

THE DAILY PROVINCE

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INDIAN ANARCHISTS.

The Indian police are still prosecuting with vigor their search for those lately implicated in the recent anarchist plots. It is not easy in a country like India, where the native quarter of every town very much resembles a rabbit warren, to arrest offenders. Nevertheless, if the task is found difficult, the authorities are taking every precaution against the spread of the revolutionary propaganda. The eastern, when he takes it into his head to ferment sedition, possesses a mind as resourceful as that of any western agitator. He thoroughly understands the native character; he knows how best to stimulate disaffection; and how to attain popular sympathy. Still, means are being found of effectively propagating the anarchist movement, and that a very insidious one. Armed with a gramophone the leaders of the propaganda are stalking the land with records of seditious songs and speeches, which are "let off" as occasion offers. Nothing is easier in India than to collect a crowd; nothing excites interest more than novelty. It may thus be imagined how very popular the gramophone "corner man" is likely to be. Such an instrument has never been seen before; in parts of Central Asia it is even feared as the voice of a hidden god or fiend. The majority of natives in India will regard it much in the same way. This in itself has a dangerous tendency to excite native apprehension, but when in addition the voice of the unseen god preaches revolution the consequences might well prove disastrous. Thus the government has very wisely prohibited all such street entertainments, and, further, has warned persons found selling such records that they will be severely dealt with. This is yet another proof of the government's determination to stamp out by all possible means the anarchist germ.