

nearly one fifth of the population - in a democratic parliament. 80% of the people of India are illiterate, are they to be given the vote? If not, and I don't think they should be, what sort of a democracy are you going to have.

Then there are the Indian States, more than 550 in number, making up nearly one third of India, all of which have a separate ruler. The rulers in these States have practically the power of life and death over their subjects. They help themselves practically to whatever portion of their States revenue they desire. Are these Indian princes going to give up the rights and privileges they now enjoy, I don't think so, but you will say their representatives at the Indian Conference expressed a willingness to join a confederation in India. They said "with reservations" I would like to know what these reservations are. I think they adopted that attitude at the Conference because they thought it would put them in a good position for bargaining and because they did not want to be charged with being the rock on which the Conference split if it were to split. These men are not going to take any chances on being ruled by Ghandi and his Bombay rabble. As for Ghandi there is no doubt that he holds in India a very unique and powerful position. He is regarded as a Saint by his people on account of the ascetic and so called religious life he leads. I distrust him. He leads his people to believe that every act of the British violates the religious ideals of the Hindu and as far as their religion is concerned the Hindus are a highly emotional people. On the grounds of religion he encourages them to boycott British goods, this leads to disorder, riot and loss of life. Ghandi cannot be excused from his associations with that loss of life no matter what penance he does. Furthermore, his political demands are insatiable, he is no sooner granted one concession than he demands another and even when the Viceroy promised him that India would have full Dominion status, which he has demanded, he tells his people that our government of India is a Satanic government, indulges in another campaign of non-cooperation which again results in riot and bloodshed. We, of course, in our usual and placid stupidity indulge in no counter propaganda. That Ghandi occupies the pedestal he does is largely our own fault. He may think himself a Saint but I am more inclined to believe that he is a fanatical, hypocritical megalomaniac.

I arrive in Hong Kong on Friday next the 13th and intend to spend three weeks in China endeavouring to learn at first hand the situation there. It is vastly important that we do not ignore Chinese affairs
or