

lent agitator. "In South Africa," wrote one of his admirers, "he matched even General Smuts." As you doubtless know, General Smuts, also a lawyer, is looked upon as one of the most astute and cunning politicians that we came across during the troublous times of the War.

The "Rowlatt Act" gave Ghandi an opportunity for starting a campaign against the British Government, and he found it very simple and very efficacious to represent the Bill as "a design against religion." This was a deliberate and colossal lie! It is perfectly well known that the Government of India would never dream of interfering in any way with any religion. You might as well suspect the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Pope of designs against Christianity! But that is nothing to this agitator! The calculated result followed and the Punjab was set on fire. It continued to burst into flame and smoulder, and again burst into flame until the 10th of April; and for three days after that the City of Amritsar was in a state of anarchy. Then followed the Jallianwala Bagh affair. This was put down by General Dyer's firm action. The Afghan invasion, *which was intended to coincide with a rising in the Punjab and in Gujerat*, was late, and India was saved from a rising which would have been far worse than the Mutiny of 1857.

Now I want you to take notice of this.

In January, 1918, *on the eve of Ghandi's agitation*, the Government of India got information that large sums of money were remitted by the Soviet Government of Moscow through Finland, to their agents in India. This is very significant, in view of what happened in India and of the Afghan invasion of India under Amanulla, *who calls himself Ghandi's very, very, great friend.*"

Five days after the Amritsar affair, Ghandi *recovered his lost loyalty* and advised his followers to give Government effective co-operation in restoring order. Mrs. Besant also wrote to the newspapers *justifying General Dyer's action*; thus this firm action won the respect of the two leading agitators. About a fortnight later the leading man of the district, who had just heard of the belated Afghan invasion, offered 10,000 men to fight the Afghans if General Dyer would lead them. Dyer and his Brigade Major were given the very unusual honour of being made "Honorary Sikhs" in the Golden Temple at Amritsar. On several occasions he was acclaimed at Indian gatherings as the man who had saved India and in the following October he was promoted to the permanent command of a Brigade, and in January 1920 to the temporary command of a Division.

But the effect of all this was counteracted by Mr. Samuel-Montagu, who with the Viceroy (who did whatever he was told), returned to his policy of "conciliation." One of the ring-leaders of the Amritsar rebellion was released unconditionally and the sentences of a number of others were reduced.

Ghandi *at once resumed his campaign against the Government*, this time under the name of "non-co-operation," while Mrs. Besant sailed for England, there to get into touch with the extreme members of the Socialist Party and the Trades Union leaders, in order to carry out anti-British propaganda in India.

The final blow to Law and Order was given in 1920. The Government instituted an enquiry into the cause of the disturbances that had taken place in the Punjab. The Hunter Committee in its report in March 1920, censured General Dyer, and this disgracefully treated man, who was never given an opportunity of defending his action before a Military Court, and who was never given a trial, was deprived of his command and made to retire to Eng-