





which contains tableaux, that are intended to spread disaffection towards Government or to make it ridiculous. In the absence of Hindu-Muhammadan excitement, I am not sure that it is necessary for the Police to assist or to regulate the procession at all; if the management were left to the promoters, and their procession were to find its way blocked, or to get out of control, and an appeal made to the authorities for help, then an opportunity would be provided for making and enforcing stricter regulations.

9. The Ran lila is a great popular tamasha, but a Deputy Collector of standing and experience, whom I consulted in the matter, said that he had never yet witnessed a Ramlila procession, and that the whole business was too contemptible and unimportant to worry about. It is well to remember that there is this point of view. On the other hand the Kotwal says that the introduction of these political ^Wchokis is 'haramzadgi' and should be put a stop to.

10. I showed this to the Supdt. of Police, and send you a copy of his reply. On the whole I think that it is ~~very~~ inadvisable to interfere before the event. If any particularly outrageous chowkis are produced, I suggest that the Police should be instructed to ascertain who are responsible for them, and these persons can then be prosecuted, if the chowkis constitute a breach of the law.

3d/- K. M. Knox.
18-3-1922.