

RECONSTRUCTING INDIA

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BY

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PREFACE

IN view of the extensive changes which are now being made under the new Government of India Act, it is necessary to study Indian political, economic and social problems in a new light.

It is the spirit and intention of the Act to prepare the country for full responsible government, and it should certainly be the endeavour of the people to remove at once every stumbling block from their path and to take the most complete advantage of this new opportunity.

The Indian mind needs to be familiarized with the principles of modern progress, a universal impulse for inquiry and enterprise awakened, and earnest thinking and effort promoted. By these and other means a new type of Indian citizenship—pur-

poseful, progressive, and self-respecting—should be created, and a self-reliant nationhood developed.

This book seeks to indicate, however imperfectly, the avenues towards reconstruction now open. It attempts, in a constructive spirit, to outline a scheme of true national life, and for the high task of achievement invites co-operation from all parties.

The author may claim some measure of administrative experience, as he has spent many years in the service of the British Government in India and in leading Indian States. He has, on several occasions, travelled outside India for the purpose of obtaining first-hand knowledge of world conditions and problems.

The book has had to be written whilst away from home and under other difficulties. The author is indebted to several friends and assistants for material help in its preparation.

M. VISVESVARAYA.

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