

20,000,000 can read and write, while only a *tenth of these*, or say, 2,000,000, are educated in English. So you see that when we speak of the "educated Indians" we speak of only the 175th part of the population. People really seem to forget all about, and to ignore entirely, the other 174 parts—the 348 and a half million who are not educated in English. In Government schools and colleges education is free for the natives of India and at Calcutta, Allahabad, Bombay, Madras and Lahore are the five oldest universities. In 1917 a new Hindu University was started at Benares. There is one at Patna and another in the native State of Mysore, also now at Aligarh, Delhi and Dacca.

In 1917—date of last Census Report published—there were 7,000 Secondary and 124,051 Elementary schools in addition to 179 colleges, 35,848 private institutions and 4,323 special schools. For females there were 689 Secondary, and 18,122 primary schools, in addition to 16 colleges, 1,955 private institutions and 538 special schools. The total number of individuals under instruction was 6,621,527 males and 1,230,419 females.

There are in Indian *more than 200 different vernacular* languages, in 22 of which newspapers are published.

Of the figures which I have given you, I want you to remember four in particular, namely:—

1. The population of India, 350,500,000.
2. The number of persons who have some knowledge of English, 2,000,000
3. The number of different languages spoken in this great country.
4. —and particularly—how *enormous* is the number of people who have no education at all—330,500,000.

A very striking and all-important thing among the Hindus is the system of castes. There are castes almost innumerable, but the four great original divisions are the Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaisya or Bania, and Sudra Castes. Of these the first is the Priestly Caste, all members of which think that they are infinitely superior to anyone on earth who is not a Brahmin; the second is the Kshatriya, Warrior or Fighting, Caste; the third, Vaisya or Bania (Trading), and the last the Sudra or Serving or menial class; and among the Hindu population of India there are some 70,000,000 who are looked upon by their brethren as "untouchable."

The following will give you an idea of Brahmin arrogance. It is said that a certain young High-brow, full of conceit and so convinced of his learning and high intelligence that he has no further use for Christianity, went to India "to study Brahminism." After a very short time he informed his Brahmin tutors that he was desirous of becoming a Brahmin since he felt convinced of the futility of all other religious systems. This statement was not received with the acclamations that he expected, and his friends remained cold and silent. After a pause they said they would consider the matter and left him. Some days passed and at last they visited him in state, and said; "We have considered what you said, and the matter is extremely difficult. Still we can point out a way that *may* (we cannot say will) lead you to your desire. To begin with you must definitely renounce all worldly pleasures, hopes and desires, then you must begin by feeding one thousand Brahmins every day for three years, then you must spend the rest of this, your life, in purification and other religious ceremonies. If you do all this in a proper manner you will be born again as one of the lower and more ferocious animals—a tiger or an alligator. If in this form you behave in a commendable way you will be born again in a better form—perhaps as a domestic animal—a pig or an ass or perhaps a dog; and so on through many