

THE NATIONAL SERVICE SOCIETY(Formation of new political party at Hyderabad).

Mr. Thakardas Khemchand, honourary Secretary of the Anti-non-co-operation Society of Hyderabad writes to the editor of the Daily Gazette.

The movement of Non-co-operation has lately entered upon a very serious phase. The vast inherent potentialities for mischief with which some of the more important features of the movement are fraught, as is evidenced by numerous instances of Pikage, arson, murder, bloodshed and all conceivable forms of lawlessness, which are the direct outcome of that movement have, naturally, disturbed the peace of the people all over the country. This aided by the unholy efforts of the agitators to assail the right of free speech and free meeting by repressive measures of a most inhuman type has after all, led to a state of affairs that the more far-sighted and sober-minded portion of the public cannot but view with the deepest anxiety. But that is not all.

The treaty nearly concluded between Afghanistan and Russia, the development of friendly relations between Afghanistan and Bolsheviki and Afghanistan and other nations have already, given rise to troubles on the Frontiers. The attitude of open hostility adopted by the Ali Brothers and their henchmen against British rule and in favour of foreign invasion and the latest declaration of the policy of witnessing the frightful spectacle of a foreign attack "with perfect equanimity" have considerably deepened the already existing clouds on the political horizon. Unless societies are formed in different Provinces to remove internal disorder which is a positive source of encouragement to foreign aggression, one would not wonder if India should soon find itself in the throes of a terrible calamity.

If the Government would take measures to punish seditious speakers the latter would simply send the sky with an uproar about the tyranny of Government. But if their own brethren who honestly differ from them come forward to expose the dark side of their movement they would not only howl them down and call them all sorts of names but even go the length of pelting them with stones. This kind of inhuman crusade against human liberty, the merciless muzzling of those who cannot see their way to share the momentary passions of the ill-informed, and infuriated mobs, have ~~xx~~ eventually resulted in an outburst of long pent-up feelings of righteous indignation and found expression in a constructive plan for the defence of the human birth-right of free speech.

A society has already been formed, at Hyderabad to meet the situation. The causes that have led to the formation of the Society and the Objects there of are briefly stated in the foreword and rule 2 of the Society's rules as given below. A simple scheme has been formulated for the purpose of warding off the danger of encroachment on the society's liberty of speech as embodied in rule 3. The objects of the society may be summed up in one line viz. the presentment of the other side of those questions whose one sided representation is causing unrest and irritation in the public mind so that the people may be able to judge for themselves and dispassionately decide on their course of action. In a word, enlightenment of the people with regard to the present political situation of the country is the creed of the society.

I hereby appeal to all peace loving members of the different communities of Sind who sincerely sympathise with objects of the society to come and join hands with the society in promoting its objects and let me enrol them as members. The Society is open to all lovers of peace.

Gentlemen wishing to be enrolled are requested to communicate their names to me.

Foreword.

In view of the most serious situation that has arisen in this country in consequence of vigorous efforts on the part of non-co-operators.

(1) to bring about a boycott of schools by disseminating misleading literature among young boys and immature Youths, in the tractable season of life, and inculcating in them in religious ideas of dis-obedience to parents and guardians.

(2) to influence Municipalities to refuse educational grant from Government. Such refusal being calculated to lead to the ruin of Municipal Schools.

(3) to bring the city fathers into collision with their electorates by employing unjustifiable methods of persuasion and even of coercion.

(4) to sow seeds of dissension in the community and thus undermine the very foundation of society.

(5) to create public opinion not only in favour of subversion of the present administration but also of Foreign invasion a policy utterly suicidal and disastrous in its consequences.

(6) to saturate the political atmosphere with elements of disorder and anarchy.

It has become imperatively necessary that a society of enlightened, responsible and well meaning citizens be

organized in every city town and village to tideover the present situation.

The most questionable methods employed allow the country to win the support of the un-informed and the easily gullible portion of the public by appealing to their ignorance, passion and prejudice, to assail the right of free speech and free meeting by rendering all legitimate and constitutional attempts to present the other side of a question. On a public platform, physically impossible, by yelling, hissing, whistling crying shame and even resorting to force and violence have naturally kept the true leaders and the more advanced, the more soberminded and the more responsible members of Society aloof, with the result that the masses are entirely in the dark as to the true character of the movement they are tempted to join. It is purely, for the purpose of bringing to light the different phases of the burning question of the day that the employment of methods suitable to the present extraordinary conditions, as laid down in rule 23, have been rendered inevitable.

Rules.

(1) The Society shall be called "The national service Society".

(2) The objects of the Society shall be:-

a) to meet the situation explained briefly in the "Foreword" by organizing a series of lectures subject to rule 23 issuing leaflets and pamphlets and employing such other methods as the society may, from time to time, decide upon, in view of existing conditions.

b) to promote the best interests of the city, in particular and the country, in general and to help all movements whose sole object is the attainment of progressive self-government within the Empire by lawful, legitimate, and constitutional means.

(3) The meeting of the both the general body as well as the Executive Committee shall not be open to the public provided that if for the furtherance of the objects of the society, as laid down in rule 2, it is decided by a resolution passed at a meeting of the executive committee that the general public or only a particular section of the public or only particular individuals be invited to attend any particular meeting or meetings of the Society, such resolution shall, besides being published in a local papers specifying definitely the extent of the invitation, be carried into effect as below.

(a) In the case of invitation to the general public by distributing hand bills broadcast.

(b) In the case of invitation to only a particular section of the public or to particular individuals by issuing invitation letters or cards to those invited.

(c) Unless publication of aforesaid resolution of the Society, definitely inviting the public to its particular meeting, is made both in the press and by means of handbills the said meeting of the society shall be deemed to be not open to the public.

(d) In the case of invitation to a particular section of the public or particular individuals, only those shall be allowed to attend to the exclusion of all others, who shall produce letters or tickets of invitation issued to them, as the case may be, at the entrance of the place where the meeting is to be held.

(e) In the case of invitation mentioned in proceedings clause (d) notice in the press or by handbills is not a Sine Qua Non and may, therefore, be dispensed with at the discretion of the Committee.

(f) Conditions of admission to the meeting of the Society, if any, shall be stated in the case of the general public, in the notice in the press as well as in the handbills to be issued, and in the case of a particular section of the public or of particular individuals in the body of the ~~invitation~~ invitation letters or cards, as the case may be.

(g) The fact of attendance of persons at the society's meetings, in all the three cases referred to in the foregoing clauses shall be deemed to imply that those who attend shall abide by the conditions of invitation; for those to whom these conditions are not acceptable, such invitation shall be invalid viz non-acceptance of the conditions of invitation in all the three cases specified above including that to the general public shall invalidate the invitation.

(h) None but the members of the Society shall take part in the society's proceedings or their programme of business, and no interruption of any kind, what so ever, on the part of a non member even in the shape of a remark, criticism, approval or disapproval of any thing done at the meeting, by word, or sign or gesture, shall be allowed.

(i) The Society shall for all purposes of the meeting, be deemed to be in possession of all the rights of ownership over the place where the meeting is held. (D.G.15 June, 1921, P-5).