all those reviews and other important material.

(c) To start a quarterly Journal in English, as the organ of the Conference, to be edited by D. B. Ramchandra Rao.

3. In view of the unanimous desire of the Committee Meeting not to hold the next session of the Conference at Delhi, it is resolved :

(a) That the Session of the Conference be held either at Calcutta or at Bombay, as may be decided by the President.

(b) The Session be held some time in March or on such other date as the president may decide.

(c) President be authorised to cable Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Shastriar the unanimous wish of the Committee inviting him to preside at the next session of the Conference.

4. Secretaries be authorised to wire the organisers of the "Native States' Subjects' Conference" at Calcutta in the Congress week to postpone the same or to name it the Eastern India States' People's Conference. The President and those members of the committee who may be in Calcutta at the time are requested to confer with the organisers of the Calcutta Conference about the next session of this Conference.

5. The following members were elected as representatives for the All Parties National Convention :—

1. D. B. Ramchandra Rao 2. Manilal Kothari 3. Mansukhlal Chhaganlal 4. Govindlal Shivilal 5. Niranjan Sharma 6. Amritlal D. Sheth 7. Hirachand Vanechand 8. Laxmichand M. Doshi and 9-10. to be elected by the president.

Resolved that Mr. Amritlal D. Sheth to act as General Secretary during the absence of Prof. Abhyankar with retrospective effect. The following gentlemen to attend to collection and disbursement of the conference finance with power to co-opt.

1. Hirachand Vanechand 2. Mansukhlal Chhaganlal 3. Jagjivan Ujamshi. 4. Amritlal D. Sheth 5. Laxmichand Doshi 6. Beni-prasad Dalmulya and 7. Manishanker Trivedi (Secretary).

7. Accounts of expenses of the Deputation to England are approved and passed.

8. The Committee records its thanks to the members of the Deputation for the work they did in England. The Committee expresses their

sincere gratitude to the following gentlemen in England who rendered valuable services to the Deputation of this Conference :—

1. Major Graham Pole.
2. Mr. Fenner Brockway.
3. Mr. S. L. Pollock.

The meeting dispersed after passing a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Executive Committee Meeting.

The seventh meeting of the Executive Committee of this Conference was held on Sunday the 3rd March 1929 in the office of the Conference at Ashoka Building, Princess Street, with Sjt. Govindlal Shivalal the vice-chairman presiding.

1. The following resolutions were passed unanimously :—

(a) In view of the impending publication of the report of the Indian States Committee with probable far reaching consequences to the permanent interests of the people of the states, this committee resolves to appoint Messrs. Popatlal Chudgar and R. J. Udani as the representatives of this conference in England to educate and enlighten public opinion in that country on behalf of this conference and empowers them to organise a local committee in England to further the aims and objects of this conference.

(b) This committee is emphatically of opinion that the report of the Indian States committee should be published for general information and that full and complete opportunities ought to be provided to the people of the states to scrutinise its recommendations and express their opinion thereon before any final decisions are reached by the Government regarding them.

2. (a) This committee resolves to hold the next session of this conference in Bombay in the last week of April and exhorts all the well wishers of the people of the states to exert themselves to make it fully representative.

(b) It further resolves that the members of the executive committee present should form the provisional Reception Committee to organise the Reception Committee of the next session.

3. This committee of the Indian States' People's Conference welcomes the decision of the princes to throw open the proceedings of the Princes' Chamber for general information and trusts that the authorities of the various states will extend this principle of publicity

in all the affairs of the States and take their people in their confidence in all matters of State policy especially their foreign and political dealings with other states and the Indian Government.

4. This Committee reiterates its full approval of the Nehru Committee Report and welcomes the offer of the All Parties' Convention to discuss the proposals in details with the representatives of the Princes and the people of the states and requests the Chamber of Princes to accept this generous invitation and exert their utmost to arrive at a common understanding on all the various political problems affecting both the parties conducive to the welfare of the Indian Nation.

5. This Committee protests against the repressive policy adopted in Bharatpur State which is now administered by a nominee of the Government of India and congratulates the patriotic workers who by their self-sacrifice and suffering are serving the cause of the people of the Indian States. This committee authorises the Rajputana Provincial office of this conference to render necessary help to the sufferers in consultation with Sjt. Manilal Kothari and Amritlal D. Sheth.

6. The statement of the accounts of the executive Committee including that of the central office and the provincial offices was read and approved. The proceedings terminated after passing a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Confirmed :

(Sd.) C. Y. CHINTAMANI.

27-5-29.

SECOND SESSION.

Proceedings of the First Meeting of The Executive Committee.

The First meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian States People's Conference was held in the Servants of India Society's Home on Monday the 27th at 4 p.m. Sjt. C. Y. Chintamani Presided. Amongst those present were D. B. Ramchandra Rao, Sjt. Amritlal Thakker, Sjt. Amritlal Sheth; Prof. B. K. Thakore, Sjt. R. N. Chaudhary, Sjt. A. V. Patwardhan, Sjt. Kakkalbhai Kothari, Sjt. Vamanrao Naik, Sjt. G. R. Abhyankar, Sjt. D. L. Purohit, Sjt. J. K. Braharnatham, Sjt. Jainarain Vyas, Sjt. M. H. Mehta, Sjt. H. R. Chandorikar, Sjt. C. J. Sutaria. Sjt. Chaturbhuj Anandji, Sjt. Chhelshanker D. Vyas, Sjt. Mulraj Kersondas. Sjt. M. S. Trivedi, Sjt. Rangildas Kapadia, Sjt. N. S. Ajit, Sjt. R. N. Mehta, Sjt. G. L. Page, Sjt. B. B. Kothari, Sjt. K. L. Kalantri, Sjt. R. R. Bakhale,

The Committee co-opted the following twenty-two gentlemen on the Committee as authorised by a resolution of the conference. Prof. B. K. Thakore, Dr. Sumant Mehta, Mr. Chelashanker Vyas, Mr. Gulabrai Nemani, Mr. Amritlal Sheth, Pt. Madhavprasad, Solicitor, Mr. Madanlal, Pt. Badridas Purohit, Pt. Jayalal K. Kaul, Mr. S. Diwanshingh, Mr. W. T. Halai, Mr. Shethia, Mr. Dashrathlal, Mr. Keshavlal Moolchand, Mr. Ambalal G. (Balasinor), Mr. Laxminarayan, Head-master, Mr. Vitaldas Bajjaj, Mr. Jamnadas K. Brahmabhat, Mr. Harakhchand J. Khanderia, Mr. Narmadashanker Pandya, Sjt. P. L. Chudger and Mr. R. J. Udani. Most of the workers of the states were thus included in the Executive of the Conference.

The Committee decided that all ex-Presidents of the conference should be accepted as ex-officio members and vice-chairmen of the executive and working committees.

By virtue of the authority conferred upon it by resolution No. 19 of the second session of the Indian States' People's Conference, this committee hereby appoints a working Committee consisting of the members named below and delegates to it the following powers and duties :—

- (1) The realisation of subscriptions and donations and the incurring of expenditure.
- (2) The arrangements of Publicity and Propaganda.
- (3) The setting up of special or standing sub-committees for any purpose relating to the work of the conference and
- (4) The disposal of all business of an emergent nature on behalf of and in the name of the Executive Committee.

All actions taken under clause (4) should be reported to the executive committee at its next meeting.

The Committee appointed Messrs. A. V. Thaker, A. D. Sheth, Laxmichand Dosi, Mulraj Karsondas, L. R. Tairsec, Madilal Mehta, Rangildas Kapadia, Kaniyalal Kalantri, Madanlal Jalan, N. S. Ajit, A. V. Patwardhan and Vamanrao Naik besides Sjt. C. Y. Chintamani, the Chairman D. B. Ramchandra Rao, the Vice-Chairman and Prof. G. R. Abhyanker, Mr. M. S. Trivedi and Mr. Balvantrai Mehta, the General Secretaries as members of the Working Committee.

The Committee then passed the following resolution proposed by Sjt. A. D. Sheth, regarding the enlistment of sympathisers for the conference.

"This Committee is of opinion that for the purpose of utilising the sympathy of the persons interested in the the work of the conference, the conference should enlist sympathisers who would be willing to pay to the conference Rs. 50 per year. The Working Committee is hereby authorised to issue an appeal for the purpose and otherwise popularize this scheme."

It was resolved that the executive committee should meet at least twice in a year ordinarily.

The Committee next elected the following as the Provincial secretaries :—

Sjt. S. G. Vaze, Provincial Secretary for the Southern India States.

Sjt. R. N. Chaudhary, Provincial Secretary for the Northern India States.

Sjt. Kakkalbhai Kothari : Provincial Secretary for the Western India States.

The Committee dispersed after passing a vote of thanks to the chair.

Second Meeting, 6th October 1929.

The Second Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference was held in the office of the conference on Sunday the 6th October.

The following members were present :

Mr. Rangildas Kapadia, D. P. Pathak, Messrs Jamnadas Khushal, Niranjan Sharma, Badrinath Purohit, Manishanker Trivedi, Manilal Mehta, L. G. Page.

The meeting was adjourned to Saturday the 12th instant at 4 P.M. for want of quorum.

Second Meeting.

The second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian States' Peoples Conference which was adjourned on the 6th inst. was held in the office of the Conference at Ashoka Building, Princess Street Bombay on Saturday the 12th October 1929 at 4 P. M. (S. T.) when Mr. Kanji Gordhandas Budhdeo presided.

The following resolutions were passed :—

The following members were present. Kanji Gordhandas Budhdev Rangildas Kapadia, Badrinath Purohit, D. P. Pathak, Jamnadas K. Brahmabhat, Manishanker Trivedi, Niranjan Sharma Ajit. Motilal Bavala, Purohit,

(1) This meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference condemns the policy of repression at exelsis recently inaugurated in the Jodhpur State against the legitimate and constitutional agitation of the people of the State and protests against the Order of the Jodhpur Durbar prohibiting the "Jodhpur State's People's Conference", the unwarranted arrests of Sjt. Jainarayan Vyas and Anandrai Surana, and the most autocratic and arrogant prohibition order against the entry into the Jodhpur State, of Sjt. Manilal Kothari who intended to institute an inquiry into the whole affair.

(2) This Committee appoints an "Organisation Committee" of Messrs. Manilal Kothari, Ramnarayan Choudhary and Balwantrai Mehta with powers to co-opt more members, to appoint local sub-committees in the different States to carry on the orgainsation work within the States, and to raise necessary funds for the purpose.

(3) This Committee emphatically condemns the wanton and unwarranted attack of the Wadhwan State Police on a peaceful public meeting held by the people of the State at Wadhwan on the 5th instant to protest against the order of the State forbidding the entry of a certain newspaper into the State territory and congratulates the public of Wadhwan on their bold courageous and yet peaceful stand against the above unauthorised and high handed prevocation by the Police.

(4) This Committee appoints the following gentlemen to represent this Committee at the forthcoming Round Table Conference to be convened by the All Parties National Convention Committee:

- (1) Sjt. C. Y. Chintamani,
- " A. D. Sheth,
- " S. Satyamurti.

The meeting dispersed after passing a vote of thanks to the Chairman and authorising the Working Committee to take necessary steps in the above matters.

Executive Committee Meeting.

The third meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference was held in the Office of the Conference at Ashok Building, Princess Street, Bombay on Sunday the 25th instant at 5 P. M. when Mr. A. V. Thakkar, presided.

The following members were present :—

A. V. Thakker, Prof. G. R. Abhyanker, Manishanker Trivedi; Jagjiwan Ujamshi; Gulabshanker Dholakia; C. J. Sutaria; L. R. Tairsee;

S. G. Vaze; Balwantrai Mehta; Pandit Niranjan Sharma; Amritlal D. Sheth; Mulraj Kersondas; W. T. Halai; T. P. Mahuvakar; Motilai Purohit; Kanaialal Kalantri; Jamnadas Khushal; Durlabhji Umedchand.

The proposals contained in the letter of Mr. Manilal Kothari, one of the Secretaries of the Provisional Committee formed at Karachi Congress were discussed. Mr. Balvantray G. Mehta and C. J. Sutaria narrated the conversations that took place between Mahatmaji and several leaders of the States' People at Karachi. The following resolutions were unanimously passed.

(1) It is resolved that in reply to the letter of Mr. Manilal Kothari, Secretary, Provisional Committee dated Joravarnagar the 18th April 1931, the following Resolution passed by this Committee on 20th May in 1928 regarding the amalgamation of this Conference and the Madras Conference be forwarded to him for information with a copy of the minutes of the said meeting, and also a copy of the letter of Mr. K. T. Matthew, General Secretary of the Madras Conference, addressed to Mr. C. J. Sutaria dated 21st April 1931, be sent to Mr. Kothari, and he be further informed that if he desires to further explore the question referred to in his letter under reply, this Committee authorise Mr. A. V. Thakker to do so and correspond with him.

Resolution dated the 20th May 1928.

"In view of the proposal made by the States' Subjects' Conferences held at Madras and Bombay, it is resolved after hearing Messrs. V. R. Naik and R. Sharma, delegates of Madras Conference, that both the conferences be amalgamated into one Central Organization to be styled the Indian States' People's Conference, and henceforward meet in annual sessions jointly at one place and that for the time being executives of both the conferences be amalgamated and work jointly as the executive of the Central Organization." (Vide. printed report, 1st Session appendix C Page 8 Resolution No. 6).

(2) In reply to the second proposal contained in Mr. Kothari's letter mentioned above, he be informed that this Committee are unanimously of opinion that it is essential to preserve the independent entity of the institution working for the people of the States, with a view firstly to have a free hand in matters relating to States, and secondly to keep doors open for all political parties in the country working in the interests of the States' people, and therefore this Committee are of opinion, that it is not desirable for this Conference to go under the auspices of the Indian National Congress.

(3) It is resolved that a sessions of the Indian States People's Conference be held at a place and time to be fixed by the following Committee and announced within ten days.

A. V. Thakker, L. R. Tairsee, C. J. Sutaria, A. D. Sheth, P. K. Munshi, Wamanrao Tahmankar, Rangildas Kapadia, Jagjiwan Ujamshi, Mulraj Kersondas, G. R. Abhyankar, B. G. Mehta, and Manishanker Trivedi.

The meeting dispersed after passing a vote of thanks to the Chair.

APPENDIX B.

Second Session.

A meeting of the Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference was held in the office of the Conference at Ashok Building, Princess Street, Bombay on Thursday the 6th June 1929 at 5 P. M. (S. T.) when Mr. A. D. Sheth, M.L.C. Presided.

The following members were present :—

Mr. M. S. Trivedi, Mr. A.D. Sheth, Mr. B. G. Mehta, Mr. N. S. Ajit, Mr. K. L. Kalantri and Mr. L. M. Doshi.

The following resolutions were passed :—

(1) A. The meeting of the working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference welcomes the forthcoming Conference of the Indian Princes in Bombay in connection with the Butler Committee report, and hopes that they will come to an agreement amongst themselves to declare responsible Government as their goal in their States, devise measures to take substantial steps forward in the direction of that goal, guarantee enjoyment to their people of their elementary rights of citizenship, fix their privy purse, reform and reorganize their judiciary on British Model and accept Federal union with British India as their ambition with regards to the development of their future constitutional relations with British India.

B. It further calls upon all the organisations working towards the welfare of the people of the States to convene public meetings at their places on or before the 24th of June 1929 and pass resolutions requesting the princes to agree to the universal popular demands for the recognition of the elementary rights of citizenship of their people, and the grant of responsible Governments to them, and one condemning the conclusions of the Indian States Enquiry Committee as prejudicial to the best interests of both Indian India and British India separately and of the Indian Nation as a whole.

(2) A. The Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference congratulates the British Labour party on their splendid success in recent general elections and welcomes the Labour Government to power. It hopes that the labour party will take an early opportunity to apply the noble principles for which it stands to the seventy millions of oppressed humanity living in the Indian States.

B. It further authorizes the General Secretaries of this Conference to send this Resolution to Mr. MacDonald and the Secretary of State for India in the New Government.

(3) The Working Committee authorizes the Secretaries of the Conference, to prepare pamphlets reviewing the administration of the states like Patiala, Bikaner, Hyderabad, Bhopal, Kashmir, Alwar, Dhrangadhra, Rajpipla and others on the model of the Nawanagar Pamphlet and issue them to the public at the earliest convenience.

(4) This Committee authorizes Messrs. P. L. Chudgar and R. J. Udani to work on its behalf in England and other countries as its representatives, and requests them to continue their activities in furtherance of the objects of the Conference till the next Conference.

(5) This Committee authorises the General Secretaries to carry on the work of the Conference as entrusted to them and sanctions the following Budget estimates to provide for the necessary expenses :—

Rs. 1500/- Preparation and printing of pamphlets.

Rs. 1000/- Payments of outstanding debts.

Rs. 1500/- Propaganda work in England.

Rs. 1000/- Establishments in Bombay.

(6) The Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference has heard with concern and surprise the news of the arrest in Idar State of Motilalji Bhill and Shantilal Pancholi a representative of the 'Rajasthan', who went there only for the temperance and such other social activities. Secretaries are authorized to put themselves immediately in touch with authorities at Idar and give all legal help to the workers arrested.

(7) This Committee authorizes the President of the Conference to enter into correspondence with Government of India in order to arrange to place before them the views of the Indian States' People's Conference regarding the Butler Committee Report.

The meeting dispersed after passing a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Second Meeting, 11th August 1929.

The Second meeting of the Working Committee of the Indian State's Peoples Conference was held in the office of the Conference at Ashoka Building Princes Street, Bombay on Sunday the 11th August 1929 at 4 p.m. (S. T.) when Sjt. A. V. Patwardhan presided.

The following members were present :—

A. V. Patwardhan, A. D. Sheth, Rangildas Kapadia, Kanaiyalal Kalantri, Niranjan Sharma Ajit, Madanlal Jalan, Manilal Mehta and Manishanker Trivedi.

After Mr. Manishanker Trivedi the resident General Secretary of the Conference narrated the report of his tour to the Punjab in connection with a preliminary Inquiry into various matters brought to the notice of the Conference office, the Committee passed the following Resolutions :—

This meeting of the Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference appoints an Inquiry Committee of the following members with power to co-opt, to go to the Punjab, to make all necessary and possible inquiries into the various matters concerning the grievances of the people placed before them by the Punjab States' Riyasat Association and the organisers of the Punjab States' People's Conference, and report to this Committee about the same as early as possible.

- (1) C. Y. Chintamani (2) L. R. Tairae (3) Sardar Sardooling
(4) Prof. G. R. Abhyankar and (5) Amritlal D. Sheth.

The meeting then passed a vote of thanks to the Chair and dispersed.

Third Meeting.

The Third Meeting of the Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference was held in the office of the Conference on Saturday the 16th November 1929 at 6 p.m. (S. T.) when Mr. Mulraj Karsandas presided.

The following members were present :—

Mr. Mulraj Karsandas, Mr. Niranjan Sharma Ajit, Mr. Balvantrai Mehta, Mr. Manishanker Trivedi, Mr. Kanaiyalal Kalyantri.

The following resolutions were adopted :

- (1) (a) The working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference appreciates the efforts of H. E. the Viceroy in his now famous

announcement to create a favourable atmosphere in India for the solution of the constitutional problem and accords its support to the Delhi Manifesto of the leaders issued in response to the gesture of the Government.

(b) The Committee welcomes the decision of the British Government to discuss the Problems of constitutional relations of British India with the Indian States with the representatives of British India and Indian States and trusts that H. E. the Viceroy will issue invitations to the representatives of the people of the Indian States to sit in the Round Table Conference in view of the heavy stakes of the people of the States in the grave issues likely to be decided therein.

(c) This committee deplores the attitude of the leaders of all parties who met at Delhi in not emphasizing the necessity of a proper and adequate representation of the people of the States in the Delhi Manifesto, but trusts that it was all done through inadvertance and that they will take an early opportunity of making it clear that there can be no practical and final discussion of the constitutional relations of the States with British India without an effective participation of the representatives of the people of the States in them.

2 (a) This Committee strongly repudiates the arrogant claim of the Princes recently enunciated by H. H. The Maharaja of Bikaner to pose as the natural representatives of the people of the States from times immemorial, as emanating from those who have forfeited all rights, if ever existed, by their irresponsible and autocratic system of administration in their states.

(b) This Committee resents the indirect statement of H. H. The Maharaja of Bikaner about the unwillingness and unpreparedness of the Princes to sit on the same table with the representatives of the States' people, considers His Highness' fancied objections as preposterous and surprising in view of his own previous definition of "State" and trusts the Princes will not place any obstacles in the way of the proper representation of all interests in determining the future constitution of India as a whole.

Fourth Meeting.

The fourth meeting of the working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference was held in the office of the Conference on Wednesday the 5th February 1930 at 6-30 P. M. (S. T.) The following members were present :—

L.R. Tairsee, Amritlal D. Sheth, Lakhmichand Maneckchand, Pandit Niranjan Sharma, Kannayalal Kalayantri, Manishanker Trivedi, Rangildas

Kapadia. Mr. L. R. Tairse was voted to the chair. Mr. Amritlal D. Sheth presented the report on behalf of the Patiala Inquiry Committee, which was considered. The following resolution was adopted.

(1) This Committee thanks the members of the Patiala Inquiry Committee for their services in connection with the Patiala Inquiry and decides to publish the report together with evidence, exhibits, appendices, as placed before the meeting with instructions to explain in a foreward the genesis of the Inquiry as to why the Indian States' People's Conference took up the Inquiry and publishes this for the benefit of the public, with an appeal to the Government of India that if they have any doubt still, they should go further into the matter. With the evidence that is produced the Committee considers that the duty of the Government of India is clear and the matter cannot be allowed to rest as it is. The Committee authorises the Inquiry Committee to publish the report as best as they can and without any delay; the expenses to be borne by the Indian States' People's Conference.

The Committee next passed the following Resolution :—

(2) The Committee strongly protests against the policy of repression recently adopted by Jodhpur State, expresses its indignation against the unjust methods adopted by the State in conducting the prosecutions against Mr. Jainarayan Vyas and his colleagues as also against the savage sentences passed against the above workers. The Committee congratulates the above workers for their services and self sacrifice.

The question of the next annual session of the conference was postponed to the subsequent meeting.

The meeting dispersed after passing a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Fifth Meeting 18th May 1930.

The Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference, at its special meeting held at Bombay on the 18th May under the presidency of Mr. A. V. Thakkar, passed unanimously the following resolutions :—

The Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference have considered the communique of the Government of India dated Simla 9th May 1930, announcing the appointment of Mr. Fitzpatrick, A. G. G. the Punjab states to hold an Inquiry 'in Camera' into the charges contained in 'the Indictment of Patiala' published by this Conference.

The Committee notes that the Maharaja has voluntarily asked for 'a thorough, searching and independent Inquiry' into the allegations contained in the said publication and that the Government of India have

at last agreed to an Inquiry. The Committee, however, for the under-mentioned grounds is of opinion that the Inquiry as announced is unsatisfactory both in its personnel and form and is not calculated to create confidence therein.

(1) The Inquiry is not ordered in accordance with any provisions of Law.

(2) The officer appointed to conduct the Inquiry is a nominee of the Maharaja of Patiala.

(3) The said officer has been connected in discharge of his political duties with the Maharaja of Patiala and several matters which are the subject of the Inquiry must have come before him previously and having formed his opinion about the same is not likely to bring an impartial bearing of mind on the matters in question.

(4) The said officer is not an officer with any judicial training or experience and he is more likely to be swayed by political considerations than judicial.

(5) In some of the cases that are to be enquired into, the political department of which Mr. Fitzpatrick is the head is deeply concerned and in deciding these cases Mr. Fitzpatrick will be required to sit in judgement on his own department.

(6) In fact it will be necessary for the Committee to cite Mr. Fitzpatrick as a witness.

(7) An 'in-camera' Inquiry will not inspire the confidence necessary in cases like this where grave allegations have been openly made against the Maharaja of Patiala, the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes. The Inquiry to be 'thorough, searching and independent' as demanded by the Maharaja himself must be an open Inquiry.

(8) The Power to adjust the times of hearing, to adjourn, adjust and arrange methods of procedure, to settle the course which the Enquiry shall take, to call for, to receive or to reject evidence documentary or otherwise, and to hear counsel and such other person on behalf of the parties should not have been left to the Inquiry officer, but should have been left to be governed by the ordinary Law of the Land.

(9) The appointment of time and place should not have been left to the Inquiry officer, but should have been fixed after consultation with the parties concerned. It may be stated here that from the notices issued to the members of the Patiala inquiry Committee it is found that the Inquiry officer is going to hold the Inquiry at Dalhousie, a place 75 miles

from any railway station on 9th June 1930. It will thus be seen that the place selected for the Inquiry is very inconvenient and it would be impossible to take witnesses there and that very little time is left to the Committee to be ready for the Inquiry, considering that the Maharaja himself took such a long time before deciding to ask for an Inquiry. It is clear that the inquiry as proposed will entail great trouble, expense and delay.

(10) The Communique omits any mention of several matters necessary to enable the Committee to lead its evidence, namely.

- (a) All prisoners in the Patiala Jails whose evidence may be required during the Inquiry should be ordered to be removed to British Jails and an undertaking should be given that they shall not be sent to the Patiala Jails.
- (b) All witnesses appearing before the Inquiry Officer should be granted complete immunity and protection against any action that may be taken against them, on account of or in consequence of the evidence given by them.
- (c) In cases of Enquiry against persons in power relating to the grievances of their subjects and subordinates it is usual in order to ensure full and free evidence being tendered that powers of such persons should either be taken away or so curtailed that they may not be able to hamper or influence the inquiry. Nothing of this kind is known to have been done in case of the Maharaja of Patiala.

The Committee desires to point out that the Montague-Chemsford Report on the Indian Constitutional Reforms has considered the possibility of the Government of India having to enquire into cases of misconduct of Indian States and it is laid down in Para 309 of the Report that when such a case arises, it should always be referred to a Commission to be appointed by the Viceroy to advise him and it should consist of five members including ordinarily a High Court Judge and two ruling Princes. The Committee fails to understand why this procedure has not been followed and is of opinion that only an Inquiry on the lines contemplated in the Montford Report should have been ordered and only such an Inquiry would carry confidence.

The Committee is of opinion that for the above reasons no useful purpose would be served by participating in an Inquiry of the nature as ordered unless the Government of India appoint a Commission to enquire into the allegations against the Maharaja of Patiala under para 309 of

the Montford Report. The other alternative open to the Maharaja would be to prosecute the authors of the Patiala Inquiry Report according to ordinary Law of the Land under the Princes' Protection Act or for the Defamation under the Indian Penal Code, thus emulating the example of His Majesty George the Fifth, who is paramount to the Maharaja of Patiala and who setting aside all notions of false prestige and position appeared before the ordinary court of Law when he wanted to clear his character.

(II)

LETTER TO H. E. THE VICEROY.

The working committee authorizes the General Secretary to address to H. E. the Viceroy the letter as drafted and approved by the committee in connection with the Government communique of 9th May regarding the Fitzpatrick Patiala Inquiry.

(III)

DEMAND OF INQUIRY COMMISSION

The working committee of the Indian States' People's conference expresses its sincere appreciation of the strong and insistent demand for public inquiry into the charges framed 'in the Indictment of Patiala' by almost all independent leading publicists, public men and women and public organizations, notably women's associations and youth leagues; the working committee notes with pleasure the spontaneous expression of righteous indignation against the accused in the Indictment of Patiala at numerous public meetings held by citizens of Indian States and British India in many parts of India; the working committee furthermore hopes that the public opinion will express itself with the same intensity against the so-called farcical inquiry instituted by the Government of India as announced in its communique of 9th May and will feel satisfied only when it has obtained a commission of inquiry on the lines indicated in the Montague Chelmsford Report, Para 309.

MR. AMRITLAL SHETH'S PROTEST FROM JAIL.

Mr. Amritlal D. Sheth, a leading member of the Patiala Inquiry Committee appointed by the Indian States' People's Conference, now a prisoner in Sabarmati Jail for participating in the Salt law-breaking Campaign in British India, has addressed through the Jail authorities the following letter to H. E. the Viceroy, regarding the Government announcement of the 9th May, instituting the Fitzpatrick Patiala Inquiry.

To,
 The Private Secretary, To
 H. E. The Viceroy,
 SIMLA.

Sabarmati Jail,
 Sabarmati,
 Dated 14th May, 1930.

Sir,

I have to request you to place the following before H. E. The Viceroy:

As one of the signatories to 'The Indictment of Patiala', I am amazed to read in the Times of India of the twelvth May the Government communique about Patiala Inquiry. I object both to the form and the personnel of the Inquiry as announced. My grounds for objecting to the personnel are as follows:—

- (1) Firstly, the officer appointed is one selected by the Maharaja of Patiala while the other party is given no choice. The officer should either enjoy the confidence of both the parties or should be an absolutely independent selection.
- (2) Secondly, The officer selected by the Maharaja has been in thick relationship with him for a period running over years.
- (3) Thridly, the officer appointed has been a political officer for a number of years and has had much to do in his official capacity with the material under inquiry. He is thus a party concerned with prejudices and prepossessions.
- (4) Fourthly, he is not a judicial officer under any High Court even for these purposes, nor does he hold the status of a High Court Judge which ought to be a necessary qualification for a presiding officer of such a tribunal.
- (5) Fiftbly, he is a political officer trained to give predominant weight to the political considerations rather than to judicial.

I also object to the form of inquiry on the following grounds:

- (1) Firstly, the inquiry should be absolutely judicial in form as was the case with the Gaekwar trial and certainly not political and departmental as announced in the present case.
- (2) Secondly, about rules of evidence, procedure etc., and about principles to determine guilt of the Maharaja, Laws of the Land ought to have been made applicable rather than everything to be

left to the freaks of a life-long political officer as is done in the present case.

- (3) Thirdly, the time and the place too should not have been left absolutely to the whims of the officer, but should have been fixed beforehand in consultation with the parties concerned.
- (4) Fourthly, to ensure unfettered and free submission of all relevant evidence, the Maharaja of Patiala ought to have been relieved of the charge of his State and made to stay outside the Patiala territory during the course of the Inquiry.

The announced Inquiry is thus neither impartial nor fair, but is merely an eyewash and a farce. It is discreditable both to the giver and the receiver. Considering the present political situation of the country, it appears clearly that this Inquiry is clearly intended merely to placate the Maharaja of Patiala and his friends. That the mighty British Power has had to stoop to wooing the princes in this fashion is the most tragic part of this whole Inquiry business.

It is but natural, therefore, that we would refuse to take any part in such a make-believe Inquiry. I still request Your Excellency to invite the Maharaja of Patiala to take recourse to the ordinary courts of Law in British India or to ask for an independent tribunal consisting of the members of the status of High Court judges. Till then we stand on our report. I respectfully reiterate that we have no confidence in the Inquiry as announced and will have nothing to do with it so long as it is not brought in line with the suggestions made above.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. Amritlal D. Sheth

Member, Patiala Inquiry Committee.

LETTER TO H. E. THE VICEROY

The General Secretary, the Indian States' People's Conference has addressed the following letter to H. E. the Viceroy in connection with the Fitzpatrick Patiala Inquiry, on behalf of the Working Committee of the Conference.

To,

H. E. The Viceroy & Governor-General of India.

May it please your Excellency.

The working committee of the Indian States' People's Conference have carefully and respectfully considered the communique of the

Government of India dated 9th May 1930 announcing the appointment of Mr. Fitzpatrick A. G. G. the Punjab States to hold an inquiry "in camera" into the charges contained in a book entitled the "Indictment of Patiala" published by the Conference.

Mr. L. R. Tairsee one of the members of the Committee of Inquiry who has endorsed the findings has also received a notice of the sittings to commence at Dalhousie on the 9th of June 1930.

The Committee is respectfully of the view that it cannot accept or participate in the inquiry which has been announced.

It must be well known to Government that the composition of the personnel in matters of this character must consist of persons selected on the lines indicated in the Montague-Chelmsford Report paragraph 309. The question which has arisen in this case relates to the alleged misconduct of a Ruling Chief and the matter involves some of the consequences referred to in that paragraph in the event of the charges being established; and though the matter does not fall within the actual terms of that paragraph, by reason of consequences mentioned in that paragraph which may follow upon the findings of the Enquiry and following that principle, if the inquiry is to be of any value, it must consist of 5 members including ordinarily a High Court Judge and two Ruling Princes.

It is undoubtedly provided in that paragraph that the proceedings of the commission should be made public only if the defendant (meaning the Ruling Chief) so desired. In this case it is His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala who desired that there should be a '**thorough, searching and independent inquiry**' into the allegations against him formulated in the 12 counts contained in the report and it is he who 'voluntarily' sought such an inquiry. No question will therefore arise of the defendant in this case desiring that the inquiry should not be public. If the Maharaja means what he says it is his express desire that the inquiry should be thorough, searching and independent and therefore necessarily public.

Without intending to cast any reflection on the qualifications of Mr. Fitzpatrick, it must be observed that in his executive capacity he must necessarily have had to deal with questions arising out of this matter and his position as an intermediary between the Ruling Princes of the Punjab and the Viceroy is such that an inquiry conducted by him can hardly be said to be an "independent" inquiry which the Maharaja himself asked for and which can command the confidence of the public whom the working committee of the Indian States' People's Conference represent.

It must however be added that the Maharaja while asking for the inquiry in the terms abovementioned stated that if an inquiry was to be made, it should be entrusted to the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General, Punjab States, and in deference to his wishes, that officer has been appointed. The very fact of His Highness the Maharaja suggesting him as the only person to whose inquiry he would submit and the acceptance of the same by the Government of India is sufficient to condemn the appointment in the eyes of those who are ranged on the other side. While the Maharaja was asking for an independent inquiry, he was qualifying it in terms which would defeat that very object.

We therefore respectfully submit that we cannot accept as satisfactory the inquiry that is announced and must respectfully refuse to participate in it.

We therefore regret that eventhough notices may be served on the other signatories and publishers of the report, neither Mr. Tairsee nor any of them will be able to attend at Dalhousie on the 9th June 1930 or on any subsequent day of the hearing.

I have the honour to be,
 Your Excellency's Most Obedient Servant,
 Sd. Manishanker Shamji Trivedi
 Hon. General Secretary, The Indian States'
 People's Conference.

Sixth Meeting.

The Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference passed the following resolutions at its meeting held on 6-2-31 at the Servants of India Society's hall when Messrs. Abhyankar, A. V. Thakkar, Seth Govindlal Shivilal, A. V. Patwardhan, Lakmichand Doshi, Ranchoddas Gandhi, Kakalbhoj Kothari, Rangidas Kapadia, Niranjan Sharma and Bapalal Doshi were present. The resolutions are forwarded to the Secretary of the Indian National Congress to be placed before the Working Committee to be held shortly for its consideration in the event of the Congress agreeing to enter into pourparlers with the Government for drafting a Constitution for India,

RESOLUTIONS.

(1)

The Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference deeply mourns the loss the nation has sustained by the sad demise of India's beloved leader and a great sympathizer of the Indian States' people, Pundit Motilal Nehru, at this critical juncture in the nation's life and conveys its heartfelt condolence to President Jawaharlal and family in their great bereavement.

(2)

(A) The Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference welcomes the idea of a federation provided that statutory provisions are made in the constitution guaranteeing that the representation of the States in the federal legislature shall be by direct popular elections and on lines analogous to those of British Indian Provinces—and not by nomination by the Princes.

(B) This Committee further resolves that there should be a Declaration of Rights for the people of the States embodied in the federal constitution such as the liberty of person, property and conscience, freedom of speech and association, and liberty of the press and that remedies against arbitrary executive acts and violation of fundamental civic rights are duly provided for.

(3)

This Working Committee views with serious apprehension the creation in the new constitution of the office of a Viceroy to represent the Crown in relation with the States.

(4)

This Committee appoints a committee of Prof. G. R. Abhyankar and Sjt. A. V. Thakkar to draft a memorandum presenting the case of the Indian States' people for submission to the working committee of the Congress.

(5)

This Committee further resolves that a convention of the leading workers of the Indian States be convened in Bombay at an early date for the purpose of considering the position of the States' people in the coming federation and appoints for the purpose a committee of Sheth Govindlal Shivrul Motilal as Chairman, Sjt. Lakhmichand Doshi as Treasurer and Messrs. Rangildas Kapadia and Kakalbhoj Kothari as Secretaries.

(6)

The Committee adopts Mr. Ranchhoddas Gandhi as a member to fill up one of the vacancies.

(7)

This Committee vehemently condemns the gross abuse of the Foreigners' Act of 1864 against a large number of Indian States' Subjects who have not only been residents of British India for years but also own landed property and have vested interests and source of their livelihood in British Indian territories.

Seventh Meeting.

The seventh meeting of the Working Committee of the Indian States' People's Conference was held on the 10th May 1931 at 6 P. M. in the office of the Conference.

The following members were present :—

(1) L. R. Tairsee (2) A. D. Sheth (3) A. V. Thakkar (4) Kanaiyalal Kalantri (5) Niranjan Sharma Ajit (6) Balvantray Mehta.

(1) Sjt. L. R. Tairsee was voted to the chair.

(2) The minutes of the last three meetings of the Committee were read and approved.

(3) The following resolution was proposed by Sjt. Kalantri and seconded by Sjt. Amritlal Sheth. It was adopted unanimously.

“ The Committee resolves that the third sessions of the Indian States Peoples Conference be held in Bombay on the 6th and 7th of June, and authorises the General Secretaries to organise the Reception Committee for that purpose. ”

The meeting dispersed after discussing the best means of working for the success of the Conference.

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APPENDIX C.

The following 53 states were represented at the second sessions of the conference by 746 representatives consisting of 438 delegates and 308 members of the Reception Committee.

(1) Bhavnagar, (2) Baroda, (3) Bikaner, (4) Bharatpur, (5) Bhor, (6) Bundi, (7) Balasinor, (8) Cutch, (9) Dhrangadhra, (10) Dhar, (11) Devas, (12) Dharampur, (13) Dungarpur, (14) Gondal, (15) Hyderabad (Nizam) (16) Indore, (17) Idar, (18) Jamnagar, (19) Junagadh, (20) Jetpur, (21) Jasdan, (22) Jamkhandi, (23) Jodhpur, (24) Jafrabad, (25) Jesalmir, (26) Jaipur, (27) Janjira, (28) Kurundwad (29) Khairpur, (30) Kotah, (31) Limbdi, (32) Lconawada (33) Mooli, (34) Mansa (35) Mangrol, (36) Morvi, (37) Mysore, (38) Nabha, (39) Patiala, (40) Palanpur, (41) Porbander (42) Palitana, (43) Rajpipla, (44) Radhanpur (45) Rajkot, (46) Rampur, (47) Sachin, (48) Sawantwadi, (49) Sangli, (50) Udaipur, (51) Vanod, (52) Vankaner, (53) Wadhwan.

APPENDIX D.

The Second Sessions received messages of success from the following gentlemen.

Mr. S. J. Dravid, Nasik, Mr. Kesharlal Ajmera Jain Secretary, Jaipur State People's Association, Jaipur, Mr. Bhimraj Dugar, Fatehpur, (Jaipur), Mr. K. T. Matthew, Member, Legislative Council Kunnankulam (Cochin State), Sir C. P. Ramasami Iyer, Law Member, Madras Government Ootacamund, Sir Visvesvaraya President, South Indian States' People's Conference Bangalore, & ex-Divan Mysore, Mr. D. V. Gundappa Secretary, South Indian States' Peoples' Conference Bangalore, Mr. Manilal Kothari, Simla, Venkatram Sastri, Coonoor, Mr. B. S. Kamat, ex-Member Agricultural Commission, ex-President, Deccan States' People's Conference, Poona, Sir Lalubhai Samaldas, Lonavala, Seth Govindlal Shivlal Vice-President, Indian States' People's Conference, Ootacamund, Mr. B. V. Shikhare, Secretary, Subjects' Conference Miraj State, Miraj, Mr. Gulabray Govindraj Bhavnagar, Mr. Dolatram Sakarlal, Bhavnagar, Mr. Vithaldas Damodar Govindji, Mahabaleshwar, Mr. Ranchoddas Gandhi Mahuva, Mr. Chimanlal, Editor, Nava Gujrath Baroda, Mr. Bhagwansingh Langowalia, Amritsar, Mr. Harjivan Metha, Bhavnagar, Mr. Liladhar, Cutch Mandvi, Secretary Idar Prajakiya Parishad, Idar, Mr. Kalidas Narayan, Itola, Mr. Motisagar, Lahore, Dr. Dahigouri Trivedi, Baroda, Dr. D. R. Hulyalkar, Jama-khindi, Mr. H. R. Saroff, President, Shahapur Municipality (Sangli State) Shahapur, Mr. B. Narsingrao, Pleader, Mysore, Mr. Radhanath Rata, Cuttock, Mr. Narayan Vishnu Gokhale, B. A., L. L. B.,

High Court Pleader, Bombay, Mr. G. R. Biniwale Vaidya, Secretary, Sangli State's People's Conference, Sangli, Mr. Hosakoppa Krishnarac, Mysore State, Dr. Satyapal, Lahore, Secretary, Marwar Hitkarni Sabha, Jodhpur, Mr. Pragraj Bhandari Jodhpur, Mr. S. G. Vaze, Member, Servants of India Society, and Editor 'Servant of India,' Poona, Mr. Venishankar Govardhanram, Secretary Praja Parishad, Bhavanagar.

Lord Olivier:—" I entirely concur in the view of Butler Committee that in event of there being manifested among subjects of Indian Princes widespread popular demand for constitutional change the Paramount Power would be bound to suggest such measure as would satisfy this demand the privileges of the Prince being of course respected presuming that he has not abused them. It also appears to me very desirable that action should not be taken in separating States from rest of India without first ascertaining wishes of people in that connection. Indeed I should myself rather consider action in the direction of closer constitutional association desirable."

Colonel Wedgewood:—" I hope second All India States' People's Conference will continue good work of arousing in both Indians and English sense of our responsibility for liberties and rights of Indians in Indian States who till now seemed to be forgotten."

George Lansbury:—" Hope gathering will be very successful resulting in united action throughout India bringing about federation such as will secure unity of government unity of action raising standard of life of all people in that great country. Firm believer in future union of peoples of India and Britain based on common interests absolute equality of service towards each-other, union arrived at not by force or domination but good will and freedom of action on each part."

Rutherford:—" In good fight to end autocracy and introduce representative and popular government into Indian states my best wishes for success."

Mr. S. L. Pollock:—" Wish every success Conference. Present time opportune to promote best relations between Princes and People and British Indian leaders' encouragement. Division disastrous to both and will seriously jeopardise the cause of Indian Unity."

APPENDIX E.

The Indian National Congress has passed the following resolutions concerning the Indian States.

Forty-Second Sessions Madras 1927.

"This congress is emphatically of opinion that in the interests of both the rulers and the people of Indian States they should establish representative institutions and responsible Government in their states at an early date."

Moved by Sjt. Manilal Kothari and
Seconded by Mr. Satyamurti.

Forty-third Sessions Calcutta 1928.

"This congress urges on the ruling princes of the Indian States to introduce responsible Government based on representative institutions in the States and to immediately issue proclamations or enact laws guaranteeing elementary and fundamental rights of citizenship such as rights of association, free speech, free press, and security of person and property. This Congress further assure the people of the Indian States of its sympathy with and support to their legitimate and peaceful struggle for the attainment of full responsible government in the States."

Moved by Sjt. Manilal Kothari and Mr. Satyamurti Seconded the resolution, and Mr. Anusuya Panth and Seth Jamnialal Bajaj supported the resolution.

APPENDIX F.

THE INDIAN STATES' PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE.*Statement of Accounts of the Second Sessions.*

The Reception Committee of the Second Sessions of the Indian States' People's Conference met in the Office of the Conference at Princess Street, on Saturday the 8th instant, when Mr. Kanji Gordhandas presided.

The Hon. Treasurer presented the following statement of Accounts of the second session, which was approved.

Rs. as. p.		Rs. as. p.	
3695	0 0	757	4 0
	Proceeds of the fees of the	223	12 6
	Delegates Committee	367	6 0
	Members, Reception	508	8 0
	and Visitors.	367	13 3
		160	0 0
		351	1 6
		923	12 0
			Printing charges.
			Post and Telegrams.
			Travelling.
			Propaganda.
			Sundry.
			Reception.
			Office expenses.
			Pandal expenses.
		3659	9 3
		35	6 9
			Balance.
3695	0 0	3695	0 0
	Total.		

The balance of Rs. 35-6-9 was handed over to the Executive Committee. The Hon. Secretaries were authorized to publish the report of the second session.

High Court Pleader, Bombay, Mr. G. R. Biniwale Vaidya, Secretary, Sangli State's People's Conference, Sangli, Mr. Hosakoppa Krishnarac, Mysore State, Dr. Satyapal, Lahore, Secretary, Marwar Hitkarni Sabha, Jodhpur, Mr. Pragraj Bhandari Jodhpur, Mr. S. G. Vaze, Member, Servants of India Society, and Editor 'Servant of India,' Poona, Mr. Venishankar Govardhanram, Secretary Praja Parishad, Bhavanagar.

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Rs. as. p.		Rs. as. p.	
3695 0 0	Proceeds of the fees of the Delegates Committee Members, Reception and Visitors.	757 4 0	Printing charges.
		223 12 6	Post and Telegrams.
		367 6 0	Travelling.
		508 8 0	Propaganda.
		367 13 3	Sundry.
		160 0 0	Reception.
		351 1 6	Office expenses.
		923 12 0	Pandal expenses.
		<hr/>	
		3659 9 3	
		35 6 9	Balance.
<hr/>		<hr/>	
3695 0 0	Total.	3695 0 0	

The balance of Rs. 35-6-9 was handed over to the Executive Committee. The Hon. Secretaries were authorized to publish the report of the second session.

Statement of Accounts of the Executive Committee
of the first sessions,
(Passed by the Executive Committee).
20-12-1927 to 3-3-1929.

Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
6,726	5	0	Donations.	1,026	15	0	Organization Work Account.
					821	15	0 Through Sjt. B. S. Pathikaji.
					205	0	0 Through Sjt. B. G. Mehta.
				601	0	0	Rajputana Provincial Office expenses.
				500	0	0	Publicity.
				802	12	0	Travelling and carriage charges.
				397	0	0	Rent.
				570	15	3	Salaries.
				315	15	6	Post and Telegrams.
				273	10	6	Sundry expenses.
				558	14	3	Printing, typing and Stationery.
				82	0	0	Propaganda.
				35	10	9	Entertainment of workers.
				1,100	0	0	Deputation Account.
				6,269	13	3	Total expenses.
				456	7	9	Balance.
<u>6,726</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>6,726</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	

4-3-1929 to 9-5-1929.

Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
456	7	9	Balance.	67	6	0	Travelling and carriage charges.
51	0	0	Donations.	60	4	6	Post and Telegrams.
				59	3	6	Salaries.
				12	1	0	Stationery.
				23	8	0	Propaganda.
				35	10	0	Sundry expenses.
				20	0	0	Printing and typing expenses.
				75	0	0	Rent.
				50	0	0	Organization Work Account.
				403	1	0	Total expenses.
				104	6	9	Balance.
<u>507</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>		<u>507</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	

Statement of Accounts of the Deputation Funds.

(Passed by the Executive Committee).

Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	
12,671 10 0	Donations. (Including Rs. 1,616-10-0 through Sjt. Jagjivan Ujamshi).	11,613 7 6	Deputation Account.
1,100 0 0	The Indian States Peoples Conference Executive Committee Account.	3,468 2 0	Travelling.
		274 11 0	Sundry expenses.
		7,870 10 6	Foreign Propaganda expenses in England and on the continent incurred by the members of the Deputation as per detailed statements presented to the Committee.
		800 0 0	Publicity.
		776 10 0	Sundry expenses. (Including
		88 15 6	Post and telegrams.
		112 15 0	Printing.
		250 0 0	Film and
		324 11 6	Photo blocks, carriage charges etc.)
		552 0 0	Sjt. Durlabhji Umedchand.
		13,742 1 6	Total.
		29 8 6	Balance.
13,771 10 0		13,771 10 0	

Statement of Accounts of the Executive Committee
of the first sessions.

(Passed by the Executive Committee).

20-12-1927 to 3-3-1929.

Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
6,726	5	0	Donations.	1,026	15	0	Organization Work Account.
					821	15	0 Through Sjt. B. S. Pathikaji.
					205	0	0 Through Sjt. B. G. Mehta.
				601	0	0	Rajputana Provincial Office expenses.
				500	0	0	Publicity.
				802	12	0	Travelling and carriage charges.
				397	0	0	Rent.
				570	15	3	Salaries.
				315	15	6	Post and Telegrams.
				273	10	6	Sundry expenses.
				558	14	3	Printing, typing and Stationery.
				82	0	0	Propaganda.
				35	10	9	Entertainment of workers.
				1,100	0	0	Deputation Account.
				6,269	13	3	Total expenses.
				456	7	9	Balance.
<u>6,726</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>6,726</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	

4-3-1929 to 9-5-1929.

Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
456	7	9	Balance.	67	6	0	Travelling and carriage charges.
51	0	0	Donations.	60	4	6	Post and Telegrams.
				59	3	6	Salaries.
				12	1	0	Stationery.
				23	8	0	Propaganda.
				35	10	0	Sundry expenses.
				20	0	0	Printing and typing expenses.
				75	0	0	Rent.
				50	0	0	Organization Work Account.
				403	1	0	Total expenses.
				104	6	9	Balance.
<u>507</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>		<u>507</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	

Statement of Accounts of the Deputation Funds.
(Passed by the Executive Committee).

Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
12,671	10	0	Donations. (Including	11,613	7	6	Deputation Account.
			Rs. 1,616-10-0 through	3,468	2	0	Travelling.
			Sjt. Jagjivan Ujamshi).	274	11	0	Sundry ex-
1,100	0	0	The Indian States Peo-				penses.
			ples Conference Execu-	7,870	10	6	Foreign
			tive Committee Ac-				Propaganda expenses
			count.				in England and on the
							continent incurred by
							the members of the
							Deputation as per
							detailed statements
							presented to the Com-
							mittee.
				800	0	0	Publicity.
				776	10	0	Sundry expenses.
							(Including
							88 15 6 Post and tele-
							grams.
							112 15 0 Printing.
							250 0 0 Film and
							324 11 6 Photo blocks,
							carriage charges etc.)
				552	0	0	Sjt. Durlabhji Umed-
							chand.
				<hr/>			
				13,742	1	6	Total.
				29	8	6	Balance.
				<hr/>			
				13,771	10	0	
<hr/>							
13,771	10	0					

**Statement of Accounts of the Executive Committee
of the Second Sessions.**

July 1929 to May 1931.

Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
495	8	0	Indian States People's Conference Account.	2,695	10	9	Foreign propaganda Account. (Through Sjt. P. L. Chudgar, London).
	326	2	0				Propaganda.
		35	6	33	9	0	Organization Work.
			9	60	0	0	Travelling.
	104	6	9	74	9	0	Publicity.
				150	0	0	Bombay Office expenses.
				2,058	10	6	Post and Telegrams,
	20	8	6				Printing and typing expenses.
							Rent.
	24	3	0	517	8	0	Salaries.
	250	0	0	365	12	0	Sundry expenses.
3,418	0	0	Donations.	379	9	6	Travelling and carriage charges.
833	5	0	Publicity Account (Sale proceeds of the Patiala Report and other books).	152	8	0	Propaganda.
177	0	0	Durlabhji Umedchand.	162	12	0	
15	0	0	Provincial Office Ranpur.				
				5,082	7	3	
				150	8	9	Balance.
5,213	0	0		5,213	0	0	

Statement of Accounts of the Provincial Office (Ranpur).

1-12-1927 to 30-4-1931.

Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
1,257	0	6	Donations.	2,001	1	0	Provincial Office expenses.
1,933	9	3	Publicity (sale proceeds of the Patiala Report and other books).	713	4	6	Travelling.
				423	15	6	Stationery and printing.
300	0	0	Durlabji Umedchand.	748	12	0	Post and Telegrams.
86	8	0	Suspense Account.				Office expenses.
				3	6	0	Propaganda.
				111	11	0	
				1,441	0	9	Kathiawad Ltd.
				100	0	0	Manishanker Trivedi.
				20	0	0	Rangildas Kapadia.
				15	0	0	Bombay Office.
3,577	1	9		3,577	1	9	

OFFICE-BEARER OF THE RECEIPTS

OF THE

THIRD SESSIONS.

9th and 10th June 1931.

Chairman.

L. R. TAIRSEE.

Vice-Chairmen.

A. V. THAKKAR,

G. R. ABHYANKAR,

D. V. GOKHLE,

KESHAVDEVJI NIVETIA,

G. B. TRIVEDI.

Secretaries.

MULRAJ KERSONDAS,

NIRANJAN SHARMA AJIT,

BALVANTRAY MEHTA,

MANISHANKER TRIVEDI,

Treasurers.

NENSHI TEJPAL,

DURLABHI UMEDCHAND,

D. D. SHETHIA,

Officer in-charge of Volunteers.

AMRITLAL D. SHETH.